

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-100

Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm, Aug 7, '98, and draw shortly afterwards

- 1 Who won the 'Golden Boot' in France '98? Suker Vieri Ronaldo
2 Who won France '98? Croatia France Brazil
3 Who was the captain of Argentina at France '98? Ortega Veron Simone
4 What was Holland's position in France '98? Third Fourth Fifth
5 Michael Owen plays for L'pool M United Arsenal

Name Class Roll No. School Address Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Ecstatic US 4x100-metre ladies' relay squad members (L-R) Richelle Fox, Cristina Teusher and Sylvia Bereknyei cheering on teammate Jennifer Thompson at the Goodwill Games in New York on July 30. The USA won the gold. - AFP photo

A Titanic experience

NEW YORK, July 31 (AP): In a single week, paralysed Chinese gymnast Sang Lan traded one dream for another — gold in the Goodwill Games for a golden hour with her movie idol, Leonardo DiCaprio.

cept to say the pair met for about an hour. Sang had been disappointed when told the movie 'Titanic' wasn't yet available on video, but Paramount Pictures rushed to the rescue, and a studio copy was on its way.

a Chinese reporter earlier this week at the hospital in East Meadow. At Mount Sinai, she will benefit from "one of the few model spinal cord injury centers in the United States," said Dr. Brock Schenebel, chief medical officer for the Goodwill Games.



LEONARDO DICAPRIO

Benitez leads USA to final

NEW YORK, July 31: Celebrating his 18th birthday with the biggest win of his career, flyweight Roberto Benitez led a trio of American teenagers into gold medal bouts at the Goodwill Games on Thursday night, reports Reuters.

day will have his hands full against 1997 World Champion bronze medalist Israel Alvarez in the final of the light-heavyweight division.

US super-heavyweight champion Dominick Guinn had the rare distinction of forcing his opponent, World Championship silver medalist Alexis Rubalcaba into a standing count in the third round, but it was not enough to lift him to victory in a furious bout.



US teenager Venus Williams prepares to serve during her Bank of the West tournament second round match against Corina Morariu of Romania at Stanford, California on July 30.

Winning start by PSG

TOURS, France, July 31: A superb goal created by Marco Simone and volleyed home by Yann Lachuer gave Paris St Germain a 1-0 win over RC Lens in the French season-opening Champions' Trophy on Thursday, reports Reuters.

Italian Simone, normally a striker for French Cup holders PSG but lying deeper in a play-making role, crossed brilliantly from the left in the 53rd minute with his back to goal.

The champions missed several good chances in the second half, while PSG goalkeeper Dominique Casagrande saved brilliantly from a volley by Lens captain Eric Sikora midway through the first half.

Simone had not even been expected to play after recent contractual differences with PSG. But PSG's signing on Wednesday of Nigeria's Jay-Jay Okocha from Fenerbahce, a clear indication of their ambitions, has apparently revived Simone's enthusiasm for staying in the French league.

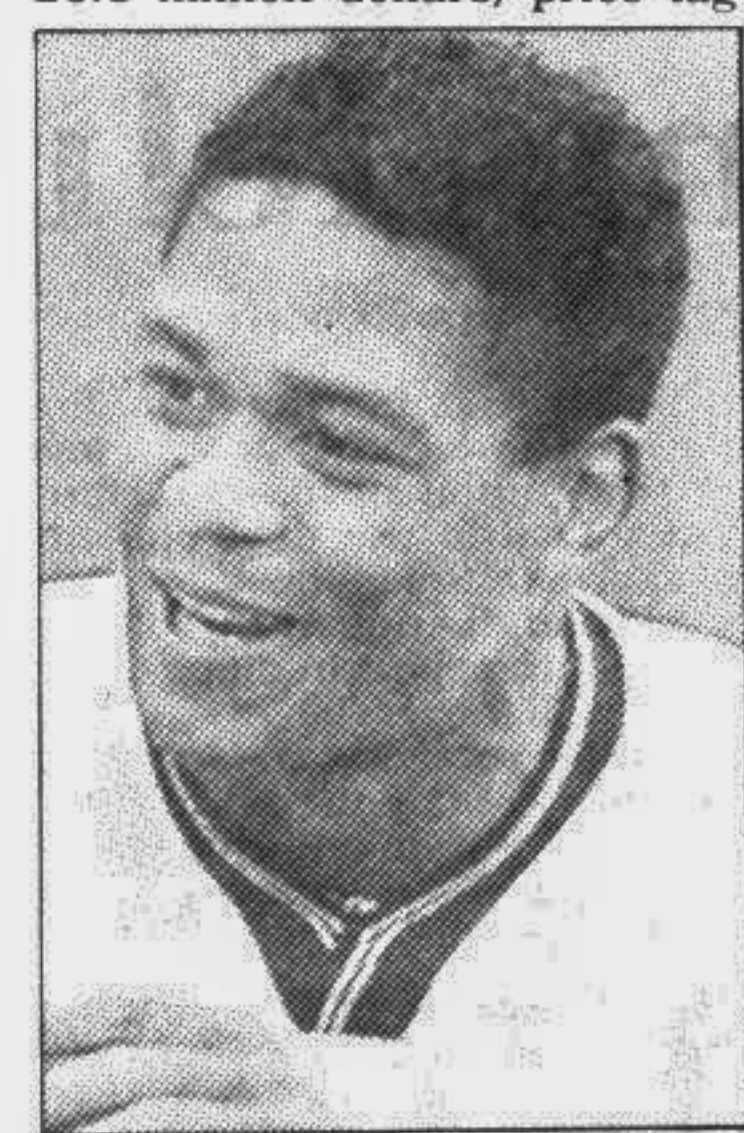
Okocha watched from the stands and, still unfit after a post-World Cup holiday, could also miss their first French league championship match away to Girondins Bordeaux on August 8.

MU close in on Kluivert

LONDON, July 31: Patrick Kluivert is due to fly into England this weekend after Manchester United and AC Milan reportedly agreed a fee of nine million pounds (14.8 million dollars) for the Dutch World Cup striker, reports Reuters.

But to clinch the player's signature, United manager Alex Ferguson will almost certainly have to break the rigid wage structure at Old Trafford. Ferguson has operated a 20,000 pounds (32,900 dollars) a week ceiling to avoid dressing room jealousy but this may have to go to persuade Kluivert to play in the English Premier league.

The imminent arrival of Kluivert has not dampened United's interest in Aston Villa striker Dwight Yorke, according to United chairman Martin Edwards.



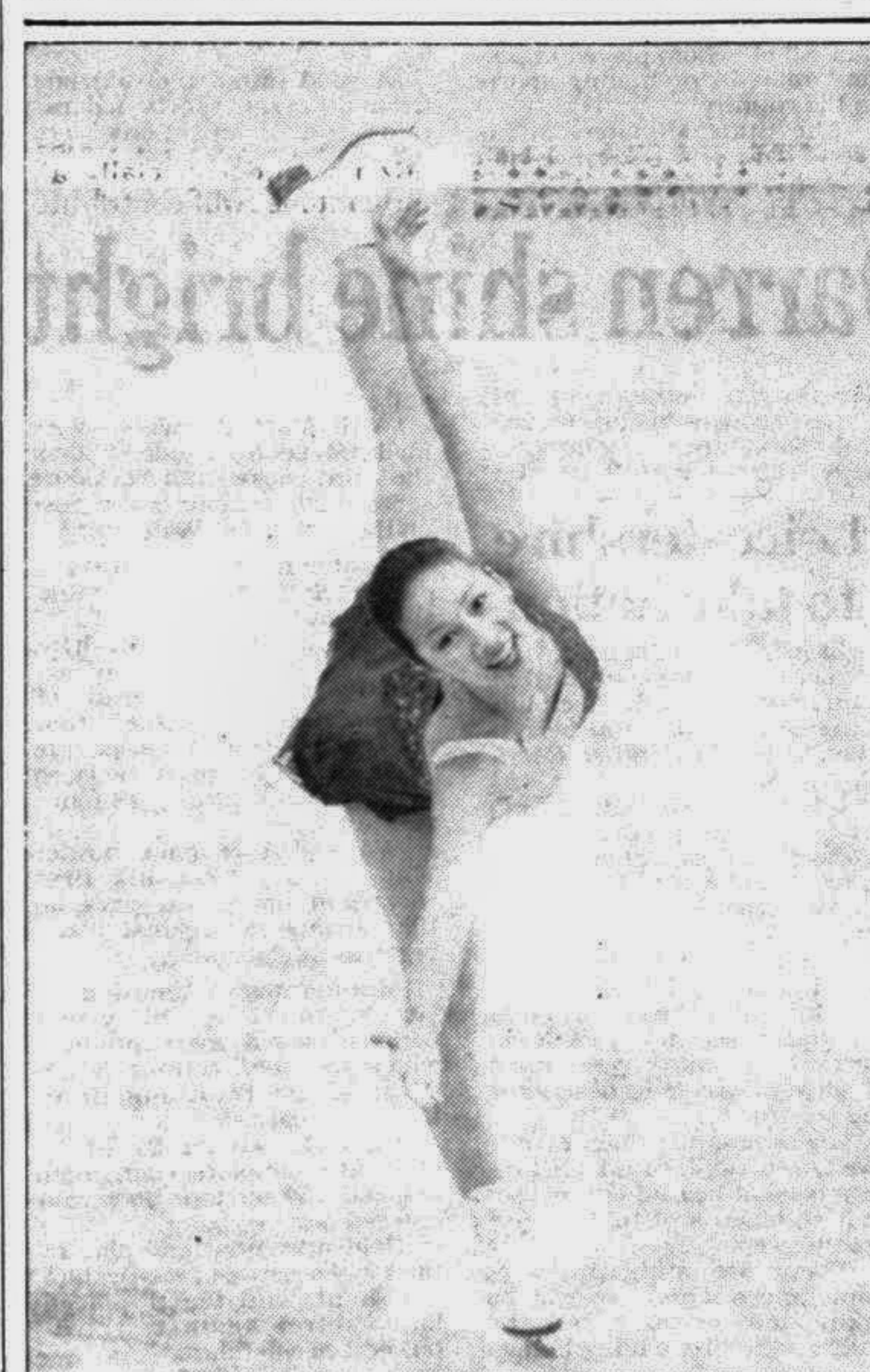
PATRICK KLUIVERT

Destination Grand Slam city

NEW YORK, July 31 (Reuters): World number one Pete Sampras, having recovered from minor foot surgery that forced him out of this week's Los Angeles tournament, declared himself ready to get back on the road that could lead to a recovered-trying 12th major title at the US Open.

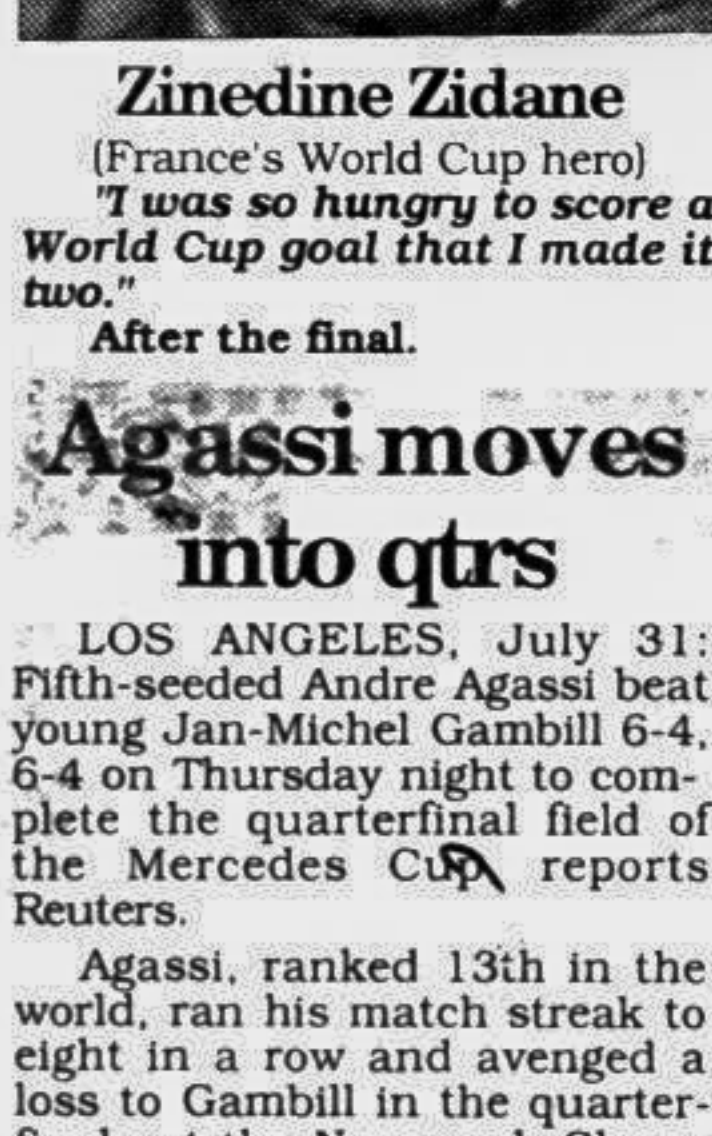
Sampras took a wild card into next week's Toronto tournament, where he begins a delayed summer hard court season that includes stops in Cincinnati and New Haven as a prelude to a run at a fifth US Open crown.

Florida, it was pretty sore to play on. I felt it was best to get it removed, especially with a lot of tennis coming up," he explained. Sampras said the healing process took about twice the four or five days he had figured on, scuttling his plans to play in front of friends and family in Los Angeles.



American ice skater Michaelle Kwan displaying wonderful balance during her routine at the Goodwill Games on July 30.

"In the finals I didn't feel I really play my best but I kind of fought through it," he said. You know, a fifth set at a Wimbledon final, that's the biggest moment of someone's career," he said. To come through and raise my level just enough there in the fifth, not playing the way I wanted to, like I was in control, means more.



Zinedine Zidane (France's World Cup hero) 'I was so hungry to score a World Cup goal that I made it two.' After the final.

Agassi moves into qtrs LOS ANGELES, July 31: Fifth-seeded Andre Agassi beat young Jan-Michel Gambill 6-4, 6-4 on Thursday night to complete the quarterfinal field of the Mercedes Cup, reports Reuters.

Agassi, ranked 13th in the world, ran his match streak to eight in a row and avenged a loss to Gambill in the quarterfinals at the Newsweek Championships Cup at Indian Wells, California, in March.

Top seed Patrick Rafter, feeling no pain again after a series of nagging injuries, beat unseeded Martin Damm 6-3, 5-7, 6-1. In their second-round results, Sandon Stolle ousted fellow Australian Andre Ilie 6-3, 7-6 and unseeded local favourite Justin Gimelstrop moved into his third quarterfinal of the year when eighth-seeded Vince Spadea retired from exhaustion trailing 6-3, 3-0.

Agassi, who was to face Stolle today, displayed his unrelenting ground game to turn back Gambill in a baseline battle that lasted one hour, 18 minutes on the hard courts of the UCLA Tennis Centre.

Rafter has been bothered by injuries to his knee and back in a summer that has seen the serve and volley stylist drop three spots from his career-high number two ranking on the ATP Tour computer.

Venus, Monica in last eight

PALO ALTO, California, July 31: Third seed Venus Williams turned things around in the second set and beat Corina Morariu 4-6, 6-1, 6-0 on Thursday to reach the quarterfinals of the 450,000 dollars Bank of the West Classic at Stanford University, reports Reuters.

Second seed Monica Seles posted an easy 6-3, 6-1 win over France's Anne-Gaëlle Sidot in a 58-minute quarterfinal after suffering dehydration in a victory over Gang Li on Wednesday.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Chic, in the '60s 4 Harbor 8 Corridor 12 On which an intro is worn 13 Woody's 14 Bread spread 15 1950s hipsters 17 Show off your biceps 18 Clerical councils 19 Sprit 21 'Sis boom bah'

Crossword grid with numbers 1-25 and 26-55.

CRYPTOQUIP V D J D C O Q Z Y L W G J R K G C O D W K T Q G Y Z T U C Y Z P K S U G I J I D P K O D R S G L K V G Y T K ? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IT'S NO REAL SURPRISE THAT SANTA LIKES TO KEEP HIS CLOTHES IN A CLAUSNET. Today's Cryptoquip clue: R equals B. The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.