Pakistan in New Zealand



AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 26: Pakistan's cricket team arrived in Auckland on Wednesday for their

New Zealand tour and immediately faced a barrage of questions over who wasn't on the plane, reports AP.

Three players - master batsman Javed Miandad, opener Ramiz Raja and pace bowler Agib Javed — were not selected for the tour. Their omission drew an outcry in Pakistan. culminating in university students staging a protest in Karachi last week.

Later, 10 players in the squad staged a rebellion and threatened not to tour if allrounder Wasim Akram wasn't replaced as captain.

A committee, replacing the **Board of Cricket Control (BCCP)** which was sacked this month by Pakistani President Farooq Ahmed Khan Leghari for deteriorating performances and discipline, then moved to transfer the captaincy to a compromise choice of batsman Salim Malik.

Wagar Yunis, a spokesman for the rebels, then lost his vicecaptaincy which has now gone to allrounder Asif Mujtaba.

"I'm not familiar (with the furore), because I was not in-

ches in a row, and ousted third-

seed Conchita Martinez on her

Australian Open, reports AP.

way to the semifinals of the

the normally sedate Japanese

fans at the Open into a frenzy

by knocking off Martinez, but

on Thursday she faces her

greatest challenge: top-ranked

"I think I can play good ten-

nis. I can perhaps show you my

best tennis. But to actually win

at the Grand Slam tournament

against Graf would be quite

- at the Lipton Tournament in

Key Biscayne two years ago.

and in Tokyo last year. Graf

beat Date 7-6 (7-4). 5-7, 6-4 at

the Lipton, and defeated her 6-

But Graf is steeling herself-

plays it hard. So I'm expecting

there was little he could do to

bing to 38 degrees Celsius (100

degrees Fahrenheit), the Swede

donned a hat for the first time

in his career, but still fell 7-6

(7-4), 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4) to top-

ranked Pete Sampras in the

quarterfinals of the Australian

Open on Wednesday, reports

worn a cap, but everyone told

me I had to wear something."

said the 10th-seeded Swede.

"But it wasn't easy to play. It

was very, very windy especially

on one side. You just pushed

the ball and it was out two or

of Swedish supporters were

subdued by the conditions, but

they still received a wave of

Even the usually vocal crowd

three metres (yards)."

"It was the first time I've

With the temperature clim-

"She likes it if somebody"

26: Magnus Gus-

tafsson did all he

could to combat

Melbourne's swe-

ltering heat, but

7-5 in Tokyo.

for a good fight

fight the wind.

They've duelled twice before

hard," Date told reporters.

Steffi Graf.

The 10th-seeded Date drove

MELBOURNE, Jan

26: Kimiko Date is

on a winning st-

reak. The Japane-

se upset specialist

has won 10 mat-

volved in the whole business," team manager Majid Khan said at a news conference on

Wednesday. "I was just asked three days before the actual takeoff to become the manager. And I am not a member of the board or anything, so I have no idea of

what really transpired." "Same thing for me, probably I was a couple of days earlier (in being asked to accompany the side) than him," said coach Intikhab Alam.

While the management said the team's performance and spirit was "satisfactory" during their brief stopover in Bangladesh for two matches it was noticeable that Akram did not accompany the side to New Zealand and Malik did not attend the press conference.

Wasim asked the board if he could be given four or five days to attend to some personal work in Karachi." Intikhab said in explaining his absence.

"He'll be joining us during the three-day game in Hamilton (vs the New Zealand Second XI starting Jan 31) and he will play in Napier (vs the Emerging Players starting Feb 4)."

Intikhab said the squad had not reacted poorly to Wasim when he turned up to the squad's pre-tour preparation. contrary to former captain

longer rallies, much longer ral-

lies, and somebody very consis-

tent," the top-seeded German

the Lipton in Key Biscavne as

"very close and very tough."

She recalled their meeting at

"But it would be the biggest

upset of this new year if Date

prevailed over Graf. Date's ap-

pearance in the semifinals is

only the second time that a

Japanese woman has reached a

Grand Slam semifinals; the last

was Kazuko Sawamatsu in

face the ultimate test in Graf.

who will be at her 27th Grand

Slam semifinal in 38 career Grand Slam tournaments. She

has not lost before the quarter-

finals in 30 consecutive Grand

Grand Slam title at the 1987

French Open, Graf has lost to

only six players in Grand Sla-

ms: Martina Navratilova, Gabr-

iela Sabatini. Arantxa Sanchez

Vicario, Zina Garrison, Monica

- Is Date ready to join that

exclusive club? Fans will find

Meanwhile, Sabatini, the

Wind, Gustafsson's undoing

Tournament rules allow for

the retractable stadium roof to

be closed for semifinal and final

rounds, when all contestants

must play on centre court un-

close the roof is made by tour-

nament referee Peter Bellenger

based on whether the weather

bureau forecasts a top tempera-

ture of 35 degrees Celsius (95

degrees Fahrenheit) or higher.

The roof, if closed, remains

closed each day to shield as

many spectators as possible

from the burning sun, without

the shadow encroaching upon

by wearing his cap and by

placing ice on his neck and face

at each change of ends, but still

came up short against a below-

double-faults, a career worst,

The American produced 17

Gustafsson followed advice

Already, the roof is partially

closed all day.

the court.

par Sampras.

The decision whether to

der identical circumstances.

Seles and Jana Novotna

out on Thursday.

Since winning her first

Slams since 1985.

Date's winning streak will

Date faces ultimate

Imran Khan's comments in a

Sunday newspaper. "Personally I wouldn't play with a team that has stabbed me in the back," said Imran. who advised his protege Wasim

not to tour.

"I was shocked as anyone when this revolt took place against Wasim. It beats me. thought they were very good friends. They were under my captaincy.

Majid said that Javed's absence would be felt but he said the veteran would be considered in the future if his form returned.

"You always feel the loss of a great players anywhere in the world," Majid said. "But life doesn't stop, it carries on." "He hasn't been lost, he'll

come back, it is just that he has lost form. He is a great player and I'm sure he'll return." Pakistan begin their tour with a match against a Nor-

thern Districts Festival XI in

Hamilton on Sunday. PAKISTAN: Salim Malik (captain), Asif Mujtaba (vicecaptain), Wasim Akram, Wagar Yunis, Shoaib Mohammed, Aamer Sohail, Saeed Anwar, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Basit Ali, Ra-

fourth seed, and second-seeded

Sanchez Vicario are tuning up

for the other women's semifinal

since 1986, with Sabatini win-

ways had some very tough

matches," Sabatini said. "She's

a very tough opponent, she's a

good fighter, and I think I just

have to mix the game a lot and

·do a lot of things and not try to

stay there so long, but be very

likes to put the ball in and she

runs for everything, so I have to

ing failed to win a title in 27

events going back to the 1992

Italian Open. Thursday's match

will be her 16th Grand Slam

semifinal in 34 career Grand

Sanchez Vicario, making her

11th Grand Slam semifinal ap-

pearance in 25 career Grand

Slam events, said she expects

Sabatini to fight her from the

baseline, and vowed: "I will con-

centrate and go for the next

said Sampras. "I haven't played

in a hot wind before. It was like

a sauna and I couldn't breathe.

It was more of an endurance

test than a tennis match some-

by either of us," Sampras con-

ceded. "We both had a hard

time controlling the balls. I can

win the first set after recovering

a break of serve in the opening

game to tie at 3-3. But he failed

to convert two set points when

leading 6-4, and Sampras

sneaked through in the tie-

breaker when Gustafsson made

three consecutive forehand

or he would have played much

better," said Gustafsson, who

made 19 forehand errors in the

"I had to go for my forehand

Three double-faults by

Sampras assisted Gustafsson to

break for 1-0 as the second set

Gustafsson had chances to

chance of top-level tennis.

The conditions destroyed any

'It wasn't the best of tennis

times."

play better."

errors.

first set.

Sabatini is in a slump, hav-

"That's the main thing, she

ning 12 of those matches.

They've battled 19 times

"Against Arantxa, I have al-

Ahmed.

on Thursday.

patient.

be very patient."

Slam tournaments.

shid Latif, Atif Rauf, Mustag Ahmed, Aamir Nazir, Ataur Rehman, Shakeel Anwar, Ishfaq

Ten players protested the omission of former skipper Javed Miandad, opening batsman Rameez Raja and pace bowler Aaqib Javed, and succeeded in overturning Akram as captain in favour of Salim

"It won't make any difference to them once they're on the field," he said. "I think they will miss Javed Miandad who is a great player. I regard him very

"Obviously though it is a testament to the depth and strength of their touring side if they can afford to drop players the calibre of Javed, Rameez Raja and Aaqib."

Antigua hit back

ANTIGUA, Jan 26: Antiguan captain McChesney Simon took full advantage of a depleted England attack and a plumb batting pitch to keep his side in the tourists opening match with an accomplished innings of 129

Simon, who survived a con-

Simon was eventually last out, brilliantly caught by Robin Smith at short fine-leg, sweeping at Salisbury, who finished with 3-105, while Igglesden claimed 2-92. But Andrew

Atherton was soon caught at square-leg, but Thorpe, opening in place of Alec Stewart, and Hick saw England safely

on Tuesday, reports AFP. Simon's effort, which spanned over four hours, and included 14 fours and one six, helped Antigua reach 360, and restricted England's first innings lead to 59. But although captain Michael Atherton (7) then fell cheaply, half-centuries from Graham Thorpe and Graeme Hick extended England's advantage to 184 by the

fident appeal for a catch on Monday afternoon when he had scored just two, took 15 off the day's first over from leg-spinner Ian Salisbury after a 45 minute delay for morning rain. He continued to play positively while his partners came and went, hitting three fours in four balls off Alan Igglesden just before

Caddick was again the pick of

through the final overs. Hick's fifty took just 54 balls with ten fours and one six while Thorpe brought up his half-century in 148 balls with six boundaries in the last over of

Both Stewart (groin strain)



Australian tennis stars Evonne Goolagong Cawley (L) and Roy Emerson (R) are honoured with bronze busts, by local sculptor Barbara McLean, during a special Australia Day ceremony at the Australian Open yesterday. — AFP photo

Rutherford still Kiwi captain

AUCKLAND, Jan 26: Ken Rutherford said Pakistan's cricket team that arrived Wednesday for a New Zealand tour would be a "tough nut to crack." reports AP.

Rutherford is likely to continue as captain after regular captain Martin Crowe announced earlier Wednesday his unavailability for first-class play until at least March.

Crowe had knee surgery last month and is not satisfied at the progress made, despite returning to club cricket this month.

As captain of the last New Zealand side to play Pakistan in Hamilton where New Zealand lost last summer's one-off Test, by 33 runs, Rutherford said New Zeáland would have a tough fight.

"As we all know the Pakistanis are a very talented side," Rutherford said. "They have famous pace bowlers in Wagar Younis and Wasim Akram, as well as Mustag who is a world class leg-spinner. Our batsmen have a hard task ahead."

Rutherford said the public should pay little or no heed to rifts reported within the visiting side.

Malik.

highly."

the attack, finishing with 5-10.

the day.

Paul Haarhuis from the Netherlands jokes about the suffocating heat with his mixed doubles partner Natalia Medvedeva from Ukraine during their match in the Australian Open yesterday. The pair moved into the semifinals.

Top seeds overcome elements



MELBOURNE, Jan 25: Pete Sampras overcame searing heat and a feisty

Swede. Jim Courier defused Goran vanisevic's booming serve and left him seeing stars.

The American rivals will meet in the semifinals of the Australian Open after scoring impressive victories Wednesday,

reports AP. Top seed Sampras defeated No. 10 Magnus Gustafsson 7-6 (7-4), 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4), staying on course for his third straight Grand Slam title on a day when air temperatures soared to 38 degrees Celsius (100 Fahren-

Courier used slick returns and his rugged forehand to negate Ivanisevic's stinging lefthand serve and win 7-6 (9-7), 6-4. 6-2.

Stefan Edberg advanced in the evening and was the only non-American left in the men's singles.

The Swede, champion in 1985 and 1987, defeated No. 6 Thomas Muster of Austria 6-2. 6-3, 6-4 and will play American Todd Martin, who advanced to his first Grand Slam semifinal by beating compatriot MaliVai

Washington. Edberg's match had to be completed under the retractable center-court roof after rain interrupted with him leading 6-2.

Ivanisevic was flery early in his match against Courier, but the defending champion's con sistency ultimately left him dispirited. The Croatian was left to rue missing two set points in the first-set tiebreaker.

"With him, if you don't take your chances you are gone," he

Ivanisevic said the heat left him dizzy and "seeing stars" late in the match.

Sampras is aiming to win his first Australian Open title to add to the Wimbledon and US Open titles he already holds, while No. 3 Courier hopes to become only the third player to win three successive Australian

Open titles. Roy Emerson, who won five straight titles in the 1960s, was

Courier said he was looking forward to the showdown with Sampras.

the last man to achieve that

"We tend to bring the best out in each other," he said.

Sampras, 22, was given a tough fight by Gustafsson, who was playing in the first Grand Slam quarterfinal of his career.

In the 2-hour, 50-minute match, both players used iced towels on their necks and legs as the temperature on court rose to 52 degrees Celsius (126 Fahrenheit).

Edberg, seeded fourth, took only 36 minutes to race through the first set and lead 3-0 in the second. Muster, who had not previously dropped a set, put up more of a fight after the resumption but had no real an swer to the 28-year-old Swede's serve-volley power.

It took Edberg a total of one hour. 36 minutes to make the semifinals for the fifth year in succession.

Courier was left with a sunburned face after his win over Ivanisevic, but said the conditions had not worried him.

"I'm from hot places," he said. Courier lives in Florida

and trains in California. No. 9 seed Martin kept his cool on sun-baked No. 1 Court and outlasted his good friend Washington, who had trouble

with both his service and his groundstrokes in a difficult swirling wind at the National Tennis Center. Martin prevailed 6-2, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-5) in three gruelling

hours in which winds gusted up to 36 mph (57 kph). "The whole match was a

shocker." Washington said, describing his form as "unfortunate, but just the way it goes sometimes. Martin, in contrast, was ec-

static at his progress. "I'm just so excited to be

honey-

22 "Boxcars"

noise

ole lot

debts

37 "Omnia -

revelat'

notes

41 Tars' bars

42 Barrett or

40 - tai

evidence

moon site

chance to play again," he said. Washington served two double faults in the second-set tiebreaker, and Martin believed winning that tiebreaker was

crucial. "I think Mal was a little discouraged and I was very relieved." he said.

where I am, and I get the

Martin's willingness to attack proved the key. He won 25 points at the net to Washington's 14, and had 45 overall winners to Washington's 27. Sampras said after beating

Gustafsson that conditions at the Australian Open are hotter than at any other Grand Slam. "It's like a sauna out there. You can't breathe," he said. "It's

more of a stamina match than a tennis match sometimes." Sampras blamed the corkscrewing wind for his 17 double faults, but said he was

pleased with his physical con-"We both had a hard time controlling the balls - it wasn't the best of tennis from either of

"I felt that I could have gone another set if I had to - but I didn't want to.

us," he said.

Argentina.

Sampras said he had conserved energy several times by conceding games in which he was trailing 40-0.

"It's a smart move, I think." he said. Both women's semifinals are scheduled for Thursday.

Ambidextrous No. 10 seed Kimiko Date of Japan plays three-time champion Steffi Graf of Germany, while No. 2 Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain plays No. 4 Gabriela Sabatini of

Date, surrounded by television crews from Japan when she practiced Wednesday, asked them to leave so she could concentrate. The reporters and cameramen obliged.

The tournament is sponsored by Ford, played on Synthetic Rebound Ace hard courts and continues through Sunday.

Becker wants to get away from all these

BONN, Jan 26: Boris Becker wants to swap the glitzy trappings of top-level tennis for life in the country with a large family, reports AFP.

Becker, who is taking a break from the whirl of the ATP Tour after becoming a father last week, outlined his new ambitions in Thursday's edition of Stern Magazine. "I no longer want to live the

typical life of the circuit, said the former triple Wimbledon champion, now 13th in the world rankings.

"I'd like to have a large family, perhaps in a farm with animals, in harmony with nature. But Becker, who is due to re-

turn to the circuit next week at Marseille, added he will stay on at the family home in Monte Carlo for the time being.

For distressed

FULLERTON, California, Jan

26: The US World Cup team will meet South Korea, here on March 12 in an international football friendly to benefit victims of last week's southern California earthquake, reports

The match is one of several possible benefit matches for those harmed by the earthquake, US team general mana-

ger Hank Steinbrecher said. The US team drew 1-1 with Switzerland here on Saturday. The teams meet each other again on June 18 in Detroit in their World Cup opener. The Americans plan to arrive in the area only two or three days before the match.

US coach Bora Milutinovic said his club will continue to live and train in the area of mission Viejo, California, during the World Cup, with top players returning from Europe as their league seasons conclude.

Steinbrecher also said the appointment of Holland's Rinus Michels and Teofilo Cubilas of Peru would not interfere with Milutinovic's role as coach of the US team.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

55 Timetable, 11 Band in 34 11th **ACROSS Boston** for short president 1 Golf need 16 41 Across 56 "- and 36 Vigor 5 "U.S Lovers" response 37 Christmas Acres' 20 Mindy's DOWN duck

> 43 Recreational vehicle 47 Aussie hopper

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52 Hodgestockings trademarks 9 Goes on 21 Gift-tag

24 Arizona city 27 Four-in-28 Handle 31 "- Were

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12 "Typee"

13 King of

14 Jima

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King" 32 Tin Man's prop 33 Farm

emblem 38 Rickey enhancers

41 Wedding 48 Manylegged bug 51 B&B

podge 53 Secondhand 54 Tank fill Solution time: 22 mins.

hand, e.g.

Yesterday's answer 6-17 female

1 Broadway

flop

2 Turkish

23 Incubator chieftain 3 "Girl" in a 24 Shrill bark Kinks hit 25 Alien craft 4 Nabokov 26 A who-o-oheroine 5 Distaff 27 Watergate soldiers 6 Pub order 29 Have 7 Rather or Rowan 30 Spelldown 8 Access

9 He's at the 35 Tease

fashion 10 MP's prey 39 Office

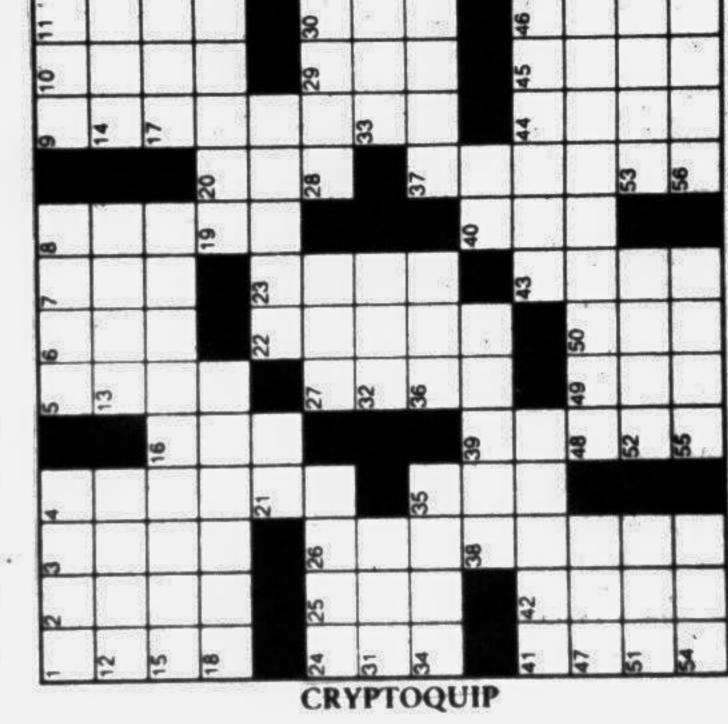
height of

Jaffe 43 Dolt 44 Buck, below the DIRTRAPEAVE border SPIROZOOYEW 45 Paradise 46 Beatty epic

49 Sort

50 Emulate

Pinocchio



UCEZH EJNZC VUSPJE

WJNHEW HLYYNAP VLMMUH. JLE SAXZH Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SKILLED AIRPLANE PI-

LOT IS TAKING THE NEW TRAINEE UNDER HIS WINGS. Today's Cryptoquip clue: C 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.