SPORTS



Becker outlasts Sampras

STUTTGART, Germany — Buoyed by a roaring home crowd and pelting his opponent with 29 aces, Boris Becker ral-lied from a set down Sunday to beat Pete Sampras in five sets and win the Eurocard Open

Becker was at his best on the indoor court, posting a 3-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory and ending the 21-match win-ning streak of the world's No. 1 player,

"He's to Germany what Michael Jor-"He's to Germany what Michael Jor-dan is to the United States," Sampras said. "There's only one king in Germany and his name is Boris."

Becker, cheered at every move by a crowd of 7,200, won the 48th title of his career, 29 of those indoors.

e tournament field, one of the best ever, began with 29 of the world's top 30 entered. Players such as Becker and Andre Agassi are still trying to qualify for the year-end ATP Tour World Champion-ship.

Becker's victory almost guaranteed himself a spot in the Nov. 19-24 tournament, which features the world's eight best players.

Becker, who had been sidelined with a wrist injury since Wimbledon in June, was playing in only his third tournament since his comeback. He gained the deciding break at 2-1 in the fifth set, slamming a backhand winner down the line.

'My muscles started to hurt in the fifth set, but I gritted my teeth and hung on, said Becker, who will move up to No. 3 when the new rankings are released Monday.

MLB labor deal in limbo

NEW YORK - A day after players announced they had reached a tentative labor deal with owners, acting commis-sioner Bud Selig said Sunday he hadn't scheduled a meeting to consider ratification

Meanwhile, a management source said owners probably would allow the players who need service time from the strike to become eligible for free agency to file provisionally and assume there will be a labor agreement that grants them the service time.

Several management sources said it was unlikely owners would meet this week, but they said owners may gather requires approval from at least 21 of the 28 clubs

"As far as I can tell, he (Selig) announced we still had a lot of negotiating to do, which was news to everyone involved in the negotiating process," union head Donald Fehr said Sunday. "Maybe has a lot of negotiating left to do with his own side.

Union officials have said the deal will collapse unless it's approved and final-ized by Nov. 10, the end of the free-agent filing period.

A deal would create 12 additional play ers eligible for free agency, including Chicago White Sox pitcher Alex Fernandez, Montreal outfielder Moises Alou and Expos pitcher Mel Rojas. Un-der the decision being contemplated by the owners, they would be able to file for free agency later this week.

Hamilton captures 1st win

PHOENIX — Bobby Hamilton won the Dura-Lube 500 at Phoenix International Raceway on Sunday, earning his first Winston Cup victory and giving car owner Richard Petty his first win in 13

With a record raceway crowd of 104,000 on its feet and shouting its approval, Hamilton's No. 43 Pontiac led the final 30 lars on the e final 30 laps on the one-mile oval, beating Mark Martin to the finish line by 1.23 seconds — about 20 car-lengths.

"We've come close before this, but we didn't quite have it together," said Petty, who was the driver when a Petty Enter prises car last won in October 1983. "To day, they had it all together and this really feels good."

Series points leader Terry Labonte was able to ignore his injured hand and drive to the brink of his second Winston Cup

In a tight poll, the Tar Heels were voted into the top spot, edging out Duke, Virginia, N.C. State and Clemson, all of which fell within 21 points of one an-

It may be cliche to say the ACC is a conference of basketball parity. But it's also the truth.

"It's been a dogfight since 1988-89," Maryland coach Chris Weller said. "It remains that way, possibly becoming a little deeper over the last few years. ... There isn't a weak team in the conference

Aside from, perhaps, Florida State. The Seminoles previewed at and finished at the bottom of the ACC last season, and despite handing the coaching reins to Chris Gobrecht this year, found themselves in the basement again.

when asked to analyze the ACC race

"I'm not familiar with the conference,"

A

took the loss.

Gobrecht said for the coming year If Gobrecht

ACC media listen to Hatchell, pick UNC 1st

wants to survive in this league, she had best start watching some tape of years past. The ACC has UNC junio

become a power conference, per-MARION JONES will return after haps the secondredshirting last collection of season. talent in the land to

the peerless Southeastern Conference. More than one coach at the Sunday session upheld that opinion.

SEC's always been a notch above us, and their top teams may be ahead of

us." Duke coach Gail Goestenkors said 'But I feel from top to bottom, we've got

the best conference. It's just wide-open." What has launched the Tar Heels to the top of the preseason charts is un-doubtedly the return of junior guard Marion Jones, who redshirted last season to train for the 1996 Olympics. A broken foot derailed her summer plans, but it is a healthy Jones — along with junior all-ACC forward Tracy Reid and Junot all ACC Rookie of the Year Chanel Wright — slated to lead the Tar Heels back to the 30-win success UNC enjoyed in Jones' freshman and sophomore years. "With those three players and not be-ing ranked (nationally), I must be a pretty bad coach," Hatchell said.

are suffering from a host of preseason

The two teams below UNC in the early poll, the Blue Devils and Cavaliers.

Duke's squad, which Goestenkors said has the potential to be the best team the school's ever seen, will have to deal with the loss of Ty Hall (pelvic stress fracture) and Peyton Black (hamstring) early in

the year. The Wahoos, already coping with the graduation of two-time ACC Player of the Year Wendy Palmer, may have junior swingman Monick Foote for the

"It's quite a lot for us to deal with," Virginia coach Debbie Ryan said. "If we get Monick back, we're a contender. If ve don't, we're going to struggle." When asked if it would bother her if

her team wouldn't be ranked atop the conference in preseason, Ryan said, with me. Who you pick for No. 1 now

New York fends off Braves' rally, captures World Series in 6 games

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS NEW YORK — This is the story of the ultimate comeback — of a New York Yankees team that never gave up and

BY KURT TONDORF

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

on Sunday for North Carolina women's basketball coach Sylvia Hatchell to state

why her 1996-97 Tar Heel team should

be granted more respect by the media.

But the UNC coach apparently con-vinced her audience at ACC Operation Basketball that the Tar Heels had im-

proved enough to become the

conference's team to beat, as the annual

session's media contingent declared UNC

the preseason favorite to win the ACC

"This team is stronger than the one I had in 1994," Hatchell said. "Last time

we were in a position like this, great things happened."

Six minutes, in fact.

crown

GREENSBORO-It didn't take long

never lost heart. Given no chance of winning the World Series after two humbling losses at home.

the Yankees won their first title since 1978 with a 3-

1978 with a 3-... 3 2 victory over the defending champion Atlanta Braves in Game 6 Saturday night.

Jimmy Key, who missed almost all of last year because of shoulder trouble, worked the first 5 1/3 innings and then manager Joe Torre turned it over to his vaunted bullpen to clinch the Yankees' record 23rd championship.

"There are so many moving stories on this Yankee club," owner George Steinbrenner said. "I've never seen such mentally tough team as this bunch of Yankees.

John Wetteland, the fifth New York pitcher, became the first reliever to record four saves in a Series — earning him the MVP award — despite giving up a run in the ninth.

Marquis Grissom's RBI single with two outs pulled Atlanta within a run and put runners at first and second. Mark Lemke fouled out to third baseman Charlie Hayes to end the game and start a celebration marked with a massive pileup of Yankees on the mound.

Yankees beat Greg Maddux in becoming the first team to win a game at home in this Series.

Two days after a 1-0 win, New York again put together enough hits to win by a run — in baseball's Year of the Homer,

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what it's like to stand on the sideline opposite the Dallas Cowboys when

The Super Bowl champions beat the coach who built them Sunday. Troy

Aikman threw for 363 yards, including 12 completions to Michael Irvin for 186

yards, and Dallas dominated Johnson's

in a row, but still trail Washington by two games in the NFC East. Miami (4-4) has

In the week leading up to the long-anticipated showdown, Johnson was on

his best behavior, possibly because he

knew he was outmanned. Dallas

The Cowboys (5-3) won their fourth

ey're playing well. Not much fun.

Miami Dolphins 29-10.

lost four of its past five games

MIAMI - Jimmy Johnson found out

there were none in the final two For the 56-yearold Torre, it brought redemption in his first year as Yankees manager. He had played and man-

aged in 4,272 games without reaching the Series Atlanta pitche **GREG MADDUX** gave up three runs in the longest the third inning and

streak in major league history and once was fired

as Atlanta's man

ager. The win came a day after his brother, Frank, received a desperately needed heart transplant at a New York hospital. "I never had any doubts about this club," Torre said. "When you get as old

as I am, you learn to appreciate it. It might come only once. My brother Frank with the heart yes-

terday. My brother, Rocco, too. I know he was with me tonight," Torre said, referring to the brother who died of a heart attack during the season.

For veterans like Wade Boggs and ecil Fielder, it brought them their first World Series championship. Boggs celebrated by climbing aboard

a police horse and riding around the outfield while his teammates took a victory lap to the standing ovation of the 56.375 fans. In 1986, he was within one out of a title when Boston lost the Series to the New York Mets.

'Our heart is as big as the Twin Towers right now," Boggs said.

Aikman, Irvin lead Cowboys past Dolphins

stadium history, including two Super

For the first time, Johnson had reason

to regret drafting Aikman while at Dal-las. Aikman hit 33 of 41 passes for three

scores, with no interceptions. The most damaging completion came when a breakdown in the secondary left

Irvin wide open on third-and-17. The result was a 61-yard gain, setting up a 2-

yard touchdown pass from Aikman to Irvin for a 22-10 lead in the third quarter.

Irvin's reception total tied his career

Aikman also threw for touchdowns

in 1st round of Johnson-Jones showdown

The Braves, who had "Team of the 90s" inscribed on their championship rings after last year, have reached the World Series in four of the last five stseasons but won only one title. Braves manager Bobby Cox was not

around to watch his team's last loss. He was ejected in the fifth inning "If you have to lose, I don't mind losing to Joe Torre. He's a class act," Cox

said. "After going two up, you figure you're going to win one or two at home." They almost came back in the ninth. Ryan Klesko and Terry Pendleton singled with one out and pinch-hitter Luis Polonia struck out. Grissom singled

before Wetteland retired Lemke. Key gave up five hits and one run. David Weathers relieved Key and got one out and Graeme Lloyd, booed off the mound at Yankee Stadium after being traded to New York from Milwaukee in August, also got one out before setup star Mariano Rivera pitched two innin

Lloyd turned out to be a Series star and cleared general manager Bob Watson, who thought his job was in jeopardy when the deal didn't look too d at the start

Gimpy Paul O'Neill, who made a running catch that finished the Yankees win in Game 5, hit a double that began a run burst off Maddux in the third. O'Neill moved to third on a groundout

and, with the infield playing in, Joe Girardi — Maddux's former catcher on the Chicago Cubs - tripled over o was playing his usual shal-Grissom, wh low center field.

Derek Jeter singled for a 2-0 lead, stole second and scored on Bernie Williams single.

covering 4 yards to Eric Bjornson and 10

yards to Emmitt Smith. Dan Marino, back in the lineup after

missing three games with a broken right ankle, completed only 12 of 27 attempts

for 173 yards against the NFL's top-ranked pass defense.

The Dolphins' lone touchdown came

on Marino's 16-yard pass to fullback

The Cowboys had 248 yards and 15 first downs at halftime, but still trailed

10-9. They mounted drives of 55, 68 and

66 yards before settling for field goals of 33, 29 and 24 yards by Chris Boniol.

Stanley Pritchett.

ON THE ROAD **Field hockey tackles ODU**

this weekend

The top-ranked North Carolina field hockey team avenged its only loss of the season on Saturday, topping No. 3 Old Dominion 4-2 before an NCAA-record crowd of 2,765 at Foreman Field in Norfolk. Va.

UNC forward Kate Barber provided the game-winner when she netted a shot from outside the circle to give the Tar Heels (15-1) a 3-1 advantage with just under 10 minutes left. ODU's Mimis scored two minutes later, but UNC's Nancy Pelligreen tipped in a penalty

corner by Susannah Schott for the Tar Heels' final cushion. The game broke

the old regular-season attendance record of 1,976 set by the two teams in 1993.

UNC iunior The Lady Mon-KATE BARBER archs (14-3) snapped the Tar netted the game winner Saturda Heels' 28-game win streak with a 4-3 double overtime

victory on Sept. 22. "We wanted to play in a stadium atmosphere, and this was good prepara-tion for the NCAA tournament scene," UNC coach Karen Shelton said. "We UNC coach Karen Shelton said. "We hoped to feed off the crowd and use that to our advantage, whether they were cheering for us or not." UNC struck within the game's first minute when midfielder Abbi Keller

sailed a penalty stroke past Monarch goalie Jamie Hill. ODU tied the contest at the 23:32 mark on a strike from Rosemarie van der Rijt, but Schott nailed a penalty corner with 13 seconds left in the first half to break the 1-1 deadlock

Soccer shuts out foes

UNC's women's soccer team notched its 11th and 12th shutouts of the season this weekend, bageling No. 10 Wiscon-sin and No. 12 Minnesota at the Wiscon-sin Soccer Invitational in Madison, Wis.

Freshman forward Laurie Schwoy garnered Most Valuable Offensive Player plaudits for the tournament after totalling three of the team's six goals in the two contests. Back Amy Roberts nabbed

Most Valuable Defensive Player honors. Schwoy netted two strikes in the first 20 minutes to pace the Tar Heels (15-1) over Wisconsin (11-3-3) 4-0 on Sunday.

The Baltimore native sent a Roberts pass into the upper right corner of the net for the game-winner against the Badgers, then knocked the ball in off a corner kick to increase UNC's advantage to 2-0.

Midfielder Aubrey Falk headed in a cross from Lorrie Fair to finish the firsthalf scoring, and Debbie Keller recorded the Tar Heels' final tally when she tapped in a shot off a corner kick.

UNC outshot the Badgers 14-5 and on its seventh straight contest.

Goals by Schwoy and Falk enabled the Tar Heels to creep past Minnesota 2-0 on Friday. Schwoy headed in a cross by Sarah Dacey during the 15th minute, and Falk added the insurance goal from

15 yards out after gathering a loose ball. UNC goalkeepers Gretchen UNC goalkeepers Gretchen Overgaard and Siri Mullinix combined for six saves in shutting out the Golden Gophers (12-4). The Tar Heels outshot Minnesota 15-9.

Sweeper Nel Fettig, midfielder Rebekah McDowell and forward Robin Confer were also named to the all-tournament squad

Georgia sinks swimmers

UNC'smen's and women's swimming and diving teams lost a pair of close contests to Georgia this weekend at Gabrielson Natatorium in Athens, Ga.

The Bulldog men avenged an upset loss to the Tar Heels a year ago by captur-

ing a 155-139 decision. North Carolina's

women fell 174-126 at the dual competi-

tion, the season-opener for both schools. UNC's Richelle Depold posted quali-

fying times for three events in next

fying times for three events in next. March's NCAA Championships in In-dianapolis — the 50- and 100-yard freestyles and the 100-yard butterfly. She set a school record with a 52.82 in the

100-yard butterfly, breaking the old mark of 53.91 set in 1985.

are the second fastest in UNC history. She finished the 50 in 22.89 and the 100

qualified for the championships with a 1:59.81 in the 200-yard butterfly, good for second in North Carolina's record

Volleyball falls to 'Noles

North Carolina's volleyball team

squandered a 2-1 lead in losing to Florida

State 3-2 at Tully Gymnasium in Talla-hassee on Friday. The two-hour, 25-minute match ended with the Tar Heels

falling to the Seminoles 10-15, 15-8, 9-15, 15-7, 15-10.

six contests after taking an early advan-tage. The Tar Heels limited FSU to a .039 hitting percentage in the first game, but the Noles rebounded to snag the second

After splitting the next two games, FSU never trailed to capture the fifth

game and the victory. Tori Seibert amassed 20 kills and a

.432 percentage in leading the Tar Heels. Setter Erin Berg contributed 49 assists. FROM STAFF REPORTS

11

game by hitting .600.

UNC (14-10, 4-6) lost its fifth match in

in 49.57.

Depold's times in the freestyle events

Tar Heel junior Chrissy Miller also

championship, finishing a strong third The 1984 champion will take a 47point lead over Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon and a 99-point margin over third-place Dale Jarrett into season-finale on Nov. 10 at Atlanta Motor Speedway. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

outscored Miami 20-0 in the second half and finished with 482 yards to 221 for the Dolphins.

Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, who hired Johnson at Dallas and fired him five years later after two Super Bowl titles, watched from a skybox as the grudge match turned into a rout. The game attracted 800 members of the me-dia and a crowd of 75,283, the largest in

LIZARD IN SNAKE GAFE

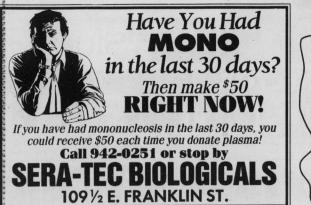
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