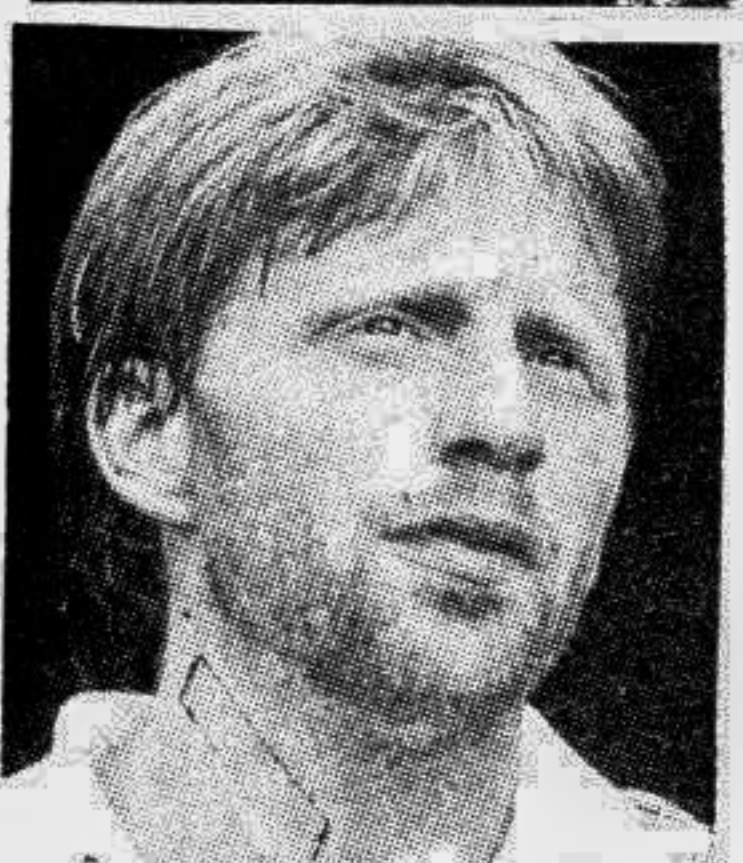


Column One

SPORTS TALK



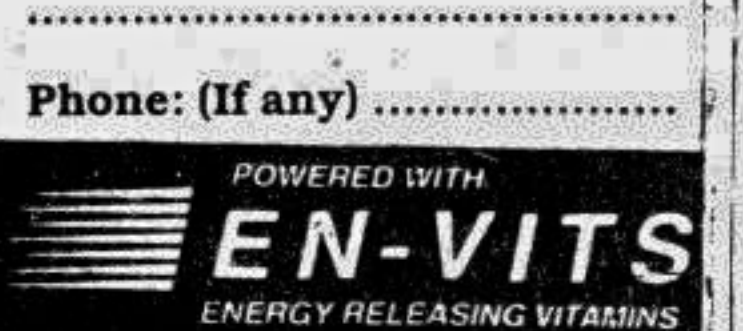
Boris Becker
(German tennis legend)
"For a tennis player it's hard to compare any other feeling than going onto Centre Court, especially if it's in a final, being out there and having the chance to win Wimbledon."
When he was asked what he would miss most.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-117
Tick the Correct Answers
2-5 to the Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
July 2, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1. How many matches have been scheduled for the World Cup 99?	40	41	42
2. Pakistan beat New Zealand in the semifinal by	9 wickets	10 wickets	53 runs
3. How many wickets did NZ bowler Geoff Allott capture in the World Cup?	18	21	20
4. Saqlain Mushtaq scored his hat-trick against which country?	Kenya	Zimbabwe	Bangladesh
5. How many runs did Minhazul Abedin score in the World Cup?	120	140	140

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



Notice
For unavoidable reasons draw of the WHIZZ KID-117 competition could not be held last night. It will now take place on July 9.

Kumble, Srinath no longer bachelors!

BANGALORE, July 2: Star cricketers Javagal Srinath and Anil Kumble yesterday entered into wedlock at separate functions here, reports PTI.
Indian pace spearhead Srinath tied the 'Mangalsutra' (Nuptial Knot) to Jyotsna, an alumna of the Lady Sri Ram College, Delhi, at the bride's residence on the city outskirts between 1100 hrs and 1115 hrs.
Leg-spinner Kumble married Chetana from Mysore at his residence in the early hours. The couple later hosted a reception.

The marriages were conducted in a simple manner and the media and photographers were kept out of both functions.
Only family members and close cricketing friends including Rahul Dravid, D Ganesh, Venkatesh Prasad and Sunil Joshi, attended the weddings.
Kumble's brother Dinesh said, "The function went off well."

Probe commission Miandad must appear July 8

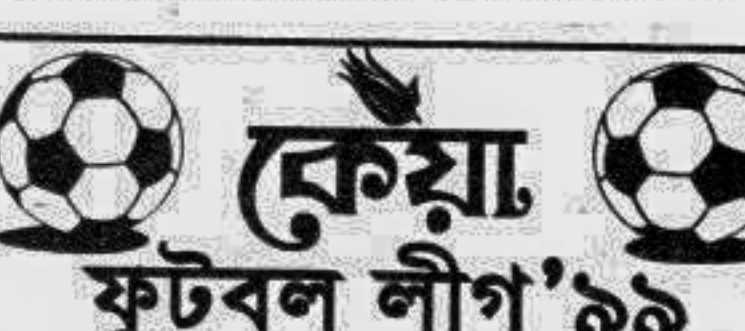
ISLAMABAD, July 2: The Pakistan judicial commission probing the betting and match-fixing allegations against some leading national cricketers has expanded its purview to look into such charges levelled against the World Cup squad after the defeat in the final against Australia, reports PTI.
The one-man panel headed by Lahore High Court Judge, Justice Malik Muhammad Qayyum, has summoned veteran batsman Salim Malik and former coach Javed Miandad to appear before it in its next sitting on July 8.
The commission has directed the authorities concerned to provide any information it had on allegations against the World Cup squad as it begins what is considered its final round of hearings.

Alfaz MSC's saviour

In the only match of the Keya Premier Division football league, Mohammedan SC defeated Rahmatganj MFS 1-0 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.
Mohammedan skipper Alfaz Ahmed scored the only goal in the 26th minute of the second half.
National striker Alfaz slotted home with a left-footed shot after Anwar Hossain's lob was weakly fluffed by opposition custodian.

The match was marred by an unsporting incident when Kamruzzaman Selim of Mohammedan assaulted the referee in the 15th minute of the second half for rejecting a goal by Don who was called offside by the linesman.
However, the game resumed after five minutes without penalising the offending player.
Replying to a question after the match, referee Rakib told the newsmen, "You saw what happened in the field... I will mention everything in my match report."
The match began 20 minutes late when both teams protested the "unplayable condition" of

the field and it was interrupted thrice — once because of the ugly incident and twice for the bad ground condition.
Mohammedan got several chances to score. They squandered three golden opportunities in the first half alone.
In the 9th minute, Rahmatganj custodian Himu saved an Anwar Hossain shot from Alfaz pass. After 12 minutes, Matur Munna missed a close chance



from a Ruhul Amin through.
In the 32nd minute, Anwar Hossain failed to properly connect the ball from a Ruhul Amin cross.
In the second half, the black and whites launched a series of attacks.
Five minutes into the half, national striker Mizanur Rahman Don's header from a Matur Munna cross just sailed over the bar. In the 10th minute a Matur Munna shot whistle

past the post.
In the 14th minute, an Anwar header went out with the goalkeeper helplessly looking on.
Title contenders Mohammedan collected seven points from three matches while Rahmatganj have only one point from same number of outings.
Yellow cards: Matur Munna (Mohammedan) and Tipu (Rahmatganj).

TEAMS
MOHAMMEDAN SC: Ponir, Faisal, Ruhul Amin, Rezaul, Matur Munna, Alfaz, Rakib, Jahangir, Anwar, Selim and Don (Babu).
RAHMATGANJ MFS: Himu, Biplob, Din Mohammed, Kamal, Shafiq, Monir, Nayan, Nurul Islam (Saiful), Raju (Zaman), Milha and Tipu.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Premier Football League:
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
Abahani vs Fakirapool YMC 5.30 pm
First Division Football League:
Shantinaray Club vs Victoria SC 3.30 pm



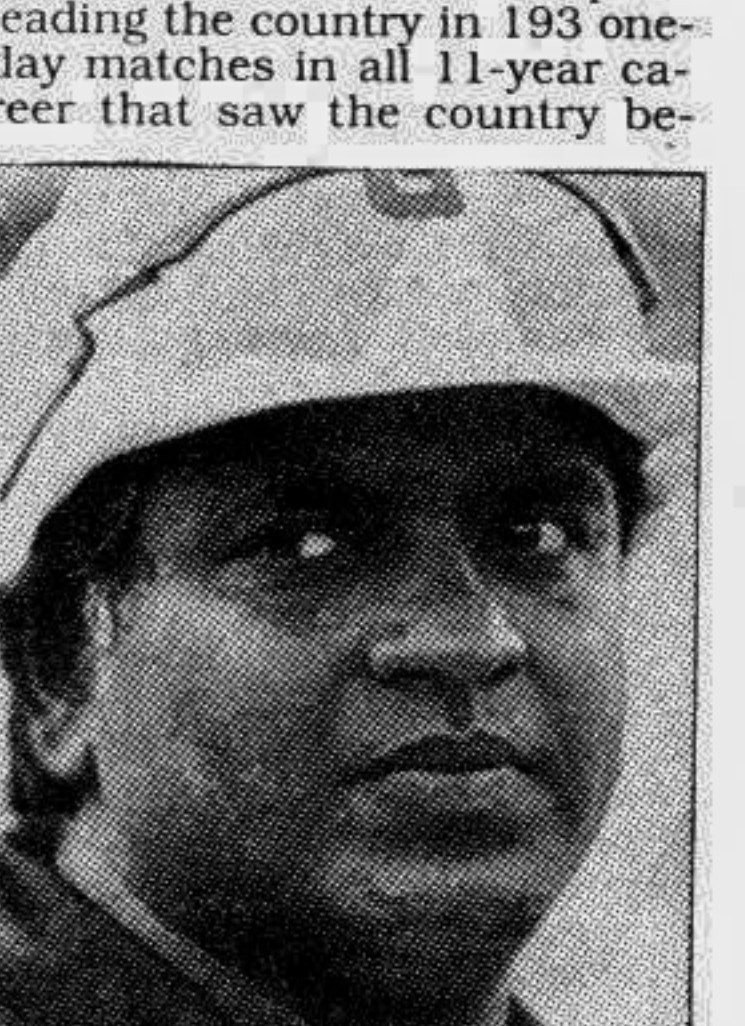
Action from the Premier Division league match between Mohammedan and Rahmatganj at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

Ranatunga relieved?

COLOMBO, July 2: Sri Lanka have axed skipper Arjuna Ranatunga and his deputy Aravinda de Silva after the country's humiliating exit from the World Cup, a state-run daily said Friday, reports AFP.
Either master-blasters Sanath Jayasuriya or Roshan Mahanama would lead Sri Lanka in next month's triangular series with Australia and India while Mahela Jayawardena is tipped as deputy, the Daily News said.

The appointments were expected to be officially announced on Monday.
The need for a change at the top became apparent following Sri Lanka's dismal run in the last five one-day tournaments beginning with the mini-World Cup in Dhaka in October last year and culminating with their unsuccessful attempt to defend the World Cup in England last month, "the Daily News said.
Ranatunga, who is due to return home this weekend, will be asked to quit his captaincy so he could leave honourably.
The Daily News, which until the World Cup debacle had fully backed Ranatunga, said the 35-year-old captain would be admired by fans if he quit on his own rather than leaving the decision to the selectors.
"But then, Ranatunga is

Ranatunga. He likes to do things his way and to a certain point he succeeded. Now the cookie has crumbled," the report said adding that both Ranatunga and de Silva may still be retained in the team.
Ranatunga has been Sri Lanka's most successful captain leading the country in 193 one-day matches in all 11-year career that saw the country be-



ARJUNA RANATUNGA
come world champions in 1996.
Under his captaincy, Sri Lanka won 89 matches, 95 matches, eight ended with no result and one tie.
Shortly after the recent World Cup, the Daily News demanded the expulsion of Ranatunga from the team.

"Ranatunga should not only forsake the captaincy, but quit (the team) altogether," the paper said in a commentary by senior writer Sadi Thaweeq. "To have him in the team would only make life unbearable for the ensuing captain."
The Daily News suggested that among other players who should be shown the door were de Silva, Roshan Mahanama, Hashan Tillekeratne, Romesh Kaluwitharana and Pramodya Wickremesinghe.

The paper said former coach Day Whatmore, who groomed the side to win the 1996 World Cup, was ousted because he tried to build a young team after that victory.
Sri Lanka has begun talks with Whatmore to try to woo him back again.

The scathing attack by the state-run newspaper followed remarks by Sports Minister S B Dissanayake that he did not see Ranatunga as a future captain.
Dissanayake, in an interview with the BBC, said Ranatunga "got many things wrong in the tournament... He made several bad decisions... In future I believe he will play in the team but not as a captain."
Sri Lanka's miserable World Cup ended with an unconvincing 45-run win over Group A minnows Kenya. Sri Lanka had earlier lost to England, South Africa and India, and won against Zimbabwe.

Sachin for a boycott

NEW DELHI, July 2 (Reuters/Inter-net): Sachin Tendulkar has joined a growing number of Indian players demanding that cricketing links with Pakistan be cut over the continuing Kashmir conflict.

The star batsman also ruled himself out of the race for captaincy of the Indian cricket team.
"I would like to be a player and contribute to the team's success", Tendulkar told reporters in the southern city of Madras on Friday.
Cricket authorities are expected to replace Mohammed Azharuddin as India's skipper following the team's poor showing in the recent World Cup.
Tendulkar said that he agreed with former captain Kapil Dev's demand that India should not play cricket with Pakistan when their soldiers were locked in armed conflict.
"When two countries are fighting it's very hard to go out there and play on a cricket field," Star TV quoted Tendulkar as saying.

"What Kapil Dev has said I am sure the board will also agree to it, and most Indians too."
On Wednesday, Indian



Cricket Board president Raj Singh Dungarpur was quoted by Indian news agencies as saying that India might sever cricketing ties with Pakistan.
Dungarpur said the issue would be discussed at a meeting of the board's working committee in mid-July.
The call for ending cricketing ties with Pakistan was first made on Tuesday by Kapil Dev after a visit to military hospitals in the Kashmir region where India is fighting guerrillas.

India says the guerrillas are mainly Pakistanis, Islamabad says they are freedom fighters against Indian rule in Kashmir.
The two nations have fought two of their three wars since independence from Britain in 1947 over Kashmir.
Kapil Dev said India should not even play against Pakistan on neutral territory and suggested this year's Sahara Cup one-day tournament in Toronto should be scrapped.
Political conflicts have often cast their shadow on cricketing links between the two neighbours.



Players and officials of the Bangladesh cricket youth team. —Star photo

Asia Youth Cup Cricketers leave today

A 16-member Bangladesh team leaves for Singapore today to participate in the Asia Youth Cup (Under-19) tournament, reports UNB.
The champions and runners-up of the eight-team tournament, to be held on July 5-11, will qualify for the World Youth Cup slated for January next year in the Sri Lankan capital, Colombo.

The Bangladesh team led by captain Fahim Muntasir Sumit yesterday made a courtesy call on State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader at BCB office.
President of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and Deputy Minister for LGED Saber Hossain Chowdhury, BCB general secretary Syed Ashraf Hui and team manager Kutubuddin Akbar were present during the meeting.
In the last World Youth Cup, Bangladesh clinched the Plate beating West Indies into ninth position.

Sahara Cup cancelled

NEW DELHI, July 2: Organisers of the Sahara Cup cricket tournament announced today they were cancelling the one-day series between India and Pakistan in Canada this year because of the Kashmir conflict, reports Reuters.
The announcement came after a growing number of Indian players demanded that cricketing links with Pakistan be severed.

Finals shifted to Sunday

LONDON, July 2 (Reuters/AP): The women's singles final at Wimbledon has been postponed to Sunday from Saturday following this week's rain disruption at the tournament, organisers said today.
The men's singles final is also set for Sunday but any further weather delays could mean it is postponed until Monday.

Only two out of eight quarterfinals in the men's and women's singles were completed on Thursday. The remaining two women's quarterfinals and all the men's are scheduled to be played today with the semifinals on Saturday.

The last time both finals were played on Sunday was in 1989 when Boris Becker and Graf were the champions.
With a huge backlog of matches, it's likely doubles play will be extended until Monday. The last time the tournament dragged into a third week was in 1996 when the women's doubles final was played on Monday.

Special Olympics Athletes win more medals

Bangladeshi athletes clinched another three gold, two silvers and two bronzes in the Special Olympic Games for the disabled, reports BSS.
They have collected eight gold, six silver and three bronze medals in the competition so far.
The games which began on June 26 will end today.

New Zealand 73 for eight

Sports Reporter
New Zealand were reeling at 73 for eight in their second innings, a lead of 173, after tea on the second day of the Edgbaston Test yesterday.
The tourists had earlier knocked over the hosts for 126 in their first innings.
The Blacks Caps were all out for 226 on Thursday.

Sampras survives a scare

WIMBLEDON, July 2: Pete Sampras advanced to the Wimbledon semifinals Friday when Mark Philippoussis retired with a knee injury while holding a one-set lead over the five-time champion, reports AP.

Andre Agassi, meanwhile, needed no favours as he overpowered Brazil's Gustavo Kuerten 6-3, 6-4, 6-4, in just 1 hour, 35 minutes to cruise into the semis and edge closer to a rare French Open-Wimbledon double.
With one more victory apiece, Sampras and Agassi would meet in an all-American final on the fourth of July.
Sampras, chasing his sixth title in seven years, will next face Britain's Tim Henman, who ousted an injured Cedric Pioline 6-4, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 to reach the semifinals for the second straight year.

Agassi will face US Open champion Patrick Rafter, who also benefited from an injury to his opponent, beating a limping Todd Martin 6-3, 6-7 (7-5), 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-3).
In women's play, 18-year-old American Alexandra Stevenson became the first qualifier in Wimbledon history to reach the semifinals. She did it by beating another qualifier, 16-year-old Jelena Dokic, 6-3, 1-6, 6-3.

Stevenson, who graduated from high school in May and is playing her first tournament as a pro, skipped and hopped to net after Dokic hit a forehand long on match point. She then cursed theatrically to all corners of the Court 1 stadium.

In the other women's quarter, 17-year-old Mirjana Lucic of Croatia overcame Nathalie Tauziat, 4-6, 6-4, 7-5. Tauziat saved for the match at 5-4 in the third set, but Lucic won the last three games to take the match.
In Saturday's semis, Steven-

son will play seven-time champion Steffi Graf, while Lucic will face Lindsay Davenport. Philippoussis won the first set 6-4, and Sampras was up 2-1 on serve in the second when the Australian decided he could not continue.
In the last game, after Sampras had saved a break point, Philippoussis clutched his left knee after hitting a forehand service return at deuce.

After Sampras won the next point to hold serve, Philippoussis called for the trainer during the changeover.
"I heard it click," the Australian said.

The trainer flexed Philippoussis' knee, first as he sat in the chair, and then as he lay on his back on a towel.

"That hurts," Philippoussis said as ATP Tour trainer Doug Spreen bent his knee outwards. After the three-minute injury timeout expired, Philippoussis shook his head to show the umpire he couldn't continue. He then went over to shake hands with Sampras, who had been waiting in the shade at the back of the court while Philippoussis was being treated.

There were scattered boos from the Centre Court fans when the umpire announced Philippoussis' injury came at a fortunate time for Sampras, who was in serious trouble against the big-serving Aussie.
"There's no question he was outplaying me, especially in the first set," Sampras said. "There was still a lot of tennis to be played, but the way he was playing, he was really tough to beat today."

"I feel like I'm pretty fortunate to be alive in this tournament," he said. "It was a strange, strange day today. One minute you're kind of holding on, the next minute he can't go on any more."

Sampras double faulted three times in the opening game

to loss serve. Philippoussis saved four break points in the sixth game and served out the set in the 10th at love, finishing with an 136 mph ace.

Sampras had to save a break point in the third game of the second set before Philippoussis quit.

"My knee gave way and I heard a big click," he said. "I was extremely worried. It just got stiffer and stiffer. I knew I had no chance."

"It's a shame I went out this way," he said. "I was hitting the ball well and enjoying the match."

Philippoussis said he was unsure of the extent of his injury. He said he would go to a hospital for an MRI exam on the knee.

Martin was leading 5-3 in the fourth set when he tumbled and appeared to injure his right knee. From then on, he limped noticeably and grimaced in pain.
But Martin earned three set points at 5-4 against Rafter's serve but couldn't convert. Martin then went up 3-1 in the tiebreak, but Rafter won six straight to clinch the match.

Pioline injured his right knee as his legs buckled underneath him while hitting a backhand volley in the sixth game of the second set.

The Frenchman received treatment from Spreen during changeovers throughout the final two sets. With his movement severely restricted, he tried to end points quickly. Despite barely being able to run, he managed to win the third set against a clearly frustrated Henman.

But Henman took firm control in the fourth set, breaking in the fourth game, and serving out the match at love, finishing with his 19th ace.

Henman, bidding to become the first Briton to win the men's title since Fred Perry in 1936, lost to Sampras in last year's semifinals.

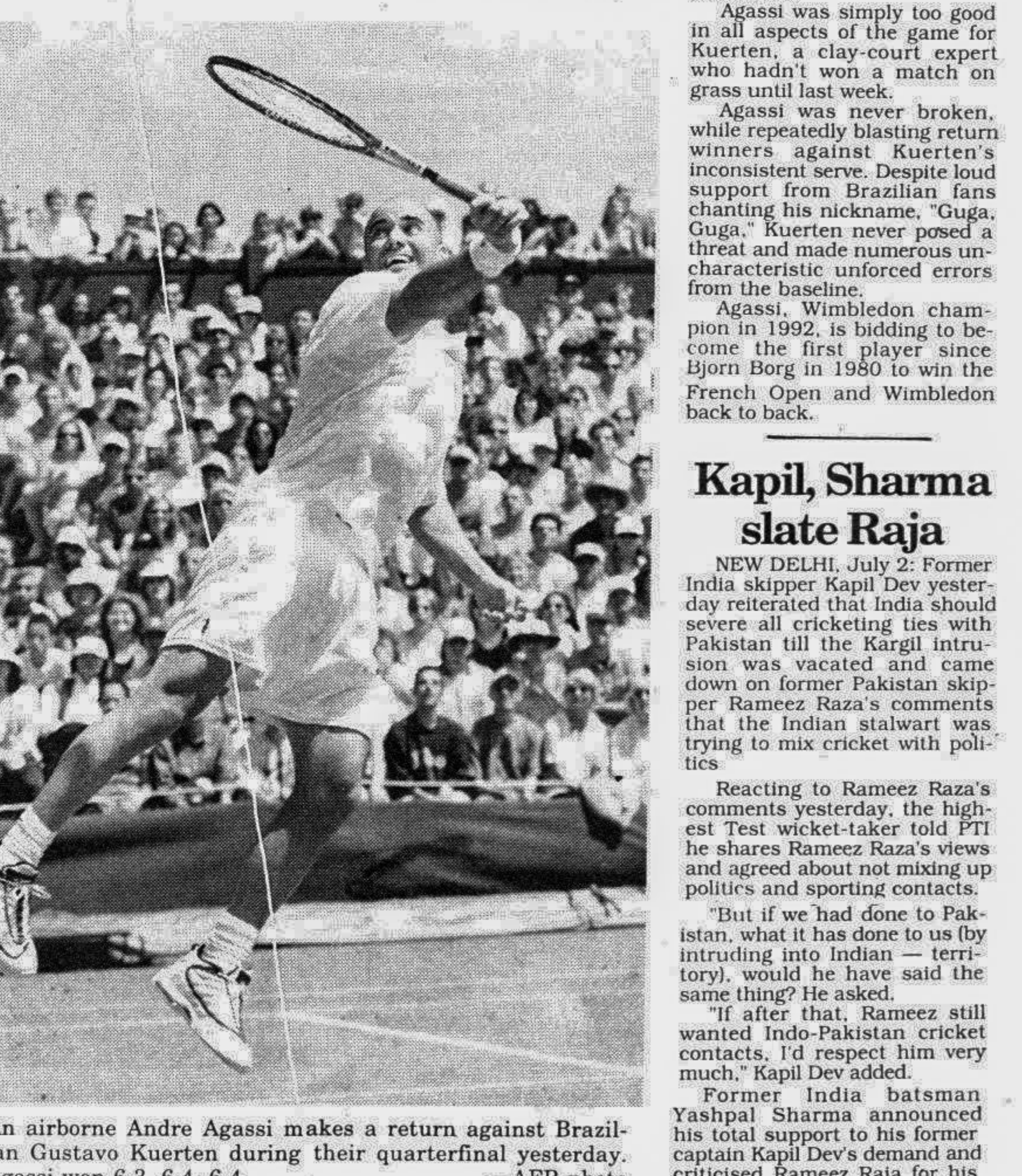
Agassi was simply too good in all aspects of the game for Kuerten, a clay-court expert who hadn't won a match on grass until last week.

Agassi was never broken, while repeatedly blasting return winners against Kuerten's inconsistent serve. Despite loud support from Brazilian fans chanting his nickname, "Guga, Guga," Kuerten never posed a threat and made numerous uncharacteristic unforced errors from the baseline.

Agassi, Wimbledon champion in 1992, is bidding to become the first player since Bjorn Borg in 1980 to win the French Open and Wimbledon back to back.

Kapil, Sharma slate Raja

NEW DELHI, July 2: Former India skipper Kapil Dev yesterday reiterated that India should sever all cricketing ties with Pakistan till the Kargil intrusion was vacated and came down on former Pakistan skipper Rameez Raza's comments that the Indian stalwart was trying to mix cricket with politics.
Reacting to Rameez Raza's comments yesterday, the highest Test wicket-taker told PTI he shares Rameez Raza's views and agreed about not mixing up politics and sporting contacts.
"But if we had done to Pakistan, what it has done to us (by intruding into Indian territory), would he have said the same thing? He asked.
"If after that, Rameez still wanted Indo-Pakistan cricket contacts, I'd respect him very much," Kapil Dev added.
Former India batsman Yashpal Sharma announced his total support to his former captain Kapil Dev's demand and criticised Rameez Raja for his reaction.



An airborne Andre Agassi makes a return against Brazilian Gustavo Kuerten during their quarterfinal yesterday. Agassi won 6-3, 6-4, 6-4. —AFP photo