

The Living Room Times

All the Noise that's fit to print... Weekly!

252nd overall edition — Second regular weekly edition of 1995-1996 season

Monday, September 11, 1995

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 The return of
 Top Ten lists!



It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year... Freshman Bryan Rudolph gets off the bus on Tuesday, August 29, the first day of school at NHS.

Mr. Ruggerio's class a circus of learning and fun

Students in Mr. Ruggerio's fourth period Geometry class might sometimes think they spend 45 minutes each day attending a Barnum and Bailey circus.

And the ringmaster of Newington High's 'greatest show on earth,' teacher Lou Ruggerio, is also the class clown.

From torturing wasps to teasing students to making fun of the author of the Geometry textbook, Mr. Ruggerio makes sure there's never a dull moment in his class.

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Taco's car accident involved drunk driver Mr. Turner to press charges



"We will not drop the charges.... We are going to have our day in court with him. I certainly want to face him again."

—Mr. Turner

Teacher Ned Turner and his 77-year-old mother Evelyn were injured in a car accident on August 30, and in an interview with *LR Times* chief editor Brendan Loy on Friday, Mr. Turner said that the accident was caused by a

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Ned and Evelyn Turner injured by drunk driver

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drunk driver.

“We were coming from the Whitman in Farmington—I had taken [my mother] over for her seventy-seventh birthday—and we were just getting ready to pull out,” Mr. Turner, who is more commonly known among students as Taco, said. “And this guy who had just ‘a little bit’ too much to drink—and we could certainly smell that by his breath—turned into the driveway of the Whitman, and broadsided us on my side of the car.”

“Our car just sort of, like jumped over, and everything like that. We were both pretty badly shaken up. [The other driver] gets out of his car and starts yelling at us like we were responsible for his accident, using some rather inappropriate language that my mother would have washed my mouth out for if I had ever used it in front of her.”

“We had a cellular phone in the car; we called 9-1-1. We just stayed in car, stayed calm, listened to the guy rant and rave, and I could—since I don’t drink myself, I could tell that the guy was tanked.”

“We just waited for the police to get there. The police told the guy to go sit in his car, and [they] took care of us first. We had to go over to John Dempsey Hospital.”

“The last thing we saw as we were going away was the cops were making the guy walk the line, and he was later arrested for drunk driving.”

“The police said, if that guy had been driving any faster, or if he’d hit us in a different way, we could have both been very seriously hurt.”

Taco was driving his mother’s car at the time the accident happened. He said that the car was totaled, and she will most likely be getting a new car.

Considering that this accident happened on his mother’s birthday, and that it will cause her to get a new car, Taco added that the accident ended up being, in a certain sense, “a strange way of getting her another birthday present.”

As far as why he had been out of work for four school days plus the Labor Day weekend, Taco explained that he went through a lot of pain after the fact.

“I felt fine at the accident. I think it was just the adrenaline. I was more concerned about my mother; she’s seventy-seven years old and not in the best of shape.”

“Next day, I woke up, and I could not move. I was in some of the worst pain I’ve ever felt in my life. I’ve

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Geometry with Ruggerio? It’s organized chaos

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Now, don’t misunderstand. There’s no shortage of real work going on in this unique class. There’s a lot of learning, and a lot of hard work. But there’s also a lot of fun.

In fact, that’s part of what makes the class so unusual. Mr. Ruggerio is constantly switching between goofiness and teaching. One minute, he’s a professor, the next he’s a clown, and the next, he’s a professor again. The change is so quick and abrupt, it’s quite remarkable.

And what’s even more remarkable: The students are able to go back and forth along with him, never taking the humor too far.

Examples? There’s plenty.

One thing Mr. Ruggerio’s class is most well-known for is torturing wasps.

Sound cruel? It... Well, it is.

Whenever a wasp comes flying into Room 226, Mr. Ruggerio makes certain it won’t fly out. He has one student turn off the lights, and another student close one of the classroom windows, while he closes the other window. This traps the wasp in the room, and turning the lights off encourages the insect to go towards the closed windows and try to get out.

Then Mr. Ruggerio picks up a cloth rag (which he also uses to erase the board), walks over to the window, and asks the class if he should make the wasp’s death quick and painless or slow and painful—or as he said one day in class, “stun it and mutilate it.”

Every time, the class chooses stun and mutilate. And every time, Mr. Ruggerio comes up with some new way to torture the insect.

The most recent time this sequence of events occurred, which was on Wednesday, Mr. Ruggerio was planning to kill the wasp somehow using the classroom fan. So he stunned it, picked it up, and tried to put it on a piece of Scotch tape. But just as he was putting it on the tape, the wasp flew away and fell somewhere on the floor.

“Listen, moron,” Mr. Ruggerio said to the wasp while crawling around the floor looking for it, “there’s absolutely nothing you can do to avoid this, so knock it off.”

“Don’t you hate it when you’re trying to kill something and it just squirms?” he asked the class. “I imagine this is how O.J. felt.”

When Mr. Ruggerio found the wasp, it used its one

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Car accident could cause 'Taco Trial'

(Continued from page 2)

not been so banged up since the days I used to play soccer in high school and college, and I'd be the one person to get creamed by about fifty guys who were much bigger than I was."

"But, this was really bad. They gave me pain-killers that knocked me into never-never-land; I didn't like that. So, I asked them to stop the pain-killers, and of course that happens, and the pain comes back. I said, 'Have you got anything that I can use, that I can take, [so] that I can function, and not be so zoned out so that I can't, you know, I don't know which day it is, or anything like that?'"

"So they do have me on some medication which is non-narcotic, and I can function and everything like that. I still have some stiffness; I have to get physical therapy this afternoon, and next Wednesday; and I have to take a bath every evening."

As for how well he is recovering mentally, Taco said, "I'm recovering. I'm recovering pretty much. I started going stir-crazy Wednesday at home....I needed to get back to school....I figured if I didn't get back here soon, my body would say, 'Oh, summer vacation again' and I'd go into my vacation mode, so I'd head back to the beach again or something like that."

"Are there any chances of this situation creating The Taco Trial?" Brendan asked towards the end of the interview.

"Nothing like the O.J.," Taco stated. "Of course the [other driver's] lawyer is already calling, trying to get us to drop the charges. We will *not* drop the charges, unless he plea-bargains his way out of it or something like that. We are going to have our day in court with him. I certainly want to face him again. We'll see what happens with that."

On a lighter note, Brendan asked Mr. Turner if he thought "it would be fair" to call him "Professor Taco."

"Uh, okay, put it this way. In my class, I'm having my students call me Mr. Turner, and I'm insisting upon that. 'Taco' belonged back in middle school as far as calling me that in the classroom. Now certainly, in the corridors and stuff like that, I have no real control over that. I will certainly be looking for a lot more respect on the high school level, because I think we should be showing more respect for each other on the high school level."

Mr. Turner became famous last year at Martin Kellogg for his frequent use of the word 'Okay' and his love of Mexican food, which earned him his nickname. His class was considered a 'crazy class,' and he became very popular among eighth graders. This year, he teaches at John Wallace during the morning, and then comes to Newington High to teach a seventh period Spanish class.

Never a dull moment found in Room 226

(Continued from page 2)

means of self defense—surprise, surprise, it stung him! After spending a few seconds yelling at the wasp, he abandoned his original plan and just squished it on the floor.

"Is it still hurting?" someone in the class asked several minutes later, referring to Mr. Ruggerio's finger.

"It's killing me!" Mr. Ruggerio responded.

"You really need some alcohol," Keith Druckenmiller suggested.

"I like this guy," Mr. Ruggerio joked, thinking of a slightly different definition of alcohol. "I really like this guy."

A few days earlier, when a fly came into the room and someone suggested that the class should try the same trick with it as they use with wasps, Mr. Ruggerio said that the fly would be too dumb to know to head for the window.

"In terms of intelligence—and correct me if I'm wrong on this for those of you who are experts in biology—it goes bees, flies, freshmen."

The fun in the class goes beyond insects, however. Often, the humor involves the subject Mr. Ruggerio is teaching, and the students he's teaching to.

One day in class, Keith Druckenmiller suggested that there could be such a thing as a "straight triangle."

"There is no such thing as a straight triangle," Mr. Ruggerio said. He then mumbled something about there also being no such thing "as a straight Druckenmiller."

Another day, Mr. Ruggerio, referring to a diagram in the textbook, asked the class, "How many angles in the picture appear to be right?"

"The measure of an angle cannot be assumed," Mary Belizzi responded confidently.

"You're a genius. I love you," Mr. Ruggerio said to Mary, who he often refers to as 'The Lovely Miss Belizzi.'

Friday in class, someone in the front of the room pushed Mr. Ruggerio.

From the back of the room, Brendan Loy said, "Grab him by the place where the bee stung him on his finger."

"Listen, mister," Mr. Ruggerio said to Brendan, "there's not very many people in this room who I can beat up, but you're one of them."

Just another case of Lou Ruggerio, class clown.

For the first time since December 9, 1994...

The Living Room Times features Top Ten lists
from “The Late Show With David Letterman”



<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TOP TEN SURPRISES IN THE MARK FUHRMAN TAPES</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Refers to Norwegians as “herring-gorged tundra monkeys” 9. Brags about planting overdue library books at O.J.’s house 8. Admits to crying at that talking pig movie 7. When you play tapes backwards, you hear theme song to “Friends” 6. Judge Ito’s nickname around courthouse locker room: “Sir Lance-A-Little” 5. Performs beautiful medley of love duets with Marge Schott 4. Accuses O.J. of killing Anna Nicole Smith’s husband 3. Claims he stopped Michael Jackson for speeding, but let him go when he saw it wasn’t a black guy 2. ***CENSORED*** 1. Can’t spell O.J. <p style="text-align: right;">Letterman Thursday, August 17, 1995 Copyright Worldwide Pants, Inc. 1995</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TOP TEN OTHER REASONS JUDGE ITO MIGHT STEP DOWN</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Dead have asked him to replace Jerry Garcia 9. Last week, found himself believing something Johnnie Cochran said 8. Has summertime share in the Poconos with Judge Wapner 7. Got one of them “eat-the-crust-first” pizza commercials 6. Last night, broke into Mark Fuhrman’s house and tried to O.J. the guy 5. Tired of seeing his reflection in Chris Darden’s head 4. Going to be on a new Court-TV show about five real-life judges sharing a loft in London 3. Murder weapon found in his beard 2. Misses Rosa Lopez. Loves Rosa Lopez. Must be with Rosa Lopez. 1. Bad case of bench rash <p style="text-align: right;">Letterman Thursday, August 16, 1995 Copyright Worldwide Pants, Inc. 1995</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TOP TEN THINGS REVEALED IN NEWT GINGRICH EXPOSE</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Though his name is Newt, he’s actually half salamander 9. Can eat a mound of peanuts as big as his head 8. ***CENSORED*** 7. Once had an actual newt lodged in his Gingrich 6. Does a lot of “pounding the gavel,” if you know what I mean 5. For two years, hosted Donahue show 4. Dresses up like Unabomber, sneaks up on congressional aides and pops paper bags 3. His mom now has Connie Chung doing yardwork 2. Recently lost “World’s Goofiest Name” title to Dick Assman 1. Four words: Newtie And the Blowfish <p style="text-align: right;">Letterman Thursday, August 9, 1995 Copyright Worldwide Pants, Inc. 1995</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TOP TEN WAYS THE WORLD WOULD BE DIFFERENT IF IT WERE COVERED WITH WATER</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Packwood putting the moves on a manatee 9. Top prize on “The Price Is Right”: towels! 8. Kevin Costner makes hideously expensive movie about life on dry land 7. It would be “The Blowfish and Hootie,” my friend 6. Cab drivers would be forced to bathe whether they want to or not 5. Lots of talk on Court TV about O.J.’s “bloody flippers” 4. Michael Jackson would have plastic surgery to look more like a sea bass 3. It would be considered perfectly good manners to take a leak out the window 2. I’d host this show wearing nothing but a Speedo 1. All Mets games rained out <p style="text-align: right;">Letterman Thursday, July 28, 1995 Copyright Worldwide Pants, Inc. 1995</p>

Everything going great at MKMS

The school year is going great so far at Martin Kellogg Middle School, several teachers reported Friday after school.

LR Times chief editor Brendan Loy went to Kellogg to say “hi” to his middle school teachers on Friday, and get a report on how the year there was going so far.

“Excellent. Excellent. We’ve had a very good start,” said last year’s student-selected Teacher of the Year, Mrs. DuFault.

“Oh, they’re not better than us,” said Rebecca Johns, who was also at Kellogg on Friday afternoon.

“I miss you all, but we have a good group this year,” Mrs. DuFault responded.

“Great. Kids are good,” said Mrs. Agnew when asked how the year is going. “We miss you guys. It’s not the same....But we’ll make our own traditions, I guess.”

One tradition of last year’s MKMS eighth grade—which is now part of the freshman class at NHS—involved astronomer Carl Sagan.

Students watched Sagan videos in science class, and because of his annoying voice, went on to make fun of him for the rest of the year. Joey Guerrero even created a ‘Carl Sagan Art Gallery.’

But have this year’s students seen the Sagan videos yet?

“Not yet,” Mrs. Agnew said. “Carl is still a mystery to them.”

“But you’re planning to [show them the videos]?” Brendan asked.

“Oh, of course! I don’t know if we’ll have....an art gallery....They’ll come up with they’re own thing.”

Another tradition of last year’s eighth grade class was this newspaper, which Mrs. Agnew also commented on, saying, “And without *The Living Room Times*, oh, no news, it’s terrible. I need the news. How else do I know what my students are doing?”

The one teacher who freshmen probably remember most from Kellogg—Mr. Vincenzo, or V—simply said that this school year has been “good.”

When Brendan asked V whether the rumors started last year that V was in love with Mrs. Noonan were still going on, V said that they had ended.

As for whether he’s made any of his trademark mistakes, V said he made a mistake in counting, skipping #8 on an outline for history notes, going straight from #7 to #9.

V also said that Mrs. Toback, a Kellogg teacher last year who moved to Texas over the summer, has a job teaching in San Antonio.

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NHS QUOTES

“I’m going to start off this year with the attitude that everything I learn can be applied in everyday life.

I figure that will last about five minutes.”

—**Dan Seremet on the first day of school**

“I’m not into the swing of this [school schedule] yet.” —**Mr. Ruggerio, at the start of class**

“We could work out an agreement. You don’t want to be here; we don’t want to be here...”

—**Todd Stigliano**

“I’ll go do an answer sheet. I’ll be in the back, doing the right answers.” —**Mr. Ruggerio,**

as his fourth period class took a Geometry quiz

“Can I come sit with you?” —**Keith Druckenmiller**

“Not now, darling, maybe Friday.” —**Mr. Ruggerio**

“Them shoes is mine.” —**from a grammar quiz**

“You can build a new locker room, but you don’t have a freakin’ paper towel dispenser?”

—**someone in the gym locker room**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM MRS. NORBY

Mrs. Norby writes a different thoughtful quote on her chalkboard, each said by a different person, every day. Here are some of the quotes she put up in the first two weeks of the school year...

“Life is 10% ‘what happens’
and 90% ‘how we react.’

Attitude is everything — be positive.”

“Do not accept ‘not trying’.”
(quoted from Michael Jordan)

“I was taught a code of behavior that meant you go about your job and do your best every day.” (quoted from Cal Ripken Jr.)

“It isn’t the burden that weighs us down;
it’s the way we carry it.”

Dolphins crush Patriots, 20-3

Associated Press

FOXBORO, Mass. (AP) -- The Miami Dolphins aren't about to give up their supremacy in the AFC East. Certainly not to the promising but not-yet-polished New England Patriots.

Irving Fryar caught two touchdown passes and the Dolphins forced three key turnovers and shut down tight end Ben Coates as they beat the Patriots for the 12th time in 13 games, 20-3 Sunday.



Above: This spectacular diving catch by Will Moore was one of the few highlights for the Patriots Sunday.

There was no Dan Marino-Drew Bledsoe shootout as in last year's season opener, a 39-35 Dolphin win in Miami in which the quarterbacks combined for 874 yards, third most in NFL history.

On Sunday, Marino didn't need to carry the Dolphins (2-0) since their running game was effective, outgaining the Patriots 182 yards to 39. And Bledsoe couldn't get the Patriots (1-1) into the end zone against an aggressive defense.

Fryar caught a 67-yard pass from Marino for a 10-0 lead with 2:40 left in the first quarter. Then Fryar scored on a 31-yard pass from halfback Terry Kirby for a 17-3 halftime lead.

Fryar, a former Patriot, opened the season with two touchdown catches in a 52-14 win over the New York Jets. He had three scoring receptions in last season's opener against the Patriots.

- Miami and New England were both 10-6 last season, but the Dolphins won the AFC East because they were 2-0 against the Patriots.

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Chiefs' overtime FG downs Giants

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) -- Lin Elliott's 23-yard field goal with 7:11 gone in overtime completed Kansas City's 17-point comeback Sunday as the Chiefs held the New York Giants to only one second-half first down in a 20-17 victory.

The Chiefs, despite quarterback Steve Bono's mistakes, scored two fourth-quarter touchdowns to tie the game. The Giants went ahead 17-3 in the fourth quarter on a weird play that saw Keith Hamilton, a 290-pound tackle return a fumble 87 yards, the Chiefs reeled off touchdown drives of 73 and 67 yards, twice converting fourth-down plays, and forced overtime.

Marcus Allen scored on a 1-yard run with 5:03 left, making it 17-10.

Then Bono led the Chiefs on a 67-yard, 14-play march that included an 8-yard completion to Keith Cash on fourth-and-7 from the 11.

That put it on the 3, and Bono then hit Danan Hughes for the TD. Elliott's extra point made it 17-17 with 1:25 to play.

The Giants looked like sure winners early in the fourth quarter after Bono was sacked by Robert Harris and lost

the ball on the 11.

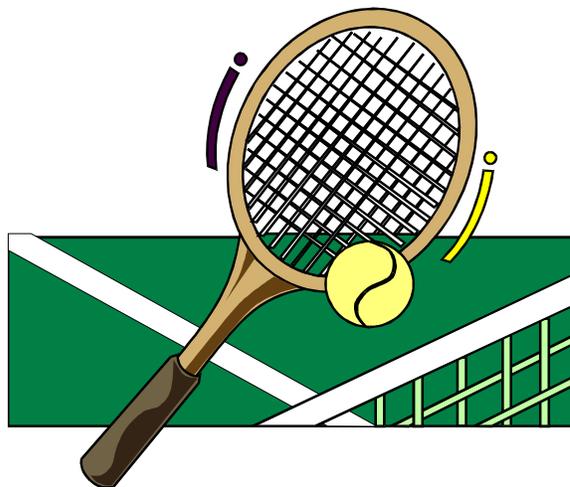
Hamilton grabbed it and ran until Cash caught up with him on the 2 and knocked the ball loose, but safety Tito Wooten recovered it for the Giants and fell into the end zone with 10:56 left.

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Above: Giants quarterback Dave Brown was able to avoid a game-ending safety, but his team couldn't avoid a loss a few minutes later.

U.S. Open



Seles comeback falls just short Graf wins women's title

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) -- A fraction of an inch from losing in straight sets, Steffi Graf dug down deep to win her fourth U.S. Open title Saturday and halt Monica Seles' inspired comeback run.

They embraced and kissed across the net at the end, two women who needed each other more than they knew, who gave the nearly 20,000 fans in the stadium a match of elegance and courage and brute power.

Graf and Seles will still share the No. 1 ranking even after the German's 7-6 (8-6), 0-6, 6-3 victory, and that is especially appropriate after seeing how little separates them on court.

Away from the court, Seles was still smiling, taking in stride her first defeat in a dozen matches and putting behind her the stabbing by a fan of Graf in Hamburg, Germany, nearly 2 1/2 years ago.

"It has been very exciting to me playing again, and just being out there feeling everything once again -- what was such a routine before," Seles said, giggling as always. "As long as I keep having fun, that is what is going to matter to me the most."

Graf couldn't have been happier about overcoming her physical and emotional problems to take her third consecutive Grand Slam title, adding the U.S. Open championship to the Wimbledon and French Open titles she won earlier this summer.

"This is the biggest one I have ever achieved," Graf said. "Nothing can ever come close to this one. I had a lot of

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Sampras defeats Agassi in 4 sets Claims men's Open title

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) -- Knuckles bleeding, aces knifing through the whipping wind, Pete Sampras outlasted Andre Agassi to capture a third U.S. Open title Sunday and gain the No. 1 ranking in the esteem of his greatest rival, if not the rankings themselves.

Sampras spilled blood diving for a volley, rocked Agassi with 24 aces, and when they engaged in the most crucial baseline rallies beat the defending champion at his own game to win 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5, two months after taking his third straight Wimbledon.

Right down to the end, when Sampras served his 142nd ace of the tournament at 120 mph, he put on brilliant show of his power, control and resilience under pressure that he dedicated to his absent and ailing coach, Tim Gullikson.

"That's for you, Timmy," Sampras said to the television camera, knowing Gullikson was watching at home in suburban Chicago. "Wish you were here."

One point, a magnificent rally of 22 shots that sent them both scurrying from side to side, made all the difference in the first set and, ultimately, the match.

A backhand crosscourt by Sampras ended that rally, broke Agassi and closed out a set in which Agassi had yielded only two points in his first four service games.

It was a game that showed both the best of Sampras and the worst of Agassi, with a little luck thrown in. Sampras reached his first break point with a forehand return that clipped the net cord and trickled over out

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MKMS Update

(Continued from page 5)

“The year started out beautifully,” said Mrs. Kopcha. “We haven’t had any problems at all so far.”

“Everything is going fast and furious,” said sixth grade teacher Mrs. Pelletier. “We have a new activity period [instead of flex] this year, that we didn’t have before. And then, sixth grade, with the new schedule, the sixth graders come to us at 8:00, and at 8:15 they’re off to Specials.”

“How are things going in the gym department?” Brendan asked Mrs. Siano, one of Kellogg’s two gym teachers.

“Okay. It’s just busy,” she responded. “Mr. Pilz and I are no longer together.... We have separate classes now, all the time. We don’t ever teach together, so that’s weird.... And it’s quick, it’s only forty minutes, so we get the kids, boom-boom-boom-boom-boom and they’re gone, just like that. There’s not a whole lot of time to do a whole lot of anything. But it’s okay. It’s just busy. But it’s all right.”

“The school year is wonderful,” said Mrs. Brown, Kellogg’s principal. “The kids are even better than they were last year, and we’re having a wonderful time so far.”

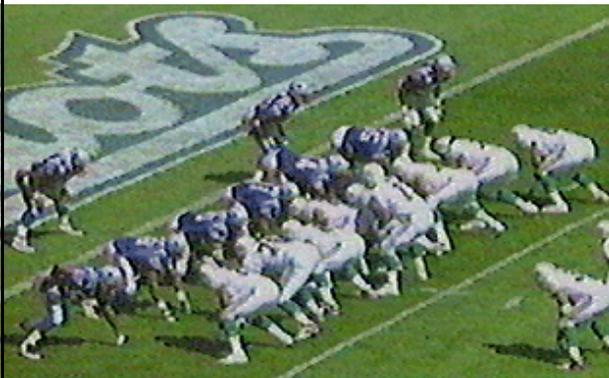
Patriots lose, 20-3

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Marino completed 14-of-20 passes for 193 yards and one interception. Bledsoe was 25-for-51 for 267 yards and two interceptions and got the Patriots close several times. But each time, the young Patriots messed up.

Midway through the second quarter, Ricky Reynolds’ interception gave them the ball at the Miami 22-yard line. But on the next play James Stewart’s interception gave Miami the ball back on its 4. That started the 96-yard march leading to Fryar’s second score.

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Hurricane Luis expected to hit Newfoundland this morning as Cat. 1 storm

Luis, the strongest Atlantic hurricane since Andrew, smashed the tiny Caribbean island of Barbuda and nearby islands Tuesday, but made a sharp right turn Tuesday night and Wednesday, delivering only a glancing blow to Puerto Rico and missing the United States east coast by several hundred miles.

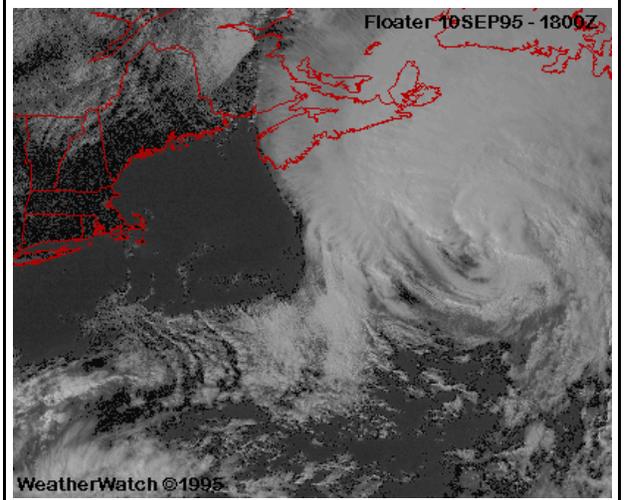
By yesterday afternoon, the center of Luis was located at 42.2 degrees north latitude, 59.5 degrees west latitude, 435 miles southwest of Cape Race, Newfoundland, and was moving northeast at 40 mph. Luis had weakened to a category one hurricane with maximum sustained winds of only 90 mph. Earlier in the week, the winds had been as strong as 140 mph.

As of 5:00 PM Sunday, the hurricane was expected to continue to move northeast, accelerating and weakening along the way, but it may still be a minimal category one hurricane when it crosses the Avalon Peninsula of Newfoundland in Canada early this morning.

According to the Sunday afternoon National Hurricane Center forecast, Luis will lose its tropical characteristics just after passing over Newfoundland, and then move into Greenland as a significant non-tropical storm on Tuesday morning.

When the storm made its way through the Caribbean earlier in the week, it killed at least 16 people on five tiny islands, and that death toll could rise.

Hardest hit were the islands of Barbuda and Antigua. Barbuda was split in two when a narrow inlet was flooded by high seas. On Antigua, over 75 percent of the homes were destroyed, as were the island’s two hospitals. Over 15 inches of rain fell.



Patriots pose no challenge for Miami

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On their first possession of the third quarter, the Patriots tried for a first down on fourth-and-6 at the Miami 20. But Bryan Cox forced Bledsoe to fumble and Miami recovered.

With the score 17-3 midway through the fourth quarter, New England had a second-and-goal from the 6. Coates caught a 6-yard pass for an apparent touchdown, but he was called for offensive pass interference. Two plays later, Cox intercepted a pass that had been tipped by Jeff Cross.

Coates, who led the AFC in receptions last year, had just three catches, all in the fourth quarter.

New England scored only on Matt Bahr's 29-yard field goal that made the score 10-3. Pete Stoyanovich kicked field goals of 22 and 19 yards for Miami.

The Dolphins scored on two passes when the New England secondary messed up coverages.

With Maurice Hurst blitzing from his right cornerback position, Fryar ran up that sideline. He caught the ball at the Patriots 41-yard line behind safety Myron Guyton and easily outran him to the end zone.

On Fryar's second touchdown, Hurst moved up to go after Kirby who was running to his right, and Fryar beat safety Terry Ray for his second score with 2:22 left in the half.

Chiefs top Giants in OT

(Continued from page 6)

Bono, who threw three TD passes and played flawlessly in a 34-10 victory over Seattle in the season opener, immediately launched a 73-yard, 9-play drive capped by Allen's 1-yard TD run that made it 17-10 with 5:03 left. In that drive, on fourth-and-3 from the New York 35, Hughes caught a 6-yard pass from Bono.

The Giants took a 10-3 halftime lead as the Chiefs ended the first half with a drive-killing interception.

Near the end of the first half, Derrick Thomas sacked Dave Brown and caused him to fumble into the arms of George Jamison, giving the Chiefs the ball at the Giants 37. Lake Dawson's 24-yard reception and Allen's 17-yard run up the middle put the ball at the 3-yard line with 1:23 left.

But Bono, pressured out of the pocket, was intercepted by Michael Strahan to preserve New York's 10-3 lead.

Rodney Hampton carried 19 times for 70 yards in the first half along and helped the Giants control the ball most

Seles falls in final

(Continued from page 7)

obstacles to climb over. Every time something else was coming up. I just didn't expect it."

Graf, who won \$575,000 to push her career earnings to \$16.6 million, then sobbed uncontrollably when asked about her father, Peter, in a German prison on tax fraud charges. She said her prospects of seeing him are "very slight," because prosecutors want to keep them apart during the ongoing investigation.

"I haven't talked to my lawyers or his lawyers in the last few weeks, so I am going to have to do a lot of catching up on that issue," Graf said.

After one more question about her father, she broke down in tears, her chest heaving. She covered her eyes a moment, then bolted away to compose herself for interviews in German. On a day like this, after winning an 18th Grand Slam the way she did, Graf couldn't stand being reminded of her family's problems.

For her, and for the crowd, the drama of the match was enough.

Seles served for the set at 6-5 in the tiebreaker, drilled an apparent ace down the middle, and danced off the court certain she'd won it. But the linesman called it wide, the umpire declined to overrule, and Seles shouted her objections to no avail.

Graf ran around her backhand to jump on Seles' slow second serve and drilled a forehand winner crosscourt to even the tiebreaker at 6-6. As they switched sides after that point, Seles kept arguing with the umpire, and the distraction was still on her mind when she hit forehand errors on the next two points to drop the set.

"I thought about it too long," Seles said of the ace that vanished. "I was reminiscing so much about that one serve. But, oh boy, there were so many emotions out there today."

Seles, whose whole game is built around her mental fortitude more than her physical strength, responded to that moment of frustration by crushing Graf in the second set -- the first time Graf ever lost a set at love in 12 years at the U.S. Open. Graf hadn't lost a set at love in any Grand Slam event since the 1992 French Open semis against Arantxa Sanchez Vicario.

A bone bruise on Graf's left foot bothered her throughout that set. She went to a hospital Friday night for an MRI exam, but tests showed she did not have a stress fracture as she feared. After the fifth game of the second set, she called over a trainer, whom she sent in search of a new pair of socks.

Graf left the court to put on the socks and have the bandage removed after the first game of the third set, and suddenly appeared more comfortable and confident

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Graf, Sampras win U.S. Open titles

Men's title game

(Continued from page 7)

of Agassi's reach. Agassi's service winner brought it back to deuce, but he went to break-point again when he clubbed an easy overhead 10 feet long.

Agassi thought he'd even it up again when he got Sampras running desperately in a baseline duel. Instead, it was Sampras who put away that last shot of the longest rally, and Agassi who could only stare at it and hang his head.

Agassi, who came in with a 26-match winning streak, scrambled back in the third set, capitalizing on Sampras' suddenly more erratic serves and breaking him for the first time in the third game. When Agassi broke Sampras again to close the set, it seemed for a few moments that he might finally wear him down, push him all the way to a fifth and raise this final to the level of the hype that preceded it.

"I thought I'd sneak my way into the fifth," Agassi said, "and roll the dice a little bit. But it didn't happen."

This match, for all of their fine rallies and all of Sampras' aces, never quite lived up to its potential.

The swirling wind on a cool afternoon made it harder for Agassi, who counts on the timing of his groundstrokes. For Sampras, his serves cut right through the wind, and his volleys reduced the chances of the wind tossing his shots around.

Sampras bunched his aces, dealing out three in one game in the second set, four in the sixth game of the fourth set. He had aces on three of his last five serves.

Agassi blamed his own weariness as much as the wind for the loss, though he gave Sampras full credit.

"It's been a long summer," Agassi said. "I had a couple of days off after Boris, which helped me. In the first set, I felt my legs. ... It was way too early in the match to feel that way. I was lacking a little strength. I guess you could say I didn't have pep in my step."

"It was tough conditions today. It didn't lend itself to great tennis. You couldn't do enough with the ball. I didn't come near his serve in that fourth set. The problem is I didn't make him feel the pressure."

The official rankings mean little to either of them. What counts most are Grand Slam titles, and this year Sampras has the two biggest and Agassi only the one he grabbed back in January at the Australian Open.

"Come December 31st, he'll feel better about the year than I will," Agassi said. "On the other hand, I'd play him for a hundred bucks right now."

They played this one for much more -- \$575,000 for the winner, half that for the runner-up.

"It means a lot to have been out there to try to defend it," Agassi said, "but it hurts not to win it."

Women's title game

(Continued from page 9)

again. Seles, meanwhile, looked increasingly tired in only her second tournament back.

Graf broke her to 3-1 when Seles double-faulted and hit three unforced errors, the only time she lost her service in the match. It was the opening Graf needed, but it was never easy for her down to the end.

Seles, as tired as she was, stubbornly refused to yield and made Graf earn the victory on her own serve. Even in the final game, the two exchanged hard-hitting rallies, the last point coming when Seles punched a forehand into the net.

Throughout the final games, sensing her imminent defeat but admiring her resolve to hang in, the crowd roared for Seles, a 21-year-old who became an American last year.

"It's been a great two weeks, from the first time I walked out there Monday night," Seles told the crowd. "It was amazing, the electricity. That's one of the reasons why I came back -- to feel this excitement. I definitely felt it."

She paused and added, "Thank you."

This was the ninth consecutive year that either Graf or Seles played in the Open final, and their first time together. Graf won six of their previous 10 matches, but Seles won two of their other three in Grand Slam finals -- the 1993 Australian Open and 1992 French Open, both in three sets. Graf won in straight sets when they played for the 1992 Wimbledon title.

Graf's 18th Grand Slam singles title tied her with Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova. Margaret Smith Court leads with 24, and Helen Wills Moody had 19.

In the end, brutality yielded to civility, the sick act of a knife-wielding assailant giving way to the resumption of a great sports rivalry in the only proper way -- on the court.

When Guenter Parche stabbed Seles, he did it because he couldn't bear anyone but his beloved Graf as No. 1. He stole that ranking from Seles for more than two years, put her through incredible physical pain and emotional anguish that she finally overcame but will never forget.