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# Young talent emerges at Wimbledon, ready to replace Navratilova, Evert

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Some are baseliners, modeling their game on Chris Evert, punching passing shots down the line. Others serve and volley on the fast grass courts, adopting the style of Martina Navratilova. One even tries to play a little like both veterans; another is already a champion in her own right. But Steffi Graf, Gabriela Sabatini, Mary Joe Fernandez, Natalia Zvereva and Jana Novotna all have one thing in common: They are the new breed of Wimbledon teen-agers and they've left their mark on the world's most prestigious grass-court tournament. Of the 16 women in Tuesday's fourth round, five were in their teens, recalling the era of the mid-1970s when Americans Evert, Tracy Austin and Andrea Jaeger burst onto the pro circuit. Four were in opposition, West Germany's Graf playing Czechoslovakia's Novotna, Argentina's Sabatini meeting the Soviet Union's Zvereva, while on an outside court, America's Fernandez faced 30-year-

old Diane Balestrat of Australia. The matches went according to form, Graf and Sabatini, both in the world's top ten, ousting their less experienced opponents to set up a quarterfinal clash, and Balestrat proving too strong for Fernandez. Zvereva, a 16-year-old from Minsk playing with a blue ribbon in her hair, looked nervous at the start of her match with Sabatini on Centre Court, dropping the opening set in 17 minutes. Then, her awe turned to inspiration as she showed the sun-drenched crowd what she could do, pulling the Argentine into the net with drop shots and then lobbing her, and going for the lines with her strong double-fisted backhand. She took the second set and squared the match, but could not keep it up in the deciding set and lost 6-0, 2-6, 6-4. "At 4-3 in the third set, I thought I might have a chance to win," Zvereva said. "But she played very well at that moment. Also I was very tired and my leg was hurting." Asked if she modeled her game

on any one player, she smiled and replied: "I try to play a little bit like Chris and a little bit like Martina. It's the best way, yes?" Sabatini, at 17 only a year older than her opponent, reacted as if the age gap was far greater. "She's still very young," said the Argentine, a semifinalist here last year and now a regular on the women's tour. "But she's got a very good backhand, a good passing shot and it's very hard to play against her." Graf, at 18 the hottest women's player in the game with a seven-month unbeaten record, was given a tough time by Novotna, also 18. The stocky Czechoslovak, ranked 84th in the world, served and volleyed powerfully and gave Graf her hardest match to date in the tournament. "I try to play like Martina or Hana Mandlikova, it's the only way on grass," said Novotna. "Steffi beat me 6-0, 6-1 at the French Open in Paris and I was a little bit scared of the same result," said Novotna, who has not yet turned professional.

Graf, the French Open champion who is unbeaten in 43 straight matches, predicted Novotna would become a very tough player. "She runs well, has a very good volley and good touch. It was very important for me to have a difficult match after three easy ones," West German said. Out on Court No. 4, Fernandez, youngest of the Wimbledon teen-agers, held a 4-2 first-set lead over Balestrat before losing 7-5, 6-2. Just like her heroine, Evert, the foot-8 Fernandez, with braces on her teeth and her hair in braids, stayed mostly on the baseline. Unlike Evert she did not have the shots to go away the Australian. "When I was growing up, heroes were (Bjorn) Borg and Chris Evert. I guess I tried to copy them," Fernandez, who was born in the Dominican Republic but moved to Miami, Fla., with her family at 10 months. "But last year, I lost in a first round to Chris and realized I had a lot to learn. I guess I'm learning."

## Mets' bullpen struggling with Orosco and McDowell

NEW YORK (AP) — There is no relief in sight for the New York Mets' struggling bullpen. The defending world champions have lost two straight games after blowing four-run leads. The major culprits in each game were relievers Jesse Orosco and Roger McDowell. "Our bullpen keeps blowing leads," Mets Manager Davey Johnson said Monday night after first-place St. Louis beat New York 8-7 in 11 innings. "We're just not as sharp as we were last year." The Mets led 7-5 when starter John Mitchell was removed in the seventh inning. But the Cardinals scored two runs against McDowell to tie the score, and won the game on Ozzie Smith's RBI single off Orosco in the 11th. On Sunday, the Mets lost 5-4 after leading 4-0 through seven no-hit innings by Ron Darling. Again, Orosco and McDowell couldn't hold the lead.

Orosco, last year's bullpen ace, is now 1-6 with a 5.45 earned run average. McDowell is 4-3 with a 4.95 ERA. "Am I frustrated with myself? Frustrated that I didn't get the job done?" McDowell asked after Monday night's loss. "Yes. They go hand in hand." A third member of the Mets' bullpen, Doug Sisk, says he hopes Johnson doesn't lose faith in Orosco and McDowell. "You can't neglect them," said Sisk, who is 3-1 with a 3.38 ERA. "The worst thing to do would be to give them time to think (by not using them)." The Cardinals' victory gave them a 7½-game lead over New York and Montreal in the National League East. "Now we have to win two," Mets third baseman Howard Johnson said. "It's as simple as that. We can't get any deeper than we are now."

## Reds still rule West with win over Astros

CINCINNATI (AP) — Kurt Stillwell scored from second base on Tracy Jones' infield single in the bottom of the 10th inning Tuesday night to give the Cincinnati Reds a 5-4 victory over the Houston Astros. The victory preserved the Reds' hold on first place in the National League West, giving Cincinnati a 1½-game lead over the second-place Astros. Cincinnati has led the division since May 29th. Larry Andersen, 5-4, the third Houston pitcher, set up the Reds' winning rally by walking Stillwell and Kal Daniels with one out. Terry Francona fouled out, and Jones beat out a grounder to shortstop Dickie Thon for an infield hit, with Stillwell continuing around third base and sliding head first to beat the relay home. Jones' single was the Reds' first hit since the fourth inning and gave the victory to reliever John Franco, 5-2, who pitched two perfect innings. The Reds took a 4-1 lead as

right-hander Mike Scott struggled in the first four innings, but the Astros used Billy Hatcher's singles and consecutive sixth-inning homers by Jose Cruz and Alan Ashby off Bill Gullickson to tie the score 4-4 tie. The Reds went ahead 3-0 in the second on Bo Diaz's RBI double, Ron Oester's single and Daniels' run-scoring ground out. Daniels led off the Reds' fourth with the fifth homer for a 4-1 lead. Hatcher kept the Astros close with three singles and a pair of stolen bases. He singled in the third, stole second and scored when shortstop Barry Larkin dropped Glenn Davis' pop up for an error. Hatcher singled again in the fifth and scored on Dennis Walling's hit-and-run double. Cruz lined a 3-2 pitch over the right-field fence for his seventh homer in the sixth inning, and Ashby hit the next pitch over the center-field fence for his sixth homer. Cruz's homer was his first hit against the Reds in 24 at-bats this season.

## White Sox GM disgruntled with team's performance

CHICAGO (AP) — It's a good thing nobody offered Chicago White Sox General Manager Larry Himes a bet last spring about how well the team would play this year. "If someone last spring had told me we'd be 20 games under .500 at this stage of the season, I'd have bet my house against it," said Himes. "Of course, I'd have lost my house." Mired in last place after losing 22 of their last 28 games, the White Sox have disappointed Himes, who took over as GM last fall for Ken Harrelson. "I'm disappointed to the extent we're as far out as we are," said Himes, who has held several meetings with Manager Jim Fregosi and the coaching staff in hopes of sparking some better results. "We felt we had to make the people on the club aware that the only

way to do this is to work on the basic fundamentals," said Himes. "There have been some improvements but not to my satisfaction." Himes has been criticized in Chicago for not making any moves in view of the team's poor performance. "You have to be patient," said Himes, who appeared to be ready to make some changes if — and when — the right offer comes. "If the opportunities present themselves, we'll entertain trades," Himes said. "As things go along, we expect to get some calls from contending clubs." But Himes is not out to make any immediate, temporary fixes. "Anything we do will be predicated on trades for the long-term future. We are looking for young talent. This is a young man's game in attitude and enthusiasm," he said.

## Mariners down Rangers 5-2

ARLINGTON (AP) — Mark Langston threw a six-hitter while striking out 11 and John Moses drove in three runs Tuesday night as the Seattle Mariners beat Texas 5-2 to snap a five-game Rangers winning streak. Langston, 10-6, went the distance for the eighth time in 17 starts and increased his American League-leading strikeout total to 137. Texas starter Mike Loynd, 1-4, gave up a second-inning home run to Alvin Davis, his sixth, then was chased when Seattle scored three times in the fifth. David Valle's leadoff walk got Seattle started in the fifth. Rey Qui-

nonos followed with a single as both runners advanced on Harry Reynolds' fly to right. Moses' sacrifice bunt to right made it 3-1, and Moses' second when the throw from the outfield came to the plate. Moses scored the third run of the inning on Phil Bradley's double. Moses accounted for the Seattle run when he singled in the seventh to score Reynolds, who doubled to left with two out. Texas scored in the third when Bob Brower doubled to right, and third and came in on Jerry Brower sacrifice fly to center. In the ninth, Pete Incavigli doubled and scored on a one-single by Mike Stanley.

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