

In the nick of time

AFP, Melbourne

Newly-crowned Australian Open champion Thomas Johansson had a few behind-the-scenes dramas on the morning of his greatest tennis accomplishment here Sunday.

During all the commotion over his upset victory over Russian Marat Safin the low-key Swede revealed that his coach Magnus Tideman had forgotten to think of car to the stadium to play his final.

"I was close to missing my match because my coach forgot to call a car," Johansson told the crowd at his winner's ceremony on centre court.

"I had to call a taxi to get here." Asked if the taxi-driver had recognised his passenger, Johansson replied drily: "Yes, when we got out of the car, he said 'Good luck', so yes, I think so, yes."

"Maybe I am going to consider to have a new coach who can call (for a car) the day before."

Gold Cup Canada, Costa Rica enter last four

AFP, Miami

World Cup qualifiers Costa Rica needed extra time and defending Gold Cup champions Canada survived a penalty shootout to reach the semifinals of the 2002 CONCACAF Gold Cup on Saturday.

Costa Rica knocked out Haiti, 2-1, on Ronald Gomez's goal seven minutes into the first 15-minute sudden-death period. The Ticos will play the winner of Sunday's Mexico-South Korea match in the semi-finals.

Walter Centeno put Costa Rica up in the 2nd minute, but Golman Pierre equalised in the 62nd to set the stage for Gomez's golden goal.

Canada eliminated minnows Martinique 6-5 on penalties, after a 63rd-minute own goal by Canada's Mark Rogers put Martinique in front, but Kevin McKenna in the 73rd got the equaliser that sent the match to extra time.

In the semifinals Canada will play the winner of Sunday's match between the United States and El Salvador.

FA Cup Boro shut MU out

Football

AFP, London

Middlesbrough boss Steve McClaren refused to dwell on Saturday's shock 2-0 FA Cup win over Premiership leaders Manchester United and instead turned his attention to the club's fight to stay in the top flight.

Struggling Boro, third from bottom in the league and facing an uphill battle to avoid relegation from the Premiership, swept through to the fifth round with two goals in the last five minutes at the Riverside Stadium.

Former Leeds and Coventry marksman Noel Whelan cashed in on an horrendous error by French defender Laurent Blanc to slide home Boro's first in the 85th minute for his fourth goal in seven games.

Then substitute striker Andy Campbell came off the bench to head the clincher a minute from time, his first goal in 21 months.

It was ironic for United boss Alex Ferguson, in his final season before retirement, that his quest for more FA Cup glory should be ended by a Middlesbrough side managed by

former assistant Steve McClaren.

Another shock result saw Walsall, third from bottom in the First Division, upset Premiership Charlton 2-1 at The Valley.

Portuguese striker Jorge Leiao grabbed both goals for the Midlands club in Colin Lee's first game in charge.

First Division West Bromwich Albion, 2-1 winners over Sunderland in the third round, claimed their second Premiership scalp by beating Leicester 1-0 at The Hawthorns.

Honours were even in the London derby at Stamford Bridge where Chelsea were held to a 1-1 draw by West Ham.

Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink's left-footed curler after 21 minutes gave Chelsea the lead only for French striker Freddie Kanoute to equalise for the Hammers seven minutes from time.

Everton booked their place in the fifth round with a comfortable 4-1 victory over Third Division Leyton Orient at Goodison Park.

Former England midfielder Paul Gascoigne rolled back the years to orchestrate Everton's win in which Kevin Campbell, who enjoyed a loan spell at Orient 12 years ago, scored twice.

England striker Andy Cole scored the decisive goal in Blackburn's 1-0 win at First Division Millwall, the former Manchester United forward netting three minutes from time.

Premiership Fulham were too strong for cash-strapped third division outfit York, the Londoners winning 2-0 thanks to goals from Frenchmen Steed Malbranque and Steve Marlet.

The all-Premiership clash between Tottenham and Bolton at White Hart Lane was called off because of a waterlogged pitch as was the tie between First Division Gillingham and Third Division Bristol Rovers.

On Sunday, Arsenal will be out to avenge the 2-1 defeat to Liverpool in last year's final when the Premiership giants clash again, at Highbury.

In other matches Sunday, Premiership side Newcastle face a potential banana skin at Second Division Peterborough, Ipswich entertain Second Division leaders Manchester City, Tranmere welcome Cardiff City, conquerors of Leeds United in round three, and Cheltenham host Burnley.

French League Cup Bordeaux in semis

AFP, Paris

Bordeaux reached the French League Cup semifinals on Saturday after Portuguese forward Pedro Pauleta bagged the winner in a 2-1 home win over Monaco.

Pauleta struck after 56 minutes to add to a 20th-minute effort from Costa and although Argentine star Marcelo Gallardo scored from the spot on the hour for the visitors Didier Deschamps' side could not find an equaliser.

Paris Saint Germain host Second Division Nancy on Sunday, while Lorient take on Bastia and Rennes meet promotion hopefuls Strasbourg.

Women's soccer Victory for Norway

AFP, Guangzhou

Despite suffering a 3-1 loss to European Champions Germany, Norway won the four-nations tournament in Guangzhou Sunday after the United States defeated arch rivals China.

Norway, who had impressed in winning their first two matches in the round robin tournament, were overwhelmed by the Germans.

Senegal, Morocco on track

AFP, Bamako

Senegal marched into the quarterfinals of the African Nations Cup here Saturday with a dramatic late victory over Zambia as Morocco improved their chances of a last-eight berth with a win over Burkina Faso.

Senegal, one of the favourites for the tournament, looked to be destined for a draw against Zambia, who kept the Teranga Lions' at bay with a disciplined defensive performance.

But with the final whistle looming substitute Makhtar Ndiaye swung in a pinpoint cross from the left and Souleymane Camara rose between the Zambian defence to score at Modibo Keita.

Zambia's players, who had themselves created enough chances to take all three points in an entertaining game, slumped to the ground in despair as the entire Senegal entourage jubilantly mobbed Camara.

The result assured Senegal of place in the last eight, and they need only a point against Tunisia next

Thursday to be sure of winning the group.

Zambia, level with the Tunisians on one point, must now beat Egypt to have any chance of prolonging their involvement in the tournament.

The victory took Morocco to four points, Ghana and South Africa have two each and Burkina Faso one. In the final group matches Wednesday, South Africa face Morocco and Burkina Faso meet Ghana in Mopti.

Zerouali ended the Group B goal drought in the 23rd minute. Saifou Mady and Mamadou Tall failed to clear a free kick and, after two Moroccan shots were misused, Zerouali struck a low shot wide of goalkeeper Mohamed Kabore.

Zerouali was unlucky early in the second half as his chip rebounded off the post with Kabore stranded and this stirred Burkina Faso into action which led to a 58th-minute Moumouni Daganou equaliser.

But Morocco snatched maximum points with 85 minutes gone when a slow-reacting Burkinabe defence failed to clear a corner and Zerouali saw his header beat Kabore and two defenders for the winner.

The Atlas Lions' hero was striker Hicham Zerouali from Scottish Premiership club Aberdeen, who



Serie A Parma shock Bologna

Football

AFP, Milan

Parma launched their battle against the drop coming away with maximum points from their 2-1 home victory Saturday night against Bologna.

The win moves Parma up two spots just out of the relegation zone sandwiched in 14th position between fellow strugglers Atalanta and Lecce, who play their Serie A matches on Sunday.

Parma put last week's 2-0 defeat by Inter Milan behind them, earning the opening goal after just six minutes thanks to an own goal by

Bologna striker Carlo Nervo, who accidentally netted a corner from Parma striker Marco Di Vaio which was being chased by veteran Turkish striker Hakan Suker.

Suker put the home side 2-0 up ten minutes later with a close range shot off a header from French midfielder Sabri Lamouchi.

Bologna fought back bravely in the second half and their resolve paid off with Fabio Pecchia netting on 52, after a poor clearance by Parma goalie Sebastian Frey.

Frey redeemed himself with two crucial saves in the dying minutes of the game.

Atalanta host Fiorentina and Brescia travel to Lecce in games that could have an impact on the relegation dogfight on Sunday.



State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman inaugurates the Bata 12th Schools Handball Competition at the Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across, Down, and Cryptic words.

Solution time: 27 mins.

Cryptic crossword clues and solutions.

Cryptic crossword grid and clues.

CRYPTOQUIP

QCBPX RLWBOY XEXKNUFJN

RLKHBBOBG, B CXLKJ HCX

ULKHXOJXK LGWBOY, "FPBEX

F K H Q B G H ?

Yesterday's Cryptic: TRAVELING WITH THE HUGE CIRCUS, THE CLOWN EXPECTS TO HAVE AN IN-TENTS EXPERIENCE.

Today's Cryptic Clue: B equals 1

The Cryptic 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.

TV GUIDE

Large TV Guide section with columns for BTV, BWC WORLD, HBO, STAR GOLD, ATN, ESPN, ANIMAL PLANET, ZEE CINEMA, ZEE ENGLISH, ZEE TV, and ALPHA TV, listing programs and times.