

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
Competition-117

Tick the correct answers  
Post to the Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
July 2, '99 and draw shortly  
afterwards

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

Name .....

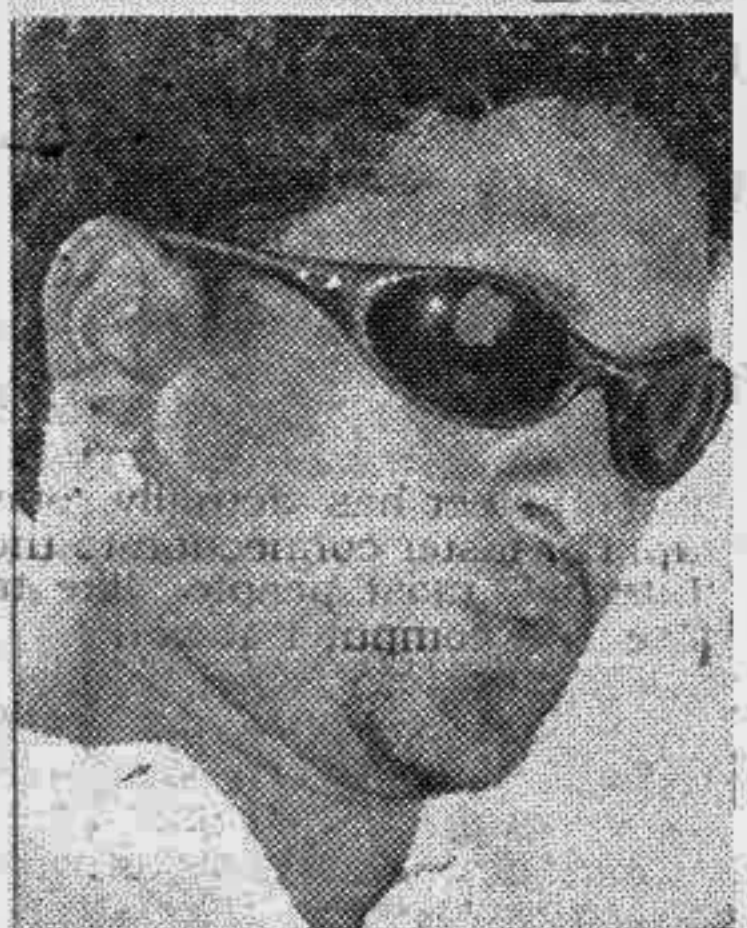
Class ..... Roll No. ....

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## SPORTS TALK



### Sachin Tendulkar

(Indian cricket star)

"I would like to be a player and contribute to the team's success."

When he was asked on captaincy.

Schools h'ball

### Viqarunnissa's 9th in a row

Viqarunnissa Noon School and College clinched the Bata schools handball title for the ninth consecutive time defeating Scastolica by 16-7 at Dhanmondi Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex yesterday, reports UNB.

Diana of Viqarunnissa was adjudged as the best player and Agrani Girls High has been named as the most disciplined team of the tournament.

Deputy Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Advocate Mohammad Abdul Hamid was the chief guest in the day's final and distributed prizes.

Narayanangir Adrasha Girls' High placed third in the tourney beating BAF Shaheen School and College by 5-0 in a place deciding match.

### Nat'l junior athletics

### BKSP clinch top spot

Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) clinched the top spot of the Milk Vita 17th national junior athletics championship that concluded yesterday at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, reports UNB.

BKSP secured 18 gold, 17 silver and two bronze medals while Rajshahi Education Board finished distant second with six gold, four silver and five bronze medals.

State Minister for Youth and Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader was the chief guest at the closing function of the two-day meet. He also distributed prizes.

A total of 225 promising athletes including 60 girls representing 24 teams from all over the country, took part in the meet.

### MEDALS TABLE

Team	G	S	B
BKSP	18	17	2
Rajshahi Board	6	4	5
Khulna DSA	2	3	3
Khulna Division	2	1	1
Noakhali DSA	1	2	4
Barisal DSA	1	2	2
Jessore DSA	1	2	2
Munshiganj DSA	1	0	6
Natore DSA	1	0	2
Kishoreganj DSA	1	0	1

## AKC falter at Fakirerpool fort

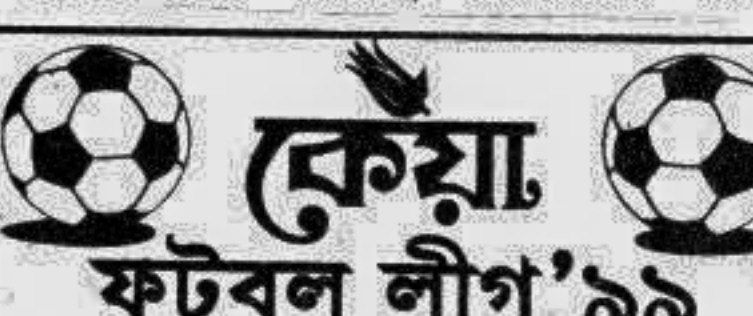
Sports Reporter

Abahani Krira Chakra faltered again at the nascent stage of the Keya Premier football league when the title-aspirants settled for a goalless draw with Fakirerpool Youngmen's Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The Federation Cup winners, who started off the league on the wrong foot with a one-all draw against Arambagh, suffered the second blow in three games after an impressive 3-1 win over Rahmatganj on Tuesday.

It was a spectator's plight to watch the giants play against Fakirerpool, the weakest lot among the 12-team Premier League, and for a few thousands

consecutive defeats, including a 4-0 thrashing by Brothers Union in their previous match. The mediocre outfit walked onto the heavy outfield to



snatch a point from their more colourful opponents. Their pronounced intention was quite evident when they employed ten men to defend their citadel. The play did the trick as central de-

Jalal fired a powerful right-footer four minutes later but the ball kissed outside the bar much to the relief of Abahani. A constant threat for Abahani, Jalal got another golden chance to break the evening's duck in the 63rd minute. But his header on a spectacular Nazrul free-kick narrowly missed the far post.

Although Fakirerpool tried their best to enthrall the crowd generating sudden counter attacks, Abahani had hardly came up with anything to cheer their supporters. Surprisingly though, in the 90 minutes of dull and insipid



Fakirerpool goalkeeper Khairul Hasan fists the ball away when surrounded by a group of Abahani players during their Premier Division encounter yesterday. —Star photo

sky-blue supporters at the big bowl the outcome was a shocking experience.

The Dhanmondi outfit displayed an exhibition of highly erratic and equally unimaginative football to cost them two invaluable points. With this draw Abahani slipped four points behind league leaders Muktiyoddh and Farashganj, who have recorded three consecutive wins so far.

The latest debacle of Abahani left their Sri Lankan coach Pakeer Ali not only to readjust his strategy with an injury-plagued side, but also to wait with his fingers crossed for an early return of manager Monem Munna, who is now in Ghana in search of foreign players.

In contrast to Abahani Fakirerpool however had every reason to celebrate their first point in the league after two

fender Ibram and his men fended off the persistent yet not-penetrating Abahani attacks.

On the other hand, Jalal, their lone man in the up-front, tested the Abahani defence time and again with his brilliant running, wonderful sway and sharp shooting. With Jalal playing like a spring chicken Fakirerpool almost got a lead in the 20th minute. Latching on to a long ball, the stocky Fakirerpool striker got rid of Sohail Raza before releasing a nice square pass to Amin. But Amin's scorching grounder was parried off by Abahani's custodian Aminul.

Amin, however, had had another try at an empty net after he got the ball following a faulty clearance from Abahani defence. But Amin even failed to shoot the ball with Aminul beaten fair and square.

encounter, the sky-blues came close to scoring only once in the 68th minute when Arman floated a nice ball deep into the opponent box. But Zakir, who scored a hat-trick in the previous match, failed to head the ball home from close.

Pakeer Ali made a change in the second half to give more bite into the attack, but that was not enough to help penetrate the water-tight Fakirerpool defence.

### TEAMS

Abahani KC: Aminul, Partho, Sohail Reza, Kingshuk, Dulal, Mintu, Arman, Iqbal, Sentu, Zakir and Daboo (Ranjana).

Fakirerpool YMC: Khairul, Ibrahim, Nazrul, Jahangir, Anupam, Tofazzal, Nasir, Delwar, Amin (Jalal jr), Enamul (Arman) (Sohaghi) and Jalal. Referee: Sheikh Badruddin.

## Tudor's triumphal 99

LONDON, July 3 (Internet report): Alex Tudor fell one run short of a breathtaking maiden Test century today as England raced to an emphatic seven-wicket victory over New Zealand in the first Cornhill Test at Edgbaston.

The Surrey fast bowler finished unbeaten on 99 - the highest Test score ever by an England nightwatchman - to help his side reach their victory target of 211 for three in just 43.4 overs.

Resuming on three for one chasing a potentially-difficult victory target of 208, 21-year-old Tudor responded to the challenge by taking the attack to New Zealand and hammered 21 boundaries in his 119-ball innings.

He shared a 73-run stand with Mark Butcher off just 102 balls and added 98 in 19 overs with captain Nasser Hussain to make the result a formality on a pitch where 21 wickets fell yesterday.

England made a positive start with opener Mark Butcher pulling Simon Doull to the boundary for the first runs of the day in the opening over. Left-hander Butcher was careful to shield his Surrey team-mate from the strike in the early stages, concerned the excessive swing and seam could prove too difficult for the young nightwatchman.

He need not have worried; however, as Tudor capitalised on some short New Zealand bowling which enabled the pair to reach their 50 partnership off just 53 deliveries.

They had added 73 off 102 balls when Butcher was dismissed for 33 by Dion Nash, who seamed the ball back into the left-hander and wicket-keeper Adam Parore accepted the inside edge.

At 76 for two, it was a potentially vital stage but Tudor continued with his aggressive innings, a lead followed by Hussain who blazed his way to quickfire 44 and put England firmly on course for victory. By lunch, England had hammered 124 runs off just 28.5 overs, including 23 boundaries - an indication just how much conditions had improved for batting from the dramatic

events of yesterday when 33 were hit all day.

Hussain, the first England captain to begin his reign with a victory since Bob Willis, failed to celebrate the victory at the crease when he was bowled playing across the line to Geoff Allott just seven overs before the finish.

But Graham Thorpe arrived at the crease and helped England to victory, helping Tudor eclipse Harold Larwood's 98 as the highest score by an England nightwatchman at Sydney in 1932-33.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between England and New Zealand at Edgbaston on Saturday:

**NEW ZEALAND:** First innings 226 (A Parore 73; P Tufnell 3-22).

**ENGLAND:** First innings 126 (D. Nash 3-17; C Cairns 3-35).

**NEW ZEALAND:** Second innings 107 (A. Caddick 5-32).

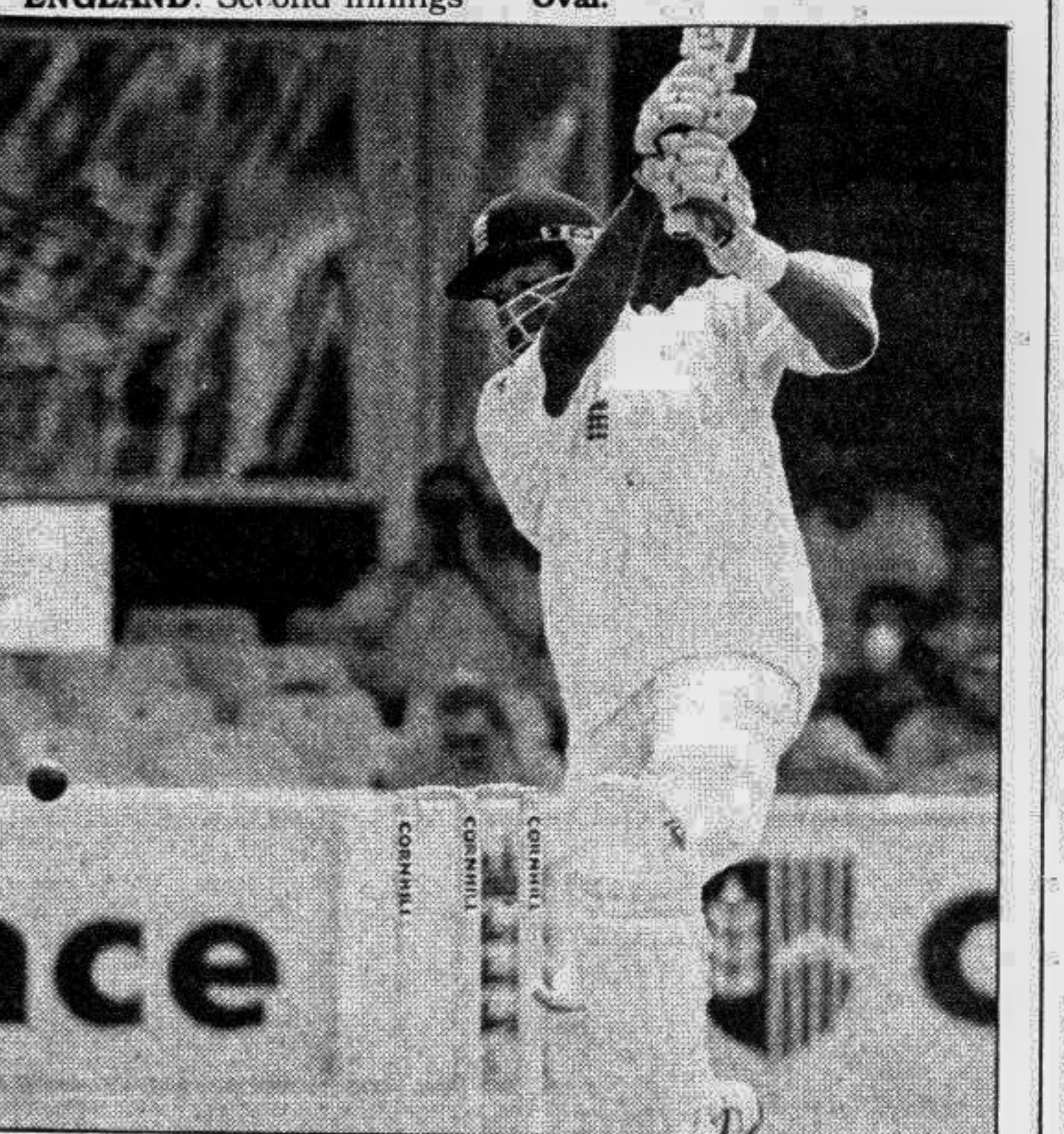
**ENGLAND:** Second innings

Butcher c Parore b Nash	33
Stewart b Allott	0
Tudor not out	99
Hussain b Allott	44
Thorpe not out	21
Extras: (b 7, lb 2, nb 5)	14
Total: (for three wickets)	211
Fall of wickets: 1-3; 2-76; 3-174	

Did not bat: Mark Ramprakash, Aftab Habib, Chris Read, Andy Caddick, Phil Tufnell, Alan Mullally.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Allott	15	0	41	2
Doull	7	0	48	0
Vettori	6	1	22	0
Nash	7	0	29	1
Cairns	4	0	18	0
Astle	1	1	0	0
McMillan	3.4	0	14	0

**Man-of-the-match:** Alex Tudor. **Second Test:** July 22-26, Lord's. **Third Test:** August 5-9, Old Trafford. **Fourth Test:** August 19-23, The Oval.



Alex Tudor, the man-of-the-match, belts the ball on his way to a maiden half century against New Zealand yesterday. He fell one run short of what would have been a well deserved hundred. —AFP photo

## Cricketers off to Singapore

A 14-member Bangladesh cricket team, led by Fahim Muntasir Sumit, left for Singapore yesterday to defend the title of the Asia Youth Cup cricket tournament, reports BSS.

The tournament begins in Singapore on July 5 with defending champions Bangladesh taking on Hong Kong in the opening encounter.

Eight teams, split into two groups, are taking part in the round robin league tournament. Bangladesh have been grouped with Hong Kong, Malaysia and the United Arab Emirates while the other group comprises Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Nepal and Singapore. After opening encounter with Hong Kong, Bangladesh will take on Malaysia on July 6 and play the last group match against the United Arab Emirates on July 7.

The two semifinals will take place on July 9 and the final on July 11.

### SQUAD

Fahim Muntasir Sumit (captain), Imran Ahmed (vice captain), Nahidul Huq Shaon, Hannan Sarkar, Rafiq Saleh, Mazharul Huq Mridul, Golam Mortuza (wk), Mosaddek Hossain Rubel, Bikash Ranjan Das, Imran Rahman, Lalul, Sadik Hasan, Tariqul Hasan Tushar and Mohammad Selim. Kutubuddin Akshir (manager) and Abdul Hadi (coach).

## Nat'l hockey final today

Holders Dhaka and Bangladesh Army reached the final of the BRTC 21st national championship at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

The final is today at 3:30 pm. In the first match, Army came from behind beat Faridpur 3-1. The match was locked at 1-1 in the first half.

Yousuf put Faridpur ahead in the 7th minute by a field goal while Rafiqul Islam of Army levelled in the 26th minute from a penalty corner.

Razuddin scored two field goals in the 48th and 69th minutes to guide army into the final.

Defending champions and star studded Dhaka outplayed Bangladesh Air Force 6-2 after dominating the first half 2-1.

National striker Rafiqul Islam Kamal and Mohammad Sadek struck two goals each while Mohammad Hasan and Khawia Gudek netted on goal each for the winners. Azam netted both goals for the Air Force.

The two losing semifinalists meet in the third-place deciding the match in the morning.

### Special Games

### Bangladeshis brilliant

Bangladeshis athletes displayed a glorious performance in the Special Olympic Games, held in the picturesque US twin city Raleigh-Durham, in North Carolina, reports BSS.

Bangladesh has so far earned 17 medals - nine gold, five silver and three bronze.

All the medals, except one gold in badminton, were secured in different events of athletics. The winners are: Sharmin Lipi (gold in 25m dash), Shan-jida Lithy (gold in 25m dash), Abv. Ashraf (gold in 100m dash), Syed G. Gause (gold in 100m walk), Zakia Sultana (gold in st long jump), Rebeka Sultana (gold in soft ball-5r), Wasir Rahman (gold in 50m dash), Shahriar P Sumon (gold in soft ball-jr), Manirul Islam (silver in 400m walk), Amir Hossain (silver in 400m dash), Kazi Shariful Hasan (silver in 100m dash), Rebeka Sultana (silver in st long jump), Sharmin Lipi (silver in soft ball-jr), Manirul Islam (bronze in 100m walk), Amir Hossain (bronze in 800m dash), Syed G Gause (bronze in 400m walk).

Masuma Begum (gold in badminton)

### BFF officials to attend FIFA congress

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) general secretary Harunur Rashid, MP and Joint Secretary Badal Roy leave for Los Angeles, USA on July 6 to attend the congress of International Football Federation (FIFA), reports BSS.

The FIFA committee meetings and congress will be held from July 7 to 9.

Besides FIFA congress, they will also attend a meeting of the Asian Football Confederation on July 8.

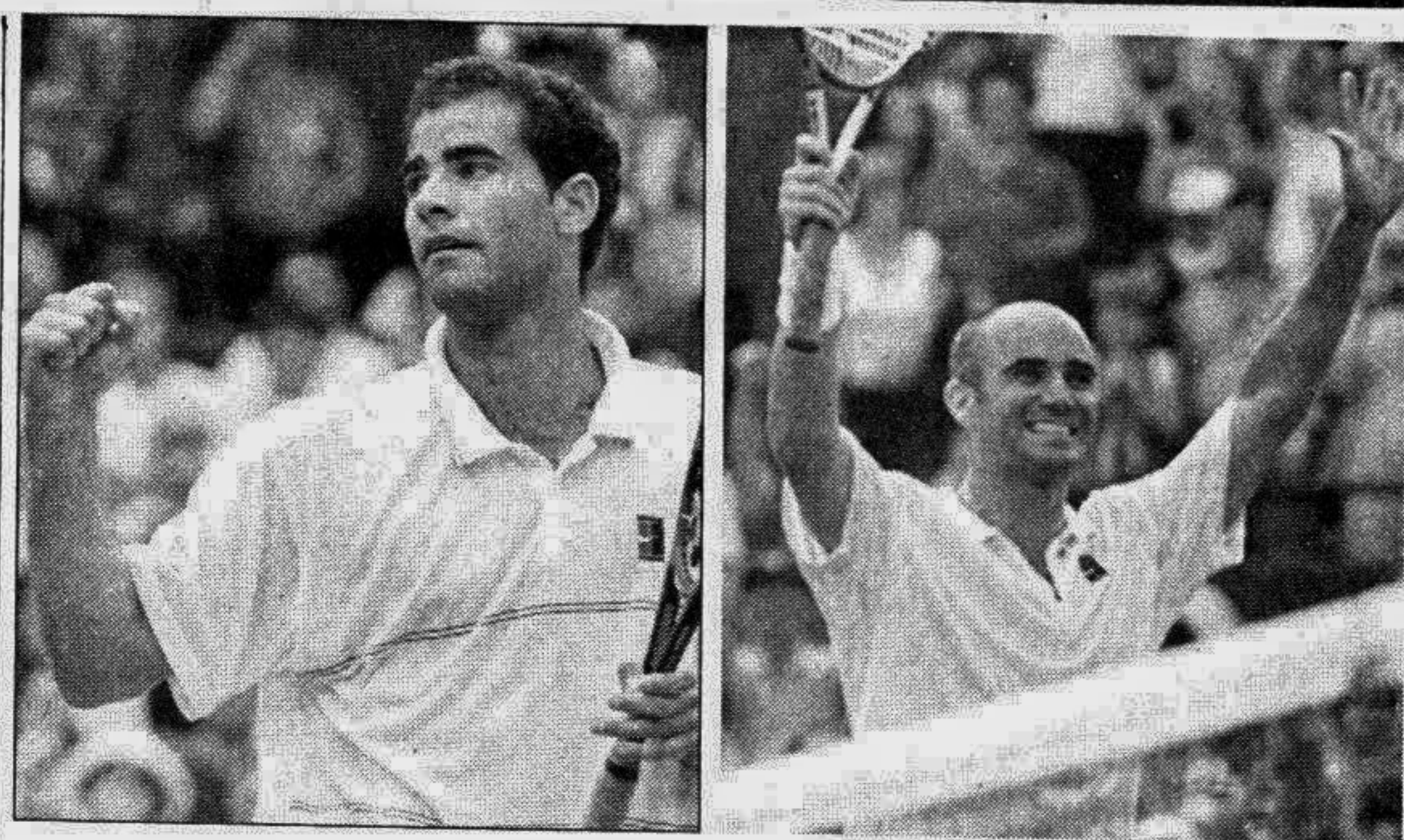
BFF's another joint secretary Sirajul Islam will go to Los Angeles on July 5 to attend a seminar on "development of women's football".

The BFF officials will witness the final women's World Cup before returning on July 11.

### Ctg h'ball

CHITTAGONG, July 3: Agrabad Pioneers won the championship in the Mahanagari Maruti-Bridgestone handball competition beating Mohammedan Blues 24-21 in the final at the Laldighi ground here today, reports BSS.

Shantu of Mohammedan was adjudged the best-player-of-the-competition.



A combo of AFP photos of defending Wimbledon champion Pete Sampras (L) and Andre Agassi who will contest the all-American men's singles' final today.

## The 'Fourth of July' final

LONDON, July 3: Pete Sampras took another step towards matching Roy Emerson's all-time Grand Slam haul of 12 when he reached the men's singles final at Wimbledon by beating British sixth seed Tim Henman 3-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 on Saturday, reports AFP.

The American, who is going for his sixth Wimbledon title in seven years - itself an Open era record -- faces compatriot Andre Agassi in the final on Sunday.

Earlier, the fourth seed Agassi reached the final by beating second-seeded Australian Pat Rafter 7-5, 7-6, 6-2 in the semifinals.

"It wasn't easy," said the 27-year-old Sampras. "I dug myself into a hole. It took me a while to settle out there as I haven't played much all week."

Now he cannot wait for his Independence Day showdown with Agassi, whom he has played 23 times, winning 13. "I'm playing the best returner of serve of all time. It's gonna be an unbelievable atmosphere. I'm sure," said the 27-year-old.

"There's a history between us, we've been through a lot together."

Henman's defeat stunned Centre Court who had been hoping to see him become the first British finalist in the men's singles since Henry Austin in 1938.

But the 24-year-old, who had

### UPDATE

lost his previous five encounters against Sampras, once again found himself unable to escape the grip of the American's serve and volley game.

Sampras, who also beat Henman in last year's semifinal, had lost his first set of the tournament in his quarterfinal against Mark Philippoussis before the Australian withdrew injured.

The American served three double faults in his opening service game then and amazingly did exactly the same in the opening game against Henman to lose his serve.

The Briton broke again for 3-1 after losing his own serve and it proved enough to seal the first set, which the 24-year-old

did when Sampras put a forehand out.

The second went with serve until at 4-5 when Henman chose the worst possible time to produce his seventh double-fault to hand Sampras the set.

The Centre Court gasped and Henman lost serve again at the start of the third set to go 2-0 down and suddenly it was a very different match as Sampras found his groove.

The American took the set 6-3 to move ahead and by now his serve and volley game was leaving Henman and the partisan crowd distinctly subdued.

Sampras once again produced the vital break at the right time when he forced an error out of Henman at 4-4 and served out for the match without difficulty.

"It's disappointing," said Henman, who also lost to Sampras in the Queen's Club final last month.

"I played okay but I lost to the better player. I made the best possible start and I was getting on his serve. It was a question of making a second push in the second set but I couldn't do it today."

It wasn't to be.

## Veterans thwart teens

LONDON, July 3: Steffi Graf has the chance of an eighth Wimbledon singles crown when she faces American Lindsay Davenport in the final on Sunday after both players emerged victorious as expected from Saturday's semifinals, reports AFP.

Second seed Graf, whose last Wimbledon title came in 1996, recovered from losing the first set against powerful Croatian teenager Mirjana Lucic 6-7, 6-4, 6-3 on Court One.

Earlier on Centre Court third seed Davenport put off Alexander Stevenson to the sword 6-1, 6-1 to seal her first Wimbledon final appearance and guarantee herself the number one ranking next week.

Neither 17-year-old Lucic nor Graf seemed able to hold serve at the start of their semifinal on Court One.

The 30-year-old German looked to have upped her game at just the right time to break for 5-4 against Lucic, who at 134 was the lowest-ranked player in the Open era to reach a Grand Slam semifinal.

But Graf, sporting a strapping on her left thigh, found herself on the end of some vicious Lucic forehands and the Croatian achieved the eighth break of serve to level at 5-5.

Lucic roared through it 7/3, her crushing forehand reminiscent of Graf in a younger day.

The second set went with serve until at 5-4 and with Lucic serving Graf produced a killer break to take the second set as

her Croatian opponent missed a simple volley.

Lucic, making her first Grand Slam singles semifinal appearance, was in unknown territory and could do nothing as Graf secured a 5-2 lead and took victory when Lucic netted a return on her first match point.

"You can't ask for much more," said Graf, who took her 22nd Grand Slam singles title by winning the French Open last month. "Winning the French and being in the final again, it's been an incredible few weeks."

"I'm more than amazed and surprised."

Lucic, who has battled back from a string of personal problems, said: "She played great, she fought better than me but in the third set I lost it a little bit."

US Open champion Davenport's 48-minute win means she is also guaranteed to replace Martina Hingis as new world number one when the rankings are published on Monday.

"To get to the Wimbledon final means so much to me," said Davenport. "Especially as I went into the tournament relatively overlooked."

"As for getting the number one ranking, I knew nothing about it until I was back in the training room and I thought 'Oh my gosh!'."

"But getting to the Wimbledon final far outshines it, I couldn't be happier. This is a surface I used to hate."

Stevenson, the first qualifier to reach the women's semifinals here, was making her Centre Court debut and her nerves

showed as she lost the first 11 points to Davenport.

She was never in contention as her serve, which had yielded 55 aces going into the match, failed her and Davenport breezed to victory, sealing her final place on her first match point when her opponent put another forehand over the baseline.

"My serve wasn't my serve today but it's not gonna happen again," said Stevenson. "I'm gonna go out and practise. But Lindsay played very well, she showed she is number one."

### Sampras to lose No.1 ranking

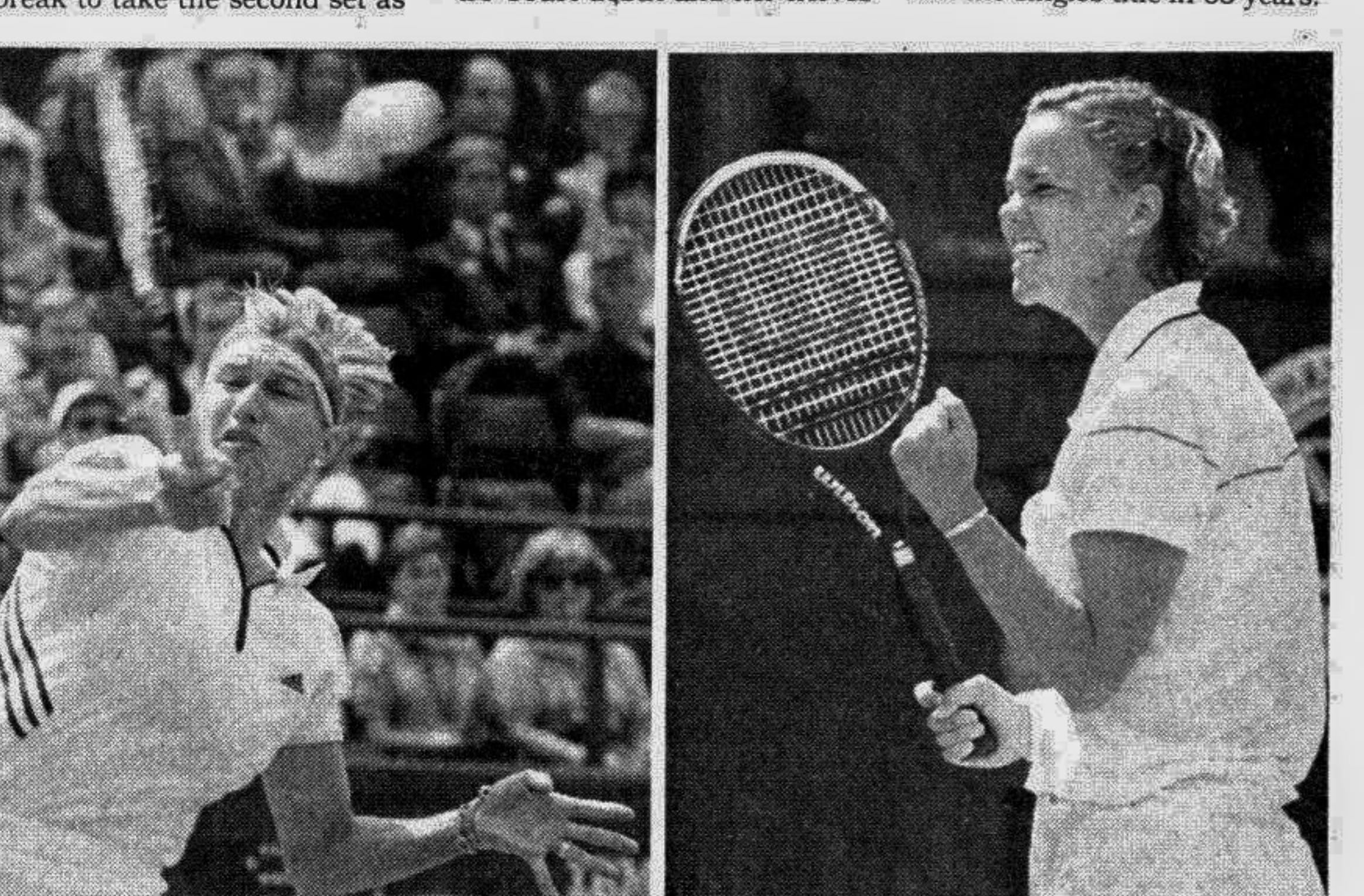
LONDON, July 3: Top seed Pete Sampras will lose his number one ranking even if he wins Wimbledon for the sixth time in seven years this weekend, reports AFP.

The ATP rankings system compares results over the previous 12 months and whoever wins the Wimbledon men's semifinal between American Andre Agassi and Pat Rafter of Australia will be the new number one.

Sampras will drop to number five in the rankings if he loses to Britain's Tim Henman in his semifinal.

The American at least had the satisfaction this week of equalling Czech player Ivan Lendl's record of 270 weeks in total at number one.

Henman would jump to world number three if he becomes the first British male to win the singles title in 63 years.



An AFP combined photo of German tennis legend Steffi Graf (L) and American Lindsay Davenport who face each other in the Wimbledon's ladies' final today.