

Sport

S Africa on a sticky wicket

Sports Reporter

South Africa were 112 for four in 28 overs in reply to a fighting Zimbabwe total of 211 in a triangular cricket tournament match yesterday...

Acme Div II cricket results

Sports Reporter

Indira Road Krira Chakra, Nirman Eleven, Lancashire Cricket Club and Rupali Bank won their respective Acme Second Division cricket league matches held at different venues in the city yesterday...

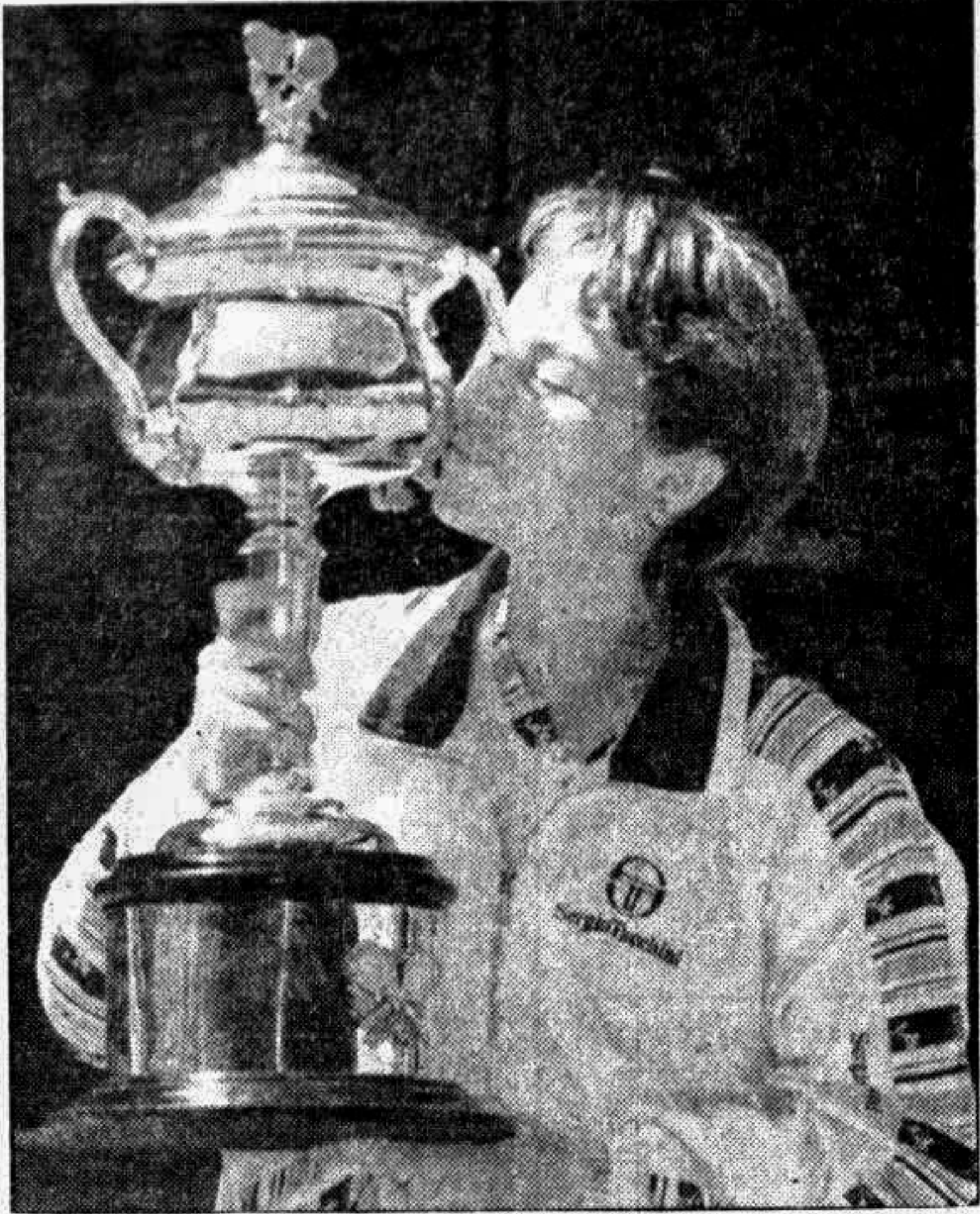
Pak cricketer defends his position

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Jan 25: An 18-year-old Pakistani cricketer told a jury the Jamaican woman he is accused of raping in fact seduced him...

Martina makes her mark

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

MELBOURNE, Jan 25: Martina Hingis made tennis history today in Melbourne. She took the title winning 6-2, 6-2 in exactly 59 minutes by sweeping aside Mary Pierce...



TASTE OF THIS ONE ... SWEETEST: Swiss starlet Martina Hingis kisses her maiden Grand Slam singles trophy after squashing French woman Mary Pierce 6-2, 6-2 in the Australian Open final at Melbourne Park yesterday...

SKETCH OF SWISS MISS

MELBOURNE, Jan 25 (Reuters): Following is a fact-file on Switzerland's Martina Hingis, who became the youngest Grand Slam champion in modern tennis history today...

tournament without dropping a set. "It's tough when the person on the other side of the net is there for every ball, making great shots off my great shots," said the 22-year-old Pierce...

It was a sweet revenge for Hingis over Mary Pierce who beat her in their previous three encounters. While reaching the finals Hingis did not drop a set in her previous six matches...

Pierce on occasion was superb with her forehand but she had no answer to Martina's crosscourt forehand, intelligent dropvolleys and down the line passes...

Martina Navratilova, for whom she was named, Steffi Graf, Monica Seles, Mary Pierce, Chris Evert, Evonne Goolagong, Margaret Smith Court...

Moya enters top ten

MELBOURNE, Jan 25: Win or lose Sunday's Australian Open final against Pete Sampras, Spanish giant Carlos Moya has earned a place in the top 10 of men's tennis...

The scattering of the top seeds over the past two weeks at Melbourne Park has reshuffled the world rankings, though Sampras keeps the top ranking even if he is beaten on Sunday...



Russian world and Olympic champions Oksana Grishuk and Yevgeny Platov perform at the European figure skating championships in Paris on Jan 24. The pair won the title.

Doubles title Woodies'

MELBOURNE, Jan 25: Australians Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde won a record eighth Grand Slam men's doubles title Saturday...

They now have won the Australian title twice, four consecutive Wimbledon and two US Opens. "It was a really big deal for us," Woodforde said of breaking the record held by John McEnroe and Peter Fleming...

The victory was worth 196,000 dollars for the Woodies, who won 12 titles in 13 finals last year. Their titles included an Olympic gold medal.

Steffi arrives in Japan

NARITA, Japan Jan 25: World number one Steffi Graf ignored reporters on arrival at Narita Airport today following the sentencing of her father to over three years jail for tax evasion...

Holmes' hopes shattered

COPENHAGEN, Denmark, Jan 25: Former heavyweight champion Larry Holmes lost his latest bid at a comeback at age 47, dropping a 12-round split decision to Brian Nielsen...

Set for a showdown

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

MELBOURNE, Jan 25: Carlos Moya has a date with destiny tomorrow. The little-known Spaniard, ranked 28 last year will meet a player who has been in the number one spot since 1993...



Moya is the first Grand Slam final against world number one who won here in 1994 and lost in the final the next year. It will be the 11th Grand Slam final



Pete not to take this kid from Palma de Mallorca lightly. AFP adds: While the 25-year-old Sampras is chasing further tennis greatness the 20-year-

old Moya is just beginning to see his career blossom. Moya's revelation in the Australian Open with upset wins over defending champion Boris Becker and last year's beaten finalist and second seed Michael Chang is only the fourth unseeded player to reach an Australian Open final...

Of happy-go-lucky Hingis

MELBOURNE, Jan 25: Martina Hingis has broken so many records in her young life that today, at the tender age of 16 years and three months, she found there was becoming the youngest ever world number one, reports Reuter.

The Swiss prodigy spoke of her goal after becoming the games youngest ever Grand Slam champion by squashing France's Mary Pierce 6-2, 6-2 in the Australian Open final.

"I have a pretty big chance," she added. "I just want to play very good tennis at the next tournament and see what happens in Paris (at the French Open) and the other Grand Slams."



A gloomy Steffi Graf bites her lip on arrival at Narita International Airport in Tokyo yesterday. The German tennis queen will take part in the Toray Pan Pacific tournament.

DOWN UNDER DIARY

MELBOURNE, Jan 25: France's Mary Pierce has proven a hit on court at the Australian Open — and is making friends off court too. The 1995 Australian Open champion — who faced Martina Hingis of Switzerland in Saturday's women's final — is reported to have had two dinners with leading Australian basketball player Chris Anstey...

DOUBLE GLORY Swiss tennis teen Martina Hingis and Natasha Zvereva teamed up at the Australian Open — and walked off with the women's double title. But as for whether they are going to make it a regular partnership, both shrug their shoulders.

The way she hugged her mother and coach, Melanie, on Centre Court after the match told a different story. Both had clearly enjoyed the moment. "I think we are a great team," Hingis said. "In his tournament we were just better than everybody else."

PETE'S PASTIMES Pete Sampras on Sunday chases his ninth Grand Slam singles title — but his love of playing tennis doesn't carry over to being a spectator. Sampras watched only snatches of his next opponent, Spain's Carlos Moya, upsetting Michael Chang in the semifinals.

DID YOU KNOW Pete Sampras' eight Grand Slam singles titles are the most of any player currently on the men's tour. But can you name the person who has the most career Grand Slam singles crowns? Australia's Roy Emerson leads with 12. Compatriot Rod Laver and Sweden's Bjorn Borg each have 11.

Indonesia joins the lists? JAKARTA, Jan 25: President Suharto said on Friday Indonesia hoped to stage the Asian Games in 2006, and the Olympic Games in 2008. The official Antara news agency reported on Friday, says Reuter. The agency quoted Minister of Youth and Sports Hayono Isman as saying that Suharto had asked him to "study a possibility that Indonesia becomes the host of Asian Games in 2006 and the Olympic Games in 2008."

TODAY'S MATCHES

- Premier Division Cricket League: Abahani vs Kalabagan KC (DS) (relegation league) Victoria SC vs Lalmitia Club (DCS) First Division Cricket League: Ajax SC vs Gopibagh FA (CC) Acme Second Division Cricket League: B Railway vs Young Pegasus (MOS) Kathalbagi GCC vs Dhanomdi Progoti (T&T ground) Khelaghar SKS vs Spread Eagles (Uttara) Mariner Youngs vs PWD SC (DCG) East End Club vs Azad Boys Club (DCS, West)