

Kiwis open tour today

CAIRNS, Australia, Oct 21: Tearaway pace bowler Heath Davis was today given his chance to stake a claim to a place in the New Zealand Test team when he was chosen for the Kiwis Australian tour opener against Queensland, reports AFP.

The 25-year-old blond fire-brand was preferred to the experienced Chris Harris as tour selectors get a chance to assess Davis' prospects against the Sheffield Shield champions in a four-day game beginning here tomorrow.

Davis, Geoff Allott, Chris Cairns and Simon Doull will share the new ball alongside 18-year-old left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori.

Squad: Bryan Young, Blair Pocock, Matt Horne, Stephen Fleming (capt), Nathan Astle, Chris Cairns, Adam Parore, Daniel Vettori, Geoff Allott, Heath Davis, Simon Doull.

Boca touch lucky

BUENOS AIRES, Oct 21: Boca Juniors, still missing injured Diego Maradona, beat Colon 2-1 at the weekend after one of the provincial side's players scored an own goal and missed a penalty, reports Reuters.

Colon's Esteban Fuentes put Boca two goals up in the first half when he fired the ball into his own net as he tried to clear a corner.

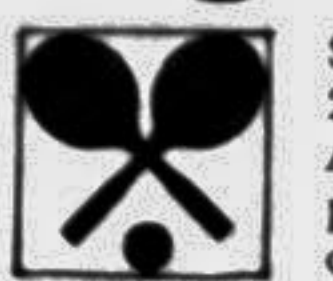
In the second half, he missed a golden chance to equalise when he blasted a penalty over the crossbar. Hugo Ibarra had earlier reduced the deficit as Colon staged a fightback.

"It was one of those days, I'd rather not dwell on it," Fuentes said.

Boca stayed second in the Argentine championship, one point behind arch-rivals River Plate, whom they meet on Saturday in a long-awaited clash.

Diego Maradona, who has missed Boca's last five games through injury, is expected to return to the game at River's stadium.

Agassi sets his sights on '98



STUTTGART, Oct 21 (AP): Next year, Andre Agassi promises, will be different.

"The siesta is over. I am looking forward to a full schedule next year," Agassi said after another first-round loss, a 6-4, 6-4, defeat Monday by Todd Martin at the Eurocard Open.

A former No. 1 who has played sparingly this year, Agassi has plunged to No. 102 and needed a wild card to make it into the tournament that includes the top 19 players in the world.

Martin, a fellow American and a former top-10 player who has also fallen down the ranks, was the "lucky loser." Although he failed to qualify, the withdrawal of Magnus Norman because of injury gave Martin a place in the 48-man draw.

With the lack of match practice, painfully obvious on both sides, Martin gained a break in each set to win in 70 minutes, firing 14 aces past Agassi.

"Being on top of the rankings is different than being on top of my game," said Agassi, who has fallen to No. 102 in the world. "The ranking was never that important for me."

"I try not to think about it. I just try to remember that if I get my game together, it doesn't matter who I am playing. I present worlds of problems and that is what it's about," Agassi said.

But being so low in the rankings means Agassi has to either qualify or get a wild card for the major tournaments, such as this 2.05-million dollar event, one of the "Super 9" tournaments.

Agassi, who was in his 13th tournament of the year, had not played since the US Open in August. His win-lose record dropped to 12-13, and Monday's loss was his eighth opening-round defeat this year.

Martin endured a six-month layoff because of elbow surgery. He returned at the US Open, and this is only his fifth major tournament of the year. The layoff has taken Martin's ranking down to 64 on the ATP computer.

Agassi will play in Paris next week to complete a season in which his commitment to the game had all but vanished.

man hope, wore down Thomas Johansson 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 while Magnus Gustafsson routed Albert Portas 6-1, 6-1.



Boris Becker makes a backhand return in his first round clash against fellow German Marc-Kevin Goellner at the Eurocard Open in Stuttgart yesterday. Becker won 6-2, 6-4.

He admitted that apart from the Olympics last year, when he won the gold medal, the last time his desire matched his talent was before the 1995 US Open, when he was runner-up.

Now, Agassi says he will be back. "A lot of times my career was filled with doing stuff for other reasons, but this is important to me," Agassi said. "I need to do it for myself. I really want to play. I want to play hard."

In other first-round matches, Hicham Arazi beat American qualifier Alex O'Brien 6-3, 2-6, 6-3; Magnus Larsson overpowered Todd Woodbridge 6-2, 6-3; David Prinosil upset Marc Rosset 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 and Jan Siemerink beat fellow Dutchman Sjeng Schalken 6-4, 6-2.

Nicolas Kiefer, the new German, was also in action.

LATEST

STUTTGART, Oct 21: Boris Becker, switching back to being a player from his new role as tennis manager, stormed into the second round of the Eurocard Open when he beat fellow German Marc-Kevin Goellner 6-2, 6-4 Tuesday, reports AFP.

Becker, the defending champion here, has retired from Grand Slam tennis and is only playing selected tournaments as he winds up his career.

He has just become chief of the German Davis Cup team, which occasionally includes Goellner.

"We've practised together so I know his weak points and I used them," Becker said after his 60-minute victory.

Becker's next opponent is big-serving Richard Krajicek, another former Wimbledon champion.

In other first-round action, Thomas Enqvist beat Alberto Berasategui 6-1, 6-4, while Karol Kucera rallied to oust Mark Woodforde 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-3).

Andrei Medvedev defeated Pat Cash 6-2, 6-2 and Chris Woodruff advanced when Bohdan Ulihrach had to abandon the match with an upset stomach. Woodruff had won the first set 6-3 and was down 1-0 in the second when Ulihrach was unable to continue.

Top-ranked Pete Sampras, who lost to Becker in a thrilling five-set final last year, played Magnus Gustafsson later.

Div II hockey Sports Reporter

Cantonian Sporting Club got off to a superb start in the league of the Second Division hockey league defeating Barnak Samaj by four goals to nil in one of the two matches played at the National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

In a one-sided affair, forward Jashimuddin Titu struck twice while Arif and Raju added one piece to the winners' credit who led the first half 2-0.

The day's other match between Shantinagar Club and Uttara Hockey Club ended in a 1-1 draw.

Forward Shahabuddin put Shantinagar ahead with a field goal in the 27th minute before Hamid equalised for Uttara in the 61st minute.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Combined SC vs Raktim Sangha (1:45 pm)
Dhaka Wanderers Club vs Shishu Kishore Sangha (3:15 pm)

Romario runs after trouble

MADRID, Oct 21: Romario appeared to be heading for a showdown with Spanish club Valencia on Monday when he again defended his exuberant lifestyle, reports Reuters.

"Nobody can say anything about my private life," said Romario, a renowned night clubber. "I am as I am. And cannot change."

Romario, who declared himself unfit for Sunday's league game at Celta Vigo, had courted controversy on Saturday by declaring that he needed a taste of nightlife to be able to play.

"When I don't go out, I don't score goals," he said.

Valencia manager Claudio Ranieri, a hard taskmaster, has avoided a confrontation with his top player.

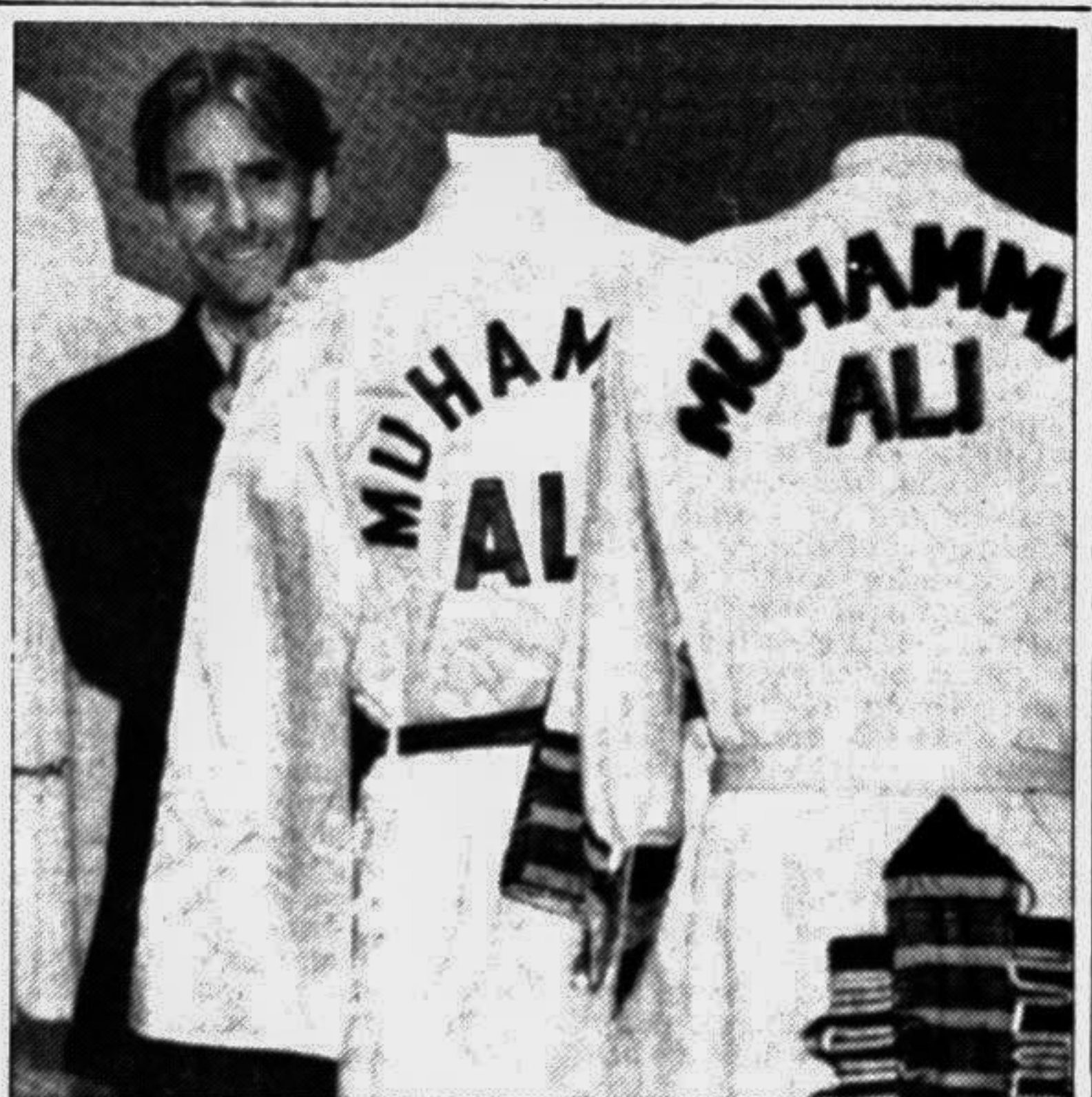
Meanwhile, another Brazilian, Bebeto faces legal action from Deportivo Coruna for failing to meet a deadline after a trip home, Spain's TVE-1 television channel reported on Monday.

Bebeto and his club are already in dispute over his contract. The 1994 World Cup hero alleges that the terms of a contract that he sent to Deportivo have not been honoured.

Eyles edges into semis

KUWAIT, Oct 21: World number two Rodney Eyles of Australia struggled for 77 minutes to defeat British qualifier Mark Chaloner 17-14, 15-17, 15-11, 15-14 in the quarter-finals of the Kuwait Open on Monday, reports Reuters.

But it took Canadian Jonathon Power, ranked fourth, just 38 minutes to beat Britain's world number five Simon Parke 15-5, 15-4, 15-4. Eyles was fortunate to win his match when Chaloner's tight drop shot on the final point hit the tin with the Australian out of position.



An AP file photo shows American collector Ronnie Paloger posing with three robes worn by Muhammad Ali at Christie's in Los Angeles on October 19. The one on right was worn by Ali during his fight against George Foreman in Kinshasa, Zaire on October 30, 1974.

Ali's robe becomes hot stuff



LOS ANGELES, Oct 21: The elaborate robe that Muhammad Ali wore into the ring against George Foreman in Kinshasa, Zaire in 1974 fetched 156,500 dollars in an auction of Ali memorabilia at Christie's here Sunday, reports AFP.

Crowds at the auction house in Beverly Hills cheered like fight fans as the intricately detailed black and white robe reached its price, an auction record for boxing memorabilia.

A total of 1,321,905 dollars was realized for the sale of more than 3,000 items relating to the career and life of the boxing legend. The sale was 93 per cent sold by dollar and 90 per cent sold by lot.

The buyer of the robe was described by Christie's as a software entrepreneur who chose to remain anonymous.

"I'm very pleased to have won the 'Rumble on Rodeo,' a statement from the new owner released by Christie's said. "It's my family's desire to work with Ali and his family to find ways to share this important piece of boxing history with Ali fans around the world, and to benefit causes which he supports."

"More than his unequalled boxing talents I respect his courage and integrity," the new owner said. "He captured the imagination of the world and has inspired and touched the lives of people of all races, nationalities and beliefs. I'm a great fan of Muhammad Ali the

fighter and Muhammad Ali the man."

Ali himself did not benefit from the sale. The collection was amassed over the course of about five years by American collector Ronnie Paloger.

As the auction approached, Ali complained that some of the items were taken without permission by members of his entourage. But Paloger said that Ali and his family had seen most of the items on display in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky, and had not challenged his ownership.

The Zaire robe included a recently discovered silk handkerchief bearing an astrological prediction that Ali would win the fight, which was sewn into the hem.

A pair of boots and trunks worn by Ali during the same fight fetched 59,000 dollars and 57,000 dollars respectively.

Ali's 1966 letter to the national director of selective services achieved 63,000 dollars, a record for a boxing-related document.

In the six-page letter Ali requested exemption from the Vietnam war draft on the basis of his religious beliefs.

His request was denied, and Ali was eventually found guilty of draft evasion and banned from the ring for more than three years, until the US Supreme Court overturned his conviction.

"Muhammad Ali fans from around the world participated in today's auction," said an exuberant Don Flangan, Christie's

senior sports specialist.

"In addition to the top lots, a large number of smaller items, such as photographs and posters, triggered tremendous bidding activity. The enthusiastic response worldwide to this auction clearly confirms the tremendous affection and esteem fans feel toward Ali."

A large autographed photo from the Zaire fight expected to fetch 3,000-5,000 dollars was sold for 17,250 dollars. A photograph signed by Ali and baseball legend Mickey Mantle soared to 12,650 dollars, after being estimated at 600-800 dollars.

Platini wishes Italy well

MILAN, Oct 21: Michel Platini, joint head of the 1998 World Cup organising committee, said on Monday he wanted Italy to beat Russia in their play-off matches and qualify for next year's finals in his native France, reports Reuters.

"My name's Platini, not Platinov," he said in Milan, in reference to his Italian surname.

"With 32 teams there, the World Cup will be a great occasion whoever qualifies," said Platini, a former Juventus player.

"But without Italy there the story of football won't be quite the same."

Italy play Russia in a two-leg play-off on October 29 and November 15. Only the winners go to the finals.

Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Limited

(A Company of Petrobangla)

PO Box No-8, Court Road, Brahmanbaria

Short Tender Notice

Tender Notice No CD/HQ/3(84)

Dated: 19/10/97

1. Bangladesh Gas Fields Co Ltd (BGFCL) hereby invites sealed tender in prescribed forms from the enlisted contractors of Public Works Department (PWD)/Roads & Highway Department (RHD)/Public Health Engineering Department (PHED)/Housing & Settlement Directorate (H&SD)/Bangladesh Railway (BR)/Military Engineering Services (MES)/Rajdhani Unnayan Kartipakha (RAJUK) and Petrobangla & its companies for the following works:

2. Intending firms may obtain tender schedule from the following offices from 22-10-97 to 28-10-97 during cash transaction hours on cash payment: Finance Department, Court Road, Brahmanbaria and Liaison Office, 97, Purana Paltan (Bijoy Nagar), Dhaka of Bangladesh Gas Fields Co Ltd.

3. Tender shall be received in the tender box kept in Civil Engineering Department, Court Road, Brahmanbaria and Liaison office, 97, Purana Paltan (Bijoy Nagar), Dhaka-1000 up to 11 AM on 29-10-97 and simultaneously be opened at 11:15 AM on the same day in presence of bidders, if any.

4. Tenderers must submit earnest money equivalent to 2.5% of their quoted amount along with tender. If the quoted amount is less than the estimate beyond 5% the tender must accompany additional earnest money equivalent to 10% of the quoted amount and itemwise detail rate analysis for the work. The earnest money in favour of Bangladesh Gas Fields Co Ltd, Brahmanbaria will be in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh.

5. Tender must also accompany the following:

- Copy of work order of technically similar works completed in a single work order with own supply of materials in the last (five) years amounting not less than estimated amount shown in the tender notice along with completion certificate issued by an officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer.
- Current bank solvency certificate telling that the firm is capable to invest 40% of the estimated cost of the work at a time for execution of the work.
- Income Tax clearance certificate up to 1995-96, VAT registration certificate, Up-to-date Trade Licence & Enlistment certificates.
- All the certificates to be submitted along with the tender must be in original or duly attested by a Gazetted Officer. Original certificates and papers must be produced on demand against the attested copies which will be returned after verification.
- The authority reserves the right to accept any or reject any or all the tenders without showing any reason without accepting any liability.

GD-253

Senior Manager (Civil Engineering)

The Daily Star TV Guide

Wednesday 22nd October

(All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programme.)

BBC

6:00am BBC World News
6:30 World Living: Airport 7:00
BBC World News Inc. World
Business Report/Asia Today/24
Hours 10:00 BBC World News
10:30 World Focus: Reporters
11:00 BBC Newsdesk 12:30
Hard Talk 1:00 BBC World
News 1:30 World Focus: Reporters
2:30 BBC World News
2:30 World Focus: Tomorrow's
World 3:00 BBC World News
3:30 Hard Talk 4:00 BBC World
News 4:30 World Living: Airport
5:00 BBC Newsdesk 6:30
World Focus: Reporters 7:00
BBC World News 7:15 World
Business Report 7:30 BBC
NewsHour Asia & Pacific 8:30
World Living: Floyd on France
9:00 BBC World News 9:30
Hard Talk 10:00 BBC World
News 10:30 World Living: The
Travel Show 11:00 The World
Today 12:30 Hard Talk 1:00
BBC World News 1:30 World
Focus: The Money Programme
2:00 BBC World News 2:30
World Living: Top Gear 3:00
BBC Newsdesk Inc. World Business
Report/24 Hours 5:00

BBC World News 5:10 Newsnight

CHANNEL V

6:00 Hebat 7:00 Turn On
T [V] 8:30 Rewind VJ Sophiya
9:30 Turn On T [V] 1:30 B
Demand VJ 2:30 Liberty
First Day First Show 3:00 Simply
South VJ 3:30 Rexona
Dee Cut There 4:00 Turn On T
[V] 7:00 By Demand VJ 7:30
8:00 Turn On T [V] 9:30 Winner-
Mangta Hai 10:30 Liberty
First Day First Show 10:30 Turn
On T [V] 11:00 Amped- #16
11:30 Turn On T [V] 2:00 By
Demand VJ 2:30 The Ride
4:00 Billboard US Countdown

STAR PLUS

6:30 Ninnad 7:30 Good
Morning India 9:15 Business
Agenda 9:30 Kiron Kher Today
10:30 Living On The Edge
11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
12:00 El Ti 12:30 Mind Your
Language 1:00 Nine To Five
1:30 The Jewel in the Crown
2:30 The Bold & The Beautiful
3:00 Santa Barbara 4:00 The
Crystal Maze 5:00 The Wonder
Years 5:30 Small Wonder 6:00
Maal Hai To Taa Hai 6:30 Re-
porter 7:00 Jeane Bhi Do
Yaaron 7:30 Star News 8:00
Small Wonder 8:30 Daal Mein

Kaala 9:00 Kohra 9:30 STAR

News 10:00 Allo Allo 10:30
The X Files 11:30 The Bold
And The Beautiful 12:00 Santa
Barbara 1:00 STAR News 1:30
L A Law 2:30 Picket Fences
3:30 Vegas 4:30 The Oprah
Winfrey Show 5:30 21 Jump
Street

STAR MOVIES

7:30 Family: Heart of Dixie
(15) 9:30 A Adventure:
Avaniche 15 (Arabic Subtitles)
11:30 Family: The Young Magi-
cian 12:30 Comedy: Bye Bye
Love 15 3:30 Film Club: Best
Shot 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 5:30
Action: Midnight Heat 15
(Moonstone Version) 7:00
Movie Television 7:30 Classic:
Sea Of Sand 15 9:30 The
Movie Show 10:00 Double Bill:
Arnold Schwarzenegger Conan
The Barbarian 15 (Hindi Subti-
tles) 12:00 Double Bill: Arnold
Schwarzenegger Red Heat 18
2:00 Film Club: City's Edge 18
4:00 Action: F/X: Murder by Il-
lusion 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 5:30
Family: Dunston Checks In 12

STAR SPORTS

12:30 Pakistan Vs S Africa,
2nd Test, Day 5-H/Ls 1:00 A
Golfers' Travels 1:30 Heineken

European Cup Rugby 5th

Round 3:30 ITU World
Triathlon Series 1997 4:30
Sports India 5:00 Outdoor
World Cup Showjumping 7:00
Table Tennis ITTF China Open
1997-2nd Semi Final 9:00 Pak-
istan Vs South Africa, 2nd Test,
Day 5 H/Ls 10:00 Whitbread
Round the World Race H/Ls
10:30 This is the PGA Tour
1997 11:30 Trans World Sport
12:30 '98 World Cup Qualifiers:
Korean Republic Vs. Kaz-
akhstan 2:30 '98 World Cup
Qualifiers: Japan Vs. Uzbekistan
4:30 International Motorsports
News 5:30 Outdoor Quest Mild
Seven 6:30 Whitbread Round
the World Race H/Ls 7:00
Table Tennis ITTF China Open
1997-Finals 9:30 Spanish
League Highlights 10:00 Euro-
pean PGA Tour, Alfred Dunhill
Cup 11:30 Live 1997/98 UEFA
Champions League

PTV

8:00 TILAWAT AUR TARJUMA/
HAMD/NAAT 8:20 CARTOON
9:30 KHABRAIN 8:45 MAN-
SOOBAJAT BARAI KHAN-
SAFALAT 9:00 SUR SAVARIA &
Kafra Ka Safar & Sade-E-Kas-
mir 9:40 SHANA BA SHANA
9:50 AAJ Ki KITAAB-AIK NAZM

10:05 Boor Kay Ladoo 10:30

ENGLISH FILM: CHIP AND
DALE 10:55 MILLI NAGHMA
11:00 KHABRAIN 11:10 Serial
11:35 Serial 12:00 Urdu Khail
12:55 QURAN-E-HAKEEM 1:02
BISMILLAH 1:15 Drama Serial
2:00 Serial 2:50 The Earth Re-
vealed 3:20 Aarishi Puda 3:40
Natural World 4:35 How
Things Work 5:00 YEH MUMK
IN HAE 5:25 HAMARA SEHAT
5:55 KITAAB QUIZ 6:25 AIOU
6:55 PTV Gold (Prog) 9:00
Break for Headline News 9:20
Aap Ki Awar Masqood 10:00
Khabarnaama & Commercial
News 11:00 Serial 12:00
NYPD Blue (series) 12:45 Khas
Khabrain/CLOSE DOWN

EL TV

7:00 Yeaddon Ki Bara 7:30
Haseen Pal 7:40 Sur Taal 8:20
Bajaj Darpan 8:30 Jungle
Toofan Tyre Puncture 9:00 Se-
rial: South Parade 9:30 Rishley
(Serial) 10:00 Hindi Feature Film
1:00 Parool-Superhit Hangama
2:00 No Problem 2:30 Chalo
Cinema 3:00 Naye Nagme
3:30 Dillagi 4:00 Scandal 4:30

HFF 7:20 Haseen Pal 7:30 Se-

rial: Campus 8:00 Saap Seedi
8:30 Zee News & Zee Business
9:00 Mast Mast Show 9:30
Chote Miya Bade Miya 10:00
Teri V Chup 10:30 Zee News &
Zee Business 11:00 Hindi Fea-
ture Film 1:30 9 Malabar Hill
2:00 Aagar (Horror Serial) 2:30
GD Kal Bhi Aaj Bhi 3:00 Teer
Kaman 3:30 Cine Smyle 4:00
Hindi Feature Film (B/W)

DD 7

10:30 Janmadin 10:35
Daily Sope-Oga Priyatama
11:00 Daily Sope- Rajeshwari
11:15 Adhunik Gaan 11:30
Parliament Hour 12:30 Chuti
Chuti (Serial) 1:00 Daily Sope-
Asha 1:30 Daily Sope-
Simarekha 2:00 Kuasha Za-
khan 2:30 Sabari Katha 3:00
Daily Sope-Oga Priyatama 3:00
Daily Sope-Rajeshwari 5:05
Nepali Programme 5:30 News
5:35 Chiching Fank/Harek
Rakamba 6:00 Janmabhar
6:30 Gaan/Basant Bahar 7:00
Palli Katha 7:30 Bangla Sam-
bad 8:00 Prasanna/Singh. Music
8:30 Folk Songs/Sushanta
9:00 Janmabhar (Serial) 9:30
Bakul Basar (Serial) 10:00 Ben-
gali Movie Club Film Show 1:00
Closed

ATN

7:00 Bhakti Bhavna 8:30
Bhabishay 9:00 Tara Sur Mere
Geet 9:30 Once More-Hindi Film
Trailer Show 10:00 Spinning the
Wheel 10:30 Gunjan 11:00 Nil
Tarana 11:30 Latest Film
Songs 12:00 Over Drive 12:30
Sangeet 1:00 Telebrand Show
/ Maine Dekha Tune Dekha
1:30 Parag-Andaz Apna Apna
2:00 Gujrat 3:00 Hindi
Feature Film 5:00 TSN 5:30
Geet Gata Chai 6:00 On Line
7:00 Bangladesh Prog Bibarna
Prapatri (Bipasha Hayat, Sohail
Arman) 7:30 Bangladesh Prog-
Serial: Ganga Kahini Ep-4
(Khalil, Tony Dey, Mita) 8:00
Mayapuri Ily Ily 8:30 Spining
the Wheel 9:00 Stardust Hot
20 Songs 10:00 Chill Out Zone
10:30 Once More-Hindi Film
Trailer Show 11:00 Film Trailer
11:30 Right On (Pop Songs)
12:00 Hot Mix 12:30 Bhanga
Top Songs 1:00 The Health &
Shopping Prog 1:30 Home
Shopping 2:00 Film Songs

ZEE TV

6:00 Ghoorma Aaina 6:30
Zee News & Zee Business 7:00
Bhakti Songs 7:30 Jagran 8:00
Insight 8:30 Zee News Up-
date & Business 9:00 Disney
Hour Cartoons 10:00 Gaana
Anjana 10:30 Khana Kazana
11:00 Choti Chote Baatein
12:00 Sapath 12:30 Nazam Apke
Hain.. Wohli 1:00 Naye Nazam
1:30 Hum Zindagi Bai Zindagi
2:00 Hum Panch (Rpt.) 2:30
Kart (Rpt.) 3:00 Parvarish 3:30
Dhara-Zaika Ka Safar 4:00

SONY ET

8:30 Rangela Re 9:00
Silver Spoon 9:30 Cartoons
10:00 I Dream Of Jeannie

10:30 Bewitched 11:00 Para-

sute-Premier 11:30 Gaane
Jaane Maane (Songs) 12:00
O'Maria 12:30 Yeh Sadi Nahi
Ho Sakti 1:00 Aahaat 1:30 Se-
rial 2:00 Chamatkar 2:30 Cine
Matinee-Hindi Feature Film 5:30
Rangela Re 6:00 Cartoons
6:30 Silver Spoon 7:00 I Dream
Of Jeannie 7:30 Bewitched
8:00 Parasute Premier 8:30
Kahane Pe Kya Harz Hai
(Serial) 9:00 Boogie Woogie
(Contest) 9:30 Dekh Bhai Dekh
10:00 Thodra Hai Thodra Dur
10:30 Were Wolf (Eng Dubb
Serial) 11:00 Kismet 11:30 Cine
Prime Hindi Feature Film 2:30
Closed

ESPN