#### Boghossian Parma's hero

MILAN, Aug 22: An injury time winner from Frenchman Alain Boghossian gave Parma a dramatic 2-1 win over AC Milan in the Italian Super Cup at the San Siro on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Parma came from behind to remind Glasgow Rangers of the strength of opposition they face in the second leg of their European Champions League qualifier in Parma in midweek.

The game, the traditional curtain-raiser to the new Italian season, was a highly competitive encounter with both sides showing the qualities which brought them honours last term and make them among the title favourites again this season.

Champions Milan, playing with a three-pronged attack of Oliver Bierhoff, George Weah and Andriy Shevchenko, enjoyed the better of the opening exchanges.

In the ninth minute Shevchenko broke down the right and found Bierhoff with a neat pass but the German's firm shot was blocked by Parma goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon.

Seven minutes later Bierhoff had another excellent change but he stumbled in front of goal, failing to make the most of an excellent cross from Argentine Andres Guglielminpetro. Parma quickly responded

and striker Marco Di Vaio, signed from Salernitana in the close season, came close with a diving header which Milan goalkeeper Sebastiano Rossi did well to keep out.

Rossi was stretched again in the 35th minute as he tipped over a dangerously looping volley from Hernan Crespo.

Parma went close twice before the break but it was Milan who opened the scoring in the 54th minute. Massimo Ambrosini's left wing cross was headed unselfishly back across the face of goal by Bierhoff and Guglielminpetro found the target from close range.

Parma continued to cause Milan problems and it was no surprise when they drew level in the 66th minute when Paolo Vanoli's superb cross from the left was met by Crespo and the Argentine's firm header flew past Rossi.

Neither side looked content to settle for a draw and a penalty shootout and as Milan pushed forward Bierhoff's efforts were again foiled when he headed straight at Buffon after another excellent cross from Ambrosini.

But it was Parma who were to claim the trophy in a dramatic finale.

After Rossi had conceded a needless corner, Boghossian headed against the post and then shepherded the ball as it rolled agonisingly across the line and into the far corner of the net to give Parma a moraleboosting win.

#### TRACK NOTES

SEVILLE, Aug 22 (AP): Ato Boldon is rarely at a loss for words, so he's found the perfect way to fill his free time this week: TV commentary.

Boldon isn't defending his 200-metre title at the World Championships because of a hamstring injury, so he prepared for his side job Saturday by scouting the 100-metre qualifying heats from the Olympic Stadium press stands and handicapping the field.

He likes record-holder Maurice Greene's chances in the dash. No surprise there. But Boldon, whose mouth

can run as fast as his legs, isn't sure his Los Angeles training partner can pull off a rare 100-200 sprint double. Boldon working for broad-

caster Eurosport at the championships, said he's troubled by the mounting number of doping cases shadowing the championships. Track and field has been

shaken in recent weeks by positive tests from such big-name athletes as Javier Sotomayor, Merlene Ottey and Linford Christie. Boldon said doping exams

using blood samples, which the IOC said Friday will at least be tested at the Sydney Olympics, should be instituted immediately.

#### **GREENE WITH ENVY**

South African sprinter Bradley Agnew had the best view in the house for Greene's opening heat victory: the adjacent lane.

Greene took it easy and came home in 10.30 seconds, the 21st-best time of the 10 heats. but enough to impress Agnew "It was an amazing experi-

ence," Agnew said. "In June, I was watching him in awe as he broke the world record, ther a few weeks later there he is, in the lane next to me.

"He pulled me for the first five meters, then put on the after-burners and accelerated away."

Agnew finished fifth in 10.51, but squeezed into the second round because his time was one of the 10 fastest among runners who did not place in the top three in their heats.

#### INTO THE FIRE

Spaniards call the southern city of Seville the "frying pan" for its blazing summers. Athletes here started to see why Saturday, as temperatures reached into the 30s Celsius (90s F).

"It's getting hot. I hope it's not going to get worse," said French sprint star Christine Arron, who won her opening

heat in the 100. "It's burning up already," said Marion Jones, who opened her bid for four gold medals by competing in qualifying for the

long jump and the dash. She reached Monday's long jump final by registering 6.81 meters (22 feet, 4 1-4 inches) on her second effort.



Parma's Dino Baggio (L) and Andrei Shevchenco of AC Milan fight for possession during the Italian Super Cup encounter in Milan on August 21. The visitors won the match 1-0. -AFP photo

### Malesani hopes for the best



MILAN, Aug 22: Coach Alberto Malesani believes that Parma could miraculously knock Glasgow Ran-

gers out of the Champions League this week after beating AC Milan in the Italian Super Cup, reports AFP

Parma came from behind to win 2-1 on Saturday night, with Hernan Crespo cancelling out Andres Guglielminpietro's strike for Milan and Frenchman Alain Boghossian nodding home an injury-time winner.

The victory brought Parma's tally to three trophies in as many months after winning the Italian and UEFA Cups at the tail-end of last season.

But now Parma have a mountain to climb against Rangers on Wednesday as they try to overturn a 2-0 first-leg defeat and reach the lucrative group phase of Europe's main club competition.

"Now we have to perform a miracle, but I believe we can do it," Malesani said. "I picked the team against Milan with the Champions League in mind. (Paolo) Vanoli came on in the second half and provided the assist for Crespo. But on Wednesday, he'll be in the starting line-up.

Malesani is also calling for a packed house and plenty of vocal support when then two sides meet at the Tardini stadium.

"I'm asking for help from the city as a whole," he said. "The fans have to show that they are with us. And we have to try and

SEVILLA'99

SEVILLE, Spain, Aug 22:

Sprint Queen Marion Jones and

her husband CJ Hunter turned

the opening day of the World

Athletics Championships into

a family affair Saturday, re-

planned family golds by win-

ning his first ever shot put title

with his last throw of the com-

Hunter got the first of five

His wife, looking for a record

four golds at the Champi-

onships, looked set for the

100m title when she ran the

fastest 100m of the season de-

spite having false started and

The 23-year-old clocked

Now the former North Car-

olina basketball star is only

two races away from the first of

the gold medals she has set her

woke up at 6.30, ran a heat in

the morning and qualified for

the long jump final!" said

Jones, aiming for the 100m,

200m, long jump and relay ti-

weather conditions and the

ing to break the world record

but I'm feeling good," she added.

track are perfect.

silver medal.

happier.

"It has been a good day. The

"I'm not going to say I'm go-

But husband CJ was even

The 30-year-old, whose first

name is Cottrell but prefers to

be known as CJ, won the title in

the last round depriving Ger-

man Sven Oliver Buder of the

gold and leaving the 33-year-

old with a second successive

Bagach, who was stripped of the

title two years ago after testing

positive for the stimulant

pass Buder who was on 21.42.

ephedrine, took bronze.

Bagach heaved 21.26m.

Ukrainian Aleksandr

Hunter threw 21.79m to go

"How can you plan a win like

that. I knew I had it all to do

and on the last put and every-

thing came right for me. I gave

it everything I had," he said.

"Thats not bad considering I

then getting a slow start.

ports AFP.

petition.

10.76 sec.

repeat the same great night that we have had here.

"We lost in Scotland because we didn't have either of our first-choice strikers available. Any team would have suffered under those conditions.

'You can't expect Inter Milan to do as well as expected if Ronaldo and (Christian) Vieri aren't playing." Though Crespo is ready for

battle, his new 35-million dollar strike partner Marcio Amoroso of Brazil is still not back from injury. And Malesani is waiting for

a fitness test before deciding on a replacement for key central defender Fabio Cannavaro, who was sent off in the first-leg de-Gigi Sartor has missed

and if he fails to recover in time, Cannavaro's slot will go to Stefano Torrisi. But Malesani was doggedly optimistic after his side's stir-

training with a thigh injury

ring rally against the Italian champions. "This is a truly great start to

the season," he said "And this is a great team who deserved to win, even though it wouldn't have been a scandal if we'd drawn. I believe in this group of players and I think this win could be a good omen for the future.

For the losers on Saturday night, there was bitter disappointment and a rare row over tactics between Milan president Silvio Berlusconi and his coach

Alberto Zaccheroni. 'Zac' had to make do without

Russian Ilya grabs first gold

do after my final throw but all I

know is that this medal means

Championships went to Russi-

a's Ilya Markov, who defied the

searing Spanish heat to win the

was second with Mexico's

Daniel Garcia taking the

Jefferson Perez of Ecuador

The first thing Markov did

after crossing the line was to

grab a telephone to call his wife.

told her I had got her a special

present - a gold medal."

laughed Markov. "I can hear her

The Russian shrugged off the

"The heat? No problem at

all. I love the heat," he said with

"It is my wife's birthday so I

everything to me," he added.

20km walk.

crying with joy.

sweltering conditions.

bronze.

"I didn't really know what to

But the first gold of the

playmaker Zvonimir Boban, on international duty as captain of Croatia, and instead used a three-man attack - Oliver Bierhoff. George Weah and newcomer Andriy Shevchenko.

But he was told in no uncertain terms not to continue with the experiment, particularly after the sparkling performance of Parma's new Argentinian playmaker Ariel Ortega. 'It's incredible how badly we

missed having someone behind the strikers," Berlusconi said. There's not much we can do. With these three men on the pitch, you just can't have a three-man attack.

"There's nothing wrong with the theory, but it just doesn't work with the players we have here. Look at Parma and how good Ortega was at making things happen. Every time he got the ball, he was dangerous."

Zaccheroni said: "Berlusconi is the president of the club and is free to say what he likes. I am working towards the new league season ... and I say you have to judge a team when they are all fully fit."

The looming problem for Milan is that Boban's return doesn't look imminent after he was stretchered off with a pulled abdominal muscle in Croatia's 2-1 Euro 2000 qualifier win over Malta on Satur-

He is likely to miss Milan's first match of the season next weekend, plus Croatia's Euro qualifier with the Republic of Ireland on September 4.

But it was no joke for Perez.

ing course were not to my lik-

ing. Fifteen kilometres was the

crucial point in my race. I could

only think about finishing the

Garcia's third place helped

This performance confirms

"There was nothing special

race as I was already so tired.

him organise his travel ar-

that I will go to Sydney," he

in my race today but there

weren't any major problems

equalled Australian Emma

George's world record of 4.60m

to win the women's pole vault -

the first time the event has been

in the Championships.

America's Stacy Dragila

rangements for next year.

he explained.

either," he added.

USA's Stacy Dragila in action in the women's pole vault

final at the World Athletics Championships in Seville,

Spain on August 21.

"The weather and the walk-

# Seles, Hingis showdown

TORONTO, Canada, Aug 22: Monica Seles, a fifth straight du Maurier Open title in her sights. will battle Martina Hingis in today's final after both posted two victories Saturday in the rain-disrupted event, reports

Hingis, the world number one and top seed, defeated thirdseeded Mary Pierce of France 7-6, 6-3 in the semifinals, while Seles downed unseeded Frenchwoman Anne-Gaelle Sidot 6-3, 6-4.

Hingis survived a tense first set, recovering from an early break to force the tiebreaker.

She broke Pierce in the seventh game of the second set, the battled through seven deuces to hold her serve in the next game to put herself in position to win this 1.05 million-dollar event for the first time.

Hingis beat last year's runner-up, fifth-seeded Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, in straight sets in their quarterfinal match earlier Saturday, while Pierce finished off a 6-1 6-3 win over compatriot Sandrine Testud in a quarterfinal suspended on Friday

Seles, who defeated Austrian Barbara Schett in three sets in a postponed quarterfinal earlier in the day, started slowly against Sidot, ranked 49th in the world.

Sidot, who upset sixthseeded Amanda Coetzer in three sets in her delayed quarterfinal, earned the first break to take a 2-1 lead in the opening set, but dropped her own serve in the next game. Inexorably, Seles took advantage of Sidot's errors and the French player's struggles with her serve that resulted in seven double faults and just a 30 per cent success rate with her first serve.

#### Outsiders in final

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Aug 22: Vince Spadea had to work for almost three hours for victory while Nicolas Lapentti needed a third of that time to reach the final of the 870,000dollar ATP Tour RCA Championships Saturday, reports AFP.

Spadea raced away, but had to slow his pace to grind out a 6-3, 6-7, 7-6 semifinal win over Sebastien Grosjean of France. The world number 34 American won the struggle between unseeded players in two hours, 44 minutes. Lapentti, at 11th the only

seed left in a tournament which started with Pete Sampras, Pat Rafter and Gustavo Kuerten, spent a mere 69 minutes, whipping Jan Sièmerink of the Netherlands 6-4, 6-2, Sunday's final will be the

second meeting in as many weeks between Florida's Spadea and Lapentti from Ecuador, an Australin Open semifinalist in January "I beat Vince last week (in

Cincinnati) in the first round," Lapentti said. "But the atmosphere tomorrow will be totally different.

"I'll try to remember a few things from last week and play my game.' The 23-year-old had little

trouble in his fifth semifinal of the year. He broke the 29-yearold Siemerink in the seventh game of the first set and twice again in the second.

The Dutchman saved a match point, but then put a forehand into the net to lose. "I've been serving well all year," said Lapentti, now 41-14

this season and ranked 20th in the world. "You can see that even more on hardcourt, more than on clay. 'You can put a lot of pressure on a guy with a good serve."

Spadea's win moves him into his second career final on the ATP Tour.

The third set featured two breaks apiece before a tiebreaker. Grosjean saved two match points in the 12th game. but let unforced errors spoil his chances in the decider.

The 21-year-old Frenchman netted a forehand to give the American two match more points, then sent a service return long. Grosjean committed 70 un-

forced errors. Spadea converted on only five of 16 break points but kept his own error count to 44, backed by 25 winners.

#### Lipton Pen tennis Davenport top seed

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut, Aug 22: Steffi Graf won't be at the WTA Tour's Pilot Pen event here on Monday because she's retired. Glamour girl Anna Kournikova won't be here because she's injured.

But US Open and Wimbledon champion Lindsay Davenport will be here, putting the finishing touches to her game before travelling to Flushing Meadows and the final Grand Slam of the year, reports AFP. Davenport is backed up by Venus Williams, one of the

hottest players during this

year's American hardcourt sea1

son, while the third seed is Monica Seles, and former Wimbledon champ Jana Novotna is seeded fourth. The field also includes Australian Open finalist Amelie Mauresmo, who ousted Davenport from the year's first Grand Slam in January but later suf-

fered an injury at Roland Garros and was unable to play at Wimbledon. While Amanda Coetzer, is seeded five and will pose a danger, sixth seed Julie Halard-Decugis could be a bigger threat if she can repeat the form that took her to the Los Angeles final recently. She was also a surprise finalist in Berlin ear-

lier this year. Two more French women take up the remaining seeded positions. Nathalie Tauziat is seeded seven and Sandrine Testud eight.

-AFP photo

## Thorpe's double delight



SYDNEY, Aug 22: Australian teenager Ian Thorpe major meet. smashed the world 400-metre fre-

estyle record by almost two seconds Sunday and claimed a US 16,000 dollars Sunday's opening finals sesbonus for the first record in Sydney's Olympic pool, reports Thorpe, 16, added the record

to the world title he won 18 months ago when he below away compatriot Grant Hackett and South Africa's Ryk Neethling to bring down the mark of Australia's most famous swimmer, Kieren Perkins. Thorpe, described by Aus-

tralian head coach Don Talbot as potentially "the best swimmer of the century," started to live up to the hype with an awesome show of strength a year out from the Sydney Olympics. His 3 minutes, 41.83 seconds crushed Perkins' record of

3:43.80, set at the 1994 World

Championships in Rome.

Hackett clocked 3:46.02 while Neethling had 3:46.31. medal when he brought home

Thorpe added a second gold Australia's 4x100 relay team to a win over the United States in 3:16.08, the third fastest time in

history and the first time the US had ever lost the event at a

Canadian 400 medley swimmer Joanne Malar and the US women's 4x100 were the other gold medal winners in

"It was a pretty mean per-formance when Kieren did it and I'm just fortunate enough to have done it here," Thorpe said of his 400 record. "It was the first time I've really concentrated and swum my own race and to be able to do that in front of my home crowd was an amazing feeling.

"It was electric. I never thought I'd be able to hear the crowd but tonight I felt it and heard it."

Perkins, who was 14th of 20 starters in the heats, watched from the stands, amidst a wildly cheering crowd of 4,000. "Congratulations to lan. That's one of the best swims I've never seen," said Perkins.

Thorpe's coach, Doug Frost, said he couldn't believe the youngster's time.

"His style is incredible," said Frost. "The goals he's getting are tremendous - I thought they were impossible, but he's



Australian sensation lan Thorpe pumps his fist after creating world record in the men's 400-metre frestyle at the Pan Pacific Swimming Championships in Sydney yesterday. -AFP photo

achieved them."

Thorpe said he knew he needed to swim a world record to beat Hackett, the 200 world record holder.

"I don't believe anything is unbeatable or impossible," said Thorpe.

Thorpe became swimming's youngest ever world champion when he claimed the title in Perth last year but he had been dogged by close shaves while chasing individual longcourse records.

He was .01 seconds outside the 200 freestyle record at last year's Commonwealth Games, before Hackett surprisingly swept it away earlier this year during a relay event. After Thorpe won four golds

at the Commonwealth Games. Talbot said Thorpe's power, and size 16 feet, were a case of "genetics gone bloody crazy.' Talbot, a notoriously hard marker, was again over-

whelmed by Thorpe's efforts Sunday. "He could be the greatest swimmer we've ever had," Talbot said. "And maybe the great-

est the world has ever seen." Malar earlier won the opening event of the meet, edging Japan's World Championship bronze medalist Yasuko Tajima for gold in the 400 medley with American Cristina Teuscher taking bronze. Malar won the touch in 3:40.23 with Tajima at 3:40.56.

Malar put her victory down to good strategy after allowing Tajima to take a 3-length lead after the fly and backstroke "I'm learning even at 23 that

there's things I have to work on throughout the 400," said Malar. United States star Jenny Thompson was impressive in

qualifying fastest for Monday's final of the 100 butterfly. Thompson, who has Mary 7 Meagher's 18-year-old record of 57.93 in her sights, went 58.57 in the semifinal. Thompson then led the US to its first gold medal of the meet,

and her 19th in PanPac history. anchoring the relay team to victory over Australia and Canada. Thompson has set herself the toughest campaign of any swimmer at the PanPacs, with

four individual races and three relays, or 15 swims. Lindsay Benko, Liesl Kolbisen, Richelle Fox and Thomp-

son clocked 3:41.86. In the 25-kilometre open water swims, held in Victoria state some 800 kilometres (500 miles) away from Sydney, Australian Mark Saliba won the men's event and the United States had a 1-2 finish in the women's Bryley Bergen finished in 5 hours, 16 minutes, 5 seconds, almost seven minutes

ahead of Regan Scheiber. Saliba finished in 4:57:44, the fastest time ever recorded for the event.

Venezuela's Danny Chocron was second and American John Kenny had bronze.

## Andre, Yevgeny to fight it out



Aug 22: Australian Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Fre-

nch Open winner Andre Agassi advanced to the finals of the ATP Washington Classic and a showdown for the number two US Open seeding,

reports AFP. Russia's Kafelnikov outlasted 16th-ranked Nicolas Kiefer of Germany 6-2, 2-6, 6-3 while Agassi shrugged off an 87minute rain delay to oust fellow American Todd Martin 6-4, 6-2

in Saturday's semifinals. Sunday's winner at the 725,000-dollar hardcourt event takes world number two status and will be opposite top-rated Pete Sampras in pairings for the US Open, 1999's final Grand Slam event, which begins August 30.

Defending Washington champion Agassi seeks his fifth title here in 10 years against a player who has a 4-2 career edge on him, including a 6-1, 6-4 triumph earlier this month in a semifinal at Montreal. "I look forward to playing

him. We've both been playing very well," Agassi said. "Last time we played he was 'en fuego.' He wasn't missing a shot."

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treal," Kafelnikov said. "We bring out the best when we play each other." Agassi might already be at

hisw best. He has saved all nine

break points he has faced here. including four against Martin. "That's a great stat," Agassi said. "There are a few things going on out there and I like ev-

erything I'm seeing right now." Fourth seed Martin saved five break points in the opening game, then forced Agassi to save three in the fourth game. The

net to give Agassi a 5-4 edge. "I served well and returned well. That's a rough combination," Agassi said. "I was forcing him to serve big and getting early leads in my service games.

Martin saved three break points in the first game of the second set but surrendered the pivotal break in the third game on four points, the last a wide forehand. That's when rain hit and halted the match.

Agassi saved another break point in his first service game after the storm and broke again for a 5-2 edge. Martin snatched the ball in the air at the net to surrender the break and avoid an Agassi overhead smash.

"(It was) not wanting to get

hit by the ball, or his racket

and submission I guess." Martin

"All it takes is for him to guess right a couple of times on my serve and he puts me in a defensive position. He hits the return right at you and it's tough to return." Agassi or Kafelnikov will

match Brazil's Gustavo Kuerten as the ATP's winningest player of 1999 with 42 victories. Kafelnikov, who was rated

matches to tumble, is confident of getting past the US Open's fourth round for the first time. "If I can keep up this pace, I will be difficult to beat at the Open," Kafelnikov said. "The

a few easy matches at the beginning." His semi-final here was easy at the start. He broke three of the first four service games for the 22-year-old German to grab the first set. But Kiefer broke

important thing will be to have

Kafelnikov in games three and five to win the second set. Kafelnikov captured the deciding service break in the fourth game of the final set. After saving two earlier break opportunities. Kiefer sent two forehands into the net to give Kafelnikov a 3-1 edge.

### By Eugene Sheffer 19 Southfork surname 21 The whole 32 33 34 34 'Treasure CRYPTOQUIP

YK GVXBUS ZQQD WQZBUBDQPK

42 Dwarf-like YGWQ YQ ZQQP DXGD XBSX

XQQPF GOQ GOVX QUQYBQF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE GLIB WAG INVARIABLY REFERS TO WINTER AS THE AGE OF SHOVELRY. Today's Cryptoquip clue: Y equals M

50 Artists' The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands backers for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the (Abbr.) puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe 51 Screw up give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

#### number one for six weeks but lost six consecutive opening lone first-set break came when Martin sent a forehand into the