Not timed well

for Steffi

MANNHEIM, Germany, Jan

11: Steffi Graf is set to hear the

verdict of her father's much-

publicised German tax trial

during the climax in this mon-

th's Australian Open, reports

allegations of evading millions

of dollars of tax on the world

tennis number one's earnings

said on Friday he expected a

ruling on January 24, the Friday before the final weekend

the player's financial affairs

since she was a teenager is ac-

cused along with family tax ad-

viser Joachim Ekardt of evad-

ing more than 10 million dol-

lars of German tax on Steffi's

earnings between 1989 and

August 1995 and went on trial

last expremier. He was released

on bail in November after

spending 15 months behind

Graf herself remains under

investigation in the affair

which has put her under huge

emotional stress in the last

year especially when her father

suspicions against her are not

as serious as those against her

father. The world number one

But investigators have said

was in prison.

Graf, 58, was arrested in

Peter Graf, who has managed

of the Grand Slam.

A judge trying Peter Graf on

WA in sight

of victory

Australia were only 54 runs from victory over New South

Wales heading into the final

day of their Sheffield Sheild

cricket match here today, re-

win, Western Australia were

166 for one at stumps on the

third day with Michael Hussey

not out 58 and Justin Langer on

of the Shield lead with Queens-

land, who were in trouble

against champions South Aus-

highest first-class score of 255

to place South Australia in a

day. Queensland were 143 for

six, with leg-spinner Peter

McIntyre taking 3-44, in reply

to South Australia's first in-

run lead into the final day of

their match against Victoria in

at the close in their second in-

nings with axed Test batsman

Ricky Ponting unbeaten on 62

first innings points when Vic-toria declared at 284 for nine-

75 runs short of Tasmania's

first innings total of 359 for

Egg ordeal!

thrown on to Center Court from

outside the White City stadium

delayed play in the men's dou-

bles final at the Sydney

International tennis tourna

ment on Saturday, reports AP.

thrown over the stadium roof

and on to the court from the

street," tournament referee Bill

Gilmour said, "As soon as it

happened, two security guards

went through and saw two guys

recall a similar incident hap-

pening in his 20 years' in-

volvement with the tourna

Spaniards Luis Lobo and Javier

The match between

Gilmour said he could not

driving away in a car.

"At least four eggs were

SYDNEY, Jan 11: Raw eggs

with David Boon not out 33.

Tasmania will take a 257-

Tasmania were 182 for three

Earlier, Tasmania secured

nings 527 for six declared.

tralia in Adelaide.

strong position.

Melbourne.

Victory will give WA a share

Darren Lehanann scored his

At the close of the second

Chasing a target of 220 to

ports AFP.

SYDNEY, Jan 11: Western

Taylor brazens odds out



ket captain Mark Taylor has vowed to remain at the top of his side's

batting order in Sunday's crucial one-day inter-



COURTNEY WALSH

national match against the West Indies here, despite the greatest form crisis of his career, reports AFP.

Taylor, 32, a left-hander who has faced the new ball in 76 Tests and 107 international limited-over clashes, today dispelled thoughts he might drop down the order in the World Series match to give himself a chance to recapture his best touch.

"I have always been an opener, and that's where I have played my best cricket," he said after an extensive nets session at the WACA Ground in preparation for one of Australia's most important matches of the summer

"I don't think now is the time to move down the order."

Australia must beat the high-flying West Indies to retain any hope of qualifying for the best-of-three finals of the lucrative contest, worth 100,000 Australian dollars (78,000 US) to the winner.

Australia, Jan 11

(AP): Pete Samp-

ras had never

even heard of

Dinu Pescariu un-

til Saturday afternoon - but he

will be finding out all he can

about the 22-year-old

Romanian over the next 48

player, drawn to face a qualifier

in the first round of the

Australian Open, learned that

The Romanian is ranked 169

in the world and has never been

higher than 133 in five years as

a professional. Making the sec-

ond round of the French Open

in 1991 is the highlight of his

him — nothing," Sampras ad-

mitted after losing to fellow

American Michael Chang in

Saturday's final of the Colonial

"I'll hopefully find some-

Classic exhibition at Kooyong.

thing about him over the next

day or two, what kind of player

he is, and what he does. It's al-

ways difficult to play someone

fore and you just have to work

your way into the match, but

hopefully I'll find some things

"You need every advantage

Sampras, who won the

"It would have been nice to

Chang, the No. 2 seed who

He will be aiming to win his

you can get out there as far as

strategy is concerned, as far as

Australian Open in 1994, said

he was not perturbed by his loss

win, but the main thing is that I

feel fresh and ready to go on

Monday," he said. "I've achieve

will face lucky loser Kris

Goossens of Belgium in the first

round of the Open, won the

Colonial Classic for the third

first Grand Slam event since

the 1989 French Open after

making the semis in Melbourne

in 1995 and the final last year.

up my career it has been perse-

verance," he said. "If I come up

short I'm going to try again. I'm

not afraid of falling short and

I'm not afraid of picking myself

up again.
"If at first you don't succeed,

try, try, try, try, and try again."

is relishing his return to the

Australian, where he won last

year after a five-year Grand

'Buster' beats

Pepeli

Jan 11: Former Unified world

heavyweight boxing champion

UNCASVILLE. Connecticut.

Defending champion Becker

"If there is one word to sum

where he lost to Boris Becker.

to Chang in the exhibition.

out over the next day or two.

"I've been in the situation be-

"I don't know anything about

Grand Slam career.

you've never seen.

what he likes to do.'

that - so I'm happy.

straight year.

Pescariu will fill that role

The world's top-ranked

hours.

The West Indies (8 points) are

current leaders in the qualifying rounds, followed by Pakistan (6) and Australia (4). All countries have played six

Taylor's form slump has coincided with Australia's abysmal recent record in the one-day arena.

The home nation have lost their past four limited -overs engagements, and crashed in 10 of their past 12.

Taylor has made only 117 runs at an average of 19.50 in six one-day outings this season, an aggregate of 139 at an aver-age of 23.17 in three Tests and has one half century in his past 22 first-class innings.

Despite that atrocious record. Taylor remains cheerful and, unlike many international sporting figures in the doldrums, still finds time - and

a smile - for the media. "The thing is I feel good," Taylor said. "I have felt in rea-

sonable nice most of the season. "Other times, when I have had bad form, I have felt terrible at the crease, but now I don't feel that bad.

"It's just a matter of getting a start, and getting through the

"I don't really think Mark Taylor has a great problem. Things can turn around very

He was encouraged, he said, by the WACA's characteristic of helping batsmen make shots.

The West Indies, ridding on a seven-wins-in-a-row crest, will do everything they can to prolog Taylor's discomfort, hoping they can hold their clear psychological advantage until the vital fourth Test of the fivematch series for the Frank Worrell Trophy.

Australia lead 2-1 after winning in Brisbane and Sydney before the tourists rebounded in Melbourne. The fourth Test starts in

with the final match starting a week later. West Indies captain

Adelaide Saturday fortnight,

Courtney Walsh declined to say today whether the team would recall match-winning spearhead Curtly Ambrose in an effort to keep Taylor on the back

There is a strong suspicion Ambrose, who has had a ham-



MARK TAYLOR

string problem, will be risked in the hope he can help to pre-vent Taylor refinding his form and ensuring Australia will be eliminated from the one-day

If Australia fail to make the finals of the triangular competition, it will be the first time in 17 years they have suffered this humiliation.

TEAMS AUSTRALIA: Mark Taylor (capt), Ian Healy (vice-capt). Michael Bevan, Greg Blewett. Andrew Bichel, Stuart Law. Glenn McGrath, Tom Moody, Anthony Stuart, Shane Warne, Mark Waugh, Steve Waugh (12th man to be named).

WEST INDIES: Courtney Walsh (capt), Brian Lara (vicecapt), Jimmy Adams, Curtly Ambrose, Kenny Benjamin, Ian Bishop, Sherwin Campbell, Griffith, Robert Adrian Shivanarine Samuels. Chanderpaul, Roland Holder, Carl Hooper, Junior Murray. Nixon McLean, Patterson

Thompson (to be finalised). Stranger awaits Sampras

Sanchez and Paul Haarhuis and Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands was delayed for five minutes while the court was cleaned. Lobo and Sanchez won 6-4, 6-7 (1-7), 6-3.

Trauma that trails behind

MELBOURNE, Jan 11 (AP): The last time Jennifer Capriati played the Australian Open, four years, ago, she left in a flood of tears, her voice trembling, her career and life on the

She was 16. She took little pleasure in the Olympic gold medal she had won the previous summer, dwelling instead on the losses she suffered, the pressures she felt, the image of the happy,

see as a fake. When she tumbled out of the Australian in the quarterfinals, just a week after winning a tuneup in Sydney, she looked shattered, as if her whole career

precocious teen she had come to

would be defined by failure. By the end of that year, she would be gone from the tour, pursuing what passed for normalcy - high school, alcohol, drugs - until she wound up arrested for marijuana possession

in a seedy motel. She is back now, without the slender silver ring in her nose. the black nail polish, the purple hair, the oriented gaze. At 20, after two treatments for alcohol and drug abuse, after aborted comebacks and injuries, after the breakup of her parents marriage and a dispute over training with her father and former manager-coach. Stefano, Jennifer Capriati is

tennis. Capriati, coming in un seeded, may not be ready yet to win the Australian starting Monday, to upset No 1 seed and four-time champion Steffi Graf. or to overshadow top men like No 1 Pete Sampras and defend-

ing champion Boris Becker. But there is triumph enough in coming back as far as Capriati has, to be fit enough to beat Chanda Rubin and last summer's Olympic gold medalist. Lindsay Davenport, the past week en route to the final in Sydney, and Monica Seles in Chicago last fall. The loss to Martina Hingis, 6-1, 5-7, 6-1, Saturday for the Sydney title did nothing to diminish those achievements or her prospects.

Boro's win makes Juninho hopeful

MIDDLESBROUGH. England, Jan 11: Juninho believes Middlesbrough's league Cup quarter final victory over Liverpool has given him the springboard to secure his World

Cup place, reports Reuter. The little Brazilian has never shared unsettled compatriot Emerson's unhappiness at Middlesbrough. But he was becoming alarmed at the way the club's season was sliding into

disaster. "Brazil have many new players to pick from and I need Middlesbrough to be winning games to maintain my status in the international team," he said after the 2-1 win over Liverpool on

Tuesday. "I am very excited at the prospect of playing in the World Cup next year in France so it is

important Boro do well. "I said when I joined Middlesbrough that I came here to be successful. I am determined to win things and I would love to start by winning the League Cup at Wembley.



ON THE WINNERS' PODIUM: Briton Tim Henman (L) and Carlos Moya of Spain, champion and runner-up in the Sydney International respectively, pose for photographers with their laurels after the final yesterday. Henman beat the Spaniard 6-3,6-1.-AFP/UNB Photo

Henman, Hingis hack thru'

Henman said he was uncon-

has struged in recent years.

nation in that respect," he said

Britain's Jo Durie won the

The tournament is a lead-in

women's singles title at White

event to the Australian Open.

the first Grand Slam of the

year starting in Melbourne

match full of resonances

Capriati, now on the comeback

trail, became the youngest

women's champion in Sydney

in 1993 at the age of 16 years

and nine months.

The women's final was a

City in 1983.

Monday.



Rising British tennis star Tim Henman and Swiss prodigy Martina Hingis comp-

leted dream countdowns to the Australian Open today by winning the men's and women's finals at the Sydney international, report agencies. Henman, 22, claimed his

first professional title by beating Spain's Carlos Moya 6-3, 6-I less than a week after playing in his first career final in Doha. Hingis, in her third tour win,

stopped former American child star Jennifer Capriati 6-1, 7-5, 6-1, reclaiming the last title she won before her three-year absence from the game.

Henman' became first British player to win the Sydney men's singles title at white City since 1902 when he beat Moya in 52 minutes.

The last British player to win the event was Dr. Wilberforce Vaughan Eaves in 1902, who was born in Australia, but played Davis Cup for Britain

Henman will lift his ranking to around No 14 in the world from No 24 with his efforts in Sydney. The win completes a hectic week for the Oxford righthander.

Henman was runner-up to Jim Courier in the Qatar Open last Sunday, his first ATP Tour

It's great to come away with special," Henman said after his win over an opponent worldranked No.28.

The victory has also quickly fulfilled Henman's three stated playing goal for 1997-to reach an ATP Tour final, to break into the top 20 and to win his first title. Henman and 20-year-old

Moya, who turned pro in 1995. traded blows from the back of the court in the opeg games before Moya broke to lead 2-1. But from that point Henman began to assert control, rushing to the net and volleying crisply.

He won 11 of the last 13 games, breaking back for 2-2 and taking the first set in 34 minutes. He broke three times in the final set — the third, fifth and seventh games. He clinched victory when a Moya backhand sailed wide.

"The first set was one of the ugliest sets of tennis I've played in a long time," said Henman.

"It was a mental battle with the win and I was a little nervous. It was a question of overcoming that.

Henman, who beat top seed and world No. 3 Goran Ivanisevic in the semifinals Friday, said his aim was now to break into the top 10.

"You have to set targets for yourself. When you achieve

Tapie ready to blow the whistle

PARIS, Jan 11: Disgraced former Olympique Marseille club president Bernard Tapie has threatened to expose widescale corruption in French football when he goes on trial for financial irregularities, reports AFP.

"I invented nothing in French football," he tells Le Monde on Friday. "Everything that existed before me is still going on.

Last week Le Monde reported that examining magistrate Pierre Philipon's four-year investigation into fraud and false accounting at Marseille showed that 101 million francs (20 million dollars) had been diverted for rigging matches in the French league and in European competitions.

Tapie says former Budget Minister Michel Charasse interfered in the investigations only to ensure enquiries were carried out throughout French football and were not aimed solely at Olympique Marseille. "I intend to name all the per-

sonalities in French football (club presidents, the league and federation presidents, advertising and sponsorship executives and broadcasters) during the trial," Tapie threatened.

Tapie says he invested 52 million francs (10 million dollars) of his own money into the club he took over in 1986. He stepped down in 1994 and

DFP-346-6/1

G-140

in 1995 was given a two-year prison sentence for his part in the Marseille-Valenciennes match fixing which clinched the 1993 French championship for Marseille.

them you go back to the drawing She lost that record to Hingis, aged 16 years and three board and set them higher and months but with two full years I'll set them for the top 10."

cerned about the pressure put on had faced the player who took him in Britain, in which tennis her place as the sport's youngest "Looking back at tennis in major star and has eclipsed many of her age records. Britain we have struggled as a

second set, however, when "It's obviously satisfying to put Capriati played some beautitennis back on the map and I tully-controlled shots to come hope to do that for many more back from 1-4 down to win 7-5 Hingis was dominant Henman collected US 43,000 dollars for his win. Mova took home US 26,000 dol-

title-holder and now she's struggling and I'm in the same place — it's weird," said Hingis, adding that Capriati had nevertheless played "a great match"

against her. "I'm younger than Jennifer but right now I think I'm more

Hingis is seeded fourth in the one Steffi Graf of Germany.

says she entrusted her financial affairs to him from an early of tour tenns behind her. It was the first time Capriati

Apart from a spell in the

Four years ago she was the

experienced," she said.

Australian Open, which starts on Monday, but is seen by many as the woman with the best chance to beat world number "I'm still 16, I have nothing to lose, she said.

Hewitt's bonus

MELBOURNE, Jan 11 Fifteen-year-old Lleyton Hewitt will have to miss this week's Australian junior hardcourt championship to meet another pressing engagement - playing in the main draw of the Australian Open, reports AFP. The Australian teenager,

who received a wildcard into the Open qualifying, beat Briton Mark Petchey, 11 years his senior, 6-1, 6-4 in the final qualifying round here today. The reward for the Adelaide voungster is a first round match

with two-time French Open champion Sergi Bruguera from "I feel great but I still have a

job to do. I still have another tournament to play," Hewitt said. "It will be a very good experience ... I am very excited. It has been a dream.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Directorate of Housing

Office of the Property/Financial Manager

Dhaka City Infrastructure Development Project Mirpur. Dhaka

Notice of Plot Allotment through tender under Asian Development Bank aided "Dhaka City Infrastructure Development Project" at Mirpur, Dhaka.

Tenders are invited in the prescribed form of the Project under sealed cover for allotment to interested individuals/founders of commercial firms the under mentioned commercial plots under Asian Development Bank aided "Dhaka City Infrastructure Development Project" at Mirpur, Dhaka under the Directorate of Housing.

SI No	Class of plot & location	Number of Plots	Size of Plot (approximately)	Minimum rate (per square meter) of land fixed by govt.
1	Commercial plots Mirpur, Sections 6 & 1 (adjacent to stadium & Zoological Garden Road)	7	134 square metres (about 2.00 kathas) to be counted as 1 bigha= 1337 square metres	Per sq m= Tk 11,219.15 (per bigna = about Tk 150.00 lakh).

Interested persons/firms shall have to purchase the plot allotment prospectus & application form on cash payment of Tk 100/- (one hundred) only (non-refundable) against cash receipt from the office of the Executive Engineer, Mirpur Housing Division-2, Section-2, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216 during office hours from 7.1.97 to 17.1.97 and the cash receipt must be submitted enclosed with the application. One application should be for one plot only.

Application with necessary papers stated in the plot allotment form & prospectus and security money in Pay Order/Bank Draft under sealed cover should be dropped in the tender box kept at the office of the Property/Financial Manager, Property/Financial Management Division, Dhaka City Infrastructure Development Project, Directorate of Housing, Section-2, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216 on 20.1.97 between 10.00 AM and 12.30 PM. No tender will be received after expiry of prescribed time limit. The tenders will be opened on the same day at 2.00 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers. If the required papers are found to be incomplete or fake to the description of tender, then the tender will be cancelled by the authority.

Some special information for the applicants for commercial plot allotment are given below:

Two tenders of those who have applied for commercial plots on 23.12.96 remain valid. If they want to re-submit tender in response to the present notice then they have to collect prospectus afresh and submit fresh tender. In that case, if additional price is quoted, then 10 per cent earnest money of that amount in Pay Order/Bank Draft under prescribed head must be submitted with the tender.

Price of land will be decided as per size of plot in auction through tenders submitted under sealed cover. Govt prescribed rate of land has been decided at minimum Tk 11,219.15 per sq m. Tender submitted at the rate below Taka one crore fifty lakh per bigha i.e. 1337 sq m will not be acceptable. Rate in tender should be quoted per square metre (not per katha or bigha).

10% of tender quoted value as earnest money should be deposited through Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank enlisted with Bangladesh Bank in favour of "Executive Engineer", Dhaka Housing Division-1, Mirpur, Dhaka and the original copy of the Pay Order/Bank Draft must be attached with the tender form submitted, otherwise the tender will be treated as cancelled. Selected tenderers shall have to pay the total price of allotted plot adjusting the earnest money within 60 (sixty) days of issuing allotment letter. Tenderers failing to obtain plot allotment will be refunded their earnest money on their application within next 1 (one) month from the date of final settlement of plot allotment. But no interest will be paid.

Allotted plot cannot be used for any other purpose other than commercial. Construction work should be started within 2 (two) years of executing the lease deed and foundation for minimum 5 (five) storey building should be

Individual/firm cannot submit application for more than one plot. Any tenderer already obtaining commercial plot in self name, in the name of wife or son/daughter, father/mother or dependent or in anonymity from Directorate of Housing, Rajuk or any other Govt, Semi-govt or autonomous organisation or has become owner of any commercial plot by purchase or inheritance (individually or jointly) within 30 km radius of General Post Office

(GPO), cannot submit tender. Such firms as help create environment incongenial to peaceful living in residential area, need not submit tender. The allottee can carry on such legal business on the allotted plot as not inconducive to social & hygienic

environment of the area. Tender should be submitted with the lay-out plan attached to the prospectus stating the plot number & marking the plot with colour in the layout plan.

Other terms & conditions and rules & regulations are described in detail in the Project's approved prospectus & application form. Interested applicants are requested to submit tender after purchasing the prescribed prospectus & application form and following them cautiously. Situation of plot can be inspected on the spot by contacting the Executive Engineer, Mirpur Housing Division-2, Mirpur, Dhaka.

Md Abdur Rouf

Property/Financial Manager Dhaka City Infrastructure Development Project Section-2, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216 Phone: 9000786

James "Buster" Douglas, the first man to beat Mike Tyson. won a unanimous decision over fellow American Rocky Pepeli here Friday, reports AFP. All three judges awarded Douglas the 10-round bout by a 100-89 margin. Douglas knocked Pepeli down in round six and opened a cut over Pepeli's left eye in the last round.

"Hard work in the gym got me through it," Douglas said. "I felt really good. He made me work." Douglas rose to 32-5 with

one drawn. Pepeli fell to 19-10 with one drawn. The victory was the second for Douglas in a comeback after six years out of the ring, during

which his weight soared and he

once slipped into a diabetic

coma

"I see only positives," he said. "Coming back to a Grand Slam the year after you've won

rience every year, so coming back here brings back all the good moments and memories I had in 1996, and I thrive on

Spaniard Carlos Moya, who the Sydney International tour-

it is, for me, pure pleasure.

In other tantalizing first-

Czech veteran Pete Korda.

drawcards. Seles and Andre Agassi

of Spain and ninth-seeded

Absentees include Monica

into the top 20 after making the final at Doha and winning

Philippoussis, who upset

Wimbledon champion Richard

Becker opens against was runner up to Britain's Tim Henman in Saturday's final of

Hewitt plays former French Open champion Sergi Bruguera

The tournament has been badly hit by withdrawals - including some of its biggest

Krajicek, French Davis Cup hero Cedric Pioline and Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic.

ing his hand working out in a

Sydney, faces a tough firstround match against power-

Chilean Marcelo Rios meets

Yevgeny Kafelnikov became the latest victim on Friday, break-

serving Australian Mark

straight Grand Slam event Kafelnikov will miss. He pulled out of the US Open, complain-

the draw to favour American

Sampras in Melbourne last round match ups, 15-year-old Australian qualifier Lleyton

This will be the second ing that officials manipulated

French Open champion

"It's something I don't expe-

Henman, who has surged

gingerly Engvist, a quarterfinalist at the Australian last year, is

American Todd Martin and Australian Jason Stoltenberg. both Wimbledon semifinalists, also have pulled out because of injuries And even some of those who haven't pulled out are walking

hampered by blisters on his right hand. American Jim Courier withdrew from his third match at the Colonial Classic earlier this week with a hamstring injury.

After winning the Qatar

Open last week. Courier wasn't

about to risk further aggravat-

ing the muscle.

Swedish No. 7 seed Thomas

Seles pulled out because of a broken finger suffered during an exhibition in Slovakia last It's only latest in a series of ailments that have plagued the Yugoslav-born American since she returned from the stabbing at the Citizen Cup in 1993. She

was slowed by tendinitis in her

knees in 1995 and suffered a

muscle tear in her left shoulder

early last year. With Seles out, top-seeded Steffi Graf doesn't face any real challenge in her half of the draw. Still, she wasn't enthused by Seles' withdrawal. "Obviously to miss a player of her status is disappointing," she said. And Graf also isn't

thinking of continuing her

domination of the women's cir-

cuit, like sweeping all four

Slams in 1997.

"I'm just starting the year," she said. "It's far too long to took at that. Graf opens against Janette Husarova of Slovakia, while No. 2 seed Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain meets Gloria once again a force in women's Pizzichini of Italy.

Swiss tennis prodigy Martina Hingis holds aloft the trophy after beating Jennifer Capriati of the United States in the final of the Sydney International at White City - Reuter/UNB photo yesterday.