

Indian opener Ravi Shastri in action during yesterday's World Series match against the West Indies at the WACA ground in Perth. Shastri top scored with 33. —AFP photo

Abahani win by 7 wkts

Sports Reporter

Abahani Krira Chakra, as usual one of the contenders for this year's Navana Premier Division Cricket league title, started their 1991-92 campaign by beating Lalmitia Club by seven wickets at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Although the margin appears rather flattering yet the top-order Abahani batsmen made a heavy weather while chasing a paltry Lalmitia score of 137.

Batting first Lalmitia Club struggled to reach 137 for eight wickets from their quota of 45 overs in the face of some fine off-spin bowling by Effe. Rame and Shahid got 30 each for Lalmitia while wicket-keeper-cum-opening batsman Anwar scored 25.

Effe stole the bowling honours for Abahani with four for 23 from his nine overs. Abahani, in their turn, suffered a serious setback when Raman Lamba, their former Indian Test opener, departed cheaply.

Lamba was taken behind the stumps by Anwar off the Lalmitia opening bowler Anis for 11.

Zahed Razzak Masum, too, did not last long and skipper Farooque's lean patch seemed to continue when Anis bowled him for 15.

Mahbubur Rahman Selim and the young Khaled Mahmood Sujon put their heads down to complete the task in 31 overs.

Sujon and Selim were undefeated at the kill with 43 and 31 runs respectively.

Anis was the most successful bowler for Lalmitia with two for 42.

Tarun outplay Gulshan

Sports Reporter

Surja Tarun Club began their league expedition on a happy note when they beat Gulshan Youth Club by three wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Sent in to bat, Gulshan Youth Club were all out for 150 in 44.3 of their 45 overs.

Opener Iftakhar departed early in his usual fashion, bowled by Khokan for eight. The other opener Arif scored a patient 25.

Ishfaq top scored for Gulshan with 43.

Khokan, the Surja Tarun opening bowler, wrecked Gulshan with the fantastic figures of three for nine from his nine overs.

Tarun also made a disastrous start, losing their openers cheaply Shoaib and Javed Omar Belim Golla then batted sensibly to steady the boat.

Tarun's Sri Lankan skipper Rodrigo ensured his side's victory with an unbeaten 41.

Gulshan's Sri Lankan all-rounder Raj Kumar bowled well to capture two for 22. Rupam picked up two for 30 from nine overs.

CRICKET CLIPPINGS

Ijaz to lead BCCP XI against Lanka

KARACHI, Pakistan, Dec 6 : Test batsman Ijaz Ahmed will captain the Pakistan cricket Control Board President's XI against Sri Lanka in a three-day match starting on Saturday, reports Reuter.

The Sri Lankans, who arrived in Pakistan on Wednesday for a six-week tour which will include three Tests and five one-day internationals, will not name their side until Friday.

BCCP XI (from) : Ijaz Ahmed (captain), Inzamam-ul-Haq, Amir Manif, Ahsanullah Khan, Shahid, Saeed, Shahid Anwar, Umar Rashid, Iqbal Mehmood, Bilal Ahmed, Sagheer Abbas, Nadeem Nizir, Nadeem Afzal, Abdul Waheed Rashid.

Atherton, Fraser out of English squad

LONDON, Dec 6 : Opener Mike Atherton and pace bowler Angus Fraser are out of the World Cup and England's proceeding tour of New Zealand, reports Reuter.

Fraser has failed to recover from a chronic hip complaint and Atherton has not regained full fitness after a back operation in August.

All-rounder Dermot Reeve was called into the England party on Thursday. His only international appearance was against West Indies in a one-day match last season.

Atherton's withdrawal leaves captain Graham Gooch as the only recognised opening batsman in the squad.

All-rounder Ian Botham, who is starring in a pantomime, and slow bowler Richard Illingworth are not due to join the rest of the squad until after the first Test against New Zealand, which starts on January 20.

That means Gooch will have just 13 players with him when England leave for New Zealand on December 27.

Chairman of selectors Ted Dexter said Eraser still needed "a long and steady period of rehabilitation" and it was too risky to take Atherton for such a demanding one-day tournament.

SCOREBOARD

LALMITIA CLUB				
Liton lbw Babu				4
Anwar b Effe				25
Rame c Pappu b Effe				30
Shahid c Sujon b Selim				30
Sanjiva lbw Effe				0
Extras				
Uttam c Masum b Asoka				8
De Silva				12
Kalsar c Selim b Effe				5
Anis run out				5
Subrata not out				0
Raja not out				0
Extras				18
Total : 137 for eight from 45 overs				
Bowling				
Babu	O	M	R	W
Morshed	4	0	11	0
Sujon	5	1	18	0
Selim	7	2	22	1
Asoka De Silva	9	0	30	1
Raman Lamba	5	1	17	0
Effe	9	2	23	4

ABAHANI KC:				
Masum c Uttam b Subrata				21
R Lamba c Anwar b Anis				11
Farooque b Anis				15
Selim not out				31
Sujon not out				43
Extras				17
Total (3 wkts in 31 overs)				138
Bowling				
Subrata	O	M	R	W
Anis	9	1	42	2
Atiq	9	1	33	0
Uttam	2	0	7	0
Sanjiva	4	0	21	0

TODAY'S MATCHES

Brothers Union vs Wari Club (Dhaka Stadium)
B Biman vs Rupali Bank (DCS)

JU cricket

Sports Reporter

Zoology Department beat Geology Department by a massive 114 runs in the inter-department cricket competition of the Jahangirnagar University yesterday.

Zoology made 183 runs in 27 overs with Kamrul scoring a brilliant 114.

In reply, Geology were all out for only 69 runs.

Aga Khan School athletics held

The first athletics meet of the Aga Khan School was held at the school premises in Uttara last Thursday, reports UNB.

The Marco Polo team won the championship bagging 33 points followed by the Dickens teams with 31.

Two other teams, Einstein and Alexander, piled up 21 and 13 points respectively.

Amyr Dhamani and Srabanti Ahmed finished as the best athletes among the senior boys and girls respectively.

Among the juniors, Shams and Sumaiya took the best athlete's awards among the boys and girls respectively.

About 40 students took part in the 16-event meet.

Golden bonus !

Sports Reporter

Any sports person who wins a gold for the country at the forthcoming fifth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo December 22-31 shall be richer by Taka one lakh.

This startling, and tempting, disclosure was made at a meeting of the managers of the ten Bangladesh squads selected for the Games held at the National Sports Council conference room last Thursday.

The purpose of the meeting was to acquaint all the team officials with Major (ret'd) Kamrul Islam, MP, who has been nominated as the chief de mission of the Bangladesh SAF contingent.

It was disclosed that the government would reward every gold winning performance with a cash prize of Taka one lakh, a move designed to inspire our players and athletes to give of their best in the seven-nation, ten-discipline event.

It was also disclosed that the Bangladesh Games squad would be made up of anywhere between 174 (the Bangladesh Olympic Association count) and 187, according to some newspaper reports. The latter figure accounts for 133 athletes, 18 coaches and 36 officials for the ten disciplines — athletics, football, basketball, swimming, table tennis, tennis, boxing, wrestling, weightlifting and volleyball.

V-Day cricket from Dec 11

Sports Reporter

The Victory Day cricket tournament, organised by the BCCB, is going to begin from the eleventh of this month.

Last year's league champions and runners-up — Brothers Union and Bangladesh Biman — and this year's Damal Summer champions and runners-up Abahani Krira Chakra and Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club — will take part in this brief tournament.

The tournament will get underway at the semifinals level and each team will play seventy-five overs.

While the semifinals will be played over two days, the final will be a two-innings each side affair over three days. Seventy-five overs will be the limit for the first innings for each side. The second innings quota is again restricted to 45 overs a side.

However, the second innings quota can be stretched to a maximum of fifty overs provided the playing conditions, more particularly, the light, are deemed fit by the umpires.

Last year's league champions Brothers Union meet this year's Damal Summer runners-up Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club in the opening tie on December 11.

This year's Damal Summer Champions Abahani Krira Chakra will meet last year's league runners Bangladesh Biman in the second semi-final starting on December 13.

The first will be played on December 18, 19 and 20.

All matches will be held at the Dhaka Stadium.

Highest entry in Australian Open likely

MELBOURNE, Dec 6 : The men's singles entry for the 1992 Australian Open will be the strongest ever, tournament organizers said Thursday, reports AP.

Eighteen of the top 20 players have entered, with Andre Agassi of the United States and Spaniard Sergi Bruguera the only absentees.

Current grand slam tournament champions Stefan Edberg of Sweden, Jim Courier of the United States, Boris Becker of Germany and German Michael Stich all have confirmed their participation.

Ivan Lendl and John McEnroe also have said they will play, along with Americans Pete Sampras and Michael Chang, who will be playing in Melbourne for the first time.

The Australian Open will be played at the National Tennis Center Jan. 14-26.

Organizers previously had announced the strongest women's entry in history, with 18 of the top 20 ranked players entered.

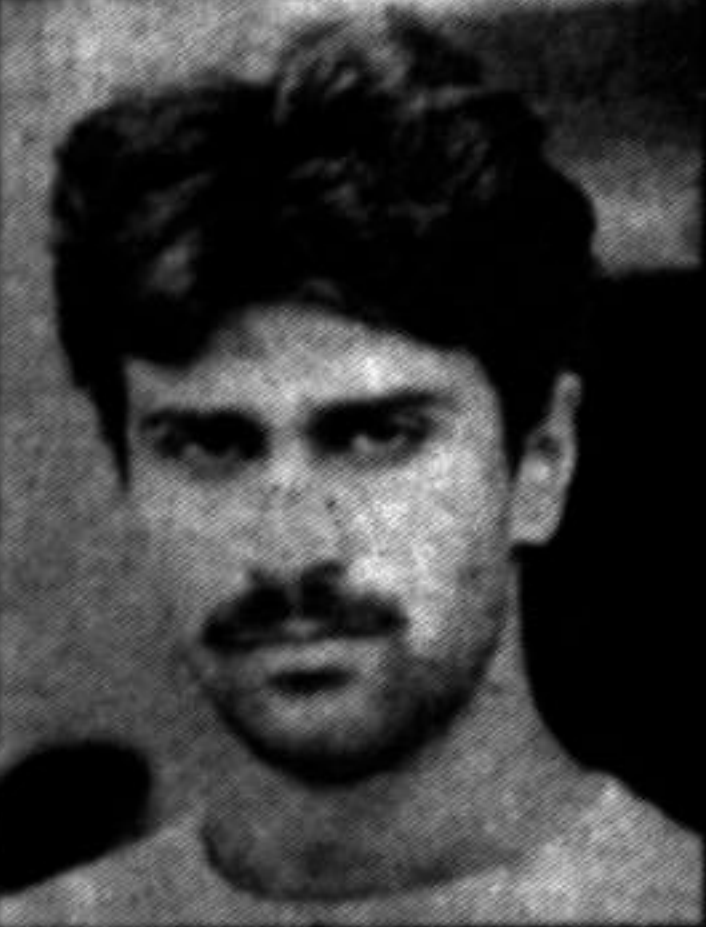
Monica Seles of Yugoslavia will defend her title, and Steffi Graf, Gabriela Sabatini, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, Mary-Joe Fernandez and Jana Novotna all have indicated to the Women's Tennis Association that they plan to play.

Martina Navratilova and Nathalie Tauziat of France are the only top 20 players to have declared themselves unavailable.

India hold Windies in dramatic tie

PERTH, Dec 6 : Part-time bowler Sachin Tendulkar snatched the last West Indies wicket with his sixth delivery to give India a tie in the opening World Series Cup Cricket match on Friday, reports Reuter.

In a gripping climax to the low-scoring 50 overs day-night game, Tendulkar dispatched



S.BANERJEE...fine debut tail-ender Anderson Cummins to leave West Indies 126 all out in 41 overs after India were dismissed for the same total in 47.4 of their quota.

Tendulkar was called up to bowl by Mohammad Azharuddin with West Indies 121 for nine after India's captain had used the full allocation of his four main bowlers in the first 40 overs.

In Tendulkar's opening over, Cummins and Patrick Patterson edged the total to 126 before Cummins tickled the sixth ball, an outswinger,

to Azharuddin at second slip to end the match with the scores level and nine overs left.

It was only the second tie in the triangular World Series Cup, following a similar result between Australia and West Indies in the 1983-84 season.

Led by newcomers Subroto Banerjee and Jawagal Srinath, India ultimately shared the honours after a lamentable batting display in which they were shackled by West Indies pace quartet.

Banerjee and Srinath cut down the West Indian middle order, five wickets tumbling for 21 in a collapse that sent the score from 55 for three to 76 for eight.

Srinath, in only his seventh one-day international, claimed the wickets of Carl Hooper and Keith Arthurton with consecutive deliveries.

International debutante Banerjee then responded to his team mate's performance by removing Brian Lara, David Williams and Malcolm Marshall in the space of 25 balls.

Curtly Ambrose and Cummins added 37 for the ninth wicket before a brilliant run out by Ravi Shastri with a direct throw to the striker's end from mid-on dismissed Ambrose and set up the thrilling climax.

Ambrose, gaining considerable lift off the pitch, had earlier led the West Indian pace bowling assault by capturing two wickets for nine runs in 8.4 overs.

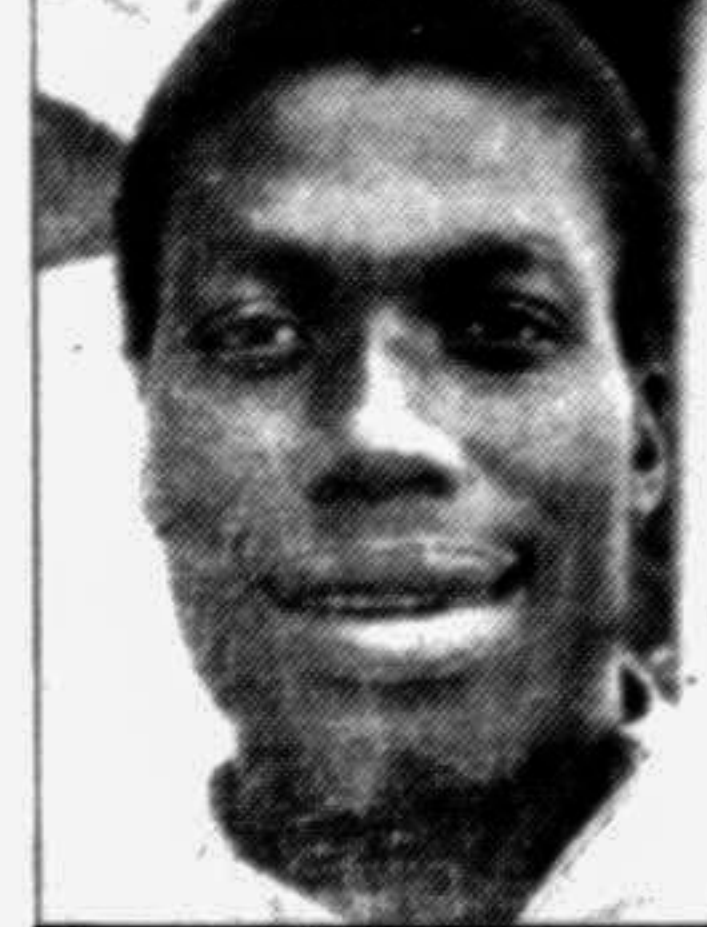
India's painstaking effort was epitomised by opener Shastri, who occupied the crease for 123 minutes, re-

ceived 113 deliveries and was top scorer in the match with 33.

Australia, who complete the teams in the triangular tournament, play India in the next game here on Sunday.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecard at the end of the Indian innings in the opening World Series match against the



AMBROSE

West Indies at the WACA Ground here Friday. West Indies won the toss and sent India in.

INDIA

R Shastri c Lara b Marshall 33
K Srikkanth c Hooper b Patterson 3
S Manjrekar c Williams b Cummins 15
S Tendulkar c Richardson b Cummins 1
M Azharuddin c Lara b Ambrose 6
P Amre run out 20
Kapil Dev c Richardson b Marshall 5

WEST INDIES

D. Haynes c More b Kapil Dev 0
P. Wallace b Prabhakar 11
R. Richardson c More b Kapil Dev 12
B. Lara c More b Banerjee 14
C. Hooper b Srinath 12
K. Arthurton b Srinath 0
M. Marshall c More b Banerjee 7
D. Williams c Srikkanth b Banerjee 5
C. Ambrose run out 17
A. Cummins c Azharuddin b Tendulkar 24
P. Patterson not out 8
Extras : (4lb, 9w, 3nb) 16
Total : (All out) 126
Fall of wickets : 1-0, 2-23, 3-25, 4-55, 5-55, 6-61, 7-69, 8-76, 9-113, 10-126.

Bowling : O M R W
Patterson 10 1 28 1
Ambrose 8.4 3 9 2
Marshall 10 2 23 2
Cummins 9 1 21 2
Hooper 10 1 32 0
Batting time : 180 mins, overs 47.4.

WEST INDIES

D. Williams c Srikkanth b Banerjee 5
C. Ambrose run out 17
A. Cummins c Azharuddin b Tendulkar 24
P. Patterson not out 8
Extras : (4lb, 9w, 3nb) 16
Total : (All out) 126
Fall of wickets : 1-0, 2-23, 3-25, 4-55, 5-55, 6-61, 7-69, 8-76, 9-113, 10-126.

Bowling : O M R W
Kapil Dev 10 3 30 2
Prabhakar 10 1 30 1
Srinath 10 2 30 3
Tendulkar 1 0 5 1
Batting time : 173 mins, overs 41.

Crowd : 5,446.
Man of match : Curtly Ambrose (West Indies).
Match tied.

Injured Bishop may be forced to miss rest of tour

SYDNEY, Dec 6 : West Indies fast bowler Ian Bishop looks set to miss at least half his side's matches in the one-day triangular series against Australia and India because of a back injury that has plagued his brief career, reports Reuter.

Bishop, 24, who has claimed 53 wickets in only 11 Tests in a devastating three years, had only a 60 per cent chance of playing in three weeks, said Perth spinal specialist Phillip Hardcastle.

He was given a deep cortisone injection in his back and is expected to stay in Perth when the team move on after

playing India today in the first match of the World Series Cup. Bishop, who withdrew from the Test series against Australia earlier this year with a chronic back problem, has until January 9 before the start of the second half of the one-day series.

He will spend time with Hardcastle, sports injury ad-

viser and Western Australia coach Daryl Foster and physiotherapist Brian Edwards.

He has got what looks like a small crack of the 12(disc) in the spine, which is fairly common in fast bowlers," Edwards said today.

X-rays taken in Perth suggest a probable stress fracture. Hardcastle has said he thinks the trouble could be inflammation of the joint, which is much less serious.

Bishop aggravated his back trouble in a one-day match against Pakistan on the way to Australia and has been in pain while bowling in the nets since his arrival in Perth late last month.

Daryl Foster and I will analyse his action over the next couple of weeks in an attempt to discover the main cause of the problem," Hardcastle said.

Becker, Lendl in quarters

ANTWERP, Belg-um, Dec 6 : Boris Becker and Ivan Lendl guaranteed themselves at least 55,000 dollars apiece with straight set wins in the 1.1 million dollars European Community tennis championship on Thursday, reports Reuters.

Becker, the second seed, beat Dutchman Jan Siemerink 7-6, 6-3 to reach the quarter-finals while five-times winner and third-seeded Lendl downed Peruvian Jaime Yzaga 6-1, 6-3.

Becker's match went with service until the tie-break which Becker won 7-0. The German then relied on his superior first serve to seize the match.

"I was glad I could stick with him in the first set," said Siemerink about his first meeting with the German. "His first serve was just very good," he said.

Lendl now meets French Davis Cup hero Guy Forget in the quarter-finals. Becker plays Czechoslovak Petr Kord, the seventh seed.

Forget earlier delighted the organisers when he beat Soviet Dimitri Poliakov 6-3, 6-2 in their second round action.

Officials had been worried Forget would opt out of the event to rest a sore knee after leading France to a shock 3-1 win over the United States in last week's Davis Cup final.

"Sunday night my knee was bothering me again after my Davis Cup match and the doctor told me to rest," Forget said. "I thought about pulling out for the last four days."

But he said his knee felt

"pretty good" on Wednesday and he decided to play in Antwerp after being told several players had already pulled out.

Prize money, appearance fees and a one million dollars diamond-studded golden racket trophy have consistently attracted the game's top players to the tournament.



BORIS BECKER

fellow-American Aaron Krickstein in the European Community Championship.

Krickstein romped over McEnroe, a late substitute, 6-1, 6-4, in little over an hour to earn a quarterfinal berth against Sweden's Magnus Gustafsson.

Ivan Lendl opens his campaign for a second ECC gold-and-diamond racket trophy later Thursday in a second-round match against Peru's Jaime Yzaga in the second round of the dlr 1.1 million event.

The first player to win the exhibition event three times in a five-year span gets to keep the ostentatious trophy, valued at approximately dlr 1 million. Lendl already did so in the first five-year span.

Boris Becker, ranked third in the world, plays his first match against Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands.

Krickstein raced to a 3-0 lead exploiting McEnroe's weak serve and straying forehands. He quickly coasted to a 6-1 first-set win before McEnroe put up some resistance.

Leading 4-3 in the second however, McEnroe again lost his touch and Krickstein sent some of his trademark forehands whizzing by him to close out the match.

Schwarzkopf, who led the allied forces in the Gulf war, was on a whirlwind visit to this port city and briefly visited the exhibition event, sparing some time to talk to the competitors.

The winner of Sunday's final gets dlr 250,000.

Ticker-tapes for Filipino heroes

MANILA, Dec 6 : Jubilant Filipinos paid tribute to their South East Asian Games athletes Friday with a ticker-tape parade and a Presidential luncheon after the country's greatest sports showing in memory, reports AFP.

The 16th SEA Games ended here yesterday after the Philippines, defying massive odds, nearly dislodged Indonesia as regional sports champions, giving the troubled country a respite from its political and economic problems.

"We must pay tribute to the Filipino athlete," President Corason Aquino said at a Palace luncheon honouring the Philippine delegation to the Game. "The whole nation is witness to this, his coming of age."

She promised to step up government support for sports programmes and to set aside facilities in vacated US military bases for the athletes' use.

After the luncheon, the contingent went to a raucous ticker-tape parade in the Makati Financial District.

The noise of firecrackers, car horns and police sirens filled the air, and people danced on the street as a marching band playing popular songs heralded the arrival of the athletes.

Alighting from buses, athletes and officials walked down Ayala Avenue, Manila's Wall Street, waving to thousands of cheering fans as confetti rained. "We're proud of you," a banner said.

The Philippines ended up with 90 gold medals, just two short of Indonesia, after protests were resolved. Indonesia has dominated the games since 1977.

Newspaper editorials echoed the national mood.

"It may be some time before we Filipinos felt this way again—delirious, ecstatic and proud," The Daily Globe said.

"For the last five years we have been battered and worn by all kinds of setbacks and disasters — natural and self-inflicted. We have been demoralized by our own ineptitude and disunity," it added.

Before the two-week Games, most experts predicted a dismal showing by the Filipino athletes.

There were calls for the Games' cancellation after a volcanic eruption hit the country last June, followed by killer typhoons.

Navratilova beats Capriati

LEXINGTON, Kentucky, Dec 6 : Martina Navratilova put on a crowd-pleasing performance in defeating Jennifer Capriati 6-1, 6-4 in an exhibition Thursday night at the University of Kentucky, reports AP.

Navratilova, who has captured 16 Grand Slam singles titles in her distinguished career, used an assortment of shots to dispatch Capriati in relatively easy fashion before an estimated 7,000 fans in Memorial Coliseum.

Midway through the first set, a fan hollered, "I love you Martina."

Navratilova glanced up and replied, "How many drinks have you had tonight?" That brought cheers and laughter.

In the second set, after she rallied from a 3-1 deficit to pull even at 3-3, whistles began ringing out of the stands. Navratilova waved it off, again to the delight of the crowd.

Navratilova broke Capriati in the fourth and sixth games of the first set by hitting some pinpoint shots down the side-lines and several overhead

smashes.

Capriati, serving first in the second set, broke Navratilova twice to take a 3-1 advantage. Navratilova then broke Capriati twice to go up 4-3 and went on to win the match on an



M. NAVRATILOVA

overhead cross-court winner.

In a news conference before the exhibition, Navratilova said the matches were "a good way to practice some things stationed between practices and real matches."

But she felt more like an ambassador for the sport Thursday night.

"Playing exhibitions like this is a good way to bring women's tennis to a community that doesn't get a chance to see it," she said. "It's fun for me to play in front of a crowd that hasn't seen women's tennis live, if at all."

Capriati said she used the matches to tuneup her game.

"I'm trying to add different things," she said. "I'm trying to come to the net more and improve my serve."

Navratilova smiled and looked over to Capriati and said, "I hope you don't improve (serve) too much."

Navratilova, the grand lady of tennis at age 34, doesn't face the pressure she once did when she dominated the game in the 1980s.

"It's different for me now because for a couple of years I was being asked why I was still playing," she said. "The pressure is totally different with the crowd being behind me now, especially here in the States."

"It's bonus time for me. I'm really enjoying it. I'm living on borrowed time after my knee operation last year, and I'm taking full advantage of it."