

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-74

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes 8 pm, July 25, '97

- Who lifted the Wimbledon ladies' singles crown this year?
Majoli Hings Vicario
- How many times has Sampras won the Wimbledon?
Two Three Four
- Which nation clinched the Copa America title?
Brazil Peru Bolivia
- Who became champions in the World Youth Soccer Cup?
Ghana Colombia Argentina
- Who won this year's Green Delta First Division hockey league title?
Mohammedan Abahani Usha

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

EN-VITS

SPORTS TALK



Anna Kournikova

(Sixteen-year-old Russian tennis sensation)
"I'm too hot for you... you couldn't afford me boys."
Said to some youngboys who were wolf whistling while walking on Wimbledon grounds with her boyfriend.

Embarrassing!

STOCKHOLM, July 19: Praising Stockholm's cleanliness for delegates assessing the city's 2004 Olympics bid, the mayor offered them drinks of water from the city's vast lake which turned out to have high levels of bacteria, reports said Thursday.

The Swedish capital's pristine image is regarded as one of its strongest points in its competition with four other cities to host the games. Good salmon-fishing is found downtown, where Lake Malaren empties into a Baltic Sea estuary.

Mayor Mats Hult in recent months gave several international Olympic Committee delegates drinks from the lake. But then tests ordered by the local environmental authority found high levels of coliform bacteria in the water.

"You'd have to be pretty thirsty if you drink this water," the newspaper quoted environmental official Inger Wikstrom as saying.

Sampras favourite

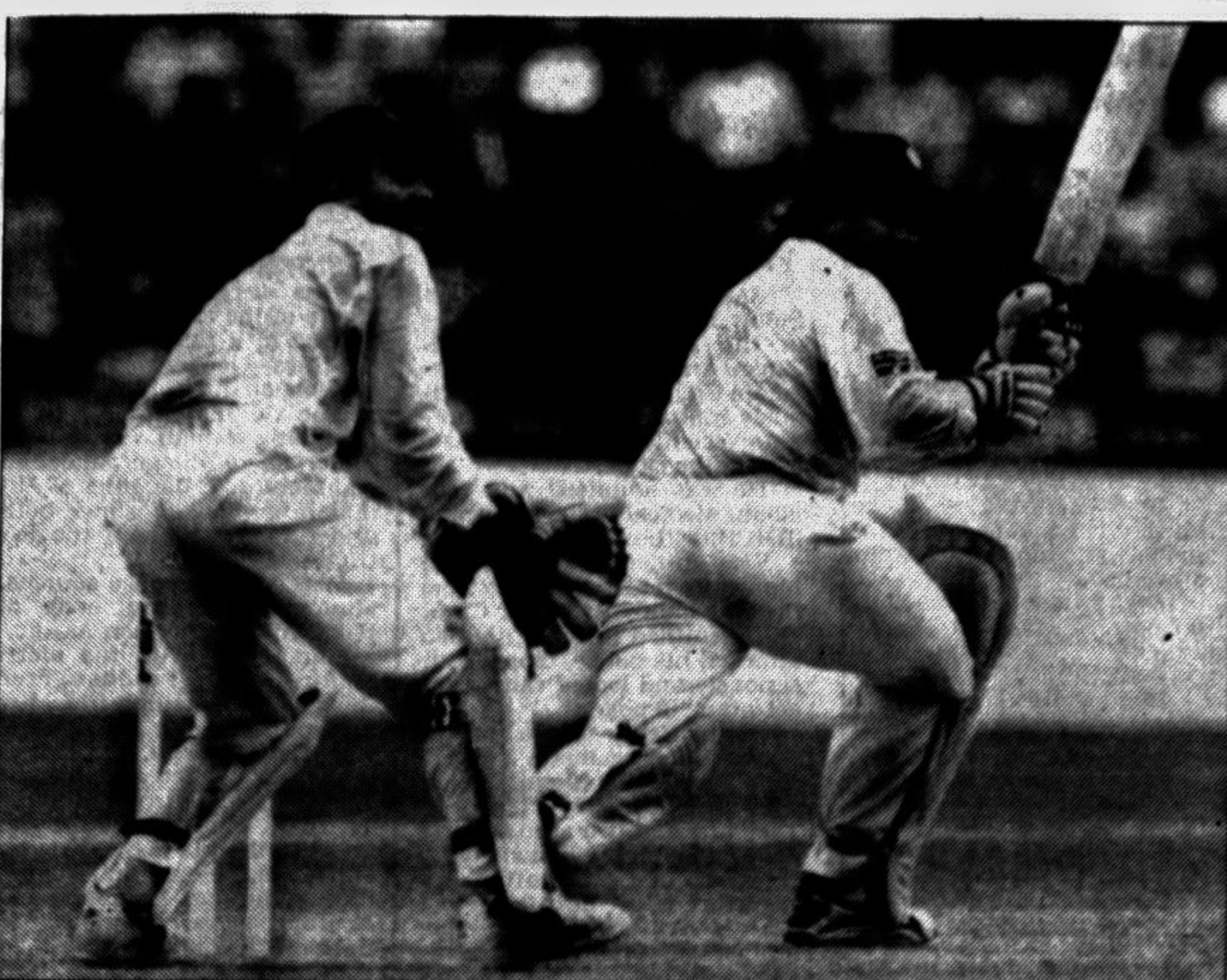
Wimbledon player

When Pan-Asian sports channel Star Sports ran a contest on-air this Wimbledon asking viewers to vote for their favourite Wimbledon player 1997, thousands of Star Sports viewers from more than 18 Asian countries voted overwhelmingly for Pete Sampras. Sampras received more than 50 per cent of the votes, says a press release.

Pete Sampras has responded to ESPN Star Sports with the following message for all his fans in Asia: "It is always nice to learn how people receive you and feel about you, especially when you work so hard to be the best. Thanks to everyone who expressed their support."

The viewer vote for "Star Sports favourite Wimbledon player 1997" marked Star Sports' sixth consecutive year at Wimbledon. Three winners were drawn from the respondents and each has won a trip to the Heineken Open, Singapore in October.

Since it launched as Asia's first satellite sports channel in 1991 with live coverage of the US Open tennis championships, Star Sports has focused on bringing the world's best tennis events to Asian viewers. The next grand slam event, the US Open, will star on August 25.



Sri Lanka captain and man-of-the-match Arjuna Ranatunga plays on the on-side during the Asia Cup clash against India in Colombo on July 18. —AFP/UNB photo

Arjuna upstages Azhar

COLOMBO, July 19: Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga slammed a brilliant 131 not out Friday to carry the world champions into the Asia Cup final with a remarkable six-wicket win over India, reports AFP.

The Indians, restricted to 227 for six from their 50 overs, sensed an upset victory when seamer Venkatesh Prasad removed Sanath Jayasuriya with the first ball and Aravinda de Silva in his second over.

But the portly Ranatunga, batting with a runner in the later part of his innings due to cramps, stood rock solid at one end to steer his team home in the 45th over.

The 33-year-old hit 17 boundaries in his third one-day century from 214 matches to win the 1,000-dollar man-of-the-match award.

Marvan Atapattu, whose sister married Ranatunga's younger brother Sanjeeva on Wednesday, aided in the rescue act with a defiant 31 during a 108-run stand for the third wicket with his captain.

Debutant Lanka de Silva, who replaced the out-of-form wicketkeeper Ramesh Kaluwitharana, then put on 106 for the unbroken fifth wicket with Ranatunga, helping himself to a breezy 37 off 49 balls.

It was Sri Lanka's second successive win in the four-nation tournament following their 15-run defeat of Pakistan, ensuring the hosts a place in the July 26 final even before their last league match against Bangladesh.

Ranatunga's effort overshadowed an unbeaten 81 by former Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin, recalled to the side after being axed for the Independence Cup at home in May.

Ranatunga received a standing ovation from some 32,000 home fans at the Premadasa Stadium, who were earlier stunned into silence by Prasad's quick blows.

Jayasuriya pulled the first ball of the innings hard and high to deep square leg where Rahul Dravid took a well-judged catch running to his right.

In Prasad's next over, Aravinda de Silva edged an outswinger to wicket-keeper Saba Karim to make Sri Lanka nine for two.

Ranatunga and Atapattu dug into take a heavy toll on a tiring Indian attack limited to just three from line bowlers and three part-timers.

Azhar and Rahul Dravid (69) put on 117 for the fourth wicket after India, sent to bat by the world champions, were gasping for survival at 51 for three by the 18th over.

Azhar, who came in at the fall of the third wicket, hit four boundaries and two sixes in his 103-ball knock. Dravid smashed six boundaries.

Azhar and Dravid were the only two batsmen to prosper against the steady Sri Lankan attack on the slow wicket.

Left-arm seamers Chaminda Vaas and Sanjeeva de Silva removed both openers Sachin Tendulkar and Saurav Ganguly in successive overs to make India 35 for two by the ninth.

Left-hander Ganguly, who made 11, pulled a short ball from Sanjeeva to mid-on where Kumara Dharmasena took a head-high catch.

Tendulkar, who slammed a century on the same ground in his first outing as Indian captain last year, scored 21 when he stepped out to loft Vaas and was bowled.

India slid further in the 18th over when wicket keeper Saba Karim, promoted to number three, was caught behind off Dharmasena for 12.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Asia Cup one-day international between India and Sri Lanka in Colombo on Friday:

INDIA		
Tendulkar b Vaas	21	
Ganguly c Dharmasena b Sanjeeva	11	
Karim c Lanka b Dharmasena	12	
Dravid b Jayasuriya	69	
Azharuddin not out	81	
Singh c De Silva b Vaas	10	
Jadeja st Lanka b Jayasuriya	3	
Kumble not out	16	
Extras: (w-3, nb-1)	4	
Total: (for 6 wickets)	227	
Fall of wickets: 1-32; 2-35; 3-		

51; 4-168; 5-189; 6-201.
Did not bat: N David, A Kuruvilla, V Prasad.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Vaas	8	1	35	2
Sanjeeva	7	0	30	1
Muralitharan	10	1	30	0
Dharmasena	10	1	52	1
Jayasuriya	10	0	52	2
Kalpage	5	0	28	0

SRI LANKA		
Jayasuriya c David b Prasad	0	
Atapattu lbw b Singh	31	
De Silva c Karim b Prasad	6	
Ranatunga not out	131	
Mahanama c Karim b Singh	5	
Lanka not out	37	
Extras: (lb-6, w-12, nb-3)	21	
Total: (for 4 wickets in 44.4 overs)	231	
Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-9; 3-		
117; 4-125		

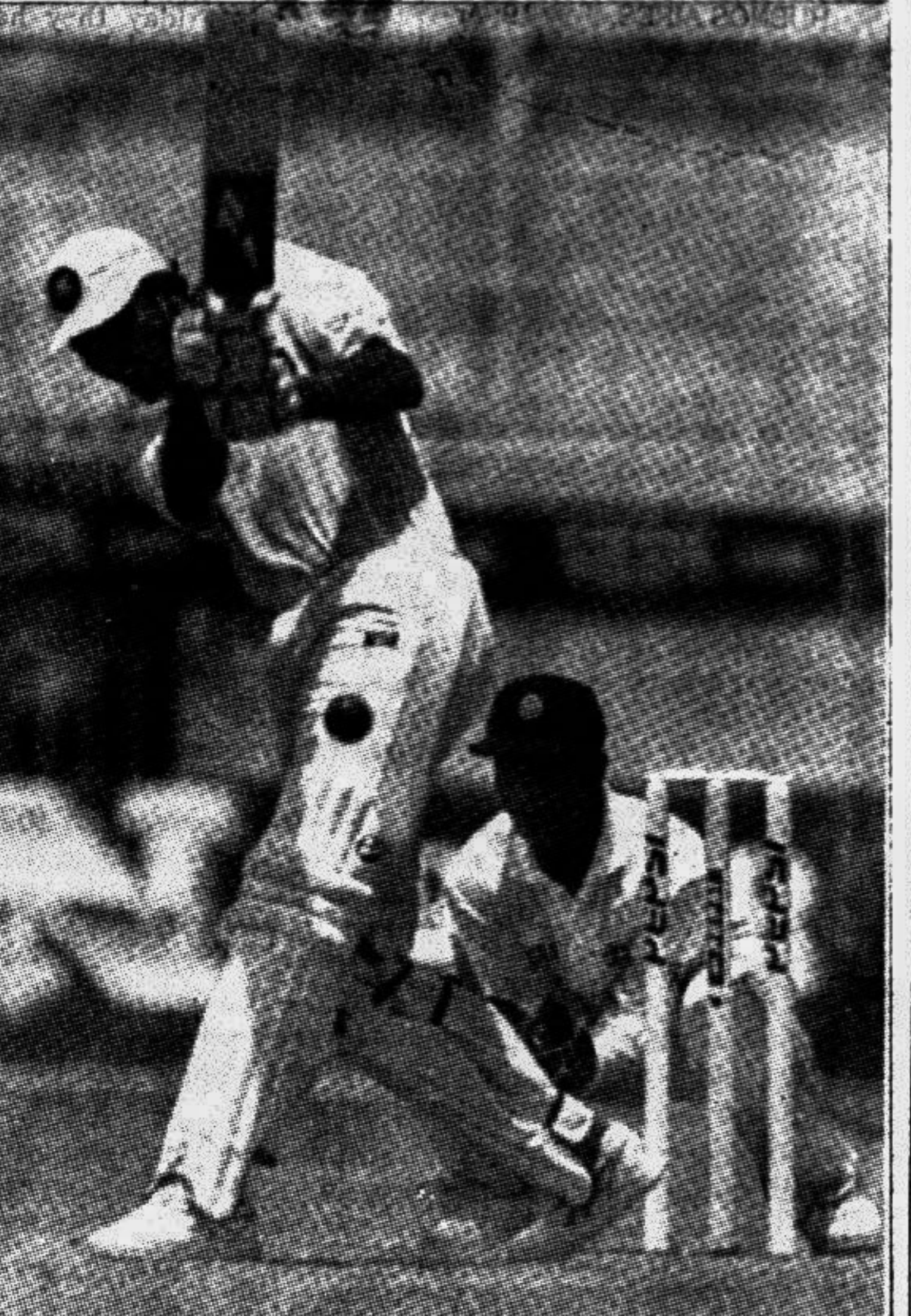
Did not bat: R Kalpage, K Dharmasena, C Vaas, M Muralitharan, S de Silva.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Prasad	8	0	44	2
Kuruvilla	7	0	35	0
Kumble	10	0	38	0
David	8	0	36	0
Ganguly	3	0	19	0
Singh	4	0	29	2
Jadeja	4	0	18	0
Tendulkar	0.4	0	6	0

Result: Sri Lanka won by six wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Arjuna Ranatunga

Next match: India vs Pakistan on Sunday.



Former captain Mohammad Azharuddin elegantly drives the ball during his unbeaten knock of 81 in the Asia Cup clash against host Sri Lanka in Colombo on July 18. Sri Lanka won the match by six wickets. —AFP/UNB photo

Seles survives a scare

MAHWAH, New Jersey, July 19: Monica Seles overcame 19 double faults and battled back from a deficit of one set and a service break to overcome 15-year-old Mirjana Lucic 2-6, 7-5, 6-0 in the quarterfinals of the A and P Tennis Classic on Friday night, reports AP.

The match, delayed 21/2 hours by rain, lasted 99 grueling minutes, during which both players displayed power and shot-making skill.

The top-seeded Seles, who trailed 4-2 in the second set, survived to move on to a semi-final meeting with fourth-seeded Chanda Rubin on Saturday afternoon. Second-seeded Anna Kournikova of Russia will play fifth-seeded Maggie Maleeva in the other semifinal.

Kournikova beat Ann Grossman 7-6, 6-1 and Rubin, the 1995 winner of this exhibition event, beat Angela Lettner 6-3, 6-2.

The turning point for Seles came with the sixth-seeded Lucic of Germany up 4-3 and a break in the second. Seles, ranked third in the world,

ripped a backhand winner into the right corner to go up 15-40 and she lost the game with a backhand that went wide.

Another double fault in the second game of the final set gave Seles another break and control of the set at 2-0.

The key for the second-seeded Kournikova was toning in her aggressiveness. When down her aggressiveness, when Grossman, the seventh seed, took a 4-2 lead with a service break, Kournikova helped her with four unforced errors and a double fault in the next game.

After Grossman held her serve to up her advantage to 5-2, Kournikova stopped trying to make the impossible shot every time and kept it more simple.

Kournikova held serve with two aces and a service winner to pull to 5-3, and then got back on serve with a break in the next game when Grossman missed a backhand wide at 30-40. Two games later, Kournikova got another break and served for the set at 6-5.

Grossman broke back, forcing a tiebreaker, which the 16-year-old Kournikova won 7-2. Grossman's only points coming on two double-faults by Kournikova.



MONICA SELES

County cricket roundup

LONDON, July 19: Mike Smith reinforced his claim to an England Test place with his third 10-wicket match haul of the season on Friday as Gloucestershire swept to victory over bottom club Derbyshire in the English championship, reports Reuter.

The left-arm seamer finished with four for 59 to add to his six for 47 in the first innings as Derbyshire were dismissed for 329 in their second innings to lose by an innings and 36 runs.

Northamptonshire, on 216 for eight, have a lead of 305 going into the final day against title-chasing Essex.

Lancashire were poised for victory as Sussex closed their second innings on 150 for four, still needing 104 more runs to make their opponents bat again.

A partnership of 170 by Mathew Downman (96) and Nathan Asle (100) steered Nottinghamshire to a lead of 68 with six second innings wickets left after losing on 279 for four. They had followed on after making only 133 in reply to Warwickshire's 344.

Hampshire wicketkeeper Adam Hynes made an unbeaten 83 as he dragged his side from a deficit of 174 runs on first innings to a surplus of 53 when they closed their second innings on 227 for eight against Surrey.

Chang, Korda reach semis

WASHINGTON, July 19: Top-seeded Michael Chang and second-seeded Petr Korda changed roles Friday at the Legg Mason Classic, reports AP.

Chang, who struggled in his first two matches, breezed to a 6-2, 6-3 quarterfinal victory over seventh-seed Scott Draper. Korda barely worked up a sweat in his first two matches, but was so sick Friday he threw up midway through the third set against doubles partner Thomas Haas.

Korda, however, hung in and advanced with a 6-7, 6-4, 6-4 win.

Chang, the defending champion, faces 11th-seed Brett Steven of New Zealand in the semifinals Saturday.

Steven cruised past unseeded Rainer Schuttler of Germany 6-3, 6-3.

Korda faces unseeded David Wheaton in the other semifinal. Wheaton, a former top 20 player returning from injury, edged 14th-seed Vince Spadea 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

The Chang-Draper match was delayed 90 minutes Friday night after a violent thunderstorm ripped through the William H.G. Fitzgerald Tennis Centre.

Chang, ranked second in the world behind Pete Sampras, broke Draper early in both sets to take control.

He improved his record to 39-10 this year including 26-3 on hardcourt surfaces.

Korda's road to the semifinals was much rockier.

A combination of heat and humidity — and a lack of eating because tournament cuisine wasn't to his liking, almost kayaked the Czech Republic native.

Tied 3-3 in the third set, Korda, at age 29 the oldest player left in the tournament, needed attention from ATP Tour medical trainer Bill Norris.

A treatment of electrolyte fluids and an application of ice towels refueled Korda, who broke the eight-seeded Haas in the next game to take control of the match.

Korda, 30-14 this year, is currently ranked 21st in the world. But he is expected to break back into the top 20 in next week's rankings for the first time in over two years.

Despite being the No 2 seed, all three of Korda's matches this week have been scheduled in the extreme heat of the midday sun. All of Chang's matches have been at night.

Pele's new assignment

GENEVA, July 19: Former Brazilian soccer star Pele was named by the World Health Organisation on Friday as a "Goodwill Ambassador" for eliminating leprosy around the world, reports Reuter.

The 57-year-old Pele, whose real name is Edison Arantes de Nascimento, was widely regarded as the greatest footballer in the world in the 1960s and is currently Brazil's Minister of Sport.

He is already actively involved in the fight against leprosy in Brazil — which with a total of 106,000 registered cases of the wasting disease is the second worst leprosy-hit country in the world after India, which has 500,000.

Samaranch's greetings

LAUSANNE, July 19: Excellent and historic — but still not the best ever, reports AP.

To mark the one-year anniversary of the opening of the Atlanta Olympics, IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch sent a message of congratulations Thursday to organisers of the Centennial Games.

Glamorgan enforce a draw

CARDIFF, Wales, July 19: Steve James became the first batsman to reach 1,000 runs for the season as Glamorgan forced a draw in the three-day match against Australia at Sophia Gardens Friday, reports AP.

Set to make a demanding 333 to win in a minimum of 58 overs, Glamorgan finished on 211 for three after some spirited batting led by James.

The two captains decided to call the game off with seven overs still remaining.

Skipper Mark Taylor declared his side's second innings on 217 for seven at lunch after Greg Blewett and Ricky Ponting had combined for an undefeated 70 runs for the eighth wicket.

James threatened to turn an inevitable draw into a Glamorgan win with a forceful 79 until a brilliant outfield catch by Brendon Julian ended his 115-ball knock. He hit 11 boundaries.

James, who needed 15 runs at the start of the second innings to reach the milestone, was given a standing ovation by the few thousand fans when he cut seamer Paul Reiffel for four to pass the 1,000 mark in his ninth match of the season.

The right handed opener, who was dismissed for 91 in the Glamorgan first innings, gave the innings a kick start with left hander Hugh Morris (42) as the pair put on 96 runs in 26 overs.

A draw became inevitable after tea, when Glamorgan, the English county championship leaders, required 224 runs to

win in 29 overs. Skipper Matthew Maynard and Adrian Dale, who put on 51 for the unfinished fourth wicket, remained unbeaten on 45 and 20 respectively when the game was called off.

Ricky Ponting, certain to oust Michael Bevan as Australia's No 6 in the fourth Ashes Test against England, followed his 126 not out with a patient unbeaten 28 before Taylor declared.

He shared 70 runs for the unbeaten eighth wicket with Blewett, who hit his second half century of the match — 50 not out with four boundaries.

Reiffel, having destroyed Glamorgan's first innings with five for 61, hit 56 runs with 10 fours, his seventh first-class fifty and put on 80 with Matthew Elliott (37) for the sixth wicket.

The pair came together after Australia's reshuffled lineup crashed to 42 for five on the second day.

Reiffel, who joined the Australian party a month ago as a replacement for the injured Andy Bichel, took advantage of the absence of injured duo Steve Watkins and Waqar Younis to launch into the Glamorgan attack.

Australia resuming the day on 100 for five, first lost Elliott, when the left hander wandered down the pitch and was stumped.

Attempting a straight drive, Reiffel lost his middle stump 25 runs later before Blewett and Ponting came together.

Australia take on Middlesex on Saturday at Lord's in their final first-class outing before next Thursday's fourth Test at

Headingley.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the end of the three-day match between Australia and Glamorgan at Sophia Gardens on Friday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 369 for four declared

GLAMORGAN: First innings 254

AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 100 for five)

Slater lbw b Thomas 7

Langer b Parkin 10

Bevan c Metson b Thomas 1

Julian c and b Parkin 12

Berry c Metson b Parkin 9

Reiffel b Thomas 36

Elliott st Metson b Cosker 57

Blewett not out 50

Ponting not out 28

Extras: (lb-1, lb-4, nb-2) 17

Total: (for seven wickets declared) 217

Fall of wickets: 1-14; 2-18; 3-

26; 4-37; 5-42; 6-122; 7-147.

Bowling O M R W

Thomas 14 3 42 3

Parkin 15 3 38 3

Cosker 17 3 36 1

Butcher 10 1 36 0

Dale 9 1 43 0

Maynard 4 0 17 0

GLAMORGAN: Second innings

James c Julian b Bevan 79

Morris c Berry b Kasprzewicz 42

Thomas st Berry b Bevan 45

Maynard not out 45

Dale not out 20

Extras: (lb-2, nb-8) 10

Total: (for three wickets) 211

Fall of wickets: 1-96; 2-139; 3-160

Bowling O M R W

Kasprzewicz 15 2 63 1

Reiffel 11 2 46 0

Julian 9 1 26 0

Bevan 16 1 74 2

Note: Each no-ball is worth two runs.



Indian captain Sachin Tendulkar (L) works on his bowling while coach Madan Lal (2nd from right) and teammates look on at a practice session in Colombo yesterday. India take on arch-rivals Pakistan in a crucial Asia Cup match in the Lankan capital today. —AFP/UNB photo

Australians not impressed

LONDON, July 19: Australian captain Mark Taylor and four manager Geoff Marsh hit out today at both the quality and the attitude of their opposition in the county matches on the current Ashes tour, reports AFP.

Both men said they were feeling disappointed after the recent match against Glamorgan and the Australian management are now considering making a formal protest in their end of tour report to the England and Wales Cricket Board.

"It's something we will obviously have to look at the end of the tour," revealed Marsh.

"We're pretty disappointed that we're not playing against counties at full strength because we want some good practice but there is nothing we can do about it."

"At the end of the tour that will obviously go in our report but nothing has changed in that respect much since the tours of 1989 or 1993."

The tourists, looking for a tough match at Glamorgan in preparation for next week's fourth Test at Headingley, were

disappointed with the Wales county's attitude in leaving out Waqar Younis, Steve Watkins and Robert Croft and their negative tactics in putting them in on a flat pitch in an attempt to set up a run-chase on the final day.

Glamorgan said both Watkins and Waqar were injured but their omission defied a request earlier this season from chairman of selectors David Graveney for counties to play their strongest possible side against the tourists.

Taylor was more disappointed with Glamorgan's negativity in putting them into bat on a flat pitch and expecting them to set a generous run-chase target on the final day.

In the event, Taylor set Glamorgan 333 in a minimum of 58 overs, a target which proved beyond the Wales county and the Australian captain admitted: "I am always keen to play a good game of cricket but I was very disappointed with the set-up at Glamorgan."

"They put out a very flat, dry wicket and left three of their best bowlers out and then sent us in on a wicket no one in their right mind would send a side in

"In that situation, there is only one thing they want us to do and that is to set up a target on the last day and I certainly wasn't going to hand them the game on a plate."

"I heard the word had got round to the counties to field their best team and that certainly wasn't the case at Glamorgan."

"It's not for me pick their teams or tell them how to play their cricket but if every side expects us to turn up on a wicket like that and make a game of it simply because we're the Australian touring team then they're wrong."

"I think I'm a fairly aggressive captain. I think I've proved that over the last few years, but I'm not a ridiculous captain either."

"We went to Glamorgan looking to play a tough three-day game and it was never going to be a three-day game from the moment the toss was made."