

Kiwis wrap one-dayers up

HAMILTON, New Zealand, Mar 29: New Zealand won their first international one-day cricket series in more than two years when they defeated Sri Lanka on a superior run-rate here Wednesday, reports AFP.

There was every likelihood of a big New Zealand victory margin until rain intervened after the 31st over with Sri Lanka 117 for six.

The tourists were 57 runs short at that stage of matching the home side's run-rate of 5.60 runs per over after they had scored 280 for six in their 50 overs.

To have won the match Sri Lanka needed to have scored 174 runs at the 31-over mark.

The result gives New Zealand an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series, for their first series victory in the abbreviated game since they defeated Pakistan 2-1 at home in December, 1992.

New Zealand were always in command in overcast conditions here Wednesday, their formidable total being built around fine half-centuries from Nathan Astle and Adam Parore.

The Sri Lankan run chase never gathered any momentum after they were reduced to 16 for two, 30 for three, 46 for four, and 80 for five and then

111 for six.

Makeshift opener Astle top scored for New Zealand with a magnificent 95 while wicket-keeper Parore pounced an unbeaten 61 from just 45 deliveries has the mediocre Sri Lankan bowlers were put to the sword.

In just this fourth one-day international, Astle was promoted up the order to replace the injured Mark Greatbatch and he took the opportunity to impress with both hands, taking the man of the match award.

The only Sri Lankan bowler to warrant respect was left-arm seamer Chaminda Vaas, who performed admirably to take three for 36 from his full complement of 10 overs.

The final match of the series is in Auckland on Saturday.

SCOREBOARDS

Scoreboard in the one-day cricket international between Sri Lanka and New Zealand here Wednesday.

NEW ZEALAND

B. Young c Tilakaratne b Vaas 4

N. Astle b Vaas 95

K. Rutherford c Kalpage b Muralidharan 34

S. Fleming c Pushpakumara b Kalpage 6

C. Cairns c Gamage b Vaas 42

A. Parore not out 61

S. Thomson b Jayasuriya 1

D. Patel not out 22

Extras (lb-9, w-6) 15

Total: (6 wkts) 280

Fall of wickets: 1-23; 2-83; 3-94; 4-173; 5-242; 6-245.

Bowling: O M R W

Pushpakumara 5 0 32 0

Vaas 10 1 36 3

Gamage 5 0 37 0

Kalpage 7 0 35 1

Muralidharan 10 1 62 1

Jayasuriya 10 0 37 1

Ranatunga 3 0 22 0

SRI LANKA

A. Gurusinha c Larsen b Pringle 7

S. Jayasuriya c Young b Patel 6

S. Ranatunga run out 15

A. de Silva run out 7

A. Ranatunga c Parore b Larsen 27

H. Tilakaratne not out 39

R. Kalpage c Patel b Larsen 11

C. Vaas not out 1

Extras: (b-1, lb-2, w-1) 4

Total: (6 wkts) 117

Fall of wickets: 1-8; 2-16; 3-30; 4-46; 5-80; 6-111.

Bowling: O M R W

Pringle 7 1 22 1

Patel 10 1 31 1

Vaughan 3 0 18 0

Larsen 6 0 20 2

Thomson 5 0 23 0

Overs: 31

Result: New Zealand won on a superior run rate.

Series: New Zealand lead three match series 2-0.

Man-of-the-match: Nathan Astle.

Cole, Venables' latest snub

LONDON, Mar 29: Terry Venables was the people's choice as new England boss but his team are not his latest snub of Manchester United's seven million pound star striker Andy Cole in not popular with the masses, reports AFP.

Having built up Cole's hopes, Venables offers the player only a place on the bench for Wednesday's friendly Wembley against Uruguay.

Instead of Cole, the England manager brings in former Tottenham stalwart Teddy Sheringham to replace the injured Alan Shearer.

The Spurs striker, one of five changes from the side short-circuited by the hooligans in Dublin, goes into his sixth international still searching for his first England goal.

This is the last game before Brazil, Japan and Sweden arrive for what Venables intends as a full-scale summer dress rehearsal for the 1996 European Championships, so the failure to test Cole's claim from the start bodes ill for the 23-year-old.

Like Matthew le Tissier before him, he knows now that public clamour will not override Venables' private intuition, which favours the pragmatic and reliable.

England have never been short of those sort of players, like the recalled Barry Venison.

"Teddy was in the initial squad and it's possible he and Shearer may have started. Then Andy Cole came in.

"If I'd done it the other way round they say why put Andy over Teddy when Teddy was your first choice," explains Venables.

"The team is more difficult to pick now than a year ago. The group has got more level and there are even two or three players I would consider who are not in the squad this time.

"I've been after competition, and we've got that now.

We have experienced players and younger players all trying to get each other's positions.

"I know what's in my mind for further down the line. We've already got regular players out and it doesn't help people coming in to make too many changes. They need experience around them."

"He's intelligent and will improve. Some players stay still for ages because they're just playing on spontaneity, but Teddy's learning his business all the time.

"I think he's playing better now than for a while. Against Liverpool, he was outstanding. He's not got a flashy type of game, you either appreciate it, or you don't."

As the man who bought him for 2.1 million from Nottingham Forest three years ago, Venables' allegiance is inevitable. But he encourages Cole, pointing out how Dennis Wise's performance against Romania showed you can make an impact off the bench.

"It can be good to come on when there's a bit more space and time on the ball," says Venables. "I always feel you have to grab everything you can if you have the desire to be an international player.

"Whether it's on the training pitch or just coming on for five minutes, however, unfair it may seem, just take it and do the best you can with it."

With more games would have come more chances, but Venables is limiting himself to tempering youngsters like Rob Jones, Graeme le Saux and Anderson, while auditioning understudies in crucial positions.

Venison fills in Paul Ince's midfield anchor role, while Tim Flowers returns in goal. John Barnes resumes on the left for the axed Le Tissier and Jones wins his eighth cap at right back in place of Warren Barton.

It is a strong-looking side and Venables will need it to defend his unbeaten record against the Uruguayans, one of only two countries — Germany being the other — to win at Wembley in the last 10 years.



ANDY COLE

Aussie-Windies XI final day's play washed out

CASTRIES, St. Lucia, Mar 29: Australia's cricketers were frustrated by rain Tuesday which forced the abandonment of the last day of their four-day match against the West Indies President's XI at Mindoo Phillip Park, reports AP.

It was another setback for the tourists. Just three days away from their opening Test match against West Indies in Barbados on Friday. The first day of the match here also was abandoned because of rain.

The Australians' only other first class match on tour was a one-sided victory over an uncompetitive Guyana team a week ago.

Umpires Dalton Holder and Lawrence Thomas needed only to glance from the pavilion before calling off play for the day. Late night and early morning showers had left the playing area waterlogged and condemned the match to a meaningless draw.

Scores in the match were: Australia 322 for five declared, West Indies President's XI 261 for five.

The Australians were due to fly out Wednesday morning, but the West Indies Board was trying to get them on a flight sometime Tuesday so they could use practice facilities in Barbados.

Gazza returns to action

LONDON, Mar 29: England international midfielder Paul Gascoigne will be back in action again in two weeks time, his medical team said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

The injury-plagued England star, who broke his leg a year ago, has been given the go-ahead to return by Dr Claudio Bartolini, team doctor at his club Lazio, and specialist Maurizio Mazzini.

Mazzini said in a statement issued through Gascoigne's London-based surgeon, John Brown: "Dr Bartolini and myself have been in discussion regarding Paul Gascoigne.

"We are both of the opinion that he will be able to return to full match play football from the second week of April, as it is felt that his right tibia has gained enough strength.

"This decision has been carefully made, as the player himself has no physical inhibitions or limitations. The player will return to the field wearing a fully protective shin guard."

A new-look, slimline Gascoigne appeared at an England training session over the weekend, but he was shielded from any work involving physical contact.

Palmeiras beat Emelec in Libertadores Cup

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Mar 29: Attacker Edmundo scored two goals to pace Palmeiras to a 2-1 win over Emelec of Ecuador on Tuesday in the Libertadores Cup of America soccer tournament of former South American club champions, reports AP.

With the victory, the Brazilian club clinched first-place in Group 4 with 10 points and earned a berth in the second round of the tournament.

Emelec stopped the Palmeiras attack in the opening 10 minutes with relentless marking at both ends of the field.

But as the game wore on and Emelec tired, Palmeiras' attackers began to find holes in the Ecuadorean defence.

Edmundo broke the scoreless tie in the 42nd minute when he took a feed on the wing, sped in on goal to the left of netminder Chiriboga and scored into the upper half of the goal.

Thirty seconds into the second half, Rivaldo was tripped from behind as he ran for a lead pass in the Emelec penalty area. Edmundo converted the penalty shot for a 2-0 lead.

Emelec cut the lead in the 36th minute of the second half when Eduardo Hurtado stole the ball from the Palmeiras defence, sped in on goal and slipped a shot past goalie Veloso.

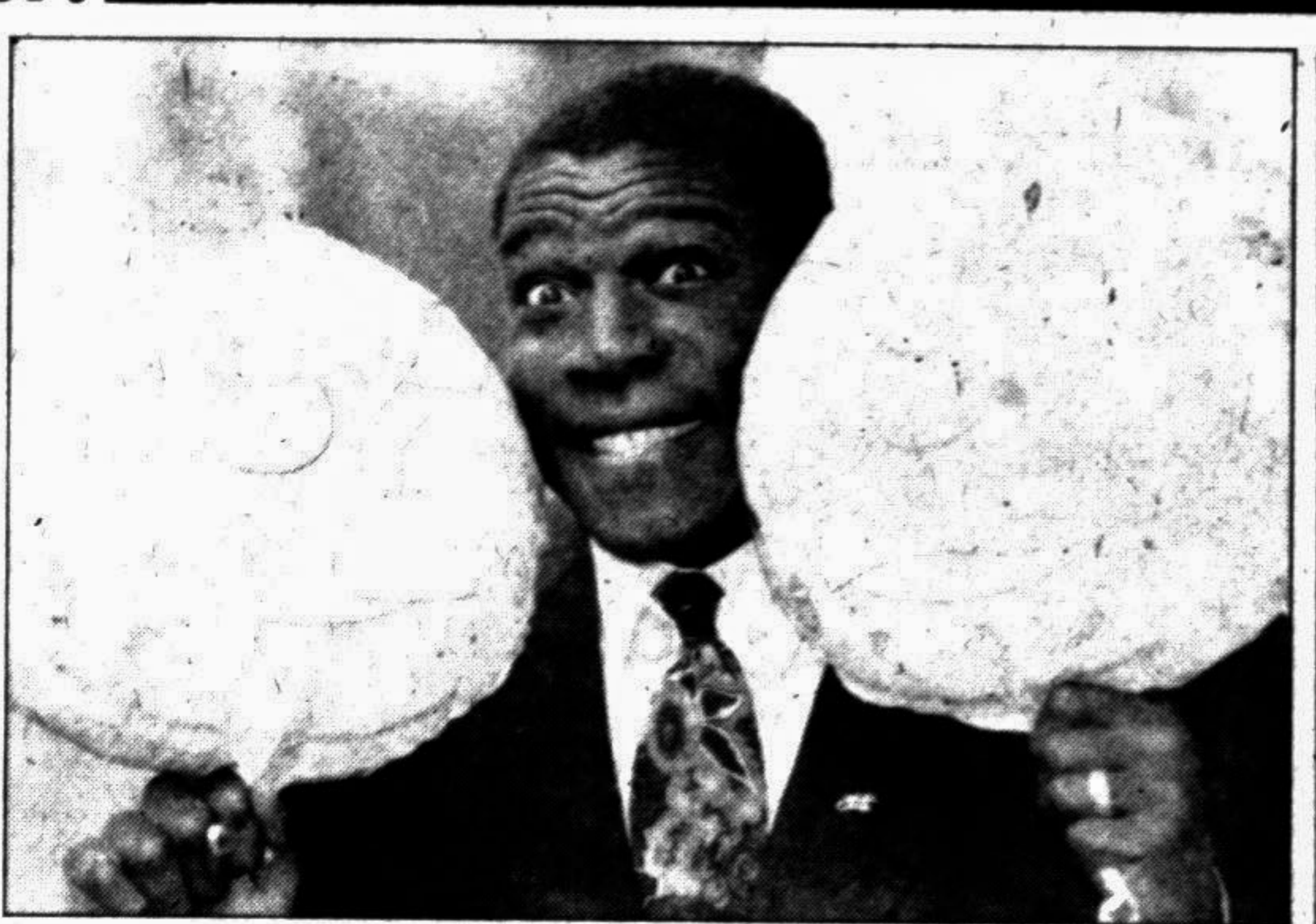
Ceron aims for world best

LONDON, Mar 29: Defending titlist Dionicio Ceron winced at the falling snow Tuesday but still said he could run a world best time in the London Marathon on Sunday, reports AP.

The 29-year-old Mexican, who ran the second fastest time in the 14-year history of the race last year in windy conditions, said that milder weather would put the world mark of 2 hours 06.50 within reach.

That mark was set by Ethiopia's Belayneh Densimo in Rotterdam in 1988.

"If it is fine, I think a 2:06 is possible," Ceron said. "I feel very easy in my running and, like last year, I am in good condition for the race."



Frank Bruno celebrates after he became father for the third time in London on Tuesday. He was appearing at a news conference to discuss arrangements for a possible rematch against Mike Tyson, who was recently released from jail.

Holmes hints it's his last

LOS ANGELES, Mar 29: A subdued Larry Holmes, expressing none of the old bitterness over a perceived lack of recognition, hinted Tuesday that his WBC heavyweight title fight against Oliver McCall could be his last, reports AP.

"This is my do-or-die," Holmes said of his April 8 bout in Las Vegas. "This is my chance to show that the old master can still do it. I know I can do it. I've just got to show it."

When asked if he was interested in fighting Mike Tyson, who was released from prison last weekend, Holmes smiled and said, "I don't need to fight Mike Tyson. I'm getting too old for all this stuff. I really don't know if this is his last fight. I'm taking it one step at a time."

Holmes, 45, captured the heavyweight championship on June 9, 1978, by winning a 15-round decision over Ken Norton.

In second-round play, 51st-ranked Silvia Farina of Italy upset seventh-seeded and 17th-ranked Lori McNeil of the United States 6-3, 6-1.

Martinez won the first nine games to take a 6-0, 3-0 lead, before Makarova finally held her serve in the fourth game of the second set. Makarova raised her arms in the air in a gesture of triumph.

But her success was brief — Makarova only held her serve one other time in the match.

She only won 18 of 44 points on her serve — 14 of 31 points when her first serve went in and four of 13 points when her second serve was good.

In contrast, Martinez won 29 of 39 points on her serve. "The mistakes which is what I tried to make her do."

Both the 10th-ranked Maleeva and McQuillan had trouble with their serving during the one-hour, 55-minute match.

In the deciding third set, each player had their serve broken twice on the way to 4-4. Maleeva won the final two games to take the match.

"It was a tough match the whole time," Maleeva said. "She very often plays well against good players. I just kept fighting, thinking maybe I'll fight more than she does."

No sweat for Martinez

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina, Mar 29: Second seeded Conchita Martinez of Spain began defending her title at the \$86,250 dollars Family Circle on Tuesday with an easy 6-0, 6-2 second-round victory over Elena Makarova of Russia, reports Reuter.

The fourth-ranked Martinez, who just hooked-up with well-known Brazilian tennis coach Carlos Krimayr, who also coached Gabriela Sabatini and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, outclassed the 47th-ranked Makarova in every aspect of the game. Martinez, the reigning Wimbledon champion, didn't even perspire in the 52-minute match.

"I feel that I need some more matches to play my best tennis," Martinez said. "Today, she didn't give me that much competition to prove myself."

Fifth-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria won the distance with 70th-ranked Rachel McQuillan before securing a 6-3, 1-6, 6-4 second-round victory.

In first-round matches, 43rd-ranked Anna Smashnova upset 12th-seeded and 23rd-ranked Zina Garrison Jackson 6-1, 2-6, 6-4 in the first round.

MOSCOW, Mar 29: President Boris Yeltsin played tennis for more than two hours Tuesday upon arrival at the government SPA at Kislovodsk, a resort in the Caucasus foothills where Soviet Communist Party chiefs once frolicked, reports AFP.

Yeltsin, 64, whose uneven health has been the subject of speculation, took to the tennis courts for two and a half hours, the Interfax news agency said.

Kislovodsk was Yeltsin's second stop on a "working vacation" that had been billed as a two-week journey through Russia's heartland. He arrived by rail Monday in Ryazan, 200 kilometres southeast of Moscow, but surprised reporters when he departed by plane Tuesday morning for Kislovodsk.

A presidential spokesman, Sergei Medvedev, denied there had been a change of itinerary, saying Yeltsin had always planned to fly to the Caucasus.

Yeltsin plays tennis

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Watering holes

5 Stray

9 Sch. org.

12 Gambling game

13 Wall-paint shade

14 Uncivilized

15 Agitated

17 The whole enchilada

18 Work-bench attachment

19 Torments

21 Hooked up, oxen-style

24 Not quite

17 Across

25 Gen. Bradley

26 Later

30 Hair-salon stuff

31 Hum-dingers

32 Cornfield call

33 Quickly

35 Glazier's sheet

36 War (race-horse)

37 Bends in

half,

perhaps

38 Mako, e.g.

40 "Oh, phooey!"

42 Whom to ease on

43 Caught down the road to

48 Fuss

49 Artist's model, perhaps

50 Went like the wind

51 Earthy prefix?

52 Pleased

53 Probabilities

DOWN

1 Tackle

23 Michigan

24 "A grand old name"

26 Data, for short

27 Ship-shaped clock

28 Sight from the crow's-nest

29 Rams' ma'ams

31 Sty sounds

34 Discor-dance

35 It goes over some people's heads

37 Calendar abbr.

38 Booty

39 Stash

40 Arp's style

41 Parroted

44 Org. that helps cities

45 A little butter?

46 Played the first card

47 Mag. staffers

Solution time: 23 mins.

MAIS DIG CALF
ANNERICE ABEL
CONQUEST RITE
UNU SURTAX
HABIT VASE
ERIN JEWELRY
WOK SUGAR OUI
WEEKDAY HALL
MUGS MODEL
SCREAM BOW
ALAR EQUALIZE
WING NUMBERED
NOTE TAP DADS

Yesterday's answer 6-28

Brund's quest

LONDON, Mar 29: Frank Bruno's quest for a fourth world heavyweight title challenge will take him to Glasgow in May for a warm-up fight against an American opponent, reports AP.

Bruno, who has lost to Tim Witherspoon, Mike Tyson and Lennox Lewis in world title contests, is lining up a challenge to the winner of the April 8 Oliver McCall-Larry Holmes WBC championship fight.

First he has to win his 39th fight at Glasgow's 6,500-seater Kelvin Hall May 13. Bruno's two victories since his seventh-round loss to Lewis in October 1993 have both been in the first round against American fighter Jesse Ferguson and Rodolfo Marin of Puerto Rico.

Promoter Frank Warren said Tuesday that Bruno's next fight would be against an American but he did not want to name potential opponents because that would affect financial negotiations. He said two of the three fighters he had in mind were ranked in the top 20 in the world.

Warren said a fight against McCall or Holmes would take place at a London soccer stadium, possibly Wembley, in July. Nigel Benn would defend his WBC super-middleweight title on the same card.

Youngsters in Swiss Fed Cup squad

PARIS, Mar 29: Switzerland look to youth in their bid to join the leading nations in the Fed Cup with 14-year-old Martina Hingis leading their side during next month's Europe/Africa qualifying group at the Hyatt La Manga Club in southern Spain from April 17, reports AP.

Hingis' mother Melanie Zogg-Hingis will captain the Swiss team which includes two other teenagers — Geraldine Dondt and Joana Manta — as well as 23-year-old Emanuela Zardo.

But despite the presence of the 1994 ITF junior world champion, the Swiss team will face stiff opposition for the two available places in the World Group One regional qualifying play-offs later in the year. For some of the biggest names in European tennis will be taking part.

World number-five Jana Novotna and experienced 22nd ranked Helena Sukova will join up for the Czech Republic under captain Hana Mandlikova, while Belarus also put out a strong team comprising world number-nine Natasha Zvereva and the promising 20-year-old Tatiana Ignatieva.

Iva Majoli, who has risen to 12th in the rankings, will lead the challenge from Croatia, while Belgium are expected to do well with Sabine Appelmans, Laurence Courtois and Dominique Monami in the team.

Other teams in the group are Finland, Georgia, Britain, Latvia, Hungary, Israel, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia and the Ukraine.

This is the first year of the new Davis Cup-style format for the annual competition in which eight nations play-off in an elite World Group.

A record entry of 87 nations will be competing in the regional competitions in Europe/Africa, the Americas, and Asia/Oceania for the right to challenge the four first-round losers in Group One. The winners of these play-offs, will be admitted to Group One in 1996.

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for the following works under Rajshahi O&M Division, BWDB, Sopura, Rajshahi during the year 1994-95.

The tenders will be received during office hours on 9-4-95, 10-4-95 and up to 12:00 hours on 11-4-1995 and will be opened at 12:30 hours on 11-4-1995 in presence of Contractors who may like to be present. The enlisted 'B', 'C' & 'D' Class contractors under Water Dev. Board for the year 1994-95 are eligible to submit tender.

The tender documents can be purchased from Sonali Bank Shaheb Bazar Branch, Rajshahi/Greater Road Branch, Rajshahi/Railway Complex Branch, Rajshahi/Court Branch, Rajshahi/Mothar Branch, Rajshahi/Sopura Industrial Estate Branch, Rajshahi/Agri Branch, Naogaon/Nawabganj/Pubali Bank Ltd, Chaian Beel Pay Booth, Natore, and Sonali Bank, WAPDA Branch, Mottijheel Com. Area, Dhaka during banking hours on all working days up to 8-4-1995.

Tender Notice Number	Location of works	Estimated amount in Taka	Earnest money in Taka	Class of contractor
1	2	3	4	5
18/94-95	1) Re-sectioning of Flood Embankment from Avoya to Kashimpur and both sides of Basudebpur Khal in connection with Chorai-Shomespur Beel Sub-Project under System Rehabilitation Project during the year 1994-95. a) Group No. 18/1	10,53,330/-	26,334/-	B-Class
	2) Re-sectioning of Flood Embankment from Balugram to Khosalpara in connection with Bhitabari-Damos Sub-Project under System Rehabilitation Project during the year 1994-95. a) Group No. 18/2	2,65,423/-	6,636/-	D-Class
	3) Re-excavation of Baromashi Khal in connection with Singri Beel Sub-Project under System Rehabilitation Project during the year 1994-95. a) Group No. 18/3	3,02,799/-	7,570/-	C-Class
	4) Re-excavation of Chachania Khal in connection with Singri Beel -do- do- under System Rehabilitation Project during the year 1994-95. a) Group No. 18/4	1,88,438/-	4,711/-	D-Class
	5) Re-sectioning of Singri Khal in connection with Singri Beel Sub-Project during the year 1994-95. a) Group No. 18/5	68,649/-	1,717/-	D-Class

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