

AB Bank TT on Sports Reporter

Brothers Union Club, Biman, Armanitola Juba Sangha and War Club won their respective matches as the AB Bank Senior Division table tennis league began at the NSC wooden floor gymnasium yesterday.

Life's little irony!

LONDON, Oct 16: Former England cricket captain Ian Botham is being sued for more than 100,000 pounds (160,000 dollars) by his own lawyers, the BBC reported Wednesday, says AFP.

The firm, Sweptone Walsh, has drawn up a writ demanding the payment of legal bills relating to Botham's ill-fated libel action against Pakistani cricket legend Imran Khan, the BBC added.

Akram back in the team Spinners stare at Sheikhpura



SHEIKHPURA, Pakistan, Oct 16: Pakistan have called up three spinners, including the uncapped Ali Hussain Rizvi, after preparing a turning pitch for the second Test against South Africa starting tomorrow, reports Reuter.

Pakistan captain Saeed Anwar said Rizvi was full of promise. "He has the ability to make the ball bounce and turn on a helpful pitch."



WASIM AKRAM

toured England with the Pakistan A team in the recent northern summer and emerged as one of the most successful bowlers with 28 wickets. Pakistan welcome back Wasim Akram, who returns to the first-class game after five months' absence because of a shoulder surgery.

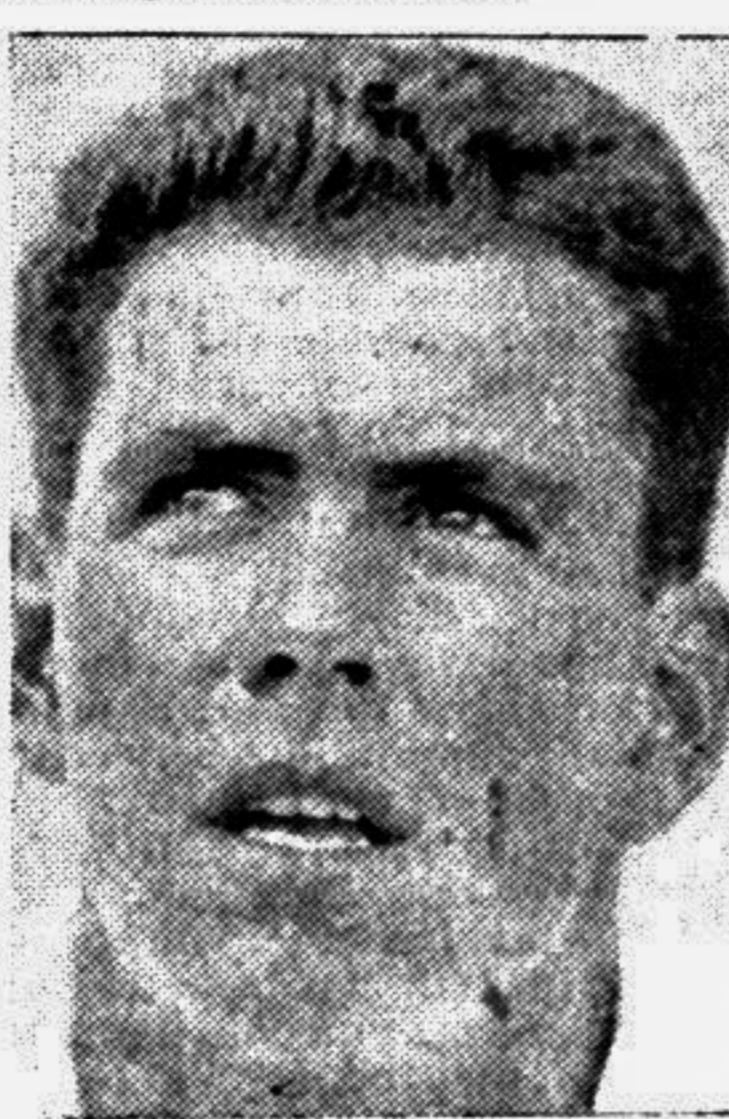
and fast bowler Alan Donald. Uncapped Mark Boucher has flown in as a possible replacement for Richardson, who is suffering from a hamstring injury.

TEAMS

PAKISTAN (from): Saeed Anwar (captain), Ali Naqvi, Mohammad Ramzan, Ijaz Ahmed, Mohammad Wasim, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Moin Khan, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Azhar Mahmood, Mushtaq Ahmed, Saqlain Mushtaq, Ali Hussain Rizvi.

SOUTH AFRICA: Hansie Cronje (captain), Gary Kirsten, Andrew Hudson, Jacques Kallis, Daryll Cullinan, Jonty Rhodes, Adam Bacher, Brian McMillan, Dave Richardson, Mark Boucher, Shaun Pollock, Lance Klusener, Paul Adams, Pat Symcox, Allan Donald.

Umpires: K T Francis (Sri Lanka), Nazir (Junior (Pakistan)); TV replays: Athar Zaidi; Match referee: Ranjan Madugale (Sri Lanka).



HANSIE CRONJE

Weather permitting, the match will get underway at 11 am (BST) and Star Sport will provide live coverage of the Test.



SAEED ANWAR

South Africa's opening tour match at Karachi, joins leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed and off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq in a squad of 13.

Champions' Trophy

Pakistan, Spain split points



ADELAIDE, Oct 16: Danish Kaleem scored on fulltime Thursday to give Pakistan a 1-1 draw with Spain in a controversial match at the Champions' Trophy held here.

to clinch first place in the six-nation event. Stephen Davies, in the ninth minute, opened the scoring for Australia and Paul Gaudin put the home side up 2-0 in the 26th.

Javier Aranu scored in the 25th minute to give Spain the lead but Pakistan had two goals disallowed in the last eight minutes of the match.

in a controversial match at the Champions' Trophy held here. In the other match, Australia beat the Netherlands 3-1

minutes. Bram Lomans scored for the Netherlands in the 35th minute before Paul Lewis closed out the scoring for Australia, who improved their record to 4-0, at 56

minutes. Javier Aranu scored in the 25th minute to give Spain the lead but Pakistan had two goals disallowed in the last eight minutes of the match.

Four minutes later, Alam was again involved when umpires ruled that a shot into the goal had gone in off a Pakistani player's foot and not his stick. The goal was disallowed.

Hartono given UN passport

JAKARTA, Oct 16: The United Nations Development Programme Thursday named former world badminton champion Rudy Hartono as its first goodwill ambassador in Indonesia, reports AP.

Hartono, 48, is also eight-time All England badminton champion and coached Indonesia's team that won a gold medal at the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games.

Spanish coach Toni Forrellat said his team was lucky to escape with a draw. "We played badly today," said Forrellat. "We are happy with the draw."

The teams will have a rest day Friday before Saturday's final set of preliminary games — Spain play Germany, Pakistan take on the Netherlands and Australia play South Korea. Australia will take on the second-place team in the championship final Sunday.

Kid's kamikaze knock

SYDNEY, Oct 16: A 13-year-old Australian schoolboy hit 315 runs off 40 overs before retiring, it was reported here today, says AFP.

Bingal Gamble walloped the runs when he opened the batting for Mount Colah under-14's against Berowra on Saturday, the Daily Telegraph reported.

Sheffield Shield cricket scores

SYDNEY, Oct 16: Matthew Hayden and Martin Love combined in an unbeaten first wicket partnership of 133 today as Queensland made an impressive start on the second day of their Sheffield Shield match against New South Wales in Brisbane, reports Reuter.

After dismissing New South Wales for 464, Hayden (76 not out) and Love (152 not out) provided the defending champions with the perfect platform.

Australian skipper Mark Taylor scored 124 and Michael Bevan, who lost his Test place in England this year, hit 153. South Australia took first innings points against Tasmania in their match at the Adelaide oval after a brilliant 131 by Darren Lehmann.

BRIEF SCORES

In Brisbane: New South Wales 464 (Mark Taylor 124, Michael Bevan 153, Michael Kasprzewicz 129-4) v Queensland 133-0 (Matthew Hayden 76 not out, Martin Love 52 not out).

In Adelaide: Tasmania 301 (Michael Diveruoto 68, Shaun Young 58, Paul Wilson 53-4) v South Australia 336-8 (Darren Lehmann 131, Jamie Siddons 91).

Becker's denial

HONG KONG, Oct 16: Former world number one Boris Becker on Wednesday denied media speculation that he was to leave his native Germany for the Spanish island of Majorca, reports Reuter.

The popular German daily Bild said on Sunday that Becker was ready to live on the Mediterranean island and had already found a school for his three-year-old son Noah.

"It has been in the papers but it is not true," said Becker, who is playing in an exhibition tournament in Hong Kong.

I have a number of places around the world but it does not mean to say that when I buy something, automatically I am going to live there.

I have bought a piece of land in Majorca, yes, but I do not know if that is all that important — many other Germans have that too. I am resident in Germany and I pay almost 70 per cent tax."

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Swiss world number one Martina Hingis plays a double-fisted backhand against Anne-Gaëlle Sidot of France during their European Indoor championships engagement in Kloten, Switzerland on Wednesday.

Martina's mixed moment at home



ZURICH, Oct 16: Martina Hingis made her first appearance in Switzerland as world number one Wednesday at the 926,250 dollars European Indoor Championships, delighting fans with a sweeping second-round victory, reports agencies.

Hingis, who successfully defended her first career singles title last week in Filderstadt, took just 59 minutes to advance to the quarter-finals, dispatching French lucky-loser Anne-Gaëlle Sidot 6-3, 6-2.

World No. 2 and defending champion Jana Novotna recovered from a second-set lapse to advance with a 6-0, 6-7 (6-8), 6-2 victory over Japan's Ai Sugiyama, ranked 32.

Hingis, who has won 11 titles this season including three Grand Slams, appeared relaxed, clowning around with the audience on several occasions and making faces at her bloopers.

But after a quick first set, Hingis was perhaps too relaxed. Uncharacteristically exchanging a pair of breaks with her opponent, Hingis then squandered two match points, prompting one fan to call out "play seriously, you're not practicing anymore."

After a match-winning serve and volley, Hingis then turned to the spectator and bowed, grinning. The 17-year-old, who has reached the final in 12-of-14

tournaments she entered this year, said she was happy to be playing at home. "I felt really comfortable out there, it's great to be playing here," said Hingis, whose impressive 69-3 win-loss record this season has allowed her to hold the No. 1 position for 29 weeks. "It's fantastic to play in front of a crowd like that."

It was the first Wednesday night sell-out crowd in the

tourament's 14-year history. "That's a good sign for me," concluded Hingis, who lost last year's final to Novotna.

The result aside it has not been a particularly pleasant homecoming for Hingis. Hingis had complained at a press conference that her accomplishments were not as highly valued in her adopted Switzerland as they were around the world, then left it to tournament organiser Beat

medically extended his overnight lead to 22 seconds. But, with only six seconds now separating the pair as they go into the last leg, the team will do everything to ensure that 555 Subaru take maximum points to extend their lead in the Manufacturers Championship and give McRae every opportunity to keep his Championship hopes alive.

McRae's performance on the day's eight stages has however been that of a champion, characterised by his natural and apparently effortless ability behind the wheel of the Subaru Impreza 555. The Scot swept the board, winning all but two of today's stages to claw his way from 8th position, 40 seconds

Ritschard to sound an ominous warning as she quietly looked on. In a thinly veiled threat, Ritschard cautioned that unless the media and Swiss fans started appreciating Hingis, there was no guarantee she would play in future European championships, the only major women's tournament in Switzerland.

"Some people seem to think I'm only number one because Steffi isn't playing," said Hingis. "Those people should accept the fact that I'm good enough to be number one on my own."

However after cruising through her first set, second-seed Novotna suddenly began to labour in the second, as a warned-up Sugiyama started to show some spunk.

Braking Sugiyama to take a 4-2 lead, Novotna was unable to close the match, as the 22-year-old Japanese broke back to even the score at 5-5, then steal the set in a tiebreak.

Czech qualifier Sandra Kleinova advanced into the quarterfinals when seventh-seed Irina Spirlea, suffering from lowerback pains, was forced to retire after winning the first set 6-3 then down 5-1 in the second. In first round play Belgian qualifier Dominique Van Roost upset eighth-seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain 7-5, 5-7, 6-4 to advance to the second round.

Piero finishes Leg 2 first

The 555 Subaru World Rally Team's domination of Leg 2 of the Rally of Italy has put them in an enviable 1-2 overnight position, with the all-Italian crew of Piero Liatti and Fabrizio Pons leading the team assault ahead of former World Champion, Colin McRae and co-driver Nicky Grist. Third position is held by current World Championship leader, Tommi Makinen (Mitsubishi), says a press release.

Liatti has maintained his overnight lead despite mounting pressure from McRae. On Tuesday's first stage, the Italian benefitted significantly from the driveshaft problems experienced by overnight 2nd placed Freddy Loix (Toyota) and im-

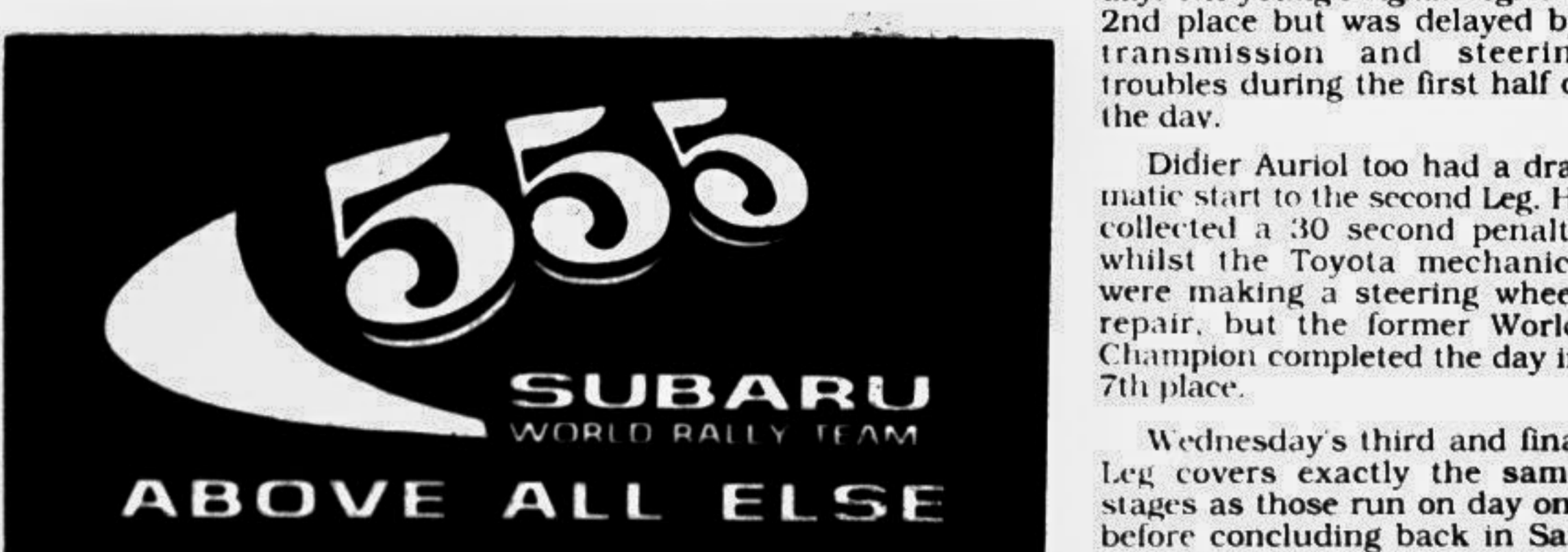
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Freddy Loix maintained his impressive form in the rally, fighting back from 6th in his Toyota Corolla after a dramatic day. The young Belgian began in 2nd place but was delayed by transmission and steering troubles during the first half of the day.

Didier Auriol too had a dramatic start to the second leg. He collected a 30 second penalty whilst the Toyota mechanics were making a steering wheel repair, but the former World Champion completed the day in 7th place.

Wednesday's third and final Leg covers exactly the same stages as those run on day one before concluding back in San Remo at 17:00 hrs local.



Subaru World Rally Team ABOVE ALL ELSE

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Cabinet Division, Privatisation Board. Appointment Notice. Applications are invited from bonafide citizens of Bangladesh for appointment on purely temporary basis to the undermentioned vacant posts at Privatisation Board.

Friday 17th October. STAR PLUS. 6:30am Ninasad 7:30 Good Morning India 8:15 Business Agenda 9:30 Ninasad 10:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 Noon Media TV 12:30 Are You Being Served 1:00 Nine to Five 1:30 Murder She Wrote 2:30 The Bold & the Beautiful 3:00 Santa Barbara 4:00 The Crystal Maze 5:00 The Wonder Years 5:30 The Great Escape 6:00pm Tu Tu Main Main 6:30 Meri Awaz Suno 7:00 Ghatan 7:15 The Trial

FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSIC CINEMA & KHAS KHAB-RAIN. EL TV. 7:00 Yeadoon Ki Baraat 7:30 Hassean Pal (Trailer Show) 7:40 Sur Taal 8:20 Bajaj Darpan (Trailer Show) 8:30 Jungle Toofan Tyre Puncture 9:00 Teer Kaman 9:30 Zameer (Serial) 10:00 Hindi Feature Film 1:00 Liberty Public Demand 2:00 Marc Meri Merzi 2:30 Yumkeno Mast Must Show 3:00 Naye Nagme 3:30 Daily Sitcom: Dilagi 4:00 Daily Soap: Scandal 4:30 HFF 7:20 Hassean Pal (Trailer Show) 7:30 Serial: Campus 8:00 Saap Seedi (Games) 8:30 Zee News - English 9:00 The Peep Show 9:30 Serial: Fasan 10:00 9 Malabar Hill 10:30 Zee News - Hindi 11:00 Hindi Feature Film 01:30 No Problem 2:00 Janamat 2:30 Horror Serial: Mano Ya Na Mano 3:00 Jagauri My Choices 3:30 Serial: Zameer 4:00 Hindi Feature Film (BW)

ZEE TV. 6:00 Insight 6:30 Zee News 7:30 Jagran 8:00 Help Line 8:30 Zee News - Update 9:00 Disney Hour (Cartoon) 10:00 Gaane Anjaane 10:30 Low Cal Show (Serial) 11:00 Cine Magic 11:30 Hasrate (Serial) 12:00 Jhooti Sach (Serial) 12:30 Chul Ki Baza Ke (Serial) 1:00 Naye Nazrane 1:30 Hai Zindagi Hai Zindagi (Comedy Serial) 2:00 Hum Parah (Serial) 2:30 Karz (Rpt) 3:00 Parvarish (Serial) 3:30 Khana Kazana (Cooking Prog) 4:00 Sunye Zee Dhak Ghar 4:30 Dastaan (Serial) 5:00 Margarita 5:30 Bourvita Quiz Contest 6:00 Daily Soap: Jung 6:30 Ek Nazar (Film Trailer Show) 7:30 Disney Hour (Cartoon) 8:00 Filmi