

SPORTS TALK

Hunt's handsome reward

Sports Reporter

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has awarded Taka two lakh fifty thousand (5,000 dollars) to Bangladesh World Cup team physiotherapist Robert Hunt for his outstanding work with the team.

The amount was handed over to the Melbourne-based physio, who was appointed two months before the World Cup, by State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader on behalf of the Prime Minister at a dinner hosted by the National Sports Council in honour of the national cricket team.

them. Also I'm involved with an Australian Rules football club and of course, there is my practice. So I have to make time between all these commitments and then come here," said Hunt.

However, BCB supremo Sabur Hossain confirmed that Hunt would be back in time for the youth team camp. He also said that the board has already requested the Australian doctor to render his services for another season. "Robert has done

Arjuna Ranatunga

(Sri Lanka cricket captain) "What I do wish to say is that it is my firm belief that I do have a few years of cricket left in me and if my services are wanted I am willing to represent my country in whatever capacity."

After returning home from the World Cup.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-116

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

Competition closes at 8 pm June 11, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

- 1 Who was the man-of-the-match in the opening match of the 1999 cricket World Cup? Stewart Jayasuriya Ranatunga

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



Cashing in on casualties!

LONDON, June 5 (Reuters): A sporting charity is cashing in on World Cup batsmen's embarrassing failures.

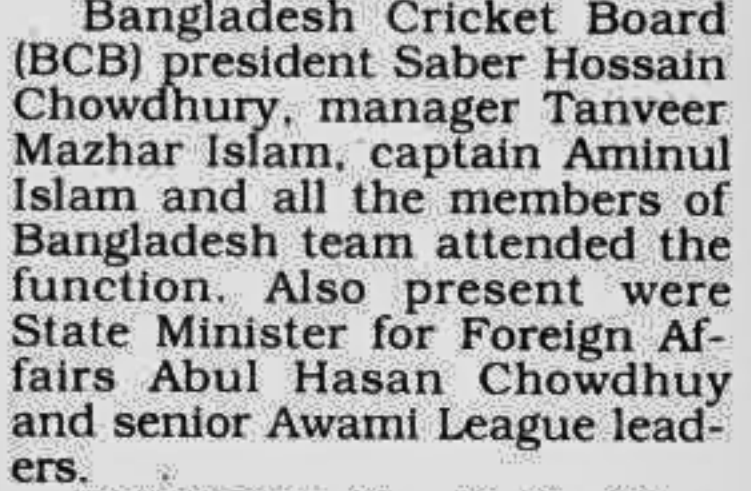
The National Westminster bank is paying 100 pounds (160 dollars) to the Primary Club, which works to provide sport and recreational opportunities for blind and partially sighted people, for every golden duck (first ball dismissal) in the tournament.

There have been 18 in the 31 matches played so far.

Pigeons, rather than golden ducks, became unwitting World Cup statistics during the India-Australia game at The Oval yesterday.

Two were killed within minutes each other during India's innings, one in mid-air as Paul Reiffel returned the ball to the stumps from the mid-on boundary and the other hit by a cut shot by century maker Ajay Jadaja.

The most famous feathered casualty of a cricket ball is the stuffed sparrow in the Lord's museum.



Talking to The Daily Star, Hunt, who left for home last night, said that he was likely to join the Bangladesh youth team (under-20) in early July to prepare it for the World Youth Cup qualifiers to be held in Singapore from mid-July.

"I have already been asked by the BCB to work with the national team on a long-term basis, but I shall have to review my schedule."

"I'm connected to the Australia 'A' team. Whenever they go on tour, I have to accompany

a splendid job. Unlike previous tours, nobody was injured during the World Cup. That is why it is imperative for us to appoint a permanent physio," said the local cricket boss.

Who versus who

HEADINGLEY, England, June 5 (AFP) : New Zealand v Zimbabwe player head-to-heads:

NATHAN ASTLE v NEIL JOHNSON Astle owes his country a big score after making the worst start to the World Cup by any top-order batsman. In five innings, the side's best one-day strokeplayer has scored 4, 5, 2, 0 and 11. His commitment to attack, always giving bowlers a chance outside the off stump, has been his downfall in English conditions favouring swing and seam bowlers.

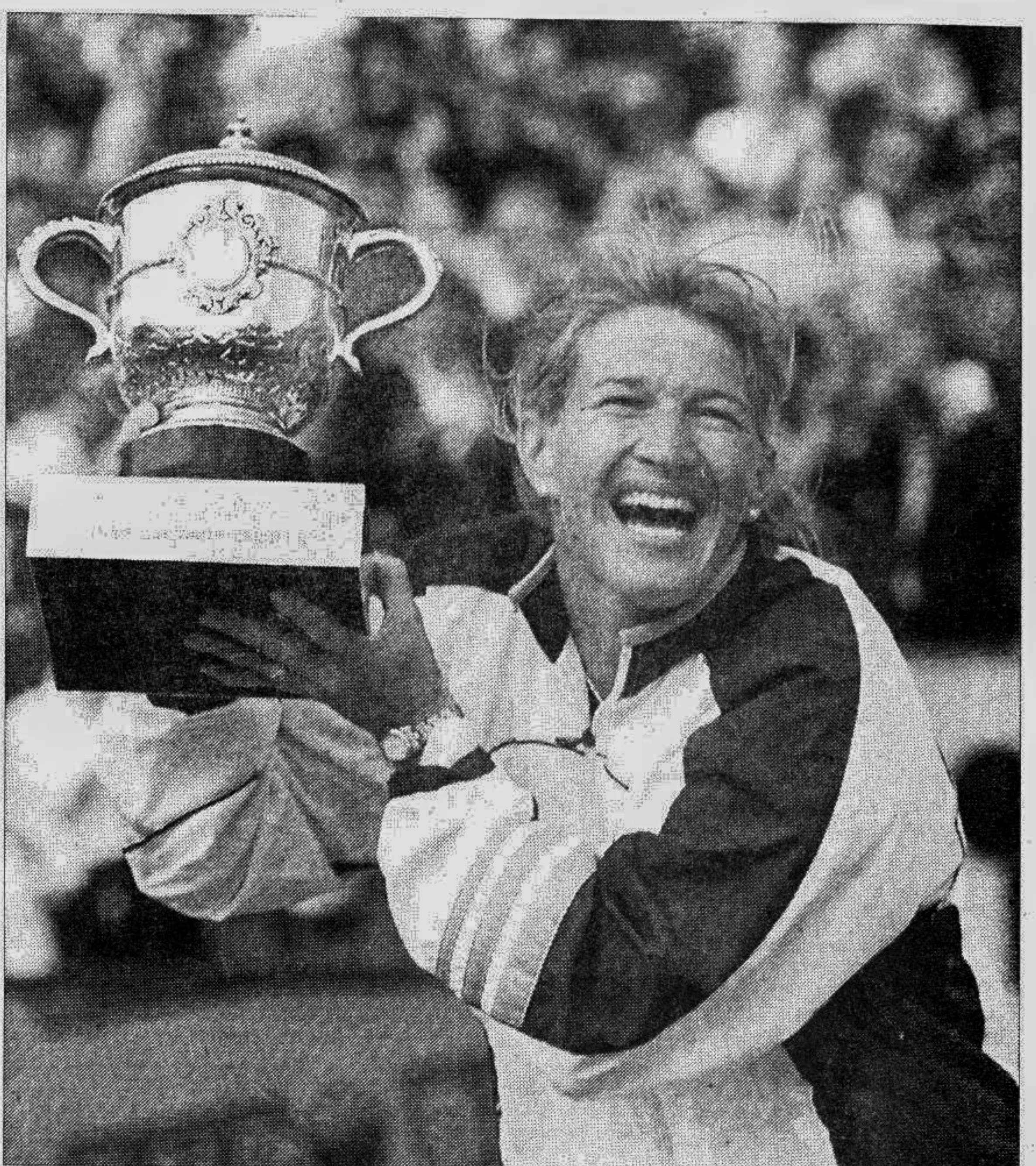
Johnson, by contrast, has been in outstanding form. The South African-born all-rounder, who opens the batting and bowling, is riding high in both averages tables. An accomplished left-hand bat who has played for Natal and Leicestershire, Johnson has scored 156 runs - including two half centuries - at an average of 31.20. He has taken 10 wickets in 39 overs at an average of 16.90.

CHRIS HARRIS v ANDY FLOWER Two of the World Cup's most inventive players will both have key roles to play. Harris, a specialist one-day all-rounder, has had a good World Cup to date, especially with the ball. His awkward right-arm slow-medium have netted him eight wickets at an average of 17.12. Coming in down the order, Harris has excelled on the two occasions he has been called on to bat, scoring 30 against the West Indies and 42 against Pakistan.

Flower, a wicket-keeping all-rounder, is averaging 45.50 with the bat after scoring 182 runs in five innings with a top score of 68 not out. Regarded as the best technical batsman in the side with a Test average of over 43, Flower quit as captain two years ago to concentrate on his wicket-keeping and batting and also dropped down to number five.

GEOFF ALLOTT v GRANT FLOWER The irresistible will meet the immovable when pace bowler Allott runs in to bowl to the Zimbabwean opening batsman. Allott, a left-arm medium-fast bowler with plenty of pace and bounce, was once considered too wild for one-dayers. But the 27-year-old from Canterbury has performed superbly to become the tournament's leading wicket-taker with 15 victims costing 12.33 runs apiece after five matches.

Flower, the barnacle of Zimbabwe's batting since it gained Test status in 1991, has had a reasonably successful World Cup to date, but is still looking for a half century after five innings. A steady right-hander, he warmed up for the World Cup with four fifties in six innings during a triangular tournament against Bangladesh and Kenya. His highest score here is 45.



GOLDEN GRAF! An ecstatic Steffi Graf poses with the French Open trophy after defeating Swiss Martina Hingis in the final at Roland Garros yesterday.

Graf's sixth French title

PARIS, June 5: Steffi Graf staged one of the great fightbacks of her long and glorious career to beat teenager Martina Hingis in three drama-charged sets Saturday and win the French Open women's singles title for a sixth time, reports AFP.

Graf, who turns 30 in a few days, beat top-seeded Hingis 4-6, 7-5, 6-2 in 2hr 25min after being within three points of defeat at the end of the second set.

It was the German veteran's 22nd Grand Slam title, leaving her just two short of the all-time record held by Australian Margaret Court.

Graf was playing in her first Grand Slam final since 1996 - and she turned back the clock to her glory days after two years in which she has been plagued by injuries.

"This feels amazing," she told the crowd. "I have to thank you all. I feel French. I've played all around the globe but I've never had a crowd like that ever."

Playing at Roland Garros for the 16th time, Graf was a huge crowd favourite as a testy Hingis was given a code conduct warning in the first set and later a point penalty in the second set for disputing a line call.

The 18-year-old Swiss player sobbed wildly after her loss and had to be comforted by her mother and coach Melanie Molitor, although she soon recovered both her composure and smile.

"It was a very close match and I want to tell Martina she is going to have so many more chances to win. Don't worry about it," Graf said.

Graf - who first won here in 1987 - became the first player in the Open era to beat the top three players in the world at the same event and only Chris Evert, with seven, has won more French titles.

"This is the most important memory I've ever going to have in my tennis career," Graf said.

Hingis had been bidding for the sixth Grand Slam title of her career and the only Slam title to have eluded her - and she served for the match at 5-4 in the second set before Graf launched her remarkable recovery.

"I want to congratulate Steffi after a very good match," Hingis said in French. "She's a great champion but I hope I can win next year."

"I was three points away today and you don't like to lose like that - but maybe next time."

Graf was playing in a record-equalling ninth singles final at Roland Garros but fell behind in a match delayed by rain and then played in difficult blustery winds on the slow red clay.

It was the first title of the year for the German and ended a run of 20 wins in 21 matches for Hingis as experience won out over youth.

Graf picked up 604,000 US dollars for her win and will move back up to third in the new WTA Tour rankings list - her highest ranking since she lost the number one spot in March, 1997. Hingis earned 302,000 dollars.

Graf has now won seven of her nine career meetings with Hingis.

The young Swiss player got off to a flying start took the first set 6-4 and led 2-0 in the second before the first controversy.

The feisty Swiss player, dubbed "the smiling assassin" for her toughness, was given a point penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct after she went to the other side of the net to point out where she thought the ball had landed - and then demanded the tournament referee be called.

Graf held that game for 1-2 but Hingis held for 3-1. The German player, whose mother and father were both in the crowd, called on every ounce

of her experience as she fought back to lead 4-3.

Hingis was jeered when she smashed a ball courtwards when Graf had break point for 5-3 but the world number one held for 4-4 after one particularly memorable rally which ended with Graf missing the simplest of smashes.

Hingis broke Graf for 5-4 and then served for the match - but was broken to 40 after a tired and unwise drop shot.

Graf, suddenly cool and collected, held to love and then broke Hingis to 15 for the set as the teenager began to unravel.

Graf took a 1-0 lead in the decider before both women took a bathroom break - Hingis only returning to the court from the locker room in the nick of time and to more boos from the crowd.

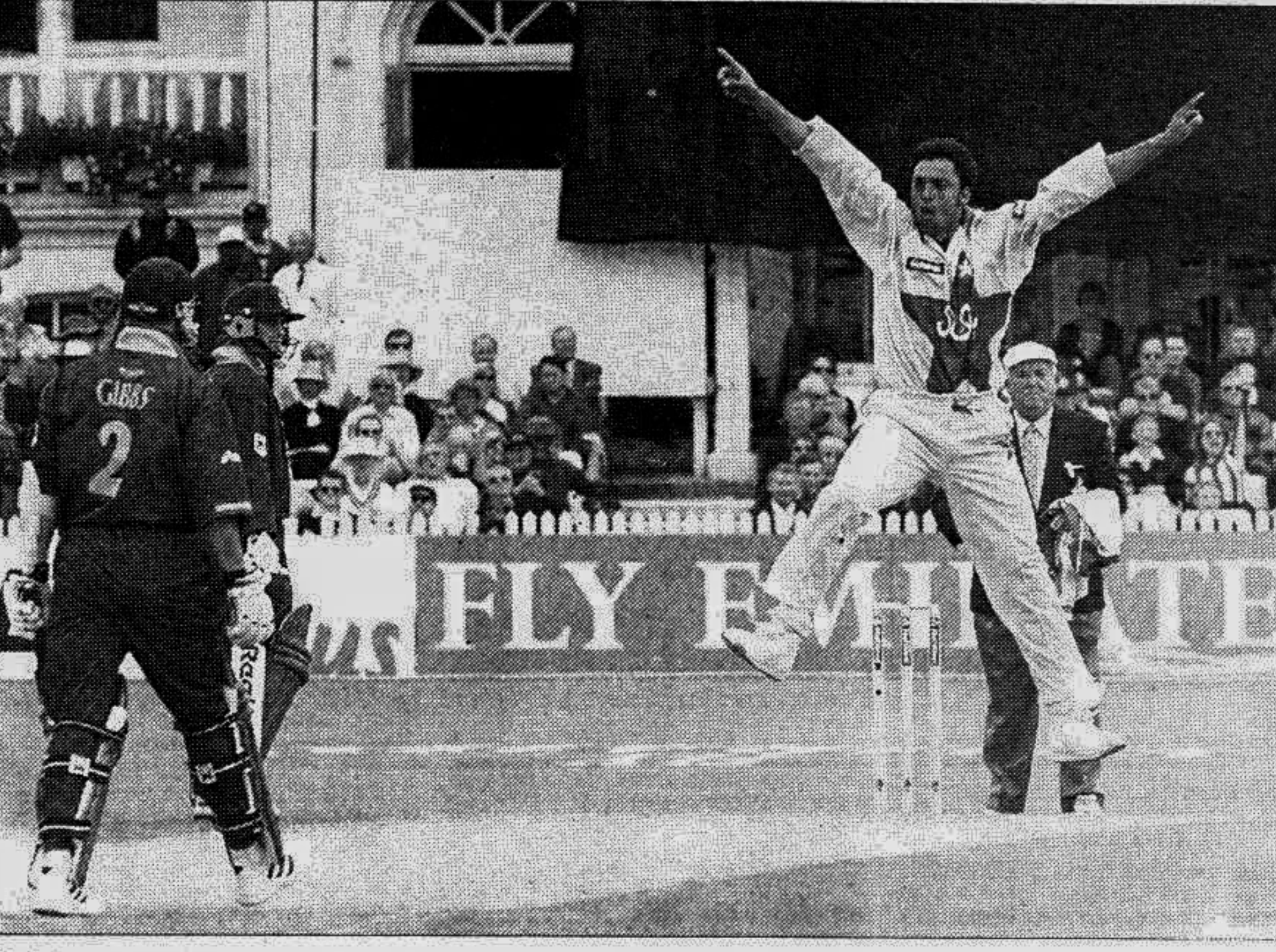
Graf moved to a 3-0 lead after winning six straight games and although Hingis got back to 3-2 the die was cast.

Hingis again earned the ire of the crowd with an underarm serve to save the first match point - catching Graf unawares - but the veteran sealed a second championship point with a drop shot and sealed the win when Hingis sent a backhand long.

Moldova bow to Bierhoff

LEVERKUSEN, Germany, June 5: Oliver Bierhoff recaptured his scoring habits in spectacular fashion with three goals which inspired Germany to a 6-1 demolition of Moldova in a European Championship qualifier on Friday, reports Reuters.

Bierhoff, who had gone four full matches without a goal for his country, warmed up by hitting the bar from a Marco Bode cross after just a few seconds.



Pakistan pacesman Shoaib Akhtar is delighted after claiming the wicket of Herschelle Gibbs yesterday.

Andre, Andrei to fight it out

PARIS, June 5 (Reuters/AP) Andre Agassi qualified for his first Grand Slam final in four years when he beat Slovak Dominik Hrbaty in four sets in a French Open semifinal today.

The 29-year-old American will meet Ukrainian Andrei Medvedev in Sunday's final.

Should Agassi win, he would become the first man since Australian Rod Laver in 1969 to have won all four Grand Slam tournaments.

Agassi won Wimbledon in 1992, the US Open in 1994 and the Australian Open in 1995.

Agassi, who was twice a losing finalist in Paris in 1990 and 1991, won 6-4, 7-6, 3-6, 6-4 in a match which had been halted by rain on Friday evening as Agassi led two sets to one.

When play resumed today, the American did not take any chances, quickly breaking his

opponent, ranked 30th in the world, to take the match in a total of two hours and 25 minutes.

Should Agassi succeed this time, he will write a new chapter of tennis history by becoming the first player to win the four tournaments - Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and US Open - on four different surfaces.

Briton Fred Perry, American Don Budge and Australians Roy Emerson and Rod Laver won when Wimbledon, Australia and the US were all played on grass.

Australia and the US are now played on different types of hardcourt.

In Laver's time, all Grand Slam tournaments except the French Open were played on grass.

Agassi said afterwards: "He (Hrbaty) has been playing so well and he forced me to play some of my best tennis this tournament.

"So it was really nice to take

care of business today.

Medvedev overcame dizziness, cramps and sloppy tennis Friday to defeat Fernando Meligeni 7-5, 3-6, 6-4, 7-6.

Ranked No. 100 coming into the two-week tournament, Medvedev ousted No. 2 Pete Sampras, 1997 champion Gustavo Kuerten and ended up making his first Grand Slam final.

Even he was baffled by his sudden surge.

A semifinalist at Roland Garros in 1993 and once ranked as high as No. 4, Medvedev nearly slipped into tennis oblivion, troubled by injuries and life in the fast lane.

Medvedev had a roller-coaster match. He finished with 85 unforced errors. He trailed 4-0 in the opening set, before winning nine of the next 10 games.

Up 3-1, he lost the next five games.

SA-3: Inzy-0

TRENT BRIDGE, June 5 (AFP): It was perhaps inevitable that Inzamam Haq, the worst mover between the wickets in the world, should be run out by Jonty Rhodes, the best fielder of all, during Pakistan's World Cup clash with South Africa here on Saturday.

The athletic Rhodes, who has turned fielding into an art form, had made his name in the 1992 World Cup with a spectacular swallow-dive to run out Inzamam at Brisbane.

At Trent Bridge, the Pakistani number five was called for a sharp single by Yousuf Youhana but never made it as a Rhodes direct throw dislodged the balls.

Inzamam, however, had a hand in his own downfall. He would have survived if only he had grounded his bat instead of leaving it hanging in the air.

Inzamam, whose bad running appears to be compounded by his hefty frame and his inability to communicate with partners, has been run out 30 times in 154 one-day innings.

In three World Cup matches against South Africa, he has a 100 per cent record - run out each time.

In the World Cup overall, he has been run out eight times in 19 starts since his debut in 1992.

His captain Wasim Akram has refused to criticise him after a string of comical mix-ups with his batting partners during this World Cup, arguing that the weight of Inzamam's runs outweighed his blunders.

Akram, however, paid special attention to running between the wickets during their pre-match training on Friday. But it made no difference as Inzamam was one of the three Pakistanis to be run out.

Inzamam made only four despite being egged on by his fans here, who continued to chant his name and their now-favourite refrain of: "Run, Inzie, run!"

Poland beat Bulgaria

WARSAW, June 5: Poland beat Bulgaria 2-0 in their Group Five European championship qualifier on Friday to preserve their slim chance of qualifying for Euro 2000, reports Reuters.

TV Guide

Sunday 6th June (All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

BTV

2:00 Opening Announcement: Al Quran Programme Summary 2:10 Bible 2:15 Patriotic Songs 2:20 Animation Film: Bananas in Pajamas 2:45 Programme Matho Sur 3:10 Mati O Manush 3:40 World Cup Cricket 3:50 The News 6:30 The News 8:00 Bangla News 10:00 News At Ten 11:30 The News 11:45 Close down

BBC

6:00 BBC World News Headlines 6:30 World Living: Holiday Guide America 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 World Focus: Correspondent 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 World Focus: Simpson's World 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Hard Talk 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 This Week 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 India Business Report 12:00 BBC World News 12:30 Wild World: Land Of The Tiger #10/12 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 Hard Talk 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Focus: This Week 3:00 BBC World News Headlines 3:05 World Weekend: Breaking The News 4:00 BBC World

STAR PLUS

6:30 Ninaad 7:30 Good Morning India 8:30 Animals of Farthing Woods 9:00 Animal Adventure 9:15 Dress Circle 9:30 Ek De Toen 10:30 Hindi Serial: Janata Ki Adalat 11:00 Shotgun Shoot 11:30 Prime Minister Speak 12:00 Mastercard Family Fortune 12:30 India Business Week 1:00 The Great Escape 1:30 IFB Star Sunday Lunch 2:00 Serial: Tanha 3:00 Wagle Ki Nayee Duniya 3:30 Tea Time Cinema: Heera Aur Pather 6:30 So Let's Yahoo 6:45 This Week That Year 7:00 Dress Circle 7:30 It's a Small World 8:00 BBC World News 1:05 World Weekend: Peoples Century #23/26 - 975 War Of The Flea 2:30 World Living: A Golfers Travels-Thailand 4:30 Hardtalk 5:00 BBC World Newsdesk Inc. World Report/24 Hours

CHANNEL [V]

8:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 9:30 Catch 22 10:00 Home Arrest 10:30 Turn On TV 11:00 Weekender Bheja Fry 11:30 VJ scope 12:00 Toofan V 12:30 First Day First Show Special 1:00 Udum Singh 1:30 Indian Top 10 2:00 Zabardast Hits 4:30 Sunday Special 5:30 Zabardast Hits 7:30 Kingfisher - Mangta Hai 8:30 Zabardast Hits 10:00 [V] Mainstage - Sting 12:00 Turn On [V]

STAR WORLD

6:00 Batman 6:30 Animal House 7:00 Crystal Maze 8:00 Mr Belvedere 8:30 Only Fools & Horses 9:00 The Adventures of Sinbad 10:00 Small Wonder 10:30 Mind Your Language

MTV INDIA

7:00 MTV Hanging Out VJ Sonia 9:00 House of Style 9:30 Non-Stop Hits 10:30 Best of... Cyrus 12:00 India VJ Cyrus 12:00 MTV Hipshakers 12:30 MTV Hit Music 1:00 MTV Housefull V Naifisa 1:30 Non-Stop Hits 2:30 MTV In Control- Cricke 3:30 MTV-VJ VJ Cyrus 4:30 MTV Ek Do Teen VJ Raageshwari 5:30 MTV & Kenwood India Hit List VJ Rahul 6:30 Non-Stop Hits 7:30 MTV Recycled 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 Housefull VJ Naifisa 10:30 MTV Fresh VJ Rahul 11:00 Simrnoff Mega Mix VJ Naifisa 11:30 Destination Dance - The Grind - Beach Show 12:00 MTV Unplugged 1:00 Non-Stop Hits Continue

ZEE INDIA TV

7:00 Jagran 7:30 to 10:30 PM Every Half Hour - Zee News: Hindi 11:00 Fact Sports Show 12:00 Fact File 12:30 News in Hindi 1:00 News Headlines 1:00 Mystery Unfolds 1:30 Question Hour 2:00 Zee World 2:30 Insight 3:00 The Diplomacy Show 3:30 Beech Shahar 4:00 Teer Kaman 4:30 Jaanch Ya Aanch

STAR MOVIES

7:30 Thriller: Tie That Binds 9:30 Family: The Elf Who Didn't Believe 11:00 Bhaskar Ghose Show 11:30 Sunday Best: Dune 2:00 Action: Big Trouble in Little China 4:30 Movie Television 5:30 Thriller/Horror The Dead Zone 7:30 Romance: Jac Ad Sarah 9:30 Ekhasar Ghab 1:30 Best Of The Best 2:15 World Premiere: 2:30 Double Mint Double Maaza 3:00 All Time Hits 3:30 Medimix Madhur Moments 3:45 Bakeman's Star Ek Mood Anek 12:55 Pop Re-1:00 Jharokha 1:30 Best Of The Best 2:15 World Premiere: 2:30 Double Mint Double Maaza 3:00 All Time Hits 3:30 Medimix Madhur Moments 3:45 Bakeman's Star Ek Mood Anek 4:00 World

DD 7

9:00 Sure Sadhak 9:30 Movie Club Film (Last Thursday's Film Rpt) 12:30 Sawal Jawab 1:30 Movie Club Film (Last Friday's Film Rpt) 3:30 Geet Sangeet 4:30 Sunday Bangla Film 5:30 News Show 7:20 Binodan (Magazine Show) 7:30 Bangla Sambad 8:00 Serial: Pratihath 8:30 Serial: Baro Theke Atharo 9:00 Serial: Surja Snann 9:30 Serial: Sidhanta 10:30 Sambad

MUSIC ASIA

7:30 Aalaap 8:00 B&W Gems 8:30 All Time Hits 9:00 Hit Parade 9:30 World Premiere 9:45 Brake Fail 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Colgate Zig Zag Best Of The Day 11:30 Bajaj Music Box 12:00 World Premiere 12:15 Medimix Madhur Moments 12:30 Bakeman's Star Ek Mood Anek 12:55 Pop Re-1:00 Jharokha 1:30 Best Of The Best 2:15 World Premiere: 2:30 Double Mint Double Maaza 3:00 All Time Hits 3:30 Medimix Madhur Moments 3:45 Bakeman's Star Ek Mood Anek 4:00 World

DD INT'L

9:30 Opening & News in English 9:45 Business Plus 10:00 Chitrahari (Meet The Film Star) 10:30 Asian 11:00 Light Music 11:15 Suravi (Renuka Sahani) 11:45 Gul Gulshan Gullian (Serial) 12:15 Bharat Samachar (News in Hindi) 12:30 India File 1:00 Hindi Film Show 5:30 Mythological Serial: Shiv Mahapuram 10:00 Hindi Film Show (Rpt)

DD METRO

7:00 Boot It Computer 7:15 Gurubani Sagar 7:45 Business Weekend 8:30 Serial: Shiv Mahapuram 9:30 Gul Sanchar 10:30 Zee Arabia: Sapath (Nikita Shah, Kiron Kumar) 3:00 Hindi Film

DD CHANNEL-1

5:55 Vande Mataram & Thought of The Day 6:00 Aradhana 6:30 UGC Programmes 7:30 Samachar 7:40 Rangoli 8:40 The News 8:50 The World News 9:00 Gao Saachi

ZEE TV

6:00 Yaadon Ki Pal (B/W Serial) 6:30 Zee News & Zee Business 7:00 Bhakti Days 7:30 Jagran 8:05 Guldagee 8:30 Suniye Zee Suniye 9:00 Bakeman's Mama Mia 9:30 Disney Hour Cartoons 10:30 Mahabharat #Ep-221 11:30 RIN- Super 7 Mukabla 12:30 Bourviva Quiz Contest 1:00 Mr Gaayab 1:30 Close-up Anantkshari 2:00 Nirma Hamam 2:30 Kaha Se Kaha Tak #21 3:00 Jeena Isika Naam Hai 3:30 HFF 6:30 Ek Nazar 7:00 Disney Hour Cartoons 8:00 Thums Up Public Demand VJ Roshan Abbas & Kanakshana 8:30 TVS-Saregama 9:30 Blockbuster Hindi Film: 1:00 Rishy 2:00 Zee News 2:30 Zee Arabia: Sapath (Nikita Shah, Kiron Kumar) 3:00 Hindi Film

SONY TV

7:30 Rangeela Re 8:00 Rishrasad 8:30 Ramayan 9:30 Chuarbusters 10:00 India Down Under 11:00 World Of Cricket 11:30 Cine Clips 12:00 Bajaj Ki Lehren (Film Magazine Show) 12:30 Open House 1:30 The Good Home Show 2:00 Monster Quiz 2:30 Cine Matinee Hindi Film Show: Nehle Pe Dehla 5:30 Rang Berange 6:00 Aahat 7:00 CID (Serial) 7:30 Aadab Aarz Hai 8:30 Ramayan 9:30 Cine Prime Hindi Film Show: Kasam 12:30 Rangeela Re 1:00 Star Yaar Kalakar Guest 2:00 Hum 2:30 Rang Berangam Show 3:30 Cine Nite Hindi Feature Film: Raa! Drohi

CARTOON NETWORK

5:30 World Famous Toons 6:30 Jaxons 7:00 Flintstones 7:30 The Popeye Show 8:00 Scooby Doo 8:30 Scrapy D 8:30 Cave Kids 9:00 Big Bag 10:00 Timeless Tales 10:30 The Detective Squad 11:30 Dynomutt 12:00 Tom & Jerry Show 12:30 Bugs & Daffy 1:30 Addams Family 2:00 Dumb & Dumber 2:30 The Real Adventure of Johnny Que 3:00 Goober & The Ghost Chasers 3:30 Casper and the Angles 4:00 Goldie Gold and Action Jack 4:30 The Detective Squad 5:30 Dexter's Laboratory 6:00 Tom & Jerry Kids 6:30 Bugs & Daffy Show 7:30 Johnny Bravo 8:00 Two Stupid Dogs 8:30 Scooby Doo Where Are You 9:00 The Popeye Show