

### Column One

## Boost Sports Whizz Kid

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

### Competition-73

Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes 8 pm, July 11, '97

- Who is the third fastest server in men's tennis circuit at the moment?
 

Rusedski	Rosset	Brugnot
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- How many warm-up matches will Bangladesh play before the World Cup in 1997?
 

Four	Three	Six
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- How many matches has Shahbaz played for Pakistan?
 

219	220	221
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- What is the position of Bangladesh in FIFA rankings for June?
 

137	138	139
-----	-----	-----
- Who lifted Cote Premier handball league title?
 

Ansars	Menjis	BDR
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Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

**EN-VITS**

**SPORTS TALK**

# Martina moves into final

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

**LONDON, July 3:** Martina Hingis stormed into her first Wimbledon final at the Centre Court today. Her opponent Anna Kournikova, a cute little 16-year-old from Russia surprised many by reaching the semifinals here in her first Wimbledon.

For Hingis, it was her third championships since 1995. The score today were 6-3, 6-2. In 1995 Martina lost in the first round, last year in the fourth — on both occasions against Steffi Graf.

After the initial hiccup by both players Martina settled down to her rhythm to get better of her less experienced opponent, who in time will become a fine player and make no mistake about it. Kournikova was definitely quicker than Martina around the courts, played the volley better than the World number one that caused a lot of problems for Hingis. Most of the times it was Kournikova who drew Martina to the net.

Martina had four breaks of serve in the 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th games. While Anna broke Martina in the 1st, 3rd and 5th games in the first set which gave Hingis enough edge to win the set 6-3. In the second set Anna's inexperience showed as the 1997 Ford Australian Open champion broke her opponent three times that set disaster.

Hingis now awaits the winner of Jana Novotna and Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario match to be played at the Centre Court this afternoon.

AP adds: The top-seeded Hingis will face the winner of the second women's semifinal between Jana Novotna and Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario.

Hingis, who won the Australian Open in January, is the youngest women's finalist at Wimbledon since Charlotte "Lottie" Dodd won the title in 1887 at the age of 15 years, 285 days.

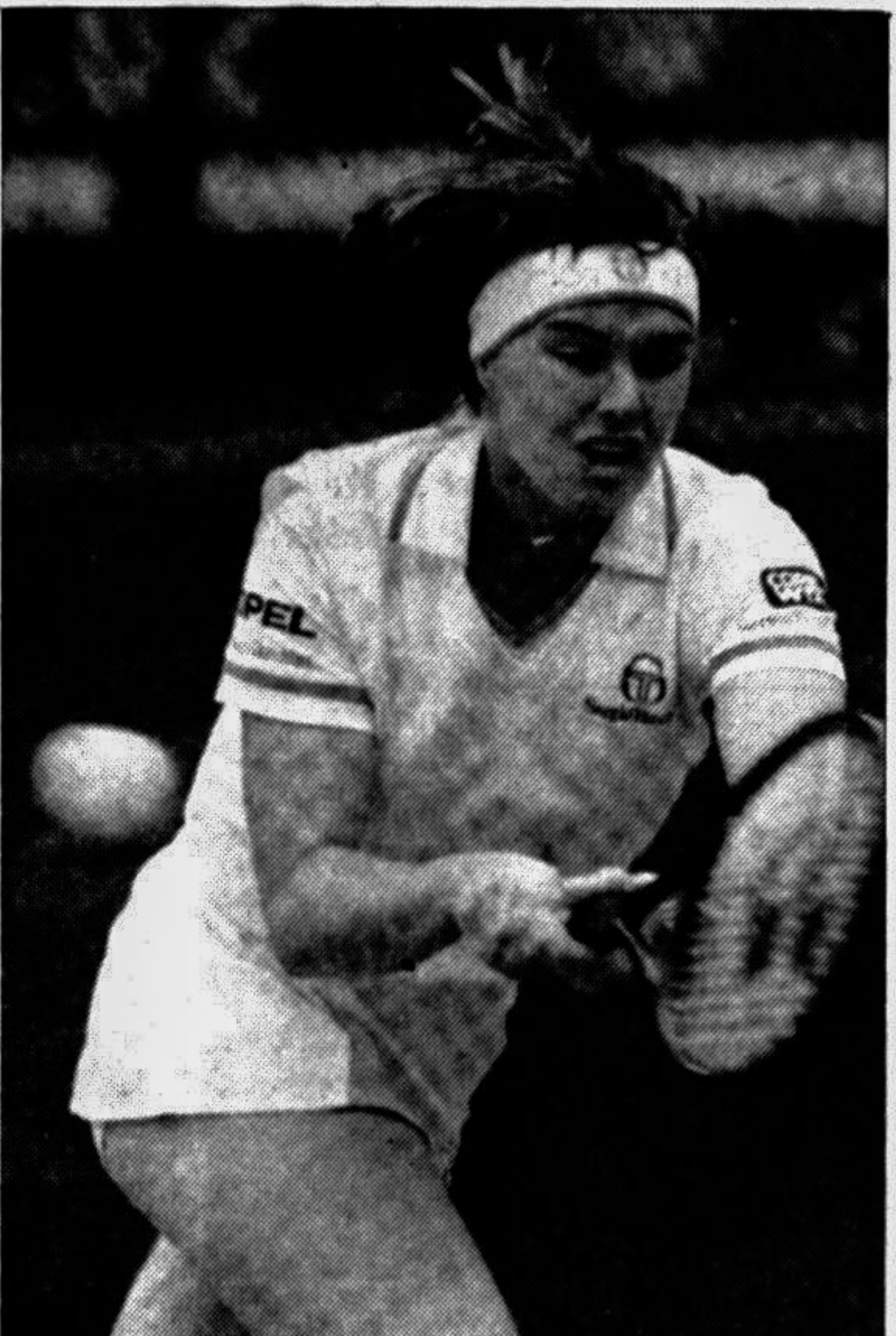
It was the fourth time Hingis and Kournikova have met, and the fourth time the Swiss girl has won easily in straight sets. Hingis won twice in junior competition, and last month at the French Open, she beat Kournikova 6-1, 6-3.

Thursday's match, played in chilly and cloudy conditions, failed to generate the level of play expected from the stars of the new generation in women's tennis.

Neither player was at the top of her game. Kournikova, in particular, appeared to be bothered by a sore left hip. She repeatedly did stretching and bending exercises between points.

There were service breaks in the first six games, with Hingis holding for the first time in the seventh.

Kournikova didn't hold serve until the fourth game of the second set — and that was the only time she wasn't broken. Hingis then won three of the next four games to close out the match.



World number one Martina Hingis under temporary pressure as she races to meet a return from her Russian opponent Anna Kournikova during their semifinal clash at the Wimbledon yesterday. Hingis won 6-3, 6-2.

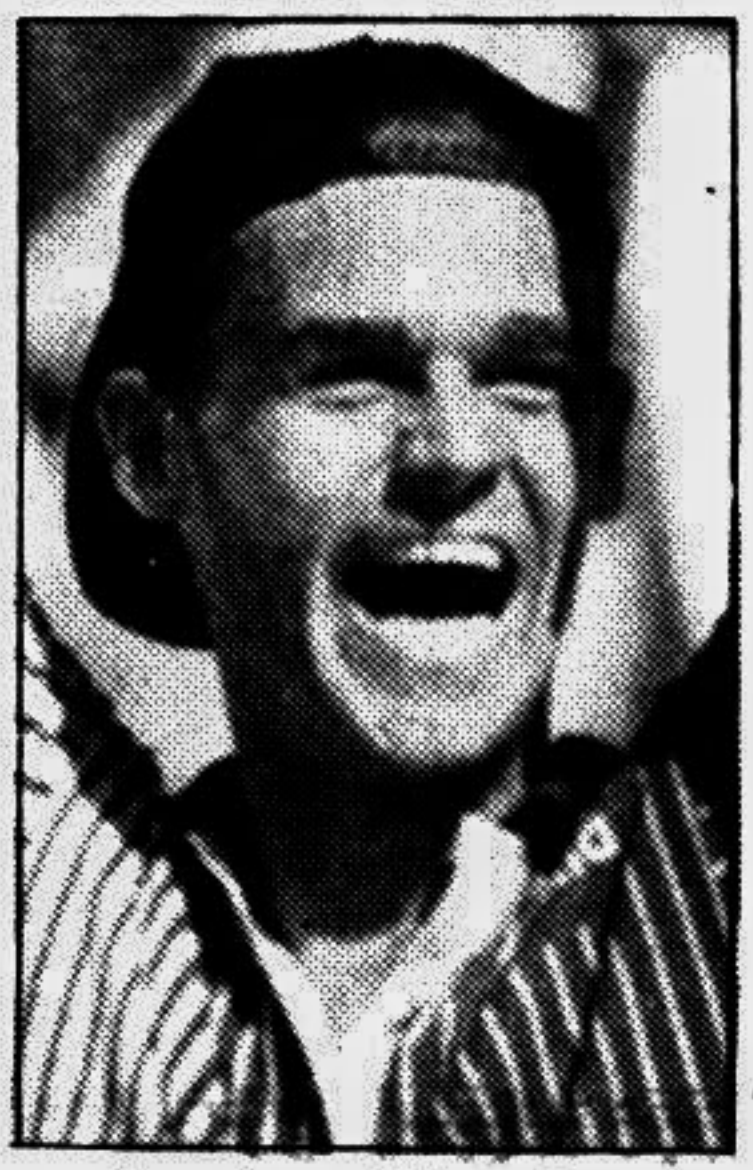
—APP/UNB photo

## ACE LEADERS' BOARD

From Special Correspondent

**LONDON, July 3:** Following are the aces served at Wimbledon so far:

RANK	ACES	PLAYER	CTRY	MATCHES
1	109	Greg Rusedski	GER	4
2	74	Richard Krajicek	NED	2
3	70	Goran Ivanisevic	CRO	2
4	60	Michael Stich	GER	4
5	58	Jonathan Stark	USA	2
6	46	Alex Radulescu	GER	3
7	46	Patrick Rafter	AUS	4
8	45	Boris Becker	GER	4
9	45	Pete Sampras	USA	3
10	44	Magnus Norman	SWE	3
11	43	Nicolas Pietrangeli	GER	4
12	43	Tim Henman	GBR	3
13	40	Cedric Pioline	FRA	3
14	38	Jason Stoltenberg	AUS	3
15	38	Petr Korda	CZE	3
16	36	Wayne Ferreira	RSA	3
17	35	Rodolphe Gilbert	FRA	2
18	34	Yevgeny Kafelnikov	RUS	4
19	33	Andrew Richardson	GER	3
20	33	Marcelo Rios	CHI	4
21	31	Mark Woodforde	AUS	4
22	29	Sandon Stolle	AUS	3
23	29	Javier Sanchez	ESP	2
24	27	Richey Reneberg	USA	4
25	26	Frederick Fetterlein	DEN	2
26	25	Nicklas Kulti	SWE	2



**Gustavo Kuerten**  
(Brazilian tennis player)  
"I'm happy, for sure it's the best day of my life."  
After winning the French Open title.

## Martin mauls Middlesex

**LONDON, July 3:** Former England pace bowler Peter Martin grabbed a career-best eight wickets for 32 on Wednesday as Lancashire took command of their county championship match against leaders Middlesex at Uxbridge, reports AFP.

Martin took five for eight in seven overs and then returned to mop up the tail as Middlesex crashed to 118 all out.

Lancashire openers Nattan Wood and Steve Titchard then took advantage of a temporary improvement in the weather. Wood reached his maiden first-class half-century off 113 deliveries to be 67 not out when bad light followed by heavy rain forced an early close. Titchard was on 49 as Lancashire moved to 124 without loss.

Yorkshire captain David Byas hit a gritty unbeaten 66 to hold his side's innings together on a rain-affected first day against Leicestershire at Grace Road. Only 42 overs of play were possible and after winning the toss and electing to bat, Yorkshire struggled to 149 for five when bad light brought an early close.

## Atletico strike the deal?

**MADRID, July 3:** Atletico Madrid have beaten off the challenge of Tottenham to sign Middlebrough's Brazilian midfielder maestro Juninho, club executive Miguel Angel Gil Marin claimed on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

"Today we have confirmed 100 per cent the deal," said Gil Marin, son of club owner Jesus Gil, in an interview with the TVE 1 television station.

"Juninho told the president of Tottenham ... thanks for your interest but the decision is already taken."

# Anna rings Russian age

**MOSCOW, July 3** (Reuters): Down by the rubbish dump and old store-houses round the back of Moscow's sprawling Sokolniki Park may seem an unlikely nursery for the world's most glamorous teenager tennis prodigy, Wimbledon semifinalist Anna Kournikova.

But at the Spartak Olympic Sports School they were claiming the hard-hitting, unseeded 16-year-old for their own after her quarterfinal victory on Wednesday and are aggrieved at media reports that she owes her access to coaches at a Nick Bollettieri Academy in Florida over the last five years.

And what is more, there are dozens more Russian youngsters where she came from, getting ready to break into the big time.

The blonde, pony-tailed Kournikova, dubbed "Lolita" for her looks by Britain's tabloid press during Wimbledon, has attended the Spartak School, one of the former Soviet Union's full-time hothouses for young sporting talent, since the age of 10.

Though of its 18 mostly clay courts only one is indoors — no mean handicap in a city where daytime temperatures are below freezing for four months of the year — Kournikova still trains here regularly and her family lives nearby, staff said.

"All the credits going to that Bollettieri," said director Natalya Kochetkova, "but she spends most of her time here."

Spartak's Larisa Proobrazhenskaya is still Kournikova's coach, travelling with her to tournaments.

"We'll produce a lot more Kournikovas in future," said Spartak coach Rsa Mukhamedzhanova as she watched one promising 10-year-old girl thump vicious backhands across the net.

"We've dozens of very strong under-12s and under-14s. You're going to see a lot more Russians in international tournaments."

Staff at the school know Kournikova well. "The kid brought a huge desire to play, you just couldn't get her off the court," said Marina Tyuryakova, who coached her for two years.

"We're all very proud that such a great athlete grew up on these very courts," Mukhamedzhanova said.

rivalled by the Sochi Centre on the Black Sea which produced world number four Yevgeny Kafelnikov.

With wear and tear all too evident in its shabby buildings and ageing clay courts, the school is struggling like the rest of Russian sports from the cut in funding caused by the collapse of the Soviet Union and its policy of sport as geopolitics.

But, as the slogan says on the sportswear poster at the school showing Kournikova variously on the court and looking coy in a clinging evening dress: "looks can be deceptive."

Tennis, with its bourgeois overtones, was never a favourite of the Soviet sporting commissars, who preferred teams and traditional disciplines like athletics and gymnastics.

But the thaw of Glasnost that set in a decade ago, allowing young players to travel and hone their skills in international competition, spawned a new generation led by Kafelnikov, who won the French Open last year, and Kournikova.

Individual sponsors have come in to back promising stars and the Spartak School is seeing an influx of cash from wealthy "new Russians" keen to emulate President Boris Yeltsin and take up a sport that is all the more glamorous in Russia for its novelty.

Win or lose today against Swiss top seed Martina Hingis, who is just eight months her senior, Kournikova is set not only on a path of personal glory but to blaze a trail for a generation of Russians coming on behind her.



Spain's Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario makes a backhand return against France's Nathalie Tauziat during their quarterfinal engagement at the Wimbledon on July 2. Arantxa beat the French to reach the last four.

—APP/UNB

## World Youth soccer South American showdown

**KUALA LUMPUR, July 3:** Uruguay and defending champions Argentina set up a South American final in the World Youth Football Championship with hard-earned semifinal wins on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Argentina, winners of the world under 20 title in Qatar two years ago, beat a gusty Ireland, with Bernardo Romeo scoring the only goal in the 54th minute.

Uruguay beat Ghana 3-2, a goal by Alvaro Pereira 14 minutes into sudden death extra-time secured the win after Ghana fought back from 2-0 down.

Saturday's decider will be the second successive all South American final. Argentina beat Brazil in 1995.

Ghana, runners-up to Brazil in Australia in 1993, delighted some 15,000 fans at the Shah Alam Stadium by fighting back from the dumps.

Marcelo Zalayeta scored his fourth goal in the tournament to put Uruguay ahead in the 12th minute.

Ghana launched an all-out assault to grab the equaliser but were twice unlucky to hit the posts after beating Uruguayan goalkeeper Gustavo Munua.

It was against the run of play that Uruguay made it 2-0 a minute before half-time when Walte Coelho broke through with a 40-yard solo run and beat Ghana goalkeeper Osei Asamoah.

But the Africans narrowed the margin a few seconds later when Odartey Lawson bled home a pass from the left flank after a swift counter-attack.

Both teams went on the offensive in the second half and Ghana earned a lucky break when a goal mouth melee resulted in Uruguayan Alejandro Botta deflecting the ball into his own goal to make it 2-2.

In extra-time, a 30-yard free kick by Martin Fernandez was booted in by Peter to lift Uruguay into their first World Youth final.

## Ali Sports kabaddi from today

**Sports Reporter**

The All Sports seventh school kabaddi tournament, organised by the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation, will begin at the court adjacent to Dhaka Stadium today.

Sixteen Dhaka-based schools, split into four groups for the first round robin league, will take part in the meet.

Tournament sponsor Ali Sports, a leading sports goods trader in the country, will provide Taka 35,000 out of the total budget amounting Taka 65,000.

On the opening day, Nawabpur Govt High School will take on Maniknagar Govt Primary School in the first match while Ansars and VDP High School will meet AK High School in the next.

The participating schools are:

Group A: Dolai Par High School, Tamijuddin High School, Sharmin Textile Mills Model High School and Bhashantek High School.

Group B: Bangladesh Rifles School and College, Maniknagar Model High School, Haidar Ali High School and College and Rajarbagh Police Lines High School.

Group C: Ansars and VDP High School, AK High School, Nawabpur Govt High School and Maniknagar Govt Primary School.

Group D: Shaheed Nabi High School, Deepshikha Bidyalaya, Millat High School and Mottijheel Govt High School.

## Vieri Spain bound

**TURIN, July 3(AFP):** Christian Vieri's father, a former soccer player himself, said he could not believe his son was worth so much.

Spain's Atletico Madrid definitely had a different opinion as they agreed to pay a 34 billion lire (20 million dollars) transfer fee to get the 24-year-old striker from Italian league champion Juventus of Turin.

Vieri, an emerging talent of Italian soccer who debuted with the national team this year, agreed to move to the Spanish club on a four-year contract.

The deal was the third in value behind Ronaldo's transfer from Barcelona to Inter Milan and to Alan Shearer's from Blackburn to Newcastle.

Vieri's transfer fee was nearly six times the amount paid by Juventus to get him from Atlanta of Bergamo last year.

"Is my son worth so much?" asked Bob Vieri, a former Juventus player, when the deal was announced.

The young Italian centre forward, who had started the last season as a substitute for Croatia striker Alan Boksic, earned a steady place on the Turin team in the final part of the campaign, scoring decisive goals in League and Champions Cup matches.

Juventus sources said Vieri would make 2.8 billion lire (1.6 million dollars) a season with the Spanish club.

Juventus, who had long claimed that Vieri was not on sale, announced the transfer Tuesday night along with the signing of Uruguayan forward Daniel Fonseca, from AS Roma.

# Rain delays biggies' duel

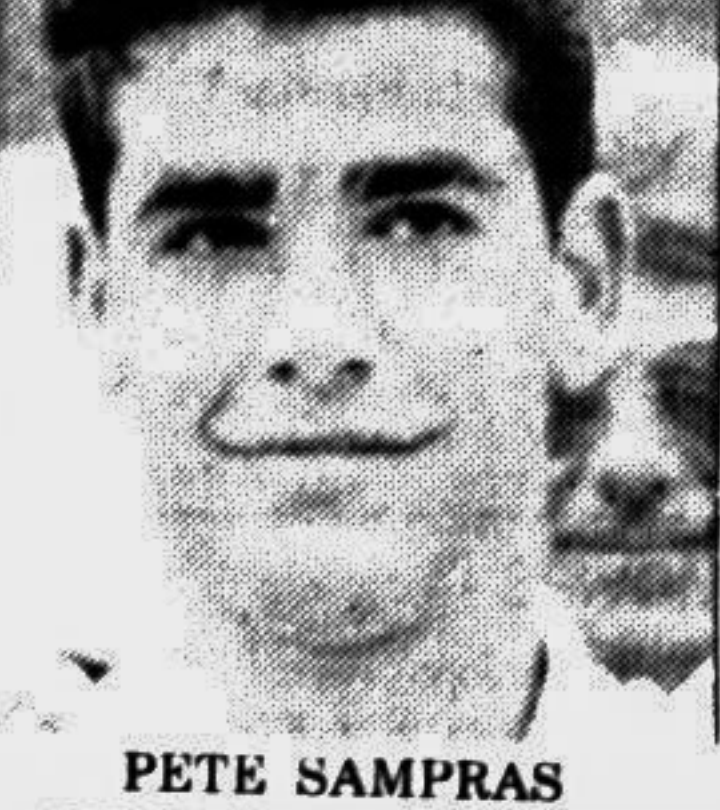
From Special Correspondent

**LONDON, July 3:** As rains drive away players and spectators from the Centre Court Pete Sampras was

leading against the "old" German Lion and three-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker. The youngest men's singles

champion at Wimbledon (1985), who will be celebrating his 30th birthday on November 22 this year, won his second and third titles here in 1986 and 1989 and eventually lost to Sampras. At this point of his career it will not be out of place to compare him with Sampras over the last 7 years. Incidentally this is

Becker's 14th Wimbledon. It is believed Becker is still clutching to his chest a quiet belief in his ability to claim a fourth Centre Court honour. Becker's special problem is that Sampras nurses precisely the same ambition. Sampras leads their career head-to-head by ten matches to seven as follows:

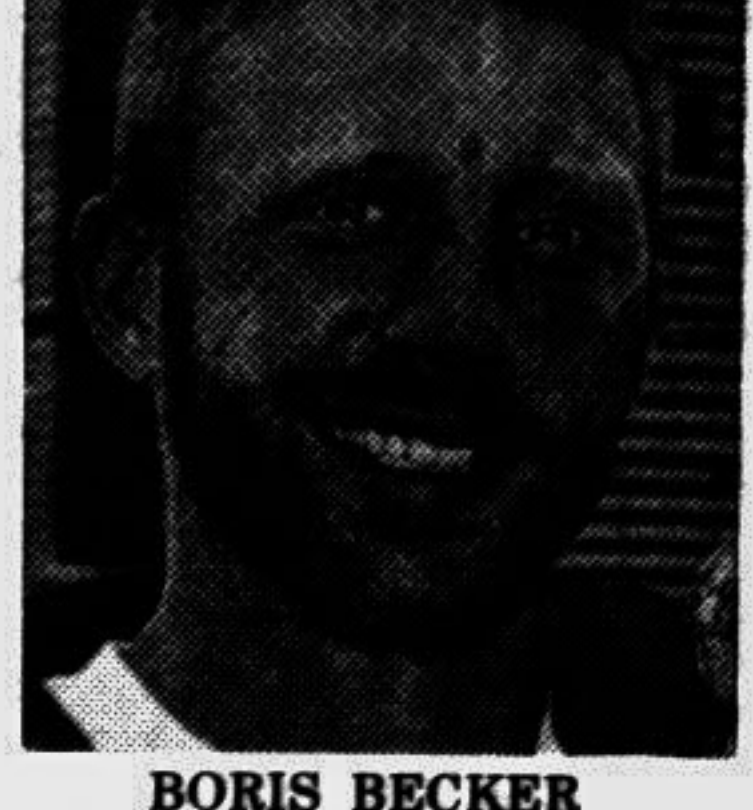


PETE SAMPRAS

## LATEST

**LONDON, July 3:** Frenchman Cedric Pioline survived a barrage of 18 aces from Britain's Greg Rusedski and scored a 6-4, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 victory in just two hours to reach the semifinals of the men's singles at Wimbledon today, reports AFP.

The 29-year-old 44th-ranked Pioline now plays either the 1991 champion Michael Stich of Germany or Britain's 14th seed Tim Henman for a place in Sunday's final.



BORIS BECKER

Year	Place	Surface	Round	Winner	Score
90	Stockholm	Carpet	SF	Becker	6-4, 6-4
91	Indianapolis	Hard	F	Sampras	7-6, 3-6, 6-3
91	Stockholm	Carpet	QF	Becker	7-5, 7-5
91	ATP Finals	Carpet	FR	Becker	6-4, 6-7, 6-1
92	Indianapolis	Hard	SF	Sampras	6-7, 6-2, 7-6
92	ATP Finals	Carpet	FR	Sampras	7-6, 7-6
93	Wimbledon	Grass	SF	Sampras	7-6, 6-4, 6-4
94	Rome	Clay	F	Sampras	6-1, 6-2, 6-2
94	Stockholm	Carpet	SF	Becker	6-4, 6-4
94	ATP Finals	Carpet	FR	Becker	7-5, 7-5
94	ATP Finals	Carpet	F	Sampras	4-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4
95	Wimbledon	Grass	F	Sampras	6-7, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2
95	Paris Open	Carpet	F	Sampras	7-6, 6-4, 6-4
95	ATP Finals	Carpet	FR	Sampras	6-2, 7-6
96	Stuttgart	Carpet	F	Becker	3-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4
96	ATP Finals	Carpet	FR	Becker	7-6, 7-6
96	ATP Finals	Carpet	F	Sampras	3-6, 7-6, 7-6, 6-7, 6-4

Here at Wimbledon Sampras won on both occasions.

# Talk of Britain

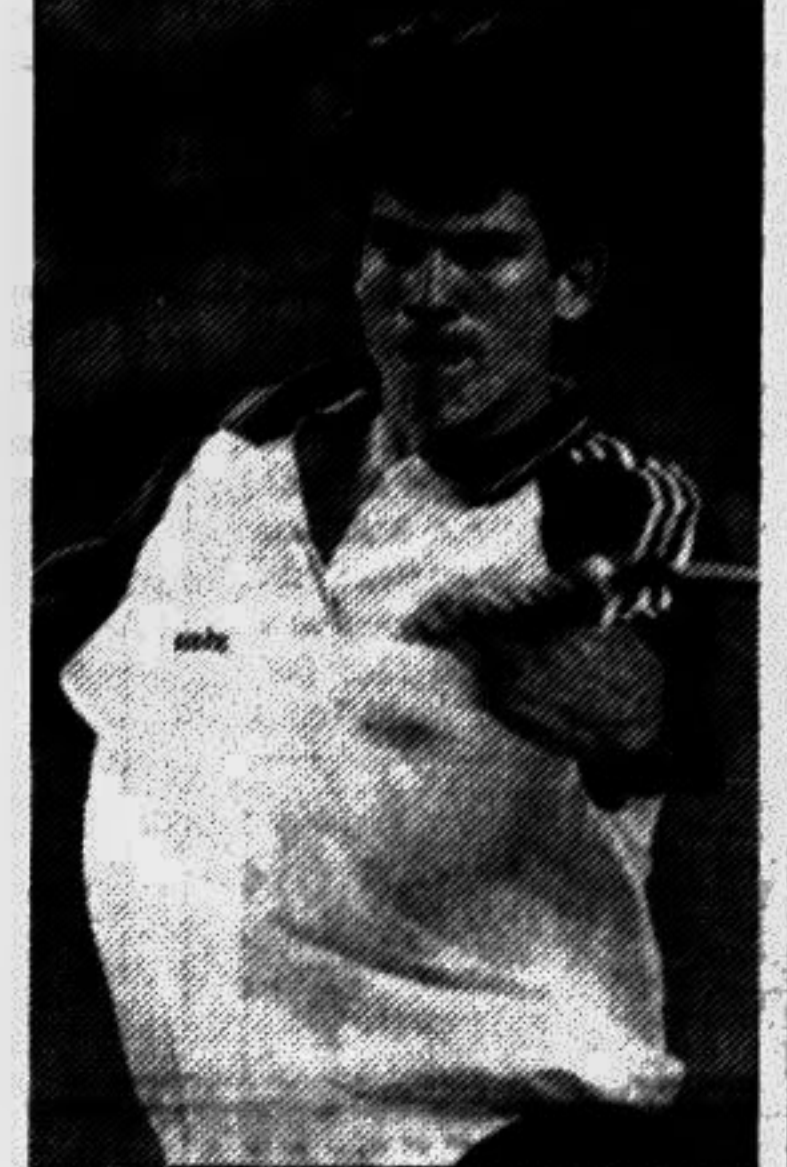
From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

**LONDON, July 3:** Tim Henman is the talk of the nation. In tubes and buses, pubs and cafes the one subject that has been discussed with fond interest is the emergence of two British players at the Wimbledon after a long and depressing 36 years — Henman and Rusedski.

The enthusiasm of the people is so profound that even the budget of the new Labour government after 18 years has taken a back seat. The euphoria has reached its pinnacle as long queues of men and women protected by warm clothing and transparent plastic sheets from the cold and rain waited overnight on the pavements of Wimbledon Park Road for a ticket to the courts next morning.

Wimbledon is familiar for such unusual sights, probably every year but at a much lower scale as one regular informed me. This writer had the opportunity to see such interest (or madness?) in 1995 when the supporters of Andre Agassi were wishing his second title.

The BBC telecast a short reaction and celebration film this morning on Tim Henman showing his village home at Weston on the Green and talking to the locals who all were very proud of him. John Parsons, the revered Tennis Correspondent for the Daily Telegraph covering the Wimbledon for the last 48 years told the



TIM HENMAN

BBC that he had never seen such enthusiasm before except for 1977 when Virginia Wade won. Parsons was cautiously optimistic about Tim's chances of reaching the final better than Rusedski's. If these two win their matches today at court Number 1, they will be fighting it out in the semis. There is no ticket available for the Centre Court and only 500 tickets will be on sale for thousands of enthusiasts most of whom will have to go back or listen to the Wimbledon radio.

What a shame.

## Fed Cup play-off Aussie, Spanish teams named

**SYDNEY, July 3:** Australia said today its Fed Cup tennis team to take on Spain later this month would be unchanged from the quartet which scored a surprise win over South Africa in March, reports Reuter.

Captain Lesley Bowrey named the team for the World Group play-off as Annabel Ellwood, Kerry-Anne Guse, Kristine Kumec and Rachel McQuillan.

Spain's Quarter will be former world number one Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, Maris Luisa Serna, Virginia Ruano-Pascual and Maria Antonia Sanchez Lorenzo.

The two countries will meet at Hope Island in Queensland state on July 12-13 for the right to remain in World Group One and compete for the 1998 Fed Cup.

Spain has reached the final of the prestigious women's team event in seven of the last eight years, winning in 1991, 1993, 1994 and 1995.

"We may be going in as underdogs on paper, but these girls have demonstrated that they can rise to the occasion and match the game of hinger ranked players", said Bowrey.

## Tennis camp

A month-long juvenile tennis training course began at the National Tennis Complex yesterday, reports UNB.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader inaugurated the course, organised by the Bangladesh Tennis Federation.

A total of 50 boys and girls aged between 6 to 12 years are taking part in the training.

## Grave oversight

In our yesterday's report under the headline "Henman stuns Krajicek" it was published that the Briton had reached the semifinals instead of quarters. The inadvertent mistake is regretted.

— Sports Editor.

# WIMBLEDON NOTE BOOK

**WIMBLEDON, July 3:** Steffi Graf, out for four to six months following knee surgery, will fall to her lowest ranking in 11 years when next week's WTA Tour rankings come out.

Jana Novotna will move up to No 2 behind Martina Hingis, while Monica Seles will be No 3 and Iva Majoli No 4.

Graf is certain to fall to No 5. She could — under the complicated points system — tumble to No 6 if Spain's Arantxa Sanchez Vicario wins the tournament.

The last time Graf was ranked so low was March of 1986 when she was No 4 and February of the same year when she was No 6.

## PHOTO PITS

Famous American photographer Annie Liebowitz was happy to be visiting Wimbledon. Shooting it is another matter.

"I get the impression it's very difficult for a journalist or photographer to work here,"

Liebowitz said Wednesday. "I was able to get a pass for today but I don't know if I'll get another. I would prefer a much smaller venue. I look at the photographers in the pit in one place, working with long lenses, and I feel for them ... I'm glad I get to do my work in controlled shoots."

## BY A NOSE

The quarterfinal between Pete Sampras and Boris Becker is tennis' equivalent of a heavyweight boxing match.

May be that's what led a journalist to ask Sampras, "Are you going to bite off Becker's ear?"

"No," Sampras said. "I'm going for the nose tomorrow."

## ODDS AND ENDS

The bookmakers William Hill have Pete Sampras 11-10 to win the tournament, followed by Boris Becker at 4-1. While the odds on a Brit winning were 1,000-1 two years ago, Greg Rusedski is now their favourite

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- Urban transport
- A welcome sight?
- Photographer Diane
- 12 "Chances"
- 13 8mm sub-machine gun
- 14 Unfettered
- 15 24 hours, to Jose
- 16 Polly's nephew
- 18 Doctrine
- 19 Kilmer classic
- 20 Vivacity
- 22 Geologic period
- 23 Leading quartet?
- 27 Tummy warmer
- 28 Area of shallow water
- 31 Jacket eponym
- 34 Caedra