Play on outside courts was

abandoned at mid-afternoon as

rain fell continuously. It con-

tinued as scheduled under the

Bulgarian seeded 15th, gave

Graf, the No. 2 seed, plenty of

problems. She retrieved the

ball doggedly and kept Graf

under pressure throughout the

one hour, 21 minute struggle

in front of an overflow crowd

problems with her forehand,

but was still too steady for an

inconsistent Maleeva, clinch-

ing victory with a deft back-

hand drop shot. There were a

total of nine service breaks as

both players had difficulty with

reer Grand Slam title and is

expected to face arch-rival

No. 13 Nathalfe Tauziat of

France on Sunday, but rain

halted play on their outside

court before they were able to

American Jennifer Capriali or

Maleeva's older sister Katerina

in the quarterfinals. Capriati

beat Graf in the Olympic

Canadian-born Pierce, an

18-year-old who has homes in

Paris and Florida, has dropped

only nine games in her first

four matches of the tourna-

ment. The hard-hitting

groundstroker is playing in the

Australian Open for the first

time and faces a tough quar-

Fernandez assisted Pierce's

concentrated really

cause by repeatedly hitting the

ball long and littering her

good," Pierce said, "I concen-

trated one very point. It

makes me feel very good be-

cause I worked very hard dur

Pierce is playing particu-

larly well in the absence of her

often obstreperous father and

coach Jim Pierce, who did not

times a day. I go out with the

same strategy every match and

he gives me a pep talk," Pierce

nal muscle strain here in 1989

and 1990, defaulting both

times. He quit at the end of

Edberg suffered an abdomi-

"He calls once, twice, three

make the journey to Australia.

terfinal against Sabatini.

game with double faults.

ing the winter."

Games final on clay last year.

Graf next will play either

Graf is seeking her 12th ca-

Scles was scheduled to play

Graf had uncharacteristic

Maleeva, a 17-year-old

Centre Court roof.

on Court No.1.

the wind.

Scles in the final.

### Courier brushes Bruguera aside



Jan 24: Defending champion Jim Courier overwhelmed Scrgi Bruguera in un der two hours Sunday night, blasting his way into the

Open 6-1, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5). reports AP. It was an awesome display of power and control against an opponent who has some of the best court coverage on the

quarterfinals at the Australian

men's tour. Courier scored his 10th consecutive win at the Open. robbing No. 15 Bruguera of his first Grand Slam quarterfinal

appearance. This was a step in the right direction," Courier said. "I really hammered the ball

tonight." Two-time champion and No. 2 seed Stefan Edberg. meanwhile, underwent therapy for a "serious" back injury that forced him to default from doubles and may cause him to pull out of singles on Monday.

Michael Stich of Germany, the former Wimbledon champion and 14th seed, earlier became the first player to reach the men's quarterfinals.

Fellow German Steffi Graf stayed on course for a final showdown with Monica Seles in the women's singles, beating Magdalena Malecva 6-3, 6-3 in the fourth round.

Edberg's back spasms made him wince in pain on overheads and affected his serves in a tough third-round victory over Amos Mansdorf.

Edberg's coach, Tony Pickard, said his withdrawal from doubles with partner Jan Siemerink "precautionary," but Edberg told Siemerink that he might have trouble recovering fully in time to play a fourth-round match Monday against Arnaud Boetsch.

"He told me personally he was having problems with his back," Stemerink said. It's serious. He needs a day to recover, and he's not sure whether he'll play singles."

Edberg had treatment for his back Saturday and Sunday, but Siemerink said, "a back is a serious injury. I'm not sure it can be over in one day."

Graf, a three-time champion Down Under, was given her hardest match of the tournament so far, conceding as many games as she had in her

she had lost five kilos and was

training only twice a week

since her four-year suspension

Krabbe told the weekly

last year for doping, reports

L'Equipe magazine she confi-

dently expected to win an ap-

peal against her ban in

Germany next month and still

hope she would be able to

compete in the World

Championships in Stuttgart in

man, winner of gold medals in

the women's 100 and 200

metres at the last World

Championships in Tokyo in

1991, said she had serious

doubts that she would be ready

Krabbe was banned after

testing positive for the drug

Clenbuterol during training

in time for Stuttgart.

But the 23-year-old Gcr-

Reuter.

PARIS, Jan 24:

World champion

sprinter Katrin

Krabbe said in an

interview publi-

shed on Saturday



world number three Pete Sampras of the United States in the Australian Open in the Australian Open in Melbourne - Star TV photo on Jan 23.

first three matches combined. Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, the No. 3 seed who has never made it to the final here, had to stave off two set points in the first set before beating Australian Nicole' 6-0. Provis 7-5, 6-3.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain, the No. 4 seed and a scmifinalist in both appearances here, advanced to the final eight with a hard-fought 7-5, 6-2 win over No. 11 Anke Huber of Germany.

Mary Pierce, the No. 10 seed from France, qualified for the quarterfinals of a Grand Slam tournament for the first time, ruthlessly beating American Gigi Fernandez 6-0, Stich, meanwhile, trailed by

a set and 2-3 when rain began to fall but revelled in the calmer conditions after the Centre Court roof was closed and beat Kenneth Carlsen of Denmark 6-7 (3-7), 6-4, 6-4,

the third set of the final against Ivan Lendl in 1990. In a men's singles match Inactive Krabbe loses weight

halted by rain, No. 7 Petr Korda of the Czech republic led American qualifier Chris Garner 7-5, 6-3, 3-0.

#### Swedish success

ANTERSELVA, Italy, Jan 24 The Swedish quartet of Ulf Johansson, Tord Wiksten, Leif Andersson and Mikael Lofgren beat Norway by 24.7 seconds in Sunday's 30-kilometre relay race of the men's World Cup biathlon circuit, reports AP.

The Swedish athletes, all faultless from the shooting range, completed the distance in the winning time of one hour, 20 minutes, 47.2 seconds.

Joan Age Tyldum, who was the fastest over the 7.5-kilometre individual ski cross country contest in 19:27.8 minutes, led Norway to runnerup place in 1:21:11.9.

Abebe reaps rich

JAKARTA, Jan 24: Ethiopia's Addis Abebe won the world's richest road race on Sunday, packing up US 25,000 dollar for coming first and an extra 500,000 US dollar for doing it in record time, reports Reuter. The 23-year-old long-dis-

tance runner completed the Jakarta 10-km race in a record 27 minutes and 40 seconds.

That was one second ahead of the previous world best in a road race by Mexican Arturo Barrios, an official of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) said.

"I prepared well for this race and my condition was also good," said a jubilant Abebe. "There was some little

problem during the race when

a helicopter flew over me but in the end I won." Several thousand runners. most just for fun, joined the

race through the centre of the Indonesian capital whose tropical heat had been cooled by an overnight downpour. Abebe won the race two

years ago but only managed fourth-place in 1992.

This time he pulled away from the front-runners after the six-km mark, beating second-placed Barrios by 21 sec-

Simon Kipkoeh Chemotywo of Kenya was third. It was the first world

30 "The record in the race's seven-year Greatest\* history. Another 50,000 US dollar is 31 Slippery offered to any woman runner one

breaking the world record. Derartu Tulu, also from Ethiopia, was the fastest woman but failed to produce a fastest time. She finished the race in 32 minutes 10 seconds, winning 20,000 US dol-

'Kenya's Ester Kiplaget was second, followed by Anuta Catuna of Romania.

# be harmful

TOKYO, Jan 24: A total of 121 people in Japan have suffered epileptic fits while playing video games, according to a survey published by the Kyodo news agency Saturday, reports AFP.

Most of the victims were primary and secondary school students, the age group most prone to hypersensitivity to light, but one was a housewife in her thirties, Kyodo said.

Four cases of epilepsy caused by video games surfaced in Sendai, northern Japan, last week, following an announcement that overseas distributors of Japan's Nintendo Co. were attaching warnings to its video game products.

Ten more cases were reported later in Niigata, another provincial city.

Kyodo, which conducted the survey by contracting hospitals nationwide, said most new cases were treated by prescribing medicines and restricting the number of hours spent playing the video

One 12-year-old girl. treated at the Kyushu University Hospital in Fukuoka, southern Japan, was found to experience symptoms when viewing a certain segment of a video game, Kyodo said.

The video game syndrome grabbed worldwide headlines recently when a 20-year-old American woman and her father sued the US subsidiary of Nintendo for 2.6 million dollars in damages. They claimed the woman had epileptic fits in 1988 while playing a Nintendo game.

Nintendo has attached a notice to its products in the United States and Britain warning that playing video games can cause epilepsy on some occasions.

### Hunyady wins

HEERENVEEN. Netherlands, Jan 24: Emese Hunyady of Austria won the European Speedskating title Sunday despite a commanding victory in the 5,000 metres by last year's World and European Champion, Gunda Niemann, reports AP.

Hunyady skated the final event in 7 minutes, 29.19 seconds to take third place but defend her overall lead and finish first with 170,721 It was the first international

title for the 26-year-old vet eran skater. Her lumbering strides were

long but stayed powerful as she grimaced and gasped in the fi nal laps around the two-lane

Nicmann won the 5,000 in 7:15.50 to set a new European record. She entered the tournament as a strong favourite but her point total of 175.745 put her in fifth place overal after a bad spill in Friday's 500

Heike Warnicke of Germany was second in the 5,000 me tres with a time of 7:17.05 and also second overall with six men breaking 10 seconds. 170.818 points. awesome contest between fel-

Warnicke went out strongly and used Niemann, her competitor in the duel, to pull her Lewis, both jumping further towards Hunyady's finishing time. But Warnicke failed to reach of the 13 seconds time differential she needed to surpass the Austrian on the overall standings.

### Video games can It won't be smooth for Sabatini



MELBOURNE. Jan 24: Gab-riela Sabatini had a fight on her hands Sunday, and she knows she

probably will have to battle even harder if she hopes to keep rolling along at the Australian Open, reports AP.

The No 3 seed played her best when she had to win dowing crowd favourite Nicole Provis 7-5, 6-3. It was one of the few matches finished on a rainy day that forced the closure of the Centre Court roof and postponement of most play on the outside courts. "She keeps the pressure

on" Provis said of the Argentine star." She's a smart player and they play the big points well."

Playing the big points well was not Provis' strong suit Sunday. She broke Sabatini carly and was serving for a 4-1 lead at 40-0 when she missed an overhead from midcourt. A winner by Sabatini, a doublefault and a backhand long gave the game to Sabatini and turned around the momentum.

"You never know what would have happened if I had



GABRIELA SABATINI

got that game," said Provis, an Australian who was backed by a vociferous crowd cheering cvery point she won.

Sabatini agreed and said her mental toughness was the key. "That was a key point" she

said. "Today was a hard match. She took risks. She had a very good chance, I kept fighting. That's the only way I came back. I wanted to win the. match very badly. That the difference.

Provis felt she played well, but that Sabatini performed at a higher level.

"I was beaten by a better. player," Provis said. "She didn't make many unforced errors. She makes you play everything and she gets everything back."

The victory advanced Sabatini to the quarterfinals, where she will play No 10 Mary Pierce, a hard-hitting 17year-old who has been dominating in her first three matches.

"She's playing the same sort of person the next round," Provis said. "Mary really thumps the ball."

Sabatini said she feels she's playing well enough to win here but isn't looking beyond her next match.

"She's very dangerous", Sabatini said of Pierce. "She's playing very good, playing with a lot of confidence. I'll probably have to take more risks."

## Stich finds his touch back



Jan 24: Suddenly, things are looking a whole lot brighter for Michael Stich,

reports AP. The Grand Slam Cup cham pion has struggled trough the last three weeks, never quite mastering his serve, his power game or his temper.

On Sunday, after they closed the roof at the National Tenmis Centre, the German's game finally came together.

Stich was a set and 2-3 down to gutsy, unseeded Dane Kenneth Carlsen in his fourthround match at the Australian

greatest world records in

history did not conform to

international rules, the Sunday

Times newspaper said in its

Cliff Temple, an interna-

tionally respected - athletics

writer and coach, said tests

made by a British laboratory

showed the National Stadium

track was harder than

International Amateur Athletic

Federation (IAAF) regulations

was not fully tested by the IAAF

before the 1991 World

Championships where Lewis

set a world record breaking

Bob Beamon's 23-year-old long

jump record with an 8.95 me-

the fastest race in history with

The long jump produced an

low-Americans Powell and

But the track, while favour-

ing sprinters and jumpers, was

too hard for distance runners,

the newspaper said, contra-

vening IAAF regulations laid

Geddes

quantity

28 Footed

34 East

36 Actor

37 Old

coins

weigh

wood

39 Light-

Indian

vase

27 Vast

than Beamon's old mark.

The men's sprint was by far

tre leap.

His report said the track

early editions, reports Reuter.

LONDON, Jan 24:

The super-fast

Tokyo track on

which Carl Lewis

and Mike Powell

set two of the

MELBOURNE, Open when the rain began to his thunderbolt serve.

After the resumption, he put the final pieces of his personal jigsaw together and went on to win 6-7 (3-7), 6-4, 6-4, 6-0. He will face either Frenchman Guy Forget or American qualifier Kelly Jones in the quarterfinals.

"I've been waiting three weeks to play like this," said Stich. "I'm starting to play a bit

better, getting a bit of confidence and starting to hit the ball as well as I can. "I'm very satisfied with the

Tokyo track not perfect?

down in 1990.

way I'm playing." Stich also has rediscovered

Samples of the track, exam

ined by the IAAF accredited

laboratory Materials Science

Consultants (MSC) in London,

showed it failed to meet the

rules on flexibility and an MSC

representative who went to

Tokyo in 1991 was not allowed

The Sunday Times quoted

to make further tests on site.

Japanese World Champion-

ships organisers as saying

there was no rule that the

track had to be tested by an

records would almost certainly

stand despite doubts about the

track as assistance from artifi-

cial surfaces does not preven

His report quoted an IAAF

source as saying that the

championships were awarded

to Tokyo in 1987 with no

stipulation in the contract over

forthcoming IAAF track speci-

It also quoted IAAF techni-

cal delegate Arthur Takac as

saying: "We genuinely wanted

to do our best for the local or-

ganisers, and indeed tried our

"But, in the end, what could

we do? in the end the track

was very good, there were no

injuries and we received no

complaints. Everybody was

ratification.

fications.

very best."

very happy."

Temple said the world

IAAF accredited laboratory.

He slammed 22 accs past Carlsen, including one that was clocked at 211 kph (131 mph). Only Dutchman Richard Krajicek recorded a serve faster than that during the entire 1992 season.

Stich admitted being frustrated early in the tournament, when he struggled past journeymen Fabrice Santoro and Jason Stoltenberg in five-setters. Against Stoltenberg, he became so ffustrated that he unleashed obscenities that cost him a dlrs 2,000 fine.

"I didn't play my best, that's for sure," said Stich. "I'm still in the quarterfinals, though, so there must be something

"I'd rather play bad over the first couple of rounds and improve my game over the next few rounds. So far, so good.

Stich's dirs 2 million victory in last month's Grand Slam Cup was his first major triumph since his Wimbledon victory 18 months ago.

"That seems 'like a long

time ago. It is a long time, ac tually," Stich said. "I think I can win a Grand Slam again. I'm capable of it when I play my best tennis. "At the end, the only thing

that counts is whether you win a Grand Slam - and that's what I'm going to try and do

Stich believes his mental strength is one of the keys to his resurgence.

### Chauvet's first

HAUS, Austria, Jan 24: Vreni Schneider of Switzerland went off course on her final run Sunday, handing Patricia Chauvet of France the first World Cup slalom win of her career, reports AP. Schneider, the World Cup

slalom champion, had a comfortable 0.87 second advantage over the rest of the field after the first run. She appeared headed toward her third consecutive victory when she lost control on the scarred, icy course and missed a gate.

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 24 Director

for --

devotion

7 The sun

8 Novelist

James

9 On --

Branch -

(equal to)

10 Food shop

bankrupt

11 At liberty

19 Melody

22 Former

chess

champ

17 Go

#### scissors **ACROSS** on Ararat Grosbard 1 Refinery **39** Ewe cut 25 Desert 2 French refuse said it favorite 40 Cassia novelist 5 Encore 26 Barbara 3 Two fives 8 Moslem plant

magistrate 43 It's full of 4 Confuse hot air? or mix up 47 Umpire's creature 5 Military 49 Kitchen brassstirring" follower wind 13 Japanese 6 Object of 50 Verdi vegetable ardent

52 Hayworth

14 Mimicked opera 51 Nickname 15 Road to Rome 16 Fairway comedian sphere

or Moreno machine 20 Eagle's 53 Connery 21 Position O'Casey 54 Arrival for 16 time: Across 22 Sesame abbr.

18 Arcade

55 High-23 Charge or lander human DOWN lead-in 26 Muddles

confuses

32 Special

33 Billiards

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sphere

**Deliver** 

(1987)

38 It rested

movie)

23 USAF unit 40 Health 1 Small Solution time: 24 mins. PISA ASP GRUT LEAP REDRIVER IMPALA SALOME CENT ELL

REDUIGHT ONE SERAL ELL DAFT REDCORAL 44 Of the ear ERA EPOS DENUDE ON AGER REDDEVIL GAME

29 Inflate the expense account 31 Lodge member fig tree 35 Bedouin Mineo German

resorts **41 Nobelist** Wiesel 42 Nothing in Madrid 43 Calligrapher's problem **45** Conductor Klemperer 46 in good OLEGETE EGIS ORDERAS SERT 48 King-

CRYPTOQUIP

WZM FEF PEUWDEM PZQMM KHHAZHFDWKV ADNK V D.NK. NHUH

QZZ HGHM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOCKEY STAR IS HAPPY WITH HIS NEW CONTRACT: "I CAN'T KICK."

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Z equals L

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.

#### last summer. Saying she had lost around Aussie success at Tokyo marathon TOKYO, Jan 24: Australian Steve Moneghetti breezed past

other powerful runners today to set a world best and grab victory in the Tokyo City Halfmarathon race, reports Reuter. Moneghetti passed Todd Williams of the United States

and Mexico's Dionicio Ceron to

clock in at one hour, six sec

onds after completing the 21 km (13 miles) race. The Australian, who will also compete in Tokyo's International Marathon in mid-

February, broke the previous half-marathon record of 1:00:24 set by Benson Masya of Kenya last September. Williams, who came in sec-

ond at 1:00:11, and Ceron. third with 1:00:17, also broke the previous best mark. in the women's race, Elana

#### Meyer of South Africa led the pack from start to finish. clocking in at 1:07:22. Lawrence's feat

CAMBRIDGE, Massachu setts, Jan 24: Debbie Lawrence set a new US standard in the 3-kilometre indoor race walk and Ireland's Marcus O'Sullivan claimed a narrow victory in the mile at the Commonwealth Invitational Athletics meeting on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Lawrence cut more than 13 seconds off the old mark by winning with a time of 12 minutes 31.89 seconds. The previous record of 12:45.38 had been set by Maryanne Torrellas in 1988.



five kilos. Krabbe told the magazine: "It's mainly my legs which have lost in volume. I suspected it would happen because every time I took holidays, I noticed a loss in muscle mass. As soon as you stop, the muscles disappear. And I'm

Krabbe said she did aerobics and muscle exercises twice a week. "I also run from

"not really training."

time to time but you couldn't say it's intensive training," she said. "When you're suspended, it's difficult to find motivation, to tell yourself "Go on, do it on cold days." The sprinter said she would need two or three months of

regular exercise before she could resume intensive training. To get back to the top. would need a whole season." she added.

Asked whether she would compete in Stuttgart, she replied: "Frankly, I don't believe so much in my chances. I haven't trained for so long so I don't know whether I could get back to the right level, physically or mentally. I must try and see and decide, based on what I feel."



Barcelona gold medalist Derartu Tulu of Ethiopia raises her hands as she crosses the finish line to win the 7th Bob Hasan 10-km run in the women's category in Jakarta yesterday. Tulu clocked 32 mins 10 secs to bring home a purse of US dollar 20,000. - AFP photo