

Navratilova makes tennis history

CHICAGO, Feb 17: Martina Navratilova became tennis all-time singles titles leader by beating Jana Novotna 7-6(7-4), 4-6, 7-5 in the final of the Virginia Slims of Chicago on Sunday, reports AP.

Navratilova won her 158th career singles championship and 12th Chicago Slims crown. She and Chris Evert, who retired in 1989, had been tied with 157 singles titles. Jimmy Connors is the men's all-time leader with 109 singles championships.

It looked like Novotna would pull off her second consecutive upset in this event before Navratilova fought back to finally break the record she had shared with Evert. On Saturday Novotna rallied from a 5-4 lead in the final set. Navratilova fought off four match points in the 10th game.

Novotna, 0-6 lifetime against Navratilova, double faulted to lose service and angrily slammed her racket into the net. Navratilova easily held service and took a 30-0 and 40-30 leads in the 11th game. The winning shot was a lob that fell just inside the back line as Novotna watched in despair.



MARTINA NAVRATILOVA... most successful woman player in the history of tennis. — Star file photo

Novotna, the fastest server on the Slims tour, had 10 aces, one clocked at 105 mph. The winner earned \$175,000 and the runnerup got \$100,000. In the final set, Navratilova was broken in the opening

game, which went to deuce five times. Novotna lost her service in Game 4, the beginning of four straight service breaks that had the young Czech ahead 4-3. Novotna went ahead 3-0 in the middle set after a pair of service breaks. She lost her serve in the next game but almost broke back in the seventh, which went to deuce three times, and again in the ninth, which went to deuce twice. The young Czech slammed two aces past her opponent in the last game to tie the match.

"You can lie to yourself all you want but when the record's on the line, it puts tremendous pressure on you." "I'm glad it's over," Navratilova said of the four-month wait since her last title at the Virginia Slims of California. "Now I can play tennis."

Navratilova won her first singles title in her native Czechoslovakia in 1973. Though she says she doesn't remember the details of all her triumphs, among them 18 Grand Slam titles, she vividly recalls her first win in her adopted country in 1974 when she won the Virginia Slims event in Orlando, Florida. "I was all by myself then and I was so happy but I had no one to hug," said the second seeded Navratilova. "I hugged a light pole. An aluminum light pole."

A photo finish

CLEVELAND Feb 17: Devlon Dunn beat 1984 Olympic bronze medalist and a magnifying glass to determine that reports AP. "I thought I had it. They said I was second," Jefferson said of the Saturday night event. "I am pleased with the way I ran but I would have liked to have won. But for a week at home, even a last-place finish wouldn't be bad."

Even Dunn, who runs for the Goldwin Track Club of Boulder, Colo., thought Jefferson won. "I thought I was second," he said. "But I guess I got him with a lean."

Dunn and Jefferson were both timed at 6.26 seconds.

Graf tries to overcome problems

CHICAGO, Feb 17: Steffi Graf, who dominated women's tennis for years and owns 10 Grand Slam singles titles, is trying to put sickness and despair behind her, reports AP. Graf has a new coach — Heinz Günthardt instead of Pavel Slozil — new training methods and a new attitude. However, they didn't help much in her first tournament of 1992. Seeded No. 1, she was beaten by Jana Novotna in the semifinals of the Chicago Slims.

Krabbe to appeal against ban

BONN, Feb 17: Katrin Krabbe, Germany's double world sprint champion, is to fight the four-year ban she picked up on Saturday for doping, reports AP. Krabbe, speaking on local radio at Neubrandenburg on Sunday, said that "there are going to be legal proceedings."

Her terse statement came as International Olympic Committee president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, said Krabbe could be at the Summer Olympics because of an appeal from the world 100m and 200m champion.

Samaranch, who is in Courchevel for the Winter Games, said: "I understand that the ban is suspended because she has appealed, so if her National Olympic Committee picks her then she could compete in Barcelona."

Krabbe is a member of the Athletics Club at Neubrandenburg, 140kms (87 miles) north Berlin, from where her trainer, Thomas Springstein, told news conference on Sunday that "we are going to appeal." Springstein, whose training career was brought to an end by the German Athletics Association (DLV) on Saturday, vowed that "there is no proof — but there are going to be proceedings."



KATRIN KRABBE

But he added: "It is now down to the (International Amateur Athletics Federation) to take away the titles which Krabbe and Breuer won in Tokyo." A massive legal battle is expected in Germany between American sports shoe firm Nike, who have Krabbe under contract, and the DLV. The three women were alleged to have tampered with their urine samples during a dope test in South Africa where they had gone for warm-weather training last month. The DLV said the urine

sample came from the same person and her offense could only have been carried out with the athletes' help or agreement. Under IAAF rules, athletes who tamper with urine samples receive the same automatic four-year ban as confirmed drugs offenders. The Krabbe case is the biggest scandal to hit athletics since Canada's Ben Johnson was stripped of his 100m gold medal and world record after he tested positive for anabolic steroids in the Seoul Olympics. "I'm happy to see the IOC is not alone in its fight against drugs," said Samaranch, who denied he had ordered an inquiry into drug-use in the former East German communist state.

Becker rallies to deny Courier

BRUSSELS, Belgium Feb 17: Boris Becker of Germany rallied from a two-set deficit to outlast Jim Courier in a five-set, three-tiebreaker, five-hour marathon Sunday and win the \$100,000 Donnay Indoor Championship, reports AP. Courier had three match points in the third set, but squandered all of them, enabling Becker to win his fourth straight without a loss to the top-ranked American, 6-7 (7-5), 2-6, 7-6 (12-10), 7-6 (7-5), 7-5. Becker rallied from 2-4 to tie the final set at 4-4 and Courier finally succumbed by double faulting in the final game. Despite the defeat, Courier retains the No. 1 ranking he earned a week ago.

Washington's first title

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb 17: Maltby Washington completed an impressive run to his first professional singles title Sunday with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Wayne Ferreira in the Federal Express International, reports AP. Washington, the No. 14 seed, never let his South African opponent get his power game in gear, using his strong strokes from the baseline and well-timed rushes to the net to keep Ferreira on the defensive. Washington, who did not lose a set in his five matches, also depended upon his patience and methodical style of play as he posted a semifinal round victory over Jimmy Connors on his way to winning the \$103,000 winner's check. Seventh-seeded Ferreira upended Pete Sampras, the world's No. 4 player, in straight sets in the third round and rushed past unseeded Amos Mansdorf in two sets in

Saturday's semifinals. Ferreira earned \$15,400 for finishing second. Everything that went right for Ferreira during the week turned sour in the final. He was unable to count upon his first service for points and found himself committing numerous unforced errors from both the net and the baseline. Washington, ranked 26th set the tone for the match early, earning a break in the second game when Ferreira netted a forehand on a rush to the net. Both players remained on serve with Washington reaching set point on a soft, backhand drop shot that Ferreira was unable to return. Washington then closed out the set with a 115 mph ace. Ferreira appeared to regain some of his composure in the second set but was unable to cope after he hit Washington's return of first service long to drop his serve in game 5. Washington held his serve and then broke again, going up 5-2 after Ferreira netted a

backhand as he rushed the net on break point. Washington reached match point in the next game when Ferreira mishandled on a baseline backhand and grabbed the match when he placed an unreturnable shot down the line to Ferreira's backhand. Parry wins Masters **SYDNEY, Feb 17:** Craig Parry shot a 5-under-par 69 Sunday to overtake six-time champion Greg Norman and win the \$152,500 Australian Masters golf championship for the first time, reports AP. Parry finished with a 9-under-par total of 283, three shots clear of Norman, who crumbled under pressure and carded a final round 76. Norman bogeyed the 15th, 16th and 17th holes after Parry joined him in the lead and continued a winless streak that has lasted 20 months. Parry, who is nicknamed "Popeye" because of his muscular arms, played a flawless final round that included birdies at the fourth, sixth, seventh, ninth and 10th holes.

Top teams take a beating

PARIS, Feb 17: European clubs came under this weekend as French champions Marseille suffered a shock defeat at Lens. AC Milan were held at Fiorentina and Dortmund's lead was cut by FC Kaiserslautern, reports AP. But Real Madrid showed their class, thrashing Athletic Bilbao 5-0 thanks to a hat-trick from their Romanian international Gheorghe Hagi. Marseille's 2-1 defeat was only their third defeat of the season, but it threw the race for this season's title wide open. The crowd of 49,000, a national record for a league match, watched in disbelief as the midtable Drifters toppled France's mightiest club — and the Bolli brothers, bared their sibling rivalry. Lens' Roger Holi opened the scoring after just six minutes, his barrelling 20-yard drive catching out Marseille keeper Pascal Olmeta. Brother Bastie made it all

square after 25 minutes with a superb solo effort, but Francis Gillot nodded the Winner in the 60th minute. The upset means that Marseille now have just a one-point lead over Monaco, who beat newly-promoted Nimes 1-0 on Friday night. AC Milan dropped a point after being held to their goalless draw, while Juventus moved to within four points after goals from World Cup hero Salvatore "Toto" Schillaci and Roberto Baggio saw off Atlanta 2-1. However, Juventus are AC Milan's only real worry, as third and fourth placed Napoli and Parma have only 26 point apiece — nine off the pace. Napoli are now stranded, after losing 1-0 to Torino, while Parma are on the way up after beating Cremonese by the same scoreline, courtesy of an own goal by Gustavo Dezotti. What was billed as the match of the day, Inter Milan against reigning champions Sampdoria, fizzled into another goalless draw. Real Madrids lead is also only two points — for their goal frenzy was pretty well matched by Barcelona, who real Zaragoza 4-0. Dutch defender Ronald Koeman scored twice, and Danish import Michael Laudrup and homegrown talent Jose Bakero got one apiece.

In the Bundesliga, Borussia Dortmund ran out 2-0 winners over Schalke 0-4, with their Swiss goal ace Stephane Chapuisat getting things underway after 28 minutes. But their Saturday lead shrank to two points on Sunday night, when reigning champions FC Kaiserslautern scraped a 1-0 win at Hamburg SV, thanks to a 75th minute winner from Stefan Kuntz. Title chasers Eintracht Frankfurt shoot themselves in the foot, going down 2-1 at home to Cologne, and the new club to watch is VfB Stuttgart, whose Fritz Walter bagged two goals in their 3-1 win over bottom of the table Fortuna Dusseldorf. Real Madrids lead is also only two points — for their goal frenzy was pretty well matched by Barcelona, who real Zaragoza 4-0. Dutch defender Ronald Koeman scored twice, and Danish import Michael Laudrup and homegrown talent Jose Bakero got one apiece.

Tearful farewell for Magic

INBLEWOOD, Calif., Feb 17: Magic Johnson's brilliant NBA career — which he says might not be over — was recognized Sunday as the Los Angeles Lakers retired his jersey at halftime of their game against the Boston Celtics, reports AP. "I'm looking forward to playing in the Olympics, I hope if I do decide to come back you won't be upset if we do this all over again," Johnson said at the conclusion of the emotional 45-minute ceremony. Johnson was honoured a week after his Most Valuable Player performance in the NBA

All-Star game, a 29-minute effort in which he had 25 points, nine assists and five rebounds. It was the only game Johnson has played in since he announced his retirement on Nov. 7 because he had tested positive for the virus that causes AIDS. His current plans call for him to return as a player for the United States in the Summer Olympics at Barcelona, Spain. "There's a whole lot of emotion in this moment," Abdul-Jabbar said. "It was a long time ago we welcomed this young man on the court. He's taught us a lot. All of our lives are touched by him."

Johnson joined Jerry West (No. 44) Elgin Baylor (No. 22), Will Chamberlain (No. 13) and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (No. 33) as Lakers who have had their jerseys retired and displayed high above the court at the Forum. All were present Sunday. While Abdul-Jabbar addressed the sellout crowd of 17,505, tears streamed down Johnson's cheeks. "Thank you Earvin, I love you, good luck." The two embraced with Johnson in tears. "Kareem was like my big brother who taught me all about life and taught me how to be a professional basketball player instead of just being a basketball player, to be a pro," Johnson said. "I never dreamed in my life that I would be up there near any of them."



MAGIC JOHNSON

He referred to the wall where his jersey joined those of Baylor, West, Chamberlain and Abdul-Jabbar. Larry Bird, sidelined because of a bad back, attended the ceremony and received a standing ovation from the crowd. "I'm not the one retiring here, very soon," said Bird, a longtime rival and good friend of Johnson's. "Your outstanding play was never more evident than during the rivalry between the Lakers and Celtics, you'll always be a part of our family."

Mosharaf leaves for Rome today

Mosharrat Hossain Khan, the renowned but now retired swimmer of the country leaves Dhaka for Rome today to take part in the international Masters' swimming competition to be held in Florence. Mosharrat Hossain Khan, who earlier competed twice in the tournament, became the individual champion on both occasions by grabbing three gold medals in each meet, says a press release.

Ctg Public School & College meet

CHITTAGONG, Feb 17: The 17th annual sports meet of Chittagong Public School and College was held at the College premises here today, reports BSS. A total of 600 students participated in the meet. Traik House became champions collecting 95 points while Nazrul House became runners up with 73 points. Area Commander of Chittagong and GOC of 24 Infantry Division Major General Mahmudul Hasan attended the function as chief guest and Begum Hasan distributed the prize among the winners.

Juventus close gap with AC

ROME, Feb 17: Juventus clinched a thrilling 2-1 victory over Atalanta on Sunday to claw back a point from Italian First Division leaders AC Milan who could only manage a goalless draw at lowly Fiorentina, reports Reuters. Milan struggled without suspended captain Franco Baresi and Dutch striker Marco Van Basten who succumbed to a last-minute stomach complaint. Indecisive in attack and occasionally lax at the back, they were lucky to come away with a point from a goalless draw. Unbeaten Milan are now four points clear of Juventus while third-placed Napoli dropped back after a 1-0 home defeat by Torino. Juventus took the lead against Atalanta after 33 minutes when World Cup hero

Salvatore Schillaci converted a pass into the area from Roberto Baggio. Baggio, playing one of his best games of the season, scored the second just two minutes after Atalanta equaliser from striker Lamberto Piovaneli early in the second half when he blasted home a shot from 20 metres out. His substitution by Eugenio Corini eight minutes from time brought a deafening chorus of boos from the capacity crowd at Turin's Dele Alpi stadium. Unluckiest team of the day were Lazio who threw away what should have been an easy game against bottom club Ascoli. After missing a penalty in the first half, Lazio went ahead after the interval when midfielder Giovanni Stroppa scored from a free kick, paving the way for a furious onslaught which could have easily left Lazio three goals up. But in the dying seconds a

defensive blunder allowed Paolo Benetti to snatch the equaliser and keep Lazio in sixth place. Bari continued their slow climb out of the relegation zone with a 2-1 win over Verona, distinguished by a fine first half solo goal from their Yugoslav midfielder Zvonimir Boban. Other Virtuoso performances came from Cagliari's Uruguayan international Daniel Goycochea, who scored twice in his team's 2-2 draw with Foggia, and Germany's Thomas Haessler who celebrated his debut goal for Roma in their 1-1 draw away to Genoa. League champions Sampdoria, on a roll after their disastrous start to the season, felt the absence of injured striker Roberto Mancini and failed to take their chances against Internazionale. The game, although fast and entertaining, ended in a goalless draw.

Villa reach FA qtrs

LONDON, Feb 17: Aston Villa were the only side to reach the FA Cup quarter finals on Sunday, as Liverpool and Southampton were both held to embarrassing draws by lower division clubs, reports AP. Villa came out 2-1 winners over Swindon, but Liverpool were lucky to remain goalless at Second Division Ipswich, while Southampton slipped to their first FA Cup final for 35 years. Teenager Steve Froggatt scored his first goal in the big time to bring Villa closer to their first FA Cup final for 35 years. Dwight Yorke put the visitors on their way with his fifth goal in three ties after 40 minutes. The young Tobago striker picked up Garry Parker's pass, moved across the edge of the

FIFA dashes Italian hopes

ZURICH, Feb 17: International soccer authorities said Monday the Commonwealth of Independent States would continue to represent the former Soviet Football Federation until July, reports AP. World soccer's governing body FIFA and its European subsidiary UEFA said the CIS team remained qualified for the European Championship finals in Sweden in June. A FIFA statement said the decision was taken after lengthy talks in Zurich with Viacheslav Voloskov, president of both the CIS Association and the Football Union of Russia. FIFA and UEFA ruled last month that the CIS team would go forward to the eighth nation European finals.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Backpack feature
6 Indigestion aid, for short
12 County in Louisiana
13 Actress McArdle
14 Pass
15 Smitten
16 Daytime TV fare
17 Competent
19 Mal de —
20 Astronaut's org.
22 Vitamin bottle abbr.
24 Jackson 5 hit
27 Supplies personnel
29 Director Preminger
32 Near-nesses
35 Domestic-ate
36 Rotate
37 Biz bigwig
38 Corn serving
40 Tackles' team-

DOWN

4 Pompous fool
5 Game bird
6 \$50, in "Mo-nopoly"
7 Central of CM
8 Half of CM
9 Fragrant
10 Dream, in Dijon
11 "Beverly Hillsbillies" actor
12 Cribbage need
18 Feast
21 Pierre's pal
23 Speck

Solution time: 24 mins.

HOG	ARAL	DAYS
UMA	POLA	OLEO
GALLOWAY	ZEST	
ONEILL	ONE	
ELF	FENWAY	
BONGO	OFT	EW
RHEE	PAS	BLOW
ANA	ASK	WELLS
NORWAY	TIL	
ARC	ISLAND	
FLAX	HATHAWAY	
LOGE	IDLE	EVA
USED	CEES	DEN

Yesterday's answer 8-17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12						13					
14						15					
16				17	18			19			
20	21					22	23				
24	25	26				28	29	30	31		
32			33					34			
35						36			37		
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42	43			44	45			46	47	48	49
50			51			52	53				
54						55					
56						57					

8-17 CRYPTOQUIP

KG VXJFGAU SCIVPII,
KWU SVOEOZU VPYCIKFE
WVUFUY R ZVQURS ZU
IJGQUI-XRP.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOW DID CRABBY JUNIOR ENJOY HIS FIRST DAY AT NURSERY SCHOOL? "HE HAD A BAWL."

Today's Cryptoquip clue: X equals M

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.