

Sport

Capriati blasts Bowes away

MAHWAH, N. J., July 24: Second-seeded Jennifer Capriati defeated Beverly Bowes 6-3, 6-4 Friday in a quarterfinal match of the Pathmark tennis exhibition, reports AP.

In other quarterfinal matches, fifth-seeded Lisa Raymond upset third-seeded Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere 6-2, 6-4 and Mary Pierce defeated Camille Benjamin 6-4, 6-0.

Capriati broke Bowes' serve in the third and ninth games of the first set. The sixth-seeded Bowes, 27, of Dallas, broke Capriati's serve in the third game to take a 2-1 lead. Capriati came back to break Bowes in the fourth game, then won the ninth and 10th games to close out the match.

"I really don't think I was passing well," Capriati said. "I don't think I made one pass — well, maybe one. But I played well, yeah."

Raymond, using her all-court game, dominated 13th-ranked Maleeva-Fragniere. Raymond also upset Gabriela Sabatini this month in an exhibition tournament in Japan.

The fourth-seeded Pierce struggled in the first set against Benjamin, ranked 27th. Benjamin broke Pierce's serve in the seventh game for a 4-3 lead, but No. 14 Pierce rallied to break Benjamin twice and win the set.

Raymond broke Maleeva-Fragniere's serve twice in the first set, including the seventh game when the score reached deuce 11 times.

In the second set, both players' serves were broken four straight games until No. 50 Raymond held serve in the sixth game.

While Maleeva-Fragniere said the windy conditions bothered her, Raymond felt the weather conditions helped her game.

"I think the wind was a big factor," said Raymond, a first-year pro. "It was good for me to get a match against a top player."

Maleeva-Fragniere said Raymond's play had improved greatly since the two met last

year in the first round of the Canadian Open, when the Bulgarian native defeated the American 6-2, 6-2.

"She's (Raymond) playing with a lot of consistency,"

and even then you're not safe." "The first two games I felt good," Pierce said. "Then I started to feel tired and dizzy, maybe because of the heat."

Pierce said her right arm was



JENNIFER CAPRIATI

Maleeva-Fragniere said. "The way she played today, she can be in the top 10."

Benjamin was impressed with Pierce's play.

"She's (Pierce) tough, she hits so hard," Benjamin said. "You have to keep the ball deep,

bothering her although she did not believe it was a serious injury.

In doubles play, Americans Shannan McCarthy and Beverly Bowes defeated Ekaterina Roubanova of Russia and Pam Casale-Telford 6-0, 6-3.

Novotna wilts under stress

FRANKFURT, July 24: Jana Novotna, who blew the biggest moment of her career at Wimbledon earlier this month, lost her nerve under pressure again as France beat Czechoslovakia to reach the Federation Cup semifinals for the first time for 18 years on Friday, reports Reuter.

Novotna, who gave away a 4-1 final set lead against Steffi Graf in the Wimbledon final, served a critical double-fault at 3-3, 30-all in the deciding set of their singles clash which led to Tauziat taking a 4-3 lead.

The world number eight then double-faulted again on match point to give Tauziat a 6-1, 0-6, 6-3 victory which clinched France a 2-0 winning lead.

Julie Halard had saved the seeds for the French triumph when she upset Helena Sukova 7-6, 6-4 in the opening rubber.

In today's semifinals, France, who last appeared in the last four in 1975 when they lost to Czechoslovakia, will take on top seeds Spain who also clinched a 2-0 winning lead over the Netherlands after the two singles.

Argentina and Australia, who won through their quarterfinals on Thursday, meet in the

other semifinal. Tauziat, ranked 15th in the world, could not disguise her delight at taking the scalp of Novotna, immediately doing a jig on court before hugging her teammates at the end. The French player then admitted she knew of Novotna's difficulty in performing in pressure situations.

"My coach said she sometimes makes mistakes when it is tight and I knew I just had to hang in there," Tauziat said.

"It was close when she double-faulted to give me that 4-3 lead in the final set. It was a bit like Wimbledon the way she made the mistakes in the last game."

"We knew we had to win the singles because they have a better doubles team. The victory in the first rubber helped me. We did not expect to make the semifinals and we are just delighted."

Despite four appearances in the semifinals, France has never won the most prestigious prize in women's team tennis and were not expected to get past third seeds Czechoslovakia, competing for the last time before Czech and Slovak Republics enter separate teams next year.

After losing the first set 6-1, Novotna looked as though she

had the momentum to finish off the match after racing through the second set 6-0.

But Czechoslovakia's demise was not just due to the Wimbledon finalists' lack of form. Sukova, ranked 12th in the world, failed to produce her normal accuracy when it mattered.

The Frankfurt Clay Court Complex is on the flight path into the city's airport and landing jumbo jets roar over the courts every few minutes. Sukova's unforced errors were booming into the net at more regular intervals than the aircraft by the end of the match.

Sukova double faulted twice in the first set to break which Halard took 7-3. She often struggled on her own serve in the second set as Halard broke to take a 5-4 lead with a superb return-of-serve low over the net.

Former French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, who enjoyed another outing on her favourite clay surface with a 7-7, 6-0 victory over Miriam Oremans, still believes France will struggle to beat the experienced Spanish combination.

The Spaniards won the event in 1991 and were runners-up last year and in 1989. "If we can play well with confidence we have a good chance of reaching the final," said Sanchez-Vicario.

Kodra, Washington tumble out

WASHINGTON, July 24: The wave of upsets continued at the \$25,000 US dollar Newsweek Tennis Classic as defending champion Petr Kodra of the Czech Republic and third-seeded Maliva Washington of the United States lost their quarter final matches on Friday, reports Reuter.

None of the tournament's top six seeds reached the semifinals.

Eighth-seeded Amos Mansdorf of Israel defeated Kodra 6-3, 6-3 in a 71-minute, lacklustre match, and 11th-

seeded Richey Reneberg of the United States beat Washington 7-5, 6-4 in a tedious one hour, 52 minute quarter final contest.

Top-seeded Ivan Lendl of the United States, fourth-seeded Henrik Holm of Sweden, fifth-seeded Alexander Volkov of Russia and sixth-seeded American Andre Agassi all were beaten in the early rounds of the 56-player hard court tournament, which serves as a warm-up for the US Open.

American Aaron Krickstein also advanced to the semifinals with a 6-3, 6-0 win over Italian Gianluca Pozzi in baseline duel.

Kodra, winner here last year and a finalist in 1991, lost his normally reliable serve three times in the match, served no aces and failed to convert either of the two break points he held on Mansdorf.

Kodra, eleventh in the world, attempted to engage the 29th-ranked Mansdorf in baseline rallies in the second set but his forehead repeatedly failed him and Mansdorf took advantage of Kodra's misfortune, continually picking away at the forehead.

Kodra attributed his loss to not enough preparation and a case of jet-lag, as he travelled here from the Davis Cup tie in Germany last week.

"I don't have my timing. On this court, you have to play every ball. On grass, where I was playing before, you only have to serve well and I didn't even do that today. Also, I was playing every day the first match be-

cause I cannot get off European time," Kodra said.

Washington, 16th in the world, struggled with his first serve, the cornerstone of his game, and was repeatedly passed at the net by the 40th-ranked Reneberg in the two-set match.

Record purse for US Open this year

WHITE PLAINS, New York, July 24: Prize money at the US Open tennis championships will break the 9 million dollars mark this year, the US Tennis Association announced on Monday, reports Reuter.

Officials said the US Open, which begins on August 30, will offer a Grand Slam record of 9,022,000 dollars in prize money — an increase of nearly 500,000 dollars from last year.

"The US Open is offering record prize-money for men and women at the 1993 tournament, which for the last 25 years has been the premier showcase of the world's greatest players," J Howard "Bumpy" Frazer, president of the USTA and chairman of the US Open, said in a statement.

The men's and women's singles champions will each collect 535,000 dollars, an increase of 35,000 dollars from last year. The double winners will split 200,000 dollars, an increase of 16,000 dollars.

Stich does it in a hurry

STUTTGART, Germany, July 24: Second seed Michael Stich won his Mercedes Cup semifinal on Saturday in time to rush to the north of Germany for his brother's wedding, reports AFP.

The 1991 winner at the Weissenhof Club spent 90 minutes defeating Ukrainian defending champion Andrei Medvedev, coming back for a 1-6, 6-1, 6-4 triumph.

He plays Magnus Gustafsson of Sweden or German Marc Goellner in the final but in between was determined not to miss the celebrations.

Stich hopped on a plane shortly after his victory in order to get to the wedding near Bremen, he said the side trip will, have no effect on his form in the Sunday finale.

"I didn't expect to be in the tournament at this point, so I hadn't made any travel plans," he said.

Based on early form, Medvedev looked like wrapping up the match against Stich with few problems. The 18-year-old had secured a 5-0 lead after just 15 minutes' play.

The first set ended five minutes later with Medvedev delicately putting over a forehand drop shot.

But Stich began to turn the tide in his direction in the second set, saving three break points to hold serve 1-0. The German, winner of three tournaments on as many surfaces this year on the tour, broke for 3-1 and 5-1 and served two consecutive aces to level at one set apiece.

Medvedev described the third set as a joke. "Michael deserved to win. I had a lot of net cords go my way. He had nothing helping him, he had to win by himself. I think that he will win the final."

Both players exchanged four service breaks in a row for a 4-4 scoreline in the final set. But Stich earned the crucial fifth one in succession as he profited from Medvedev's missed overhead smash and took a 5-4 lead.

The German advanced into the final on his first match point in the next game, winning on a forehand volley.

"I had no problems with all of the service breaks," said Stich. "I knew that if I got the breaks back and returned well, things would work out OK. I thought that Andrei would start to get tired as the match went on and I think he did."

Laundry may mar Sydney bid

SYDNEY, July 24: A suburban Sydney council has ordered residents to stop hanging their laundry on high-rise apartment balconies, claiming the practice is unsightly and could damage the city's bid to host the 2000 Olympic Games, reports AP.

Canterbury Council has served notices to some residents saying it feared the "degrading and unsightly" sight of laundry hanging to dry gave Sydney a "Third World" image and could harm the city's profile.

Residents told the Daily Telegraph newspaper that the reason they have to hang their clothes from their balconies is because it would get stolen from the outside lines at ground level.

Councilor Tony Stewart said tenancy agreements in most high-rise apartments prevented residents from drying or airing clothes on balconies.

"This kind of image reduces morale and reflects on the entire area," Stewart said.

Canterbury Council's municipality is adjacent to the Homebush Bay area, where the majority of Olympic venues, including the main stadium, pool and athletes village, will be built.

But resident Nada Kalaoun told the newspaper she had lost countless items from the backyard lies of her apartment block.

"If you put your clothes on the line they're gone in five minutes," she said. "I have no choice."

The decision on which city hosts the 2000 Olympics will be announced by the International Olympic Committee in Monte Carlo on Sept. 23.

Sydney is competing against Beijing, Manchester, England; Istanbul; Berlin and Brasilia.

Bloody encounter

OSAKA, Japan, July 24: Japan's Joichiro Tatsuyoshi pounded out a bloody split decision over Victor Rabanales of Mexico Thursday, becoming the provisional champion of the World Boxing Council bantamweight division, reports AP.

There were no knockdowns in the 12-round match before more than 8,000 spectators at Osaka Municipal Gymnasium in western Japan.

Tatsuyoshi and Rabanales, both former champions in this weight class, fought almost evenly in the early rounds. Rabanales unleashed more punches through the middle stages, and Tatsuyoshi regained his rhythm in the final stage.

Tatsuyoshi is to meet champion Byun Jung Il of South Korea when Byun recovers from a broken right hand.

Matete stymies Young's run

LONDON, July 24: Kevin Young, the Olympic 400 metres hurdles champion unbeaten in 26 successive races, sensationally lost to world champion Samuel Matete at the London Grand Prix on Friday, reports Reuter.

The American world record holder looked to have the edge on the Zambian until he stuttered approaching the last hurdle, lost his rhythm and was beaten on the line in a photo-finish.

Matete, winner of the 1991, world title in Tokyo, clocked 48.85 seconds, just 0.01 ahead of the American.

Young had controlled the race completely and led from the start.

He said: "You can never take the hurdles lightly and maybe it was a little loss of concentration or fatigue. But if you are to be beaten it's best to lose to someone like Matete."

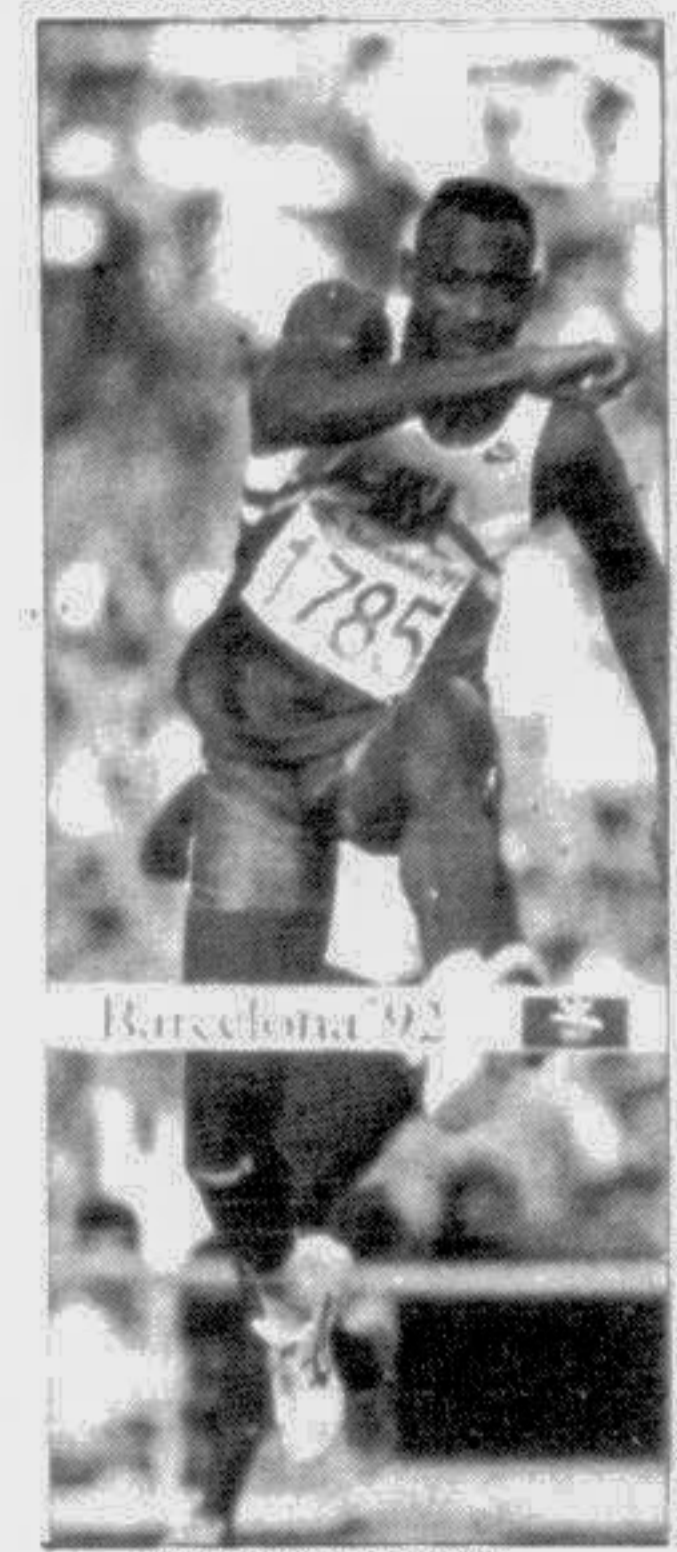
Olympics 100 metres champion Linford Christie was given the perfect boost for his show-down race with world record-holder Carl Lewis next week when he convincingly beat Leroy Burrell.

The American made a false start in a repeat of the Barcelona final which former world record-holder and world silver medalist Burrell had been favourite to win.

American Jon Drummond made a flying start second time around and Christie had to work hard to run him down to maintain his season's unbeaten record.

The Briton, who meets Lewis in Gateshead, Northern England next Friday for a fee reported to be dollar 100,000 each, won in a relatively slow

10.27 seconds. Burrell was second in 10.33, the same time as Drummond. European 110 metres hurdles champion Colin Jackson also kept intact his unbeaten record this season and inflicted



KEVIN YOUNG

two demoralising defeats on Olympic silver medalist Tony Dees.

Jackson beat the American in the first heat and then outran Dees from the gun in the final as he posted the fourth-fastest time of the year, 13.20.

Jackson, who beat Olympic champion Mark McKoy of Canada for the second time in Nice on Wednesday, also de-

feated fellow Briton and Olympic bronze medalist Tony Jarrett in the final. Dees clocked 13.34 and Jarrett 13.64.

Olympic high jump champion and world record-holder Javier Sotomayor of Cuba leapt 2.40 metres to equal his own best mark for the season.

He set a British all-comers record and comprehensively destroyed the classy field.

Sotomayor made the attempt at a world record 2.45.

Olympics 400 metres hurdles champion Sally Gunnell produced another storming run in an unbeaten season, posting the second fastest time of the year.

Gunnell, who beat an average field in Nice on Wednesday, destroyed a better one including American Kim Batten, third fastest in the world this year, and Russian Vera Ordina, fifth in the Olympics, to confirm herself as favourite for the world title next month.

Gunnell, already credited with the fastest time this year, won in 53.85 with Deon Hemmings of Jamaica second in 54.98.

Olympic champion and world record-holder Jan Zelezny of the Czech Republic won the javelin with a throw of 86.28, but may have a fight to win the world title as Steve Backley finished second with 85.10 in his first competitive appearance since the Olympics where he won bronze.

Backley, out since last August with a shoulder injury, threw just three times, reaching the World Championship qualifying standard.

The British former world record holder withdrew early from the competition, saying he wanted to rest his shoulder.

BAF denies Bubka's accusation

LONDON, July 24: British athletics officials denied accusations of incompetence directed at them by world pole vault champion Sergel Bubka who failed to get a visa for Friday's meeting at Crystal Palace, reports Reuter.

World record holder Bubka criticised the British Athletics Federation (BAF) when he left Nice on Thursday night, saying they had failed to get him and nine other former Soviet athletes visas for the London meeting.

But BAF promoter Andy Norman rejected the accusation, and blamed the athletes' managers for not applying for British visas as advised.

Bubka, a star attraction at the Nice Grand Prix on Wednesday where he was attempting to set his 35th world record, said: "The British federation were sleeping. They should have sorted the visa arrangements out. It's typical of them."

The Ukrainian and Belarus javelin thrower Vladimir Sasimovitch were the biggest missing names on Friday's card together with several second string women middle distance runners.

Norman said, however, the British federation was in no way to blame.

"We sent them invitations with forms for visa applications and sent a copy of the invitation to the embassies. But the athletes' two managers never sent an application form to the embassy," he said.

"There are lots of former Soviet athletes competing here tonight, it's just two groups represented by these managers who are missing."

He said Bubka had tried this week to obtain a last-minute visa from British consulate officials in Berlin where he now

lives, but was told it was only available in Dusseldorf, and by then it was too late to make the trip.

Milburn, Wilkins among four new members

INDIANAPOLIS, July 24: Hurdler Rod Milburn and discus thrower Mac Wilkins were among four new members selected for induction into the national track and field Hall of Fame, USA Track and Field announced on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Besides Milburn, the 1972 Olympic 110-metre hurdles champion, and Wilkins, a gold medal winner at the Montreal Games, women's high jumper Jean Shiley-Newhouse and coach Stan Wright were also chosen in voting by some 600 officials.

Milburn won three collegiate titles while at Southern University and four national titles and set five world records during his career. At the Munich Games, Milburn's winning time of 13.24 seconds was a world record that stood for five years.

Wilkins was a four-time Olympian who broke four world records in the discus. Besides his gold in 1976, he claimed a silver medal in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

Shiley-Newhouse, 81, was twice an Olympian and edged Babe Didrikson for the Olympic high jump title in 1932 in Los Angeles when in a jump-off, Didrikson's "diving roll" style was ruled illegal and Shiley took the gold.

Costa has attempted the swim twice before only to be stymied by poor weather. He told reporters he has been preparing for this attempt for about a year-and-a-half.

"This was the first time that my luck wasn't ruined by thunderstorms," the young Canadian said.

Retired marathon swimmer Vicki Keith trained Costa. Keith has her own place in history — she has broken 15 world records and will be remembered as the first swimmer to cross the English Channel, the Catalina Strait, Lake Ontario and Sydney Harbour using the difficult butterfly stroke.

She has crossed Lake Ontario, one of North America's great lakes, five times.

Keith swam or rode in a inflatable rubber boat next to the young marathoner at times during the swim, though she was unable to touch him under international marathon swimming rules.

Costa ate every two hours, consuming chocolate bars, fruit cups and a vitamin drink ferried to him via rubber boat.

You lose hair, you earn money

TOKYO, July 24: Brazilian striker Alcindo, top scorer in Japan's new soccer league, will earn a small fortune this year because he is going bald, reports Reuter.

The country's biggest wig maker, Aderns Company said today it had signed a one-year advertising contract with the Kashima Antlers star, whose 14 goals have helped the side to the top of the league.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Clues include: 1 Prop for a courting caveman, 5 Visceral Louisiana, 8 Long of Louisiana, 12 Take on Clinton's partner, 13 -Locka, Fla., 14 Involved with mosque, 15 Mosque bigwig, 16 Doctrine, 17 Neighbor of Sask., 18 Mike Royko's piece, 20 Put together, 22 Petitioners' collection, 26 Fax forerunner, 29 'A Chorus Line' tune, 30 Greek cross, 31 Hydrochloric or sulfuric, 32 Johnnie Ray hit, 33 Say "cheese", 34 'The A-Team', actor, 35 Intention, 36 Cringe, 37 Fan's bookful, 40 Oil org., 41 Batman?, 45 Clinton's partner, 47 Abner's adjective, 49 Winter length, 50 Admitting a draft, 51 Habitat: prefix, 52 Dogfight participants, 53 Negri of the silents, 54 West-heimer, topic, 55 Clown's add-on, 11 Hearty laugh, 19 Cowboy star, 21 Devoured, 23 Bellini work, 24 Facility, 25 Litigant, 26 Writer Janowitz, 27 Beige, 28 Shore-related, 32 Surrounds, 33 Letter carrier, 35 Candle count, 36 Windy City, for short, 38 23 Down, e.g., 39 Showy flower, 42 Lunch for Lopez?, 43 Custody fight participants, 44 Respond to yeast, 45 Diastema, 46 Eye in, Espanol, 48 Rocks.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with letters and numbers. The grid is 11x11. Letters are placed in some cells, and numbers indicate the length of words starting from those cells. The letters shown are: N R W L B W I A T O R V L, F D N C K T W V B I V W A X L: *K D O S A V A S D V F C S R L W X T I D V.

CRYPTOQUIP NRWL BWIATORVL, FDNCKTWVBIVWAXL: *KDO SAVA S D V F C S R L W X T I D V. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FRENZIED CHEF WHO NEEDED AN ASSISTANT FINALLY WENT STIR CRAZY. Today's Cryptoquip clue: I 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 words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Suprianto bows to Hoyer-Larsen. JAKARTA, July 24: World badminton champion Joko Suprianto was beaten on home ground in the Indonesian Open on Friday by Denmark's Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen, reports Reuter. Suprianto lost 15-11, 17-16 in 29 minutes, the Dane recovering from 9-3 down in the first game to record one of the best wins of his career. Hoyer-Larsen meets another Indonesian Fung Permadi in today's semifinals. The other match is a re-run of the Barcelona Olympic final between gold and silver medalists Allan Budi Kusuma and Indonesian compatriot Ardy Wiranata.