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Australian captain Warren Birmingham (L) tussles for control of the ball with his Indian counterpart Shakeel Ahmed during the second Indo-Aussie hockey Test in Sydney on May 8. Aussies won 5-1. — AFP photo

Aussies sew up hockey series

CANBERRA, May 10: Australia needed a penalty by captain Warren Birmingham to defeat India 1-0 in the third hockey Test on Tuesday, giving them an unassailable 3-0 lead in the best-of-five series, reports Reuter.

Birmingham slid the ball home in the 50th minute following a foul inside the circle on striker Stephen Davies.

But the home side, easy winners of the first two Tests, had to rely on a penalty save by rookie goalkeeper Lindsay Woods to secure their victory.

Woods, playing in only his second international, saved Indian captain Shakhel Ahmed's spot kick after 53 minutes. India, who lost 2-0 in Brisbane and 5-1 in Sydney over the weekend, improved significantly on those performances, according to Australian coach Frank Murray.

"In the first matches they gave us a lot of space in the middle, but Birmingham was marked very closely today," Murray said. "This was easily India's best performance of the series."

Cameroon crush Greece

ATHENS, May 10: Cameroon thrashed fellow World Cup qualifiers Greece 3-0 on Monday in a friendly in which African speed proved too much for the vulnerable home team, reports Reuter.

Led by Rennes midfielder David Embe, Cameroon took control from the start and their fast pace forced the Greeks to defend throughout, never allowing them to come close to scoring.

Embe lobbed the ball over goalkeeper Antonis Minou to open the scoring in the 26th minute after a brilliant pass from Emil Mbou in the penalty area caught the Greeks off guard.

Cameroon captain Stefan Tataw extended the lead by heading home a corner from Paul Loga in the 47th minute.

The Greeks had been reduced to 10 men ten minutes earlier when captain Tasos Mitropoulos was sent off for elbowing his marker Rigobert Song.

"They are very rough in defence and I lost my temper. It was a mistake," Mitropoulos said.

Cameroon sealed victory in the 70th minute when Loga beat Minou with a strong, right-foot shot from 18 metres.

"I hope we got a good lesson," a Greek official said. "Things will be even harder with Nigeria as their players are faster than Cameroon."

Greece face Nigeria in the opening round of the World Cup finals in Boston on June 3.

Greek coach Alkettas Panagoulas had said the match with Cameroon would be a good test as their style of play was similar to that of Nigeria.

Romario relieved

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 10: Brazilian soccer star Romario, reunited with his father who had been held in captivity for nearly a week, promised on Monday he would try to win the World Cup for his country, reports Reuter.

"The only way I can repay the Brazilian people for all the support they gave me is by scoring goals and helping to win the World Cup," he said on arriving in Rio from Spain.

Romario's father, Edevaldo de Souza Faria, was snatched last Monday as he left the bar he owns in Rio. Kidnappers were demanding 7 million dollars in ransom.

Police rescued him on Sunday in a distant suburb of Rio and arrested five people, including two women and a minor. No ransom was reported to have been paid.

Gullit signs one-yr contract with AC

MILAN, Italy, May 10: Dutchman Ruud Gullit signed a one-year contract on Monday to return to Italian soccer champions AC Milan, reports Reuter.

The 12-month deal with the European Cup finalists is believed to be worth a net 1.5 billion lire (\$80,000) to the 31-year-old player.

The dreadlocked Dutchman, 1987 European footballer-of-the-year, spent a season with Sampdoria whom he joined for a UEFA-fixed fee of 715,000 dollars after six years with Milan. AC Milan's deputy chairman Adriano Galliani said the separation had benefited everyone.

"Ruud had a great season. Sampdoria won the Italian Cup and played a great championship. Milan won the league title anyway and we've now got Ruud back in top form."

Saga of Scifo's arduous ascent

BRUSSELS, May 10: Enzo Scifo has matured into Belgium's undisputed number one player after years of harsh criticism, some disastrous transfers and character-shaping row with a former national coach, reports Reuter.

The 28-year-old midfielder, who will be taking part in his third World Cup finals, has earned the nickname "Il Maestro," not only for his delicate ball touch and inventive play as an attacking midfielder but also for his authoritative comments on the team.

Belgium's current national coach Paul van Himst, who gave Scifo his Anderlecht debut when he was just 17, is effusive in his praises.

"Compared with the other players in my squad, Enzo is world class. I don't want to underestimate his colleagues but only the greatest show such flashes of skill," Van Himst said.

That is a far cry from Scifo's first years as an international, when the slender, soft-spoken teenager was slammed by teammates, public and press for selfish and uninspired play.

He still has his detractors, but he is a match-winner on his day — and he has had far more good days than bad over the last couple of seasons.

The moment that shaped Scifo's future came just over four years ago when, six months before the World Cup finals in Italy, he had a huge row with the then national coach Walter Meeuws after Meeuws told him he was being

dropped for a friendly against Greece.

Scifo decided it was time to stop being Mr Nice Guy.

"Suddenly everything changed. Until that day I never dared slam my fist on the table, never dared to stand up for myself. I swallowed everything, never said one word louder than another," Scifo said.



"I think that's why many didn't see me as a leader. But after the incident with Meeuws there has never been any doubt about my place in the national team."

Meeuws was sacked a month later and replaced by veteran coach Guy Thys while Scifo convinced the sceptics at the 1990 World Cup with some outstanding displays.

"For the first time I played completely freely. It felt good, everybody finally accepted me," he recalled.

The greater argument surrounding Scifo was never one that cast doubt on his talent but that he never used that talent properly.

Scifo was born in the south of Belgium to Italian parents and his precocious skills were first noticed in his early teens.

By the age of 14 he had earned the nickname "Little Pele" after scoring a staggering total of 432 goals in four seasons at La Louviere, his first club.

He moved to Anderlecht when he was 14 — and slammed in another 135 goals in three seasons in the junior sides. A haul of 567 goals in seven years almost defies belief — in any standard of soccer.

By the age of 17 he had broken into Anderlecht's first team, given his debut by future national coach Van Himst, himself generally regarded as Belgium's greatest-ever player.

A year later, in 1984 Scifo was in the Anderlecht side beaten in the UEFA Cup finals by England's Tottenham Hotspur. At the end of that season he was named Belgium's footballer-of-the-year and later that summer played in all three matches for Belgium in the European Championships finals in France.

His undoubted skills and his Italian ancestry attracted the attentions of the rich Italian clubs and after four seasons with Anderlecht he moved to Internazionale for 130 million francs 3.8 million dollars in 1987. But the move did not work out and a year later he was loaned to Bordeaux of France.

His career continued to go downhill and he soon found himself on the bench or in the

reserves. "It really was hell. Morally I was stranded," Scifo remembers.

Bordeaux dumped him too after just one season and allowed him to leave for Auxerre, where he gradually started rebuilding his career under coach Guy Roux.

Scifo was later named best foreign player in the French league and steered Auxerre to the quarter-finals of the 1990 UEFA Cup.

A year after the World Cup Scifo returned to Italy with Torino and at last enjoyed some success in his ancestral homeland, helping Torino reach the 1992 UEFA Cup final, which they lost on the away-goals rule to Ajax Amsterdam, and the 1993 Italian Cup final, which they won on the away-goals rule against Roma.

Having finally proved himself to the Italians he was on his travels again, moving to Monaco last year and helping them reach the semifinals of the European Cup in his first season.

Scifo believes Belgium will do well in the United States, hoping his confidence will reflect on his teammates.

"It's no secret that I'm dreaming of a place on the rostrum in America and it's a possibility with this team. We have a brilliant group of players, we're all on the same wavelength," he said.

"We've got the talent to achieve things we never even dared dream of."

Courier begins in style

ROME, May 10: No 3 seed Jim Courier began his bid Tuesday for a third straight Italian Open title with a 6-3, 6-3 pounding of the Czech Republic's Libor Nemecek, reports AP.

The American, a skilled clay court player, overpowered his opponent with bruising ground strokes in just over an hour.

Courier blasted one return from behind the baseline, nearly knocking the racket out of his opponent's hand as Nemecek stood poised at the net for a volley.

"I'd love to have three in a row," Courier said after his initial outing. "It would be special."

Courier, wearing his customary white baseball cap, was first up on the Foro Italico Centre Court after rain washed out the major seeds on opening day Monday.

Tuesday's programme began two hours earlier than usual to accommodate the extra matches. Only a few thousand spectators were present for the first matches on a hot, sunny day at the Italian Open.

Another former Italian Open champion, the 1990 winner and No. 7 seed Thomas Muster of Austria, breezed through his first match. He beat Andrei Cherkasov of Russia 6-4, 6-2.

But No. 10 Marc Rosset of

Switzerland became the second seeded player to fall when he lost to Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands 6-4, 7-6.

Tuesday's matches include the 1994 clay court debut of Pete Sampras, the world's No. 1 player. He was to face fellow American Aaron Krickstein.

Other top seeds in action were No. 1 Michael Stich vs David Rikl, No. 8 Boris Becker vs Karel Novacek, and No. 12 Andre Agassi vs Tomas Carbonell.

On Monday American Michael Chang came through a tricky first-round tie while Pete Sampras' long-awaited first appearance on clay this year was postponed by rain.

Fifth-seed Chang, ranked 17 places ahead of opponent Patrick Rafter at eighth in the world, overcame the Australian 6-3, 3-6, 7-5 in a 2-1/2 hour struggle.

French Davis Cup player Arnaud Boetsch was the first seed to fall after rain delayed the start of the two million dollar tournament by six hours.

The 11th-seeded Frenchman went down 6-3, 5-7, 0-6 to Czech Slava Dosedel.

Compatriot, Cedric Pioline, seeded nine, reached the last 32 with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Swede Nicklas Kulti.

Organisers abandoned attempts to stage the match between world number one

Sampras and fellow American Aaron Krickstein, ranked 30th. Jim Courier, champion here in the past two years, also had his match against Czech qualifier Libor Nemecek postponed because of heavy rain on a miserable, chilly day.

Courier plays first on Centre Court, followed by Sampras and then crowd favourites Boris Becker and Andre Agassi. The German faces a tough match against world number 38 Karel Novacek while the Las Vegas meets Spaniard Tomas Carbonell.

Second-seed Michael Stich and Goran Ivanisevic play on outside courts, Stich against Czech David Rikl and the big-serving Croatian meeting Amos Mansdorf.

Sampras, winner of the last three Grand Slam Tournaments, has spent the previous four weeks resting and training at home in sunny Florida before coming to Europe to complete preparations for the French Open starting on May 23.

He is due to team up with Chang in the World Team Cup event in the German town of Dueseldorf before heading for the French capital.

The American has admitted he is least at home on clay and the Rome tournament promises to be a stiff test with 14 of the world's top 20 entered.



Severiano Ballesteros of Spain poses for photographers after winning the Benson and Hedges international golf open in St Mellion, Britain on May 8. — AFP photo

Austin going to Wimbledon

EASTBOURNE, May 10: Tracy Austin, a two-time winner of the Eastbourne pre-Wimbledon tennis tournament, will return to the event this year as part of her comeback to competitive tennis, reports AP.

Austin, who won the tournament in 1980 and '81, will join a field that includes defending champion and 11-time winner Martina Navratilova, making her last appearance on the Eastbourne grass in her final year on the WTA tour.

Also in the field announced Tuesday for the June 11-18 tournament are 1987 champion Helena Sukova of the Czech Republic and 1992 winner Lori McNeil of the United States. Besides Navratilova, the other top-10 players in the draw include Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic, Kimiko Date of Japan and Natalia Zvereva of Belarus.

Austin, 31, retired from the women's tour in 1984 after a series of neck and back injuries. She returned briefly five years ago before suffering a broken leg in an automobile accident. In her latest comeback, she has risen to No 86 in the world rankings.

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COMPETITION RULES

INTRODUCTION:

- The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '94 is a series of (Grand) Quiz Competitions on World Cup Football. Sets of questions will be published for 10 (ten) consecutive days in the Sports Page of the Daily Star for the first (Silver) Quiz Competitions. For the last and final Bumper Quiz Competition, a set of questions will be published for one month in the Sports Page of the Daily Star according to the schedule (Picture of the Rounds) as fixed by the Daily Star authorities.
- For the first Silver Quiz Competitions there will be 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th (five) consolation prizes. The prizes will be Colour TV, Black & White TV, Super Turbo 2-in-1 Stereo Recorder and light bulbs respectively.
- Any taxes or levies, as per rule, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the winners.
- Names and addresses of all prizewinners will be published in the Daily Star. Winners will be responsible for collecting their prizes from the Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.

For the Bumper Quiz Competition there will be the BUMPER PRIZE consisting of a ticket to the World Cup Final match, along with an Economy Class return air ticket (Dhaka-Los Angeles-Dhaka) and an amount for incidental expenses. The Daily Star does NOT take any responsibility for any visa or other travel documents that may be required. The BUMPER PRIZE Winner will have to make his/her own arrangements in this regard. In case of the Bumper Prize winner's inability to travel to the USA he/she may choose to receive a sum of Tk.100,000/- in cash in lieu of the air fare and living expenses.

RULES

- Residents of Bangladesh, subject to these rules, will be eligible to participate in the Daily Star World Cup Quiz '94. All persons and family members of the Daily Star, Transcom Electronics Ltd. and Unitrend (advertising agency) and all its affiliate companies shall be deemed disqualified to participate in the Daily Star World Cup Quiz '94.

Quiz 4.

Read the instructions carefully. Then tick (✓) the answer which you think is correct.

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Who scored Holland's goal in the 1974 final? | Neeskens <input type="checkbox"/> | Cruyff <input type="checkbox"/> | Resenbrink <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. When did Brazil first win the World Cup? | 1954 <input type="checkbox"/> | 1958 <input type="checkbox"/> | 1970 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Which Asian country played in the 1966 World Cup? | DPR Korea <input type="checkbox"/> | Iran <input type="checkbox"/> | Israel <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Which African country played in the 1970 Cup? | Zaire <input type="checkbox"/> | Morocco <input type="checkbox"/> | Tunisia <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. How many goals did the Hungarian team score in the 1954 World Cup? | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> | 18 <input type="checkbox"/> | 27 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Which Brazilian scored in every round of the 1970 World Cup? | Pele <input type="checkbox"/> | Tostao <input type="checkbox"/> | Jairzinho <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. How many players did France use in the 1978 World Cup? | 11 <input type="checkbox"/> | 18 <input type="checkbox"/> | 22 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. How many goals did England score in the 1966 World Cup? | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> | 11 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Who was Brazil's Cup-winning captain in 1962? | Zito <input type="checkbox"/> | Mauro <input type="checkbox"/> | Alberto <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Which famous player was called the "Little Bird"? | Boniek <input type="checkbox"/> | Zico <input type="checkbox"/> | Garrincha <input type="checkbox"/> |

NAME _____

AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

FATHER'S NAME: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

SIGNATURE _____

Write with a ball-point pen in clear, CAPITAL LETTERS. Cut along the dotted lines and mail it to us FAST!

Entries close on 16-5-94