

# Sports

## Martina's record hopes remain, Becker beats defending champ

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Martina Navratilova kept alive her Wimbledon bid for a seventh straight singles title and record ninth overall with a remarkable comeback, while Mats Wilander's hopes for a Grand Slam sweep were dashed Wednesday.

Navratilova rallied from a set down and 4-2 deficits in the second and third sets to beat unseeded Rosalyn Fairbank 4-6, 6-4, 7-5 and move into the semifinals for the 11th year in a row.

"I was playing on instincts and guts," Navratilova said after winning her 46th straight singles match at Wimbledon.

Wilander's dream of becoming the first man since Rod Laver in 1969 to win the Grand Slam ended in nightmarish fashion against ninth-seeded Miloslav Mecir, who eliminated the second seed 6-3, 6-1, 6-3 in a two-hour quarterfinal.

The smooth-swinging Czechoslovakian, nicknamed the "Swede Killer" for his success against that country's players, improved his record against Wilander to 7-4 with a practically perfect display of tennis.

"It was hard to do anything because he wasn't missing anything," said Wilander, who was trying to add Wimbledon to his Australian and French Open titles.

In another men's quarterfinal, two-time winner Boris Becker used an overpowering serve to beat defending champion Pat Cash 6-4, 6-3, 6-4. Becker's next opponent is top-seeded Ivan Lendl, who beat No. 10 Tim Mayotte 7-6, 7-6, 6-3.

Becker, the only man left who hasn't lost a set, was broken just once by Cash.

"If you play the defending champion, you obviously have to play your best to beat him, and that's what I did," the West German said.

Mecir, runner-up at the 1986 U.S. Open, missed several months before Wimbledon because of back problems. He had no problems against Wilander, though, breaking him five times in a row starting in the eighth game of the first set and winning 21 points in a row on serve during one stretch.

"When I needed to break him, I did," Mecir

said. "I was always up. He had a couple of break points in the first set, but he didn't win them. That gave me a lot of confidence and maybe Mats got a little nervous."

Mecir will face another Swede, third-seeded Stefan Edberg, in the semifinals. Edberg beat unseeded Patrick Kuhn of West Germany 6-3, 4-6, 6-1, 7-6 to reach the semifinals for the second straight year.

"I just refused to lose," said Navratilova, who will play Chris Evert for the 78th time when they meet in the semifinals Thursday. Top-seeded Steffi Graf plays No. 3 Pam Shriver in the other semifinal.

History, more than Fairbank, was on Navratilova's mind when it appeared her Wimbledon winning streak was about to end. She years for her ninth singles title, which would break the record set by Helen Wills Moody in 1938.

"I thought, 'What a way to go, Court 14 to Roz Fairbank in the quarterfinals,'" Navratilova said. "But I want that ninth title too bad, and I want it now, not next year."

## Heavyweight champion Tyson claims happiness is retiring for wife, himself

NEW YORK (AP) — Undeclared heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, saying he is "burned out," insists he is retiring from boxing. Others in the sport, however, are not convinced he will give up the sport that has brought him fame and fortune at a young age.

Tyson, who will be 22 Thursday, told the *New York Post's* Mike Marley, in a story published Wednesday, "You can't ever say never. But as of today, I am retired."

Tyson has won all 35 of his professional fights, 31 by knockout. He is coming off the most dynamic victory of his career, a devastating first-round knockout over previously unbeaten Michael Spinks at Atlantic City, N.J., Monday night, a bout that produced the biggest payday of his career — more than \$20 million.

However, the champion also has had family problems, and in an at-

tempt to smooth them over, he maintains he will not fight again.

"I'm willing to sacrifice, to give up boxing to save my family . . ." he said. "I just feel it's the best thing to do."

"The difference in my personal and professional lives is so vastly different," Tyson said while relaxing at his home in Bernardsville, N.J. "I'm depressed. I'm unhappy. Losing a baby like that (his wife, actress Robin Givens, recently suffered a miscarriage), when you're trying to fight, is very sad."

"I'm inexperienced in handling things like that. I've put my wife through a lot of stress."

"I had fun. Boxing was good to me, but nothing lasts forever. After this fight I thought it over. I decided it's time to move on. It's time to call it a day."

Tyson conceded that skeptics

might not believe he will retire, but he is not concerned.

"They don't have to buy it," Tyson said. "They're not getting in the ring and doing the fighting I am."

Tyson said he "heard (promoter) Don King and his guys laughing" when he made the comment about retiring following the Spinks fight.

"When he finds out I'm serious, he won't be laughing," Tyson said.

King was quoted in Wednesday's *New York Times* as saying, "I think Mike Tyson needs a rest, which is what he calls retirement. He's fought for three years nonstop."

Efforts to reach Tyson and King Wednesday were not successful.

Tyson had indicated after the match against Spinks that it might be his last fight, but he was not as emphatic as in his comments which appeared in the *Post*.

"As far as I know, this may be my

last fight," he said Monday night.

However, he is tentatively set to fight England's Frank Bruno on Sept. 3 in London.

Former world light heavyweight champion Jose Torres, a close friend of Tyson, said he was confident the Bruno fight would be held.

"He's going to fight Sept. 3," Torres said. "I'm positive."

Tyson, however, says negative.

"This is no way to live," he said. "I've had fun. I live to fight when I'm in that ring. But I'm not a happy guy. It's my nature, I guess I'm moody. I know people will think I'll come back."

"They think I can't stay retired. But I can do it. I want to do it, even though I love it. I can stop fighting cold turkey. After getting married, after losing my first child, I have different priorities. Losing my first child, that was hell."

## Major League Baseball

### Astros' woes continue against L.A.

HOUSTON (AP) — Los Angeles' Orel Hershiser pitched a two-hitter for his fifth consecutive victory, outdueling Houston's Nolan Ryan as the Dodgers beat the Astros 2-0 Wednesday.

The victory enabled the Dodgers to extend their National League West Division lead to 4½ games over second place Houston.

For Hershiser, 12-3, it was the fifth two-hitter of his major league career. He struck out six and walked only one.

Los Angeles' first run came in the third inning when Ryan walked three, threw a wild pitch and hit Mike Marshall with the bases loaded, forcing in Steve Sax.

The Dodgers added an insurance run in the eighth, when Kirk Gibson singled, stole second and scored on a single by Marshall. After Marshall's hit, Juan Agosto replaced Ryan, 5-6.

Hershiser retired the first seven Houston batters before rookie Craig Biggio singled to center in the third for his first major league hit.

Billy Hatcher beat out a grounder to third in the fifth for the other Astros hit, but he was erased when Louie Meadows hit into a double play.

Ryan lost his fourth straight decision despite striking out 10 batters for the 178th time in his career. He leads the National League with 118 strikeouts.

### Giants, 'The Natural' scalp Braves

ATLANTA (AP) — Don Robinson, making his first start in almost three years, allowed two hits in six innings and Will Clark hit his league-leading 19th home run as the San Francisco Giants defeated the Atlanta Braves 7-2 Wednesday night.

The victory was the Giants' third in a row and sixth in seven games. Atlanta has dropped three straight.

Robinson, 3-1, who had made 31 relief appearances this year

and had not started since Aug. 18, 1985, gave up two-out singles to Dion James and Dale Murphy in the fourth inning.

The right-hander walked one and struck out two. Scott Garrelts allowed five hits in three innings and earned his fifth save.

Clark, who has become known as "The Natural" and leads the NL in RBI with 62, hit a solo shot in the fifth off Pete Smith, 2-8.

### Cincinnati loses 8th out of last 10

CINCINNATI (AP) — Roberto Alomar hit a tie-breaking two-run homer and Eric Show scattered five hits over 8½ innings Wednesday night as the San Diego Padres won the rubber game of a three-game series against the Cincinnati Reds. The Padres defeated the Reds 3-2.

Alomar hit his sixth homer of the year in the fifth inning off Tim Lincecum, 0-1. Birtsas was making his first start in the National League.

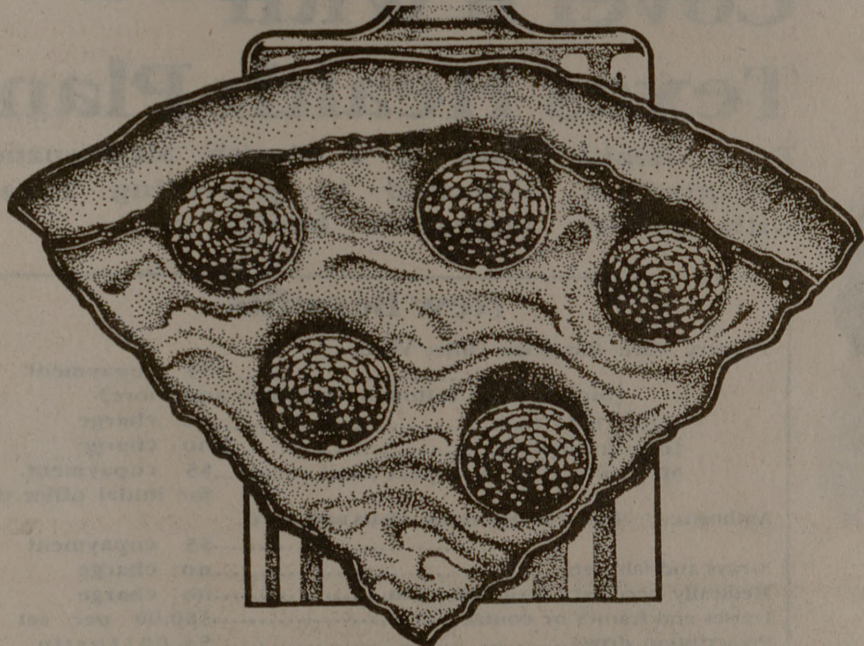
The fourth-place Reds lost for the eighth time in 10 games to fall

10½ games behind the first-place Los Angeles Dodgers in the NL West. The Padres are 11½ back.

However, San Diego does have an 18-14 record under newly hired manager Jack McKeon. McKeon was hired after the club got off to a dismal start under the guidance of Larry Bowa.

01902502Show, 6-8, won for the first time against Cincinnati since Aug. 15, 1986, a span covering seven starts. He gave up solo homers to rookie sensation Chris Sabo in the first and Paul O'Neill in the seventh.

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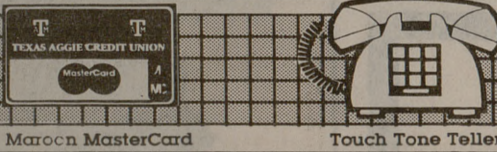
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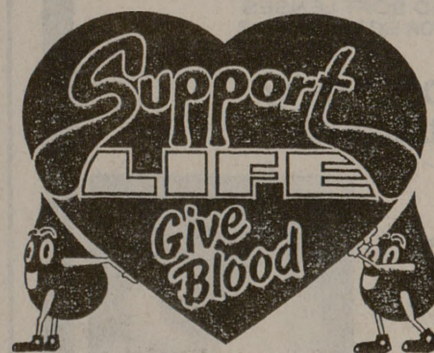
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