

Paul Gascoigne is through with a kick during a training session on Sunday of the English World Cup squad preparing for its crucial tie against the Netherlands at Wembley on Wednesday. (From right) John Barnes, David Platt look on.

FIFA won't ban Zimbabwe

ZURICH, Apr 27: FIFA. world soccer's ruling body, on Tuesday backed off a threat to ban Zimbabwe from 1994 World Cup qualifying matches over the government's replacement of top soccer officials for alleged corruption, reports AP. As its investigation showed

the case has "special circumstances," FIFA said it has "no objection" if the state Sports and Recreational Council temporarily takes over the running of the Zimbabwe Football Association. But new elections for the

posts must be held within 60 days under the association's statutes, a FIFA statement said. Wednesday Last Zimbabwe's sport council named replacements for

country from qualifying rounds

for the 1994 World Cup finals

Pioneer soccer

Sports Reporter

Bank Pioneer soccer league

play-off between K R Boys and

Shatadal Samajik and

Sanskritik Sangha has come

under some demonic spell,

once again having to be called

off for the second consecutive

through on Monday after heavy

downpour left the ground un-

playable, was abandoned yes

terday after a disputed deci-

sion irked the spectators and a

section of rowdy fans invaded

the field forcing, the players

and officials to run for cover.

The match was withheld for

some time, but when the

commotion died out the

Shatadal outfit refused to con-

from the final whistle, K R

Boys were leading through a

The play-off round had to be

introduced after five teams of

the Group A finished with the

same number of points. The

top two teams make it to the

Swadesh Samaj Kalyan Sangha

are through to the semifinals

called off after unruly crowd invaded the pitch.

Dipali Jubo Sangha and

goal from Saiful.

last four.

from Group B.

The match, which fell

It seems that the Janata

in the United States.

with showing a little bit of paelected leaders of the associatriotism- there's nothing tion whom the council fired wrong with being proud to be for allegedly wasting millions English," said Taylor. of dollars that should have Liverpool winger John gone into soccer over the past Barnes, expected to play

match

Wembley

Taylor, who believes the

Dutch will be feeling most

pressure because they have al-

ready lost once in Group Two,

fears the crowd may barrack

his players as they did in the

last World Cup game at

rallying tune "Land of Hope

and Glory be played when his

team walks out in an attempt

to get the crowd behind them.

"There's nothing wrong

Taylor has demanded the

against the Dutch, was con-FIFA's legal expert. Michel stantly booed in the game Zen-Ruffinen, originally called against San Marino and Taylor the appointments illegal and said it had a demoralising efsaid attempts "by any political fect on the team. authority" to undermine the "Any booing of the manager Zimbabwe association would force FIFA to suspend the

and players before we've even kicked the ball produces negative vibes."

England have never lost a World Cup qualifier at home, but expect to be tested to the limit by the Netherlands who will be missing several star

Taylor turns to English fans

players through injury. LONDON, Apr 27: England manager Already without Marco van Basten, Libero Ronald Koeman Graham Taylor and defender Berry van has made an Aerlethe Dutch face fitness impassioned plea to fans for patrdoubts over influential skipper iotic support to lift his team in Jan Wouters, who has been assigned the task of marking Wednesday's crucial World Cup Paul Gascoigne. against the Wouters fell on Tuesday and Netherlands, reports Reuter.

hurt the shoulder he injured playing for Bayern Munich in a



GRAHAM TÄYLOR

league match on Friday but insists on playing even if he needs a painkilling injection. But Taylor still expects the Dutch to be formidable oppo-

"I don't go along with the view that it makes them weaker," said Taylor, whose side are level on points with the Netherlands and leaders

Norway, but who have played one game fewer than the Dutch. They have already lost one

game and, while you can still qualify with that, you can't afford to lose a second game. So the pressure is not on us for this game — it's on the Dutch Dutch coach Dick Advocaat,

who promises an attacking game, said. "We may be without Van Basten, Koeman, Van Aerle and (Wim) Jonk, but we have players who may not be well known to England fans but hopefully will be on Thursday." He named Ajax's 20-year-

old winger Marc Overmars and Anderlecht striker Peter van Vossen as a pair who could win the game for the Dutch.

We realise we can't afford to lose. If we were to lose we'd have to win all our other matches to qualify and that would be a very difficult task, said Advocaat.

TEAMS

· ENGLAND: Chris Woods, Lee Dixon, Nigel Winterburn, Des Walker, Tony Adams Carlton Palmer, David Platt, Paul Gascoigne, Paul Ince, Les Ferdinand, John Barnes.

NETHERLANDS: Ed de Goev, Frank de Boer, John de Wolf, Danny Blind, Aron Winter, Frank Rijkaard, Jan Wouters, Ruud Gullit, Marc Overmars, Peter van Vossen, Dennis Bergkamp.

Huge natatorium for '96 Games



will be held in a

15,000-seat in-door facility on the campus of the Georgia Institute of Technology, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) announced on Monday, reports

Officials for ACOG and Georgia Tech told a news conference that construction of an Olympic natatorium and a separate diving and water polo At that stage, fifteen minutes venue was expected to cost 42 million dollar.

ACOG and Georgia Tech will each contribute half the cost and the swimming facility will be converted into a basketball arena for the Georgia Tech team after the Games, officials

The 10,000-seat Alexander Memorial Coliseum, where the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets currently play their home bas-

Action from yesterday's Janata Bank Pioneer soccer league Group A play-off between K R

Boys and Shatadal Samajik and Sanskritik Sangha at the Outer Stadium. The match was

ketball games, will be used as the site for Olympic boxing in

Georgia Tech had previously been announced as the site for the Olympic village.

planners had wanted to build a less costly open-air swimming poll on the Tech campus, but agreed to an enclosed facility after officials of the Georgia Tech Athletic Association said they would make up the differ-

ing for the water sports facili-

extent we can assist on an informal basis, we will do so. It's point is: This is a partnership between Georgia Tech and

- Star photo

offer \$8m this year

WIMBLEDON, Apr 27: The Wimbledon tennis championships will offer nearly dlrs 8 million in prize money this year, with the men again receiving more than the women, reports AP.

The All England Club an nounced Tuesday that total prize money for the June 21-July 4 tournament will be slightly over 5 million pounds, equivalent to dirs 7.97 million

per cent increase in terms of pounds. But since the pound has depreciated against other currencies during the year, the increase in terms of dollars is only 2.3 per cent.

receive 3,05,000 pounds, or dlrs 4,81,900. The women's winner will get 2,75,000

Of the four Grand Slam tournaments, the US Open and Australian Open offer equal prize money to men and women. Wimbledon and the French Open continue to give John Curry, chairman of the

All England Club, said Wimbledon officials held talks on the issue with the Women's Tennis Association.

year," Curry said. "We want to hear both sides of the issue. But we still believe that, on the whole, the majority of the public prefer men's tennis." Curry pointed to a survey

carried out at Wimbledon last spectators said they preferred than the women.

in fine shape NEW YORK, Apr 27: Chris Dittmar and Rodney Martin spearhead the Australian challenge in the quarter-finals of the squash Tournament of Champions after comfortable victories on Monday night, reports Reuter.

Dittmar, the world number two from Adelaide, overcame a shaky start to beat unseeded compatriot Mark Carlyon 17-15, 15-11, 15-7 in 48 minutes.

And former world champion Martin, the third seed from Brisbane, looked back in form after his shock firstround defeat in the British Open in London two weeks ago with a 15-13, 15-4, 15-12 win over England international Mark Cairns.

Both Australians are gunning for world number one and top seed Jansher Khan- but first they face tricky quarterfinals today.

Dittmar meets England's world number five Peter Marshall, who has already given him tough battles this year in the Welsh Classic and British Open.

And 27-year-old Martin faces fellow-Aussie Rodney Eyles, who is flying high after scoring a dramatic win over Jansher in Portugal last month.

Also boosting the Australian challenge is Rodney's 30-yearold brother Brett Martin, who reached the last eight with a 15-4, 15-9,7-15, 15-6 win over Jason Nicolle of England.

He now plays surprise quarter-finalist Mir Zaman Gul, currently ranked world number 251 after spending a year out of the game through disciplinary suspension.

He last reached a major quarter-final at the US Open in New York in 1990, but says it was so long ago he could not remember.

Jansher was given a good workout by England's world number 19 Danny Meddings as he came through 15-5, 15-10, 15-12 in 53 minutes and looks to have the easiest task today against qualifier Paul Johnson of England, ranked world number 40.

Christie injured ALBUFEIRA, Portugal, Apr

27: Olympic 100-metre sprint champion Linford Christie cut short a training visit after suffering a slight knee injury Tuesday while preparing for the upcoming world championships, reports AP. Christie, who won a gold

medal for Britain in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, also complained of back pains, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported. Christie was not available

for comment. However, a source close to

the runner said the injuries were not serious and Christie should resume training soon, Lusa reported. Lusa quoted the source as

saying Christie planned to return to Britain on Tuesday and said his injuries required no major treatment. Christie had been training

in this southern Portuguese seaside town for the past week and plans to return after he recovers from his injuries, Lusa said. In addition to this sum

mer's world championships in Stuttgart, Germany, Christie is also preparing for the 100-metre showdown in Britain against world record holder Carl Lewis.

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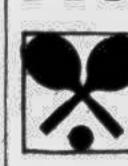
14 Berke

who wasn't

Dittmar, Rodney | Monte Carlo suits Bruguera fine

on a covered court and Pioline

was rarely in it from that mo-



MONTE CARLO, world, finally pulled back to 5-Apr 27 : Sergi 5 and after 11th seed Bruguera Bruguera of Spain served to make it 6-5, slight won his second rain became too heavy for play rain-delayed final to continue. at the 1,65 mi-After a break of more than llion dollar Monte two hours, play finally resumed

ment on.

Carlo Open on Monday when he beat Frenchman Cedric Pioline in a match interrupted by the weather, reports Reuter Bruguera, who had won the tournament in 1991 against

Boris Becker of Germany in a final completed on Monday, beat the unseeded Frenchman 7-6, 6-0. Pioline, the first French player to reach the final since Yannick Noah in 1986 and aiming to be the first winner.

match. But he made a great surge from 5-0 down in the first set, saving six set points as he fought back to force a tiebreak.

outclassed for most of the

The 23-year-old Pioline, playing in only his second career final after knocking our Swede Stefan Edberg and Petr Korda of the Czech Republic, was woeful at first on Centre Court. But at 15-40 down when

serving at 0-5 he decided to go for winners and soon had the 22-year-old Bruguera on the He held serve, broke the

Spaniard for the first time and then fended off three more set points at 5-2. Pioline, ranked 29th in the

from France in 30 years, was

SERGI BRUGUERA

He managed to save a sixth set point at 5-6 but was completely outmaneuvered in the tie-break, which he lost 7-2. World number 16 Bruguera

won the last six points of the tie-break in a row and extended the run to 25 points out of 29 to open a 4-0, 40-0 lead in the second set.

Pioline suggested he was about to stage another comeback when he saved six break points in that game but eventually lost it on the seventh before Bruguera served out the

match to love. Because of the conditions, organisers had decided to make the match a best-of-

usual best-of-five. It was the seventh title of Bruguera's career and his first of the year though he reached the finals in Milan and Barcelona.

three setter rather than the

"I had to fight for every point," Bruguera said. "I was playing very well, hitting very deep all the time and that is maybe why I won(the second set) 6-0.

"But it was very hard to play all the time like that. "It is difficult to play a rain-

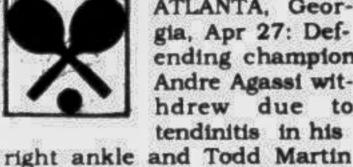
delayed game. You have to have a very good mental approach," he said. "But I think I like to play when it is tight." Pioline said he was not vigi-

lant enough. "The other players I played were attackers on clay. All I had to do was return the ball. Everything was clear," he said. "Instead, today it was a typ-

ical claycourt game. You have to be ready to spend four hours on the court until the moment when your opponent gets

Agassi pulls out, Martin bows has won for four consecutive set 7-6 after Martin made

years. He has a 20-0 match-



gia, Apr 27: Defending champion Andre Agassi withdrew due to tendinitis in his

was the first seed to fall in opening-round action at the 300,000 dollar AT and T Challenge on Monday, reports Reuter. Martin, the fifth seed and

ranked 39th in the world, was upset by 102nd-ranked Ronald Agenor of Haiti 7-6(7-4), 7-5.

Agassi, the second seed, withdrew without playing a match in the tournament he

Graf moves up HAMBURG, Apr 27: World

No 2 Steffi Graf defeated Austrian Judith Wiesner 6-2, 7-5 Monday in the first round of the dirs 375,000 Kraft Tour Citizens Cup, reports AP. But it wasn't an easy win for

Graf, who showed concentration problems after a threeweek layoff caused by a knee injury. No 4 seed Jana Novotna of

the Czech Republic had an easier time, sweeping past unseeded Jo Durie of Britain 6-0, The top American, Jennifer

Santrock, was beaten 6-3, 6-1 by Germany's Wiltrud Probst. Graf is trying to regain top

form before a possible showdown against Monica Seles the world's top-ranked player and the tournament No 1 seed. Seles sees action Tuesday against Maria Strandlund of Sweden.

Graf, who experimented with stop balls and rushed the net more than usual, fell behind 5-4 in the second set against Wiesner, the world No 24. But she recovered to gain back-to-back breaks and close out the match in 72 minutes.

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winning record in Atlanta. Agassi was due to fly in today to be examined by tourna-

ment doctors, obligatory if he is to avoid a fine and loss of ranking points for pulling out



of the tournament after the

draw was made. Agassi's spot in the draw

was taken by a lucky loser from the qualifying event, Canadian Andrew Sznajder. On a bad day for seeded

seeded fellow American Jeff Tarango 2-6, 6-1, 6-3. In a match between two tour veterans, 33-year-old Andres Gomez of Equador, the

players, eighth-seeded Aaron

Krickstein was upset by un-

1990 French Open champion, defeated 29-year-old American Jimmy Arias 6-3, 6-3. Martin let a 5-1 first-set lead slip away against Agenor, a baseliner more comfortable

than Martin on the clay court surface. Agenor used steady, looping groundstrokes to fight back to 5-5, then recovered after trail-

ing in the tiebreak to win the

three consecutive forehand errors. Errors continued to plague Martin's game in the second

set and Agenor broke the American at 6-5 to win the match 7-5 when Martin missed a backhand volley "I won all the key points the whole match," said

Agenor. "I don't know what

happened to him. Maybe he

was not patient enough." Martin agreed with Agenor's analysis. "The big thing was that I wasn't really patient enough today," Martin said. "He started keeping the

Becker bites dust MADRID, Apr 27: Unseeded

ball in play and I sometimes

rushed it.

Argentine Franco Davin upset the world's No 4 tennis player, Boris Becker, for the second time in as many weeks, thrashing the German 6-2, 6-2 Tuesday in the opening round of the city of Madrid Grand Prix, reports AP.

The 23-year-old Davin outran the faltering Becker, who has been plagued by a viral infection since mid-February Becker, 25, missed tour-

naments in Stuttgart, Germany, Roterdam, Holland, and Osaka, Japan. He dropped out in the third round of a tournament in Key Biscayne, Florida, last month, again with a virus.

Becker returned as a late wild card entry at the Nice Open two weeks ago, but fell to Davin in the second round, 4 6, 6-3, 6-1. Last week in Monte Carlo.

Becker lost his first match to Switzerland's Marc Rosset af ter drawing an opening round

53 CRYPTOQUIP RLGV RUNL SKJGM

MUSSUJBTN GZKIC, IKVF

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: VIOLINIST'S GIRL-

NGCNF.

CNBMGVNC GZLKBCNGM

FRIEND WAS VERY ANGRY, FOR HE WAS STRING-ING HER ALONG.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: S equals F

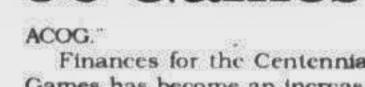
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short 4 Not merely words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

ATLANTA, Apr 27: The swimm ing competition 1996 and later will be confor the 1996 verted into a student athletic Olympic Games centre, Tech officials said.

Initially, Atlanta Olympic

ence in cost. According to both ACOG and Tech officials, no tax payer money would be required for the construction. However, the officials were vague on the issue of Atlanta Olympic financ-

AD Frazier, chief operating officer of ACOG, said "To the in our interest to do so. The



surplus than first predicted.

The men's champion will pounds, or dlrs 4,34,500.

more to the men.

"We talk to them every 32 "... —

year in which 71 per cent of to watch the men play gather

Finances for the Centennial Games has become an increasingly prominent issue in a Atlanta as officials have consistently revised their budget projections to show greater costs for staging the Olympics and a smaller financia

Wimbledon to

at current exchange rates. The figure represents a 14

17 Milieu 18 Rendez-21 Indivisible 22 Powell

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