So exhausted he was close to passing out on

court, two-time US Open chamon Pete Sampras stumbled out in the fourth round Tuesday against Jaime Yzaga

Sampras had a blister the size of a quarter on his big right toe that caused him pain. but it was sheer fatigue that slowed him to a crawl in a 3-6. 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 (7-4), 7-5 loss,

was a little lucky in the last game

Sampras, winner of four of the last five Grand Slams. played parts of this match as if he were slogging through mud, while Yzaga bounced around like a rubber ball.

Yzaga, a 26-year-old Peruvian, no doubt would love to have played Sampras on red clay at high altitude in the Andes. As it was, Yzaga ran him dizzy on the green hardcourt, winning from the baseline as

Eighth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina makes a backhand top spin return against

unseeded Gigi Fernandez of the United States during her quarterfinal match at the US Open

Sampras sprayed unforced er-

played before, he didn't have

anyone who would stay back

and move him around." Yzaga

said. That was my strategy, to

soaked with sweat early in the

match. He tried to overpower

Yzaga with serves, but that

wasn't enough. In a baseline

duel. Yzaga was the steadier.

work for a point, only to slap a

shot into the net or wide. He

would look at his foot, slump

his head, bend over wearily on

changeovers. Sampras put on a

gutsy performance just to push

the match as far as he did in

the fifth set, but after more

than three and a half hours

from midday sunshine to

evening shadows, he could

barely lift his arms, much less

nament at 5-4 in the fifth, he

slapped a forehand crosscourt

well wide, then watched Yzaga

slam a backhand return past

Serving to stay in the tour-

Sampras would work and

Sampras' baggy shorts were

"The three matches he

rors on crucial points.

move him around."

livelier player.

swing a racket.

him for the match.

on Sept 6. Sabatini sailed into the last four after a 6-2, 7-5 victory.

reports AP.

exhaustion.

showed.

pass out.

"He hit the wall," Dr David

Cooper said of Sampras' utter

Sampras was idled for six

weeks because of an ankle in-

jury going into the Open, and

his lack of conditioning

and you can't get that on an

exercise bike," said Sampras'

coach, Tim Gullikson, "I've

never seen Pete pack it in and

I can't fault his effort here to-

day. After the third set, he

looked like he was going to

seedings began in the US

championships in 1927 that

none of the top three men

reached the quarters. It was

also the second time Yzaga

beat Sampras at the Open,

knocking him out in the first

round in 1988, also in five

said. "He never really gave up.

That's what makes him a

champion. Obviously, he wasn't

feeling well, but he kept fight-

ing to the end. He was very

tired, and he was showing it. I

"I congratulate him," Yzaga

It was the first time since

You need to play matches.

The blister was only the latest foot problem for Sampras since he switched sneakers to a specially designed, superduper new model for dlrs 18 million or so, courtesy of Nike.

He sprained his right ankle at Wimbledon and developed tendinitis in his left ankle at the Davis Cup, sidelining him since mid-July until the start of the Open. A few days ago, the nail on one toe cut into another, requiring repairs on court. This time, he vanked off

quarterfinals against! Karel Novacek, who beat Javier Frana 6-3, 6-3, 6-7 (3-7), 6-3.

Also reaching the quarters was Jonas Bjorkman, who beat Joern Renzenbrink 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-7 (3-7), 6-3,

Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and Gabriela Sabatini set up a meeting in the women's semifinals, each winning easily Tuesday.

Sanchez-Vicario beat Kimiko Date 6-3, 6-0, and Sabatini beat Gigi Fernandez 6-2,

"I'm going to have to be very aggressive and fight a lot," Sabatini said. "It's going to be a different match. I'm going to have to play more tennis."

Sabatini, the 1990 US Open champion, hasn't won a tournament in more than two years, a stretch in which she considered quitting the sport.

"I was more frustrated with losing to 'people that shouldn't be losing to, and that was very hard," Sabatini said. "I had some very tough moments and sometimes I thought of maybe stopping for some period of time.

In today's quarter-finals, American Andre Agassi, unseeded but more confident in his game than ever and a legitimate contender for the title. was to face 13th seed Thomas Muster of Austria while ninthseeded American Todd Martin was to play unseeded German Bernd Karbacher.

In women's quarter-finals, top seed Steffi Graf of Germany was to face 11th-seeded South African Amanda Coetzer and fourth seed Mary Pierce of France was to play Seventhseeded Czech Jana Novotna.

Cyprus to host World Squash Championships

- AFP photo

his sneaker and called over a

trainer to apply a pad to the

Sampras took rests Whe-

never and wherever he could

find them, sitting at times on a

courtside barrier, leaning

against a wall, even stretching

out behind the baseline for a

few moments after slipping

late in the fifth set. All the

while, he was breathing deep-

ly, his face with a constant

expression of worry and wea-

Still, Sampras fought on.

even when he trailed 5-4 and

faced break-point. Yzaga let

him back in briefly, driving a

forehand wide, but Sampras

could do nothing with Yzaga's

serves in the next game. Yzaga

served, and Sampras just

stared at the ball, barely mov-

end," Yzaga said. "I kept hear-

ing the people and they were

pulling for him. It was like

player in the world at a

Grand Slam. It cannot be bet

ter than this."

"This is huge. I beat the No.

Yzaga advanced to the

playing a Davis Cup out there.

"It was kind of tough at the

blister early in the fourth set.

NICOSIA, Sept 7: Cyprus will host the 1995 men's World Squash Championship from November 5-11 next year with 100,000 dollars in prize money on offer, organisers said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

It will be played at the Eleftheria Sports Centre in Nicosia with a field of 64 players, including the world's top eight seeds, organisers said.

Although the Mediterranean island has only some 400 players and none among the world's top ranked, organisers told a news conference the championships should build interest in the game, which backers hope will be chosen soon as an Olympic sport.

The 1994 event is being held in Barcelona later this month. Egypt had been considered a strong contender to host the 1995 championships but declined, the organisers

They said local sponsors would back the championships. The government has declined to contribute, they

Police want to talk to Carbajal

TEMPE, Ariz, Sept 7: Police tentatively plan to interview boxer Michael Carbajal on Thursday about witness reports that he was responsible for firing a weapon during the weekend, reports AP.

Carbajal, a former WBC and IBF flyweight champion, is suspected of firing shots in the air after being asked to leave a party early Saturday morning. Police spokesman Les

Strickland said Tuesday their discussion was delayed because Carbajal didn't have a criminal attorney. Carbajal's civil attorney, Ben Miranda, didn't return calls Tuesday.

Some witnesses said they heard Carbajal, who won the silver medal in the 1988 Olympics, claim he was a member of a gang, but Phoenix police Sgt Mike Torres, a spokesman, said authorities do not consider Carbajal a gang member.

"Do we consider him associating himself with some of those people in gangs? Yeah, but I think that's inherent in living in that neighbourhood, Torres said.

Carbajal, who won the lessprestigious WBO junior flyweight title on July 15, continues to live in the rough central-Phoenix neighbourhood where he grew up.

Carbajal was arrested Sunday on suspicion of felony, disorderly conduct, punishable by 1-1/2 years in prison and a dirs 150,000 fine. The Maricopa County Attorney's Office will decide whether to pursue charges based on the report of the Tempe police. said Sgt Tom Ryff, a depart-

ment spokesman. Forres said two of Carbajal's brothers, Angel and Alejandro. are gang members.

"We know that for a fact," Torres said. "Michael has stayed clean, but that's because of his boxing career."

Another brother, Danny, is the boxer's manager. In February, Carbajal told The Arizona Republic that he didn't consider his neighbourhood, where he recently funded a gym for youths, gang Jackson still unconquered

MADRID, Sept 7: Britain's Colin Jackson kept his unbeaten record and ran the fastest time in the world this year in winning the 110 metres hurdles at an international meeting in Madrid on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Jackson clocked 12.99 seconds to beat his friend and rival Mark McKoy, a Canadian now running as an Austrian. McKoy, the Olympic champion, ran 13.22.

The welshman now needs to win just two more races, in next weekend's World Cup in London and finally in Japan, to go through the season unbeaten.

Jackson shared star spot with United States' 400 metres ace Michael Johnson at the meeting staged to inaugurate the Community of Madrid's new 20,000 capacity stadium on the edge of the Spanish capital.

Johnson also set a world's best for the season in scorching round the track in 43.90 seconds. He was chased home at a respectful distance by Nigeria's Sunday Bada with 44.96.

Burundi's middle distance revelation Venuste Niyongabo gave another impressive display, winning the 1,000 metres unchallenged in two minutes 15.91 seconds.

Toughest competition of a fine, balmy evening came in the long jump where world record- holder Mike Powell of the United States just edged out compatriot Ronald McGhee by two centimetres with a jump of 8.22 metres.

In the high jump, Cuban world record-holder Javier Sotomayor was in a class of his own with 2.37 metres.

In the women's events. Russian sprinter Irina Privalova held her form in fine style to win the 100 metres in 11.02 seconds from Lilian Allen of

Weatherspoon, whether a spoon

HOUSTON, Sept 7: At least dozen current and former University of Houston football players routinely paid another player to take their math exams, the Houston Chronicle reported in Wednesday's editions, reports AP.

Former players told the newspaper that defensive tackle Linton Weatherspoon, who played from 1990 to 1992. took exams for other players in exchange for small amounts of cash and other gifts.

The cheating came to the university's attention last December when Weatherspoon was caught attempting to take an algebra exam for offensive lineman Tim Winburn, who played during the 1993 season.

But Winburn and two other former Houston players told the newspaper that the cheating was more widespread than shown by the initial investiga-

Weatherspoon was suspended from the university for five years. He declined to be interviewed by the Chronicle.

Winburn, who was suspended for the 1994 spring and summer terms, said Weatherspoon last fall took an algebra midterm for him and two Houston players who remain on the team. He estimated 10 players may have been involved in the scheme.

Former linebacker Delithro Bell said his former roommates, all current Houston players, were among those who had their tests taken for

and elsewhere as a factor for national unity. ing nation in Asia. General Hashim explains: "The government supports sport as a factor for nation-building. We are multi-racial, so sport is a factor to unify. It is also a way to develop youth."

As the Commonwealth

Games ended in Victoria,

Canada, the Malaysians un-

veiled grandiose plans for the

next Games which they are

The stadium they are

building for 1998 will hold

100,000 people and they are

expecting 6,000 athletes.

twice the record number who

A team of 25, led by General

Hashim Mohammad Ali.

chairman of the company

formed by the Malaysian gov-

ernment to organise the

Games, was in Victoria to pick

up ideas and learn about the

ready well advanced.

Journalists at the press centre

in Victoria were handed kits of

glossy material in the opening

shot of a powerful public rela-

Their preparations are al-

hosting in Kuala Lumpur.

took part in Victoria.

running of the event.

tions operation.

The 1998 Games have a

mascot - a jolly orang-utan

called Wiro ("Warrior" in

Malay) - and all the venues are

worked out. Several are already

The Malaysian government

has budgeted £45 million for

the Games. The main stadium

alone will cost nearly double

that spent on the entire

Victoria Games. On top of that,

the Shah Alam Sports Centre

will provide an extra 80,000

seats. All this will make

Kuala Lumpur's 82-storey City

Centre, part of a massive

complex now being built to

transform the centre of the

city. The athletes village, five

minutes from the main sta-

dium, will consist of 1,500

apartments, each for five peo-

ple. The apartments will be

sold to the public after the

Commonwealth Games is the

result of a decision by Prime

Minister Mahathir Mohamad to

make Malaysia a major sport-

This enthusiasm for the

Central to the Games will be

Victoria look quite small beer.

Malaysia plans massive

Games to boost unity

By Derek Ingram

Before the Victoria Commonwealth Games were over, Malaysia was busy launching

its plans for the next Games in Kuala Lumpur. They are to be on a grander scale,

with double the number of athletes and opening ceremonies in a stadium for 100,000

people. Sport, reports Gemini News Service, is increasingly being seen in Malaysia

The 1998 Games may change the face of Malaysian sport. Sport has always been a generator of community spirit. of national identity and a source of encouragement.

"But more than this, sport and its associated components has become big business and a vital component of a nation's economic status," Hashim says. "The cost is not high but the rewards are great."

Mahathir agrees with other Commonwealth leaders who decided at their summit in Cyprus last year that sport should play a greater role in

Wiro the

Warrior

winning only 11 medals, including two gold.

This poor score illustrated the damage apartheid had done to South African athletics, as did the fact only 10 of the team members were black.

A measure of the problem facing South Africa in achieving black-white equality in sport is shown by the fact that the country has 40 facilities of Olympic standards, but all in white areas far from the big African townships such as Soweto.

South Africa is an obvious venue for the 2002 Commonwealth Games, but it also has an eye on the 2004 Olympics (the 2000 Olympics have gone to Sydney with the 1996 event in Atlanta) for which Cape Town is making a

However, if, as expected. China bids for those Olympics. South Africa could lose out. A further complication is that Johannesburg, having lost to Cape Town in the fight to bid for the Olympics, would like the Commonwealth Games.

And now Manchester has entered, having won the English nomination to bid for the Commonwealth Games

This queuing up for the honour of staging the Commonwealth Games and the particular enthusiasm of Malaysia and South Africa hardly seems to support the criticism that comes from commentators during every Commonwealth Games and turned up in the reporting from Victoria - namely, that they have run their course and are being crowded out of the sports calendar by the increasing number of regional meet-

The Commonwealth Games are changing, and have to change a lot more to meet modern needs. Kuala Lumpur could well be a milestone, both in the scale of the Games and their content. For the first time team sports will be included - cricket, rugby. hockey, netball, though not yet soccer.

There is an urgent need to reduce the dominance of the so-called old countries. Australia, Canada, Britain (which fields seven separate teams - England, Scotland,

In Victoria, its 125-strong team was excited by the huge welcome it received on the country's return to the Games after nearly four decades. although it was disappointed at

racial harmony between his Malay, Chinese, Indian and other people. The goal of racial harmony central to the Commonwealth itself, many of whose members face an ever wider variety of ethnic problems and are only too aware of

Rwanda. South Africa, which faces the long haul to recovery from the ravages of apartheid, is one of the most sports-crazy countries in the world. The Mandela government sees sport as a means of uniting black and white and that is one reason why South Africa is also enthusiastic about taking part in the Commonwealth Games.

the dire warning presented by

recent horrors, such as in

national development. At the

forefront of Mahathir's mind-is

always the need to maintain

Wales. Northern Ireland Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man) and New Zealand won 398 of the total 675 medals in Victoria. While Canada fielded 279 athletes, India had only Malaysia, which sees itself

as a champion of the poorer countries, will be keen to encourage a much larger representation from the developing world, and the venue of the Games will help to attract it. Only once so far have the

Games been held in the developing world - in Jamaica in 1966 - so it will hardly help to progress their reform if the 2002 event goes to Manchester. Gemini News

About the Author: Derek Ingram is Consultant Editor of Gemini News Service.

Top-seed Pete Sampras of the United States leans on the net after a point late in his match against unseeded Jamie Yzaga of Peru at the US Open on Sept 6. Sampras, who was reportedly suffering from a stomach ailment, was sent packing after a marathon five-setter that ended 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, 6-7, 5-7, - AFP photo | territory

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer **ACROSS** 27 Chignon 19 Slot 28 Mask 4 Coppermachine

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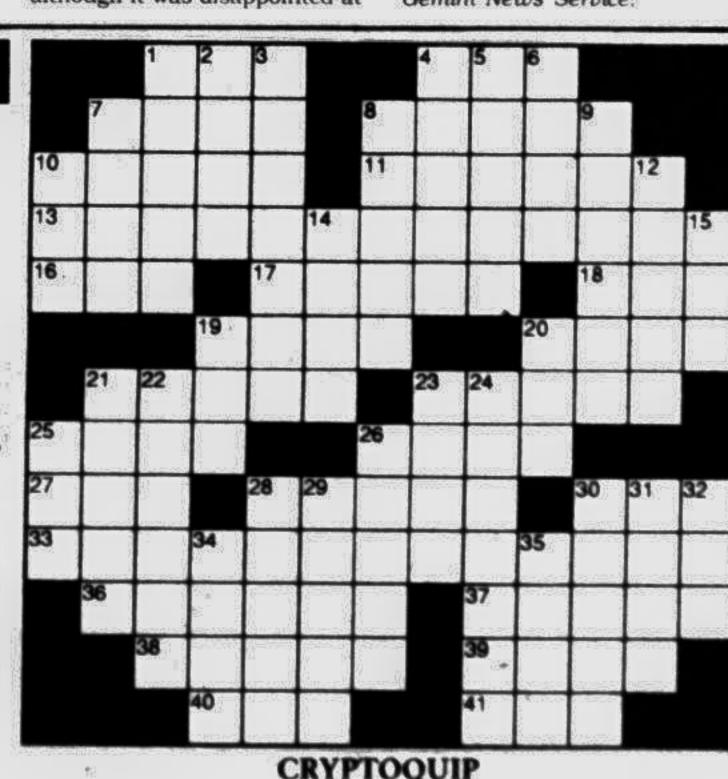
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CRYPTOQUIP BKTSPUGWUGWB BIJ -CPIQWIT HIW TGIKQKUE CVKZW GVW KIPU VPG.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ONE WILD, PASSION-ATE ARTIST TO ANOTHER: LET'S PAINT THE TOWN RED.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: V equals H 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.