

Sports

Strangely mediocre

McEnroe wins 1st-round match to end sabbatical

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vt. (AP) — John McEnroe made a triumphant return to tennis Tuesday in what he called "a strangely mediocre match."
Then the man the British tabloids have called "Mac the Mouth" held a 70-minute news conference, his first media appearance since the birth of his son and his marriage to actress Tatum O'Neal.
"It did feel a little bit strange" said McEnroe, playing his first match since mid-January, when he lost to Brad Gilbert in the Volvo Masters tournament. "I never really got into a flow. But it felt good being out there."
With his wife and parents watching, McEnroe ended his self-imposed sabbatical with a 7-5, 6-3 first-round victory over Marko Ostoja of Yugoslavia in the \$315,000 Volvo International tennis tournament.

Also posting first-round victories were top-seeded Ivan Lendl, No. 8 Paul Annacone, No. 9 Johan Kriek and No. 12 Robert Seguso.
But 10th-seeded Jimmy Arias and No. 11 Matt Anger were upset on the warm, sunny day on the hard courts nestled high in the Green Mountains.
"I felt flat out there for some reason. I'm happy that I won... I expect more out of myself, but if it doesn't work out for awhile, I'm just going to have to accept that."
The strokes that have carried McEnroe to seven Grand Slam singles titles were in evidence on this bright, warm day, but the sharpness

was missing. He seemed content to work his way into the net where he could knock off winning volleys. Only occasionally did he attempt to hit outright winners, and those occasions came late in the match.
Ostoja, who lost in the qualifying, but was inserted into the main draw when veteran Brian Teacher was forced to pull out of the tournament with a bad back, battled McEnroe evenly through the first eight games. Then, in the ninth game, he was the first to reach break point on McEnroe's service.
But the New Yorker pulled to deuce with a service winner, took the ad point with his third ace of the match and closed out the game when Ostoja sailed a backhand service return long. The challenger would never again get that close to Erving's serve.

Erving to stay with 76ers

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Julius Erving made it official Tuesday, saying he would remain with the Philadelphia 76ers for what may be his final year in professional basketball.
"I've chosen Philadelphia over Utah as a place to live and to work," the 36-year-old NBA star said at a crowded news conference.
Erving, known as Dr. J, said that Philadelphia, where he has played for 10 years, represents "the hub of my personal business and my family's needs. I belong here today, tomorrow and probably always."
Owner Harold Katz said that he and Erving had agreed in principle for another year with the 76ers.

"The deal is basically the deal that Julius had last year with some additional incentives," Katz said, denying published reports that he had increased Erving's salary of \$1,485,000 by an estimated \$300,000.
The Utah Jazz, in trying to lure Erving, was prepared to present an offer sheet for \$3.8 million over two years. Katz acknowledged that it was "far greater than what he will get here."

Changes suggested for UH program

HOUSTON (AP) — A special committee at the University of Houston Tuesday recommended 25 changes the school should make in its athletics program, including an emphasis on having more athletes graduate.
The committee, reporting on results of an internal investigation, also recommended changes in policies on admission, academic performance and financial support of athletes.
But school officials refused to disclose the results of another investigation of UH athletics conducted by Houston attorney Walter Zivley.
The two investigations were triggered by newspaper reports earlier this year that several former Cougar football players were given cash and received favors from coaches, including head coach Bill Yeoman.

Payments to players and granting of favors, such as use of gasoline credit cards and arrangement of bank loans, would violate NCAA rules and could mean penalties for the football program.
After three months and interviews with dozens of players and coaches, Zivley has finished his investigation, said Michael Johnson, interim athletic director.
But Johnson said at a news conference he could not comment on the findings until the NCAA had finished its own investigation. He said he did not know when that would be.
"I'm afraid that's all I can say at this time," Johnson said.
He confirmed Zivley had talked to UH-University Park Chancellor Richard Van Horn about his find-

ings. But the attorney has not written a report, Johnson said.
One regent, Don Sanders, said he did not know details of Zivley's investigation, but said no wrongdoing was found.
"I would assume that if there were anything bad we would have heard about it," Sanders said.
Hugh Walker, vice president for academic affairs, said Tuesday afternoon that the other investigation revealed problems between academic departments and athletes.
Academic department officials did not understand athletes' special problems such as scheduling, and the departments did not always help the athletes, he said.
Walker said about 50 percent of the athletes are admitted through

"special admission" procedures and do not meet regular admission criteria. He said the school wants cut that amount to about 25 percent in the next three to five years.
The special committee, which included representatives from the faculty and administration, suggested the school seek higher admission scores for athletes, that an academic committee evaluate requests for special admissions and that all student athletes work toward a degree as required by NCAA standards and in a period of five academic years.
The panel also recommended that all student athletes declare an academic major after completing the basic skills portion of the required core curriculum.

USFL players face uncertain future in football

NEW YORK (AP) — USFL players, faced with a second year of inactivity, still had no inkling Tuesday where or when they would next play football. Except for about a dozen, the outlook was bleak.
A committee headed by Jacksonville Bulls owner Fred Bullard was scheduled to meet Thursday with representatives of the USFL players' union to decide how to deal with the league's 400 to 500 players whose futures became uncertain following the league's decision Monday to suspend operations for 1986.
It was clear what most of the players wanted — the freedom to play in the NFL. It was also clear, however, that aside from the likes of Herschel Walker, Jim Kelly and a few more, that most USFL players would be lucky just to get a tryout.
The consensus was that most of them, who have not played since the league finished its third season last July, will be set free from their USFL obligations.
"I think it would be difficult to argue legally that there is a present intention by the USFL to play that allows the players to fulfill their obligations under the contract," said Leigh Steinberg, an at-

torney who represents USFL players. "Under those circumstances, they have to let them go."
It appeared that the earliest any could sign with the NFL would be Friday, the day after the meeting. In the interim, the NFL ordered its teams to refrain from talking to USFL players.
That did not sit well with the players or their agents, who were worried that the three weeks of training camp lost could never be made up.
"It's a matter of time," said Steinberg in a comment echoed by officials, scouts and general managers in both leagues. "We're already into the exhibition season and every day is critical. Anybody who goes into camp now is at a real disadvantage."
Kelly, the record-breaking quarterback, said he was ready to begin negotiations with the Buffalo Bills, the team he has shunned in the three years since they made him their first pick in the 1983 NFL draft.
But Walker, who has a personal services contract with New Jersey Generals owner Donald Trump, said he had not decided whether to try to join the Dallas Cowboys, who own his NFL rights.

Others didn't have that kind of choice.
"My career has been pretty checkered. This may be checkmate," said Ken Duneck, a journeyman tight end with the Baltimore Stars.
Most NFL officials agreed that description would apply to most USFL players.
"There just aren't a lot of players there," said an official of one NFL team who asked for anonymity because of the league's concern about tampering.
"They haven't played for a year so you can't expect them to be in very good shape, or very sharp. And most of the stuff has been picked over already. Most of the better players came over last year."
One possible opening might be an expansion of NFL rosters from 45 to 49. Cleveland Browns owner Art Modell, who voted to reduce rosters last year, said he had changed his mind and would move to expand them again when league owners meet in New York next Wednesday.
"We'd be creating 112 new jobs," he said. "It would be good public relations. And it would help some of those USFL guys," Modell said.

Trevino slowing, but still among golf's elite

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Lee Trevino's position among golf's great players is secure; his place in the history of the game is assured; his plaque already is on the wall at the World Golf Hall of Fame.
His rags to riches saga is part of the legend and lore of the game.
His brash and brassy personality, his quick wit, his endless one-liners made him one of the most popular players golf has known.
Trevino's record is highlighted by two U.S. Open titles, consecutive British Open triumphs, a pair of

PGA victories and that unique blitz in 1971 when, in a one-month period, he swept the U.S., Canadian and British Opens.
His schedule is reduced now. It has been curtailed by age (he is 46) and injury (a major back problem that threatened his career) and a financially-rewarding contract as a television commentator.
He has played only 10 times on the PGA Tour this year.
That he plays effectively is not in doubt. He has made the cut in all 10 starts, twice has been among the top

10 finishers, and has won \$74,315.
But he plays with a different attitude, a different approach now than he did during his glory years.
When the time comes around for golf's great championships, when the world's great players gather for major tests, however, the chattering Trevino still can be a factor.
It could happen again this week in the 68th PGA that begins Thursday at the Inverness Club.
"It all depends on the putting," Trevino said. "I'm not the putter now I once was. I never will be. But

I'll tell you this: if I never make another putt in my life, I'm ahead of 'em... I made more than my share."
He won the PGA in 1984. He was second to Hubert Green in this championship last year. In the difficult conditions at Shinnecock Hills and the U.S. Open two months ago, he got in the title hunt, once shared the lead in the final round and eventually finished fourth.
"Yeah," he said, that familiar, old mischievous twinkle in his eye, "I don't play like I used to."
"But I can still bite."

Bears' 'Rocky' ready to go the distance to make team

PLATTEVILLE, Wis. (AP) — Free-agent guard Joe Spivak, cut by the Chicago Bears at the end of last year's training camp, says he felt like the movies' "Rocky." Back again for another try, he vows this time it's going to be "Rocky II" for him.
Spivak is a Chicagoan who sees his dreams of joining the Bears as similar to those of the fighter in the "Rocky" movies.
"Rocky I" was last year — I went the distance but I didn't win," said Spivak. "And this year I'm going to try to go the distance and win by making the team — yes, 'Rocky II.'"
"Sylvester Stallone, when he made those movies, really knew something about the indomitable spirit of man," said Spivak, a former Illinois State lineman. "And that's what it is, all spirit."
If, in fact, it were all spirit, the 24-year-old Spivak would make the team with ease, said Coach Mike Ditka.

"He's our answer to Rocky. He's got a lot of heart and skills," said Ditka of the 6-foot, 280-pound Spivak. But Ditka added, "Really, I just wish he were a little taller."
Ditka noted that the Bears already have four big and talented offensive guards in 6-5 Kurt Becker, 6-6 Mark Bortz, 6-3 Stefan Humphries and 6-4 Tom Thayer.
But Spivak's stock rose when Humphries broke a toe in practice July 23. Humphries is not expected to be healthy until the regular season begins.
Spivak, a two-time All-Missouri Valley Conference lineman, likes his chances of sticking with the Bears, despite the odds.
"If I didn't think my chances were absolutely great, I wouldn't have come back," he said.
"I impressed some people last year," he said. "And if they didn't think I had a chance they wouldn't have asked me back."

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1:15 9:30

About Last Night (R)
3:15 5:30 7:45 9:45

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Ferris Bueller (PG13)
1:00 3:10 5:25 7:45 9:50

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Baltimore 9, Texas 2
California 13, Minnesota 1
Detroit 6, Cleveland 5, 1st game
Detroit 11, Cleveland 9, 2nd game
Milwaukee 2, New York 1, (10)
Chicago 3, Boston 1
Kansas City 8, Toronto 6
Oakland at Seattle, (n)

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