

Much feared Pakistani paceman Waqur Younis beaten by the pace on this occasion by a Curtly Ambrose delivery in the final of the triangular series against the West Indies in Johannesburg on Saturday. West Indies beat Pakistan by five wickets. - AFP photo

# Ondruska not afraid of Agassi



SCOTTSDALE, Arizona, Feb 28: South African Marcos Ondruska will put his week of upsets on the

line against An-dre Agassi in the final of the dollar 300,000 Scottsdale tennis championships after both scored semifinal wins on Saturday, reports Reuter. Second-seeded Agassi das-

hed Australian Mark Woodforde's bid for a second successive final and stopped his match streak at eight with a 6-2, 6-3 victory in cold, windy conditions.

Ondruska, ranked 67th in the world sprang his third surprise of the week, dispatching eighth seed Andrei Chesnokov of Russia 6-4, 7-5 earlier in the day.

"I played him once and that's enough to know he's a tough competitor," said Agassi, whose 11-1 start and title in San Francisco earlier this month is his best jump out of the gate since he joined the tour in 1986. "Today Mark Woodforde was

the most important thing in my tennis. Tomorocow Ondis, "the reigning Wimbledon champion and world number eight said.

Agassi who has dropped only 11 games while steam rolling four opponents, said he would not take Ondruska

"I hope he's not going to bed wondering whether or not

Andre is going to show tomorrow. Because it doesn't matter where I'm playing, what city it's in, what surface it's on, or what round it's in. Every

The 22-year-old American wore down the left-handed Woodforde with a punishing groundstroking game and strong service returns.

match has its own impor-

"I was tired out there and struggling," said Woodforde, ranked 23rd, who won last week's US Indoors singles title



ANDRE AGASSI in Philadelphia and the doubles in Memphis the week be-

The bottom line was that was just tired, playing 15 days

straight. The boiler sort of got

cold," he added.

"He has one of the best returns if not the best in the game. It was his strength against my strength, and tonight he came out on top," said Woodforde of his serve.

Ondruska, a pro since 1989 but still looking for his maiden title, is enjoying his own Cindrella story.

"It's unbelievable," said the unseeded Ondruska, who, like Agassi, has yet to drop a set here as he eliminated seeds Francisco Clavet of Spain, American Brad Gilbert and Chesnokov

"It's been almost a dream week," added Ondruska, who gained entry into the main draw when three players withdrew last Friday. "I think it means a lot to me because it's only my second tour event final, and it's sweet."

lle was runner-up at Cologne last year.

Although Ondruska, ranked 67th in the world, lost to Agassi 6-0, 6-4 in the quarterfinals in San Francisco earlier this month in their only career meeting, the 20 year old newly named Davis Cupper says he'll be more prepared this time.

"He won the first seven games of the match, but after that it was pretty tight. I know what I did then and I know how he plays and the things he docs," said Ondruska.

"I have feeling for Agassi but it's going to be tough."

# China gripped by boxing fever



Young Chinese workers on Saturday screamed for blood, chan-

ted, and stood on their seats at the country's first professional boxing tournament, billed as the "Brawl at the Wall," reports Reuter.

A near capacity crowd of 18,000 watched five pro fights at Beijing's capital gymnasium - a drop in the ocean compared with the 400 million watching live television coverage in farms and villages across the world's most populous country.

The "Brawl at the Wall" has gripped China with its mixture of American showbiz, raw capitalism and kung-fu style vio-

American lightheavyweights Leconzer Barber and Mike Sedille displayed boxing skills never before seen in China, where the sport was banned for 28 years "uncivilised" after the 1949 communist revolu-

Barbar scored a unanimous points decision to retain his WBO crown.

He picked up 60,000 dollars for his win - small change in the world of pro boxing but a sum beyond the imagination of most Chinese peasants. It took Barbar six rounds to

tans: Sedillo, who came out at

the opening bell throwing fast combinations that had the champion retreating to the

"He wanted to push me around, but in the end I pushed him back. I was physically stronger than him and that was the difference," Barber said later.

Asked about his first fight in China, he said: "It feels great. I hope the people in China enjoyed the show. It was a hell of a fight."

Said Sedillo: "This is a peace mission from the United States. We're all winners tonight."

Between rounds a parade of ring girls dressed in the skimpiest of mini skirts and bodyhugging blouses were greeted by whistles and cheers from an audience more used to uniscx bluc Mao suits.

Former world heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali received a standing ovation when he appeared in the stadium. He is still a hero to millions of Chinese boxing fans.

Another former world champion, Mike Weaver, was also a crowd pleaser as he donned a Green People's Liberation Army cap with a red star to celebrate his unanimous points victory over fellow American Bert Cooper in a non-title bout.

Weaver, 41, outreached and outclassed his 26 year old op-

ponent, Cooper with a build like Mike Tyson but lacking the disgraced champion's fitness, kept charging in but was rarely able to inflict much

Despite the presence of armed police, the crowd at the capital gymnastum decided to throw caution to the wind to enjoy their night out in a city starved of live entertainment.

Some had paid as much as 100 dollars for a ticket and were looking for blood.

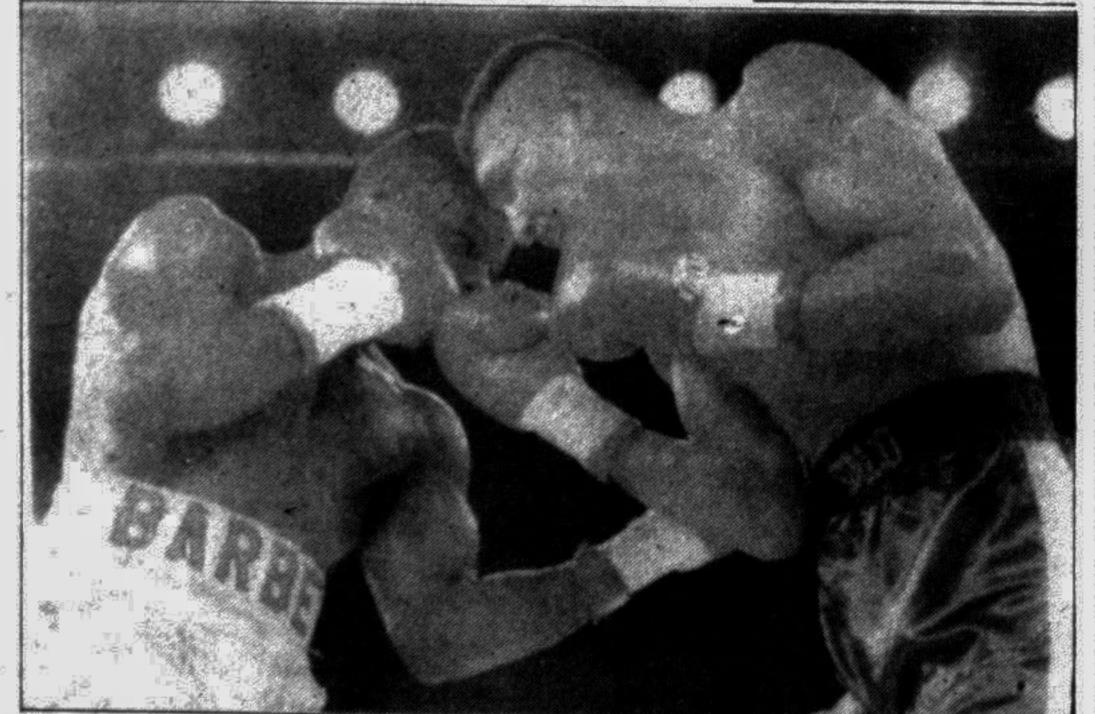
They roared on fighters who seemed to be heading for a knockout victory. "Kill him, hammer him don't stop now"

they yelled. Organisers of the "Brawl at the Wall" see it at as a dress rehearsal for a big-name heavyweight title fight later this year.

# Lewis-Tucker

bout in jeopardy LONDON, Feb 28: WBC heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis' scheduled fight against Tony Tucker in Las Vegas on May 8 is in danger of being called off, according to the manager of WBA and IBF titlist Riddick Bowe, reports AP.

Rock Newman said Friday he had "first-hand knowledge" that the bout was "in very serious jeopardy."



Defending World Boxing Organisation light-heavyweight champion Leconzer, Barber and challenger Mike Sedillo (R) exchange blows during the fourth round of their 12-round title bout in Beijing on Saturday. Barber retained his crown. It was the first time that China staged professional boxing since it was banned in 1959. - AFP photo 1

### Costa, Muster in Mexico Open final

MEXICO, Feb 28: Carlos Costa of Spain defeated American Francisco Montana and Thomas Muster beat local favourite Oliver Fernandez on Saturday to reach the final of

the Mexican Open, reports AP. Costa defeated Montana 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 in 2 hours 10 minutes, winning 86 percent of his first serve points and serving 10 aces.

"I'm winning because I've been serving well," Costa said "I lought for the match."

"He was just serving too well," Montana said. "His first serve was strong and well placed. It was difficult to return."

Muster's 6-3, 6-4 victory over Fernandez took 93 minutes, enough time the 25-yearold Austrian said to tire out his pponent.

"I was going for it in the beginning of the second set. but then my legs didn't move." Fernandez said.

### Jarryd nips Novacek

ROTTERDAM, Feb 28: Wild card entry Anders Jarryd overpowered seventh-seeded Karel Novacek in a straight sets final victory to clinch the dirs 600,000 ABN-Amro tennis tournament Sunday, reports

Jarryd had eight aces and five love games to beat the 19th ranked Czech 6-3, 7-5 in a 1 hour, 42 minute final in one of Europe's premier in-

door competitions. It was Jarryd's first singles title this year, after several years of descent in the ATI standings. The 31-year-old Swede had to enter the tournament as a wild card ranked at 156.

It was an exciting but nerve racking match final, with both players diving to the corners for well-placed balls.

Jarryd fought Novacek's power play with sharp anticipation and stunningly fast vollcys made possible by his topnotch athletic condition. But Novacek also had some good breaks with precision crosscourt hits.

Jarryd took a quick lead with three aces propelling him to 3-1 in the first set.

Novacek broke his opponent's serve in the sixth game, but Jarryd scored two aces and saved three break points in the following game to bounce right back and win the set in nine games. Novacek's frustration showed up in his netting many serves, and in the double fault that handed Jarryd the first

Jarryd began the second set strong again with by serving a love game and then breaking Jarryd to take a 2-0 lead.

Novacek looked set for a comeback after a three-ace love game brought the score to 6-5 in Jarryd's favour. But Jarryd gave Novacek no breathing room and served another love game to win the match.

Jarryd adds dirs 82,000 to his dlrs 4,495,165 in career prize money, much of it made as one of the most successful doubles players in tennis.

The Swede's first victory in the port city tournament came after beating Wayne Ferreira, Paul Haarhuis, Goran Ivaniscvic and Alexander Volkov.

It is sure to be a boost for his morale after being between twice in the final here, in

1986 and 1989. This is the best tennis that I've played for five or six years," Jarryd said before Sunday's final. "I've beaten three guys in the top 20. That gives me a lot of self confidence."

### Herbie Hide stops Michael Murray

LONDON, Feb 28: Herbie Hide stopped Michael Murray at 2:12 of the fifth round to win the vacant British heavyweight title Saturday night. But he failed to impress WBA and IBF champion Riddick Bowe, the man he hopes to challenge for the world crown later this year, reports AP.

In a one sided bout at London's Dagenham arena, Hide floored Murray four times - once each in the second, third, fourth and fifth rounds. Murray got to his feet at the count of nine after the fourth knockdown, but referee Dave Parris stepped in to stop the fight.

Murray was no match for Hide, who scored at will with left hooks and right crosses to extend his record to 21-0. The one time Murray seemed to land a solid punch, Hide flashed a smile in the direction of Bowe at ringside. But afterwards, Bowe said

he wasn't impressed with the fighter who is being lined up as a possible opponent in August or September. I would knock Herbie out in the first round," Bowe said.

"I'd make Herbie pay for a lot of mistakes I saw tonight." Hide, who was sitting next 38 Singer to Bowe during the interview, protested.

"When I fight for the world title I'll be twice as good," he said. "If I fight Bowe, I'd dance and make him miss."

# FIFA's new rules okayed



FIFA were given the go-ahead to experiment with kick-ins and sud-

den death extra time by soccer's rule makers on Saturday, but promised neither would be introduced at next year's World Cup finals in the United States, reports Reuter.

If the two revolutionary changes are successful at youth tournaments in Australia, Japan and Turkey this year then they will be tested in a major professional league next season before possibly being enforced worldwide in 1995. But FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter said there would

be no alternations to soccer's laws for the 1994 World Cup, apart from possibly awarding three points for a win instead of two during the preliminary group round. The decision to allow FIFA and Europe's governing body UEFA to experiment with

kick-ins for throw-ins and de-

ciding drawn games with the

first goal in extra time was

taken by the International

Football Association Board at its annual meeting. The board also agreed to a alter the law to allow coaching

from the dug-out. From July this year one designated coach will be permitted to issue tactics to players from the bench in a responsible manner, but will not be allowed to shout from the touchline The board also agreed to

support FIFA's moves to order

RO, Feb 28: Club

soccer in Brazil is

Last year attenda

nces slumped as

in a mess.

lans tried of a proliferation of

cham-pionships, chaotic

organi-sation, rocketing ticket

prices and punch-ups on the

drastic that one leading club,

Botafogo, played a midweek

game in the afternoon to save

and to add insult to injury, the

lights had to be turned on

anyway in the second half

when a storm blew up, plung-

media agree that drastic

changes are needed to avoid

disaster. But as the 1993 sea

son gets into swing it is be-

coming clear that little, if

anything, will be done to

breathe new life into the do-

done to try and bring the sup-

porters to watch football,"

Flamengo goalkeeper Gilmar

said. "Here the directors do

everything to try and keep

television coverage, crazy kick-

off times - 2130 on weekday

nights or mid-afternoon on

blazing hot Sundays when peo-

ple prefer to be on the beach

- and the fear of hooliganism

combine to make soccer an

unappetising prospect for all

but the most fanatical support-

showed games Sunday,

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

and Thursday - in the same

competition, said Brazil's na-

Alberto Parreira.

iceberg.

13 Expert

a halt

boats

23 Witness

24 Predica-

Moffo

40 Hoover,

39 Crude

e.g.

Wallach

20 River

22 Actor

tional team coach Carles

But that is just the tip of the

The formats of the champi

One week last year they

Players say that saturation

"In Europe, everything is

mestic game.

them away.

Players, coaches and the

ing the ground into darkness.

Only 365 people turned up

The situation became so

pitch, reports Reuter.

on the floodlight bill.

referees to enforce the fourstep rule for goalkeepers. which Blatter said had become "16-step rule" in some leagues.

FIFA said they also planned to change laws next year to allow a third substitute, a goal-

SEI'P BLATTER

keeper being able to replace another goalkeeper.

FIFA's experiments with' sudden death extra time and kick-ins are the latest part of their drive to speed up the game and cut down on timewasting tactics which they believe marred the 1990 World

The board also beefed up the backpass law on Saturday to prevent players using tricks to deliberately get round the

Players who try to pass back by dropping to their knees and pushing the ball back or heading it while on the ground will be booked for misconduct. Blatter said: "I think kick-

ins will give more space to the

volve a complex system of

stages and phases and bonus

points - are too complicated

and badly written causing

Three years ago Vasco da

endless confusion, critics say.

Gama and Botalogo left the Rio

Championship final claiming to

pleting laps of honour. The two

clubs interpreted the rules dif-

ferently and the title was

eventually decided by a tri-

and Olaria took the field for a

match wearing identical strips.

Club officials spent half an hour

arguing over who had the right

Then there are the champi

Any European fan coming to

Brazil and expecting to find a

national league and knockout

cup as in his own country is

likely to be bewildered by a

combination of 27 regional

competitions, a nationwide

cup, a national championship

pre-season tournaments and

three South American club

selves playing three to four

times a week as they struggle

onships last six months but

most of the participants are

minor, semi-professional clubs

Take Flamengo, Brazil's

Ten of their 13 opponents

in the Rio de Janeiro champi-

onship are minor teams, which

means a series of games in tiny

stadiums on bumpy, pot-holed

pitches and rarely more than a

ately maintain bad pitches to

bring the big clubs down to

worse if they tried," com-

mented Fernando Calazans, a

"The small clubs deliber-

"The directors could not do

couple of thousand fans.

their level," said Gilmar.

The regional champi-

to fulfil the fixture list.

with no hope of winning.

best-supported side.

Some clubs can find them-

to wear their first strip.

onships themselves.

competitions.

Last year Vasco da Gama

have won the title and com-

- which usually in

game, especially now that team tactics mean all players are together in a short space of the pitch, this will open the game. It is not in discussion for the 1994 World Cup.

"Our society is always questioning everything today and we have to question if football is going in the right way and that is why we experiment on some laws of the game," he

added. FIFA's first major change was to ban backpasses to goalkeepers last year, which Blatter said had proved successful.

He sees the kick-in initiative not as a major change but an adaptation of the law which will add to the flow of the

UEFA will be first to experiment with kick-ins at their Under-16 tournament in Turkey in May, and FIFA will test them at their world Under-17 tournament in Japan in August. Sudden death extra time

will be used next month to determine drawn games in FIFA's Under-19 world vouth tournament in Australia. Games still undecided after normal extra time will go to penalties. as at present.

The international board promised the new changes would not be rushed into law and would be given detailed scrutiny.

English FA chief executive Graham Kelly said: "There will be a full consultation and discussion across a full range of committees in the coming months."

Brazil's club soccer in a mess cading newspaper columnist. To organise a championship

> suicide. But that is exactly what has been done.

like this ... Is stupid. To repeat

the same formula next year is

In contrast, Brazil's national championship, in which the big clubs finally get to face each other, lasts only three months once the regional competitions have finished,

Parreira, Gilmar, Calazans

championship has enormous potential if it was to run all year with matches just on Sunday's, as in Italy. Flamengo's average atten-

and many others maintain the

dance during last years Brazilian Championship was 42,000, including away games.

But this year organisers have gone in the other direction, increasing the number of participants from 20 to 32 while shortening the length of the competition. "20 was an ideal number," said an exasperated Parreira.

"Now I don't know what they will do. They could have eight groups of four or four groups of eight or something

Directors justify holding regional competitions by saying Brazil is too big for a fully blown national championship. Players and coaches refute

this, saying what is really needed is a change of direction by the directors. "We can all see what is wrong, but the directors simply have a different mentality," Gilmar said.

Asked if he thought the situation would change for the better, Parreira shrugged his shoulders and signed. "I've been involved in foot-

ball for 24 years and we have been talking about this problcm for all that time. But in 24 years nothing has been done. It's getting worse and worse."

NAIROBI, Feb 28: Kenya beat Guinea 2-0 (halftime 1-0) in a World Cup soccer Africa Group | qualifier on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Scorers: Henry Motego (10th minute), Patrick Nachok (87th). Guinea qualify for tournament's second round after

Kenya's victory

## reduced to only two teams.

beating Kenya 4-0 in Conakry

in first leg. Their group was

Senegal win DAKAR, Feb 28: Senegal beat Gabon 1-0 in a World Cup African Group G qualifier on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Scorer: Mamadou Badiane

### (35th).

Colombia's woe SYDNEY, Feb 28: Colombian hopes for a good start to the World Youth Soccer Championship have been damaged by the late withdrawal of three key players, reports AP.

The team, which was met at Sydney airport Sunday by nearly 200 flag-waving and singing supporters, plays host nation Australia at the Sydney Football Stadium on Friday night in the opening match of the tournament.

Two key players were injured in the past two weeks and another player could not gain a release from his club.

The biggest worry for coach Reynaldo Rueda has been ishding replacements for striker Francisco Moscera and attacking midfielder Frank Overo, who failed fitness tests after receiving match injuries. They were two very impor-

tant players and had been with the team during its two months together at training." aid Rueda. But the team . . . is still confident of a good perfor-

mance. The Colombians have played 16 matches in the past eight weeks with a 12-2-2 record. The 35-year-old Rueda is

making his first appearance as the Colombian national coach. Despite the tiring effects of the long flight, Rueda ordered a training session for the players within 30 minutes of arriving at the team hotel.

### Fernandez has an easy ride

INDIAN WELLS, California, Feb 28: Top seed Mary Joe Fernandez had three service breaks in the first set en route to a 6-3, 6-1 semifinal victory over No 5 Helena Sukova of Czech Republic in the Evert

Cup on Saturday, reports AP. No 4 Amenda Coetzer of South Africa defeated Stephanie Rottier of the Netherlands, 6-4, 6-3 in the other semifinal.

Fernandez led 2-0 when a forehand error by Sukova gave Fernandez a service break.

They traded service games before Fernandez led 3-2. She won the next two games to go up 5-2 before being broken at love by Sukova. Fernandez closed out the

first set 6-3 when Sukova's forehand sailed long. Fernandez, a 21-year-old from Miami ranked seventh in the world, took a 3-0 lead in the second set before wrapping up the match in 67 minutes. "This is the best I've played

all week," Fernandez said. "I never know what to expect from her. She serves and volleys and comes in and she hits short balls. I was trying to return her serve away from her, get her off position."

Fernandez faces Coetzer in Sunday's final for the \$75,000

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

### ACROSS 42 Illegalities 2 "- Alone" 21 Fire 1 Eschew 45 Disclose 3 Topping 5 Chop 49 Sitar 4 Ganglion

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28 29 33 CRYPTOQUIP PYNKMSNY JNYMZYP

JQNQXXMN XHMHRY VKLXYNA NKLS. QRH M Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ALTHOUGH THE ELEC-TRICIAN HAD NUMEROUS DISAPPOINTMENTS, HE

Today's Cryptoquip clue: L equals M

MADE LIGHT OF THEM.

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.