

Radcliffe sprints to victory

LONDON, Jan 1: Paula Radcliffe stormed to one of the finest victories of her career in the Great North Cross Country in County Durham on Saturday, reports AFP.

Lara's New Year wish

LONDON, Jan 1: Legendary West Indies batsman Brian Lara insisted on Sunday he had no thoughts of taking early retirement but admitted that his side's recent decline had left a huge scar on not only my career but on me as a person, reports AFP.

into your 30s you don't feel the same like in your early 20s. I've been suffering from a few injuries but to leave West Indies cricket at this time is not the sort of thing that I'd like to do.



BRIAN LARA

"I'm someone who believes in success, someone who believes in seeing great things happen and I'd love to see West Indies cricket come back on the top.

"If I can play a little part now before I leave I'd love to do that. So retiring is really and truly not at the forefront of my thinking."

Lara added: "I'm just 31 now and batsmen normally go into their late 30s. I'd love to play in another series against England and I can't leave my career losing against England."

Steve speaks his mind

SYDNEY, Jan 1: Australian cricket captain Steve Waugh has attacked the way other international teams play, saying they regularly employ "negative" tactics that prevent them from winning more often, reports Reuters.

Waugh cited the recent drawn matches between South Africa and Sri Lanka and New Zealand against Zimbabwe as cases where teams played to avoid defeat rather than pursuing victory.



Boxing legend Muhammad Ali (C) pressing the ball down to mark the start of the New Year celebrations at the Times Square in New York. New York mayor Rudy Giuliani is on the left while Ali's wife Lonnie on the right. —AFP photo

Hingis, Kournikova split

PERTH, Jan 1: Swiss world number one women's tennis player Martina Hingis and glamorous Russian Anna Kournikova have ended their partnership in women's doubles, Hingis confirmed here Monday, reports AFP.

Somebody else, I just want to concentrate more on the singles. Hingis has won 30 doubles titles, including eight Grand Slams, one of them - at the Australian Open two years ago - in partnership with Kournikova. Meanwhile, on Saturday the

player revealed she was working on ways to overcome the superior physical strength of some of her Amazonian rivals.

Graf's taxing defeat!

STUTTGART, Jan 1: Germany's former women's tennis world number one Steffi Graf conceded defeat at the hands of the German taxman and has agreed to pay him 13.2 million dollars in back taxes according to Saturday's edition of the tabloid Bild newspaper, reports AFP.

Graf's taxing defeat!

However, while 31-year-old Graf's lawyer Jorg Frick confirmed that she had withdrawn her complaint against the taxman he said that the figure suggested by Bild was exaggerated as his client had already paid off a large proportion of the tax arrears.

BCB starts

- From page 13
Jan 13 Rajshahi Tista v Khulna Rupsha
Jan 14 Chittagong Titans v BKSP Barisal Maroons v Metro Blues
Jan 15 Rajshahi Tista v Chittagong Titans Barisal Maroons v BKSP Dhaka Rangers v Metro Blues
Jan 16 Rajshahi Tista v Barisal Maroons Khulna Rupsha v Chittagong Titans
Jan 17 Dhaka Rangers v BKSP Rajshahi Tista v Dhaka Rangers
Jan 18 Khulna Rupsha v Barisal Maroons Metro Blues v BKSP Chittagong Titans v Barisal Maroons Rajshahi Tista v Metro Blues
Jan 19 Khulna Rupsha v Dhaka Rangers
Jan 20 Chittagong Titans v Barisal Maroons Rajshahi Tista v Metro Blues
Jan 21 Khulna Rupsha v Dhaka Rangers

GramePhone Under-17 Group A (Venue: Dhaka)

- Teams: Rajshahi Padma, Khulna Tigers, Chittagong Karnaphuli, Sylhet Surma, Dhaka Colts and Metro Greens
Date Match
Jan 10 Khulna Tigers v Dhaka Colts
Jan 11 Chittagong Karnaphuli v Sylhet Surma
Jan 12 Rajshahi Padma v Sylhet Surma Khulna Tigers v Metro Greens
Jan 13 Chittagong Karnaphuli v Dhaka Colts Rajshahi Padma v Khulna Tigers
Jan 14 Chittagong Karnaphuli v Metro Greens Sylhet Surma v Dhaka Colts
Jan 15 Rajshahi Padma v Chittagong Karnaphuli Khulna Tigers v Sylhet Surma
Jan 16 Dhaka Colts v Metro Greens
Jan 17 Rajshahi Padma v Dhaka Colts
Jan 18 Khulna Tigers v Chittagong Karnaphuli Sylhet Surma v Metro Greens

Group B (Venue: Mymensingh)

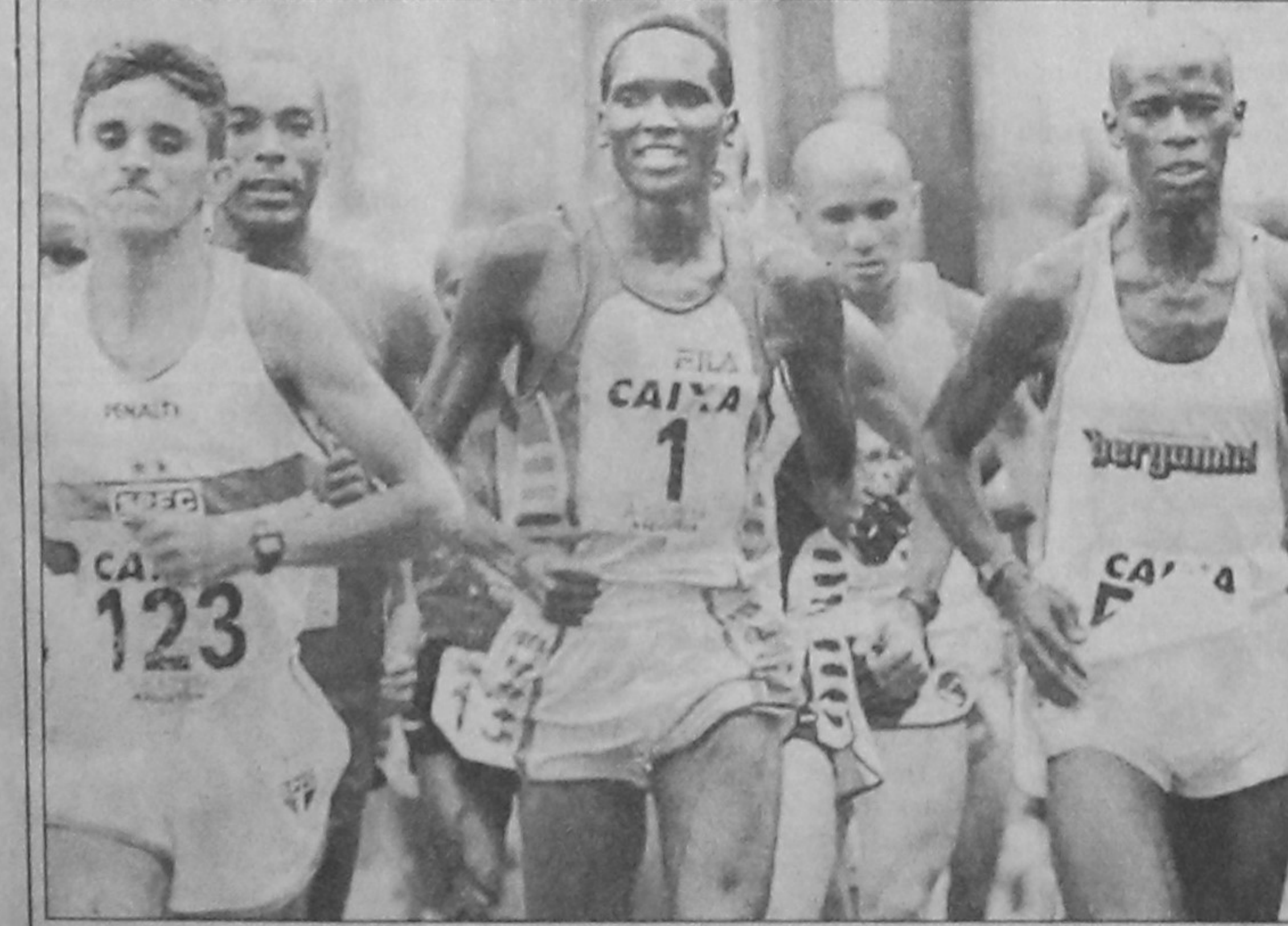
- Teams: Rajshahi Tista, BKSP, Khulna Rupsha, Metro Blues, Barisal Maroons, Chittagong Titans and Dhaka Rangers.
Date Match
Jan 10 Rajshahi Tista v BKSP Khulna Rupsha v Metro Blues
Jan 11 Chittagong Titans v Dhaka Rangers Khulna Rupsha v BKSP Chittagong Titans v Metro Blues
Jan 12 Barisal Maroons v Dhaka Rangers
Jan 13 Rajshahi Tista v Khulna Rupsha
Jan 14 Chittagong Titans v BKSP Barisal Maroons v Metro Blues
Jan 15 Rajshahi Tista v Chittagong Titans
Jan 16 Barisal Maroons v BKSP Dhaka Rangers v Metro Blues
Jan 17 Rajshahi Tista v Barisal Maroons Khulna Rupsha v Chittagong Titans
Jan 18 Dhaka Rangers v BKSP Rajshahi Tista v Dhaka Rangers
Jan 19 Khulna Rupsha v Barisal Maroons Metro Blues v BKSP Chittagong Titans v Barisal Maroons
Jan 20 Chittagong Titans v Barisal Maroons Rajshahi Tista v Metro Blues
Jan 21 Khulna Rupsha v Dhaka Rangers

Bad boys start anew

DOHA, Qatar, Jan 1: The two most controversial characters in men's tennis, Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Marcelo Rios, are hoping to turn over a new year leaf when they begin the Qatar Open in the opening week of 2001, reports AFP.

Kafelnikov, described by the British tennis magazine as the tour's most miserable player, has admitted to public relations shortcomings since the rise of his popular and charismatic compatriot Marat Safin.

operation and five months off the tour. But a December break seems to have convinced him that it is possible to recover his old brilliance.



Paul Tergat of Kenya (C) on his way to win the San Silvestre race with a time of 43 mins 57 secs in Sao Paulo on December 31. —AFP photo

Gambill has no clue

PERTH, Jan 1: Budding American tennis star Jan-Michael Gambill declared here Monday he was puzzled why some American superstars did not play in the Davis Cup competition, reports AFP.

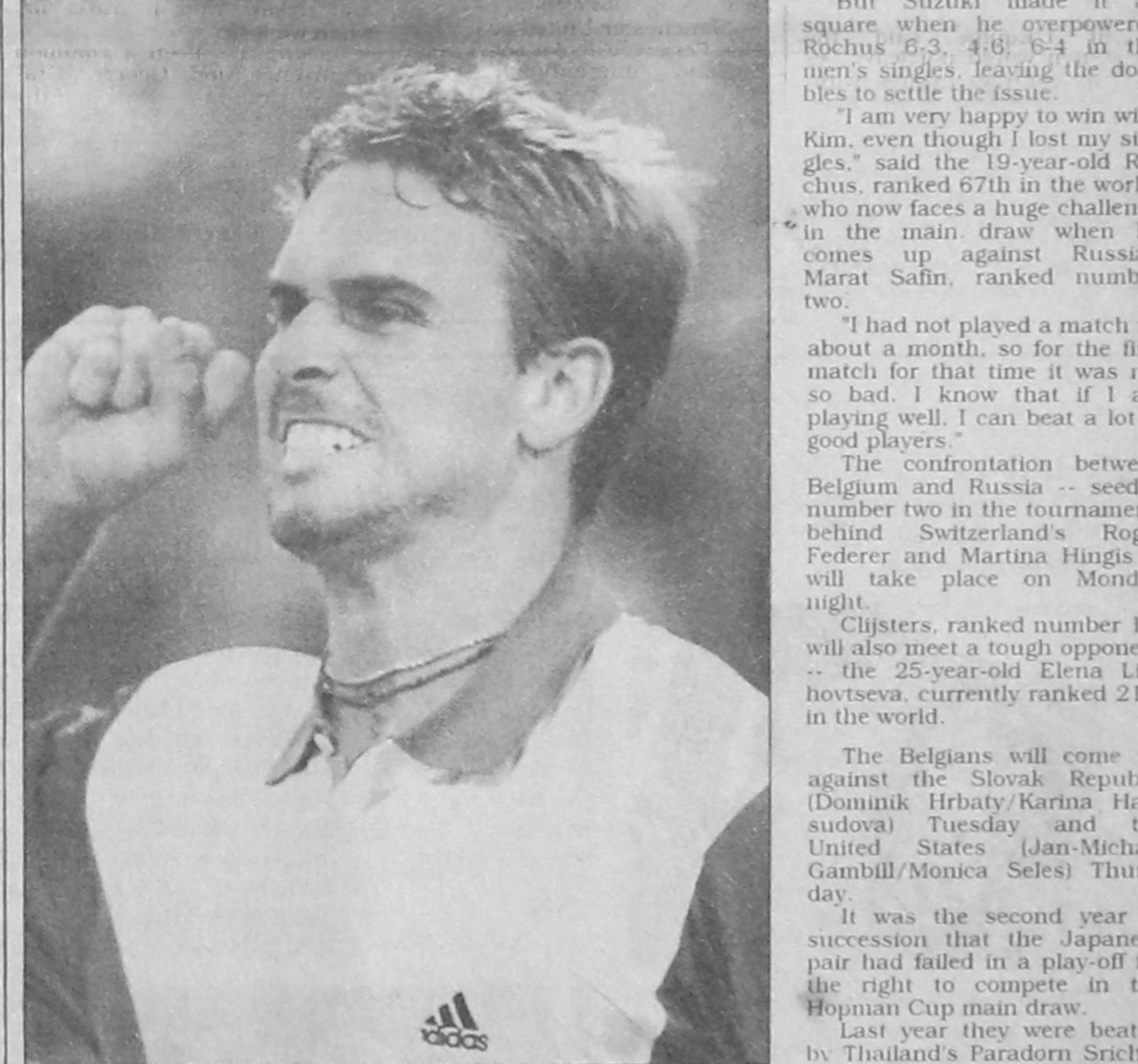
Hopman Cup

Seles, Gambill guide USA

PERTH, Jan 1: World number four Monica Seles and fast-improving Jan-Michael Gambill gave the United States a great start to the New Year when they beat the Slovak Republic on the third day of the million dollar (\$54,000 US) Hopman Cup mixed teams tennis tournament at Burswood Dome here Monday, reports AFP.

Seles, though below her sizzling best, wore down a game Karina Habudova to win the women's singles and give the United States a flying start before Jan-Michael Gambill overcame Dominik Hrbaty in the men's singles to give his country an unbeatable 2-0 lead in the tie.

The Americans made it a clean sweep when they also won the mixed doubles. Seles won in three sets, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 in 80 minutes. Gambill won 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 in a slogging 104 minutes.



American Jan-Michael Gambill exults after beating Slovak Dominik Hrbaty in the Hopman Cup encounter yesterday. —AFP photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer
ACROSS 36 Suitable 2 Help a 22 Strong
1 The Say 37 Allies' 3 Skywalker's 23 Clark's
Hey Kid' foes hood as —
5 Trump 38 Loflovers minor 19 Oops! 4 Zone 25 Goddess:
casino recipe 4 Zone 5 Unisex 6 Book- 26 Mischief-
hotel, for 41 'Ske- 6 Book- 27 Fly-
8 Strike- 43 Blot on keeper: 27 Fly-
breaker one's Abbr. catchers'
12 Legend 44 Escutcheon 7 Pun 8 Bulgaria's 29 Desire
instrument 46 Corres- 31 Man
Name of 50 Legal 9 Where to
the Rose' author pay for
14 'Oops!' 51 Outing groceries 32 Author
15 Nocturnal 54 Rubber- 10 Med. Wallace
at- 55 Uncooked 34 Injure
tendance- 56 Between 11 Arthurian 40 DeMille
dancing jobs 7 Pun 8 Bulgaria's 29 Desire
17 Dreading 57 Marries 16 Feminine 42 He gives
18 Put into 58 Individual 16 Feminine 42 He gives
words 59 AMA folk pronoun a hoof
19 Forces 20 November 43 Tortoiselike
cut 21 Exam 44 Buster
format 1 Crowds bility Brown's
24 Hardwood 1 Crowds bility Brown's
variety 45 Frizzy
25 A-line 47 —
creator anything
28 Mr. 48 After-bath
Gingrich WIDER FATH application
30 Matisse's 49 Peacock-
medium IDES COMBOVER tial design
33 Flightless 50 YEA STIXES AXE
bird HANGOVER SNITP
34 Long 51 RAVE WORKOVER
or ECOT AWAY TOGA
Mandel 52 Fleming or
35 Guitar's 53 Ram's
kin mate

CRYPTOQUIP
V JNVDLBZI AVJJUL
BVAHPA HUERL TPVAM
MNZ TULR LNGD NB
RVAP-AVUDUGE LVIPD
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TOPSOIL
SALESMEN BECOME DISCONTENTED
PRIMARILY BECAUSE IT'S A DIRTY BUSINESS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals R
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.