An interesting

card

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

teresting card at the Wimbledon

today is again threatened by

chances of 40 per cent showers

throughout the afternoon. It is

now 7:30 in the morning and

already drizzling. Looks like

another dull, depressing and

Men's and Women's sections

has been reached and there are

some important matches to be

played. It is interesting to note

that in this round only two

Americans — Pete Sampras and

Richie Reneberg are represent-

ing the United States. This

clearly demonstrates the short-

age of talent, if not, players in

US camp in the Grand Slam

the Netherlands, seeded 4th,

will face up to the British "lion,"

Tim Henman, the 14th seed.

Henman is riding high on the

crest of the popularity wave and

Petr Korda, the 16th seed from

en's seed no. 2 Monica Seles at

the hands of unseeded French

woman Sandrine Testud, who

had never before crossed the

second round barrier at the

Wimbledon makes the Women's

draw absorbing. And in the ab-

sence of the holder Steffi Graf, sidelined because of injury, the

fight for the title will be open.

Here is a piece of interesting

statical record. Twenty players

won the Wimbledon ladies sin-

gles title more than once since

Seven players have won the title

at least six times including

Steffi Graf who managed to win

seven times the players are: Martina Navratilova (9), Helen

Wills Moody (8), Steffi Graf (7),

Dorothea Lambert Chambers

(7), Blanche Bingley Hillyard

(6), Suzenne Lenglen (6), Billie

Jean King (6), Charlotte "Lottie"

Dod (5), Charlotte Cooper Sterry

(5), Louise Brough (4), Maria

Bueno, Maureen Connolly,

Margaret Smith Court/and

Chris Evert (3) each, Maud Wat-

son, May Sutton, Kathleen Mc-

Kane Godfree. Dorothy Round.

Goolagong Cawley (2) each.

Althea Gibson and Evonne

Special honour

for Stefan

berg, who retired at the end of

last season was given a stand-

centre Court crowd today when

he received a special award for

his contribution to the champi-

onships and to tennis in gen-

trophy from the president of the

He received a special crystal

eral, reports AFP.

LONDON, July 1: Stefan Ed-

was introduced in 1884.

The sudden demise of Wom-

Holder Richard Krajicek of

The last sixteen stage of the

chilly day is ahead.

events.

Reneberg.

the Czech Republic.

LONDON, July 1: A very in-

Goran fined

LONDON, July 1: Secondseed Goran Ivanisevic has been fined 2,000 dollars for refusing to attend a post-match press conference after his shock second-round five-set loss to Sweden's Magnus Norman on Saturday, reports AFP.

Peter starts prison term July 28

MANNHEIM, Germany, July 1: Peter Graf, father of German tennis great Steffi Graf, will go back to prison on July 28 to serve the remainder of his sentence for fraud, the Mannheim prosecutor's office said Monday, reports AFP.

Peter 58 was sentenced to three years, nine months in prison on January 24 but had remained free along with his former tax adviser and co-defendant Joachim Eckardt pending appeals both by their lawyers and the prosecution.

Both appeals were dropped in mid-June, paving the way for Graf to be ordered back to prison from which he had been released in November while awaiting trial.

Graf must go to Stuttgart Stammheim Prison on July 28 where the decision on the location of his prison will be made. During his time awaiting

trial the courts systematically rejected his pleas for conditional release, citing fears that he might abscond.

Given the 15 months that he has already spent in custody. and a remission for good behaviour, Graf could be out of jail again by September next

Eckardt, who was given two years and six months in prison. is due to resume his sentence at the same time. Kuehner said earlier. Because of the 13 months he has already spent in prison, he may only have to serve another six months before being released.

Salisbury spell stuns Notts

LONDON, July 1: Discarded England leg-spinner Ian Salisbury snapped up his season's best of six for 19 on Monday to bowl Surrey to their first win of the county championship campaign, reports Reuter.

Surrey beat Mottinghamshire by 131 runs after the rival captains had contrived a definite result to the rain-hit match with two declarations on the fourth and last day at The Oval.

Notts declared at their overnight 73 for one, 128 behind on first innings, and Surrey scored 123 for six before their declaration left the visitors needing 252 to win off 59

Salisbury and Pakistan offspinner Saglain Mushtag, who took two for 34 in 26 overs, exploited a wearing pitch to send Notts tumbling from 78 for two

There was another contrived definite result in a rain-affected match at Worcester where Young England captain Andrew Flintoff spurred Lancashire to their first championship win of

the season. Flintoff hit his career-best of 70 from 101 balls as Lancashire, who needed 236 in 64 overs to beat Worcestershire. recovered from 64 for five to win by three wickets with

nearly 12 overs to spare. Flintoff, who led England's under-19 side in Pakistan in the 1996-97 season, hit 10 fours and a six in only his second championship match.

The all-rounder effectively won the match in a seventhwicket stand of 98 in 21 overs with wicketkeeper Warren Hegg.

Gloucestershire left-arm fast-medium bowler Mike Smith, named in England's squad for the third Ashes Test. took three for 36 in a rain-hit draw against Northamptonshire at Luton. Smith helped to reduce

Northants to 58 for six in reply to Gloucestershire's 180 for six declared in a contest reduced to one innings after rain washed out the first three days.

No change of heart!

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 1: Brazil's 3-1 win over Bolivia in the final of the Copa America was hailed in the country's press on Monday but manager Mario Zagallo still came in for criticism, reports Reuter.

"We're going to have to tolerate Zagallo," read a headline in the newspaper Correlo Braziliense.

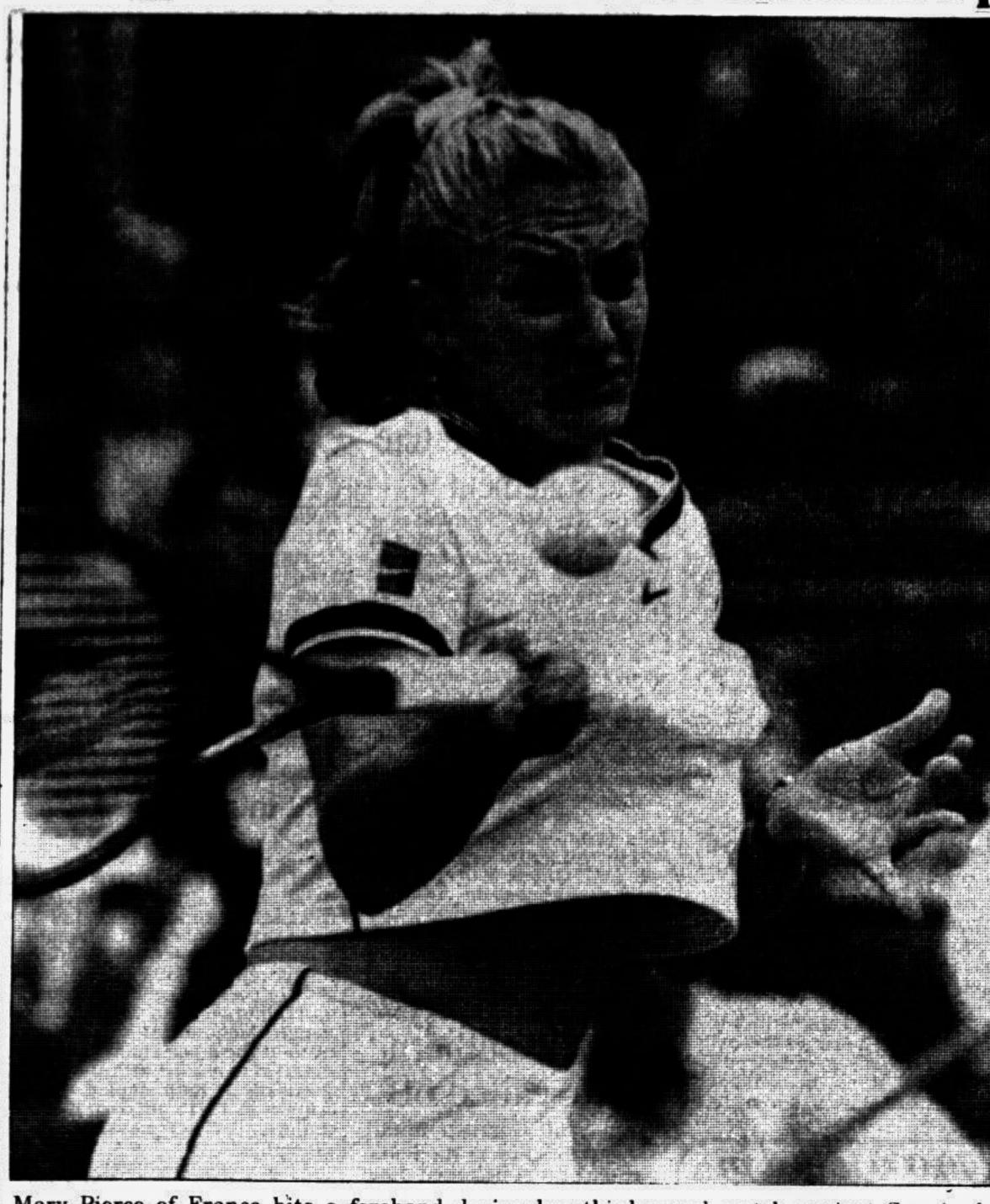
The veteran coach lost no time after Sunday's game in attacking his critics who have questioned whether he should be in charge of Brazil in next year's World Cup finals in France.

"I love Brazil, others hate it... now you're going to have to put up with me," he yelled at television reporters before running on to the pitch to congratulate his players.

Newspaper columnists were quick to comment on Zagallo's outburst. "Phrases (like that). made with a hot head, do not match with his career, his experience and much less with his white hair," wrote Fernando Calazans in Daily O Globo.

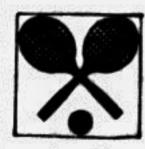
But most of the media preferred to focus on the team's achievement in overcoming Bolivia in front of a fervent home crowd in La Paz.

Brazil had previously won the Copa America four times but never on foreign soil. Roberto Benavides, writing in O Estado de Sao Paulo, said Zagallo's team had pulled off what previous sides, some of which included legendary players Pele and Garrincha, failed to do.



Mary Pierce of France hits a forehand during her third round match against Spaniard Magui Serna at the Wimbledon Championships on June 30. Pierce won 6-4, 6-3. She will next play Serna's compatriot Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario. - AFP/UNB photo

Pierce stoops to Sanchez



LONDON, July 1: Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, gunning for her first title here at Wimbledon crossed a ma-

jor hurdle today as she brushed aside French Mary Pierce at the Centre Court.

The fourth-round match should have been a keenly-contested one proved to be a onesided affair and the whole show was over in 57 minutes before the expectant crowd could settle back comfortably in their seats. The scores of 6-1, 6-3 were move the doing of Mary Pierce. the 9th seed, than the achievement of Arantxa.

As Pierce served the first game out rains started and covers were drawn. After an interruption of around 20 minutes the match resumed. As it was the "long and

short" of the story so was it a story of "Blonde" and "Brunette," Arantxa's hair looked darker than before. In the absence of Steffi Graf to whom

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan Arantxa lost in the last two finals here, the intelligent Spaniard never allowed her

moody opponent to settle down. Soon Pierce was in all sorts of problems that include physical also as she started straight-

LATEST

LONDON, July 1: Yayuk Basuki, who has reached the fourth round at Wimbledon in four of her six previous visits, went one step better today, reports AFP.

The 26-year-old Indonesian ruthlessly brushed aside the experienced Canadian Patricia Hy-Boulais 6-0, 7-6 to reach a quarter-final showdown with either third seed Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic or 11thseed Mary Joe-Fernandez of the United States.

warned by the chair umpire.

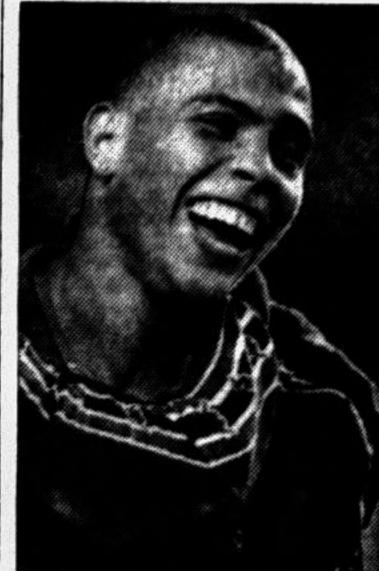
ening her right arm, swinging her neck, etc. She was not at al her ownself and kicked the ball and threw her racket and was

Arantxa broke her thrice in

FIFA to give the ruling



ZURICH, July 1: FIFA, world soccer's governing body, said on Monday it would decide if Brazilian striker Ronaldo was free to



RONALDO

move from Barcelona to Internazionale, reports Reuter.

FIFA received an official request from Internazionale to investigate the transfer, along with 40 pages of documentation, on Monday, supporting their claim to the world footballer-of-the-year.

Now it will be up to FIFA's players status committee to decide whether the 20-year-old Brazilian is free to move to the Italian club after paying 27.6 million dollars to free himself from his contract with Barcelona.

FIFA rules, however, state that a player cannot buy out his contract for the purposes of obtaining an international transfer. The Spanish football federa-

tion has refused to issue a transfer certificate for Ronaldo on the grounds that such "buyouts" or withdrawal clauses found in Spanish league contracts are valid for domestic transfers only, moves abroad must be negotiated by the two clubs.

"The bottom line is that the Ronaldo case is now in FIFA hands," said FIFA spokesman Andreas Herren. No date has been set for the

next meeting of the players status committee but, because of the intense interest in the dispute between the two clubs, Her-

ren indicated that it was probable an extraordinary meeting would be called "because of the need for a quick decision.

Before a meeting can be convened, FIFA said it would first have to receive documentation from the Spanish FA explaining its position.

The Spanish FA has never recognised the transfer," said Herren. "They have said they would not comply with the transfer and have basically told the Italians to take it to FIFA if you want to challenge this."

If Inter are forced to negotiate directly with Barcelona, who recently signed Ronaldo until 2004, they are bound to face a massive transfer fee.

Lothar remains Bayern's

MUNICH, July 1: Former European-footballer-of-the-year Lothar Matthaus will stay at Bayern Munich, the clubs general manager Uli Hoeness said on Monday, reports AFP.

Matthaus, who has a record 122 caps for Germany, was on the point of being thrown out of the club by president Franz Beckenbauer for his controversial comments in public.

Beckenbauer was set to have a chat with the 36-year-old sweeper in Hong Kong where he will be playing for a World selection on Thursday.

New evidence on Hillsborough

LONDON, July 1: The inquiry into the Hillsborough disaster is to be reopened in the light of new video and medical evidence, Home Secretary Jack Straw announced on Monday, reports AFP.

Lord Justice Smith will scrutinise new evidence on the 1989 disaster at Hillsborough football ground in which 96 Liverpool football fans died, Straw told the House of Commons in a statement.

Straw said the judge would advise him whether the fresh evidence was of such significance as to justify a full public inquiry. "We owe it to everyone

touched by the tragedy, but above all to the families of those who died, to get to the bottom of this matter once and for all," said Straw.

Straw said he hoped the judge's report could be produced by the end of the year.

the first set and once in the second. Vicario had always been quicker on her feet as she usually was but Mary has to do lot of thinking regarding her game.

True she played some stunning forehand, and backhand drives but her approach to the net had always been slow. Speed is one aspect of the game she must master and the sooner the better for her.

eight will play the winner of Tauziat and Testud tie. Both French girls are unseeded.

Pioneer football Sports Reporter

Dilkusha Sporting Club trounced Dhaka Junior Eleven by four goals to one in a Pioneer football league match played at the Basabo ground yesterday. The winners led the first

half 2-0. In a one-sided affair, Monir Shahid, Towhid and Azim scored one goal each for the winners.

In the other match scheduled at the same venue. Madartek Chhatra Sangsad recorded a 3-1 victory over Goran Barnali Sangsad. Maksud, Nahid and Zahid netted one goal each for the winners while Habib reduced the margin for Goran Barnali Sangsad

Away at the Mirpur Outer Stadium, Kalabagan Krira Chakra recorded a solitary goal victory over Nawabgani Sporting Club. After a barren first half.

Reaz struck in the 48th minute. In the other match played at the same place. Solna Sporting Club beat Agrani Sangskritik Sar:gsad also by 1-0. Mahmood scored the all-important win-

ners in the fourth minute. At the Mahakhali T &T ground, Kawsar and Didar scored one goal each as Rampura Natun Kuri Sangsad handed Rampura Jubo Sangha a 0-2 defeat.

Arantxa, now in the last

All-England Club, the Duke of Edwards skips

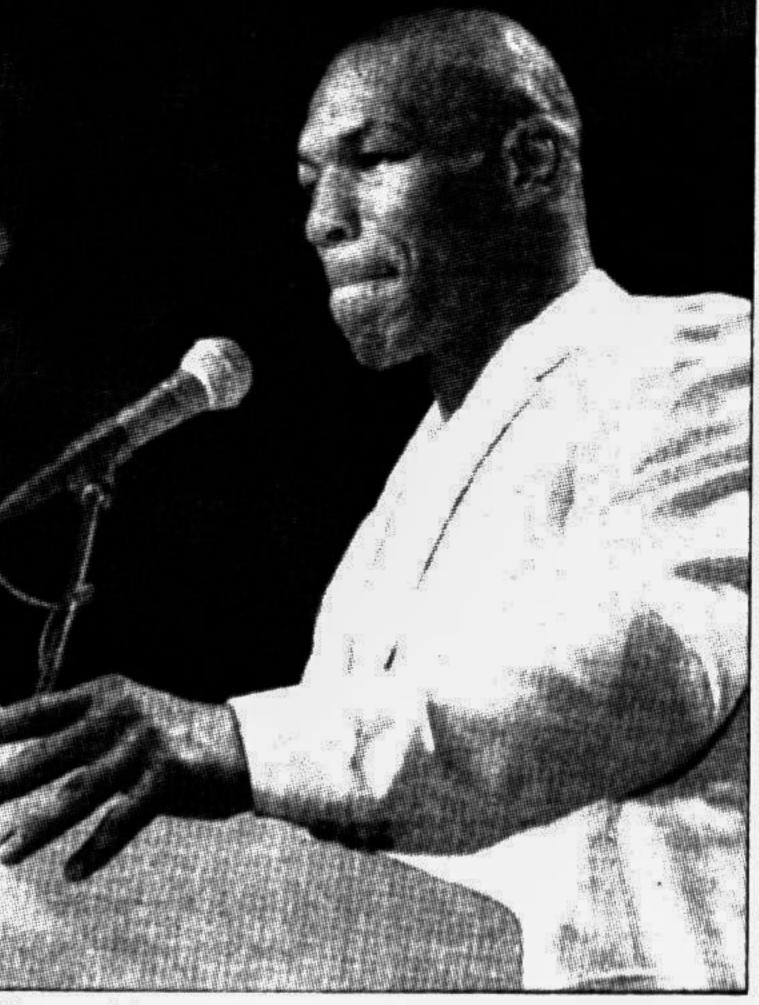
GP meets LONDON, July 1: Britain's world triple jump record holder Jonathan Edwards has withdrawn from two Grand Prix meeting this week with a heel injury, reports AFP.

Edwards will miss the meeting in Lausanne on Wednesday and Oslo's Bislett Games on Friday. He first felt the effects of the

problem at the recent European Cup in Munich, where he restricted himself to only two jumps when winning his speciality in Great Britain's overall team victory. The injury continued to

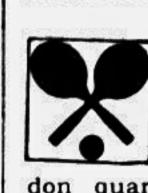
trouble him last week but world champion Edwards took the decision to compete in Sunday's meet at Sheffield as a mark of respect to his supporters.

But after producing a second round clearance of 17.54 metres to win the competition ahead of Olympic champion Kenny Harrison of the United States, he took no further part in the competition.



Disgraced former world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson at a June 30 press conference in Las Vegas which he organised to beg apology for bitting Evander Holyfield's ear during their June 28 rematch. - AFP/UNB photo

Hingis races into qtrs



WIMBLEDON, July 1: Top-seeded Martina Hingis became the first

women's player to reach the Wimbledon quarterfinals Tuesday when she downed Belgium's Sabine Appelmans 6-1, 6-3, reports AP. The 16-year-old Hingis

needed just 66 minutes to complete the victory — just before play was suspended by rain for the first time in four days. Hingis said she was happy to get the match over quickly because she still had doubles and

mixed doubles matches sched-

uled later in the day. Hingis sailed through the first set in 27 minutes. Appelmans went up a break at 2-0 in the second, but Hingis took command again when she broke for 4-3, setting up the point with a drop shot, then tapping a backhand into the

is fired up after his spectacular Two games later, Hingis win over Haarhuis. broke Appelmans again to close Greg Rusedski, Britain's out the match. Despite a swing-"Adopted Son" as some British ing serve by Appelmans that newspapers love to call him, pulled her off the court, Hingis faces unseeded American Richie stretched to hit a sliced backhand return that just dropped In the top half Pete Sampras over the net for a winner. faces the challenge from gutsy

open court.

"I got pretty lucky there," Hingis said. "I had almost no chance. I barely got to the ball."

Hingis remained on course to become the youngest Wimbledon women's singles cham-

pion this century. The youngest was Charlotte "Lottie" Dod. who won at the age of 15 years, 285

days in 1887. "Nobody saw me as a



MARTINA HINGIS

tournament," Hingis said. "I got through pretty easily until now. I'm improving every match. I feel pretty good. The draw doesn't look too bad for me." Appelmans said Hingis has

everything it takes to win the tournament. "She's just a little better than most of us," the Belgian said.

"She hits a little bit earlier, a little bit faster.

In another early women's fourth-round match. Indonesia's Yayuk Basuki beat Patricia Hy-Boulais 6-0, 7-6 (7-2).

Play resumed after a 30minute rain interruption. It was the first rain since last Friday, when the second of two straight washouts forced

Wimbledon to schedule play on

the middle Sunday for only the second time in history. Ironically, Tuesday started off as the brightest day of the tournament so far. But the rain clouds moved in just after noon (1100 GMT). The forecast called for the possibility of more showers in the afternoon.

After the waterlogged first week, the tournament was nearly back on schedule. With all men's and women's fourthround matches scheduled for Tuesday, it figured to be the busiest day of the two-week tournament.

Among featured matches Tuesday, defending champion Richard Krajicek was scheduled to meet Britain's favourite son Tim Henman, in a Centre Court match that would have a hard time topping Henman's thrilling five-set win over Paul Haarhuis on People's Sunday.

In women's play, No. 3 Jana Novotna was paired against No. 11 Mary Joe-Fernandez and No. 8 Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario against No. 9 Mary Pierce.

Tough tie awaits Becker



WIMBLEDON, July 1: Three-time champion and eighth seed Boris Becker brushed aside Mark Pe-

tchey of Britain in

straight sets 6-3, 6-3, 6-2 in the third round on Monday to move one match away from a potentially explosive quarter-final against world number one Pete Sampras, reports AFP. Three-time champion Sam-

when he beat Byron Black of Zimbabwe 6-1, 6-2, 6-2 in just 71 minutes. Becker now faces moody ninth-seeded Marcelo Rios of

pras also had a one-sided win

Chile on Centre Court. The 21-year-old South American left-hander, a claycourt specialist who doesn't like playing on grass, confounded the Wimbledon pundits again by scoring a third victory at the

Rios, who lost in the first

round in his only previous ap-

championships.

pearance two years ago and who says grass should be reserved for football and cows, beat John van Lottum of the Netherlands 7-6, 6-3, 6-7, 6-4. Sampras plays 16th teeti is Petr Korda of the Czech Republic

on Court 1. Korda defeated Alex O'Brien of the United States 6-3, 4-4, 6-4, 6-7, 6-4. Yevgeny Kafelnikov also swept into the fourth-round when he defeated last year's

semi-finalist Jason Stoltenberg of Australia 6-3, 7-6, 4-6, 6-3. The 23-year-old third-seeded Russian, who was beaten in the first round twelve months ago. now plays Germany's Nicolas Kiefer. Kiefer, 20 and ranked 98th.

played some superbly aggressive tennis to put out Andrei Medvedev of the Ukraine 6-4, 6-2, 6-7, 6-4.

Twelfth-seeded Patrick Rafter, a semi-finalist at the French Open earlier this month, reached a fourth-round showdown against fellow-Australian Todd Woodbridge by beating Belgian qualifier Christophe van Garsse.

The 24-year-old Rafter scored a 7-5, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 victory although his opponent was handicapped by a groin injury while Woodbridge, 26, defeated Alex Radulescu or Germany, a quarter-finalist in his first Wimbledon 12 months ago, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

Ninth-seed Mary Pierce of

France defeated Magui Serna 6-4, 6-3 to reach a tough fourthround clash against Serna's Spanish compatriot Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario. Eighth-seed Sanchez-Vi-

cario, the runner-up here for the last two years, needed just 45 minutes to beat Florencia Labat of Argentina 6-1, 6-2.



BORIS BECKER

Maria Alejandra Vento, 23, continued to rewrite the history books when she became the first player from Venezuela to reach the last 16.

Vento, ranked a modest 136 and a qualifier, notched up a surprise 6-2, 7-5 win over the experienced Magdalena

of the day was reserved for second seed Monica Seles. The American left-hander went down 0-6, 6-4, 8-6 to 23rd-

Garcia of Spain.

Maleeva of Bulgaria. However, the biggest shock

ranked Sandrine Testud of France.

Testud, who has never got further than the second-round in five previous visits was asked if she had a secret to her

"Love" she replied with a laugh, referring to her Italian boyfriend who had watched the match from the side of the "Actually I've been training pretty hard all through the win-

ter and it's paid off." Testud now plays her 29year-old Fed Cup teammate Nathalie Tauziat.

Tauziat ended Judith Weisner's last Wimbledon by coming back to score a 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 victory. The Austrian player says she will be retiring at the end of the year. Another third-round winner

was Yayuk Basuki of Indonesia.

Basuki defeated 25-year-old 55th-ranked Naok Japan in straight-sets. Always at home on grass, having reached the last-sixteen four times in six previous visits

to the All-England Club, Basuki scored a 6-3, 6-2 victory. The 26-year-old Indonesian now plays Cambodian-born Pa-

tricia Hy-Boulais of Canada. Hy-Boulais, a former Hong Kong fed cup player, defeated polish newcomer Magdalena Grzybowska 6-4, 6-1. Grzybowska hit the headlines last week when she ended the debut of American teenager Venus

Williams in the first round. Eleventh-seed Mary Joe-Fernandez of the United States scored a 6-2, 6-4 win over Thailand's powerful Tamarine Tanasugarn and now plays Jana Novotna of the Czech Re-

public. The third-seeded Novotna played her first match on Centre Court and scored a 6-4, 6-2 win over 23-year-old gala Leon

But she was far from happy with the condition of the turf. "I must say that the Centre Court is really badly damaged. It changes the whole game," she said, although adding that she

hoped she didn't have to return to the number 13 court. "I hate Court 13," said the superstitious Novotna, who struggled to beat Alena Likhovtseva

of Russia there on Sunday. "Everytime I play there I have very tough matches. I like to be on the main courts.

Tyson comes to his senses

recent run of success and fit-



LAS VEGAS, July 1 (AP): Following is the text of Mike Tyson's statement issued on Monday in the wake of the

infamous biting incident: Thank you for this oppor-"Saturday night was the worst night of my professional career as a boxer and I am here today to apologise, to ask the

people who expected more from

Mike Tyson to forgive me for

snapping in that ring and doing something that I have never done before and will never do again. "I apologise to the world, to my family and to the Nevada State Athletic Commission that has always treated me fairly, to Judge Patricia Gifford who knows that I am proud to be living up to the terms of my proba-

tion. I apologise to the MGM, to

Showtime, to Don King, my

promoter, to my team and to

this wonderful city of Las Vegas that has hosted so many famous boxing events. "I cannot tell you why, exactly, I acted like I did other than to say that when the butting occurred and I thought I might lose because of the severity of the cut above my eye, I just snapped and I reacted and did what many athletes have done and have paid the price for. You have seen it in basketball with fist fights on the floor and in baseball with riots on the field and even spitting in the face of

an official. "For an athlete in the heat of battle to suddenly lose it is not new but it's not right and for me it doesn't change anything. I was wrong.

"And I expect to pay the price like a man. I expect the Nevada State Athletic Commission to hand down a severe penalty and I am here today to say I will not fight it. I only ask that I not be penalised for life for this mistake. I will instruct my managers and promoters to waive any time restrictions so the penalties can begin immediately so that I can show the boxing fans of the world that I am willing to accept what I have coming to me.

"I have also told everyone associated with me that I will not stand for any more of the nasty and insulting comments made to Evander Holyfield and his boxing team.
"Evander, I am sorry. You

are a champion and I respect that. I am only saddened that this fight did not go further so that the boxing fans of the world might see for themselves who would come out on top. When you butted in that first round, accidentally or not, snapped in reaction and the rest

"To those of you who say that I should never fight again. I can only say that I am just 31 years old, in the prime of my career, and I have made it this far because I had no other way. I grew up in the streets. I fought my way out and I will not go back again. I learned the hard way from the past because I didn't have the luxury of schools or people, to help me at a time when I needed it the most. "And I will learn from this

horrible mistake, too. I have

reached out since Saturday to

ask my God to help me and to

renew my faith as a true be-

liever. I have also reached out since Saturday to the medical professionals for help, to tell me why I did what I did and I will have that help. "Thank you."

HOLYFIELD'S REACTION

Responding to Tyson, Holyfield called it "a good gesture... I have no hatred. Things like that can happen but if you get paid that much money, they're not supposed to."

THE PUNISHMENT The Nevada State Athletic to decide whether to go ahead with a complaint against Tyson. He could be fined up to 3 million dollars and suspended from boxing for whatever length the commission deems appropriate. Under a new federal boxing law, all other states would have to honor any suspension or ban and not let Tyson fight in their states. TYSON'S PROBATION

Commission will meet Tuesday

No action is expected against Tyson stemming from his actions during the fight or the brawl after disqualification. George M. Walker, the Marion County, Ind., chief probation officer, said no action is pending against Tyson in Indiana, where he was convicted of raping Desiree Washington and

said he had no reason to believe Las Vegas police would file a complaint against Tyson.

NO PAYDAY

check is still in a safe at the

Nevanda Athletic Commission

Tyson's 30 million dollar

spent three years in prison.

Chuck Thompson, chief deputy

district attorney in Las Vegas,

offices, where it is being held pending the disciplinary hear-THE OUTCRY President Clinton said he watched the fight and "I was

horrified by it and I think the

Nevada Athletic Commis-

American people should be."

sion phone lines were tied up all day Monday by callers angry with the outcome of the fight. Commission executive director Marc Ratner said there were 450 calls from people "demanding their money back and saying

Tyson should be banned from boxing. A San Francisco lawyer who bought the fight on pay-perview said he planned a class action lawsuit alleging breach of

contract by Tyson for not giving fans their money's worth.