

Sport

Jahangir elected WSF VP

LONDON, Nov 10 (Reuters/Internet): Pakistani squash legend Jahangir Khan has been elected a vice-president of the World Squash Federation, reports AP.

Jahangir, 34, arguably the world's greatest ever squash player, was elected to the post at the federation's annual assembly in Stuttgart, Germany, the WSF announced Tuesday.

New Zealand's Susie Simcock was re-elected as WSF president, along with vice president Anne Smith of Canada and England's Mike Corby.

Jahangir succeeds Hassan Musa, who was shot dead a year ago in Karachi, thus maintaining Pakistan's role in the WSF management.

"Jahangir will be a tremendous asset to world squash in this new role with the WSF and we are delighted to welcome him to the board," Simcock said, adding that Khan will work with Corby in pushing squash's bid to become an Olympic sport.

Khan came to prominence in 1979 when, as an unseeded 15-year-old, he won the World Amateur Championship in Australia. Undefeated in the sport for 5 1/2-years until November 1986, he went on to win a record 10 British Open championships and six World Open titles.

Khan, who lives in Karachi, is sports general manager for Pakistan International Airlines and a vice president of the Pakistan Squash Federation.

During the WSF assembly, Guatemala and Venezuela were admitted as new members, bringing the membership to 115 countries, and Egypt was selected as host of the 1999 men's World Team Championships.

Coetzer, Zvereva start smartly

PHILADELPHIA, Nov 10 (Reuters/Internet): The fight is on for the last berths in next week's season-ending Chase Championships with Amanda Coetzer and Natasha Zvereva getting an early jump on Steffi Graf in opening-round action at the Advanta Championships.

Fresh off winning last weekend in Leipzig in her first tournament following wrist surgery, former world number one Graf moved to 17th place in the Chase Championship standings. Only the top 16 qualify for next week's event in New York.

Two players ahead of Graf in the standings easily won their opening-round matches in this \$450,000 tournament.

South African Coetzer, 14th in the standings, crushed American Sandra Cacic 6-2, 6-0, while Zvereva of Belarus, 15th in the Chase race, stormed past American Tara Snyder 6-2, 6-1.

Graf, who won this event in 1992 and 1995, will take on American Mary Joe Fernandez on Wednesday night.

In other first-round action, Italy's Silvia Farina, 18th in the Chase standings, was stopped by seventh seed Patty Schnyder of Switzerland 7-6 (7-0), 4-6, 6-4, and Kimberly Po disposed of fellow-American Corina Morariu 6-1, 6-3.

Former French Open champion Iva Majoli of Croatia was upended by American Amy Frazier 2-6, 6-2, 6-4, and local favorite Lisa Raymond beat Belgian qualifier Els Callens 6-3, 6-3.

Romania's Irina Spirlea, who currently sits in 16th place in the Chase standings, is slated to meet fifth-seeded Monica Seles in a first-round match.

All four of this year's Grand Slam champions are competing in this final tuneup for New York.

WTA Tour's top twenty

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Nov 10 (Reuters/Internet): Top 20 women's tennis players, according to the WTA Tour rankings issued on Monday:

Table with 2 columns: Player, Points. 1. Davenport 5,468, 2. Hingis 5,202, 3. Novotna 4,301, 4. Vicario 3,708, 5. V Williams 3,263, 6. Seles 3,058, 7. Pierce 2,713, 8. Martinez 2,364, 9. Tauziat 2,251, 10. Schnyder 2,155, 11. Van Rost 2,001, 12. Spirlea 1,979, 13. Kournikova 1,918, 14. Testud 1,898, 15. Coetzer 1,708, 16. Zvereva 1,608, 17. Graf 1,536, 18. Huber 1,462, 19. Sugiyama 1,396, 20. Farina 1,389.

Gulf Cup

Kuwait ride on Al-Houwaidi

BAHRAIN, Nov 10 (Reuters/Internet): Kuwaiti striker Jassem al-Houwaidi set a Gulf Cup record of seven goals in four matches on Monday as the defending champions kept alive their hopes of retaining the trophy with a 5-0 thrashing of Oman.

Al-Houwaidi scored in each half of the match in Manama while Bader Haji, Basher Abdullah and Esam Sakine all added to the tally in the second half.

The result meant Asian Cup holders Saudi Arabia lead the standings by one point from Kuwait with one match each to play. Saudi Arabia have 10 points.

The Saudis, who play bottom side Qatar, are strong favourites to win a title they last held in 1994. Kuwait play United Arab Emirates, who have seven points and can also still win the title if they win and Saudi Arabia lose.

Lankans worse for wear

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Nov 10: India's new-ball pair Javagal Srinath and Ajit Agarkar triggered a Sri Lankan collapse on Monday to set up a thrilling 81-run win in the Coca-Cola Trophy here, reports AFP.

The duo carved through the top order as India, defending a modest 179, bowled out the world champions on 98 with 11 overs to spare.

Sri Lanka's third successive defeat left them tottering on the brink of elimination from the three-nation event, while India cruised through to the final next Friday with three wins in a row.

That would leave Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe with one win, with India's opponents decided on net run-rate.

Agarkar finished with three for 35 and Srinath two for 20. Left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi polished off the tail with 3-17 from 10 overs.

The slide began with the second ball of the innings when Sanath Jayasuriya played an outswinger to Srinath.

Agarkar, a 21-year-old from Bombay, also struck in his first over as he trapped the other opener Avishka Gunawardena leg before to make it two for two.

Agarkar was unlucky not to strike again six runs later when New Zealand umpire Steve Dunne turned down an appeal for a catch at the wicket against Aravinda De Silva.

Television replays showed a big edge. De Silva, however, was only to make 29 before falling to the stumps off Joshi.

Agarkar, however, hit back as he yorked Marvan Atapattu and Roshan Mahanama leg-before off successive deliveries in his fourth over.

Sri Lanka skipper Arjuna Ranatunga prevented the hat-trick, but perished to a superb reflex catch at short leg by Robin Singh off Srinath for nine and who, with Roshan Mahanama, was run out for zero by a direct throw from Joshi. The Sri Lankans were struggling at 47-6 in the 14th over.

De Silva was seventh out at 66. This time the replay showed he had not touched the ball but

De Silva was still booted off the field by some 10,000 Indian supporters and banged his bat on the pavilion steps before storming inside.

Ranatunga played down the umpiring errors and instead blamed the continued failure of the batsmen for his team's poor showing.

"The batsmen struggled for the third match in a row in this tournament and that really let us down," he said.

"We did exceptionally well in the field in the first session but



AJIT AGARKAR... p-o-m

then undid all the good work. It's not going to be easy now to make the final."

Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin said: Srinath and Agarkar did us proud this evening. I thought it was all over when we were bowled out for nothing again.

Sri Lanka's defeat marred their outstanding display in the field during the first session. Atapattu stood out with three catches and two run-outs, while spinner Kumar Dharmasena took three for 31 after Ranatunga won the toss and sent the Indians in.

Vice-captain Ajay Jadeja, who walked in at 18 for two and saw his team slip to 118 for six.

Shored up India's tottering innings with 64. Azharuddin's decision to drop himself down the order backfired as he walked in the 13th over at 36 for four after Sachin Tendulkar fell for 18 and his opening partner Saurav Ganguly without scoring.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard of the Coca-Cola Trophy one day international between India and Sri Lanka on Monday:

Table with 5 columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes entries for Srinath, Agarkar, Dharmasena, etc.

SRI LANKA Jayasuriya b Srinath 0, Gunawardena lbw b Agarkar 0, Atapattu b Agarkar 10, De Silva c Mongia b Joshi 29, Mahanama lbw b Agarkar 0, Ranatunga c R Singh b Srinath 9, Kaluwitharana run out 0, Samaraweera c Srinath b Joshi 16, Dharmasena not out 13, Vaas b Joshi 4, Wickremasinghe b Kumble 3, Extras (fb-4, lb-2, w-2, nb-6) 14, Total (all out in 39 overs) 98, Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-2; 3-21; 4-21; 5-47; 6-47; 7-66; 8-79; 9-89.

Table with 5 columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes entries for Srinath, Agarkar, Dharmasena, etc.

Result: India won by 81 runs. Player-of-the-match: Ajit Agarkar.

Thais aim at Asian Games

BANGKOK, Nov 10 (Reuters/Internet): The manager of Thailand's national soccer squad said on Tuesday he hoped next month's Asian Games would help restore the reputation of a team tarnished by a farcical international earlier this year.

The image of the Thai team was badly sullied after a match with Indonesia during the regional Tiger Cup tournament, which Thailand managed to win even though both teams tried their best to lose to avoid playing hosts and favourites Vietnam in the semifinals.

"The players have apologised to football fans for the past and promise to regain public faith and their reputation during the Asian Games," Thawatchai Satchakul, the newly appointed team manager, told the news agency.

"The team has improved a lot and with the help of the English coach I'm confident the Thai team will reach the final," he said.

Peter Withe, a former striker for English premier league side Aston Villa who was also at one time briefly manager of Wimbledon, was recently appointed Thailand's chief coach.

Thailand and Indonesia were both banned and fined by the Asian Football Federation after last August's farce. Thailand won the match 3-2 when an Indonesian player deliberately kicked the ball into his own goal in the last minute.

Hingis tops earners' list

ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Nov 10 (Reuters/Internet): Leading money winners (in US dollars) this year in women's tennis, according to the WTA Tour:

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. 1. Hingis 2,649,771, 2. Davenport 2,309,793, 3. Novotna 1,990,852, 4. Williams 1,712,246, 5. Vicario 1,472,314, 6. Seles 914,739, 7. Schnyder 866,878, 8. Tauziat 856,324, 9. Martinez 816,917, 10. Zvereva 786,620, 11. Pierce 597,237, 12. Coetzer 495,548, 13. Kournikova 484,133, 14. Testud 445,195, 15. Spirlea 402,338, 16. Van Rost 375,324, 17. Raymond 365,738, 18. Graf 333,577, 19. Sugiyama 325,625, 20. S Williams 310,211.

Tim gets going

STOCKHOLM, Nov 10: Briton Tim Henman kept his dream of reaching the tennis seasons finale alive by crushing Swede Mikael Tillstrom 6-3, 6-1 on Monday to move into the second round of the Stockholm Open, reports AFP.

Henman is duelling with compatriot and Paris Open champion Greg Rusedski and Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov for the last two spots in the eight-man field for the ATP Tour World Championships in Hanover in a fortnight.

Henman, seeded third here, began smartly with a break in the second game for a 2-0 lead, thanks to a double fault from Tillstrom.

Henman made it 3-0 but then faced two break points in the fifth game saving the first with an ace but floating a backhand long on the second as his lead dropped to 3-2.

But he got his second break for 5-3 and served out the next game to take the first set in 29 minutes.

Tillstrom's form faded at the start of the second and he lost the opening game after saving one of three break points.

Henman hammered over two aces in the second game to confirm his domination.

The Briton's shots began to tell on Tillstrom who lost his serve again in the fifth following a perfect Henman pass broke for a third time to end the match with a backhand winner.

Henman faces South African Wayne Ferreira, who defeated German Jens Knipschild 6-4, 6-2, in the second round.

Kremlin Cup Blacks make it a family affair

MOSCOW, Nov 10 (Reuters/Internet): Zimbabwe's Byron Black, the only seed in action on the opening day of the \$1.25 million Kremlin Cup, eliminated Czech's Martin Damm 2-6, 3-0 on Monday.

"I always play well here," said Black, playing in Moscow for the fifth time in six years. "I like Moscow, I like the surface here."

The fourth seed is joined in the Russian capital by brother Wayne, who reached the semifinals last year. Two weeks ago, sister Cara was in Moscow, playing in the WTA event.

In contrast, Andrei Medvedev is playing in Moscow for the first time since 1992 and the Ukrainian got a rude welcome from Frenchman Guillaume Raoux who beat him 7-6 (7-5) 6-4.

Medvedev blamed the loss on poor eye sight. "I have only 28 percent vision in both of my eyes," said the Kiev player who once was ranked number four in the world but now has slipped to 61st.

Other first day winners in Moscow included Romanian Andrei Pavel, Dutchman Sjeng Schalken and Frenchman Jerome Golmard.

After a tough first set tie-break, Pavel beat Australian Todd Woodbridge 7-6 (7-4) 6-2. Shalken eliminated Russian doubles specialist Andrei Olkhovskiy 7-5 6-4 and Golmard took care of Germany's David Prinosil 7-5 6-3.



England batsmen Graham Thorpe (L) and Mark Ramprakash standing in front of the scoreboard after their match-saving effort against South Australia at the Adelaide Oval yesterday.

Thorpe, Ramprakash set Adelaide afire

ADELAIDE, Nov 10: Two rivals for a middle-order batting position in England's Test side have registered the highest partnership by a touring cricket side down under, reports AP.

England batsmen Graham Thorpe and Mark Ramprakash rewrote the record books Tuesday with an unbroken 377-run fourth-wicket partnership to ensure a draw against South Australia on the final day of a four-day match at Adelaide Oval.

The pair's feat eclipsed the previous best partnership by a touring side in Australia, a 368-run stand between MCC batsmen Wilfred Rhodes and CAG Russell against South Australia at Adelaide in 1920-21.

The record encompasses 113 tours in 136 years. Thorpe amassed an unbeaten 223 and Ramprakash was not out 140 when bad light stopped play on the final day about 90 minutes before scheduled stumps.

The duo scored 302 runs Tuesday in just over 4 1-2 hours. Thorpe smashing his way from 100 to 200 in just 70

balls including 12 boundaries and four sixes in a sizzling display between lunch and tea.

Thorpe's total was his highest first-class score, surpassing his previous best by one run — a 222 for Surrey against Glamorgan in 1997.

The left-hander took tablets to combat flu-like symptoms before his stylish double century as England finished 457-4 against a hapless South Australian bowling attack.

This Ashes tour is Thorpe's return from back problems that required surgery after flaring in the West Indies earlier this year and again during the Test series against South Africa.

Ramprakash blossomed in the West Indies and against South Africa but Thorpe's return places a squeeze on batting positions with John Crawley the other contender for a middle-order berth.

"It was pleasing the back stood up to so long out there, it's the longest I have spent at the crease since the operation," Thorpe said after his 380-minute innings. Ramprakash, 29, said he had felt pressure on his position since Thorpe's return. "I have played nine Tests in a

row and obviously I want to continue that," the Middlesex strokeplayer said.

The first Test in Brisbane starts on November 20.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard after the final day of the four-day match between England and South Australia on Tuesday:

ENGLAND: First innings 187, S AUSTRALIA: First innings 325

ENGLAND: Second innings (149-4 overnight) M Butcher b Gillespie 5, M Atherton run out 53, N Hussain lbw b Harrity 17, A Stewart lbw b Harrity 17, G Thorpe not out 223, M Ramprakash not out 140, Extras (fb-2, lb-10, w-1, nb-6) 19, Total (for four wickets) 457, Fall of wickets: 1-26; 2-72; 3-75; 4-80.

Did not bat: D Cork, A Tudor, D Headley, A Fraser, P Such

Table with 5 columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes entries for Gillespie, Harrity, Arnold, Johnson, Blewett, Crook, Faulstich.

Rested Hingis ready to roll

NEW YORK, Nov 10 (Reuters/Internet): At a point in the long tennis season when most players are looking forward to some time off,

Martina Hingis is rested and ready to recapture the world number one ranking.

"Everybody gets tired at the end of the year. Now, I've had a month off so I'm ready again," Hingis declared during a stop in

New York to promote the season-ending Chase Championships, which begin next week.

A sprained left ankle forced the Swiss teenager to pull out of last month's Zurich tournament. Hingis makes her return to competition this week in Philadelphia, where she will defend the last of the 12 titles she won during her 1997 dream run.

"I'm in better shape," said Hingis, who spent her first week off indulging her other passion — riding horses. "I couldn't do anything else because of my ankle."

She has spent the past two weeks working out at the Bolletieri academy in Bradenton, although her pale complexion reveals little time spent in the Florida sunshine. "I was practising indoors," she explained. "I've been working on myself. The ankle is good and I'm in good shape now."

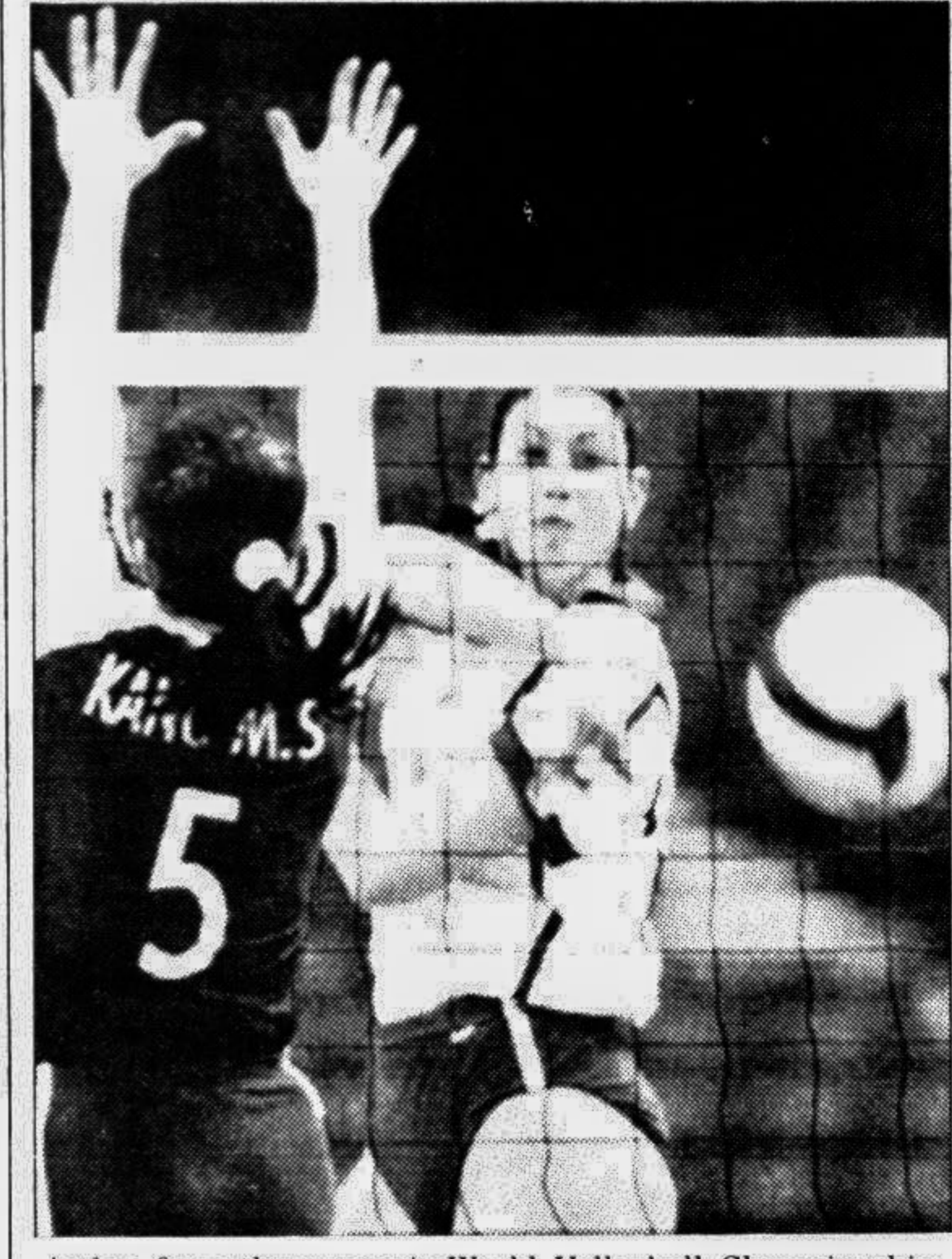
Hingis said she was excited about returning to the 16-player season finale at Madison Square Garden with a chance at reclaiming the number one ranking that she ceded to U.S. Open champion Lindsay Davenport last month.

"Whoever wins that is going to end up first," she said of her tussle for the top ranking with Davenport. "I've been there and I want to get back there."

This has been a very different sort of year for Hingis, who turned 18 on September 30.

After coming within one victory of a historic sweep of the four Grand Slam tournaments at the age of 16 and winning virtually every time she stepped on court in 1997, Hingis came down to earth in 1998.

Although she has four titles, including the Australian Open, the Swiss teenager has not won a tournament since the Italian Open in early May.

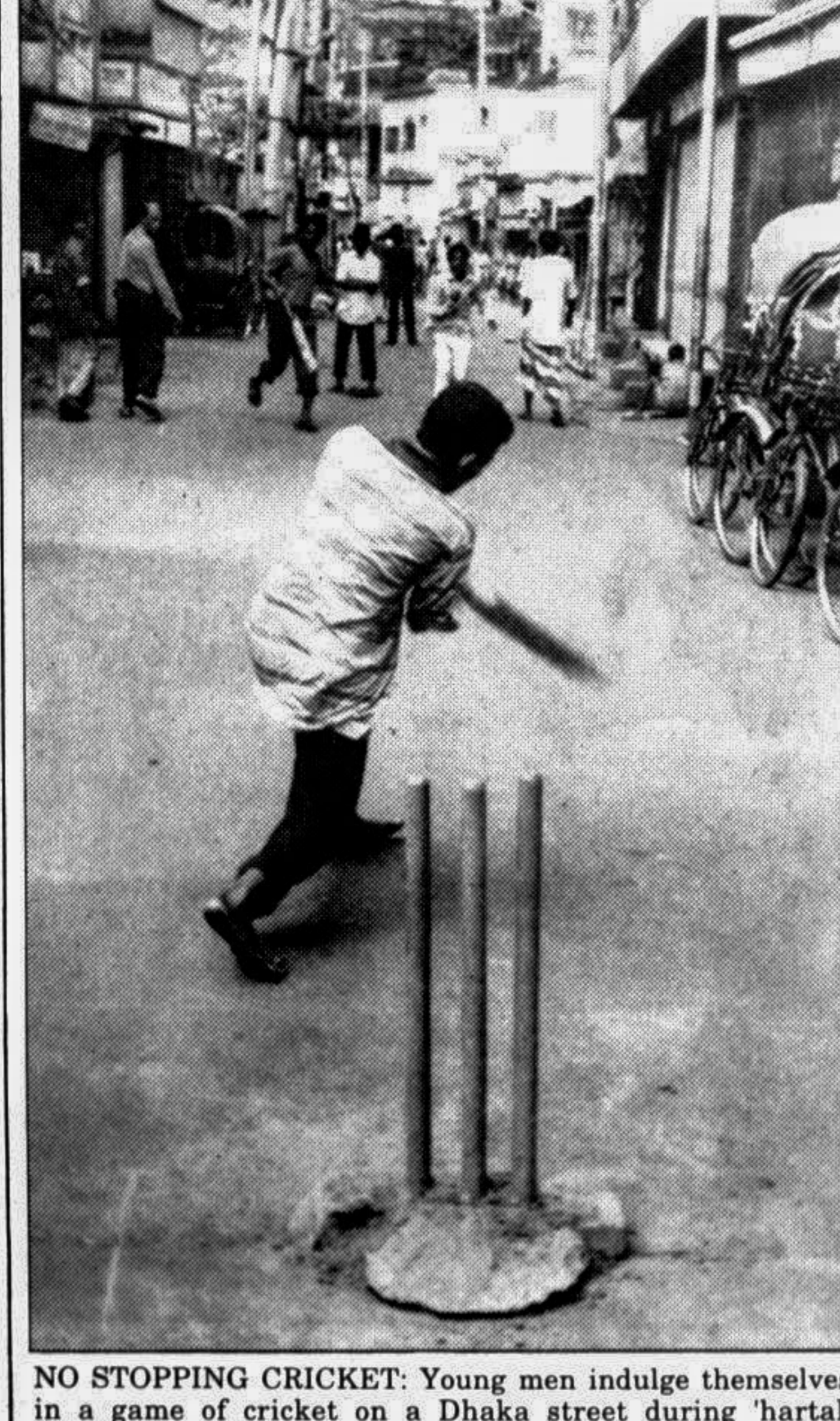


Action from the women's World Volleyball Championship match between Italy and South Korea at Fukuoka, Japan on November 9. Italy won 16-4, 16-4, 15-8.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes a solution time of 22 mins and a list of crossword terms.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with a message: MEG MFL CEH DBWLC. Includes a solution time of 22 mins and a list of crossword terms.



NO STOPPING CRICKET: Young men indulge themselves in a game of cricket on a Dhaka street during 'hartal' hours yesterday.