"Todd is a classy guy and

certainty a very good triend,"

said Sampras after his eleventh

win in 13 encounters with the

out there, no problems when we play. We just go out there and play our tennis."

play last year's winner Thomas

Muster in the final on Sunday

week and bidding to win the

only Grand Slam title missing

from his collection, now plays

"There's no gamesmanship

Sampras, who is seeded to

6ft 6in (1m 98) from Illinois.

LONDON, June 1: Tim Lamb. the next head of English cricket, ruled out a radical shake-up of the domestic game and vowed to keep the country championship intact on Friday. reports AFP.

"I'm not a revolutionary. said Lamb, who will succeed Alan Smith as chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) later this year. "Revolutions usually lead to counter-revolutions.

"We need to recognise that not everything is right with our game. But I think there is far more right with it than wrong. I'm not in the business of truncating or dismantling English cricket."

Talk of a two-division county championship to concentrate the talent available and hopefully raise standards has dominated discussions while England's Test results have slipped.

But Lamb, while agreeing that leading players need a re-duced workload, does not support a premier league.

"I am not in favour of a twodivision championship," said the 43-year-old former Oxford University, Middlesex and Northamtonshire bowler who has been the TCCB's cricket secretary for eight years.

"I think we need to give four-day cricket longer to show its benefits. I think two divisions would lead to a freefor-all transfer system and I am not sure that is in the best interests of the game.

Lamb's views will please those countries who fear they could become second class cit izens in a shake-up of the domestic game.

### Olympic cauldron put in place

ATLANTA, Georgia, June 1: The Olympic cauldron, which will hold the Games' flame during the Atlanta Olympics. has been set into place at Centenial Olympic Stadium, reports AFP.

While final flourishes will be added over the next week, the structure was settled into place Thursday atop the tower at the new stadium.

Every seat in the stadium and much of the neighbourhood nearby will be able to view the fire.

The cauldron was designed as a public work of art by sculptor Siah Armajani in Minnesota. The pieces were shipped here for assembly.

#### Women's v'ball

OSAKA. Japan June 1: European champions, the Netherlands, returned to winning form on Friday, beating Romania in straight sets in the final qualifying round for women's volleyball at the Atlanta Olympic Games, reports

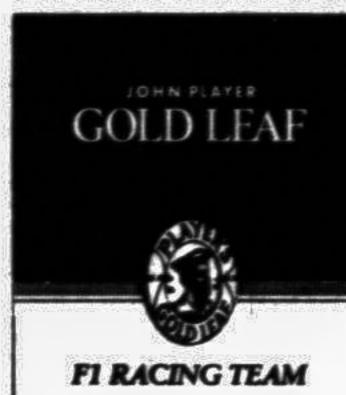
The Dutchwomen, who suffered a major setback when they crashed to Ukraine on Thursday, showed no ill effects from their defeat by chalking up a 15-10, 15-3, 15-5 victory over the winless Romanians.

### Blackburn takes 5th place in Hungary

Italian Guido Cappellini notched up his second successive victory in the UIM Formula I World Championship after claiming first place in the Grand Prix of Hungary. The win makes it two out of two for the reigning world champion after his victory in Sardinia a fortnight ago, says a press re-

Despite being pushed hard by last year's winner in Dunaujvaros, German Michael Werner, Cappellini pulled ahead of his rivals in the overall championship as Jon Jones and Pertti Leppala crashed out of the race on only the second

Jones, the John Player Gold Leaf driver who finished second behind Cappellini in Sardinia, had a flying start as he moved from 21st position at the start to 6th in the race, but with drivers jostling for position he lost the front of his



sponsor in a crash and was out

of the race. Jones' teammate, Paul Blackburn, failed to take advantage of his excellent performance in the shoot-out with a poor start from third position on the grid, but drove superbly to climb from 9th position from the start to the 5th - one better than his first ever F1 Grand Prix in Sardinia.

After South African Anton Van Heerden flipped his boat on the 13th lap. Blackburn was in 8th position behind the pace boat & when the race restarted he began to make his move. By lap 41 he had managed to claim 5th position, but a problem with his cockpit slowed him up causing him to drop back, but with four laps to go, of this 60 lap, he passed fellow Britain Andy Elliot to take 5th place at the chequered flag



# The beleaguered Brazilian

ZURICH, Switzerland, June 1: Joao Havelange, the autocratic leader of FIFA, suffered a severe blow here this weekend when he was forced to allow South Korea and Japan co-host the 2002

World Cup, reports AFP. For months Havelange has stressed there would be no co-hosting while he was president — a decision that Japan

happily supported. "Co-hosting will happen over my dead body," he was recently quoted as saying to one Brazilian paper.

But when Japan suddenly changed their mind at the last minute and agreed to accept co-hosting Havelange was left hanging out to dry.

For the first time since he grabbed power of football's world governing body 22 years ago, Havelange has been defeated over a major issue. It is a bitter blow for a man

who has ruled FIFA with an ironfist, making short thrift of anyone who dared challenge his authority.

With a legendary temper, Havelange accepted no dissension in the ranks but for over a year a growing anti-Havelange movement, headed by UEFA president Lenart Johannson and backed by South Korea's Chung Mong-Joon, has been in operation. Both men have decided that enough is enough and that when Havelange comes up for re-election in 1998 they will try to oust him - if not before. They are gaining increasing backing from members of the 21-

being told to join

hands to put on

main event, Sou-

th Korea and Japan on Satur-

day expressed hope that it

could be a golden opportunity

to mend ties — and fear that

their feud could continue into

the next millennium, report

the nation, South Korean Pres-

ident Kim Young-sam said in a

subdued voice that the joint

hosting decision was a disap-

be spared so that the soccer

finals could serve as an

"impetus to further solidify

For Japan, initially disap-

pointed, Saturday brought in-

creased support for the deci-

sion and hope for improved

Hashimoto expressed satisfac-

tion with the decision and

vowed that the Japanese gov-

ernment would provide sup-

Soccer's governing body,

FIFA, voted in Zurich on Friday

to allow both countries to host.

hoping to end a bitter bidding

with mixed feelings to the de-

cision with some welcoming it

and others regretting the

The FIFA decision on co-

hosting was "unusual," but

Japan's accepting it was

"unavoidable" the conservative

a practical compromise that

does not give victory to either

side," the paper said in an edi-

torial next to a story headlined:

bitter choice to avoid antago-

South Korea had 'pushed Japan

out of a plan to host the World

Cup along regretting Japanese

politicians failure to back up

their nation's campaign to host

other conservative national

newspaper said the decision

left Japan with only two

choices acceptance of the plan

or withdrawal from the com-

"Japan's acceptance can be

termed a bitter choice to avoid

international isolation, the

hosting would promote friend-

ship between Japan and South

Korea "sounds nice but is

Meanwhile liberal newspa-

The Asahi Shimbun put

World Cup related articles un-

der the headline "hope for

changing bilateral relations

suggesting Tokyo and Seoul

The argument that co-

Sankei said in his editorial.

doubtful in reality it said.

pers welcomed co-hosting.

The Sankei Shimbun, an-

The Yomiuri story noted the

"FIFA's co-hosting plan was

Yomiuri Shimbun said

bitter choice.

the event.

petition.

Japanese dailies reacted

Prime Minister Ryutaro

friendly relations with Japan.

But he asked that no effort

In a videotaped address to

agencies.

pointment

soccer's

strong executive committee. Chung makes no secret of his dislike for the Brazilian. Chung found himself being savaged by Havelange at an executive committee meeting in

Paris last December. According to witnesses of the confrontation, Havelange exploded when Chung probed into the secretive billion-dollar television deals being worked out for future World

"It was astonishing. Havelange simply lost it and ranted and raved at Chung," said one



JOAO HAVELANGE

While rumours of a possible coup have surfaced within FIFA's luxury Swiss base from time to time. Havelange al-

relations and put aside their

historical problems if the co-

be able to change close but

distant 'relationships between

Japan and South Korea, the

Japan's political and busi-

ness leaders welcomed the

agreement but mixed feelings

gripped sporting and market-

UN awards

Samaranch

tional Olympic Committee

chief Juan-Antonio Samaranch

of Spain and US opera star

Barbara Hendricks were on

Friday presented with united

Nations medals for their role

in Anti-Smoking campaigns.

UN's World Health Organisa

tion (WHO), also went to Swiss

Kuwait's Health Minister Ab-

dul Rahman Al-Muhatlan, and

Delta Airlines of the United

mark the WHO's "World No-

Tobacco Day," celebrated an-

nually on May 31 to combat

what the agency describes as a

worldwide scourge costing

hundreds of thousands of lives.

This year's slogan is

Sports and the arts without

tobacco." In a statement issued

on Thursday. WHO chief Hi-

roshi Nakajima said sponsor-

ship by the tobacco industry of

sport and culture was

ceremony she had never

smoked, and Rominger were

honoured for lending their

names to health campaigns

year linked the IOC with anti-

smoking day, has also worked

to exclude cigarettes from the

Olympic Games. He has called

for this Summer's Games in

Atlanta to be held in a tobacco

for becoming in 1995 the first

US carrier totally ban smoking

Delta Airlines won its award

The Kuwaiti Minister was

Another award went to

honoured for a decree last year

which banned smoking in hos-

pitals and health centres in

Guy-Livier Segond, president

of the government of the

Geneva Canton for his promo-

tion of a local organisation

which campaigns against

that 10,000 people died each

year in Switzerland from

smoking, 10 times more than

Segond told the ceremony

free spirit.

on its flights.

the Emirate.

smoking.

in road accidents

Samaranch, who has this

directed against smoking.

Hendricks, who told the

"ethically unacceptable."

The ceremony was held to

Medals, awarded by the

Tony Rominger,

reports Reuter.

cyclist

States.

GENEVA, June 1: Interna-

A 450 gram soccer ball may

hosting is successful.

Mainichi said

lieved co-hosting was a starter but it has happened. Now Johannson, boosted by his victory this weekend, is well placed to push the European plan.

For the first time Have-

ways managed to crush any

Friday over co-hosting, a grow-

ing number of members are

coming to believe a change of

remarked recently in private:

"Havelange is becoming a

change at the top after the co-

hosting announcement . Asked

about the current leadership of

FIFA, Chung retorted

But some long-time FIFA

"He is ruthless . It would be

Havelange's next challenge

members warn that Havelange

should never be underesti-

very dangerous to think that

he will give in without a fight.'

comes from a revolutionary

plan from UEFA put forward

last year. The European pro-

posal is that the World Cup

should be staged on a rota-

tional basis in Europe Asia

Africa and the Americas, with

the host nation providing the

FIFA president for a four-year

A year ago, no one really be-

warned one member.

"Everything is changing.

But following his defeat on

One senior FIFA official

Chung strongly hinted at

move against him.

liability."

hope.

mated.

term.

leadership is possible.

lange's grip is seriously threatened and Chung's desire to see a more transparent, democratic FIFA might finally come

between the two countries."

An official of Japan's Cannon

inc, one of the official World

Cup sponsors, was quoted by

Jiji press as saying that it was "unfortunate" that Japan could

The Korea Football Associa-

tion said by early Saturday

afternoon, it had received

dozens of phone calls from an-

gry fans demanding that South

Korea not compromise on get-

ready voicing fear that being

compared to Japan, which has

better infrastructure and fa-

cilities, may not be the best for

weight on its shoulders be-

cause in all things, we will be

compared with Japan," the

muss-circulation daily Dong-Ah

"South Korea has more

And south Korea was al-

ting the final game.

its national image.

Ilbo said.

not host the finals by itself.

#### boisterous submission The 15 cities and provinces, which have agreed to build or renovate soccer stadiums to get a share of World Cup profits, also ex-

pressed disappointment as some of them were likely to be weeded out from the list of Japanese Foreign Minister Yukihiko ikeda expressed hope in a statement following the agreement in Zurich that the co-hosting would lead to the "promotion of friendship day, reports AP.

granted because the United States is the host country, and although no American has won a medal in the last two Olympics, the United States has acquitted itself well in

taking part.

The United States now has five spots and could get more.

Seventy-four countries will

### Aussies ride on Martin siblings

KUALA LUMPUR, June 1: Brother and sister Brett and Michelle Martin powered Australia to a 3-0 win over England in the World Cup squash final today, reports Reuter,

Brett Martin beat Mark Chaloner 9-4, 9-2, 9-5 then Michelle Martin used crushing backhand and forehand volleys to take the first two games off Suzanee Horner.

She fumbled in the third game but recovered with a vengeance in the fourth to win 9-3, 9-4, 5-9, 10-8.

Rodney Eyles completed the whitewash by overcoming Chiris Walker 6-9, 9-6, 9and said: "We had a couple of long matches along the way and we're glad to have beaten England here.

They played hard but we were lucky to have our shots right.

### Pollock puts Warwicks in

African all-rounder Shaun Pollock continued with the start to his English county championship career on Friday when he and Andy Moles put together a record-breaking batting display for Warwickshire. reports AFP.

Moles made an unbeaten 160 and Pollock contributed 107 as they recorded a new sixth-wicket record stand for the Midlanders of 194.

Their partnership helped defending champions Warwickshire to an unlikely firstinnings lead over Northamptonshire, who made 314 before reducing their rivals to 118-5.

took command as Warwickshire moved to 360-6 by the close. Pollock was eventually bowled by West Indian paceman Curtly Ambrose and was replaced by Dermot Reeve. who was 20 not out at stumps.

Derbyshire's highest-ever firstclass run-maker but fell six short of a 48th century as his side struggled against Surrey at the Oval.

mark of 20.516 set by Denis Smith from 1927-59, taking his tally to 20.559 as he made 94 in assisting Derbyshire in reaching 286-3 in reply to Surrey's 477.

could be in trouble after appearing to show dissent when given out lbw as his side collapsed to a humiliating 10wicket defeat by Kent inside two days at Tunbridge Wells.

fore hitting the ball away towards cover. He then appeared Graham Burgess.

### **₩F** increases the number

orado, June 1: The International Weightlifting Federation has granted the United States two additional athletes in the upcoming Olympics, with the possibility of at least one more being added before the Games begin, it was announced Fri-

previous Games.

qualified for just three spots in the Atlanta Olympics by virtue of a 31st-place finish in the 1995 World Championships in China. Other countries will have as many as 10 athletes



### Graf glides into last eight



PARIS, June 1: Champion Steffi Graf reached the quarter finals of the women's singles at the Fre-

STEFFI GRAF

Pierce lost to Petra Bergerow

of Germany in her first match

Sampras had to go the dis-

tance against his compatriot

and friend Todd Martin and

joint women top-seed Monica

Seles needed to stage a spec-

tacular recovery in the second

set in her clash with Sabine

Appelmans of Belgium.

World number one Pete

at the Paris Indoor Open.

and leading 5-0 after just 17

three-minute injury time out.

minutes. Langrova took a

player meanwhile delighted

the crowd by giving one of her

rackets to a ball-boy and ex-

changing some strokes.

The 26-year-old German

Langrova returned and tried

Earlier on Friday, Mary

Garros crowd after crashing to

a humiliating deleat — while

Monica Seles and Pete Sam-

pras garnered the cheers and

pursued their title dreams

Pierce gave the fans a last

glimpse of the now famous and

revealing black tennis dress

when she was badly beaten 4-

6, 2-6 in just 73 minutes on an

overcast Centre Court by Ger-

also gave the world's press a

close look at a player in deep

distress at the post-match in-

Australian Open champion

could not find the right words

or explanations in either

French or English for her

slump in form and her failure

to survive the first week of the

world's supreme clay-court

I feel," she stuttered. "I just

wish I could go to bed tonight.

wake up tomorrow and prac-

tice, and then come back here

and play another match in the

"It's too hard to explain how

The twelfth-seeded Pierce

Close to tears, the 1995

many's Barbara Rittner.

with fighting performances.

nch Open on Saturday when her third-round Czech opponent Petra Langrova was forced to retire with a thigh injury, reports AFP.

Graf, who was leading 6-0. 1-0 on Roland Garros' Number-One show-court, now plays either eleventh-seed Marry Joe Fernandez of the United States or Gloria Pizzichini of Langrova, ranked a modest

205th, had to play the qualifying tournament for a place in the main draw.

With Graf steaming home

"There is always pressure on me when I play here. But I don't know why I lost today. I made too many errors. I didn't move well. I was certainly confident when I went out. After all I beat her only recently in Berlin in straight-sets."

Asked about the hostile reaction of the crowd as she left the court, Pierce shook her

"There's nothing I can do about the public," she said, with a trade of bitterness in her voice. "They either cheer for your or they don't."

number-one had also been

'bad boy' Jeff Tarango 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, is the only Australian left in the singles - Todd Woodbridge going out to 13th seed Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands. "I have never played Pete before," said Draper after de-

superb rivals.

feating the player best remembered for storming off court at Wimbledon last year after screaming obscenities at the umpire. "But I think I have a chance of causing an upset on clay. But Pete's the ultimate professional and he's going to give everything he's got.

Monica Seles, bidding for a fourth French title, came safely through her third-round encounter with Sabine Appelmans thanks to a 6-2, 7-5 vic-

But the 22-year-old American, playing the event for the first time since she was stabbed on court in Hamburg in 1993, had to fight all the way after trailing 1-4 down in the second-set.

both said that we had enjoyed the match very much. It's unusual for players to say that to each other. So that was great."

"I am getting more and more comfortable as the matches go by," she said, referring to the shoulder injury which forced her to withdraw from the Spanish Open last

Seles now plays thirteenthseed Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria. Maleeva beat Mirian 2. 6-1.

Russian Yevgeny Kafelníkov continued his impressive march into the last sixteen by beating Felix Mantilla of Spain 6-4. 6-2. 6-2 and then rethe red clay surface.

"I am keeping that secret to myself," smiled the fair-haired sixth-seeded Kafelnikov. adding - "and I am making no predictions. There is still a long way to go. But I am feeling very good, very fit and confi-

twelve months ago, now faces Spain's Francisco Clavet. Forget 6-3, 7-5, 6-3. In other matches Jim

Courier, the 1971 and 1972 champion, reached a fourthround berth against tenth-seed Wayne Ferreira of South Africa.

Courier qualified when his opponent Karol Kucera of Slovakia was forced to retire with an ankle injury. The American was leading 6-7 (2/7), 7-5, 6-5-4. when Kucera was forced to guit.

of Italy 6-7 (5/7), 7-5, 6-1, 7-

ended Andre Agassi's title dreams on Wednesday, ended when was beaten in a five-set thriller by Sweden's Joans

Krajicek. Apart from Pierce, the only

five sets to put out twicechampion Sergi Bruguera of Spain in the second-round, was 'outaced' but still managed to reach the last-sixteen thanks to a 3-6, 6-4, 7-5, 4-6,

eighth seed, was beaten by

Irina Spirlea of Romania 6-3, 3-6. 6-2 while fifteenthseeded Hingis went out in her third round match to Karina

## Capriati, Fernandez axed

MARY PIERCE

6-2 victory over Martin.

Sampras, who also needed

Martin hammered down 29

aces and Sampras 20 during

The two men, the best of

friends, had eaten dinner to-

gether the previous evening

but on court they remained

the 3 hours 20mins match.



ports AP

tournament.

New York, June 1: Gold medalists Jenniffer Capriati and Mary Joe Fernandez were eliminated from the Olympics by a computer Wednesday, re-

Pete Sampras. Andre Agassi and Monica Seles were chosen to lead the US tennis team at Atlanta, but Capriati and Fer nandez, who won gold medals in 1992, failed to make the

The US Tennis Association selected players for singles based on computer rankings of April 29. That left out Capriati, who won the women's singles at Barcelona, and Fernandez, who teamed with Gigi Fernandez to win the doubles

The remainder of the eight member squad includes Malivai Washington, Richey Rene berg. Chanda Rubin. Lindsay Davenport and Gigi Fernandez All but Reneberg and Fernan dez are expected to play sin gles: the doubles teams will likely be Washington-Reneberg and Davenport-Fernandez.

Capriati lost her ranking when she left the WTA Tour because of drug and personal problems, and she's now No 109. The USTA failed in its bid

she could defend her medal as an extra mierican entry. Twe told Jennifer all along. You've got no chance," US

women's coach Billie Jean King said Mary Joe Fernandez is now ranked 11th, one spot ahead of

Davenport. But on April 29. Davenport was 10th and Fernandez 14th "We have to go by April 29,

King said. 'It creates a lot of anguish, because Mary Joe has been so loyal and played so well. It doesn't feel good.

Gigi Fernandez was chosen because she's ranked second in the world in doubles. Mary Joe Fernandez could still make the team if another

player pulls out because of in-

ury. Seles has been bothered by a sore shoulder much of this "We're always taking a gamble with Monica," King said. "I

hope she stays well." Missing from the men's team will be Michael Chang and Jim Courier, who are ranked higher than Washington and Reneberg but declined to play because they want to concentrate on Wimbledon and the US Open. The Games fall

events.

decision," men's coach Tom Gulikson said. "We were hopeful everybody who got the invitation would accept. Scheduling is always difficult, and different players have different

Sampras, ranked No 1 played singles and doubles at Barcelona but failed to win a medal. Seles, who shares the top ranking with Steffi Graf. and Agassi will be Olympians for the first time.

### FIFA lets Nigeria in

ZURICH, June 1: Nigeria are to be allowed to play in the 1998 World Cup, it was announced here on Friday, reports AFP. Nigeria were suspended by

the African Football Confedera-

tion from two editions of the African Cup of Nations after refusing to take part in this year's tournament in South Africa following a diplomatic

FIFA, however, said the sanctions would not apply for between those two Grand Slam the World Cup.



# command

LONDON, June 1: South

Moles and Pollock then

Kim Barnett finally became

Barnett cruised past the

Sussex skipper Alan Wells

Wells, who had made 45. stood in apparent disbelief beto angrily wave his bat as he made his way to the pavilion after being given out by umpire

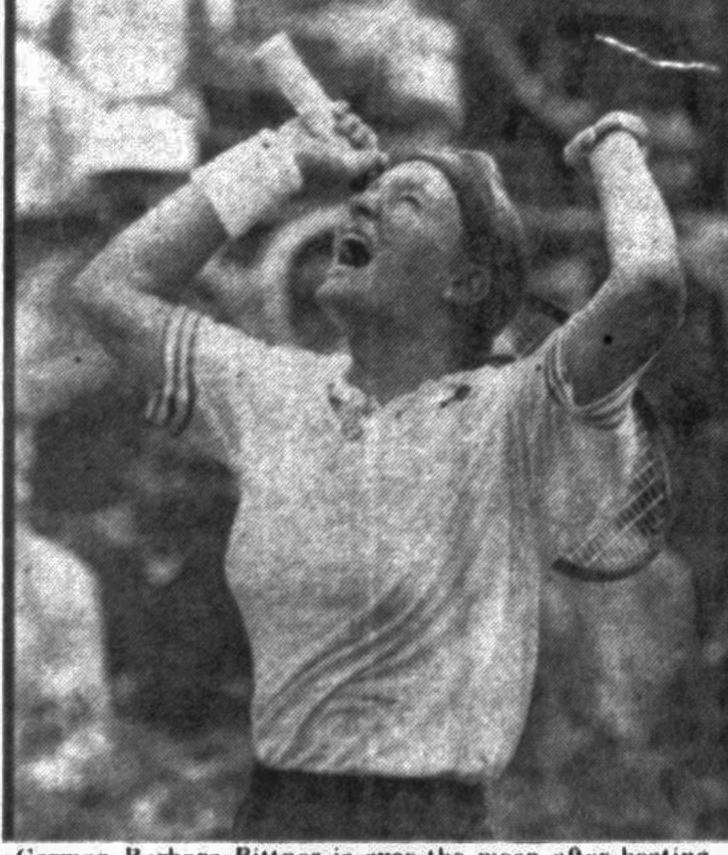
#### to play on but she was clearly in pain from the injury and did not win another point. Pierce was bowed off court by an uncompromising Roland

COLORADO SPRINGS, Col-

The extra berths were

The United States originally

be represented in weightlifting in the Games the largest of any sport. The competition begins July 20 - the day the Games begin - and finishes July 30



German Barbara Rittner is over the moon after beating world tennis' glamour girl Mary Pierce in the third round of the French Open at Roland Garros on May 31.

- AFP/UNB photo

Australian Scott Draper who The Canadian-born French will be 22 on Wednesday.

Draper, who beat American jeered off court the last time she had played in Paris in February. On that occasion, at the nearby Cuburtin Stadium.

"When we came to the net at the end of the match we

Oremans of the Netherlands 6-

vealed that he had finally found the secret of how to play on

dent and I am playing well." Kafelnikov, a semi-finalist Clavet, 27 and ranked 43, beat veteran French left-hander Guy

Ferreira beat Renzo Furlan

The fairy-tale run of giantkiller Chris Woodruff, who

Bjorkman. Woodruff finally surrendered 6-7 (5/7), 6-2, 6-4, 5-7, 4-6 leaving Bjorkman to face

other seeds to fall were Brenda Schultz McCarthy of the Netherlands and Martina Hingis of Switzerland. McCarthy-Schultz, the

### Habsudova of Slovakia - recently runner-up to Steffi Graf in Berlin.

### You have to respect their to get Capriati an exemption so WHITE PLAINS