

# Seles too hot to handle

**TORONTO, Aug 20:** Monica Seles continued her amazing return to the courts Saturday by taking just 49 minutes to smash sixth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini 6-1, 6-0 to reach the final of the Canadian Open, report agencies.

The destruction was complete less than an hour as Seles displayed flawless tennis. Her serves, her returns, her placement of shots were all awesome. It was the best she's been in this first tournament back.

Seles, looking like she hasn't missed a step despite a 28-month absence from competition, will meet unseeded Amanda Coetzer of South Africa in today's final. Coetzer upset fourth-seeded Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic 6-4, 6-3 on Saturday night.

Coetzer, 23, has defeated co-number one seed Steffi Graf, fifth seed Mary Pierce and fourth seed Novotna to become the first unseeded finalist ever in this tournament.

While the Seles-Sabatini match was not played at the blistering pace of her dazzling 6-3, 6-2 quarterfinal win over seventh-seeded Anke Huber of Germany, the crowd of 8,600 nonetheless saw another dominant Seles performance.

From the start, Seles took charge. Every shot in her arsenal was working perfectly — slams, drop shots, passing shots. Sabatini could do nothing about it and she was suitably impressed with the way Seles had taken her apart.

"She was playing very well, making a lot of winners and not giving me a lot of opportunities. I don't think I played badly. She just played very, very close to the level she was at before."

"After two years, it's hard to just start playing tournaments again. She's playing like nothing happened."

Seles has been brilliant all week, and nothing, not even a gimpy left knee, has interfered. She covered the net effortlessly against Sabatini and on a number of occasions raced from baseline to net to hit winners.

There was some thought that Sabatini might challenge Seles. She had won three of 12 previous matches against her, one of just five players to have beaten Seles more than once. Three of the others — Chris Evert, Martina Navratilova and Jennifer Capriati — are no longer

playing, and the other, Steffi Graf, was a first-match loser here.

Each player won her first service game at love. It was, however, the only time all day Sabatini was able to handle Seles. After that, Seles' serves and returns were just too much.

Typical was a point at 4-1 when Sabatini seemed to have beaten her on a long shot. Seles thashed down the ball for a huge return, then dashed from the baseline to the net for a crosscourt winner. The crowd roared and Seles raised her arm and beamed. Even she seemed impressed.

A moment later, she broke Sabatini for a 5-1 lead. In the first set, which took just 23 minutes, Seles lost just four points on her serve. She benefited from a couple of close calls. Once, Sabatini quit on a shot she thought was out, and later she played on after another ball she thought had missed the line, was ruled good.

How good Seles has been has surprised Seles herself. In response to a question about how well she has played on the big points in her matches, the 21-year-old Seles said: "For me that's one of the biggest surprises because I thought I might choke or get up tight on the big points."

The tendinitis in her left knee seemed to be better Saturday afternoon, despite the fact that she played a rigorous match against Huber Friday night.

While the surprising Coetzer used her solid groundstrokes and competent volleying to beat Novotna, who made 32 unforced errors on her forehand.

Informed that Coetzer has a chance to become the first player ever to defeat two number-one players in one week, Coetzer smiled and commented, "that's quite an opportunity."



A beaming Monica Seles acknowledges her fans after crushing Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina 6-1, 6-0 in the semifinal of the Canadian Open in Toronto on August 19. — AFP/UNB photo

## Graf knows nothing but tennis

**MUNICH, Germany, Aug 20:** Steffi Graf says she knows neither how much she is worth nor where her millions are actually located, the newsmagazine Focus reported Sunday, report agencies.

"I'm sorry to say I don't know one or the other," Graf was quoted as telling the magazine. Graf's father, Peter, had handled all her finances until his arrest this month on suspicion of tax evasion. He is being held in a prison hospital.

The 26-year-old tennis star said her father would no longer handle her financial affairs, even if the charges against him are dropped. Focus said in a report telefaxed to news agency's in advance of Monday's publication.

"It doesn't matter what has happened or what is going to happen. He is my father. I will stand by him and will always see him as my father," Graf told the Focus magazine.

Investigators arrested Peter Graf this month on suspicion he evaded paying taxes on wealth his daughter earned by tournament victories and sponsorship deals.

Shattered by the arrest in a probe that also targets her, Steffi Graf lost in the first round of the current Canadian Open in Toronto. But she promised to be ready for the upcoming US Open.

Asked if she had lost her love of tennis, she said: "No, I can rule this out. You can see this for yourself because I did not crawl into a hole but played in Toronto and will appear at the US Open. I will still make my living on the tennis court."

## Italian spikers annex USA Centennial Cup

**ATLANTA, Aug 20:** World champions Italy swept defending Olympic champions Brazil 17-15, 15-9, 15-5 to capture the USA Volleyball Centennial Cup championship, while the United States took third place by breezing past Japan 15-7, 15-8, 15-3 Saturday night, reports AP.

Italy, the world champions in 1990 and 1994, avenged an earlier five-game loss to Brazil in preliminary play on Tuesday night. Italy and Brazil are considered the top two teams in international volleyball.

The title game was delayed seven minutes when the roof of the Omni sprung several leaks during a brief thundershower, including one that dripped in the middle of the court. Work crews dried the playing area and the contest went on without any further delays.

The four-team, round-robin tournament at the Omni was a dress rehearsal for the 1996 Olympic Games where the medal games will be played.

## Akatiev swims 5-km fastest

**VIENNA, Aug 20:** Alexei Akatiev gained Russia's fourth gold medal in five events so far at the European Swimming Championships by taking the men's 5-kilometre event Sunday, reports AP.

Akatiev was timed in 55 minutes, 30 seconds, more than a minute ahead of Germany's Christof Wandratsch. Third was Italian Samuele Pampiana.

The Russian won despite a short shower in the morning as the swimmers competed in an arm of the Danube River through the Austrian city.

"I was surprised I had such a big margin," Akatiev said. "Because I was not especially prepared for the sprint."

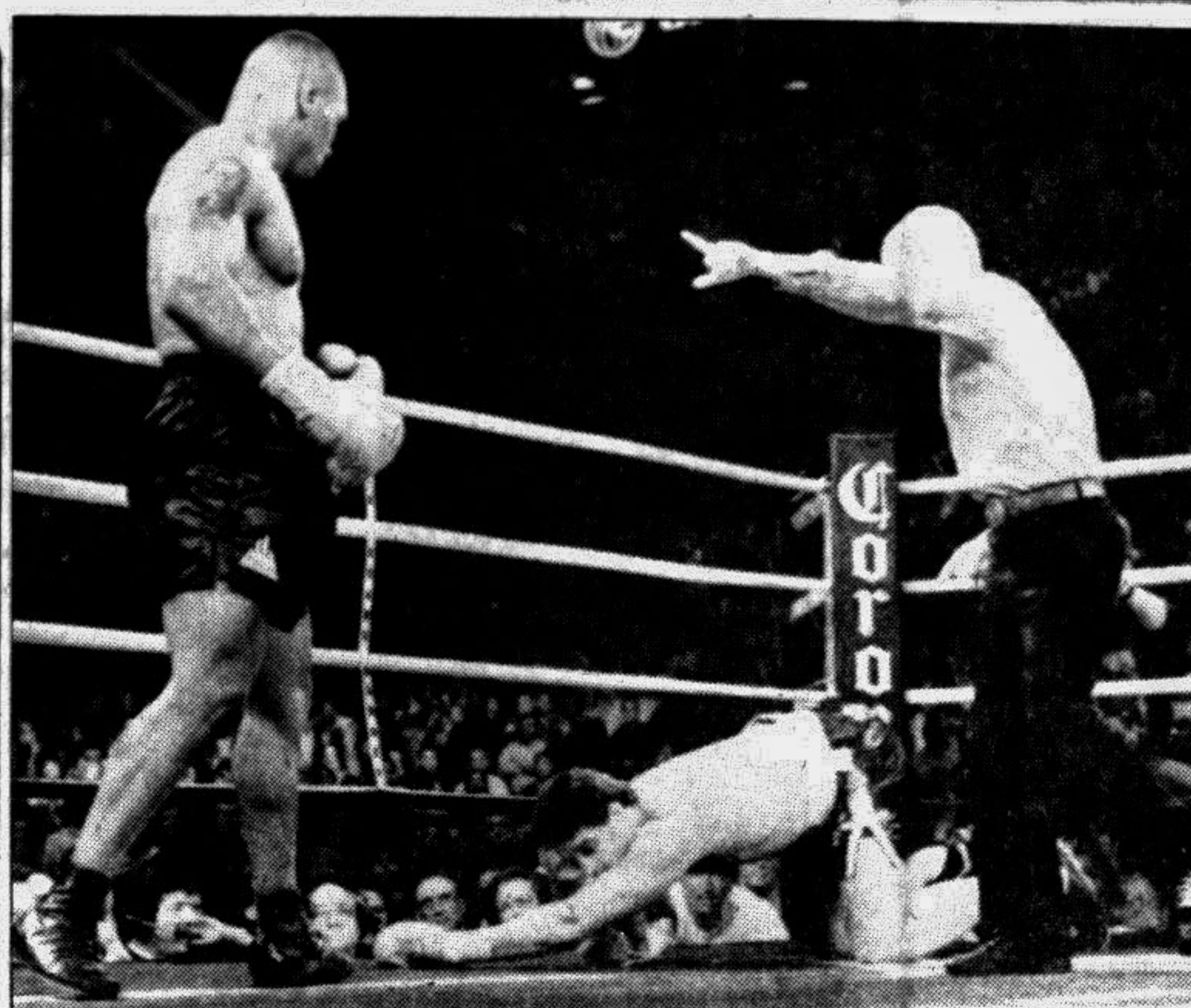
Akatiev is favoured in the long event which is scheduled for Wednesday. Russia took both 3-metre events diving events with Vera Ilyina and Dmitri Sautin. It also took the team synchronized swimming.

It now has four gold medals of the four completed events. Germany has three silvers and a bronze.

Germany is expected to add to its total when the swimming events start Tuesday. The German team, headed by Franz van Almsick, arrived in Vienna Sunday morning from their secluded training camp.

Later Sunday the women's 10-metre platform diving final will be held with another Russian, Svetlana Timoshinina, in one of the top positions.

Also the Russian women's synchronized swimming duet of Yelena Azarova and Maria Kisilova had the lead over France and Italy with the finals also on Sunday.



Peter McNeeley (on the ground) gasps for breath while his terminator Mike Tyson (L) and referee Mills Lane (R) look on during Tyson's comeback fight at the MGM Grand Garden in Las Vegas on August 19. Iron-Mike won by disqualification in only 89 seconds after knocking down the hapless McNeeley twice in round one. — AFP/UNB photo

## Peter no match for Mike

**LAS VEGAS, Aug 20:** Mike Tyson came back in a fast and furious but unsatisfactory performance that was no fault of his by beating Peter McNeeley in the first round Saturday night at the MGM Grand Arena, reports AP.

After McNeeley got up from a second knockdown, his manager, Vinnie Vecchione, jumped into the ring and stopped the fight. McNeeley was furious.

McNeeley appeared upset at first but in the corner his mother was hugging him and he was smiling and he was giving high-fives to his friends.

When Tyson realised the fight was over, Tyson said, "What?" Then with a disgusted look on his face, Tyson left the ring before the official decision had even been announced.

The crowd chanted obscenities and booed. While it lasted, there was quite a bit of action.

McNeeley came storming out of his corner and bullied Tyson into the ropes. But with the fight only 15 seconds old, McNeeley went down from a right hand to the head.

He got up quickly and ran around the ring before referee Mills Lane could stop him and give him the mandatory 8-count.

McNeeley came out swinging again and backed Tyson into the ropes again. The two exchanged punches with more misses than hits.

Then Tyson landed a right high on the head that almost put McNeeley down. Then he connected with a left and a right uppercut that put his opponent down. McNeeley got up but fell into the ropes and that is when Vecchione came into the ring and halted the fight. The time was 1:29.

After both fighters had left the ring, Lane met in the ring with commissioners Dr James Nave and Dr Elias Ghanam and Marc Ratner, the executive director of the commission, who talked for several minutes before ruling the fight was a disqualification for Vecchione's action.

"Mike Tyson was getting at him pretty good," Lane said. "But he came to fight. He could have gone on. I don't understand why his corner came in."

The only thing the fight proved is that Tyson is back. The shortness of the bout gave no clue as to how a layoff of more than four years affected the former undisputed heavyweight champion, who was released from prison

## Gonzalez keeps his crown intact

**LAS VEGAS, Aug 20:** Miguel Angel Gonzalez of Mexico narrowly retained his World Boxing Council (WBC) lightweight championship with a majority decision against American Lamar Murphy after 12 rounds on Saturday, reports Reuter.

There were no knockdowns in the fight, but Gonzalez had a point taken from him for a low blow in the second round.

A brawl broke out in the ring after the decision was announced, and the crowd packed into the MGM Grand's arena in anticipation of the Mike Tyson-Peter McNeeley main event jeered the result.

Murphy, 22, climbed onto the ropes after the decision and raised his hands in victory to the cheers of the crowd.

## Tyson & the trauma

**LAS VEGAS, Aug 20:** As screaming Mike Tyson fans and celebrity watchers packed the MGM Grand hotel-casino Saturday, a small group of protesters nearby chanted, "Rape is not a sport," reports AP.

The protesters, the majority of whom were National Organisation for Women members, said they were not protesting Tyson or the resort that was hosting Tyson's return to boxing. Instead, they said they wanted to draw attention to the abuse of women and get Tyson, a convicted rapist, to contribute to their cause.

"We've got the opportunity to make a statement here," said Anne Golonka, president of NOW's Southern Nevada chapter. "As long as one woman anywhere in the world is being raped we want to stop it."

Tyson served three years for raping a beauty pageant contestant and was released in March from the Indiana Youth Centre. Saturday night's fight against Peter McNeeley was his first since leaving prison.

Golonka had hoped for about 100 protesters, but fewer than 30 showed up to march in an oval on the sidewalk. They wore signs reading "women are not punching bags" and "remember the victims."

Although Golonka said Tyson should have served a longer sentence, she said the group didn't want to focus on that issue.

"He's gone to prison and he's out. It's America," Golonka said. "We can't spend our time stomping our feet over that... we have nothing against Mr Tyson or the community."

Other protesters were more vocal about Tyson's prison term.

"We're mad as hell," said Lynn Tynan, a NOW member and host of a radio talk show on KLVN-AM in Las Vegas. "Rape is a serious crime, and three years is not enough. We're out here to show a man cannot go on abusing women."

Golonka sent a letter to Tyson on Monday asking him to help lead a nationwide campaign to end violence against women. She also said she would like to see a "more serious attitude" from him because he is getting on with his life while his victim, Desiree Washington, still is trying to recover.

## Enqvist Ivanisevic's nemesis

# Sampras sent tumbling

**INDIANAPOLIS, Aug 20:** Pete Sampras failed to shake his hardcourt season slump as 12th seed Bernd Karbacher of Germany ousted the world number two Saturday in the semifinals of the 1.04 million dollars RCA championships, reports Reuter.

Sampras, the Wimbledon champion who has yet to win since the tour switched from grass to hardcourts, was beaten 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 by the 27th-ranked Karbacher. Facing Karbacher in today's final will be red-hot Thomas Enqvist of Sweden, who extended his mastery over Goran Ivanisevic in the day's other semifinal.

Enqvist, the fourth seed, beat the second-seeded Croatian for the fourth week in a row, taking a 6-1, 1-6, 6-3 win.

At last week's ATP championship in Cincinnati, the second-ranked Sampras failed to capitalise on a match point in a quarterfinal match against Michael Stich of Germany and then wilted in a third set.

At Montreal, Sampras fell to world number one Andre Agassi in the final. So the two-time US Open champion will head to Flushing Meadow at month's end without a hardcourt success.

A two-time former champion here, Sampras said the severe heat did not affect him: it was just the aggressive Karbacher who closed the door on his final chance ahead of the Open.

For Karbacher, the victory over the top-seeded Sampras marked the highest-ranked opponent he's ever beaten.

Sampras served big at the start, blasting five aces by a stunned Karbacher in the fourth game of the first set. He easily broke Karbacher's serve in the fifth game of the first set when at 15-40 the German netted a forehand.

But things turned to Karbacher's favour in the final game of the second set. Sampras, who ended the match with 46 unforced errors, lost his serve for the

first time during the week when at 30-40 he hit a backhand volley wide.

"He just really hit some really good returns and I was just stuck flat-footed," said Sampras.

Karbacher finished the match in style, serving three aces in the final game.

Enqvist's semifinal victory over Ivanisevic will move the Swede into the top 10 rankings.

This match marked the first time in the four meetings between Enqvist and Ivanisevic that the Swede

won the first set, taking service breaks in the second and sixth games.

Before the match, Ivanisevic joked that his new strategy against Enqvist would be to lose the first set. When Ivanisevic raced to a 5-0 lead in the second set, it seemed like he might finally be a winner against Enqvist.

But Enqvist prevailed in the third set on a weak service game by Ivanisevic. In the sixth game, Ivanisevic served two double-faults, including one on game point, to lose his serve.



Russian synchronical swimmers display their artistry during the European Swimming Championships in Vienna on August 19. — AFP/UNB photo

**রশ্মি উন্নয়ন ব্যুরো**  
তথ্য বিভাগ  
১২২-১২৪, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা  
ঢাকা

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এম. আতিক উল্লাহ  
উপ-পরিচালক (থকা)

**Office of the Executive Engineer, RHD**  
Ferry Divn. Barisal

**(RHD) Tender Notice**

- Tender Notice No. : 09 of RHD, Ferry Division, Barisal/1995-96.
- Name of work : As described below:
- Eligibility of contractor : (RHD), General Category contractor as per financial capacity and territorial jurisdictions.
- Availability of tender schedules : (1) Executive Engineer, RHD, Mechl. Ferry Divn. Barisal/Khulna. (2) Sub-Divisional Engineer, RHD, Mechl. Ferry Sub-Divn. Barisal. (Only office hours. No tender will be sold on the date of opening tender schedule).
- Tender receiving officer : (1) Superintending Engineer, RHD, Mechl. Ferry Circle, Khulna. (2) Executive Engineer, RHD, Mechl. Ferry Divn. Barisal/Khulna.
- Last date of selling tender schedule : 30-8-95 (only office hours).
- Last date of receiving tender schedule : 31-8-95.
- Date and time of opening tender schedule : 03-9-95/20:5-1402 at 1 p.m.

Group No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money
1.	Supplying spare parts for 110 H.P. Daf engine of different utility ferries under Ferry Sub-Divns. Barisal during the year 1995-96.	Tk. 1,75,300/-	3508/-
2.	Supplying spare parts for 150 K.W. engine of different utility ferries under ferry Sub-Divn. Barisal during the year 1995-96.	Tk. 2,37,200/-	4744/-
3.	Repairing of Flaps, fender truckway and counter weight, C.I. shives of pontoon No. P.J-004/82 at Dowarica ferry ghat under ferry Sub-Divn. Barisal during the year 1995-96.	Tk. 2,05,788/-	4114/-
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