

Sports

Women seeds avoid upsets

Evert Lloyd, Navratilova move into semis; Lendl advances

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Chris Evert Lloyd needed every bit of her experience Tuesday to outlast Czechoslovakia's Helena Sukova and move into the women's singles semifinals at Wimbledon.

"This was pretty much of a real test," Lloyd said after overcoming Sukova 7-6, 4-6, 6-4 under a blazing sun in temperatures that soared over 110 degrees on the enclosed grass court at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club. "It was tough."

Also gaining semifinal berths were top-seeded Martina Navratilova, going after her fifth consecutive women's crown at Wimbledon; No. 3 Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia; and No. 10 Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina.

The men's quarterfinal draw was completed Tuesday when top-seeded Ivan Lendl held off American Matt Anger 6-7, 7-6, 6-4, 7-6 in a shootout on Centre Court that began on Monday before being suspended by darkness.

Thursday's other semifinals will pit Navratilova against the 16-year-old Sabatini, who reached a Grand Slam semifinal for the second time in her young career.

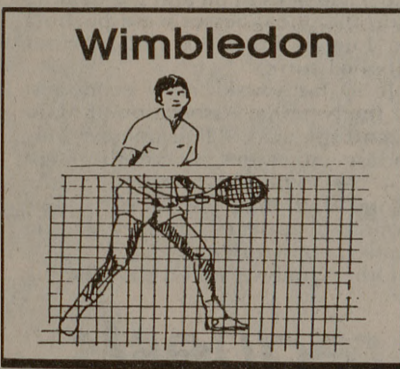
Today, the men will play their quarterfinal matches, with Lendl, the French Open champion, going against No. 10 Tim Mayotte of the United States; defending champion Boris Becker of West Germany meeting Czechoslovakia's Miloslav Mecir; No. 7 Henri Leconte of France taking on surprising Pat Cash of Australia; and Yugoslavia's Slobodan Zivojinovic facing India's Ramesh Krishnan.

On Tuesday, Navratilova crushed West Germany's Bettina Bunge 6-1, 6-3; Sabatini stopped Sweden's Catarina Lindqvist 6-2, 6-3; and Mandlikova eliminated American Lori McNeil 6-7, 6-0, 6-2.

In the opening set of the Sukova-Lloyd match, neither could break service, although Sukova twice was taken to deuce. Then, in the tiebreak, Lloyd staved off two set points before winning 10-8.

"I had so many chances," Sukova said of her loss to Lloyd. "I don't think I played badly, and I still hope I can play better than I did. I cannot say I am disappointed with the way I play, I am just disappointed that I lost."

Mandlikova also had a tough fight on her hands with McNeil, who



honed her game on the public courts in Houston.

"In the first set I was 5-2 up," Mandlikova said. "She can play unbelievable shots, and she did at that stage. And I think I lost my concentration a bit."

McNeil won three straight games to pull even, breaking the Czechoslovak right-hander in the ninth game. Then she took the tiebreak 7-4 after racing out to a 4-2 lead.

But it was all Mandlikova after that. The veteran won eight straight games and built up a 5-1 lead in the third set in her quarterfinal victory.

Navratilova overwhelmed Bunge in her rush to the semifinals.

"She started serving so well, I couldn't believe it," said Bunge, who held serve in the third game of the opening set and the fourth and eighth games of the second.

Lendl and Anger were tied at one set apiece and 2-2 in the third set when their match was halted because of declining light Monday night. On Tuesday, the two continued to hold serve until Lendl broke in the 10th game.

Ranked No. 1 in the world, Lendl took a 4-1 lead in the fourth set before Anger, returning serve brilliantly, won three straight games to pull even. The two then went into yet another tiebreak, their third in the match.

In an outstanding display of grass-court tennis, the two traded winners and errors, finally battling to 10-10. Then Lendl, after staving off four set points, slammed a forehand volley cross-court to reach match point for the second time.

He closed it out the victory when he took a high bouncing short ball and rifled a forehand passing shot down the line.

Jackson rejects souvenir of pro debut

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Bo Jackson, who spurned a reported \$7 million deal in pro football, also rejected a free souvenir — the ball that went for his first hit as a professional baseball player.

"I've got enough at home in my trophy case," Jackson said after making his debut with the Memphis Chicks Monday night.

The Heisman Trophy winner from Auburn said, though, there is a spot waiting in the case for his first hit "after I get to the Royals — if I get there."

Jackson, who played only one full season as an outfielder at Auburn, signed a three-year contract with Kansas City last month, passing up an offer from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who had made him the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft.

Though details of his contract have not been made public, it is believed he will get \$200,000 this year, \$333,000 next year and \$383,000 in 1988, plus \$150,000 if he makes it to the big leagues. And there are buyout provisions should he decide to try pro football.

Some 7,000 fans turned out Monday night, some no doubt out of curiosity to see what manner of man would turn his back on \$7 million.

The crowd was shy of the park's 9,600 capacity, but about 4,000 more than would normally be expected for a Southern League game at Chick Stadium.

Jackson, as a designated hitter, went 1-for-4. He struck out twice and grounded back to the mound in his other three at-bats, following 10 days of press conferences and batting practice power exhibitions since he signed with the Royals.

His single came in the first inning with two on and two out. Jackson, a right-handed hitter who stands deep in the batters' box in an erect stance, chopped a grounder through the middle.

After the inning, Jackson said, his teammates were excited in the dugout about the hit.

"They congratulated me ... it was wild," Jackson said.

The ball was taken out of play for Jackson, but he said, "I don't want it."

Not that he was blasé about the occasion. Jackson said becoming a pro was a dream come true.

"Simply because ... the last pro baseball game I saw was the game that Hank Aaron hit that record home run. I've always wanted to know what that felt like, just to be in the big leagues.

"And I'm almost there now, and I'm just going to work harder and harder."

Jackson hit seventh in the order to ease the first-night pressure. Memphis Manager Tommy Jones and Stewart have said the designated hitter role is only temporary and that Jackson will be the right-fielder by the end of the week.

Royals head scout Art Stewart was pleased with Jackson's debut.

"He rose to the occasion," he said. "He hit a good fastball the first time up for a base hit. He showed us some discipline at the plate; he laid off some of the bad sliders they threw him. These are the things that we look at."

Yankees discover stability in pitcher

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Yankees' pitching staff being what it is this season, Dennis Rasmussen has emerged as the most consistent.

Since lack of consistency has been his major problem in the past, that comes as another surprise.

Fifteen pitchers have worn Yankee pinstripes this season. Six have been on the disabled list at one time or another — not counting Britt Burns, who was lost for the year in spring training — and four are currently sidelined.

Following Monday night's 3-2 victory over Detroit, in which he scattered six hits in 8½ innings, the 6-foot-7 left-hander is 8-2 with a 3.78 ERA and has allowed only 72 hits in 100 innings.

Opposing batters have managed only a .204 batting average against Rasmussen, who has won his last three decisions and is the only Yankee starter to own a victory since June 13.

"He deserves to be on the All-Star team," says manager Lou Piniella.

Pitchers don't go all the way in the All-Star Game, and Rasmussen has hurled only four complete games in 55 major-league starts. His only route-going effort this season was a 4-2 loss in California, although he has come within one out three other times.

"There's been a big improvement over last year," says catcher Ron Hassey. "He knows he has the ability and the type of stuff to be a winner."

"His downfall in the past might have been not throwing the right pitches at the right time," Hassey said. "He always pitched behind the hitters. But he's cut down his walks and he realizes he doesn't have to strike everybody out."

Rasmussen, 27, translates Hassey's analysis into one word — concentration. And he defines concentration as "the immediate pitch to the immediate batter, knowing what you want to do and being able to execute."

"In the past, I wasn't able to execute. I don't know why. Whether it's just maturing as a pitcher ... I can't put my finger on it."

Detectives question Rogers' friends, family

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Detectives investigating the cocaine-induced death of Cleveland Browns defensive back Don Rogers interviewed friends and family members Tuesday, seeking to discover who supplied him with the drug.

A police spokesman said the probe had been slowed by officers' inability to interview Rogers' mother, Loretha Rogers, 43, who suffered a heart attack after her son's death. She remains hospitalized in serious but stable condition.

The San Francisco Examiner reported Tuesday that detectives have been given the name of a man who may have provided Rogers with the cocaine that killed him. The name, said to be that of a longtime friend of Rogers, was supplied in separate telephone calls by two anonymous informants, the newspaper said.

Police spokesman Bob Burns said any person who furnished drugs to Rogers could face manslaughter or second-degree murder charges. "We have been talking to his family friends and associates and we have not formed any conclusion yet on

who might have furnished the drugs," Burns said. "We're getting a lot of phone calls and we're following up on that information."

Rogers, who was selected by his fellow players as the 1984 American Football Conference's Defensive Rookie of the Year, died last Friday at a Sacramento hospital after suffering seizures and lapsing into a coma.

The 23-year-old safety was the second nationally acclaimed young athlete to die of cocaine intoxication within eight days. Maryland basketball star Len Bias, the No. 2 pick in the NBA draft, died June 19 two days after being selected by the champion Boston Celtics.

Rogers, who was scheduled to be married Saturday, attended a bachelor party the night before he died. The Examiner said it had been told it was at the party that Rogers used cocaine.

Rogers' family may use the city's 10,000-seat sports arena for the athlete's memorial services on Thursday, the arena's general manager said Tuesday.

Reid changes roles, results stay untainted

SAN ANGELO (AP) — The professional basketball career of Robert Reid has been one marked by change.

His position has been changed, perhaps permanently, from forward to point guard. He's changed his uniform number from 50 to 33. Even his role on the Houston Rockets has changed from starter to sixth man back to starter.

But one thing that hasn't changed is his ability to play consistent — and winning — basketball.

Reid was in San Angelo recently to hold court at Angelo State University head basketball coach Ed Messbarger's summer camp for an enthralled group of young boys and girls, and a smaller group of star-struck adults.

"I figure the best part of basketball is not the season, but afterwards when I can come to camps of this nature and work with the kids," Reid said after playing abbreviated pickup games with the campers.

"They're excited about it, but it's not because Robert Reid is here, it's

because they've seen you on TV. They're miles away from an NBA franchise, and they're thrilled because 'Magic' Johnson has sweated on you or (Larry) Bird has bumped into you or you know Kareem (Abdul-Jabbar)."

Reid spent a lot of time playing against all three players this past season, as he helped the Rockets make a surprise appearance in the National Basketball Association championship finals against the Boston Celtics.

Houston took the Celtics to six games before losing, signifying the Rockets' emergence into the elite teams of the league.

"I think we've arrived," the 6-8 St. Mary's University graduate said. "People ask me how far away the Rockets are, and I tell them we're not a player or two players away, we're minutes away. By that I mean during the Celtic series we'd go five minutes at a time without scoring while they'd be scoring every time down. We're just minutes away from being very dominant."

Reid said the Rockets "were national heroes for awhile" because they were underdogs taking on the mighty Boston Celtics.

"But now, all the other coaches are going to judge their teams by us. 'Look what Houston did last year.' So we're going to have to come out with our guns loaded next year."

And their tempers under control. The Rockets (read Olajuwon and Sampson) came out swinging during the playoffs, and after the Rockets won Game Five following Sampson's ejection, the team came out flat in the sixth and final game.

"The one thing I did wrong was not walk in the locker room and tell them, 'Forget the Boston crowd. Forget Larry Bird. Forget the tradition. Forget everything except to kick some tail,'" said Reid.

"We downplayed the effect of the crowd so much that we forgot about the Celtics. And when they came out with that 'Eye of the Tiger' look, it was all over. They, not the crowd, took us out of the game."

Reid hopes the Twin Towers will

be a bit more subdued next season.

"We're not getting a reputation as a rough team, but the coaches and scouts are looking at film and deciding to try and get us intimidated into taking a swing at them," Reid admitted. "They'd rather see the back of Akeem's and Ralph's jerseys walking to the dressing room than seeing them dunk on their team."

"I told them if they want to get back at people, start dunking on 'em, start scoring on 'em. They're (Sampson and Olajuwon) still young and immature, but they're starting to become the veterans we need to put that ring on our fingers."

Reid is going to spend some time this summer working out with a friend who plays with the Harlem Globetrotters in order to work on his ballhandling skills.

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2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

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MANOR EAST 3

Manor East Mall 823-8300

***LABYRINTH PG** 2:40 7:20 5:00 9:40

MY LITTLE PONY G 2:10 3:50 5:30

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***PÖLTERGEIST II PG-13** 2:40 7:30 4:55 9:55

TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL PG 2:35 7:20 4:55 9:45

***RAW DEAL R** 2:25 7:10 4:45 9:35

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