

Former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, flanked by his bodyguards and promoter Don King (R), leaves the Indiana Youth Centre yesterday after serving a three-year sentence for rape. - AFP photo

BARCELONA, Mar 25: Barcelona's Dutch star Ronald Koeman announced here Friday that he was quitting the club at the end of the season to return home to Holland, reports AFP.

"I am not leaving to join another club." said the stop-

am simply returning home for personal reasons." Koeman rejected claims

that he had had a row with Barcelona coach Johan Cruvff. My decision to leave has nothing to do with Cruyff. It is thanks to him I came to Barcelona and won so many titles," said Koeman.

Cruyff was full of praise for his fellow Dutchman.

"Everyone talks about Romario. Stoichkov. or Laudrup but Koeman has been the most important player at Barcelona. said Cruvil.

"He always delivered. He never caused problems either inside or outside of the club. unlike some others," he added a clear reference to Stoichkov who was ordered to take a hotafter he made some scathing remarks about his teammates following Barcelona's defeat in the European Champions Cup quarterfinal at the hands of Paris St Germain.

Cantona on TV

LONDON, Mar 25: French soccer star Eric Cantona, sentenced to two week's jail for attacking a fan at a recent match, appears on Friday in a British television commercial denouncing violence in sport, reports Reuter.

Cantona, seen by millions of television viewers lunging feet first at a fan after being sent off in an English Premier Division match on January 25, appears with black striker Les Ferdinand.

The 30 second commercial, promoting a US sportswear company, attacks racism in sport.

"Is it OK to shout racial abuse at me just because I am on the football pitch?" they ask, the camera switching from one to the other as they deliver phrases to complete sentences.

"I know that violence is not acceptable, in sport," says Cantona. "So why should we accept hatred?" asks Ferdinand. "Why argue about differ-

ences? I'd rather play football." they conclude.

On Thursday Cantona, who plays for English champions Manchester United, pleaded guilty to common assault against spectator Matthew Simmons at a match against Crystal Palace on January 25.

5 CSKA Moscow cagers poisoned?

MOSCOW, Mar 25: Five basketball players with CSKA Moscow who fell ill shortly before a European Championship match in Greece were probably peisoned, according to tests carried out by Russian experts, reports AFP.

Samples from the mineral water which players drank before the game against Olympiakos on March 16 contained traces of haloperiodole, a substance which causes cramps. the Itar-Tass news agency reported on Friday.

The five were taken to hospital suffering from acute stomach pains and convulsions.

CSKA had to play the match with only five men and were down to three for the last 10 minutes. The Russians lost 79-

CSKA team doctor Oleg Parfenov claimed earlier this week that the seals on the bottles of mineral water had been pierced by a syringe.

Roeman to leave Tyson released from jail

PLAINFIELD, Ind. Mar 25: Mike Tyson left prison Saturday with a while in prison. chance to resume his multimilliondollar boxing career after

conviction, reports AP. Wearing street clothes and flanked by his managers and boxing promoter Don King, the former heavyweight champion emerged from the Indiana Youth Center and climbed into

serving three years on a rape

a limousine. A caravan of six cars led by a police cruiser left the prison and was believed to be headed for the airport, where a chartered aircraft was to fly Tyson to his Ohio honie.

The convoy stopped near

Laumann's doc responsible, says IOC official

LUSANNE, Mar 25: Tough sanctions should be taken against the doctor who supplied the medicine to Canadian rower Silken 'Laumann which ended with her and her winning teammates being stripped of their quadruple sculls' gold at the Pan American Games said a senior International Olympic Committee (IOC) official here Friday, reports AFP.

Prince Alexandre de Merode, president of the IOC Medical Commission, said there was no excuse for the blunder.

"An example should be made of the doctor. He has no excuse," said the Prince.

Laumann, on the advice of two Canadian team doctors had taken an over-the-counter medicine, benadryle. Unfortunately, there are at least two types of benadryl - with virtu-

ally identical packaging.

the prison at a mosque that had been the center of Muslim support for Tyson, who is said to have converted to Islam

Tyson, wearing a beige prayer cap, entered the rear door of the building, which is associated with the Islamic Society of North America.

Four years of probation await the boxer, whose distance from trouble, often has been no greater than his 71inch (180-centimeter) reach. If he violates his probation, he could be forced to serve up to three more years in prison. The Rev. Charles Williams.

who met Tyson six years ago and visited him regularly in prison, says Tyson is prepared to stay out of trouble.

"He has matured a great deal," Williams said Friday. "He has a better sense of who Mike is and what he represents. He has been arle to look within himself these three years." Tyson's police record dates

to 1978 when, as a 12-yearold, he was picked up for purse-snatching. HB discovered boxing in reform school.

While Tyson lacked the finesse of Muhammad Ali, his devastating punches made him. at age 20 in 1986, the world's youngest heavyweight champion.

But his power has earned him as much trouble as money. In 1987, a parking lot attendant claimed Tyson tried to

kiss a female employee and struck the male attendant. Tyson paid dlrs 105,000 to settle the case.

The following year, Tyson broke his hand in a brawl with boxer Mitch Green in New York and was sued by two women who claimed Tyson grabbed them in a nightclub.

His stormy marriage to actress Robin Givens ended in

1989 after she described him

on network television as a vio-

lence-prone manic-depressive. Then in 1991, Tyson was invited to Indianapolis to promote the city's annual Black Expo convention, where he met Rhode Island beauty pageant contestant Desiree Washington.

Washington said Tyson asked her to stop by his hotel room on the way to a round of parties and raped her. Tyson said the sex was consensual.

, Muhammad Siddeeq, a Muslim— who calls himself Tyson's spiritual adviser, said Tyson understands what's at stake now.

"He wants to bring his life together." Siddeeq said. "He wants to have a family."

Two found guilty in Singapore soccer scandal

SINGAPORE, Mar 25: A court on Saturday convicted two people for match-fixing in an unfolding soccer bribery scandal that has widely tainted a 16-team league tournament based in Malaysia, reports AP. Ex-Singapore player K Kan-

nan was sentenced to 18 months in fail and the president of a local soccer club. Ong Kheng Hock, was given two and a half years. Ong also was fined 120,000

Singapore dollars (dlrs 85,106) and Kannan was fined 45,000 dollars (dlrs 31,900). Both plan to appeal the ver-

Prosecutors said the two men offered Singapore national goalkeeper David Lee 80.000 dollars (dlrs 57.000) to keep the winning margin low in a May 13, 1994 match against Perlis, a Malaysian

CHRONOLOGY OF TYSON'S CAREER



NEW YORK, Mar 25 (Reuter): The following is a chronology of some of the key events in the life of Mike Tyson, who is to be freed on Saturday after serving three years in jail for rape:

1978: Arrested for purse snatching as a 12-year-old in Brooklyn.

1982: Expelled from high school after various incidents.

1985: Begins professional career with first-round knockout of Hector Mercedes.

1986: At 20, becomes youngest ever heavyweight champion by knocking out Trevor Berbick in

second round to win WBC title.

1987: Wirts WBA heavyweight title with a unanimous decision over James "Bonecrusher" Smith. - Charged with assault after allegedly hitting parking attendant who said he attempted to

intervene when Tyson tried to kiss woman employee. Settled out of court.

- Becomes undisputed heavyweight champion with decision over IBF title-holder Tony Tucker.

1988: Marries actress Robin Givens.

- Givens and her mother demand access to Tyson's money for a down payment on a 4.5 million dollar New Jersey home.

Givens and family accuse Tyson of violence.

- Sues manager Bill Cayton to break their contract, settled out of court.

- Hires business Mogul Donald Trump as his financial advisor.

- Breaks right hand in an early morning street brawl with former opponent Mitch Green.

- Knocked unconscious after driving his car into tree in driveway of home of former mentor

Cus D'Amato. - Tyson sits passively alongside Givens as she tells national television audience he is manic depressive and that their marriage has been hellish.

- Police called to Tyson's home after he throws furniture out the window and forces Givens and her mother to flee house.

- Givens sues for divorce. Tyson counter sues

-Tyson gets bill for two million dollar from advisor Donald Trump. Tyson becomes partners

with promoter Don King. - Givens seeks libel damages of 125 million dollars against Tyson over newspaper story.

- Tyson sues Bill Cayton again.

- Tyson is sued for 92,000 dollar by Manhattan Fuurrier who claims money is payment for Sabele coat bought for Given's mother. - Sandra Miller sues Tyson for allegedly grabbing her, insulting her and propositioning her in

New York nightclub. - Lori Davis sues Tyson for allegedly grabbing her buttocks while she was dancing at same nightclub on same night as Miller incident.

1989: Tyson and Givens granted divorce in Dominican Republic. Givens withdraws 125 million dollar libel suit.

- Accused of slapping parking attendant outside Los Angeles nightclub. Charge's later dropped. Fined 300 dollars and sentenced to community service for speeding.

1990: Knocked out by James "buster" Douglas in 10th round in Tokyo to lose world heavyweight title in one of biggest upsets in boxing history. - Sued by Phyllis Polaner, former aide to Givens, for sexual assault and harassment.

-New York City civil jury finds Tyson committed battery in Sandra Miller case. Miller awarded 100 dollars in damages on grounds that Tyson's behaviour was "not outrageous."

1991: Admits paternity of eight-month-old girl born to Kimberly Scarborough. - Takes 18-year-old Miss Black America contestant Desiree Washington to his hotelroom in early hours of morning.

- Washington files police complaint charging Tyson with rape. - Indicted by Indianapolis special grand jury on rape and three other charges. - Natalie Fears files 12 million dollars palimony and paternity lawsuit against Tyson.

1992: Blood test shows Tyson is not father of Natalie Fear's son. - Convicted on rape and other charges, jailed for six years.

1993: Says he is converting to Islam and contemplating name change. - Fails high school diploma examination which would have shortened his sentence. 1995: Indianapolis court acrees to early rolease date of March 25.

Nat'l schools TT results

Narail and Gaibandha emerged champions in the boys' and girls' team finals of the Green Delta National school table tennis tournament at the NSC wooden floor gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

In the boys' team final. Narail DSA outplayed Gaibandha 3-0.

Pappu (Narail) beat Mamun (Gaibandha) 21-11, 21-10. Gautam (Narail) defeated Joyanta (Gaibandha) 21-10, 21-15 while Edison (Narail) beat Jewel (Gaibandha) by 21-10, 21-15.

In the girls' team final, Gaibandha reversed their earlier loss with an exciting 3-2 victory.

Saleha (Narail) beat Jemi (Gaibandha) 21-11, 21-14, Sumi (Gaibandha) beat Ratna (Narail) 21-16, 14-21, 24-22; Saleha and Ratna pair (Narail) beat Jemi and Sumi (Gaibandha) 19-21, 25-23, 23-21; Sumi (Gaibandha) beat Saleha (Narail) 18-21. 21-13, 21-17 and Jemi (Gaibandha) defeated Ratna (Narail) 21-19 and 21-

Besides, 18 girls and 37 boys singles matches were decided on the same day.

Top seeds exit from French Open badminton

PARIS, Mar 25: Scandinavia's men's and women's singles top seeds. Martin Lundgaard Hansen and Margit Borg. crashed out of the French Open badminton championships here on Friday, reports

Little-known and unranked Dhaerma Gunawi of Indonesia caused the first shock by oust ing Denmark's Lundgaard Hansen 15-6, 15-9 in the second

And at the same stage in the women's event, Sweden's Borg. world ranked 31, was cast aside by Russia's Elena Rybkina, classed 10-6, 11-4,

Lundgaard Hansen, world ranked 29, warned it would be a tough match against the 23year-old German-based Indonesian, and his prediction proved all too true.

Gunawi outplayed his opponent with a combination of aggressive jump smashes and deft drop shots to virtually lead from start to finish. He trailed 3-2 in the sec-

ond game, but was soon back on top and earned a 35-minute win with a typical smash on his second match point. Gunawi's tournament was nearly cut short in the third mund as he trailed by a set and 13-9 to Sweden's Mats Svens

18, 18-15, 15-6 winner to set up a quarter-final clash with Indonesia's Budi Santoso on Saturday. This season, Gunawi has not played in international tour-

son, but Gunawi ran out a 17-

naments outside Germany. meaning he is not worldranked. But Gunawi, who plays for

Langenfeld, in Germany - the same club as Wiranata - intends to compete in European international events from now Gunawi moved from In-

donesia two years ago to study in Hamburg. He played at the Hamburg Club, before recently signing a player/coach contract at Langenfeld.

Another surprise came when Germany's Volker Renzelmann ousted Holland's Joris van Soerland, seeded 3/4, 8 15, 15-12, 15-10 at the second round stage.

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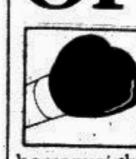
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Of two different fighters



NEW YORK, Mar 25: Muhammad Ali and Mike Tyson, the two most recognisable

heavyweight champions of the last 30 years, would seem to have as much in common as the sweet syncopation of Jazz does with the thudding rasp of rap, reports Reuter.

But on Saturday the two men, one who was willing to go to jail for his convictions and the other who went to prison convicted of rape, will kneel down in prayer together because they are brothers in Islam.

They will celebrate with prayer Tyson's release after serving three years in the Indiana Youth Centre.

Ali revered around the world as the once supremely gifted athlete who "floated like a butterfly and stung like a bee" in the ring and brought lightness and self-respect to millions outside of it, will travel from his Michigan farm to be with Tyson, who recently made Shahada, the ceremony in which devotion to Islam is proclaimed.

"Why am I going?" Ali said to his friend, syndicated columnist Jerry Izenberg earlier this week I'm going because he did hit time and this is America.

"I'm going because he made Shahada," said the former three-time champion of the world. "He has expressed his

He don't have to prove it to me or anyone else. He starts with a clean slate. "If I didn't go to show my

support then I wouldn't be following the faith I believe in. I'll pray with him and then I'll go home," said the man, who once dubbed himself the greatest fighter in the world about the man who once called himself the baddest man on the planet. And that, in their own

words, may be the biggest difference between the two.

Ali in his prime, was outrageous, outspoken and seemed out of control as he assaulted the senses of many people in the early 1960s in an America still very uncomfortable with public displays of immodesty.

particularly from a black man. He refused to be drafted for the Vietnam war, citing his religion. He was stripped of his title and lost three crucial years of his career while he battled the government in



tory over the system.

Tyson, on the other hand became, according to one psyjust take whatever we want.

of imposed exile from boxing in common.

paintbrush, flitting across the canvass daubing blurs of white shoes with tassels bouncing to the beat of dancing feet and splashing lighting quick hands throwing deceptively hard

tle twice more. All was never the same fighter after he came back. He depended on finesse that required acutely - honed reflexes and strong, agile legs to let him dance in and out of danger.

Of course no one knows whether Tyson can regain his dominance in the ring which had begun to erode in the three years before he went to

Tyson depends much more than Ali had on ferocity, strength and power combinations that set up his sledgehammer left hook.

It is generally agreed that a fighter doesn't lose much sheer power as he ages as George Foreman proved by knocking out Michael Moorer last November to win the heavyweight title with one punch at the age of 45.

It seems the case for Tyson regaining his dominance may depend a great deal on his mental condition. Most reports from visitors

to Tyson indicate that he is serious about Islam and is a more thoughtful, sensitive man. For instance, Ali said Tyson would not put him on his

Tyson told him, "You are the person I most admire in this world I would die before I'd let vou see me like this." If Tyson, 28, has truly embraced Islam and changed his often anti social ways it would be difficult to justify closeness

to those less than morally

prison visitors' list because

scrupulous in boxing. Teddy Atlas, who trained Tyson as a teenager under the eyes of the late trainer Cus D'Amato before a bitter breakup, said he hopes prison has changed Tyson for the bet-

But the hugely respected Atlas cautioned against expecting a much different Tyson, who has announced changes in the past. I remember what us used

to say, people born round don't die square.

Sampras, Agassi in final



KEY BISCAYNE. Florida, Mar 25: the final. Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi, the top two tennis players in the

championships with three-set semifinal victories on Friday, reports Reuter. World number one Sampras beat unseeded Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden 4-6, 6-0, 6-1, run-

ning off 10 straight games midway through the match. The second-ranked Agassi was stretched for the first time in the tournament by 12th-seeded Swede Magnus Larsson before hanging on for a 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (7-1) who in two hours and 12 minutes to reach

his fourth final of the year. Sunday's contest will be a rematch of last year's final, won by Sampras. Saturday's women's final features secondseeded defending champion Steffi Graf against seventh seed Kimiko Date of Japan.

In what has become the most exciting rivalry in the sport. Agassi and Sampras have split their two 1995 encounters with Agassi winning the Australian Open and Sampras at Indianwells last week.

Sampras will keep his ranking regardless of the out-*come Sunday, but none wanted him to win Friday more than Agassi, who led the crowd in a chant of "Pete, Pete, Pete"

after securing his own place in The 44th-ranked Bjorkman

2 and played constantly enough to make that break showdown at the Lipton hold up as he served out the Sampras turned things around dramatically in the second set, breaking Bjorkman three times to win it 6-0. The

trend continued in the third

set with Sampras losing just

one more game as the 43

ranking places between them

because more and more appar-"I just plain and simple got outplayed in the first set," ad-

mitted Sampras. Agassi went to the brink of disaster with Larsson before taking charge in the final set

Goolagong Cawley joins Legends

NOOSA HEADS, Australia, Mar 25: After a career of hitting tennis balls over a net, two-time Wimbledon champion Evonne Goolagong Cawley spent Saturday trying to keep balls from entering one, re-

Cawley will leave Australia for

Naples, Fla. where she will

spend time with friends before

competing in the women's le-

gends tour beginning April 7

in nearby Tampa.

ports AP. On Wednesday, Goolagong

Larsson used his powerful serve and solid governments to

of serve in the game, as the two split the first two sets. There were no breaks in the third see with Larsson leading the whole way. Trailing 6-5, Agassi hit an ace, then blazed a forehand crosscourt

winner to force the tie-break as the crowed roared and leapt to its feet. Agassi took that momentum and the crowd's emotion into the breaker and reeled off sev-

ran out of answers. "I thought I had a chance to win. I came close, but in the end it was Andre," said the

"Today was a good win for me considering the circumstances," said Agassi, who struggled with swirling winds and several controversial line

could have very easily lost that match.'

were clearly eager to square off "I really feel I need to be at

Sampras said. "Hopefully Andre and I can bring tennis to a new level and make it exciting for the fans

and little kinds."

26 27 28

SOTDY BQVY YLZEC UQWLC: HDGYNII BLD QK

RIGHT AFTER THE WEDDING WE BEGAN FIGHT-Today's Cryptoquip clue: S equals N 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.

MUHAMMAD ALI He won and went onto regain the title twice. Now 53 and slowed by Parkinson's Syndrome, Ali is still a symbol for some of vic-

chologist, the representative of the dark side of our souls, the parts of usathat would like to Ali and Tyson have three years

But the two men were much different fighters. In his prime Ali was a

punches. But despite winning the tit-

did his damage in the first set stay even with Agassi, whe when he broke Sampras for 3countered with the best return

eral straight points as Larsson

disappointed Larsson.

"I am smart enough and good enough to know that I

Both Agassi and Sampras

my best against Andre,"

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 11 Afrikaner 16 Molt metropolis 19 Prop for Sherlock

4 "- Breaky 35 Sus-DOWN 20 Potential pended 1 Stir-fry statue 36 Landmark 21 Soft-drink device rock pile 2 Jackie's flavor 37 Shoelace 22 As a second 3 Curb companion 40 Far 4 Twisted 23 Skull Island from the 5 Goatee resident

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25 Blueprint 41 Cry uncle 6 Bk. after 26 Grue-42 See 25 Daniel 7 Absolutely 27 Lollapa-Across 46 Condo 8 Cocktail 47 Wings ingredient? 28 Hock

48 Place-9 "The Caine 30 Touch Mutiny" 33 Poor part kicker's author pride 49 Exchange 10 Competent 34 A little Solution time: 26 mins.

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ING.

NZLNV Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I WAS A WAR BRIDE.

