HK Champions Tour called off

AFP, Hong Kong

The economic fallout from the terrorist attacks on the United States has forced organisers to cancel the Champions Tour tennis tournament that had been due to start here on October 31.

The announcement makes it likely that the Singapore leg of the seniors tour, due to take place October 25-28, will also be scrapped.

The Hong Kong tournament's main sponsors, Cathay Pacific, have seen passenger volumes collapse since the September 11 attacks on New York and

In a statement, the airline and organisers Quintus Events said the decision to cancel the event had been taken in light of the difficult economic climate and its impact on corporate sponsors and guests.

Hussain hails

"I thought the guys on debut were all very good and I was very pleased with them and the way we played

Hussain admitted that victory lifted the burden of 11 consecutive losses, but he was cautious about getting too carried away "This was one day," Hussain said.

"We are not going to go from midtable mediocrity to world champions in one game but it's a start.

India driven

FROM PAGE 13

With India nearing victory, swing bowler Charl Langeveldt suffered a freak injury when he was hit on the head by a savage straight drive from Yuvraj Singh which flew on to the boundary. Langeveldt collapsed and umpire Tony O'Connor signalled dead ball. Langeveldt was helped off the field and could not complete the over.

Agarkar was caught at long-on with eight runs needed and 10 balls left. SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard in the limitedovers match between South Africa A and India at Willowmoore Park Wednesday:

SOUTHAFRICAA Dippenaar c Dravid b Agarkar 34 Rudolph c Dasgupta b Kumble 25 Van Jaarsveld c Dravid b

Ackerman c Dasgupta b Dros c Sodhi b Srinath Ontong c Dasgupta b Agarkar Kemp not out Extras: (lb-1, nb-4, w-5)

overs) 241 Fall of wickets: 1-62, 2-64, 3-75,

Total: (For 6 wkts in 50

4-192, 5-198, 6-234 Did not bat: T Tsolekile, Telemachus, C Langeveldt 58 Harvinder 0 48 1 15 1 0 0

46 3 24 0 24 0 25 0 Yuvraj Sehwag 0 Sodhi INDIA Das Ibw b Kemp Sehwag c Dros b Kemp Martin run out (Dippenaar) Dravid b Telemachus Yuvraj not out Sodhi b Langeveldt Dasgupta c Dippenaar b Ontong 1 Agarkar c sub (Hayward) b Telemachus Kumble not out Extras: (lb-12. nb-4. w-6)

Total: (For 7 wkts in 49.1 overs) 245 Fall of wickets: 1-31, 2-38, 3-129, 4-133. 5-146. 6-156. 7-234

Did not bat: J Srinath, Harvinder Singh Bowler Telemachus 10 45 50 Kemp 50 Kent Langeveldt 32 Ontong Van Jaarsveld 2 20 Result: India won by 3 wickets. Man-of-the-match: Ajit Agarkar

'Michael-mania' not everywhere

Basketball

AFP, North Carolina

Nine-year-old Jangi Hamby looked at the photograph of teenager Michael Jordan in the Cape Fear Museum display case and asked the adult standing beside her, "Is he still alive?'

Assured the world-famous basketball star was indeed practicing nearby that very minute for his comeback, the child kept ignoring her elementary school teacher and asked, "Does he still look like that?"

Well, yes, he does. There's a mustache and goatee on the face now and no hair atop the head, but Jordan looks much the same as he did 20 years ago. Soon the basketball world will learn what other changes time hath wrought.

No, not everyone here in Jordan's Atlantic Ocean-side hometown has "Michael-mania". After all. this city of 75,000 has hosted 300 movie and television show filmings. Some Holywood stars have homes down the street.

But most folks know Jordan is making his National Basketball Association return this week at age 38 in closed practices at the Washington Wizards' training camp at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

"There is excitement. I think people are more proud than they are star struck," said Reid Counts, a criminal justice professor at the college who tried in vain to catch a post-practice glimpse of Jordan. "The entire world has been so

excited about this for the past six months. We have been quietly smug. We knew he was going to be here. We've been like, 'Are you off to see the Wizard?' More than 200 students lined up

before dawn for tickets to a Wizards scrimmage next Tuesday. Counts has her seat as part of a ticket package for the college team. Front row. Near the basket. Waiting for a

"I will be right there under the basket," she said. "I'm waiting for the first dunk. Sweat on me,

Jordan attended Laney High School, where his feats are still honored in a display case. Coach Fred Lynch dropped Jordan to junior varsity in the star's sophomore season and loves to tell the story of how he "cut" Jordan.

"It's better than a Hollywood script," Lynch said. "We just wanted to get him more playing time. Michael will make the Wizards better. That's what he has done all his life.

A tribute to that life, before the days Jordan won six NBA crowns with the Chicago Bulls, is found in a Cape Fear Museum display case next to the entrance to an exhibit on area eco-systems that bears .lordan's name

For those fans who made the famed "Chicago tour" of Jordanrelated places, this display is the

An "uncommon" playing surface

proved futile as top seed Martina

Hingis pulled out a 7-5, 6-2 victory

over Sandra Kleinova of the Czech

Republic to qualify for the

quarterfinals of the 1.185 million-

dollar WTA Kremlin Cup event

started the match tentatively, with

Kleinova, who was making her first

ever main draw appearance in

Moscow, allowed to break twice in

Swiss world number one tightened

her grip and pulled level minutes

However, later in the set the

Defending champion Hingis, 21,

Tennis

AFP, Moscow

Wednesday.

the opening set.

"Friends"

request

55 Go

course

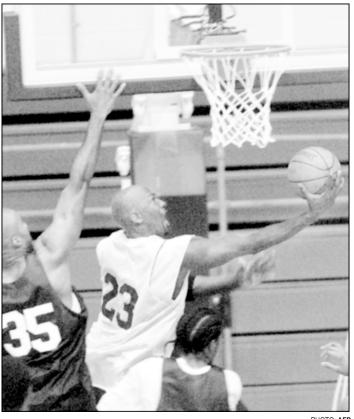
lode of items from the life of Michael

Jeffrey Jordan's youth. A high point is Jordan's first pay stub, detatched from a check for 119 dollars and 76 cents from working 47 hours at Whitey's El-Berta res-

taurant, still serving good food just

save the jokes. Jordan's memorabilia was not among the relics and fossils on display with the Tyrannosaurus and Velociraptors.

After a school group departed, Michael Kilgore came by and wiped children's fingerprints off the glass



Michael Jordan makes a reverse lay-up during an evening scrimmage against teammates at the Washington Wizards' training camp at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington on October 3. The legendary player is making a comeback in the NBA after retiring following the 1998 season.

up Market Street.

Jordan, who had 25 dollars in taxes taken out of his wages on that first paycheck, made 33.14 million dollars in his final Bulls season, is donating his 1.3 million-dollar Wizards salary this season to relief efforts for the September 11 terrorist The high school graduation cap

Jordan used 20 years ago is displayed. So is his University of North Carolina powder-blue uniform. his Laney High uniform bag, a 1969 kindergarten graduation certificate and a certificate received for perfect attendance in the 1975-1976 school

There's a wooden box Jordan made in a 1981 high school shop class, with his birthday (Feb. 17), his astrological birth-sign (aquarius) and his name (Mike Jordan) burned nto the lid

There's a 1983 notebook from a college film history class and Jordan's 1984 anthropology paper on his experiences at the Los Angeles Olympics for professor James Peacock, who gave him a Bplus grade on the paper and an A in

Hingis cruises into qtrs

opening set 7-5 in 39 minutes.

before she broke again to win the

Taraflex surface in Moscow's

Olympic indoor stadium for her lack

Nathalie Tauziat of France, the

oldest player on the WTA circuit,

failed to join Hingis in the

quarterfinals, suffering a 4-6, 7-5, 5-

defeat in her first ever head-to-

head meeting with Francesca

Bulgaria's Magdalena Maleeva.

seeded seventh, earned their

second round passes as they

ousted Slovakia's Martina Sucha

and Germany's Anke Huber in

In the one-million-dollar ATP

straight sets respectively.

Sixth seed Silvia Farina Elia and

Schiavone of Italy.

of confidence in the opening set.

Hingis later blamed the new

Fourth seed and 1999 winner

"I don't think he should have

In the aftermath of US terrorist attacks, other things are on people's minds in a city that is home to the USS North Carolina battleship memorial.

Michael" signs on streetside displays, but most have messages like these on Market Street: "America is Strong and Becoming Stronger", "Let Freedom Ring" and "Give to those in need.' Yes, Paul Newman has a place

town hero Jordan excites as well.

people at 100 per cent.

come back," Kilgore said. "He kept saying he was retired. He went through all that. He should have staved out.'

There are some "Welcome Back

up the road. Alec Baldwin does too. So does Nick Nolte. Retired tennis star Althea Gibson was born here. "Blue Velvet" was filmed here and US teens' favourite television series, "Dawson's Creek", is still filmed here. But even at 38, home-

"I appreciate him coming back to entertain us," Counts said. "Michael at 50 per cent is better than most

section second seed Marat Safin of

Russia fought back from a set down

to book a second round place after

defeating former compatriot Max

initiative in the opening set but 24-

vear-old Mirnyi proved more precise

in the deciding moments as he

broke Safin's serve in the 12th game

Open semifinalist this year, tight-

ened his grip on the match to pull

level after winning the second set 6-

In the second set Safin, a US

to take the set 7-5 in 38 minutes.

Both players battled for the

Mirnvi of Belarus.

do." he added.

Ross Greenburg has asked promoter Don King to find a US venue, preferably on the same date.

was to not travel overseas at this time." Greenburg said in a state-

to telecast the fight on November 24 from a US site.

HBO paid \$5m for the TV rights for the World Boxing Association points victory in Las Vegas in March

scheduled for 5 August before Ruiz pulled out with a neck injury.

King is believed to be considering his options in regard to an

unveiled 10,000 seat Mohegan Sun Casino in Connecticut.

Olga doping case dropped

been dropped after a French laboratory failed to explain why one of her urine samples was unusable.

It remains unclear why two vials July meeting in France did not match up.

sense that there will be no real follow-up to the affair," said Jacques Donzel of the French sports minis-

during the Golden League competition in Paris.

the Chatenay-Malabry laboratory outside Paris It was hoped that the laboratory would be able to determine whether

or accidentally contaminated. French authorities revealed on

Donzel said that French officials would draw up a detailed written

The new procedure will specify who can be present, how much time must pass between laboratory tests, and other measures designed to

despite protests from other athletes.

INTERNET, London

The doping case against 5000m world champion Olga Yegorova has

"The matter is closed, in the

The Russian tested positive for

But when no reading could be found for the B sample it was sent to

the sample had been tampered with

procedure for drug testing.

Yegerova was suspended by the

But when the IAAF cited procedural flaws in the testing, Yegerova

She took gold in the 5,000m



Holyfield's China bout scrapped

INTERNET, London

Plans to stage the world heavyweight title fight between Evander Holyfield and John Ruiz in China

have been scrapped. Promoter Don King and cable channel HBO are said to have come to the decision after receiving advice from the US State Department in light of the terrorist attacks on America.

"I wouldn't jeopardise any promotion," King told USA Today.

"I support HBO and the State Department. What they say, I will 'Prudent' HBO Sports president

"Based on the uncertainty that exists and the advisory by the State Department on international travel we decided that the prudent course

"We have told Don that we'd like

heavyweight title fight after Ruiz's

The re-match was initially

alternative venue. One likely option is the recently

AFP, Tokyo Thai ace Tamarine Tanasugarn had to work hard to beat American Jill

Craybas in her opening second-

round match at the Japan Open

the Thai second seed needed a

After receiving a first-round bye,

Tamarine had to recover from 0-

4 down in the second set to make it

even 4-4, but she struggled to hold

her serve against Craybas as she

rarely found a chance to charge the

second set), she was not missing.

and I started missing, so my con-

"She started to play well (in the

tennis tournament on Thursday.

Tennis

tough two hours and 15 minutes to finally score a topsy-turvy 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 win which was full of service

of Yegorova's urine taken during a

the performance-enhancing EPO

Tuesday that no reading had been

prevent such incidents.

International Association of Athletics Federations immediately after the positive results of the A sample test were announced.

was allowed to compete in the world championships in Edmonton in August.

tennis tournament on Thursday. The top-seeded Australian, playing his first ATP event since winning his inaugural Grand Slam title at Flushing Meadow three weeks ago, needed only 52 minutes

to trounce the American 6-1, 6-1 in

US Open champion Lleyton Hewitt

played an immaculate game to beat

Michael Russell and clinch a

quarterfinal berth in the Japan Open

Dutch defending champion Sjeng Schalken, the second seed, breezed past Ivo Heuberger of Switzerland with a 6-2, 6-4 win while Chilean seventh seed Marcelo Rios ended Thai qualifier Danai Udomchoke's ATP debut 6-3, 6-2.

But Thursday also saw three top seeds -- third seed Rainer Schuettler of Germany, Sweden's fourth seed Jonas Bjorkman and sixth seed Michael Chang of the United States -- fall victim to unseeded players.

Schuettler crashed to Slovakia's Karol Kucera 2-6, 2-6, while Biorkman went down to American James Blake 1-6, 5-7 and Chang

bowed out to local hero Takao

Second seeded Tamarine Tanasugarn of Thailand stretches to make a return against Jill Craybas of the United States

centration was off. It let her come

back into the match," said

"With her shot today, it's very

difficult to come to the net, because

it's very deep and flat. I had more

chances to come to the net in other

matches when they are slicing and

the American's 94th, jumped ahead

3-0 in the final set, and again she

struggled to keep her following two

games, while Craybas crawled

in the following game, but the Thai

gathered momentum to force a

deuce four times and, taking an

advantage point with a fine cross-

court winner, finished off making the

American mis-fire a forehand into

running well. I tried to keep the ball

in play and tried to get the ball

"She played well today, she is

Craybas held three game points

Tamarine, ranked 29th against

the ball speed was not so fast."

back to trail 2-4 and then 3-5.

during their second round match of the Japan Open in Tokyo yesterday. Tamarine won 6-4, 4-6, 6-3.

Tamarine struggles

chances.

good.' Russell, ranked 88th against

actually played a pretty good game (in the sixth game, second set). He got up 0-40 in that game. I made a couple of unforced errors, I was pushing forward," said Hewitt. "But at 6-1, 4-1 with a double

break, that is what you got to do. That's tennis, and that's what I was doing in some of the big matches in the past. But still I was able to finish with two games to come through." In the quarterfinals Hewitt will

seeded Chilean Nicolas Massu 6-3,

back," said Tamarine. "In the third set, I started to

attack more, so that maybe helped me a lot. But she played well for her shots," she added. In the quarterfinals, she will take

on either fifth seed Mariene Weingartner of Germany or Japan's Saori Obata, whose second-round match was halted by rain. In the quarter-final matches, former world number one American

Monica Seles smashed aside Rita

Grande of Italy 6-1, 6-2 to set up a

meeting against local hope Ai Sugiyama, second seed. "Ai and I have played many times and we have had some very close matches. She likes to play here and likes the surface as well. She is a great player and a competi-

Sugiyama, the champion here in 1997 and 1998, outclassed Nola Pavina of New Zealand 6-1, 6-4

tor, so I expect the match to be a

tough one," said Seles.

Lleyton, Marcelo move on



AFP. Tokvo

the third round.

Suzuki 6-7 2-6 Hewitt 20 who ceded only one point to Russell in his first-set service games, said: "I felt good, I felt

"I attacked a lot of balls. I served well on the big points. He didn't have chances in my service games until 4-1 up in the second set. I felt pretty

like I didn't give him too many

Hewitt's third, double-faulted on the first break point at 15-40 in the fourth game to go down 1-3. It was all uphill from there for the 15th seeded American. "Michael is a good player. He

take on eighth seed Francisco Clavet of Spain, who dismissed 11th

The Chinese-American Chang is

normally a crowd favourite in Japan. but for once the support was against him on the centre court and he was outplayed by Suzuki's serve-and-

volley game in 103 minutes. "I felt like I really had my opportunity today," said the disappointed 1989 French Open champion.

"Serving for the first set at 5-4, I had a pretty tight game. I think tactically I changed things up and I lost the game," Chang said.

S'pore tennis meet cancelled

AFP, Singapore

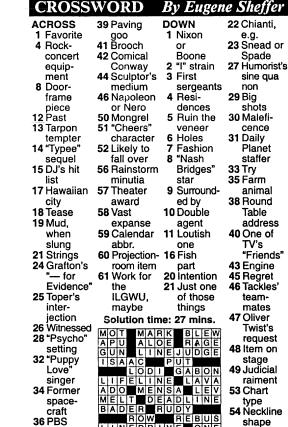
The Champions Tennis tournament scheduled to start in Singapore on October 25 was cancelled Thursday, falling victim to the repercussions of the terrorist attacks on the United

The four-day tournament was to

have featured several former greats

including John McEnroe, Pat Cash, Mats Wilander, Yannick Noah and Henri Leconte The Hong Kong leg of the seniors tour, scheduled to start after the

Singapore tournament, was cancelled on Wednesday.



science

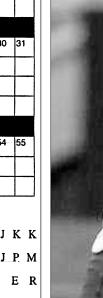
37 Criteria

NGJN IAMJRIUPJSGMPT TSMAEJKETNT AVPPMRN Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I MAY CHANGE CHANNELS BEFORE THIS PROGRAM FINISHES.

UVMTT

IT'S A REMOTE POSSIBILITY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P 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.





Martina Hingis of Switzerland throws her racket in frustration after losing a point against Czech Sandra Kleinova at the Kremlin Cup on Wednesday.