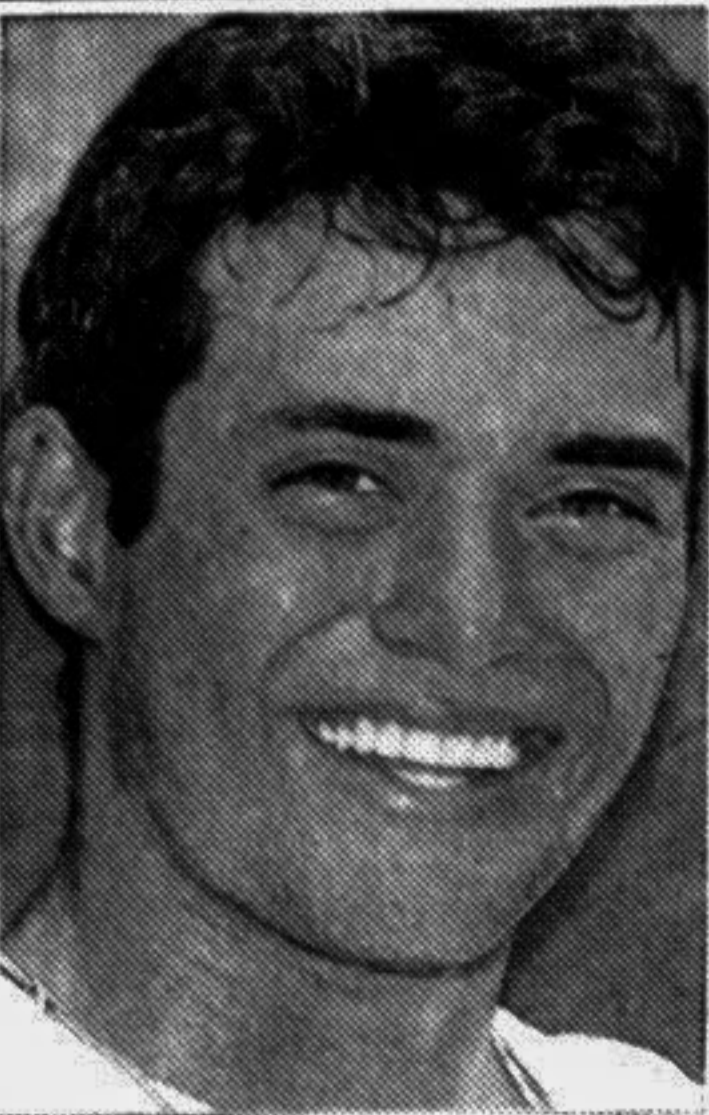


Sport

Column One

SPORTS TALK



**Leander Paes**  
(Indian tennis star)  
"I have no expectations and no promises. Whoever plays better over the weekend will win."  
Before the India-Czech Republic Davis Cup tie.

**Sports**  
**WHIZZ KID**  
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

**Sports WHIZZ KID competition-64**

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Competition closes 8 pm, Feb 28, '97

- Who finished runners-up in the Premier Division cricket league?  
Biman Kalabagan Brothers
- In the ICC Trophy, Bangladesh will be led by  
Bulbul Nannu Akram
- The eighth SAF Games will be held in  
Nepal Bhutan Sri Lanka
- Where was Martina Hingis born?  
Switzerland Hungary Czech Republic
- Name the skipper of the Zimbabwe cricket team.  
A Flower Campbell Houghton

Name .....  
Class ..... Roll No. ....  
School Address .....  
Phone: (if any) .....

**Botany Bay Linford's**

SYDNEY, Feb 23: British Olympic gold medalist Linford Christie, running on a grass track for the first time since his school days, won the 91,000 US dollars Botany Bay gift over 120 metres here today, reports AFP. The Barcelona Olympic 100m champion picked up 16,000 dollars winner's cheque when he clocked 12.03 secs off scratch in the final to edge out Australian Tony Marshall with British teammate Darren Campbell third.

Despite conceding starts to the other finalists, Christie, 36, stormed home to win in a photo finish.  
"It was good fun and I enjoyed it," said Christie.  
The last time I ran on grass was at school and I've never been presented with a winner's sash before. But the others were going fast and I had to work hard to catch them."  
Christie also won the 100 yards title in 9.49 secs from Campbell and Australian Dean Capobianco.  
"I may be back next year, but will not compete at the World (Indoor) Championships in Paris (next month). I haven't had this much fun in a long time," said Christie.

**Confederations Cup Brazil-Sarabia opener**

RIYADH, Feb 23: World Cup champions Brazil will play the opener with hosts Saudi Arabia on December 12 to kick off the third FIFA Confederations Cup, reports Xinhua.  
As the draw was made on Saturday, Group A also bracketed Concacaf Gold Cup champion Mexico and Oceania champions Australia.  
The other four teams in Group B were South American champions Uruguay, Asian Cup runners-up United Arab Emirates, European Championship runners-up Czech Republic and African Cup winners South Africa.  
Argentina and Denmark, the two previous champions, were absent from this year's event which will conclude on December 21 with a bonus at stake worth 1.7 million US dollars.  
The eight-team tournament features the continental champions, defending World Cup champions and the hosts in a round-robin competition for the first round, with the top two teams in both groups advancing to the semifinals.  
Germany was the only continental champions that missed the tournament and their place was taken by the Czech Republic.  
The Emirates also obtained their berth as Asian Cup champions Saudi Arabia was to play the hosts.

**Knight crushes Kiwi bid**



AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb 23: England easily beat New Zealand by six wickets in the second of five one-day internationals at Eden Park here today, taking a 2-0 lead in the series, reports AFP.

The match was seriously affected by rain and the reduced target favoured England. The England batsmen were also superior and gave their team an excellent chance of winning before the interruption.

New Zealand won the toss and decided to bat, reaching a total of 253 for the loss of eight wickets off their full 50 overs.

Chris Cairns hammered 79 of 76 balls, and lower-order batsmen Dipak Patel and Gavin Larsen put together a useful stand at the end of the innings.

Chasing 254 to win, England began their innings in cracking style. Nick Knight and Alex Stewart put on 47 off just six overs, helped by some loose bowling.

At that point the rain came down, and when the match resumed nearly two hours later England's victory target had been reduced to a total of 132 with 20 overs remaining.

The weather, which threatened more rain, became England's opponent and the batsmen had to hurry their score along.

Knight was England's hero, unbeaten at the end of the match after scoring 84. His innings included 12 boundaries and he scored the winning runs with successive fours.

England lost four wickets

during their run chase. Stewart going for 30. Dominic Cork made four. Ronnie Irani was out for a duck and Graham Thorpe was caught and bowled for four.



**N KNIGHT... 84 n.o**

But with the required run rate below three an over, only further rain could have saved New Zealand. It came in a short shower, but play was not interrupted again and England had placed New Zealand in a position where they have to win the third match in Napier on Wednesday to keep the series alive.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard from Sunday's

second one-day international between New Zealand and England.

**NEW ZEALAND**

Young C Stewart b Irani	46
Astle c Stewart b Mullyally	4
Parore run out	42
Fleming c Caddick b Gough	79
Cairns run out	79
Harris c sub (White) b Caddick	14
Gernon b Caddick	1
Patel run out	24
Larsen not out	12
Extras: (lb-9, nb-4, w-16)	29
Total: (for 8 wickets)	253
Fall of wickets: 1-24; 2-44; 3-96; 4-138; 5-189; 6-202; 7-219; 8-253.	

**Bowling:**

O	M	R	W
Cork	10	0	51
Mullyally	7	0	31
Caddick	6	0	33
Gough	10	0	65
Irani	7	0	26
Croft	10	1	33

**ENGLAND**

Knight not out	84
Stewart lbw b Davis	30
Cork c Young b Larsen	4
Irani c Astle b Doull	0
Thorpe c and b Doull	4
Hussain not out	9
Extras: (w-3)	3
Total: (for 4 wickets in 19.3 overs)	134
Fall of wickets: 1-86; 2-91; 3-92; 4-100.	

**Bowling:**

O	M	R	W
Davis	6	1	39
Doull	5	0	39
Larsen	5	0	31
Harris	2	0	8
Astle	1.3	0	17

**Result: England won by six wickets (target reduced due to rain interruption.)**  
**Series: England lead 2-0.**

**Devers defies the odds**



FAIRFAX, Virginia, Feb 23: Gall Devers overcame injury to post the year's third fastest 60-metres time and win a battle of Olympic medalists Saturday at the Mobil Invitational Grand Prix meet, reports Reuter.

Devers, the 1992 and 1996 Olympic champion in the 100 metres, was clocked at 7.07 seconds to beat Gwen Torrence, the 1992 Olympic gold medalist at 200 metres, and fellow-American Olympian Carlette Guidry.

Torrence ran 7.12, her best of the season, and Guidry, who came back to win the 200 metres, was third in 7.14.

Another Atlanta Olympic champion, Allen Johnson, won

the 60-metre hurdles here for the third consecutive year.

Other winners on the day included Jamaica's Michael Green in the men's 60 metres (6.53), Jackeline Maranga of Kenya in the women's mile (handtimed in 4:30.3) and Julius Achon of Uganda in the men's mile.

Achon, who runs for George Mason University, which hosts the meet, covered the mile in 3:57.41, edging Zimbabwe's Passmore Furusa (3:57.82). Ireland's Niall Bruton was a disappointing eighth (4:09.44). American Jason Pyrah, second at the Millrose Games two weeks ago, was third in 3:59.09.

The Devers-Torrence competition was the highlight of the meet, especially since it almost did not come off.

"I'm very pleased, more so because I didn't leave the meet on a stretcher," said Devers, who has been bothered by a right hamstring injury she suffered last month in Germany. Despite the injury, she posted a time bettered this year by only Irina Privalova of Russia and Nigeria's Christy Opara (both 7.02).

"If I felt anything in my warmup, I wasn't supposed to run, but I didn't feel anything then or during the race," said Devers hopeful she will be fit enough to run in next weekend's US indoor nationals in Atlanta.

Torrence is also pointing for the Atlanta meet, though she won't go on to the World Championship. "I'm not ready. Until I can run in 7-14, I won't be. And I'm not that fast this year," said Torrence.

Johnson's time, 7.57, was

the slowest of his three victories here. "I wasn't disappointed. This is only my third meet of the year. Usually I've run 15 by now," Johnson said.

"I'm using this to prepare for outdoors. I want to win next week and the worlds, but everything I'm doing now is to benefit my outdoor season."

Two-time US Olympian Steve Scott set an American record in the Masters Mile. The 40-year-old Scott, who had cancer surgery in 1994, went the last quarter in 59.87 to clock 4:14.27. The previous mark, 4:14.41, was held by Ken Popejoy. Ireland's Eamonn Coughlan has the world masters mark, 3:58.15.

**Davenport stays on course**

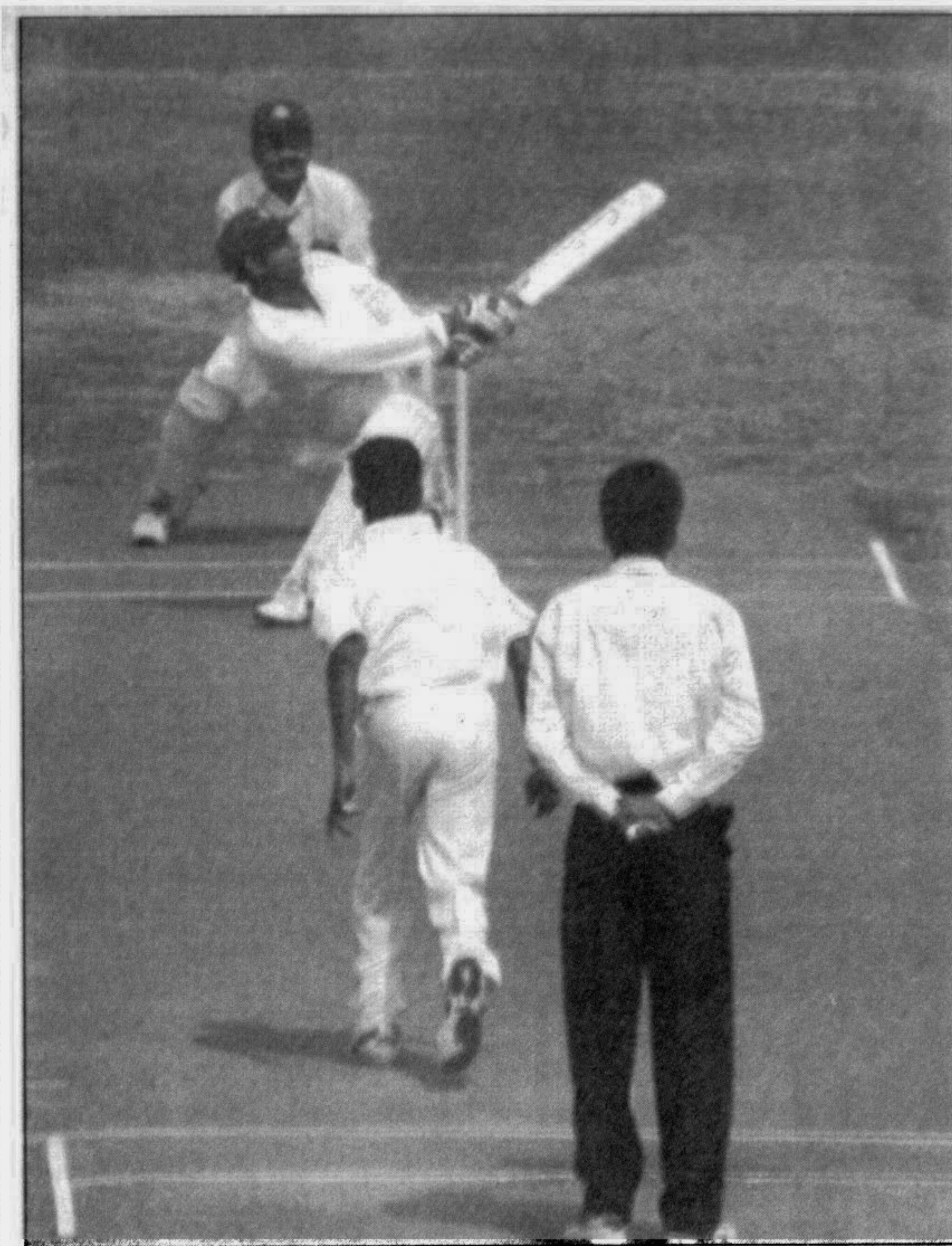
OKLAHOMA CITY, Feb 23: No. 1 seed Lindsay Davenport advanced to the final of the IGA Classic with a 1-6, 6-2, 6-3 victory over third-seeded Kimberly Po, reports AP.

Po dominated the early going of Saturday's match, winning the first set in 19 minutes. The second set was tied 2-2 when Davenport reeled off four consecutive games to square the match.

Davenport got the only service break of the third set to take a 5-3 lead, then served out the match.

"For sure, I felt like I escaped with a victory," she said.

Davenport will face the winner of Saturday's other semifinal, matching Francesca Lubiani and No. 4 seed Lisa Raymond.



Basit Ali, now in the middle of a cool and concentrated campaign for a return to the mainstream selection, here swings one with the spin. Basit's 67, the highest in yesterday's SAARC tourney billing at the Dhaka Stadium between the bitter neighbours India and Pakistan, contributed to the latter's facile win. —Star photo

**Asian Cup badminton results**

JAKARTA, Feb 23: Malaysia and Indonesia each assured a final berth at the Asian Cup badminton tournament here on Saturday, reports Xinhua.

Malaysia sailed into the final after defeating Chinese Taipei 2-1 while Indonesia routed South Korea 3-0 in the other semifinal.

Ong Ewe Kokk put the Malaysians ahead with a 9-15, 18-13, 15-13 comeback victory over Pung Permadi.

Ong Chen won the deciding second singles over Chien Yun Hsiu 15-11, 15-6, after Chinese Taipei pulled one point back through its doubles pair Hung Shih Chung and Chien Yu Hsun, who downed Tan Kim Her and Lee Wan Wah 8-15, 15-5, 15-10.

Indra Wijaya, ranked fourth in the world, gave Indonesia the first match after beating Park Sung Woo 15-6, 15-8.

World top doubles pair Sigit Budiarto and Chandra Wijaya nipped their South Korean rivals Lee Dong Soo and Yoo Yong Sung 15-6, 15-9.

Budi Santoso wrapped up the semifinal duel with a 15-9, 15-7 triumph over Kim Chul Houng.

**Henman, Rosset reach final**

ANTWERP, Belgium, Feb 23: Marc Rosset recovered from a shaky start to beat Czech Petr Korda 7-6, 6-3 on Saturday and set up a final with British number one Tim Henman in the European Community Championships, reports Reuter.

Earlier, sixth-seeded Henman the only seed to survive the earlier rounds reached his third final of the year when he beat unseeded Marc Goellner 6-4, 6-4.

Rosset quickly fell 4-1 behind as Korda's powerful groundstrokes and accurate drop shots gave him the edge.

The former Olympic champion drew a loud cheer when he launched his racket high in the air in frustration and caught it. "It's my style to always be one break down in the first set because I'm always slow to warm up... but he was returning unbelievably, there was nothing I could do but wait," said Swiss Rosset, who had lost four of his five previous matches against Korda.

But Korda, ranked 33 in the world, faded soon afterwards and was overwhelmed in the tie-break 7-2.

Rosset used his big serve to keep the momentum going in the second set while Korda folded further under the pressure.

The Czech saved the first match point but succumbed to the second when he hit a backhand passing shot wide.

Henman, the world number 19 who won his first professional title in Sydney last month, broke Goellner in the opening game after the German double-faulted twice and then held his serve to seal the first set in 35 minutes.

He broke again in the opening game of the second set after another Goellner double fault.

Goellner, winner of two tournaments on clay in the past four years, made amends with a service break in the next game but Henman broke again in the fifth game and never looked in danger of losing control.

He served out the match with a love game after one hour 10 minutes.

**Chang saves his party**



MEMPHIS, Tennessee, Feb 23: Michael Chang celebrated his 25th birthday Saturday night by overcoming some early mistakes and beating Todd Martin 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 in the semifinals of the St Jude Classic, reports AP.

Chang, the tournament's top seed, will play eight-seeded Todd Woodbridge Sunday in the final. It will be Chang's first appearance ever in the final of the tournament where he made his pro debut in 1988.

Martin, the No 3 seed, was trying to reach the event's final for the fifth straight time, and he looked like he might just do it after breaking Chang's serve to go up 1-2 in the first set. Martin broke him again to win the set with a forehand that Chang couldn't reach.

But Chang, a little rattled by a few early non-calls, settled down. After making six unforced errors in the first set, Chang made only three more the rest of the way. He broke Martin to start the second set.

Martin hurt himself with three straight forehands into the net and doublefaulted to lose his serve to trail 2-1 in the third. Martin had 23 unforced errors in the match.

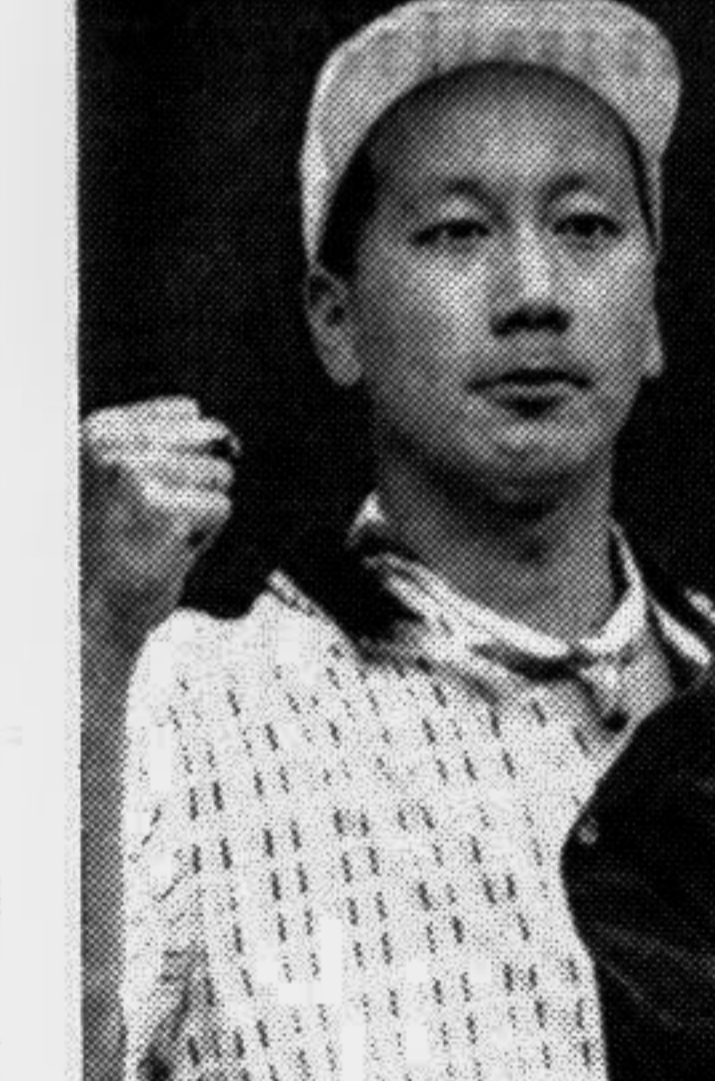
In the first semifinal, Woodbridge half of the world's best doubles team along with Mark Woodforde, dominated No 13 seed Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden to win 6-1, 7-5.

"He finally got on me there at the end, but with another match to go today, it was nice to get a fairly quick match," said Woodbridge.

Determined to see how much he can improve as a singles player, Woodbridge switched to a longer racket (by one inch) last month at Adelaide. With a little more speed and confidence, he won his second singles' title there.

Now ranked 32nd in the world, Woodbridge is off to the best start of his career with a 12-1 record as he tries to top his highest ranking ever (No 24 last March).

His victory over Bjorkman came just 14 hours after he and Woodforde won a three-set



MICHAEL CHANG

quarterfinals match. He had no time to celebrate with just a 40-minute break before heading back to the court for a doubles semifinal.

But the grind may have gotten to him, as the Woodies lost to Ellis Ferreira and Patrick Galbraith 7-6 (7-4), 6-4.

Woodbridge took advantage of Bjorkman's serving problems by breaking him in the second game. He was up 3-0 only eight minutes into the match and kept Bjorkman frustrated by moving up to the net whenever possible.

Bjorkman lost 6-1 in a set that lasted 20 minutes. In the

**Nat'l jr snooker starts today**

Sports Reporter  
The Ashok Leyland second national junior snooker championship begins today at the Dhaka Club billiards room at 10 am.

In the morning session MS Sattar of Gulshan Club opens against Saqib Rahim of Chittagong Club and his clubmate Nafid Nobi meets Rizvi A Munshi of Gulshan Club.

The second session, beginning at 1 pm, features Navid Haq of Gulshan Club against Z R Iqbal of Chittagong Club while Fazar Ali of Gulshan Club plays host club's Z R Azad.

Z Laboni of Dhaka Club, the only female player in the country, plays her first match at 4 pm against Saddam Haq of Gulshan Club and M M Babu of Dhaka Club faces S R Iqbal of Chittagong.

In total six matches will be played each day, split into three sessions during the five-day event. The championship ends on February 28.

**Davis Cup Taiwan swamps Singapore**

TAIPEI, Feb 23: Taiwan completed a 5-0 victory over Singapore in their Davis Cup tennis Asia - Oceania zone Group Two first-round tie today when they won both the reverse singles, reports Reuter.

Results (Taiwan names first):  
Jjai China-Yen beat Chen Chee Yen 6-2, 6-2.  
Lien Yu-Hui beat Tan Ee Wei 6-1, 6-0.

**Thompson triumphs**

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado, Feb 23: Obadele Thompson of Barbados set a world indoor record in the 55 metres dash by clocking 5.99 seconds at the Western Athletic Conference Championship on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Thompson, a student at University of Texas-El Paso, was one-hundredth of a second, faster than the previous mark of 6.00 set by American Lee McRae in 1986.

**Majoli, Novotna renew rivalry**

HANOVER, Germany, Feb 23: Defending champion Iva Majoli of Croatia won through to the final of the Hanover Grand Prix tournament on Saturday with a straight sets victory over Austria's Barbara Paulus, reports Reuter.

Paulus, seeded sixth, pushed Majoli hard in the first set of their semifinal before the third seed triumphed 7-4 in the tie-break.

Majoli looked much more comfortable in the second set and took the match 7-6, 6-4.

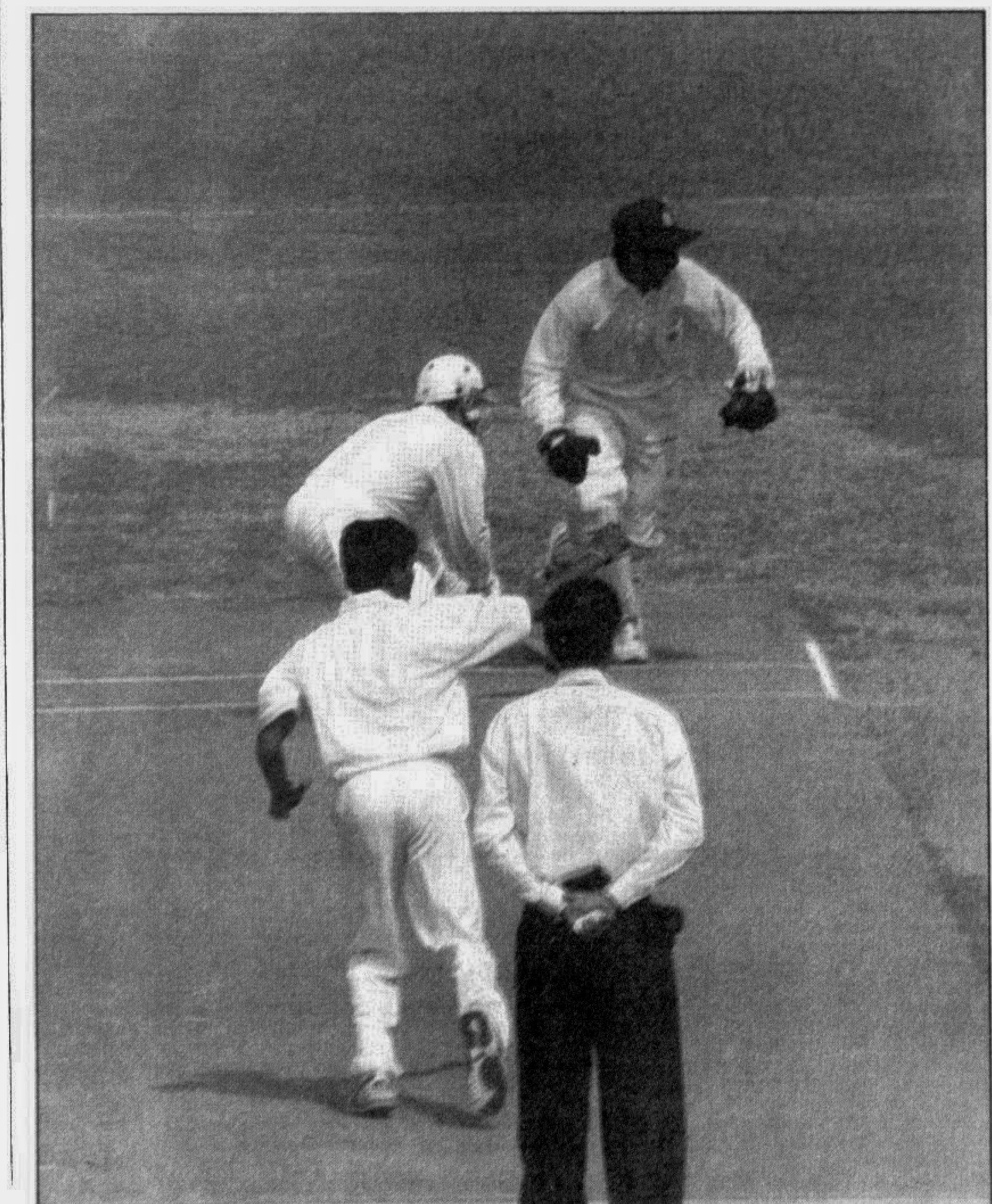
The Croatian will face top seed Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic in the final for the third year in succession.

Novotna had little trouble overcoming Magdalena Maleva of Bulgaria 6-0, 7-5 in the other semifinal.

**PDB athletics**

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Lt Gen (retd) Muhammad Noor Uddin Khan yesterday inaugurated the two-day 22nd annual inter-office athletic meet at Rajarbagh Police Line ground, reports BSS.

A total of 534 competitors in 32 groups are participating in 28 events.



The oft quoted phrase of right-arm off-spinners being the Achilles' heel of left-handed batsmen finds an eloquent appropriation here. Asif Mujtaba, the Pakistan A captain beaten in the air by young Indian offie Noel David, tries in vain to get back to the crease during yesterday's SAARC cricket tourney match between arch-rivals at the Dhaka Stadium. —Star photo

**Bangladesh Postal Department**  
**Office of the Director General**  
Dhaka-1000

No. Dir-2/2-15/96-97/Tender  
Dated, Dhaka 16-02-1997 Eng. 04-11-1403 BS

**Re-Tender Notice**

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by the Director General, Bangladesh Postal Department, Dhaka from first class enlisted contractors of Govt/Semi-Govt/Autonomous organisations for the undermentioned construction work under Head Post Office, DPMG offices Construction/Extension/Re-construction Project.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Cost of tender document	Approved time
1	Extension of Habiganj Head Post Office Building	Tk. 24,82,123/=	Tk. 62,060/=	Tk. 750/=	4 months
2	Tenders will be received simultaneously in the tender boxes kept at the office chambers of Directorate of Post Offices, Dhaka/Post Master General, Eastern Zone, Chittagong/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet & Deputy Post Master-General, Sylhet on 16-03-97 up to 12-30 minutes and the tenders will be opened on 23-03-97 at 11:45 minutes at the office of the undersigned at Directorate of Post Offices, Dhaka before the tenderers present.				
3	Intending tenderers shall have to obtain written permission to purchase tender document by producing the related documents from Superintending Engineer/Executive Engineer, Directorate of Post Offices, Dhaka during office hours by 13-03-97. Tender document can be purchased by depositing the price of tender document (non-refundable) at any Post Office under head 'unclassified', and producing the receipt at the office of the Accountant, Building Cell, Directorate of Post Offices, Dhaka/Post Master General, Eastern Zone, Chittagong/Divisional Commissioner, Sylhet & Deputy Post Master General, Sylhet during office hours on working days up to 15-03-97.				
4	Intending tenderers should have experience of construction work worth minimum Tk 24 00 lakh under a single work order. The experience certificate issued by Executive Engineer or an officer not below his status should be produced before purchasing the tender document. Prior to purchase of tender document, National VAT Registration Certificate should be produced. Otherwise permission will not be given to purchase the tender document.				
5	The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.				

**Md. Al Amin**  
Superintending Engineer  
Directorate of Post Offices  
Dhaka-1000  
Phone: 9564709

DFP-3637-18/2  
G-508