

Column One  
Sports  
WHIZZ KID  
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
Now Taka 1000/- !!!  
Hey Kids! Take a look at this WHIZZ KID will have one winner drawn from all the correct entries each week. The lucky winner will be awarded prize bond worth Tk 1000/- . Wow!

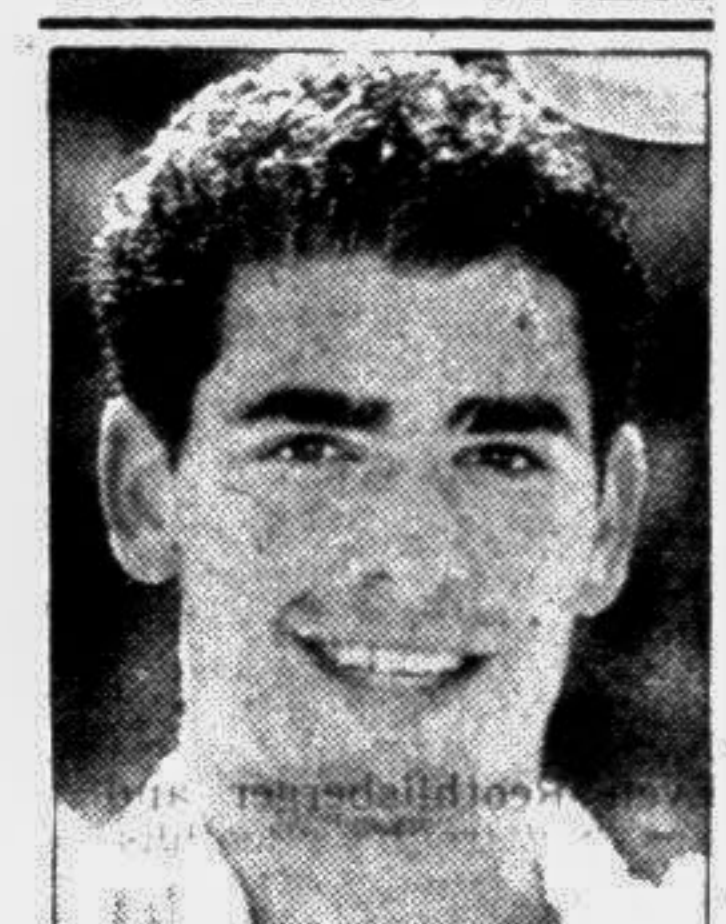
**Sports WHIZZ KID competition-44**  
Tick the Correct Answers

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. July 5, 1996)

1	Boris Becker won his first Wimbledon tennis title in	1986	1988	1985
2	Sir Garry Sobers once played Sheffield Shield in Australia for	Victoria	Tasmania	South Australia
3	The winner of marathon gold in the 24th national athletics championship is	Solaiman	Younus	Sauadul
4	The new coach of West Indian cricket team is	Roberts	Marshall	Holding
5	The Fair Play Trophy of the Euro '96 was awarded to	Croatia	Czech Republic	England

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Class \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No \_\_\_\_\_  
School Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

SPORTS TALK



(Pete Sampras)

(World No 1 tennis star)  
Sometimes I put myself in the situation, imagine that I'm playing against Rod Laver, with a wooden racquet in my hand. It must have been intimidating to play Laver, but I always imagine the relief — the relief you would feel from being able to actually see the ball coming and from having time to get a good swing at it most of the time. I can see the finesse and strategy that once went into the game on grass in the past. I think about it sometimes, and I wonder how I would have fared against the best of the grass-court players. I wish I could have experienced it.

Salisbury, Ealham get the nod

LONDON, June 30: Uncapped all-rounder Mark Ealham and leg-spinner Ian Salisbury have been drafted into England's 13 for the third and final Test against India which begins on Thursday at Trent Bridge, reports Reuter.

Fast bowler Peter Martin has been dropped while, with Nick Knight still nursing a broken finger, opening batsman Alec Stewart has kept his place.

The 26-year-old Ealham from Kent, who may be challenging Ronnie Irani for the number six position, gets his call after some impressive performances in the county championship.

His first international exposure came during the recent one-day series against India when he performed well. He is currently top of the national bowling averages with 23 wickets at 17.09 runs apiece.

Salisbury, also 26, played the last of his seven Tests two years ago but Ray Illingworth, England's chairman of selectors, said that he and the Kent left-arm spinner Min Patel could both play if the Trent Bridge pitch was similar to last year.

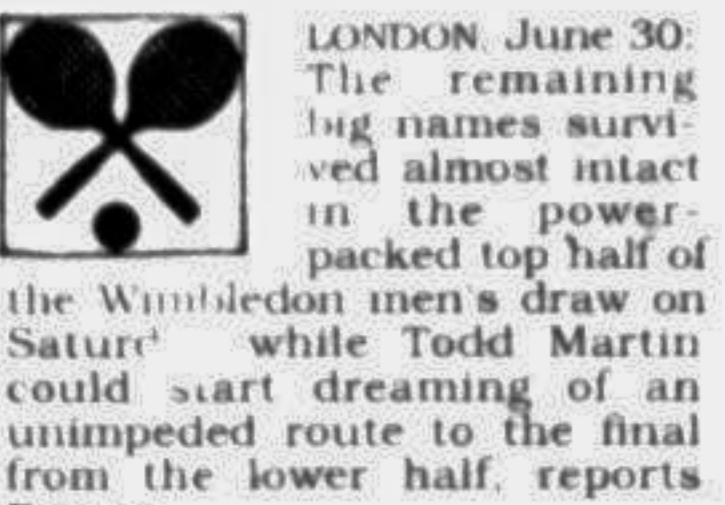
"We need to have another look at the pitch before deciding on our final 11 but we are going into this match looking to win it," Illingworth said.

CTX 5000 to the rescue!

ALTANTA, June 30: The federal Aviation Administration said Wednesday that it will install a new explosive-detection scanner at Atlanta's Hartsfield international airport in time for the Summer Olympics, reports Reuter.

The system, called the CTX-5000, uses the same technology as medical cat scans to detect bombs and other weapons inside luggage. FAA officials said it will be used to screen bags checked onto commercial airliners that are outbound from Atlanta.

A safe ride for seeds



LONDON, June 30: The remaining big names survived almost intact in the power-packed top half of the Wimbledon men's draw on Saturday while Todd Martin could start dreaming of an unimpeded route to the final from the lower half, reports Reuter.

Title holder Pete Sampras, Goran Ivanisevic, 1991 champion Michael Stich and Dutchman Richard Krajicek all resisted the tide that had swept away so many of their high-ranked colleagues to reach the second week and the fourth round of the men's championship.

Though 14th seed Mark Rosset went out, the towering "Swiss Alps" surrendering 4-6, 6-3, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3 to Australian Patrick Rafter to reduce to a record low of five the number of men's seeds left, the other members of the mighty serve-and-volley brigade could start planning for the blood-and-thunder battles beginning on Monday.

Sampras, going for his fourth successive title, will face French 16th seed Cedric Pioline, fourth seed Ivanisevic plays Rafter and 10th seed Stich trades firepower with Krajicek in matches which will please the purists — and bore critics of the big grass-court game rigid.

Down in the bottom section 13th seed Martin remained the only seed alive as South African Wayne Ferreira, the number 11, fell 7-6, 7-5, 1-6, 5-7, 6-1 to Swede Magnus Gustafsson.

Martin beat Italian Renzo Furlan 7-6, 6-4, 6-2 and following the departure of second seed Boris Becker because of an injury during his match with South African Neville Godwin on Friday, now faces the possibility of a place in the final without having to play a seed to get there.

The huge American, a finalist at the 1994 Australian Open and semifinalist at Wimbledon and the US Open that year, was composed at the prospect.

"I think it is essential for all of us left in the bottom half to really play one match at a time and be focussed each time they go on court."

The guys who are unseeded and are in the fourth round have beaten the seeds. So I think they're playing as well as anybody in the tournament," he said.

The women's event lost fifth seed Anke Huber of Germany, who went out 7-6, 6-1 to At Sugiyama of Japan after suffering an inexplicable bout of dizziness and spots in front

of her eyes before and at the start of the match.

"I don't know what it was because I've never had anything like it before," said Huber, who had some treatment and who insisted it did not affect the outcome of her match.

Top seed Steffi Graf dropped the first nine points of her third-round clash but recovered to whip American Nicole Arendt 6-2, 6-1 on first

set thanks to an umpire's over-rule that gave Kuchera an ace at a crucial moment in the 12th game.

"That was the only over-rule and to do it at that time I don't agree with," Sampras said.

Kuchera took the tie-break 7-5 when Sampras hit an easy volley at the net. "I took my eye off it but to miss a crumple like that," Sampras said.

The disappointment lin-



At Sugiyama of Japan makes a double-fisted backhand return against Anke Huber of Germany during their third round clash of the All-England tennis championships on June 29. The unseeded Japanese player sent the fifth seeded German packing with a stunning 7-6, 6-1 win.

— AFP/UNB photo

42 minutes. Conchita Martinez, the 1994 champion who is Graf's projected semifinal opponent, overcame a difficult hurdle in American Lori McNeil. Graf's first-round conqueror in 1994.

Martinez, the third seed, trailed in both sets but won 7-5, 7-6, while there were straightforward wins for Czech sixth seed Jana Novotna and 13th seed Mary Pierce of France, who is having her best Wimbledon on the grass surface alien to her.

Sampras overcame awkward Slovak Karol Kucera 6-4, 6-1, 6-7, 7-6 in a gusty Centre Court wind, losing the third

set through the early games of the fourth set as Sampras fell behind 3-0 but he gathered himself together to get the break back in the seventh game and won the tie-break 7-3.

"It wasn't pretty but I came through it," he said.

Pioline eliminated Czech Jan Krosak 6-2, 7-6, 6-3 to earn his match with the champion.

Stich and Krajicek each needed four sets against Australian Sandon Stolle and New Zealander Brett Steven respectively while Ivanisevic beat Russian Alexander Volkov 7-6, 7-5, 6-3 and has not dropped a set in three matches.

Weirdest Wimbledon on



LONDON, June 30: (Reuter): Injuries, Upsets, Tchin-ness — which ever way you look during the first

week of Wimbledon the parade of stars heading for the exit seemed never-ending.

One by one the bit guns — Andre Agassi, Monica Seles, Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg at the front — departed to lick their wounds, both physical and mental.

Defending champions Pete Sampras and Steffi Graf remained on course but the middle Sunday rest day the men's seeds, especially, had suffered.

Only three of the top 10 men remained and just five seeds, a record for the fewest seeds to advance in years when the tournament has had 16.

Wimbledon has sometimes seeded only eight or 12 men.

Little wonder Sampras described it as a strange Wimbledon, the stranger one I have been to in all my years coming here."

The most despairing exit was that of triple champion Becker, clutching his injured right wrist and wincing in pain as wife Barbara looked on horrified.

The German, who won the pre-Wimbledon warm-up event at Queen's Club, was looking for a fourth Wimbledon title.

But it was not to be. At 6-6 in the opening set of his third-round match against South African qualifier Neville Godwin on Friday, Becker hurt his wrist going for an awkward shot.

The second seed felt something "pop," dropped his racket and grabbed his arm. Doctors diagnosed a party-ruptured tendon and told him to immobilise it for four weeks.

Becker, 28, who had his arm partly encased in plaster, said he was hoping to be fit to contest the US Open at the end of August. It was a bitter blow for Becker, who won his sixth Grand Slam title and his first in five years at the Australian Open in January.

"Coming in Wimbledon it is as bad as it can be. Wimbledon is the highlight of my year," Becker said.

The German, who missed the French Open through injury, had felt he was "one of

the few who had a serious chance of winning the whole thing."

But on the soon-to-be-demolished court one, his dream turned to dust.

At the start of the week it was world number three and 1992 champion Agassi who provided the first big shock.

No sooner had the open-for-business sign been posted on day one than the Las Vegas showman, hobbled by flu and a distinct lack of match play, fell 2-6, 7-6, 6-4, 7-6 to qualifier Doug Flach, ranked just 281 in the world, on court two, known as the graveyard of champions.

Michael Chang, Jim Courier and French Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov had also gone by the end of the second day and were joined by women's fifth seed Anke Huber on Saturday.

Agassi, who had climbed into a car and driven straight out of Roland Garros after his second-round loss at the French Open, was last seen catching a flight back to the US claiming he had had "better days playing tennis, no question," and apologising "for any disappointment."

Court One also proved a graveyard for Seles and Edberg. Joint world number one Seles was making her first visit to Wimbledon since losing the 1992 final to Graf.

Looking a little puffy in her comeback after the infamous Hamburg stabbing in 1993 and feeling niggling shoulder injury, the second seed fell to an unheralded Slovak who carries a toy tiger in her racket bag for good luck.

Seles, 22, had little time to get her grunt or her game into gear before being toiled 7-5, 5-7, 6-4 in the second round by Katarina Studenikova, a 23-year-old from Bratislava, ranked

59 in the world.

Seles collected the Australian Open in January but has struggled since.

The shoulder injury, which will ultimately require surgery, has made her comeback a stop-start affair and at the French Open she lost to Jane Novotna in the quarter finals.

As she headed for the Wimbledon turnstiles, Seles spoke of needing to reassess before the US Open in late August.

"I should have closed it out today tons of times and the key is to learn from this one," said Seles, who was a break up in the final set before a rain delay.

"I don't think the consistency of my game is there because I can play great some matches and terribly in others."

Sentiment was running high on the same court the following day when Edberg, 30 who retires at the end of the year, packed his bags for the last time at Wimbledon after falling to fellow Swede Mikael Tillstrom 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 6-4 in the second round.

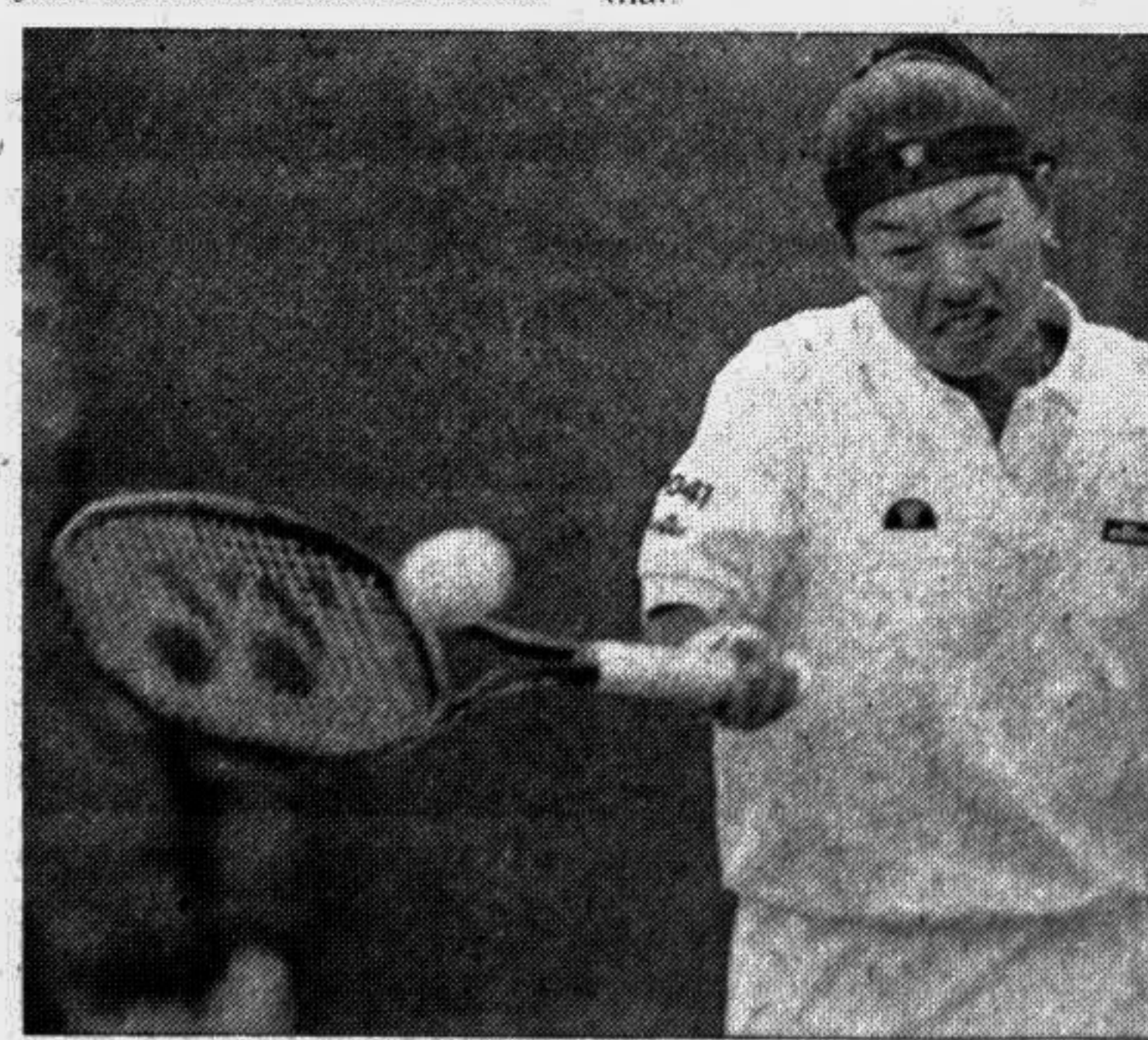
In growing twilight Edberg bade a dignified farewell to the courts he has gaced during an illustrious career.

He made the Wimbledon final in three successive years from 1988 and 1990, each time against Becker, and lifted the trophy twice.

"I wasn't going to cry or anything as it was so great to be there," Edberg, runner-up to Becker at Queen's said.

"It's a tough one but it has to end at some point, today was the day. I am playing my last, he is playing his first. Maybe he is taking over my steps."

Edberg added: "I think once you have been a champion here you should leave like one had remember that." He did just that.



Kimiko Date of Japan makes the effort to slice a forehand shot against Kristie Boogert of Holland on the sixth day of the All-England tennis championships Friday. — AFP/UNB photo

Age-group tennis

Sports Reporter

Fahim Ahsan Romi and Niranjan Ram, the top seeds in the under-16 section of the national age-group tennis championships, set up a final clash with the second seeded duo of Salahuddin and Monir after eliminating their respective semifinal opponents at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday.

In the rain affected first semifinal, the Fahim-Niranjan pair outclassed Aziz Raf and Salahuddin and Monir duo floored Selim Imron pair with an identical 6-4, 6-4 score.

Olympic tennis outclassed

LONDON, June 30: The 1991 Wimbledon champion Michael Stich — one of only five men's seeds to survive the first week at this year's championships — has shrugged off tennis as an Olympic sport, reports AFP.

My private opinion is that tennis doesn't really belong to the Olympic Games, he said, after cruising into the last sixteen of the men's singles at the weekend by beating Australian Sandon Stolle in four sets.

The recent French Open finalist, who declined selection for the Atlanta Games, said: "I made that choice because I won a gold medal (for doubles) last time and there's really not much more I can do to better that. I also wanted to give the chance to some other players to be part of the Olympic Games. It is a great experience."

"But for tennis players, Wimbledon, the Australian, French and United States opens will always be much more important than the Olympic Games."

"Track and field athletes and swimmers train for four years to go to the Olympics. It's the highlight of their careers. For tennis players it is not."

"It was a great thing for me to take part. But I would rather be there in a different sport or as a spectator rather than myself participating in the tennis tournament."

"One of the main problems is that the Olympics do not fit in. Look at the American guys who want to play the Games. They have to play three super nine events (Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Toronto), and then right after that it will be the United States Open. That's seven weeks of very intense tennis. I think it's impossible and I don't know how these guys are going to do it — especially with the heat and humidity."

The United States Open is much more important to me — not that I'm going to give back my gold medal. That is still an important part of my career."

ROK keeps door open

SEOUL, June 30: South Korea is keeping alive its conciliatory office to foot part of the bill for rival North Korea's participation in the Atlanta Olympics this summer, reports said today.

Though there has been silence from the International Olympic Committee (IOC) since the offer was made in April, the offer was being "positively reviewed," the South's Yonhap news agency said, reports AFP.

The agency quoted government officials here as saying the IOC and Atlanta Olympics organisers asked South Korea three months ago to shoulder part of North Korean Olympic expenses.

Seoul gave an "affirmative" reply, but there has been no further word from the IOC or the organising committees as to the amount South Korea is supposed to chip in, an unidentified official was quoted as saying.

"Nor has North Korea taken any step over the issue," he added.

South Korea will keep alive its offer and wait for a positive response from North Korea, which has appealed for emergency food supplies to avert famine following last year's devastating floods, newspapers said.

The Chosun Ilbo, a leading daily in Seoul, said South Korea was ready to foot part of some two million dollars requested by North Korea for its 70-member Olympic team.

Graf, the trail-blazer



LONDON, June 30 (Reuter): Steffi Graf is too interested in winning titles to worry about her place in tennis history.

The German joint world number one moved a step closer to a seventh Wimbledon singles title and 20th Grand Slam crown on Saturday and then said she had little time to reflect on the significance of her feats.

"Obviously you get more in touch with history here than in any other tournament," Graf said after she blitzed American Nicole Arendt 6-2, 6-1 to move into the fourth round.

"There are a lot of memories, a lot of past champions that are coming and just the facility itself. But I'm not thinking about history when I go out on court. I'm just trying to play the match. Maybe at some other time but definitely not right now."

Graf, 27, won her fifth French Open title earlier this month to take her Grand Slam singles tally to 19, one more than Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert.

Only former Australian champion Margaret Court, with 24 titles, is ahead of the German on the all-time list.

Graf said she occasionally reflected on how much she had achieved but winning tournaments gave her more immediate pleasure.

"I think maybe, some day when I stop playing and I'm looking back at my records the feeling will be stronger," she said.

"When I won in Paris it meant more to me to win the match than knowing I just won my 16th Grand Slam. I think it's a great accomplishment but I won that match and that made me more happy than the

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knee but said it was simply a precaution.

"It takes a little bit of pressure away from the tendon."

"Nothing crazy," said Graf, who was watched by her mother, Heidi.

Her father, Peter, is in prison facing charges that he evaded paying tax on millions of dollars of his daughter's earnings.

Graf had little trouble against Arendt, world-ranked 102. She won in just 41 minutes and then complained about the cold weather which forced spectators, including England soccer internationals David Seaman and Paul Ince, to huddle under blankets.

Unusually, she lost the first nine points of the match before warming to the task.

"I don't think it ever happened to me, that somebody cheered when I finally won a point," Graf said.

She now faces 16th-seeded Swiss Martina Hingis, whom she beat in the first round here last year.

But Hingis, 15, dined the German in the Italian open quarter finals last month.

Graf is used to carrying injuries into tournaments nowadays. Indeed, she might be a little worried if she did not have one here.

The last time she was injury-free at Wimbledon was in 1994, the year she lost in the first round to American Lori McNeil.



STEFFI GRAF

record."

Graf beat Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain 6-3, 6-7, 10-8 in the longest-ever French Open women's final in both time and games.

Against Agendt, the German top seed played with a small bandage on her injured left

Blasters being modest masters



LONDON, June 30 (Reuter): Tennis' master blasters have been trading compliments as well as rocket-powered serves at this year's Wimbledon.

The battle for the biggest delivery is fierce in the modern-day game, where space age technology has turned rackets into weapons that propel the ball at over 200 kilometres an hour and give players just 0.3 seconds to react.

World number one Pete Sampras, regarded by many as having the best serve in the

definitely the ones to watch out for on grass. They are probably the most difficult to play.

After five days at this year's Wimbledon, which is using heavier balls for the second year to try to slow the big serves on grass, Ivanisevic had clocked 39 aces and Sampras 31.

Leading the way was Wimbledon first-timer Alexander Radulescu of Germany with 64 from Britain's Greg Rusedski (60) and giant Australian 19-year-old Mark Philippoussis (44).

Japan's Shuzo Matsuoka was top of the pace-list, clocking 214 kph, ahead of Philippoussis (210kph). The 1.94-metre Melbourne right-hander hardly eases the throttle with his second serve, registering a 202 kph second hit in losing to Sampras in the second round.

"The way he serves, it's just like he has two first serves," Sampras said of Philippoussis, known as "scud" on the circuit.

"There's nothing you can do, you just have to hang in

there and be patient and hopefully get the chance to break him."

Philippoussis, for his part, rates Sampras as the most lethal.

"When he gets on a roll with that serve, I'm sure he feels that he can go for any part of the line and make it at some stage," said Philippoussis, who hit 28 aces against Sampras in a match of few rallies, providing further fuel for those dismayed by the dominance of the power game.

The Australian, at least, realises you need more than just a big serve to win in today's



STEFFI GRAF

pressure-cooker game.

"I would prefer to serve no aces and win the match, than serve 500 and lose," he said after failing to gain a break-point against the Sampras serve.

"I think you're better to get consistency in the first serve than aces. First serves and first volleys are more important than smacking away on my serve."