

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

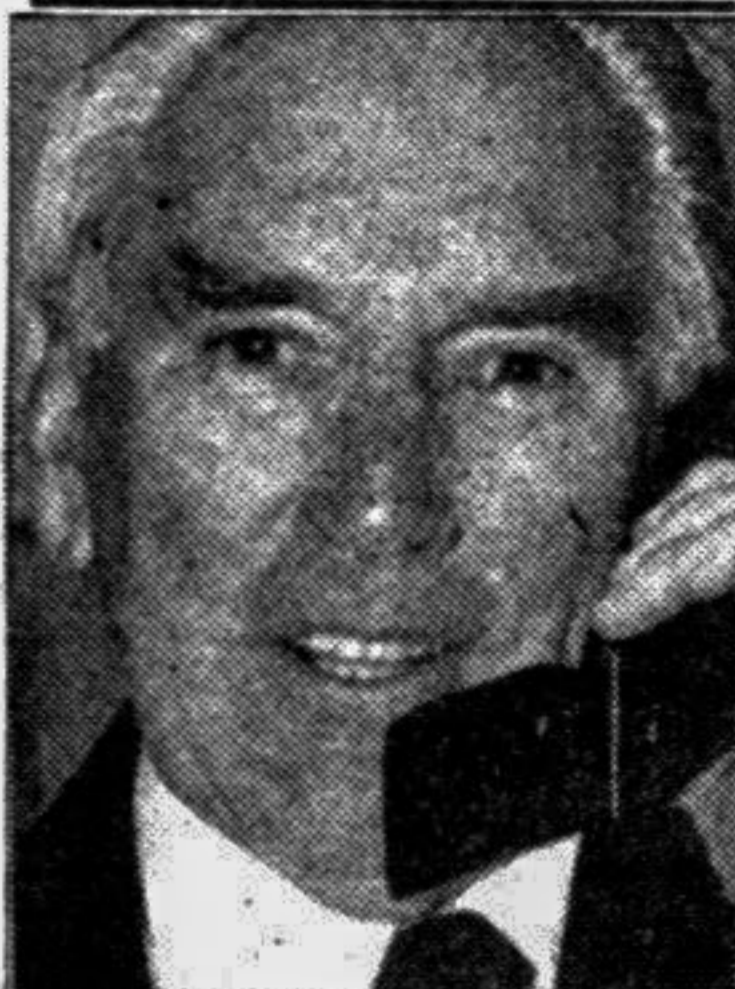
HAT, according to persons close to the beleaguered Indian cricket skipper, Mohammed Azharuddin has actually married his constant companion, actress Sangeta Bijliani. The marriage took place in the first week of March.

There were moments of embarrassment for Azza when he came face to face with Asif Iqbal, former Pakistan Test star, in Bangalore. Asif is related to Naureen, Azharuddin's divorced former wife, by a long shot. Naureen is the daughter of Mrs. Asif Iqbal's cousin.

There were no hard feelings between two of cricket's most worthy sons because of the marriage.

Bijliani has been with Azhar throughout the World Cup, which in itself was a violation of the team's discipline. But before the Calcutta collapse, who could question Azhar?

SPORTS TALK



John Reid

(Former New Zealand all-rounder and ICC match referee)

They (the umpires) are the people who actually control the match. We come into the scene should a need arise. The third umpire and TV replays are of great help to them, to make sure they give the right decision. I think it's a good idea to refer the line decisions to the third umpire.

On the role of the third umpire.

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-31

Tick the Correct Answer

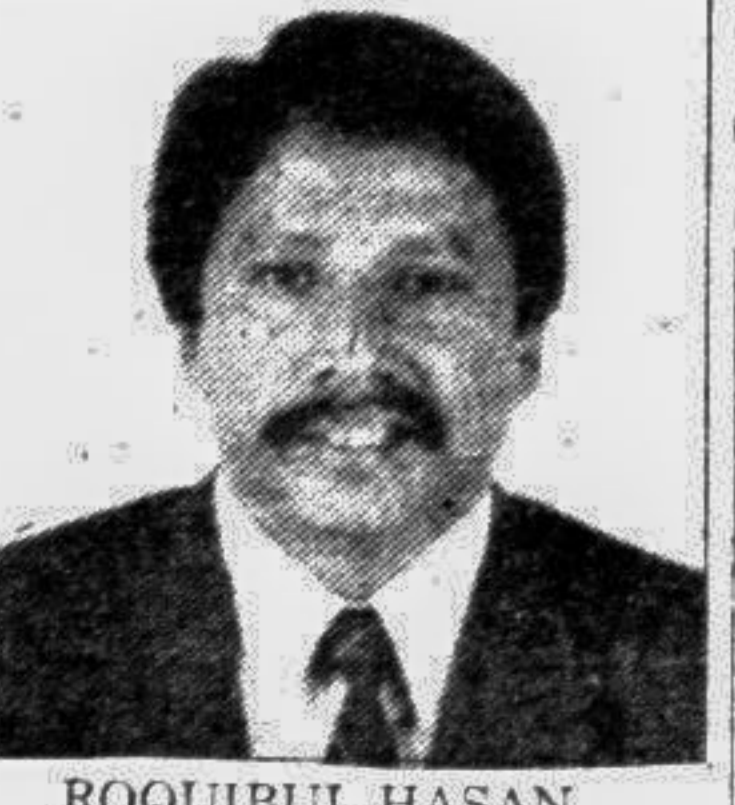
(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Mar 29, 1996)

Table with 5 questions and multiple choice options for the Sports Whizz Kid competition.

Name: _____ Class: _____ Roll No: _____ School Address: _____

BSWA officials leave for KL today

President of the Bangladesh Sports Writers' Association (BSWA) and executive committee member of the Asian Sports Press Union (ASPU) ASM Roquibul Hassan and general secretary of the BSWA Resaur Rahman Sahag will leave Dhaka today to attend the 59th congress of the International Sports Press Association (IAPSA)...



ROQUIBUL HASAN

Along with them BSWA executive committee members Ekramuzzaman and Shamsul Huq Tenku will also attend the congress as observers.

Representatives of the 80 IAPSA member-countries are participating in the congress which will be officially inaugurated by the Malaysian Premier, Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Malaysia Sports Writers Association is hosting the Congress.

Japan, ROK Atlanta bound

Sports Reporter

Asian giants South Korea booked their tickets for the Atlanta Olympic when they recorded an impressive 2-1 win over Iraq in the second round of the Asian Zone at the crowded Shah Alam Stadium in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia yesterday.

The South Koreans who enjoyed complete dominance over Iraq throughout the 90 minute showdown, could have run away with a 3-0 win had not the spoiled 12-year-old on the other hand, Iraq pulled one goal back at the stroke of the final whistle.

With this win South Korea along with Japan captured two of the three berths form this zone for the Atlanta show. The other slot will be decided after the match between the two losing semifinalists, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

Sixteen qualifiers from different parts of the world including hosts USA will vie in the Atlanta Olympic, scheduled to begin from July.

Earlier, Ghana, Nigeria, Tunisia, Portugal, Hungary, Brazil and Argentina confirmed their berth for the mega event.

AFP adds: Japan ended their 28-year Olympic drought when they edged Saudi Arabia 2-1 today in the semifinals of the Asian qualifying round, to become Asia's first nation to secure a place in Atlanta this year.

The last time a Japanese football team featured in the Olympics was when in 1968, when Japan took the bronze medal in Mexico City.

Now, they are off to the Olympics again and it was captain Masakiyo Maezono who masterminded the victory as his two goals — one in each half — did the damage to the free-flowing Saudis.

Both goals showed Japan at their best with quick incisive passing, tireless running and excellent vision leading to each.

The hours that this team have spent together on the training field paid dividends as the excellent understanding the players had of each other resulted in a goal inside the first five minutes.

Yuji Hironaga slid the ball through the centre to Shoji Jo, whose first touch gave Maezono the opportunity to score. He gratefully accepted.

Jo and Maezono combined again 13 minutes into the second half when the captain passed to Jo inside the penalty area before continuing his run, collecting the return pass and shooting across keeper Hussein to score.

The two-goal lead was something of an injustice to the Saudis, as they eventually came back into the game with Obed Al Dossary headed his sixth goal in four games from Omar Sulimani's 77th minute free kick.

As the final minutes ticked by, the Saudis tried in vain to still able to cause problems. Japan keeper Yoskatsu Kawaguchi had to work hard to keep out Al Dossary's 65th minute attempt.



Japan's stalwart Joshoji (R) wards off a challenge from Saudi Arabia's Abdullah Zubromawi during their Asian Olympic qualifying soccer semifinal at Shah Alam Stadium, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on Sunday. Japan qualified for the Atlanta Olympic with a 2-1 win over Saudi Arabia.

Until then, the Japanese had tried to shackle the tournament's top scorer by man-marking him with Shirai Hiroiyuki, but Al Dossary was take the game to extra time but Kawaguchi came to the rescue once again, as he palmed away Ibrahim Isa's 88th minute diving header.

Viswanath comes clean, late

Sports Reporter

The chairman, selection committee of the Indian cricket team, former Test star Gundappa Viswanath, was man enough to admit on television to reporters on Saturday at Delhi that indeed the decision to field first in the semifinal against Sri Lanka at the Eden if Azharuddin called the coin correctly was a joint decision of the selection committee, several senior players, manager and assistant manager.

Skipper Azharuddin has been bearing the brunt for opting to field after winning the toss in the much-talked-about first semifinal of the recently-concluded Wills World Cup which was abruptly called off by match referee Clive Lloyd when India were 120/8 in reply to Sri Lanka's 251.

It has been gathered that besides the skipper, vice-captain Sachin Tendulkar, manager Ajit Wadekar, his assistant Sandip Patil and Viswanath and others were involved in the now-controversial decision.

Cricket enthusiasts are expecting similar confessions from the others responsible for putting Azhar in the gallows.

Surrey chief wants Illy replaced

LONDON, Mar 24: Ray Illingworth should be replaced as chairman of England's cricket selectors, Surrey club chairman Mike Soper said on Saturday, reports Reuters.

"It's time for a change. I think we need to start again," said Soper, whose club had sacked former Gloucestershire captain David Graveney to challenge Illingworth for the post.

Illingworth, who has faced growing criticism following England's dismal form on their South African tour and in the recent World Cup, was confirmed as chairman for the summer on Friday after Graveney withdrew his challenge.

Graveney had been nominated the previous day but was told by the cricketers' association which employs him as secretary that there would be an unacceptable clash of interests if he tried to combine his work with the post of chairman of the selectors.

"I'm very disappointed that after all the efforts that were put in we now find he's not able to stand," Soper told BBC radio.

The rules are so complicated, and sometimes they make that complicated, that I very much doubt we can unravel it again."

Illingworth is also England team manager and that role is due to be discussed by the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) on Tuesday.

Antlers amerce Kyoto Purple

TOKYO, Mar 24: Brazilian legend Zico had reason to feel satisfied before a trip home as his team, Kashima Antlers overwhelmed Kyoto Purple 5-1 in the Japanese football league on Saturday, reports AFP.

Brazilian internationals Mazinho Leonardo and Hisashi Kurosaki struck home one each, while Yoshiyuki Hasegawa scored the other two.

Zico player for the Antlers during their 1993 season, helping them to their first stage victory that year, and rejoined the team as a technical director to this season. He is shortly to go back to Brazil for a few days to work for a football school.

The Antlers, Jubilo Iwata and Yokohama Flügels chalked up their third straight win, but two time champions Verdy Kawasaki suffered a setback as they crashed to Kashiwa Reysol 2-3.

Verdy took lead twice, one thanks to an own goal by Tomohiro Katanosaka, but each time Brazilian Edilson and Nozomu Kato made it even before Yuui Yokoyama decider.

Jubilo downed Gamba Osaka 2-0. Italian striker Salvatore Schillaci who scored 31 goals out of 34 games last season took home his team's 150th goal overall, only five minutes after Masashi Nakayama made 1-0 in the 72nd minute.

Flügels notched up the teams third straight win for the first time in four years when they defeated Shimizu S-Pulse 1-0, thanks to Suhlroji Muras 25-metre shot in extra time.

In other games, Sanfrecce Hiroshima edged past Cerezo Osaka 2-1 while Bellmare Hiratsuka outlasted JEF United Ichihara 2-0.

Gothenburg suffers heavy loss

STOCKHOLM, Mar 24: The 1995 athletics World Championships in Gothenburg resulted in a loss of 20 million kronor (3.07 million dollars) for the Swedish Athletics Federation, the body said at its annual meeting this weekend, reports AFP.

The federation, which is already eight million kronor (1.23 million dollars) in debt had initially expected to make a profit of 25 million kronor (3.84 million dollars) on the event, held last August.

Cairns' hurricane hundred



KINGSTON, Jamaica, Mar 24: A sparkling century from all-rounder Chris Cairns led New Zealand to a crushing 207-run triumph over the University of the West Indies Vice Chancellor's XI Saturday in the opening match of the Kiwis' West Indies tour, reports AP.

Cairns smashed 107 off just 75 balls with four sixes and 10 fours to lead the visitors to 348 for six in 50 overs.

The Vice Chancellor's XI were never in the hunt and folded for 141 all out off 35 overs. Former West Indies captain Viv Richards, now 44, led the home team with 41.

Along with the victory, New Zealand were encouraged by the performances of bowlers Danny Morrison, and Gavin Larsen. Captain Lee Germon called Saturday "D-Day" for both players, coming off injuries sustained in the recent World Cup. Morrison took two wickets for 31 in seven overs, while Larsen had two for 13 in seven miserly overs.

"They seemed to come through the workout well," Germon said of the pair. "We'll just have to wait until tomorrow to see how they are."

New Zealand had more injury worries early Saturday when they batted first after losing the toss. Opener Nathan Astle was cut on his chin off the day's night ball, a wicked bouncer from pacer Patterson Thompson, and forced to retire injured.

The gash, which was opened despite Astle wearing a helmet and face mask, required three stitches. But the Canterbury player returned later and showed no side effects to make 21.

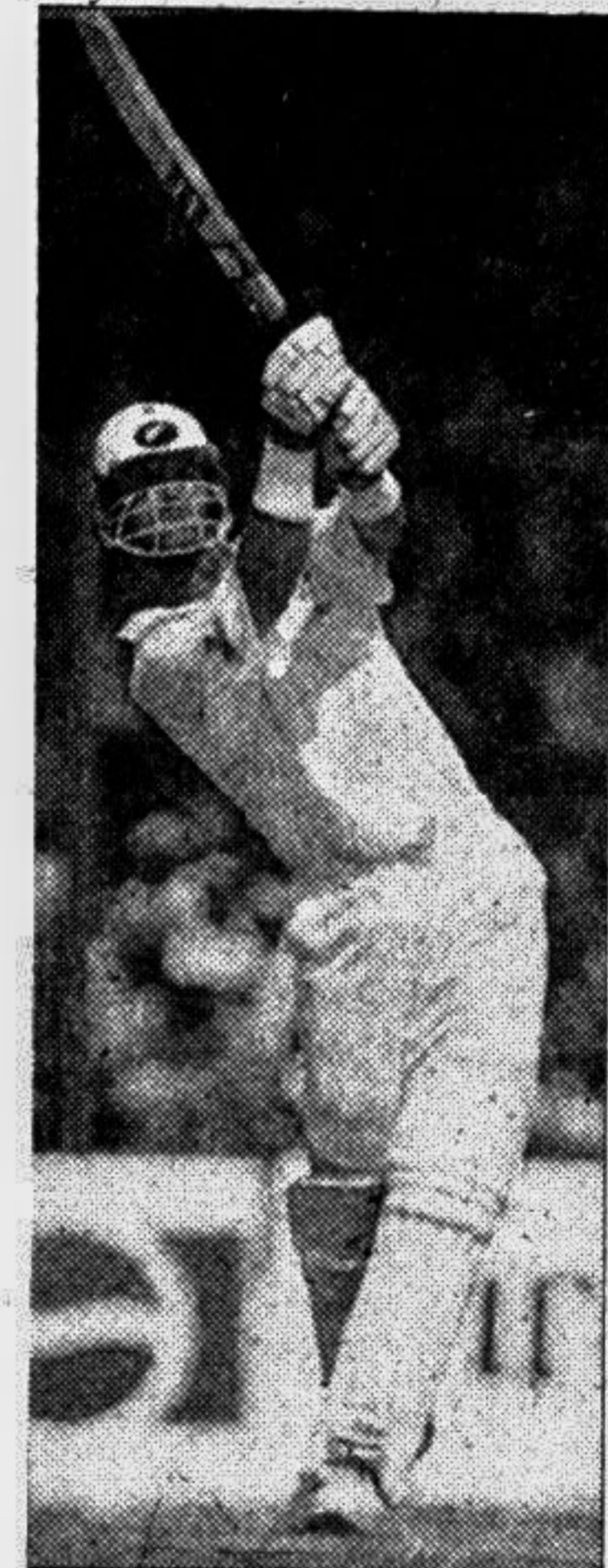
Astle's opening partner, Craig Spearman, flourished to make 88 in 36 balls with seven boundaries, four in succession in a Dean Headley over that realised 21 runs.

But the partnership that New Zealand built their formidable total around was between Canterbury teammates Cairns and left-hander Stephen Fleming for the fourth wicket. The two added 157

runs in just 20.4 overs.

Cairns, 25, was caught off a Headley no-ball when nine, but offered little respite for the bowlers after that.

He reserved the harshest treatment for left-arm spinner Jimmy Adams, whom he launched for three sixes in his only over.



CHRIS CAIRNS ... m-o-m

Fleming scored 88 off 100 balls with seven boundaries before he was fifth out. He survived a chance to Nasser Hussain at first slip off Thompson when five.

The Vice Chancellor's XI was given a promising start of 48 in 11 overs from England's Hussain and West Indies left-hander Shivnarine Chanderpaul.

But after they both fell within 12 runs of each other, only Richards provided any

fireworks for the expectant crowd of 8,000.

Richards, showed glimpses of his genius in his 41 off 51 balls. He hit four fours in addition to a huge six over mid-wicket off pacer Morrison two balls before the same bowler dismissed him.

The New Zealanders start a five-match one-day international series against the West Indies in Kingston on Tuesday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the one-day match between New Zealand and the University of the West Indies Vice Chancellor's XI on Saturday:

Table showing batting and bowling statistics for New Zealand and the University of the West Indies Vice Chancellor's XI.

Table showing batting and bowling statistics for WIVC XI.

Result: New Zealand won by 207 runs. Man-of-the-match: Chris Cairns (New Zealand)

Another jolt for Jansher



LONDON, Mar 24: Jansher Khan, whose two-year unbeaten run on the PSA World Circuit came to an end on Friday, was also eliminated from the Super Series final on Saturday, reports AFP.

Khan, who lost to England's Del Harris on Friday — his first loss since losing to Scotland's Peter Nicol in February 1994 in the Leekes Classic — was knocked out of the finals when Harris went on to gain his third successive victory.

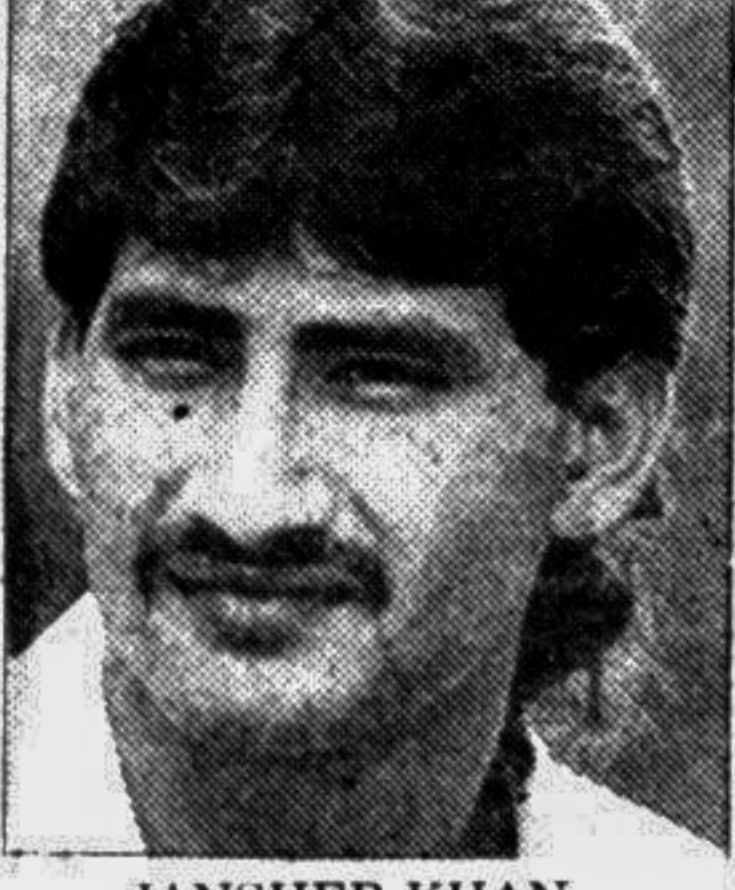
Harris had needed five games to bring down the great Pakistani but now required only three to overcome Mark Chaloner, a fellow member of England's world title winning squad in Cairo four months ago.

Harris trailed 5-8 in the third game and Chaloner had two chances to take it to a fourth, but the world number six attacked at great pace with drops, drivers and volleys — and defended almost as acrobatically as he had against Jansher — and came out the winner by 9-1, 9-6, 10-8.

That earned Harris top place in the group and a contest in The Super Series final against the world number three Brett Martin.

"I'm pleased with way I played," said Harris. "I didn't make many mistakes considering the pace at which the match was played. If I feel I can do well in the final as well."

Jansher has been left to battle for third place in a match against the world number two Rodney Eyles, an en-



JANSHER KHAN

counter he earned by overcoming the British champion from Scotland Peter Nicol 9-7, 10-8, 9-3.

Earlier Martin, the world number three from Australia, suffered a dreadful quarter of an hour after getting through

to the title-deciding match against Harris — when he was told that in fact he had been eliminated.

Previously informed that winning two games of his last group match against fellow Aussie Rodney Eyles would be enough to put him top of his round robin group, Martin casually let go the last game of their match.

He suffered agonies of argument and indecision as a consequence. When Martin came off court he was told that his two games in a 10-8, 8-10, 9-3, 7-9 9-7 defeat were not enough for him to qualify, and that the system was not as either player had believed.

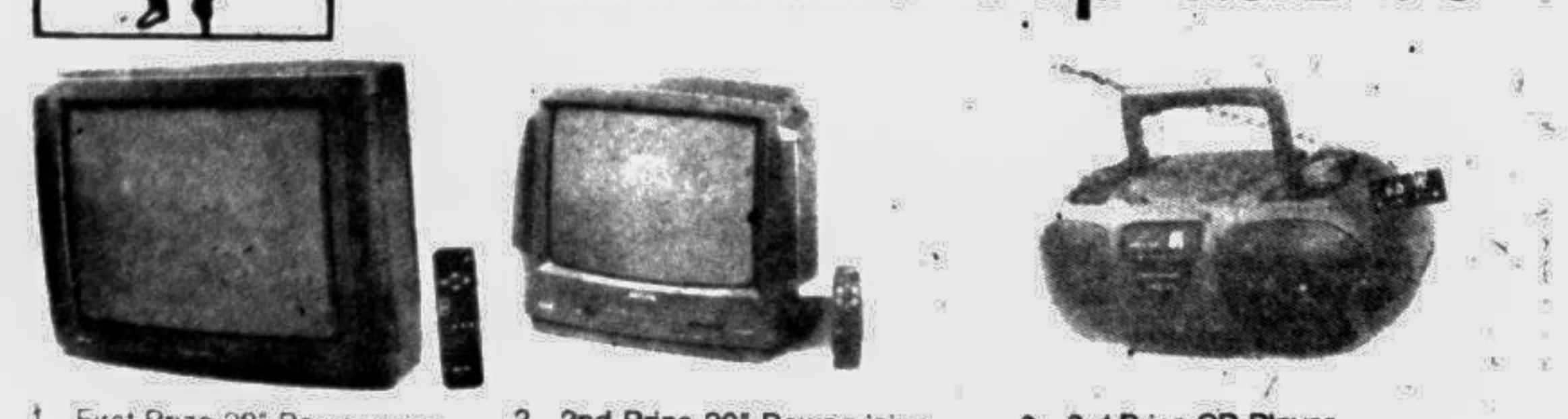
They were instead informed that it should be a head-to-head calculation between two men who both finish with the same number of victories. "I couldn't believe it," said Martin, who was eventually rescued by his opponent.

Eyles insisted that his compatriot should go through because both had played the match under the impression that games won and games lost was the system by which it was to be decided.

Eyles, one of Martin's colleagues in the 1991 world title-winning team, instead went through to contest the third place match.

The Daily Star PHILIPS

Cricket World Cup Quiz '96



- 1. First Prize 29" Powervision Colour TV Tk. 47,800.00
2. 2nd Prize 20" Powervision Colour TV Tk. 22,850.00
3. 3rd Prize CD Player Tk. 7750.00x3= 23,250.00

All prizes courtesy: Transcom Electronics Ltd. Official Licensee of PHILIPS Electronics N.V. for Lighting products, Radio and TV Sets.

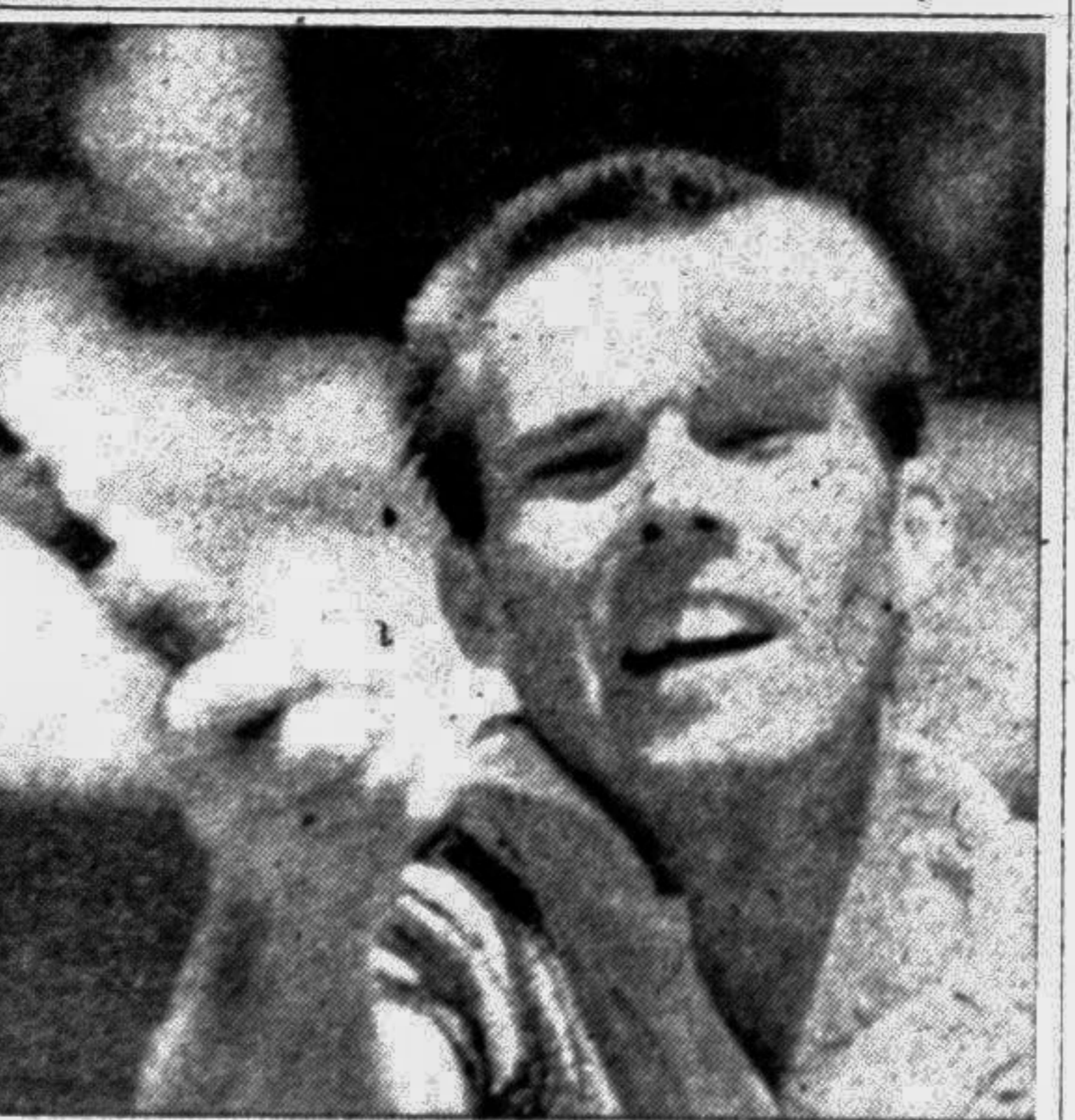
Quiz 2 : Bumper Round Ends March 25, 1996

Read the information and rules carefully. Tick (✓) the correct answer.

- 1. The first 'duck' in the World Cup was by H R Shah, E D Solkar, A Knott
2. In the WC, the first over was bowled by V Holder, M Lai, J Snow
3. In the 1975 WC, the Sri Lankans were led by D Mendis, B Warnapura, B Tannekoon
4. In 1979 WC, the playing Chappell was Chris, Ian, Greg
5. The spinner who won two M-o-M awards in the 1983 WC was L Gomes, D Underwood, A Qadir
6. Australia won the 1987 World Cup beating England in the final by 7 runs, 17 runs, 27 runs
7. The maximum wides and no-balls bowled in the 1992 WC was by A Donald, W Akram, W Benjamin

Name: _____ AGE: _____ Address: _____ Telephone: (if any) _____ Occupation: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Write with a ball point pen in clear Block letters. Cut along the dotted lines and mail to or drop in the Quiz Box in The Daily Star. Send as many entries as you like. For rules please see previous issues.



Nicolas Pereira of Venezuela plays a forehand return against world number one Thomas Muster in their second round match of the Lipton Championships in Key Biscayne on March 23. Pereira won 7-6, 6-4.

Muster, Sanchez bow out

KEY BISCAIYNE, Florida, Mar 24: Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain, the number two seed in the women's draw at the 4.1 million dollars Lipton championships, joined the list of upset casualties in second round play on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Sanchez-Vicario, ranked third in the world, suffered a stunning defeat at the hands of little-known Karina Habudová of Slovakia, ranked 98th 2-6, 6-3, 7-6(7-4).

The upset followed the ouster of men's world number one Thomas Muster of Austria at the start of play. Muster lost to Venezuela's Nicolas Pereira 7-6 (7-4), 6-4. Pereira is ranked 1145th in the world.

Muster's loss meant he has still not won a match while holding the world number one ranking.

"The thing is that I was number one because of the way I played last year," said Muster, a clay court specialist whose three losses as number one have been on outdoor hardcourts.

"It is not the way I am playing now. I am not number one, that is just the way it is, but still the ranking is there. I don't think I have to apologise that the rankings is like that. As I said, I am not playing that level at the moment on this surface."

Muster first attained the top position for a one-week period on February 12. He regained it March 11 after winning the Mexico City tournament for a fourth consecutive year.

But Muster, who won 11 of his 12 titles in 1995 on clay, had to defend his ranking each time on outdoor hardcourts, and each time suffered a defeat — a three-set loss to Sandon Stolle of Australia in Dubai, a two-set loss to Adrian Panu of Romania at Indian Wells and now the loss to Pereira.

Another high seed departing in his opening match here was eighth-seeded Thomas Enqvist of Sweden. The ninth-ranked Enqvist lost to local resident Vince Spadea 6-3, 7-5.

Defending champion Andre Agassi, seeded third, lived dangerously for a while against Germany's Bernd Kamber before winning 6-2, 2-6, 7-6(7-4).

Second-seeded American Pete Sampras easily beat his opponent, 53rd-ranked Sjeng Shalken of the Netherlands, 6-3, 6-2.

Fourth-seeded Michael Chang of the United States beat Jason Stoltenberg of Australia 6-3, 6-4.

Sixth-seeded Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia won his match 6-4, 6-3 over American Richey Reneberg.

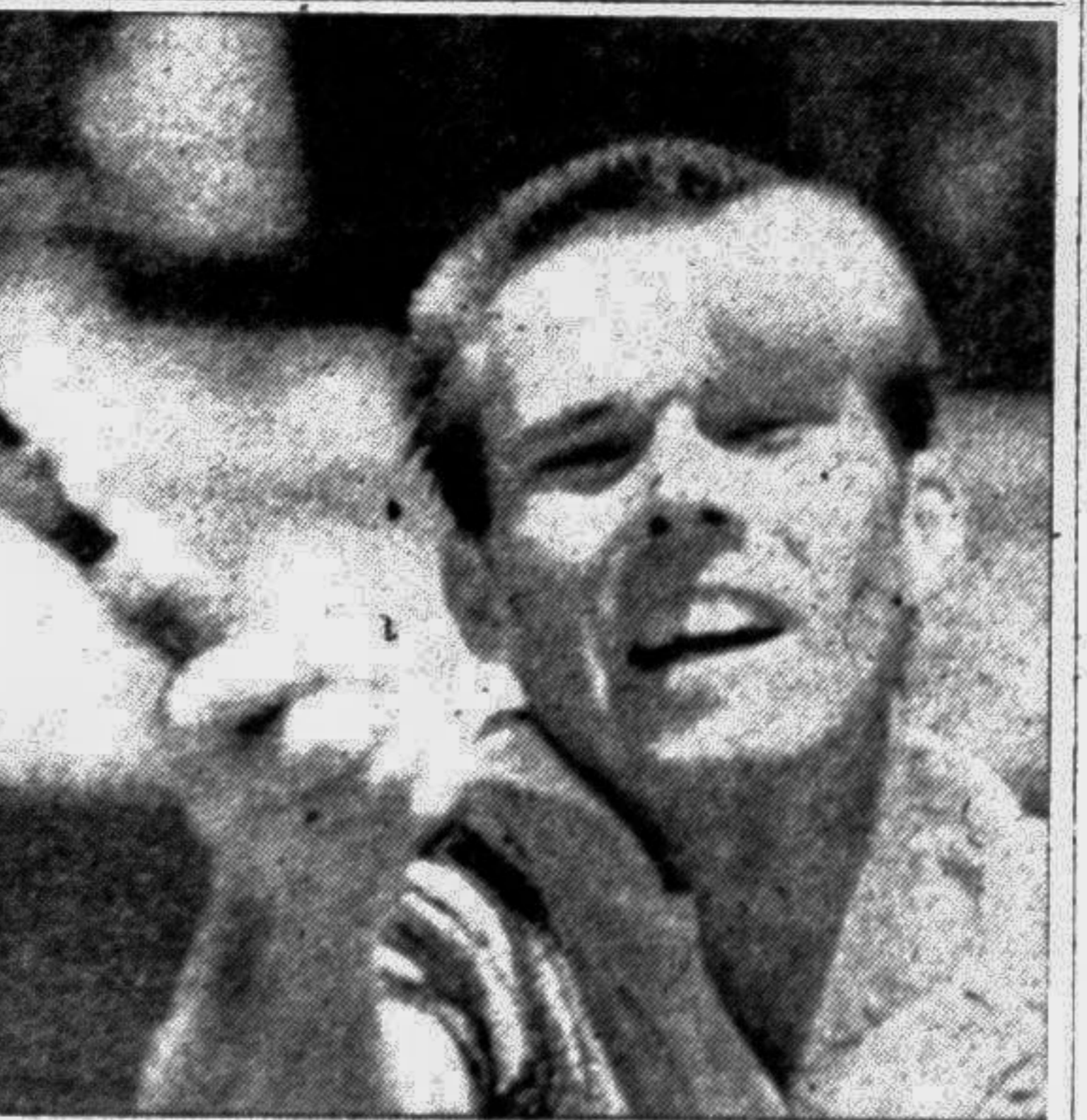
Stefan Edberg of Sweden survived two tiebreakers to beat Javier Frana of Argentina 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-5).

In women's action, Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, the fourth seed, defeated Israel's Anna Smashnova without a challenge 6-3, 6-0.

Fiz wins Seoul Marathon

SEOUL, Mar 24: With only 150 meters to go, Martin Fiz of Spain surpassed South Korean hopeful Lee Bong-Ju, winning the Dong-A International Marathon on Sunday, reports AP.

Fiz, 23, winner of the 1995 World Championships Marathon, was timed in two hours, eight minutes and 25 seconds. He was awarded \$70,000.



Nicolas Pereira of Venezuela plays a forehand return against world number one Thomas Muster in their second round match of the Lipton Championships in Key Biscayne on March 23. Pereira won 7-6, 6-4.