

Parents bow to Moceanu

HOUSTON, Oct 28: Olympic gymnast Dominique Moceanu and her parents ended a legal battle on Tuesday when they agreed she would be given her legal and financial independence, reports Reuters.

Anna: Identity crisis

MOSCOW, Oct 28 (Reuters): Anna Kournikova is down on her luck. The 17-year-old Russian has become bed out of tournaments in Zurich and Moscow in the past two weeks with a staggering display of double faults that suggests something is not quite right with the temperamental belle of the women's Tour.



KOURNIKOVA

Kournikova has yet to win a WTA title, despite being the sport's most photogenic asset since her arrival in 1996.

In return, the unforgiving Russian media have dubbed Kournikova "Kuritsa", or hen, among themselves — something of a change from her other nickname "the Lolita of tennis."

Jansher skips US Open

BOSTON, Massachusetts, Oct 28: Pakistan's Jansher Khan, a three-time US Open squash champion, has pulled out of the event that starts here Saturday because of nagging injuries, reports AFP.



Boris Becker in action in his Eurocard Open match on October 27. —AFP photo

English teams to train French teens

LONDON, Oct 28 (AP): A group of French teenagers will arrive in Britain on Friday to train with some of the country's top soccer teams.

Boris, Tim breeze thru'

STUTTGART, Oct 28: Boris Becker began what could possibly be his last tournament at home with a 6-2, 7-5 victory over Sjeng Schalken at the 2.45 million dollar Eurocard Open on Tuesday, reports AP.

Marcelo Rios in July. The presence of Becker still guarantees a big crowd in Germany and more than 6,000 fans joined in a loud celebration after he used his seventh match point to dispatch Schalken, a Dutch qualifier. Becker was born in Leimen, not far from Stuttgart.

Kiefer, who rallied from a 5-1 deficit in the third set and saved five match points, will play top-ranked Pete Sampras in the second round.

Venezia hold Juventus

TURIN, Italy, Oct 28: League champions Juventus of Turin, fielding several reserve players and two long-missing starters, were held to a 1-1 draw by low-ranked Venezia in a third round first leg game of the Italian Cup Tuesday, reports AP.



Former Brazil star Zico (C), playing for Singha U-Star against VIP Sinhana in a charity match in Bangkok yesterday, tries to keep possession. The game ended in a 1-1 draw. —AFP photo

Troussier starts on fine note

OSAKA, Japan, Oct 28 (Reuters/Internet): Japan made a winning start under new French coach Philippe Troussier on Wednesday, beating African champions Egypt 1-0 in a friendly at Osaka's 2002 World Cup venue of Nagai Stadium.

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Pillay rested

NEW DELHI, Oct 28: The Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) yesterday announced a 16-member team for the four-nation pre-Asian Games hockey tournament in Bangkok to be held from November 1 to 7, reports PTI.

SERVING AND VOLLEYING

UNDATED, Oct 28 (AP): This week's tennis at a glance. — Andre Agassi captured the IPB Czech Indoor in Ostrava, Czech Republic, by beating Jan Krosak 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

STRANGE DRAW Tommy Haas had a lot of luck and very little match play on his second consecutive trip to the final of the Lyon Grand Prix. Haas won his quarterfinal when top-seeded Pete Sampras withdrew with an aching back.

SITTING DOWN Sebastian DeChauzac, the No 1 men's tennis player at the University of Mississippi, will sit out his team's first two matches next spring. The NCAA reprimanded DeChauzac for an outburst last May at the NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championships in Athens, Georgia.

Asian Games

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SPEAKING

"In this tournament I played some ugly matches, and I was just lucky to win them."

SURGING

With his fifth title of the year, Andre Agassi has regained a spot in the top five in the world rankings for the first time in more than two years.

SYNTHETIC FOR SYDNEY

The main tennis court in the Sydney Olympics will be modelled on Wimbledon's new No 1 court. The arena has been designed by Richard Rees, the man responsible for No 1 Court at the All England Club, but the surface in Sydney will be synthetic rather than grass.

New technology for drug testing

BANGKOK, Oct 28: The upcoming Asian Games will be the first major sporting event to use a sophisticated new technology to test athletes for drugs, a spokesman for the organizers said Wednesday, reports AP.

SEASON-ENDERS

Mary Pierce along with first-time qualifier Dominique Van Roost of Belgium and Sandrine Testud of France are the latest to qualify for the two million dollars season-ending Chase Championships of the Corel WTA Tour at New York's Madison Square Garden the week of Nov 16. Already in the field are US Open champions Lindsay Davenport, Australian Open winner Martina Hingis, French Open champ Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, Wimbledon winner Jana Novotna, Venus Williams, Monica Seles, Conchita Martinez, Anna Kournikova and Patty Schnyder. These 12 will

SUCCESSFUL TOURNAY

The popularity of women's tennis worldwide was never more evident than in Moscow at the Ladies Kremlin Cup. The singles final, where Mary Pierce defeated Monica Seles, drew a tournament single-day record crowd of 14,911.

SITES TO SURF

Mexico City: www.abiertomexicotenis.com.mx Stuttgart: www.eurocard-open.de/ Quebec: www.tenniscanada.com Luxembourg: www.seatopen.lu

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Bangkok's prep going well

BANGKOK, Oct 28: Organisers of December's Asian Games have dismissed press reports that a sports complex would not be completed on time, saying preparations are well in hand, a local newspaper said Friday, reports AP.

Deputy PM says housing estate

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