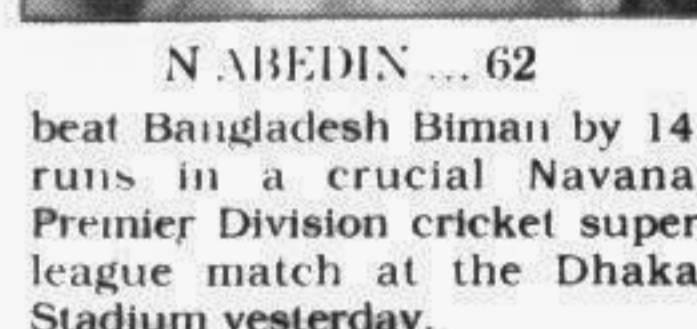


Border puts Queensland in command

BRISBANE, Mar 27: Former Test captain Allan Border hammered an unbeaten 76 as Queensland built a massive first innings lead against South Australia on a rain-interrupted third day of the Sheffield Shield final on Sunday, reports Reuters.



Title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club crossed another big hurdle 24 hours after their sensational one-wicket win over arch-rivals Abahani when they



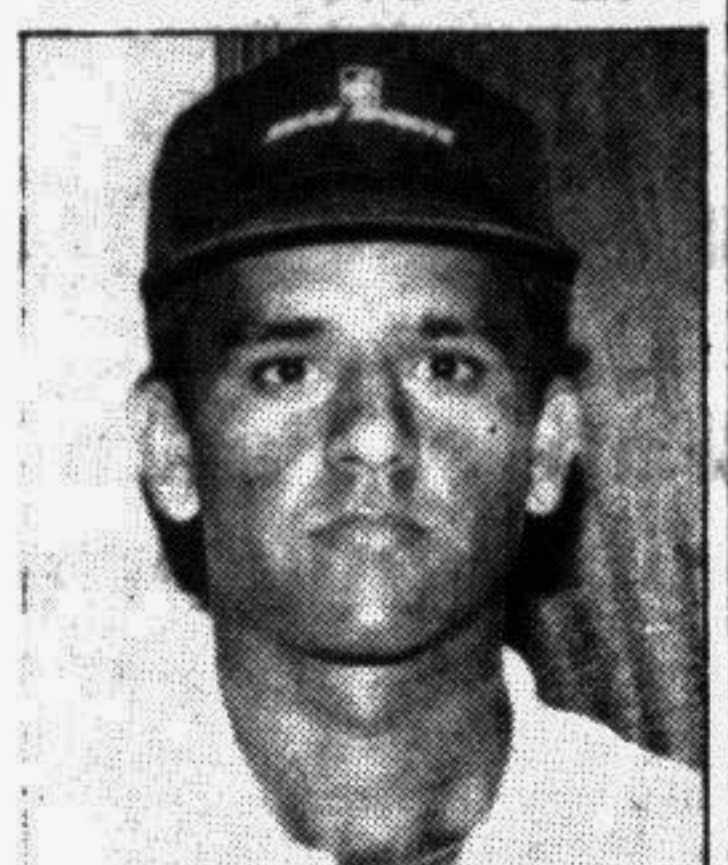
N. ABEDIN ... 62 beat Bangladesh Biman by 14 runs in a crucial Navana Premier Division cricket super league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

McDermott hopes to be back

BRISBANE, Mar 27: Injured fast bowler Craig McDermott hopes to rejoin the Australian team on their tour of the West Indies, he said Monday, reports AP.

The race gets hot

Sports Reporter 241 for eight and then went on to restrict the national airline outfit to 227 for eight in the stipulated 45 overs.



S SHARMA ... 68 six off seamer Hasibul Hossain Shanto. Sharma, who clobbered 14 runs from the first five deliveries of Hasib's 43rd over, was brilliantly caught by Sujon in the deep while trying to force another massive sixer over mid-wicket off the last delivery of the lithe Mohammedans new-ball bowler.

Tyson on a mystery journey

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Mar 27: Forget everything you knew about Mike Tyson.

more questions than he answered upon his release from the Indiana Youth Centre, visiting a Muslim mosque for a special prayer service before getting a hero's welcome at his Ohio home.

Seles still unstable

HAMBURG, Germany, Mar 27: Former world number one Monica Seles still suffers from severe mood swings after being stabbed in the back two years ago by a man with a kitchen knife, her lawyer was quoted as saying on Sunday, reports Reuters.

Gerhard Strate, who speaks to Seles twice a week by phone while representing her in court action against her assailant, told the Welt Am Sonntag newspaper Seles was suffering from "an unstable psychiatric condition."

Agassi narrows Sampras' lead

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida, Mar 27: Andre Agassi closed in on Pete Sampras' world number-one ranking here Sunday after chalking up a 3-6, 6-2, 7-6



American Andre Agassi holds aloft the trophy after defeating Pete Sampras in men's singles final of the Lipton Championships in Key Biscayne, Florida on Sunday. Agassi won 3-6, 6-2, 7-6 (7-3).

and go for it." Sampras agreed that the game was key. "That fifth game in the second set was the turning point, definitely," he said.

"If I had converted a break point there and kept my momentum I could have won the match. But I was not aggressive enough. I waited for him to miss and he's just not going to do that."

Of Agassi's 19-point streak, Sampras said: "There's really nothing you can think about while it's happening, you try something different, or you take your time more."

"He raised his level a notch, and I went down. It didn't shake my confidence, but I don't remember losing 19 in a row."

It was the third final between the US pair this year. Agassi beat Sampras in the Australian Open final and in San Jose, California, Sampras won in Indian Wells, California, and still leads their career head-to-head 8-7.

Agassi, whose victory in the Australian Open was his second straight Grand Slam win after the US Open last September, has come a long way since the 1994 Lipton.

Last year he entered this tournament struggling to recover from wrist surgery and ranked 31st in the world. He fought through to the final but lost to Sampras, this year, he was playing in his fourth final in five tournaments.

The ATP Tour rivals are now set to join forces for the US Davis Cup tie against Italy in Palermo.

On Sunday night Agassi planned to give Sampras a lift to New York in his private plane so they could hop a Concorde for Europe.

Agassi said that if they had time he would take Sampras to see his girlfriend Brooke Shields in the Broadway production of "Grease."

Murdoch wants to buy 2000 Games' rights

SYDNEY, Mar 27: Media baron Rupert Murdoch says he would pay over 1.0 billion US dollars for the global television rights to the 2000 Sydney Olympics, but conceded he has yet to "make the sums work" before launching his bid, reports Reuters.

Asked on the Australian Channel Nine 60 Minutes television programme on Sunday night if he wanted the global broadcast rights to the Sydney Olympics, Murdoch said: "Yes, absolutely."

"I've got a pretty good idea of what it'll take and I can't quite make the sums work," said a smiling Murdoch.

If Murdoch gained global Olympic rights, he would broadcast the Games to the United States via Fox Broadcasting Co network and to Britain, parts of Europe and Asia via his British Sky broadcasting group and the Hong Kong-based Asian satellite broadcaster Star TV.

Murdoch is already involved in major sports broadcasting with Fox having the rights to US National Football League (NFL) and Sky broadcasting England's Premier League.

Australia's Channel Seven network, of which Murdoch owns 14.9 per cent, has domestic Australian broadcast rights to both the 1996 Atlanta Games and the Sydney Olympics.

Graf's fourth Lipton title

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida, Mar 27: Steffi Graf yielded just eight points in the first five games here Saturday as she beat Kimiko Date 6-1, 6-4, in the women's final of the 4.1 million-dollar Lipton championships, reports AFP.

Graf, the second seed, needed just 29 minutes to surge to a 5-0 before the seventh seeded Japanese held her serve. Graf then served out for the set.

"It was a good thing I had a good start in the beginning," Graf said. "She started, going for too much and she was making a lot of errors."

Date, apparently troubled by a chronic right shoulder injury, nevertheless made more of a match of it in the second set.

She fought off four break points in the opening game and managed to apply enough pressure to provide some errors from Graf.

Even so, Graf broke Date's serve in the fifth and seventh games to lead 5-2 before dropping her own serve in the eighth.

Date saved a match point and held her own serve in the ninth to narrow the gap to 5-4 but Graf served out for the match.

"In the second, Date was running well and playing deep and going for her shots. And I got a little bit down," Graf said.

"The games at two all and 3-2 were very close. I won two big games to go to 5-2 but then she played incredible returns in the eighth. Next game, when I missed a forehand on match point, maybe I went for too much."

The German world number-two took her record against Date to 5-0 and claimed a 205,000 dollar first prize. She crossed the 15-million dollar mark with her 14th consecutive match victory of 1995.

She claimed her fourth Lipton title, after victories here in 1987, 1988 and last year.

"She's the player who is behind me and who's coming, pushing really hard and really strong," said Sanchez-Vicario, who is top-seeded in the Family Circle Cup at Sea Pines Resort.

Graf said the back injury that sidelined her earlier this year was now "under control."

"I'm very happy with my back," she said. "I played six matches in eight days much longer and tougher than others I've played this year and I'm happy with the way my back is responding."

Her immediate plans called for work on a commercial, after which she will turn her attention to her conditioning.

She also had a word for rival Monica Seles, who has yet to return to competition since she was stabbed by a deranged fan in Germany.

"Monica, if you're watching, I miss you and hope you'll come back soon," Graf said.

She said she had been thinking about Seles' situation, and admitted she had no idea how she would have responded if she had been the stabbing victim.

"It's impossible to block out this situation, especially the last 10 days, because I've been confronted with the whole issue constantly," Graf said. "Months before I was thinking about it."

"It's impossible to think what you would do in that situation. Maybe the best way is to come back and play tennis right away, but you just don't know."

Sanchez star at Family Circle

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina, Mar 27: Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, the top-ranked player in the world, has a hard time ignoring Steffi Graf, even when the Spaniard knows she has to reports AP.

"She's the player who is behind me and who's coming, pushing really hard and really strong," said Sanchez-Vicario, who is top-seeded in the Family Circle Cup at Sea Pines Resort.

"I'm very happy with my back," she said. "I played six matches in eight days much longer and tougher than others I've played this year and I'm happy with the way my back is responding."

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She also had a word for rival Monica Seles, who has yet to return to competition since she was stabbed by a deranged fan in Germany.

Directorate General Defence Purchase Ministry Of Defence New Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215 Tender Notice

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয় পিরোজপুর গণপূর্ত বিভাগ পিরোজপুর নিলাম দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

Uruguay, US draw friendly

DALLAS, Texas, Mar 27: Two second-half goals lifted Uruguay into a 2-2 draw against the United States here Saturday in a friendly international football match cut short by a storm, reports AFP.

Uruguay captain Gustavo Poyet scored the equaliser in the 84th minute, leaping on a ball let loose by a mistake from US goalkeeper Juergen Sommer.

Seconds later a storm swept over the Cotton Bowl Stadium. The rain and 40 mph wind forced the game to be halted as signboards were ripped down and the 12,242 spectators ran for cover.

Omar Otero had scored Uruguay's first goal in the 76th minute, sliding a shot between the legs of US goalkeeper Jeff Agoss and centered to John Keer, who scored his second international goal.

Ernie Stewart put the hosts 2-0 ahead in the 67th minute.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: ACROSS 1 Cancun coin, 5 Texas city in 1993 headlines, 9 Figure head?, 12 Quite dry, 13 "If - a Hammer", 14 A question of manners?, 15 Uncontrollable, 16 Iitarod terminus, 17 Literary collection, 18 "A friend is... a second -", 19 Go blonde, 20 Nervous, 21 Source of I strain?, 23 Gun the engine, 25 1930s platinum blonde, 28 Loath, 32 Totally, 33 Eskimo, 34 Ecclesiastical councils, 36 In vain, 37 Service-woman, 38 Rubber-tree plant mover, 39 Wholesale, 42 Operate, 44 Arab, 48 "Lorenzo's -", 49 Flex, 50 Field mouse, 51 Harem room, 52 Nigerian-born singer, 53 Two nights in December, 54 Apprehend, 55 Cupid's forte, 56 Barber-shop call, 61 Vacationing, 62 Equally balanced, 63 Israel's Meir, 64 French resort, 65 The chap's, 66 Whatever amount, 67 Kurosawa epic, 69 Same old same-old, 70 "Sprechen -", 71 "Deutsch?", 72 Schedule abbr., 73 Yell, 74 Peregrinate, 75 Out-house-door carving, 76 Verdi opera, 77 Thick slice, 78 Wreck, 79 Chess turn, 80 Holly, 81 Everything else, 82 "Prepared" org.

Cryptogram puzzle grid with letters: Q Z X M V N J B Z E U Q O S C C R H E M X H Z R Z X H S U N I V U N J S V X C I V U Z X B E B G V U H S J J N H E V

CRYPTOQUIP Q Z X M V N J B Z E U Q O S C C R H E M X H Z R Z X H S U N I V U N J S V X C I V U Z X B E B G V U H S J J N H E V Yesterday's Cryptogram: A NOISE WOKE UP ALL OF US EARLY TODAY; I SUSPECT IT WAS THE CRACK OF DAWN. Today's Cryptogram clue: H equals W The Cryptogram 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!