

# Agassi faces McEnroe in today's semis

WIMBLEDON, England, July 2: John McEnroe and Andre Agassi swept into the Wimbledon semi-finals Thursday, joining Pete Sampras to put three Americans in the final four for the first time in 10 years, reports AP.

McEnroe saved six set points in the second-set tiebreaker and went on to complete a 6-2, 7-6 (11-9), 6-3 victory over Guy Forget to reach his first Wimbledon semifinal since 1989.

Agassi finished a 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 win over three-time champion Boris Becker to reach the Wimbledon semifinals for the first time.

It will be the first time since 1988 that Becker will not play in the final. Two other champions, Stefan Edberg and Michael Stich, were eliminated Wednesday.

Agassi will face McEnroe in Friday's semifinals, with Sampras playing Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia.

Every men's champion since McEnroe last won the tournament in 1984 has lost this year: Becker, Edberg, Stich and Pat Cash. McEnroe beat Cash in the second round.

McEnroe and Forget had been tied at 5-5 in the second set when play was halted Wednesday.

Both held serve to set up the tiebreaker. Forget moved out to a 6-3 lead, giving him three set points. But play was delayed for several minutes as McEnroe argued over Forget's serve on the ninth point being ruled an ace. "The ball was a foot long!" he shouted.

McEnroe was looking dispirited when he walked

back to the baseline to serve. But he came to life after hitting a backhand volley that hit the top of the net and dribbled over to save the first set point.

McEnroe erased the second set point with a service win-

ning 10-9, with a service winner down the middle and wrapped up the set on the next point when Forget hit a backhand volley into the net.

After an exchange of service breaks in the third set, McEn-

roe broke for a 5-3 lead when Forget netted a forehand volley at 15-40. McEnroe then served out the match at 15.

On match point, McEnroe punched a backhand volley that Forget took on the run, hitting a forehand that hit the net and sailed wide.

The Agassi-Becker match had been suspended by rain Wednesday with Becker leading 4-3 in the fourth set with a service break.

The German came out strongly, holding at love for 5-3 and serving out the set in the 10th game with a service winner down the middle.

But Agassi overwhelmed Becker in the final set with his crushing returns and passing shots. It was Agassi's sixth straight victory over Becker, but the first on grass.

Agassi moved out to a 3-0 lead after breaking Becker in the second game with a cross-court backhand pass. He broke Becker again for 5-1, rifling a forehand return winner on his second break point.

Serving for the match, Agassi moved out to 40-30. Agassi was called for a double fault when chair umpire John PARRY overruled the linesman. Agassi couldn't believe it, shouting, "C'Mon and protesting to PARRY, 'Let me give you a little advice, not on match point.'"

Becker saved three more match points in the game and broke serve, then held to make it 5-3. Agassi served out the match at love, with Becker hitting a meek backhand into the net at 40-0.

Sampras' opponent, Ivanisevic, has piled up 133 aces in the tournament — including 33 against Stefan Edberg in the quarterfinals. That's an average of 26 aces per match.

"His serve is so huge," Sampras said, "the biggest in the game."

Sampras handled another big-serve with ease Wednesday, sweeping away Stich 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 to reach his first Wimbledon semifinal. Ivanisevic defeated Edberg 6-7 (12-10), 7-5, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3.



JOHN McENROE



ANDRE AGASSI

## Seles to face Graf in final

WIMBLEDON, England, July 2: Monica Seles overcame nine-time champion Martina Navratilova in three sets Thursday to reach the Wimbledon final after John McEnroe and Andre Agassi swept into the men's semifinals, reports AP.

Seles, who was admonished by the umpire for grunting too loudly, kept on course for her third Grand Slam title of the year by beating Navratilova 6-2, 6-7 (7-3), 6-4.

She'll face defending champion Steffi Graf, who dominated Gabriela Sabatini 6-3, 6-3.

ner, and Forget squandered the third when he hit a short backhand long. McEnroe saved the fourth set point, at 7-6, with a service winner, and the fifth, at 8-7, with a pretty forehand topspin lob. On the sixth set point, McEnroe served into Forget's body and the Frenchman slapped the return into the net.

McEnroe took his first lead,

roer broke for a 5-3 lead when Forget netted a forehand volley at 15-40. McEnroe then served out the match at 15.

On match point, McEnroe punched a backhand volley that Forget took on the run, hitting a forehand that hit the net and sailed wide.

The Agassi-Becker match had been suspended by rain Wednesday with Becker lead-



Croatian Goran Ivanisevic punches the air after beating two-time Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg on Court 1 at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in England on Wednesday. — AFP photo

# Lewis - a liability



TOKYO, July 2: When Japanese advertisers speak of Carl Lewis, they use words like "appeal," "excellence," "going with a winner." In private, some are now adding a qualified "yechhhh," reports AP.

Since Lewis' shocking failure to make the US Olympic team to make the US Olympic team, at least one major company that has signed Lewis for commercials has decided to put him on hold.

"We didn't think it would be very appetizing to show him running, considering his performance at the US Olympic trials," said Kazutoshi Suzuki, a spokesman for Mizuno Corp., a top sporting goods maker.

Suzuki said billboards featuring six-time Olympic gold medalist Lewis running — jumping is still OK — are being removed from major train stations in western Japan.

But Mizuno is not writing the 31-year-old world record holder off.

"We still have a contract with him, and we hope he will do better in the future," Suzuki said. "He hasn't lost his overall appeal as far as we are concerned."

Suzuki refused to comment on the terms of the contract, saying only that it is for "more than one year."

Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., producer of the National-Panasonic brands, has no plans to change an ambitious advertising campaign featuring Lewis plugging its audio-visual equipment.

"We're disappointed about the 100 and 200, but it's not as though he didn't make team at all," said a company spokesman. Matsushita's contract with Lewis runs out in September.

Lewis has had run-ins with Japanese sponsors before.

He was banned from competition in Japan after allegedly covering up a sponsor's name on the number card on the back of his jersey before a race in May 1989.

The Japan Amateur Athletic Federation lifted that ban so that he could compete in September the following year.

# FIFA to outlaw parking



ZURICH, July 2: The International Football Federation (FIFA) has decided to outlaw the growing practice of clubs buying a player and then "parking" him with another team, reports Reuter.

FIFA general-secretary Sepp Blatter said on Wednesday: "FIFA will forbid, in the near future ... the parking of players by a club in the league of the same country."

Blatter made particular reference to the parking by AC Milan of Croat Zvonimir Boban with rival Italian First Division club Bari last season, a situation he said it was important to guard against.

The move is aimed primarily at Italian clubs where there is a growing tendency among wealthier teams to sign new players and then loan them to another club because of restrictions on the number of foreign players a team can register.

When the issue first came up in April, FIFA press officer Guido Tognoni said: "This practice undermines the credibility of competitions which can be distorted when a parked player finds himself playing against the very club that owns the transfer right."

The decision by FIFA's executive committee appears unlikely to completely stop the practice, as the recent example of AC Milan signing Brazilian Giovane Elber and loaning him to Grasshopper Zurich in Switzerland.

Former AC Milan and Italy star Gianni Rivera hit out recently at Milan president Silvio Berlusconi over the issue, saying he could ruin soccer in the country if he continued to sign up foreign stars.

Berlusconi has been planning to create two teams for next season, one to play in the league and another with two or

three different overseas players to compete in midweek Cup matches, particularly the European Cup.

Milan already have Dutch trio Marco van Basten, Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard on their books, have signed Elber and Jean-Pierre Papin from Marseille and are likely to have Yugoslav Dejan Savicevic also.

Rivera warned of a dictatorial soccer regime run by the few wealthy clubs who could afford to buy up the leading players and called for restrictions.

Playing with authority, the winners pumped in all the five goals in the first half of the match. This was the first victory for East Bengal as they had drawn their first two matches.

East Bengal shot ahead in the 7th minute through winger Uttam Mukherjee and by 16th minute were leading by 3-0 through two more goals by junior boy, Arindam Dey and Nigerian, Christopher, who converted a spot kick. Chibuzor, another Nigerian, scored the 4th goal while Uttam Mukherjee rounded off the tally with his second goal four minutes before the half time.

With a huge lead, East Bengal players relaxed, which enabled the Railwaysmen to launch some attacks and during one such attack Christopher, while trying to clear the ball, put the ball into his own goal.

# Kenyan stars miss the bus

NAIROBI, Kenya, July 2: Kenya has named a 56-member team to the summer Olympics in Barcelona, but four Olympians and three world-class athletes will be missing from the track contenders, reports AP.

The team was named late Wednesday after a day of trials in which four gold medalists at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, two world champions and a world record holder failed to qualify.

The gold medalists, who fell by the wayside were Paul Ereng, 800 metres; Peter Rono, 1,500 metres; Julius Kariuki, 3,000 metres steeplechase; and John Ngugi, a 5,000 metres runner who was trying to make the team at 10,000 metres.

Ereng lost to William Tanui, Rono to Joseph Chesire, Kariuki to Mathew Birir, and Ngugi to Richard Chelimo.

The defeated world champions were Billy Konchellah, 800 metres; Moses Tanui, 10,000 metres; and Moses Kiptanui, 3,000 metres steeplechase.

"Peter Koech, the only Kenyan world record holder in 3,000 metres steeplechase, also failed to make the team."

Yobes Ondieki, who ran the 5,000 metres, was the only world champion to qualify for the Barcelona team.

Officials of the Kenya Amateur Athletics Association had no explanation for the poor performance by the famous athletes.

However, Ngugi, five-time winner of the world cross-country championships, blamed high altitude for his defeat.

"After all the time I have put into my training, I am very disappointed," Ngugi said.

think the high altitude really affected me." Ngugi, a driver in the army, did not say at what altitude he had been training.



MOSES TANUI



BILLY KONCHELLAH

Altitudes in this East African nation range from sea level to the 17,058-foot (5,292-metre) Mt Kenya. Ondieki had some advice. "In Kenya, you don't take

anything for granted," Ondieki said. "See what those young boys have done to the champions. That is why I ran flat out."

# Boxers best bets for Nigeria

LAGOS, July 2: Nigeria has named a squad of 77 athletes for the Barcelona Olympics, including nine boxers regarded as the best hope for improving on a meagre total of one silver and three bronze medals in 40 years, reports Reuter.

Sports commission chairman Alex Akinyele said Africa's most populous country would also compete in athletics, wrestling, weightlifting, swimming and table tennis.

Nan said Nigerian boxers in the squad included Commonwealth gold medalist David Dafagbon.

Hopes are also riding on policewoman Chioma Ajunwa, who recently set an African long jump record of 7.06 metres and beat former national champion Mary Onyal in the 100 metres in 11.36 seconds.

Nigeria's military government has promised 10,000 US dollar to any competitor winning a gold medal.

# Tyson not yet a Muslim



PLAINFIELD, Ind., July 2: Mike Tyson and a prison Muslim group issued a statement Wednesday

emphasizing that the former heavyweight champion has not converted to Islam but acknowledging he is studying the religion, reports AP.

The New York Daily News reported last month that Tyson had become a Muslim at the Indiana Youth Center, where he is serving a six-year sentence for his February rape conviction in Indianapolis.

The Islamic Center of North America, also in Plainfield, confirmed two weeks ago that Tyson was interested in Islam and had attended Friday prayers. But Islamic Center spokesmen told the Associated Press Tyson had not taken the Shahada, the statement of faith one must confess to convert to Islam.

A typed statement signed by Tyson and D Farid Barnes, recorder of the prison Muslim group, also said Tyson had adopted a Muslim name.

"As he seeks to increase his spiritual awareness, which can be even more essential from a perspective of incarceration, he is inclined to learn about Al Islam," the four-paragraph statement said. But at this point, Tyson does not consider himself a Muslim, it continued.

The signed statement is the first direct comment from Tyson on reports that he is interested in Islam. Inmates are not allowed to receive telephone calls and prison officials will not forward telephone messages to them.

Copies of the statement were issued by the Islamic Center in Plainfield on Wednesday, said spokesman Kamran Memon.



MIKE TYSON

center last week after saying he wanted to quit his studies, Moore said.

Tyson was sentenced earlier this year for raping a beauty pageant contestant in an Indianapolis hotel room last year. He is appealing the conviction.

# FIFA lifts ban on Flamengo

ZURICH, July 2: FIFA lifted its suspension of Flamengo on Wednesday after the club withdrew a legal suit against the Brazilian Football Federation (CBF), reports Reuter.

FIFA banned Flamengo last October from all international matches until the club withdrew a lawsuit it had filed in a bid to overturn the re-election of CBF president Ricardo Teixeira.

# S Koreans gunning for a dozen golds

SEOUL, July 2: The mercury stood at 30 degrees centigrade (86 Fahrenheit) outside, but 14 door-size heaters were blowing hot air inside as South Korea's medal hopefuls, many of them wearing windbreakers, pumped iron, reports AP.

"Push yourself to the limit," reads a slogan at the weight training gymnasium at the sprawling Taeyung training centre of the Korea Amateur Sports Association (KASA).

"It will be very hot in Barcelona," said Kim Chul-Ju, manager of the training division, the hub of South Korea's elite sports set-up.

"They're now in agony but the heaters will help them get acclimatised there," he said.

Such Spartan fare is the daily norm at this fenced-in compound where 300 athletes do nothing but train, eat and rest under banners exhorting them to win gold.

The athletes, now concentrating on sharpening their skills, have reached the eighth stage of a nine-stage training programme which started back in November 1990, Kim said.

a squad of 336 people including 240 athletes to the Summer Olympic Games, said South Korea was seeking 43 medals including 12 golds to better their achievement in the 1988 Seoul Games.



KIM SOO-NYUNG

The hosts then won 33 medals including 12 golds and took fourth place behind the Soviet Union, East Germany and the United States, beating Asian rivals China and Japan.

South Korea will be taking part in all 25 sports except baseball and hoped to win two golds in archery, one in boxing, two in judo, two in

wrestling and one in table tennis.

The South Koreans also believe they can win their first gold medal in men's gymnastics, one in weightlifting and two in badminton.



HYUN-JUNG HWA

Women's archery world champion Kim Soo-Nyung is strongly favoured to win the individual title and to lead her compatriots to the team gold.

Expectations at this target sport were raised when South Korean archers won both the men's and women's individual and team events in a world tournament in Germany.

But weightlifter Chun Byung-Kwan, who won the 56 kilo category in the 1991 World Championships, is under the greatest pressure.

South Koreans expect nothing less than their country's first Olympic weightlifting gold.

Gymnastics had been considered South Korea's weakest event until Yoo Ok-Ryul surprisingly won the vault at the World Apparatus Championships in Paris in April.

Other medal hopefuls are Ewon Jin-Han in the 90-kilo class in Greco-Roman wrestling, featherweight Park Duk-Kyu in boxing and judo fighters Moon Hyun, in the men's 60 kilo division, and Kim Mi-Jung, in the women's 72 kilo class.

Kim Chong-Shin hopes to pin the 48 kilo free-style wrestling title while Kwon Duk-Ryong could get on to the medals rostrum in Greco-Roman wrestling's 48 kilo event.

Hyun-Jung-Hwa, who shared in the women's doubles triumph at Seoul where table tennis was a demonstration sport, hopes to get her first real Olympic medal in Barcelona where she plays with Hong Cha-Ok.

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS  
1 Rue the run  
5 TV revenue source  
8 Don't move  
12 Frieable soil  
13 Mrs. Herbert Hoover  
14 Whine  
15 O.K. Corral figure  
16 Tennis shot  
17 Raw rocks  
18 Show  
20 City near Waukegan  
22 Hatter's home  
26 Schussers' mecca  
29 Where Mindy honeymooned  
30 Affliction  
31 Carry  
32 Teeter-totter quorum  
33 Shimmering fabric  
34 Type blocks  
35 Yon wench  
36 More festive  
37 Mickey's place  
40 Knocks 'em dead  
41 Bee creations  
45 Sustenance  
47 Ostrich's cousin  
49 Mrs. Copperfield  
50 Italian bread?  
51 Mauna —  
52 Low-pH  
53 Auto-maker Ransom E. —  
54 Doctor's due  
55 "Ski-Nose"  
DOWN  
1 Sheltered  
2 Wheedle  
3 Instrument of Marxism?  
4 Authorize author Steve  
6 "Cock-a-doodle-!"  
7 Freezing, and then some  
8 Thread holder  
9 Avert  
10 Pub potable  
11 Undeni-ably  
19 Family member  
21 Annoy  
23 Wooden peg  
24 Center of Alaskan gold rush  
25 Antelope's playmate  
26 Sleeping  
27 Big rig  
28 Shibboleth  
32 A good person to know  
33 Pretentious colloq.  
35 Emulate  
36 Wilde-beest  
38 Lumps  
39 Waters  
42 "Bananas"  
43 Journey  
44 Nigerian-born songstress  
45 Mr. Ziegfeld  
46 Ewing wares  
48 Curly's pal

Solution time: 23 mins.

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A	C	T	E	D	
M	A	I	N	E	L
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S	K	I	T	A	G
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CRYPTOQUIP  
I B N X M A H K K Z A I H B K R Y Z X  
M R X E B H S Z X X R H D X R D A Z  
M Z M N X I M Z E R A Y H S  
I M Z K R I I Z B  
Today's Cryptoquip clue: I equals T  
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.