Hingis puts past aside



Martina Hingis, winner of five Grand Slams before she was 20 in the days before the powerful Williams sisters came along to defy her, was back at Roland Garros this week - but there's no chance of her adding the only Slam singles crown

Hingis, 22, is a premature retiree having had surgery on damaged ankle ligaments which finally forced her to accept her career is over - and it was as a tourist only that she visited the French Open on Monday with horse riding, rather than racquet-wielding, now her main sporting interest.

"Everybody is asking after me. 'What are you doing these days? It's nice for me - now I'm no longer in competition with anyone," Hingis told L'Equipe.

The Swiss miss twice was a finalist here - in 1997, then again in 1999, when she lost a commanding lead against German legend Steffi Graf. That prompted on-court only her mother who persuaded her to return for the winner's cere-

That kind of heartache is now in the past.

"It's very moving to come back

here and see the Centre Court, talk to the players and drink in the atmosphere.

"I played here eight to ten years I know all about it. It's nice to come back three or four days - but for me that chapter of my life is closed. I can't play any more. Life

"Now I just play a couple of times a week, purely for fun. I don't

Hingis now goes riding on her horse Laetitia - more difficult to deal with than a racquet.

"It's easy to leave a racquet in the corner for a few days - but not a

In response to whether she might just try a comeback Hingis was adamant she would not.

Physically for me it's not possi-

"The decision I took at the end of last year to retire was one I had duly reflected upon. I live in the future and not the past.

"Now I live my life like a normal person - I have more intimacy.

"I met Kim Clijsters and Lleyton Hewitt yesterday on the Champs Elysees in an ice cream parlour and we fell into each others arms.

Asked if she might just try a spot of mixed doubles here, Hingis

"Just for fun, okay - I haven't got my return ticket yet! No I'm joking -I'm going back in a couple of days."

No room FROM PAGE 13

Mahmood was recalled in other changes for the three-match series

"Razzaq has struggled with his bowling and looks a bit tired so we have recalled Azhar who has been included considering his excellent form with bat and ball in England,"

A new-look Pakistan have fared well since the World Cup flop, winning the Sharjah Cup quadrangular last month and finishing runner-up in a tri-series in Sri

"I am delighted with the form of the young team, they won in Sharjah and finished runners-up in Sri Lanka which proved that we are on the right track of the rebuilding process. And keeping this in mind, we have tried to make minimum changes in the squad," said Sohail.

Opener Imran Nazir and middle-order batsman Misbahul Haq were also recalled at the expense of Taufiq and Faisal Iqbal, nephew of coach laved Miandad.

"Taufiq looked completely out of sorts in Sharjah and needs sorting out of some flaws in technique," the chief selector added.

The only uncapped player is all-

Pakistan will leave for London on June 5 and open the tour with a one-day game against Scotland in Glasgow two days later.

They take on England in the first of three limited-over internationals at Old Trafford in Manchester on June 17, a day-nighter, while the other two matches will be played at The Oval and Lord's in London on June 20 and 22.

Pakistan will miss express pacer Shoaib Akhtar in the first match as he serves a two-match suspension on charges of ball tampering handed during a tri-series in Sri

Lanka last week **SOUAD**

Rashid Latif (captain), Yousuf Youhana (vice-captain), Mohammad Hafeez, Yasir Hameed, Younis Khan, Faisal Athar, Misbahul Haq, Azhar Mahmood, Shoaib Malik, Imran Nazir, Shoaib Akhtar, Mohammad Sami, Umer Gul, Shabbir Ahmed, Danish Kaneria, Bilal Asad. Coach: Javed Miandad

Manager: Haroon Rasheed

Flintoff worry for England

INTERNET, London

England's hopes of having Andrew Flintoff back in the team for the second Test, against Zimbabwe at Durham, have been dealt a blow with news that he could be out of action for a further two weeks.

Duncan Fletcher, the England coach, would have faced a tough decision whether to play a fit Flintoff instead of Anthony McGrath one of the heroes from Lord's but it's a call he would have

"If he comes through any time earlier than that then it's a great advantage to us. However, Flintoff who contin-

ues treatment for his injured shoulder at Lancashire was in a positive mood. "If the injury keeps improving like it has done then hopefully won't be out for too long.'

And he insisted he could be back earlier than diagnosed. "It is really hard to put a time-span on when I am going to return but it has improved tremendously."

Meanwhile, McGrath was to have undergone a scan on Tuesday on his strained side but is expected to be fit ahead of the naming of England's one-day squad. Besides, the England selectors will be keep-ing their eye on the progress of Darren Gough.

Au revoir Argentinean's confidence was reflected in her serve (four aces, 60 French Open per cent of first serves in) and speed around the court, which enabled her to manoeuvre her more illustrious opponent into point-losing

> Pierce was very soon 0-3 down in the first set and responded by charging the net in an attempt to destabilise her younger adversary. The tactic partially worked, as it helped her to win two games, but was not enough to prevent her losing the set 2-6 in 30 minutes.

Things looked more promising for coach René Moller's protege at the start of the second set. She took a 3-1 lead, only to concede five games in a row and hand victory to

So for the first time in her Roland-Garros singles career, Pierce tasted bitter first-round defeat, and she struggled to hide her disappointment after the wasn't in the game. Clarisa served well. I am very upset. I'm not discouraged, but this is very tough.'

round failure just three years after her triumph in the final is a bitter pill to swallow but Pierce will be back, and she might achieve glory again were she ever to arrive in Paris on the back of a sustained period of full fitness.

FROM PAGE 13

Champions League trophy. But he suffered defeats in the two following years and knows the line between another triumph and an

think it is a question of studying each other's tactics. I think it is more likely to come down to which team is better prepared physically

club to lift the European Cup when they won it for the second time in 1996, and they are aiming for a Ironically it is a Juventus old boy

competition. Filippo Inzaghi, who was offloaded to Milan at the same time as Lippi was beginning his second spell at Iuventus, has scored ten

Inzaghi overtake Ruud van

Nistelrooy's record tally of 12. Both teams will be missing one

is Juventus who suffered the greater blow with through suspension.

The Czech playmaker was inspirational in Juve's quarter-final win over Barcelona and eclipsed Zinedine Zidane as they humbled Real Madrid in the second leg of the

have always been attractive matches," said the suspended Nedved.

tactical and give away little space, that's true, but both always play to win and that's the basis of any attractive game.

deprived Ancelotti of Danish striker Ion Dahl Tomasson and Brazilian goalkeeper Dida is a

particularly significance for Milan's Dutch midfielder Clarence Seedorf, who is aiming to become the first player to win the trophy with three different clubs.

rable class of 1995 and also played in the Real Madrid side that beat Juventus in the final in 1998.

part of the great Milan side of the late 1980s and early 90s, can become the first player since Liverpool's Phil Neal in 1984 to win his fourth European Cup winners medal.

"Games between Milan and Juventus are always spectacular," said Milan striker Andriv Shevchenko. "I think we'll see a real spectacle of football.

PROBABLE TEAMS

Juventus: 1-Gianluigi Buffon; 21-Lilian Thuram, 2-Ciro Ferrara, 4-Paolo Montero, 15-Alessandro Birindelli; 16-Mauro Camoranesi, 26-Edgar Davids, 3-Alessio Tacchinardi, 19-Gianluca Zambrotta; 10-Alessandro Del Piero, 17-David Trezeguet.

AC Milan: 12-Dida; 19-Alessandro Costacurta, 13-Alessandro Nesta, 3-Paolo Maldini, 4-Kakha Kaladze; 8-Gennaro Gattuso, 21-Andrea Pirlo, 20-Clarence Seedorf; 10-Rui Costa; 7-Andriy Shevchenko, 9-Filippo Inzaghi

Windies expect Lawson to be back soon

INTERNET, undated

West Indies are hoping fast bowler Jermaine Lawson will be fit to return to action in next month's Test series against Sri Lanka.

The 21-year-old was forced the sit out the seven one-day internationals against Australia because of bulging discs in the lower back. Lawson's bowling action is

under review by the International Cricket Council after he was reported by the umpires during the fourth Test against Australia. He will fly to Antigua to work

with bowling advisors Andy Roberts and Kenny Benjamin once he is able to bowl without discom-"We expect that he will be pain-free in the next week and a half," said West Indies Cricket Board

"Lawson has been receiving

BCCI propounds

for the series, on the condition that Pakistan are considered notional hosts and given the commercial

rights for the series. Pakistan have twice played home series at neutral venues against West Indies in Sharjah, and against Australia in Colombo and Sharjah. Apart from those two venues, Tangiers in Morocco and Abu Dhabi have been mentioned as possible alternatives for the Indian tour.

If the series does take place, it will be a huge blessing for the cash-strapped PCB. According to estimates, the total revenues from the series could be around 10 million

4 new marks FROM PAGE 13

clocking a time of 1 minute 10.02

Lovely Khatun of Bangladesh Ansars also set a new mark in the girls 200m individual medley (15-17 years) clocking 3 minutes 01.75

Wasiul Islam of BKSP set the

other record in the 200 freestyle (18-20 years). He clocked 2 minutes 10 seconds. The previous record was 2 minutes 13 seconds. A total of 16 events were decided

on the opening day.

Earlier, State Minister for Youth and Sports M Fazlur Rahman inaugurated the meet in the morn-

Abahani call

FROM PAGE 13

And Abahani, knowing the preoccupations of either Indian or Pakistani players, still decided to rely on their Indian defender Rohan Kiron. The Bangalore penalty special-

ist scored three crucial goals for Abahani last year. Besides, Abahani is all set to rope in another India player Christopher, who the Dhaka League last year. "But we have agreed in principle

not to included any Pakistani players after our bitter experience last year where one player vanished on the morning of a crucial match and another having played a couple of matches went home never to return," said Abahani official Zahidur Rahman.

Zahid also said that former national player Mahabub will be given a full-time coaching position along with Jumman Lusai Abahani also retained dynamic

playmaker Rana along with Nakib and Ashraful Islam. While Abahani dominated the

opening day's bourse, Mohammedan got involved in a power struggle with Mariners over the possession of Taeb-e Noor. The black and whites desperate

to fill the void left by the loss of Tuhin to Abahani finally managed to sign on Taeb, but not before wrestling with the Mariner offi-Mohammedan though con-

firmed the services of the energetic Faridpur brothers Isha and Musa Mia along with centre-forward Kamal, Ashiq and Khokon. At the same time Mohammedan

coach Litu said that they were not keen to keep Moududur Rahman Shuvo on their books. The national centre forward is all set to return to his old Club Usha.

DU toil, Comilla

Barisal on the other hand bowed out of the meet with two heavy defeats including a 117-run thrash ing against Faridpur on Sunday.

SCORES IN BRIEF Dhaka University vs Nilphamari

Venue: Comilla Stadium DHAKA UNIVERSITY: 149 for 7 in

50 overs (Mossaraf 25, Hakim 27; Ahkam 38; Nadim 2-28, Kabir 2-19) NILPHAMARI: 139 all out in 48.1 overs (Kalim 30, Nadim 22, Shafiqul 17; Bikash 2-20, Hakim 3-20, Mossaraf 3-33) Result: Dhaka University won by 10

Comilla vs Barisal Venue: Chittagong BARISAL: 151 all out in 48.2 overs

Rabindranath 1-16)

Raja finds 'discrepancy'

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

A top Pakistani cricket official on Monday questioned an apparent discrepancy in punishments meted out by the International Cricket Council under its code of

Rameez Raja, the director of the Pakistan Cricket Board, questioned why fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar was given a two-match suspension for alleged ball tampering in a match last week against New Zealand as part of the teams' tri-series in Sri Lanka.

"I do not want to defend Shoaib Akhtar's acts, which were discouraging to Pakistan cricket, and that too at a time when we are trying to introduce a new culture in the new team. He has been reprimanded and he has shown his remorse.

"But there seemed to be different sets of rules for different players," Raja said in a statement

Australian pace bowler Glenn McGrath escaped punishment for a finger wagging verbal tirade against West Indian batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan during the Antigua Test in the Caribbean earlier this month.

South African match referee Mike Procter took no action against either player, a move reportedly condemned by current Indian captain Saurav Ganguly and former Pakistan captain Imran Khan.

"Sledging and ball tampering are bracketed under Level 2 offences and it seems strange that while one offence is pursued so seriously another offence goes unnoticed," said Raja. Television cameras apparently caught Shoaib scratching the ball

the tri-series against New Zealand at Dambulla, Sri Lanka. Television umpire Gamini Silva brought the action to the attention of match referee Gundappa Vishwanath of India, who did not make his decision to suspend

Shoaib and fine him 75 per cent of

during Pakistan's league game of

his match fee until a day later. "If television is considered a

fact-finding mission, then it has to be universally followed as part of the standard playing conditions applicable universally," Raja

"In Shoaib's case, the match referee had relied heavily on television pictures whereas the McGrath-Sarwan case, with televised evidence of a misdemeanour, was deemed not fit for reporting as a Level 2 offence."

Raja also sought to clarify Shoaib's position with regard to speculations that he was caught tampering with the ball.

He said Shoaib's action of scratching or cleaning the ball was considered an attempt of changing the condition of the ball by the match referee.

"Ball tampering is an offence which invokes certain actions which are: a) change of the ball immediately, b) five penalty runs to the opponent. In the case of Shoaib, neither one of these actions were invoked," he said.

Raja said the matter will be discussed at the ICC meetings in London next month.

Life is tough

sans cricket

SA better off without Zulu

Cricket

REUTERS, Cape Town

All-rounder Lance Klusener is a disruptive force who can "ruin a team", according to new South Africa captain Graeme Smith. Smith, at 22 South Africa's

youngest ever captain, was quoted on the front page of the Cape Times newspaper on Tuesday following a speech he delivered at a business breakfast the previous day. Last week Klusener was left out

of the South African one-day and Test squads for the tour of England which begins next month. A poor attitude in the dressing room was widely quoted in South

African media as the principle reason for his omission. "We decided Lance as a team man can only cause hassles and we want to move forward in South African cricket," Smith said at the

"To be honest Lance, as fantastic as he is...can sometimes ruin a

"His ability as a cricketer is very good, but his ability as a team man is not very good and he kind of can

infect a team and bring down the youth," Smith said. Klusener was the player-of-the-ournament at the 1999 World Cup

in England. Smith said he was confident his team would perform well in England without Klusener as South Africa look to win a series there for the first time since readmission to

South Africa drew 1-1 in 1994 and were controversially beaten 2-I in 1998 after a series of umpiring decisions went against them in the deciding test at Headingley.

the international game in 1991.

"We are determined to go there and win the series a daunting task when looking at our two previous tours there," Smith said. Prior to Smith's comments, Clusener said after hearing he had

been dropped: "I am the way that I

am. If personality gets in the way of statistics and performance, then so

Shane Warne says he hopes to

REUTERS, Melbourne

return to cricket "better than ever" after serving his 12-month doping ban and admits he finds it tough to watch Australia's games on televi-Test cricket's second-leading

wicket-taker will be available for

selection in February next year and

is also considering making a comeback to one-day internationals. "I still think I have a few good years left in me," the leg-spinner said in an interview on Australia

television aired on Monday night. "I'll use this 12 months wisely, keep myself fit as I am now, come up with a few new deliveries," the

"Hopefully I will come back better than ever.'

33-year-old added.

Warne missed Australia's successful World Cup defence in South Africa when he was banned for 12 months in February after testing positive for diuretics.

The Australian announced in January he would retire from oneday internationals after the World Cup. test career.

Biggies move on

FROM PAGE 13

finally ran out of steam as Costa won 6-7, 2-6, 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 in 3hr 38 min to avoid becoming the first defending men's champion ever to crash in the opening round here.

The 27-year-old Costa now meets Radek Stepanek of the Czech Republic.

Ferrero swept past Michel Kratochvil of Switzerland 7-5, 7-5 6-4 and next meets Chile's Nicolas Massu, who beat Swedish former finalist Magnus Norman 6-4, 6-1,

Clijsters explained she and boyfriend Hewitt were in a hurry to get the job done so they can have time together in the world's 'most romantic city', having been fortunate to see their matches scheduled closely together.

"We both like to play on the same day so you don't have to hang out on the courts too much - but I get nervous watching him anyway," Clijsters admitted.

She doesn't like to watch herself either, and doesn't indulge in any video post-mortems of matches such as her Australian Open semifinal loss to Serena Williams, where she collapsed in three sets having held two match points at 5-2 in the second set.

35 Power

39 Salver

40 Upper

42 Dispatch

dragon

43 Old form

of 24-

Across 44 Relief

46 Spoon-

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6 Musical

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31 Gets all

depart-

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14 Seuss

1 Flight

"I never watch myself. You can always start saying 'Í should have done this, I should have done that," she explained.

Lee-Waters of the United States in The Belgian, who turns 20 on June 8, pounded down a steady

stream of winners in what was a hopelessly mismatched contest. Hewitt, who has yet to make the last four at Roland Garros, saw Vahaly, a 23-year-old from New Jersey, recover from 1-3 in the third set to force and win a tiebreak,

the way But Hewitt could afford a break against him in the eighth game of the fourth set to advance after 3hr

saving three match points along

"I felt a little bit tired I guess,"

heavy - the balls were probably heavier than ever before. The court is slow - so it wasn't a great mixture. When I loosened up I started playing attacking tennis. Also advancing among the men

was British 25th seed Tim Henman,

who thrashed former Wimbledon

semifinalist Vladimir Voltchkov of

By Eugene Sheffer

53 Bert's

DOWN

1 Exhibit

bad

posture

2 Calculus

3 Pismire

picture

5 Get more

maga-

zines

6 The Kit

7 October

stone

Salaam

9 Director's

call

Solution time: 23 mins.

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4 PC

roommate 54 Geometry 10 Gilehe

11 Specter

18 Cushion

21 Irritable

23 Graceful

young

25 Supple-

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quide

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29 Enrage

32 Baltimore

equitable

bird

34 Perched

38 Gemini

41 Kind of

love

Anderson

44 Ms.

45 S.A.

48 Light

50 Mardi

nation

brown

Gras VIP

36 Rear-end

muscles

33 More

women

with "out"

said Hewitt. "The conditions were very

Martin, a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 conqueror of Argentina's Jose Acasuso. Clijsters will now play either Henman has a 4-3 record against Martin - but Wimbledon is Marlene Weingartner or Lindsay

where his real hopes lie and in beating Voltchkov he saw off a man without a single claycourt victory in five years. Wimbledon finalist and Argentine eighth seed David

Nalbandian moved on with a 6-4,

6-3, 3-6, 7-5 win over Spain's Albert

Belarus 6-2, 6-3, 6-1 to set up a

meeting with US veteran Todd

Montanes. Jelena Dokic, seeded 10, won through in the women's event as she cruised past Angelika Roesch of

Germany 6-4, 6-4. In later matches, Venus Williams, hoping to join sister Serena, her conqueror in last year's final, in the next round, was playing

fellow American Samantha Reeves. Three-time champion Monica Seles was facing Russian Nadia Petrova while 1989 men's champion Michael Chang of the United States, making his farewell visit, was up against Fabrice Santoro of

France. And triple men's champion Gustavo Kuerten, seeded 15, was meeting Swiss veteran Marc

13 On Mom's 31 Con game CRYPTOQUIP UPMDY

J D PJEVBFTJOP

FTMVP K W V J V W X W Y E J X B M Q J K PEEWER

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error

KNOWN AS BRUSSELS SCOUTS. Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals R

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IN BELGIUM, I THINK CHILDREN WHO EARN MERIT BADGES ARE

How wrong they were. In a oneway affair, Pierce never managed to raise her game to former heights To suffer ignominious firstand was given the run-around by a far more mobile opponent. Returning from a groin injury picked up in Rome, and with just eight victories in 15 matches this year, she simply lacked the cutting edge to trouble a player of Fernandez' class. The

Bracing for el grande

INTERNET, Paris

an hour.

fought.

Just like last year, Mary Pierce came

into this year's French Open with

little match practice behind her.

Unlike last year though, when she

nonetheless made the quarters,

she was unable to shake the cob-

webs from her game this after-

noon, bowing out of the tourna-

ment at the very first hurdle.

Clarisa Fernandez, from Argentina,

showed no mercy, dispatching the

2000 champion 6-2, 6-3 in just over

Suzanne-Lenglen court was packed for the much-awaited

return of prodigal daughter Mary

Pierce. The fact that the world No

46 was taking on last year's surprise

semifinalist added extra spice to an

encounter that most experts

expected to be long and tightly

spell at the Stadio delle Alpi in 2001. In his previous spell at Juventus, Lippi saw his side lift the 1996

unhappy hat-trick of final defeats is "We know everything there is to know about each other so I don't

and psychologically," said Lippi. Juventus were the last Italian memorable double after wrapping up the league title for the 27th time.

who could pose the biggest threat to Juventus' hopes of adding to their 1985 and 1996 triumphs in the

goals in the competition so far this A final hat-trick would see

of their regular players, although it

the loss of their most important creative force, Pavel Nedved,

"Games between us and Milan

"We're two squads that are very

slight doubt. Wednesday's match will be of

His team-mate Paolo Maldini,

Referee: Markus Merk (Germany).

Torn shoulder ligaments have

Seedorf was part of Ajax's memo-

FROM PAGE 13

(Israt 23, Mofizur 24; Monirul 4-25, COMILLA: 152 for 4 in 42.4 overs (Faisal 54, Sumon 21; Rajat 1-27,

Result: Comilla won by 6 wickets.