"That's the best I have seen her

Petrova, whose father was a

play and if she can keep playing like

that she can go pretty far in the

hammer-thrower and whose mother

won bronze in the 400 metres relay

at the 1976 Montreal Olympics, said

it was the biggest win of her career

and that she had gained confidence

Davenport had already been

from the match in Rome.

Proteas agree to pay freeze

INTERNET, undated

South Africa's leading cricketers have agreed to a pay freeze, highlighting the serious financial shortfalls which threaten many of the country's provincial teams.

The United Cricket Board (UCB) of South Africa welcomed the news as proof that the players' passion for the game outweighs monetary gain, but the truth is that the stark reality of a game in crisis has hit home.

The deal affects all players centrally contracted to the UCB and came about as a result of meetings with the board and Tony Irish, the chief executive of the South African Cricketers' Association.

"The focus was on getting a sound contractual basis and issues of principle." insisted Irish. "rather than short-term financial gain.'

The UCB declined to reveal the amounts being paid, although newspaper reports indicate that the average is around 30,000 rand (3750 US dollars). The players earn 21,600 rand per Test and 8640 rand

per ODI at the moment. The news highlights a growing trend in most countries towards tighter financial management in the face of falling revenues, with boards

looking to link pay to results. Sri Lanka's players are facing a pay cut of up to 30 per cent, and England have reduced the number of centrally contracted players as a cost-cutting measure.

Greene back to his form

AFP, Los Angeles

Maurice Greene reasserted his World Championship credentials. winning the 100m in a blazing 9.94sec at the USA Track and Field Golden Spike Tour athletics meeting here on Sunday.

Greene posted the secondfastest time in the world this year, after the 9.93 of Australian Patrick Johnson on May 5 at Mito, Japan.

Greene's time answered critics who speculated that the three-time defending world champion, Olympic gold medalist and former world record holder might not be able to again find his form after more than a year of injury and training difficul-



Competition closes at 8 pm June 13, 2003 and draw

shortly afterwards

1. Who clinched the national youth Dhaka BKSP

What Javed likes, what not | West Indies | stars climb

Cricket

Pakistan cricket fans were Monday provided an insight into the frustrations of their former national cricket captain Javed Miandad at the the politicisation of cricket with archrival India in his autobiography.

"It is regrettable that politics has spilled over into sports and ... cricketing ties have been suspended," writes Miandad in Cutting Edge, My Autobiography, released late Sunday.

"Rivalry with Pakistan apart, Indians are among the best cricket connoisseurs and know how to appreciate a performance.

India has boycotted bilateral cricket with Pakistan since 2000 but the recent thaw has generated hopes of cricket revival between the two countries in the near future.

Miandad said players do not subscribe to mixing politics and

"One of the greatest things about Pakistan-India cricket has been that despite the political uneasiness,

have come to loathe the mixing of politics and sports," he observed.

Miandad played his 100th Test during India's last tour of Pakistan in 1989-90 and was coach when his side last toured India 10 years later.

While flaying the politicisation of sport, he had only good words to say



JAVED MIANDAD

about sledging, for which Australian players in particular have been criticised.

Mianded portrayed it as "games-

gives cricket an aggressive edge and it should be thought of as

gamesmanship. "Sledging is an art form in Australian cricket and Lillee used it better than most," he said, referring to former fast bowler Dennis Lillee.

Three times world champions Australia have become so notorious for on and off-field sledging that even the president of International Cricket Council (ICC) Malcolm Gray has come down hard on them. Miandad, who scored a record

on- and off-field antics and remembered as one of the sport's liveliest characters. His most famous on-field bust up with Lillee at Perth in 1981-82 series

became part of cricket history.

8,832 runs in 124 Tests and 233

one-day games, was famous for his

"I played a delivery from Lillee towards the square leg and pushed off for a single. About three quarters down the pitch. I collided with him as he blocked my path and on his way back he kicked my pads and swore at me," reminisced Miandad, who responded by threatening to hit

Lara lauds WI spirit

Cricket

INTERNET, St. George's

West Indies captain Brian Lara praised his team's fighting spirit after they clinched three consecu-

tive one-day victories over Australia. The World Cup champions had romped to a 4-0 lead in the sevenmatch series but the Windies refused to lie down, stylishly winning the final three games.

The home side completed the hattrick with a crushing nine-wicket defeat of Australia at Queen's Park on Sunday. "It was a great performance by

the team, we were 4-0 down, had lost the series and had to regroup. Lara said. 'We played really hard in the

remaining three matches and it was nice to see three consecutive wins.

"We found our self-belief. We sat down and set targets for the fifth

game in Trinidad and we succeeded

of a five-day interview programme

Camp starts

the 20 players one to one.

and came to Grenada for the last two games and performed really

"We had to regroup, think what we were all about." said Lara. "We told ourselves that we would

treat the last three games as a different series and we met all our Australia one-day captain Ricky

Ponting admitted losing the last three games had taken some of the aloss off winning the series. Ponting heads home with a series under his belt as well as the honour of being part of the first team

in the Caribbean. But while he gave credit to the home side he admitted that his oneday side leave feeling they have missed an opportunity.

ever to win three consecutive Tests

"We played very, very well just about the whole tour, but we let ourselves down a little bit in this last

"We've just been sloppy. We have probably been a bit tired, but

"I thought the West Indies played particularly well in these last three one-day games, and in most facets of the game they outplayed us."

Lara acknowledged that his young group of players had also shown encouraging signs at Test level despite again losing the series to Australia

In the final Test, the West Indies battled to reach 418, a new mark for the most successful fourth innings total in Test history.

"We set targets and we realised that we were improving against the best team in the world and in the final Test in Antigua, we proved that. "It was great to see the young-

sters come through and believe in "Australia was tough. They played great cricket and deserved to

"But I think now is the West

Indies' time against Sri Lanka and hopefully we are going to be up for it

where Whatmore will talk to each of

Whatmore, who led Sri Lanka to REUTERS. Melbourne World Cup glory in 1996, has been entrusted with changing the fortunes of the Test babes, who have been performing badly since

becoming a full member of the ICC. But his work is cut out as in his very first mission he has to take Bangladesh on a tour of Australia next month. A 15-member Bangladesh team will fly down under on June 22 following their

Ferrari Ferrero

three-week training.

This time, he was quite brutally clinical, squashing Mantilla with five aces, 52 winners and eight breaks of serve, while he gave up his own

Mantilla won the Rome Masters Series title shortly before coming here, beating Costa along the way. But Ferrero now looks the hottest bet to take the title here.

Mantilla said he was ready for a break after his hiding.

In another result Chile's Fernando Gonzalez moved into the last eight defeating Jarkko Nieminen of Finland 6-3, 6-3, 6-2

'Waugh should go'

Cricket

Former Australia Test players Jeff Thomson and David Hookes say captain Steve Waugh should retire to allow the team to build for the on Monday.

"It's time to move on and it's a good time to do it when the opposition isn't that good," Thomson was quoted as saying in the Herald Sun and Daily Telegraph newspapers.

Top-ranked Australia host bottom-ranked Bangladesh in a two-Test series in Darwin and Cairns next month.

"What's he going to prove if he plays Bangladesh? Who cares if Steve Waugh gets a hundred?

"If (uncapped 22-year-old) Michael Clarke gets 100, I am sure everybody would be happy to see that or somebody else," the former pace bowler added.

Hookes, now a television commentator with Thomson, said World Cup-winning skipper Ricky Ponting should be also be handed captaincy of the Test side.

"I can't see any point Steve Waugh playing Bangladesh. He won't get a hit for starters," Hookes was quoted as saying

Hookes, who has been a con-

stant critic of Waugh, said the 38-

series in the West Indies last month.



skipper, who was overlooked for this year's Cup defence, watched on television from Sydney as Ponting led Australia to a 4-3 win in the oneday series against Brian Lara's West Indies which ended on Sunday.

Waugh has played a world record of 160 Tests and hit 30 Test centuries, behind only India pair Sunil Gavasker (34) and Sachin

stars climb

Ramnaresh Sarwan and Chris Gayle are firmly established in the top 10 of the international one-day batting ratings after West Indies' improved showing in the recent series against Australia in the

West Indies lost the first four fixtures to the world champions but finished strongly to win the last three

Sarwan shares second place with Australia's one-day skipper Ricky Ponting behind India's Sachin Tendulkar, while opener Gayle enters the top 10 in sixth place.

Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan shares the top spot in the bowling ranks with South Africa's Shaun

BATSMAN	POINTS
S Tendulkar	773
R Ponting	750
R Sarwan	750
H Gibbs	746
AGilchrist	743
C Gayle	741
M Bevan	730
S Jayasuriya	723
M Hayden	714
V Sehwag	710
BOWLER	POINTS
M Muralitharan	901
S Pollock	901
G McGrath	884
M Ntini	818
B Lee	785
C Vaas	773
S Bond	756
J Gillespie	752
Zaheer Khan	742
Harbhajan Singh	728

Middlesex 86-1

REUTERS, Shenley

Middlesex were 86 for one in their second innings, a lead of 201, at the close on the third day of the four-day tour match against Zimbabwe on

BRIEF SCORES

Middlesex 516-6 declared (R Weston 129, P Weekes 102 not out, M Brown 98, E Joyce 80, O Shah 68) and 86-1; Zimbabwe 401-4 declared (S Carlisle 137, G Flower

Kiwi plots

They beat hosts England to win the NatWest Trophy, then shared the Champions Trophy with Sri Lanka before making the World Cup final.

Wright said he was not concerned about divided lovalties when New Zealand play India, saying his job was to help the Indian team produce impressive results.

"Mv job is to make sure the Indian team and its fans get good results. That's the only way I think about it," said Wright, who turns 49

Back with a bang

FROM PAGE 13

matches until the case was decided A court-appointed arbitrator overturned Jadeja's ban in January but the BCCI challenged the decision and has now been given till July 21 to reply to the order allowing

Jadeja to play domestic matches. Another effort by the BCCI to prevent Jadeja from playing any more cricket failed on Monday when the Supreme Court declined its request to stay the High Court order.

The Supreme Court, India's highest judicial authority, told the BCCI's lawyers to seek any changes to the order from the High Court, the Press Trust of India reported.

Jadeja's return to international cricket, however, remains the prerogative of the BCCI and its selection committee

Jadeia, regarded a one-day specialist, scored 5,359 runs with six centuries and 30 half-centuries in 196 limited-overs matches. He also figured in 15 Tests

scorina 576 runs. Jadeja's last international match was in the Asia Cup against Pakistan in Bangladesh in June

Windies end

The Australians next play Bangladesh in two Tests and three ODIs at home in July-August, while the West Indians host Sri Lanka

Queen's Park on Sunday: **AUSTRALIA** Gilchrist b Samuels Hayden c Bernard b Dillon

Symonds c Hinds b Gayle Lehmann c Samuels b Gayle Clarke st Jacobs b Gayle Harvey run out (Lara) Hogg b Gayle Lee c Samuels b Gayle Gillespie not out Extras: (lb-3, w-10, nb-2) Total: (For 8 wkts in 50 overs) 247 Fall of wickets: 1-17, 2-18, 3-125, 4-127, 5-133, 6-228, 7-246, 8-246

Toss: Australia. 0 39 46 10 0 39

53

60 103 75 11

Did not bat: Sarwan. Samuels Powell, Jacobs, Bernard, Drakes, Dillon, Collymore

Fall of wicket: 1-116

Man-of-the-match: Chris Gayle.

Venus, Capriati crash out

French Open

Russia ruled at the French Open Sunday as youngsters Vera Zvonareva and Nadia Petrova toppled American giants Venus Williams and Jennifer Capriati. To complete a miserable day for

the United States, Lindsay Davenport also crashed out abandoning her match against Spanish veteran Conchita Martinez in the second set with a foot injury. But at least top seed and titleholder Serena Williams went

through setting up an intriguing quarter-final tie with the darling of the home crowd Amelie Mauresmo as did another American Chanda There were quarter-final berths also for Belgian pair Kim Clijsters,

the second seed and Justine Henin-Hardenne, seeded fourth.

The shock of the day was the exit of third-seed Venus Williams.

Out of action for several weeks due to a stomach strain she came to Paris short of prepartion and after a reasonable start against 18-yearold Zvonareva, it showed only too clearly as she went down 2-6, 6-2, 6-

It was one of the biggest setbacks of the 22-year-old's career and comes after she had reached the finals of the last four Grand Slam events, losing each time to sister Serena. Zvonareva whooped with joy as

ovation after the American had left the court to a chorus of whistles. "If you go on to the court and don't think you can win you won't

Williams hit a final backhand wide

and she was given a standing

win. I believed in my chances," said the Russian.

"I was playing really good today

and was fighting for every ball." After making 12 double faults and 75 unforced errors, Williams admitted: "I was really off.

"It's very disappointing but there is nothing I can do about it. I just have to move on to the next tourna-

Capriati soon followed, gunned down in a topsy-turvy 2hr match 6-3,



tournament.

JENNIFER CAPRIATI

4-6. 6-3 by Petrova, a tall Muscovite who had given her enough trouble already in the Rome Masters earlier this month.

The 2001 French Open champion struggled to cope with Petrova's weight of shot, although she seemed to have rallied when she won the second set and stood 2-0 up in the decider. But it all went wrong for her from there on in.

"I was playing pretty well then and I through she was getting tired, but I had a couple of loose games and she started getting back into the same rhythm as she had before,

VENUS WILLIAMS

hampered with the trapped nerve in her left foot needing courtside treatment in her third round encounter with France's Nathalie Dechy. Already trailing 6-4, 2-0 she

concentrate on trying to be fit for Wimbledon "It was hurting too much for me to be able to play the way I have to play to beat people out there," she said.

called it a day and said she would

"I had been in good shape but with something like that happening there is nothing you can do about it. It's obviously very sad." Serena Williams and Mauresmo

won through in contrasting styles, the American below her best in defeating Japan's Ai Sugiyama 7-5, 6-3, and Mauresmo imperial in trouncing Spain's Magui Serna 6-1,

They fired off the first verbal shots for their clash on Tuesday.

Asked if she was apprehensive

at all about playing before a packed centre court devoted to Mauresmo whose popularity in France is at an all-time high, Williams was san-"I have played in the most hostile

arenas possible so it won't bother me at all," she said. Mauresmo said she would discuss her tactics for the match

with coach Loic Courteau on

"I saw the start of her match today," she said of Serena. "She was hesitant and made a lot of

"It will be up to me to grab the chance if it is the same thing on

Tuesday," she said. Mauresmo beat Williams in the last match they played, the semifinal of the Rome Masters earlier

Clijsters was involved in a curious match, losing the first set to love just 19 minutes to Magdalena Maleeva before swatting her aside

a model of consistency and who had beaten Maleeva comfortably the

French fries

AFP, Paris

Martina Navratilova says she is disappointed that Steffi Graf, now pregnant with a second child with husband Andre Agassi, elected not to play mixed doubles.

Agassi said back in January he

would try to persuade Graf to play the mixed doubles at the French Open, as Navratilova has been with Leander Paes.

But Graf was not to be cajoled 'I would have loved to play Andre and Steffi." said Navratilova, who won the Australian Open mixed

doubles crown for her 57th Grand Slam title

WHO'S COUNTING? Andre Agassi says the business of winning major titles and defying

age is what keeps him going at 33. Asked to comment on the hoary debate about equal prize money for the men and women and the size of winners' paycheques Agassi brushed the matter aside as not a priority - but added he was well aware that tennis players are

richly rewarded compared to most other walks of life "My prayer is that I never get to a point where I think hundreds of

thousands of dollars isn't a lot of STILL FEELS LIKE HOME

FOR WILANDER Swedish men's triple champion Mats Wilander, winner here in 1982. 85 and 88, says the centre court here still feels like home.

Wilander, who was beaten by Yannick Noah in the 1983 final for the last win by the host country and who is here for the 'Legends Trophy', said it always felt great to come back. "It's great to play at Roland Garros.

I love the courts. Playing on these

courts brings back memories.

20 years ago. The big stadium at the US Open doesn't mean any-

MANTILLA'S THE DADDY OF THEM ALL Andre Agassi may be the oldest swinger in town at Roland Garros -

The ultra-light model, which is designed to limit vibrations in the marketed for pensioners enjoying a knock-up rather than a Grand

"The firm told me it was for old people," smiled Mantilla

model does a great job for me.'

"But I am superstitious and this

Slam competitor

but Spaniard Felix Mantilla is the daddy of them all when it comes to which racquet he chooses. this month.

> in the other two to go through 0-6, 6-2, 6-1. It was a JekvII and Hvde performance from the 19-year-old, usually

three previous times the players

2. How many Test matches has Wasim Akram played? 3. Who became UEFA Cup Celtic **Dortmund** 4. How many Grand Slam titles does Pete Sampras have? Class. Roll No.

lightning

29 Judicial

32 Kids' game

35 Calendar

abbr.

36 Waikiki

38 Tier

wingding 37 Prune

40 Secluded

42 Copper

Solution time: 27 mins



alliance

47 Command

to Bover

48 Photog's

49 Tribute in

verse

53 Timetable

51 Try the

GRIG ROEVNAGU'Q KUEZOHPJ HGMCK NO VOL XJ KUETI? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: 1 NEVER WANT TO END THIS CAREER I HAVE IN EDITING. IT'S A VERY REWORDING ACTIVITY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals H 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 Samuels Dillon give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error. Collymore

year-old's presence in the middle order would give it an aging look alongside Damien Martyn, 31, and Darren Lehmann, 33. Waugh averaged 75.33 as he led Australia to a 3-1 victory in the Test



STEVE WAUGH

over the next month. **SCOREBOARD** Scoreboard of the seventh and final one-day international between the West Indies and Australia at

Ponting not out 107 Did not bat: McGrath **Bowler**

22 10 0 52 0 Gayle 10 0 46 WESTINDIES Gayle b Symonds Hinds not out Lara not out Extras: (lb-2, w-7, nb-2) Total: (For 1 wkt in 43.3 overs) 249

0 36 Lee 41 0 Gillespie 1 29 McGrath 0 0 6 36 Symonds 0 10 0 47 Hogg 0 5 0 31 0 Harvey 1.3 0 27 0 Result: West Indies won by 9 wickets and Australia won series

Man-of-the-series: Wavell Hinds. Umpires: Billy Doctrove (West Indies) and Rudi Koertzen (South

Centre court still feels the way it did thing to me.