win doubles

Davis Cup pair Richey

Reneberg and Jared Palmer

made an immediate impact at

their first Grand Slam tourna-

ment together when they won

the Australian Open men's

doubles title Saturday, reports

13th seeds, beat Mark

Knowles of the Bahamas and

Canada's Daniel Nestor 6-3, 3

6. 6-3, 6-2 to provide a timely

boost for their Davis Cup hopes

in the first round tie against

France in St Petersburg. Fla.

Grand Slam doubles title. He

teamed with Jim Grabb to win

the US Open doubles in 1992.

Palmer had not won a Grand

Slam doubles crown before

success as a team was at At-

nament together, they came

from 1-3 down in the third set

to break their opponents' next

two service games and take

In the fourth set they capi-

talized on some loose play to

set up the win by breaking

Knowles in the seventh game.

Palmer, 23, completed the vic-

tory on the second match-

the first with a double fault.

point after having surrendered

too good for a while there." the

Florida-based Palmer said. "We

hung in there and got a couple

of breaks and things went our

way. They were really ontop of

us at that point. I think both

Richey and I felt a little run-

over. But it feels great. You

don't get too many chances at

a Grand Slam title. For me to

Reneberg. 29, was equally

The last couple of years I

win my first, I'm rally happy."

haven't done that well in dou-

bles," said Reneberg, who has

concentrated on singles, in

which he is ranked 53. "A lot

of guys think of Jared as one of

the best doubles players in the

world. I feel pretty excited

about playing doubles and

Reneberg and Grabb were

beaten in the 1992 Wimbledon

final by John McEnroe and

Michael Stich, losing the

longest doubles final in Wim-

bledon history - five hours.

one minute - by 19-17 in the

shared US dirs 150,000 for

the triumph. Knowles and

Nestor split US dlrs 75,000.

Reneberg and Palmer

hope we have a good year."

thrilled.

fifth set.

"Things were not looking

Their only previous title

Playing in their fourth tour-

It was Reneberg's second

next weekend.

Saturday.

lanta last year.

Reneberg and Palmer, the

MELBOURNE, Jan 28: US

# Merry, magical Pierce Reneberg, Palmer



Australian Open women's singles final - her first Grand Slam title, reports AP. Pierce, the No.4 seed, de-

feated top-seeded Sanchez-Vicario 6-3, 6-2 — a result that delayed Sanchez-Vicario's bid to take over the No. 1 world ranking from the injured Steffi

Pierce, 20, avenged her loss to Sanchez-Vicario in last year's French Open final and became the first Frenchwoman to win a Grand Slam singles title since Francoise Durr at the 1967 French Open and the first to win the Australian title. "I don't think I'll ever forget

this in my whole life," Pierce said. "All the hard work has really paid off and it's a great way to start my year. "I just haven't realized what

has happened yet. I'm still reeling from it." The win over Sanchez-Vi-

cario took Pierce one hour, 25 minutes. It was a hard-fought victory in the arguably the best women's match of the tourna-

Pierce went through the tournament without dropping

Sanchez-Vicario, suffering from tendinitis in her right arm, had been aiming for her fourth Grand Slam title - but lost in the Australian Open final for the second straight

"Mary played a great match." said Sanchez-Vicario. "This is my second final (here), hopefully the third will be a lucky one.

Last year, the Spaniard won only two games in the final against Graf. who currently is sidelined by a calf muscle in-

Graf has announced that she will miss next week's Toray Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo with the same injury. As a result of her withdrawal, Sanchez-Vicario will leapfrog the German and take over as No.1 when the rankings are issued on Feb.

"I don't think its a big consolation," Sanchez-Vicario said. "That's the result of all the matches throughout the year. I worked hard to be able to get there and I'm very happy to be

Pierce hit 22 winners to 15 from Sanchez-Vicario in the final, and also made fewer errors - 21 to 30.

Sanchez Vicario in the Aus-

tralian Open women's final on

Saturday, and out came the

inevitable question about her

banned by the WTA Tour be-

cause of his disruptive be-

haviour during her matches.

He has not been in the stands

to see her play since the

French Open in 1993, but the

specter of his conduct re-

with a support team led by

leading coach Nick Bollettieri

ostensibly to offer her a more

calming environment, although

her nervous, self-critical na-

ture on court isn't always evi-

over Sanchez-Vicario in an 85-

minute match. Pierce. 20. was

But after her 6-3, 6-2 win

She's surrounded herself

Pierce's father, Jim. was

dad, reports AP.

Pierce had just

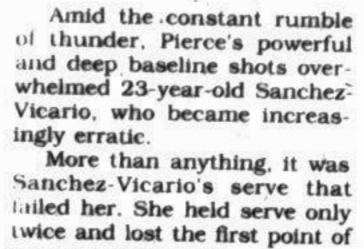
Grand Slam

beating Arantxa

her first

The first four games of the match - all breaks of serve lasted 24 minutes, but Pierce then surged from 2-2 to 5-2 and never relinquished her grip on the contest, winning 10 of the last 13 games.

Pierce, a loser in all five finals she contested last year. pouted and berated herself for errors, but kept calm in the crunch.



every service game. "If I had been able to hold my serve it would have made a



Mary Pierce of France poses with the trophy after beating Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario in the final of the Australian Open in Melbourne yesterday. Pierce won 6-3, - AFP photo

very focussed and concentrated on every point - at the French Open I was very ner-. vous," Pierce said. "Even when I had two match points and I was serving. I wasn't nervous

"The important point for me was not to look at who was on the other side of the net. I hope I am going to be able to stay as calm as I did today throughout the whole year when it matters."

Getting over dad syndrome

would like to keep it that

way." Pierce said. "We have

just been having it as a father

daughter relationship and not

really much into my tennis. So

when I am playing or when I

win or when I lose or am con-

cerned about my training. I

don't have him in my thoughts.

watched and I'm sure he is

set during the tournament

was savoring her moment of

what's happened yet, I'm still

reeling from it," she said

What I feel like doing now is

just enjoying the victory. It's

just so great. I'm sure I'm not

going to forget that for the rest

lot of different places. Born in

Montreal, raised in Florida but

playing for France because her

mother is French, she spoke

immediately after the match

Nor a lot of others, from a

triumph.

of my life.

probably very happy for me."

"I am sure he probably

Pierce, who did not lose a

"I just haven't realized

didn't serve well enough to get into the match and she took advantage of that. "She takes more control

than the other players - she puts a lot of pressure on." Pierce earned US dlrs

360,000 for her victory, while Sanchez-Vicario collected half

The win will see Pierce move up to a career-high No. 3 ranking behind Graf and Sanchez-Vicario.

laughed." Pierce said. "I told

him that I was just so happy. I

hadn't realized it yet. I was a

little shocked. He was very

happy for me and proud. He

said I deserved it, it was what

have worked for and to enjoy

she thanked another coach

Sven Groeneveld, and her fit

ness instructor. Jose Rincon

She looked up at them fre

quently during the match for

good shot," Pierce said. "It

just gives me a feeling of

strength and support. I have

always had a lot of people on

the sides in the past in my

tennis, so I guess it's just

Pierce, who is the first

something that I'm used to."

French woman to win

Grand Slam since Francoise

Durr won the 1967 French

Open, will move up to third in

the world when the new

rankings come out on Monday.

"I look at them just if I hit a

support and approval.

who watched in the stands.

In her acceptance speech

# PDB annual athletic meet on

Sports Reporter

The two-day 20th annual in ter-office athletics championships of the Power Development Board (PDB) got under way at the Rajarbagh Police Lines grounds yesterday.

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khan daker Mosharraf Hossain inaugurated the meet, participated by 350 athletes representing 26 teams.

M Faizur Razzaque, the **Energy and Mineral Resources** secretary, will distribute the prizes among the winners to-

## Annual athletics meets held

The annual sports of Bangladesh Oil. Gas & Mineral Corporation was held at the Dhaka University playground on Friday, reports UNB.

Director (planning) of Petrobangla Mosharraf Hossain inaugurated the meet, organised by it's Central Cultural and Sports Council (CCSP). Abul Kashem of the Secre-

tariat and Tanzina Begum of PCD section clinched the best award among the male and female athletes respectively.

CCSP president and GM (Administration) MAH Nizami distributed the prizes among the winners.

## Paris, Vienna win UEFA nod

GENEVA. Jan 28: The finals of this season's European Cup and Cup Winners' Cup competitions will be played in Vienna and Paris. the European Football Union (UEFA) announced on Friday, reports Reuter.

UEFA said its executive committee had decided that the European Cup final on May 24 would be staged in Vienna's Ernst Happel Stadium and the May 10 Cup Winners' Cup final in the Parc des Princes in

# Police sports

Annual sports of Dhaka District Police will be held on January 31 at 2:30 pm at the Mill Barrack grounds, reports

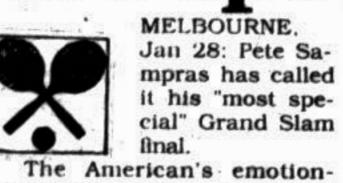
ASM Shahjahan will inaugurate the meet as chief guest, says a press release. Begum Nilufar Shahjahan 39 Memo

Inspector General of Police

will distribute prizes among the winners of the athletic competition as a special guest.

Aussie Open men's singles final today

# It's special for Sampras



charged run at the Australian Open culminates on Sunday when he takes on countryman Andre Agassi in the final, reports AP. It has been a tumultuous

tournament for Sampras, who will join an elite group to win back-to-back Australian Open titles if he can beat the inform Agassi. His coach, Tim Gullikson,

was forced to return to the United States midway through the year's first Grand Slam after falling ill.

Gullikson, who has suffered two strokes in recent months. left on Tuesday. That night Sampras wept openly as he came from two sets down to beat Jim Courier in a marathon quarterfinal.

The tears were for Gullikson and Sampras admitted



PETE SAMPRAS

the semifinals that making the final had added significance as a result.

This is the most special for me because of the circumstances and the fact I was down and out against (Magnus) Larsson and down and out against Courier," Sampras said. "I showed more heart than I probably ever have. I have feelings like everyone else. I'm not a robot out there."

Sampras, 23, is chasing his sixth Grand Slam title and second straight Australian

Open crown. If he can beat the secondseeded Agassi. Sampras will join Courier, Ivan Lendl, Stefan Edberg, Mats Wilander, Johan Kriek. Guillermo Vilas and Ken Rosewall as those who have successfully defended their Australian Open titles.

Agassi, 24, has had by far the easier run to the final, and the US Open champion is bidding to become the first player since Rosewall in 1971 to win the tournament without dropping a set. Bjorn Borg was the last player to do it at any Grand Slam, achieving the feat in 1980 at the French Open. Agassi advanced to the final

by winning his semifinal by default against an injured Aaron Krickstein on Friday. Agassi led 3-0 in the third set after winning the opening two when Krickstein's right groin gave in. Agassi's coach of 10 mon-

ths. Brad Gilbert, said the Las Vegas resident was playing better than when he won his second Grand Slam title at the US Open in September.

"He's serving better, playing more patiently and hitting the ball harder," said Gilbert. "His return of serve during this tournament has been incredi-

Agassi is not concerned that he has been untested so far in the tournament.

"I think the dynamics of the match on Sunday is going to bring out the best in me regardless of what happened today," Agassi said after his win over Krickstein.

You can argue both sides, whether its good to have a tough match under your belt and then compromise your fitness, or whether it's better to get through and be fresh and ready to play."

Sunday's final is the 13th meeting between the pair, with Sampras leading 7-5.

#### INFOS ON FINALISTS Thumbnail profiles of the

players in Sunday's Australian Open men's singles final: PETE SAMPRAS (United States)

Age: 23 Seeded: 1 Current World ranking: 1 Highest world ranking: 1 Career prizemoney: US dlrs

11.813.112 Singles titles: 30 Grand Slam titles: 5 Grand Slam finals: 6 Head-to-head with Agassi:

ANDRE AGASSI (United

Agé: 24 Seeded: 2

Current world ranking: 2 Highest world ranking:2 Career prizemoney: US dirs 7,700,705 Singles titles: 24

Grand Slam titles: 2 Grand Slam finals: 5 Head-to-head with Sampras:

#### ROAD TO FINAL

How the men's singles finalists advanced in the \$ 6.2 million Australian Open:

PETE SAMPRAS (1)

First round - def. Gianluca Pozzi, 6-3, 6-2, 6-0. Second round - def. Jah Kroslak, 6-2, 6-0, 6-1. Third round - def. Lars

Jonsson, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4. Fourth round - def. Magnus Larsson (15), 4-6, 6-7 (4-7), 7-5. 6-4. 6-4. Quarterfinals - def. Jim

Courier (9), 6-7 (4-7), 6-7 (3-7), 6-3, 6-4, 6-3,

Semifinals - def Michael



Chang (5), 6-7 (6-8), 6-3, 6-4,

ANDRE AGASSI (2) First round - def. Grant Stafford, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2. Second round - def. Jerome Golmard, 6-2, 6-3,

Third round - def. Greg Rusedski, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2. Fourth round - def. Patrick

Rafter, 6-3, 6-4, 6-0. Quarterfinals - def. Yevgeny

Kafelnikov (10), 6-2, 7-5, 6-0. Semifinals - def. Aaron Krickstein, 6-4, 6-4, 3-0. tell you.

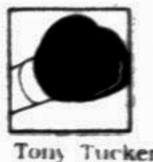
> Trust me, I never would have taken Nicole from our two little children. I would have taken myself out of their

> lives," he adds. The book is being published by Little, Brown and Co and

Simpson has pleaded not guilty to charges that he killed Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ron Goldman on the night of June 12 outside her

In the book Simpson says he believes the culprit will eventually be caught. "I have no doubt in my mind. It might be five years from now, it might be 10 years from now. I have no doubt."

#### with her mother and later ready for the expected. Sanchez-Vicario, despite the with Bollettieri by telephone in loss, will become the world's "I think with my dad right the United States top-ranked player on Feb. 6 now things are going well and "We just kind of both replacing Steffi Graf.



dence of it.

YORK, Jan 28: Should Geor-Le Foreman fight

Germany's Axel Schulz or bow to the WBA and fight Tony Tucker? To be perfectly honest, promoter Don King would prefer that Foreman did neither, reports AP. "I'd prefer that he didn't

fight again at all." 'King said. That way. Foreman could retire and remain the people's champion forever. On Friday, the WBA cham-

pionship committee made its désires known. It unanimously denied Foreman's request to fight the unranked Schulz on April 22 in Las Vegas and threatened to strip him of the world championship if he doesn't reconsider.

WBA president Gilberto Mendoza, one of five voting members of the committee. said he would try to meet as soon as possible with Foreman. and he was confident the champion will change his

However, Foreman's promoter. Bob Arum, said in Las Vegas the Schulz fight would go on as scheduled and said he and Foreman's attorneys were considering legal action.

King's advice for Foreman Title belt or no belt. George is the heavyweight

## Injury forces Moorer to cancel fight

TOTOWA, New Jersey, Jan 28: A knee injury has forced former heavyweight champion Michael Moorer to cancel what was supposed to be his first fight since losing the title, reports AP.

Moorer, scheduled to face Jimmy Thunder on March 11 in Las Vegas, was diagnosed with a partial tear of the medial collateral ligament. Dr Daniel R Kanell recommended that Moorer refrain from training for the next six weeks.

Obviously, Michael is very disappointed," said Moorer's agent John Davimos. "He was definitely looking forward to getting back in the ring so he can get his hands on George (Foreman)

Moorer, 27, who beat Evander Holyfield and became the first left-hander to win the heavyweight title, lost in his first defence when he was knocked out by Foreman in November

champion." Arum said. "The entire world saw him knock out Michael Moorer in the ring, so I guess that the WBA is saying that it is bigger than reality, bigger than the truth."

The 46-year-old Foreman won the WBA and IBF portions of the championship last Nov 5 with a 10th-round knockout of Moorer WBA Rule 5.4 says that if an

unranked contender, which Foreman was, wins the championship, he has 120 days to fight the No 1 contender, in this case Tucker. That gives him until March 5. although WBA attorney Jimmy Binns said extensions usually are granted if additional time is required to promote the fight We don't want to strip the

title from George Foreman. Mendoza said. "The title should be won in the ring." Arum said the IBF would recognize the Foreman-Schulz

Neither Foreman nor Arum was at the hearing. In a videotaped presentation. Arum argued that Foreman should be granted special permission to fight Schulz under regulations

that allow the rules to be bent

if the fight is of special signifi-

cance to boxing.

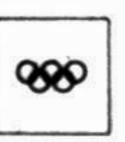
on Jan 31

## ACOG plans for ticket sale details of putting about 10 Summer Games, an all-out ef-

fort to sell those tickets is

"Nothing ever sells itself.

guaranteed.



28: To buy tickets to the Atlanta Olympics. the line forms to the rear of the crowd

of VII's already placing orders. While Olympic organisers make the final preparations to put tickets on sale to the public May 1, they also are busy handling requests from the sponsors, hotels, sports officials and selected tour groups that get first dibs.

reports AP. Though these groups may snap up nearly 1 million of the choicest seats, organisers insist regular folks shouldn't worry - there still will be a record number of tickets avail-

And with the Atlanta organisers counting on strong ticket sales to meet the budget of the privately financed 1996

42 Existed

quintupled

44 Urban fleet

lander's

souvenir

yielding

ersatz

in a way

47 Ark park

49 Pods

43 CXXX

46 Main-

What you need to do in any marketing programme where you have a high-demand product-is let the people know how easy it is to purchase," said

Scott Anderson, the top ticket official at the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games. "The general perception is. tickets to the Olympics are difficult to get" said Anderson ACOG's managing director for Games services. "That is the perception we are fighting. Our answer is, tickets are not

going to be difficult to get." But it clearly will be more difficult to attend the glamour events — opening ceremonies or gymnastics finals, for example - because demand is expected to be tremendous.

ACOG is ironing out the last

Afr. org.

21 Knapsack

23 Baseball's

part

Rod

27 Youth

unit

SOF

31 Mubarak's

predeces-

arrange-

heros are

instrument

made of

34 Clinton's

36 Jai alai

ball

37 He has

ment

invitations 25 The fellow

5 Miss Jane 29 Detonation

Count (on) 32 Third-party

Quite soon 33 What some

million tickets on sale to the publie. A ticket vendor has been selected and will be anno-

unced later this month. A brochure has been designed. though decisions on how many to print and how to distribute it still must be made. In an attempt to ensure

fairness, tickets ordered in the first come first served. Though the tickets go on

sale more than a year before the Games, they must be paid for in advance. Visa, checks and money orders will be accepted. In the fall, applicants will

receive a letter notifying them what they're getting. The tickets will be delivered in spring 1996. The Games begin July 19, 1996.

# 52 CRYPTOQUIP

TSINCI LXXUGL SXC FQC UXXVQYM RNG PXKY KQVF QYMSGC Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BURGLAR IN NEW YORK

BECAME SO WEALTHY HE STOPPED MAKING HOUSECALLS, Today's Cryptoquip clue: T equals C

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

Susanti, Bang in Japan Open final TOKYO, Jan 28: Susi Susanti of Indonesia, the Barcelona Olympic gold medalist, will meet South Korea's Bang Soo-Hyun in the women's singles

finals after beating China's Ye Zhaoying in the Japan Open badminton championships on Saturday, reports AP. Heryanto Arbi plays Joko

Suprianto in the all-Indonesian men's finals, also Sunday. Top-seeded Susanti needed 31 minutes to score an 11-5.

11-3 victory over Ye. Bang, the second seed, downed Lim Xiao Qing of Sweden 11-3, 11-6 in just 30 minutes in the other women's semifinal.

and know each other. I will try to concentrate well and play my own game. It should be a close match," said Susanti of the final match.

strokes today. I've lost 13 and won two in games with Susanti before. But now I have more confidence than before, as I know Indonesian players' strokes are not strong as before."

whelmed world No. 1 player Ardy B Wiranata 15-6, 10-15, Suprianto beat erratic Alan Budi Kusuma, the Barcelona Olympic gold medalist, 15-4,

15-3, in the other men's semifinals. "It was an easy game as Kusuma made many errors," Suprianto said.

Arbi said: "I played the

stroke game in the first and second, sets and I attacked him with smashes in the third set as I had planned." Wiranata said: "I had nice

play but my opponent was much better. I was exhausted."

### OJ's I want to tell you LOS ANGELES, Jan 28: OJ

Simpson proclaimed his innocence in a book and audio tape that went on sale on Friday. saying he would have jumped in front of a bullet for his former wife Nicole, whom he is accused of murdering, reports Reuter.

"I want to state unequivocally that I did not commit these horrible crimes. I loved Nicole, I could never do such a thing." Simpson says at the beginning of the book "I want to

"How could anybody say I could kill this woman? How can anybody say that? Don't they understand that I'd jump in front of a bullet for Nicole? That I'd jump in front of a train to protect my family, to protect any member of

Nicole's family? lives, not Nicole out of their

sells for about 18 US dollars.

home in Los Angeles.

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

DOWN

1 Gorge

love

2 Tristan's

3 Send out

4 Requisite

Pittman's

portrayer

6 Render

interior

8 Bambi's

13 Emulated

18 Erstwhile

Ross

aunt

10 Run

11 Sire

**ACROSS** 1 Laughing 6 Defeat soundly "Gold-

finger singer 12 Carrot tops secrets? 14 Conjures

version

of rhyme

19 Margery

20 Tackles

23 Tweety's

home

abbr.

40 Hiatus

22 Pile

chocolate 51 Beefsteak 15 Comedior cherry enne 52 Playing Boosler 17 Bible 53 Stretch

> 54 Man behind the teammates Solution time: 28 mins. LEHAR SHY ALS

24 Mouth-IRONEDOVEN pieces? ADZ DAR TREND 26 Passed on HOOP 28 Edge 30 Veep under GRF AWAY POLLEN 31 Bun seeds 35 Profundity

SENATE WASHER PASTE SADAT HORATIO INURE IKE HEP DINAR BED YRS EDGES

TURES HORMONE

answers 38 Skating 44 London

story 48 "Cool!"

50 Rule, in

45 It's a long

British India

all the star Carol 41 Type units

gallery

locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

"We met many times before Bang said: "I hit nice In the men's semifinal matches, Arbi, displaying powerful jumping smashes, over-