

# Gazza relives sensation

PARIS, Apr 10: The battle for supremacy in European League football took a backseat to the long awaited return of slimline Paul Gascoigne on Sunday, reports AFP.

The spotlight fell on Lazio, out of contention for Italian League honours but hoping for a UEFA Cup place, who were at home to Reggiana in the Italian League.

While the Serie A's top two sides Juventus and Parma both crashed to defeat, 2-1 to Torino and 3-2 to AC Milan respectively, the focus was on a Gascoigne, recovered from broken right leg, who lasted the entire game to help Lazio win 2-0 at home.

The 27-year-old star of England's 1990 World Cup campaign, who has shed an astonishing 44lbs during his latest fight for fitness, also appeared with his head shaved, copying the style of Juventus striker Gianluca Vialli.

He dodged the press afterwards but Reggiana opponent Angelo Gregucci did the talking for him, saying: "I was impressed, particularly because he finished so strongly."

Lazio's goals both came in the second half, with the prolific Giuseppe Signori sealing the result with 13 minutes to go with his 14th strike of the season.

Sunday's win will consolidate the club's battle for a place in next season's UEFA Cup, keeping them in fifth on 44 points. Juventus still lead on 58 points to Parma's 49, with Milan joining as Roma, who drew 0-0 at Napoli, on 45.

"Gazza" will hope to make his mark quickly in Lazio's challenge after a disastrous run of injuries threatened to end his career. He tore knee ligaments in the 1991 English FA Cup final for Tottenham, then

injured the knee again in a New Castle nightclub five months later.

Lazio bought him for a cut-price 5.5 million pounds in June 1992, but Gascoigne lasted just 45 minutes of his debut before injuring the knee, yet again. His latest freak injury came while training with the team on April 7 last year.

AC Milan, meanwhile, fresh from a fine 1-0 away win over Paris Saint Germain in the European Champions' league



PAUL GASCOIGNE

semi-final, stunned second-placed Parma on Sunday with two goals in the opening quarter-of-an-hour from Gianluigi Lentini and from Marco Simone with a spot-kick.

Gianfranco Zola replied with a penalty of his own but Simone's second after 52 minutes was the clincher, despite another Zola penalty seven minutes from time.

Veteran international Milan defender Franco Baresi was sent off for a professional foul on Stefano Fiore with half-an-hour to play.

Juventus' Turin Derby defeat, meanwhile, bore the trademark of Ruggiero

Rizzitelli, who grabbed a double with 6th and 33rd minute goals, the second a header from a Jocelyn Angloma cross.

The home side, who also ended with ten men when Portuguese player Paulo Sousa was sent off midway through the second half for an off-the-ball incident, responded through Roberto Baggio on 22 minutes.

The leaders had been hampered by injuries to key strikers Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli.

In Germany Borussia Dortmund came down to earth after their European exploits and handed Werder Bremen the perfect chance to join them at the top of the Bundesliga by drawing 0-0 at Schalke.

That left the leaders, who drew 2-2 away with Juventus in the UEFA Cup in Midweek, on 37 points. Werder saw off Munich 2-2 to joint the leaders on 37 points.

Freiburg, meanwhile, took the opportunity to edge closer with a 3-0 win over visiting Duisburg, joining Kaiserslautern, who drew 1-1 at injury-plagued Bayern Munich, on 34.

Bayern, who had to recall 35-year-old Hansi Pfluger to make up the numbers, earned their 13th draw of the season with an equaliser on half time from Mehmet Schol.

Uwe Spies grabbed two of Freiburg's goals, one after six minutes and the other with four minutes to go.

Bayer Leverkusen, meanwhile, who earlier on Saturday sacked Serbian coach Dragoslav Stepanovic after the side's 2-1 defeat to Parma in the UEFA Cup, beat Borussia Moenchengladbach, fifth in the Bundesliga, 3-1.

Andreas Thom, Ulf Kirsten and Brazilian Sergio — with a final-minute strike — got Leverkusen's goals.

## Some victory dance!

LAS VEGAS, Apr 10: A gunman shot to death an acquaintance in front of Caesars Palace before the Oliver McCall-Larry Holmes boxing match Saturday night and then bid a "victory dance" over the victim, police said, reports AP.

The shooting occurred several hours before the heavy-weight fight. No one else was hurt. A 45-year-old Las Vegas man was booked for investigation of murder. The victim, also 45, was from the San Francisco Bay area. Their names were not immediately released.

The two men had just left the casino when one pulled out a handgun and shot the other in the head, police said.

The gunman fired at least six shots, then placed the gun in the victim's hand and began to dance around him, witnesses told police.

Police officers on duty for the fight arrested the man a few meters away in the valet parking area.

Friends of the dead man said the shooting was sparked by an ongoing dispute, police said. They didn't know the nature of the argument.

## McCall fears Bruno not Tyson

LAS VEGAS, Apr 10: Oliver McCall, who kept his world heavyweight boxing crown by beating Larry Holmes here Saturday, is more worried about Frank Bruno than Mike Tyson, reports AP.

McCall has good reasons. Millions of them. They are the dollars he stands to make from a matchup against Tyson, a man for whom he was once a sparring partner.

McCall made only 1.5 million dollars for taking a unanimous decision over 45-year-old former champion Holmes in his first defense of the World Boxing Council Championship.

But an expected matchup with Bruno stands in the way of a potential 40 million-dollar payday for a title defense against Tyson next year.

"I'm looking forward to fighting Frank Bruno in July in London," McCall said, even though the deal has yet to be finalized.

Tyson, making a comeback after three years in prison for a rape conviction, has the biggest interest and money in the sport. But McCall has something Tyson wants — a world title.

"Mike Tyson is a good friend of mine but Mike Tyson is not the champion," McCall said. "I don't have to knock on his door. When Mike is ready, he is going to knock on my door."

Promoter Don King, who backs McCall and Tyson, has another champion in his stable in Bruce Seldon, who won the vacant World Boxing Association title Saturday with a seventh-round technical knockout of Tony Tucker.

George Foreman, the International Boxing Federation champion, was stripped of the WBA title last month for choosing to fight Germany's Axel Schulz instead of Tucker, the WBA's designated foe.

But at age 46, Foreman's future is limited and there is little chance of a showdown with Tyson. His departure would leave King in total command of the heavyweight division.

## Malcolm hangs gloves up

BRISBANE, Apr 10: Former World Boxing Federation welterweight champion Jeff Malcolm announced his retirement Monday after 24 years as a professional fighter, reports AP.

Malcolm rejected the offer of a rematch with Filipino William Magahin, the man who took away his world title, and plans to concentrate on training fighters. He also will seek to become a boxing administrator.

"The time is right. I've had a terrific career," said Malcolm, an Australian who will turn 39 next month.

Malcolm won the lightly-regarded WBF version of the world title last year at the age of 37 making him the oldest welterweight champion ever. He defended the title once before losing it to Magahin on points last month.

Malcolm compiled an 83-25-10 record during his career. He first fought professionally as a 15-year-old schoolboy and only five current fighters in world have had more contests.

The southpaw stylist was Australian champion, Australasian champion, Commonwealth champion and WBF Intercontinental champion in various divisions during his career and lost only two fights inside the distance.

"I haven't made a fortune, but every fighter dreams of becoming a world



Austrian Thomas Muster has a bit fun with the trophy after winning the Estoril Open in Lisbon on April 9. Muster beat Spaniard Alberto Costa 6-4, 6-2 in the final. — AFP/UNB photo

## Estoril Open Muster's

LISBON, Apr 10: Third seeded Austrian Thomas Muster fought off sickness to win the Estoril Open with a convincing 6-4, 6-2 victory over Spaniard Alberto Costa on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The 27-year-old Muster, who is world number 17, beat his younger opponent in one hour and 14 minutes under a blazing sun to take his second title this season following his Mexico City victory.

Costa, 19 and playing his second year as a professional, has never won an ATP tournament and could not match Muster's experience.

From the fifth game onwards Muster increased the pace and was always more aggressive.

But he later told reporters he felt sick and was suffering from a stiff back. During the match he received medical treatment.

"If I'd been feeling better physically, I think I would have played better. I would have run more," he said.

## Crenshaw's second

AUGUSTA, Georgia, Apr 10: Ben Crenshaw won his second US Masters title here on Sunday, with a four-under-par 68 for a 14-under-par total of 274, reports AFP.

# Agassi new world No 1

TOKYO, Apr 10: Andre Agassi ended Pete Sampras' 82 weeks atop the world tennis rankings before even stepping on the court for the Japan Open, while seeds Martin Damm and Jonathan Stark suffered first-round upsets Monday, reports AP.

Meanwhile, Australia's Scott Draper, who has been a winner on his local satellite tour, ousted No 10 seed Jonathan Stark of the United States 6-3, 7-6 (7-5), and Dutch player Stephan Noteboom trounced ninth-seeded Martin Damm of the Czech Republic 6-3, 6-1.

Draper scored his key breaks while leading 4-3 in the first set and at 4-4 in the tiebreak.

American Jeff Tarango, the 13th seed, beat Japan's Satoshi Iwabuchi 6-1, 6-3, and 14th seed Greg Rusedeski of Canada, using his big serve and angled volleys, defeated Australian Paul Kilderry 6-3, 6-3.

No other men's seeds were in action Monday. Second seed Michael Chang, No 6 in the latest world rankings, had a bye. So did the next six seeds — Wayne Ferreira of South Africa, Jim Courier of the United States, Thomas Enqvist and Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden, Alexander Volkov of Russia and Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands.

Tommy Ho of the United States beat Marcos Ondruska of South Africa 6-3, 6-3. Carsten Arriens of Germany downed Leander Paes of India 7-5, 6-3. Jan Apell of Sweden defeated American Jim Grabb 7-6 (7-3), 7-6 (7-3) and Japan's Koutaro Miyachi ousted American David Pe 2-2, 2-6, 6-3.

Japan's No 1 male player, Shozo Matsuoka, let a match point slip away in 5-4 in the final set before winning 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5).

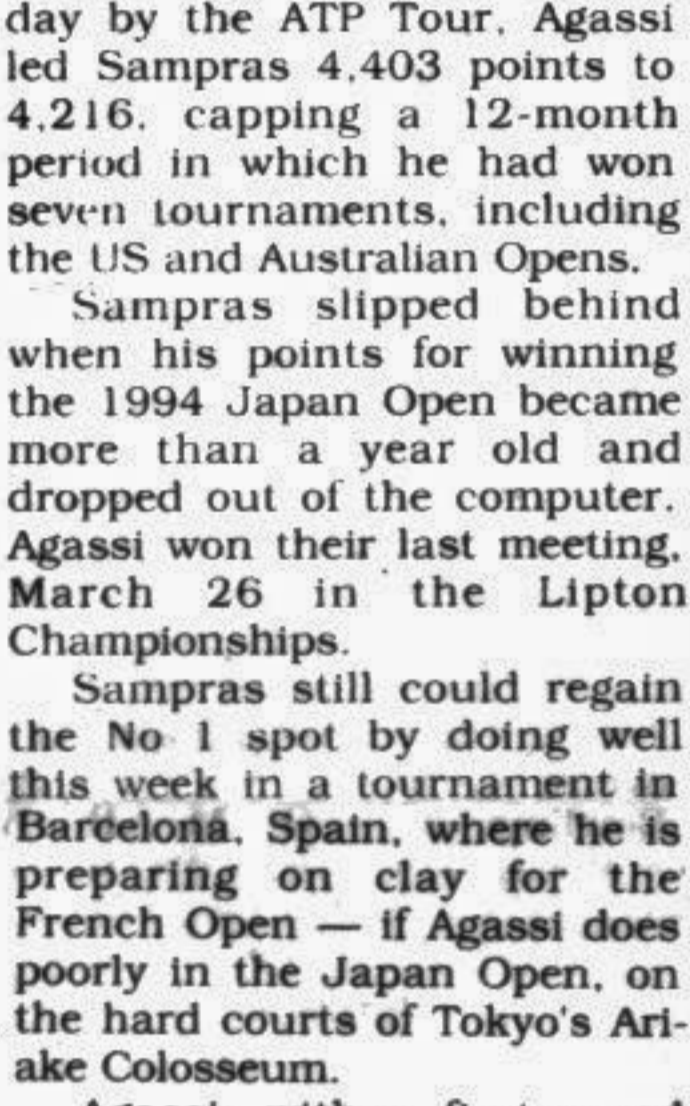
In the women's section, top seed Kimiko Date, ranked eighth in the world, started her quest for her fourth consecutive Japan Open title by beating Japanese compatriot Yuka Yoshida 6-2, 6-4.

No. 3 seed Marianne Werdel Witmeuer of the United States overpowered Japan's Ai Sugiyama 6-3, 6-4, and No. 6 seed Yone Kamio of Japan beat Jenette Hussarova of Slovakia 6-3, 6-2.

Rennae Stubbs of Australia beat Noelle van Lottum of France 6-4, 6-4, and Park Sung-hee of South Korea downed Japan's Hiromi Nagano 6-4, 7-5.

The men's singles winner receives \$156,000 from total prize money of \$1.2 million.

The women's division offers only a \$125,000 top prize. After Date, the next highest-ranking woman in the field is American Amy Frazier, ranked 16th.



ANDRE AGASSI

## Martinez's 2nd in a row

AMELIA ISLAND, Florida, Apr 10: Top seed Conchita Martinez of Spain won her second consecutive title Sunday with a 6-1, 6-4 victory over second seed Gabriela Sabatini at the 430,000 dollar Bausch and Lomb Championships, reports Reuter.

"Two in a row is a big thing for me," said Martinez, who also won the Family Circle Cup title on clay last week.

"I'm feeling very comfortable on court, very confident," said the Wimbledon champion, who earned 79,000 dollars for her 22nd career title. "I'm finally feeling so good I just want to go out there and play."

Martinez won despite conceding something of a home court advantage to Sabatini

here. The Argentine, a three-time champion of this event who has reached the final the last five years, has been adopted by the local tennis-loving crowd.

"It's difficult to play Gabby and then to have to play against the crowd," Martinez said. "It's fine if they go with her, but sometimes they clapped at my mistakes and that's tough."

Sabatini, who picked up 31,500 dollars as runner-up, seemed unable to pack as much punch into her groundstrokes as she would have liked.

Both finalists, however, played an interesting and varied second set, featuring exciting groundstroke rallies, adept net play, crafty drop shots and winning passes.

# Santana, Norris' bane

LAS VEGAS, Apr 10: For the second straight fight, Luis Santana was taken from the ring on a stretcher. And for the second straight time, he was the winner on a bizarre disqualification.

Santana retained his WBC super welterweight title Saturday night when Terry Norris hit him well after the bell ending the third round and he stayed down in the corner, reports AP.

It was a strange ending to a fight that was supposed to be Norris' redemption for the fight he lost to Santana by disqualification Nov. 12 in Mexico. Norris had lost that fight when he hit Santana on the back of the head during the fifth round and Santana stayed down. The blow was ruled illegal and Santana declared the winner.

The ending to the rematch was even more spectacular — and the foul even more flagrant.

"I don't know the round was over," Norris protested. "The referee told me to go ahead. I was ready and hit him with a good shot. I don't hear the bell. I thought they had stopped the

fight." Nevada boxing officials, though, said the punch was deliberate.

"It was an intentional foul," said Marc Ratner, executive director of the Nevada State Athletic Commission. "The other man clearly could not continue; therefore, Santana is the winner by disqualification. It was clearly an intentional foul, no doubt about it."

Ratner said Norris had been warned by referee Kenny Bayless in the dressing room before the fight about illegal blows, but hit Santana anyway a good 10 seconds after the bell sounded to end the third round.

"Referee Bayless made it clear we would not have any illegal blows," Ratner said. "He was warned specifically about it is the dressing room."

Santana collapsed after being hit and was on his back on the canvas for about five minutes as ringside physician Dr. Flip Homansky examined him and gave him oxygen. He was taken from the ring on a stretcher to Valley Hospital.

"He responded to me very well, when he was down," Homansky said. "I think he's going to be OK."

Norris had lost his WBC title to Santana in their first fight in Mexico, a bout he dominated until he hit Santana behind the head in the fifth

round and the challenger from the Dominican Republic went down and stayed down.

"I think Norris should be banned for life from boxing," said Santana's manager, Grant Elvis Phillips. "To win this was, I am sick to my stomach."

The former two-time champion was also dominating in the rematch and had knocked Santana down twice in the first three rounds.

The fighters were in a neutral corner as the bell sounded to end the round. Both stood there without going back to their corners and the referee turned to Santana to deliver a warning about low blows.

At that point, Norris suddenly lashed out with a right hand that caught Santana fully on the head and he went down.

Norris, 38-6, had been a 12-1 favorite in the fight, the first of five title fights on a card at Caesars Palace topped by Oliver McCall's first WBC heavyweight title defence against former champion Larry Holmes.

It was the third time Norris had lost by disqualification in a fight.

Santana, 153, improved to 40-15-2 and earned \$150,000 to \$150,000 for Norris.

Santana was admitted to the hospital overnight for precautionary reasons.

## Doping scandals bar Sino-US sports meet

ORLANDO, Florida, Apr 10: A cancelled meeting between US and Chinese sports officials should not be seen as a sign China is pondering a 1996 Olympic boycott over criticism received from positive doping tests, reports AP.

John Krinsky, the US Olympic Committee's interim executive director, said the wiping out of a meeting planned for Tuesday with Chinese Olympic Committee president Wu Shaouzu was not due to US complaints over Chinese drug positives.

"I had some concern because of recent strident statements by Canada," said Krinsky, who noted Wu was also set to visit Canada on his trip across the Pacific Ocean.

Krinsky said US officials have made conciliatory gestures to the Chinese since they were banned from the Pan Pacific Swim Championships, set for August in Atlanta in the same pool where next year's Olympic events will be contested.

"I don't want to chill the relationship," Krinsky said.

Several Chinese delegations have visited Atlanta to examine training, housing and competition areas for the Summer Games that are 15 months away.

Krinsky, who served as an airline executive in Asia for several years, said US officials want to influence Chinese officials to improve drug testing while respecting the nation's culture and emerging association with other countries.

"We see China as an emerging sports power," he said.



British Formula One driver Damon Hill holds the trophy on the winner's podium at the Oscar Galvez circuit in Buenos Aires after winning the Argentine Grand Prix on April 9. — AFP/UNB photo

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 On the — (malfunctioning)

6 Overwhelming bombardment

11 Bell-shaped hat

12 Wild West shows

14 Spoke of a wheel, essentially

15 'Monopoly' purchase

16 'Mamie' man

17 Franklin invention

19 Margery of rhyme

20 Fix

22 One of us

23 Budge

24 Kiddie-lit author

26 Dressed carefully

28 Sister

30 The whole ball of wax

31 Prospero's slave

35 Distributed

39 Unaltered

40 Rocky pinnacle

42 Slang suffix

43 Peak; abbr.

44 Earned a Tony, perhaps

46 Altar constellation

47 Sermonize

49 Saw the sights

51 Origin

52 Gov. Cuomo's home

53 Pomeranian or chow

54 Elmore Leonard novel

Solution time: 28 mins.

DOWN

1 Blizzard components

2 Mickey Mouse, e.g.

3 "— on parole" "francais"

4 Therefore

5 Piquant

6 Display of daring

7 Nil, to Nastase

8 Cyprinoid fish

9 Muscle connector

10 French Algerian infantryman

11 It doesn't pay

13 Worked a needle

18 "Alley —"

21 Leary of "The Ref"

23 Tumultuous fight

25 Long lunch?

27 Bygone days, old-style

29 Mississippi city

31 Roughs it, in a way

32 Dome squad

33 Culpit-ID method

34 "Wayne's World" expletive

36 Ark park

37 Lyricist

38 Sycophant

41 Change the label

44 Ledger keeper; abbr.

45 Ken, e.g.

48 Onassis, familiarly

50 Where, to Caesar

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11						12			13
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CRYPTOQUIP

Z W R Y M Q Z W R T P H X E N K  
 B W B Q L E B G S H J S K P H  
 B J K Y S K X J D J G ' S T B M H  
 N K R L H Y B W W L

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FIRE AT THE CITY'S SHOE FACTORY — HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF SOLES WERE LOST.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: Y equals C. The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, 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.