

# Latif looks behind it

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

The captain of Pakistan's revamped cricket team, Rashid Latif, said Wednesday that a coming short tour of England will have long-term implications for his young team.

"Despite being a short tour of three one-day internationals, this tour will have long term implications and results will guide us how the rebuilding process is shaping," Latif told AFP.

Pakistan's team, which leaves from Islamabad early Thursday morning, is engaged in a rebuilding process following their dismal showing at the World Cup this year in South Africa where they failed to make it past the first round.

Dumping eight senior players including World Cup captain Waqar Younis, Wasim Akram and Inzamam-ul Haq and adding talented youngsters has produced good results for Pakistan.

They won a quadrangular tournament in Sharjah in April and finished runners-up in a tri-series in Sri Lanka last month.

"I am more than satisfied with the team's performance since I took over but the England tour will test

the skills of these youngsters because of changed conditions," said Latif, who staged a remarkable comeback on Pakistan's last tour to England two seasons ago.

Sidelined for his outburst against match fixing between 1998-2001,



RASHID LATIF

Latif was given the reins of the team because of his clean image and affinity for realising the potential in young players.

Latif said his side will enter as underdogs in the one-day series.

"We are the underdogs and a lot will depend on how our batting performs because our bowling is as good as England's," he said.

Express pacer Shoaib Akhtar will

miss the first match at Old Trafford in Manchester on June 17, because of his two-match suspension on charges of ball tampering in Sri Lanka last month.

The remaining two matches will be played at The Oval on June 20 and at Lord's on June 22.

Coach Javed Miandad believes English conditions will be a true test of the skills of the new team.

"Until now the new team has performed beyond expectations, but the England tour will be the real test," said Miandad, who played a record 124 Tests for Pakistan.

Pakistan's 16-man squad has only one uncapped player in allrounder Bilal Asad while opening batsman Faisal Athar has played just one limited over international.

### SQUAD

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

### PROGRAMME

June 17: 1st ODI, Old Trafford  
June 20: 2nd ODI, The Oval  
June 22: 3rd ODI, Lord's

# Another lady invasion of Lord's!

REUTERS, London

A woman will keep official score of an international match in England for the first time next month, further eroding the male domination of cricket's establishment.

Mrs Cathy Rawson, 55, is to score the final of the one-day triangular tournament involving England, South Africa and Zimbabwe at Lord's, the home of cricket, on July 12. The Times newspaper reported on Wednesday.

"It is a wonderful privilege," Mrs Rawson was quoted as saying. "It all had to go before the MCC (Marylebone Cricket Club) board first but I am absolutely delighted."

Rawson, a nurse, taught herself scoring 33 years ago when she became bored watching her husband play local cricket, the Times reported.

"It is a bit like double-entry accounting," she said. "You have to make sure everything balances and truly reflects what is going on in the field."

Statisticians can find only two previous occasions when women have kept score during first-class games at Lord's, according to The Times.

The MCC, the prestigious cricket club still responsible for the laws of the game, broke with 212 years of tradition in 1999 when it announced its first women members.

# WI turn to Powell

Cricket

REUTERS, Bridgetown

West Indies included pace bowler Daren Powell in their 15-man squad on Tuesday for the first and second one-day internationals against Sri Lanka at the Kensington Oval on Saturday and Sunday.

Powell was recalled after 21-year-old Jermaine Lawson was again ruled out by the back injury that sidelined him for the recent 4-3 series defeat by Australia.

All-rounder Ryan Hurley was named in the squad after recovering from the shoulder injury sustained in Friday's penultimate one-dayer against Australia.

West Indies skipper Brian Lara said he hoped his team would look upon the three wins achieved in the final three games as a standard to be maintained.

"Sri Lanka are not as strong as Australia, although of course they have a couple of match winners, but we are looking to keep up the standard we achieved in the last three one-day games," he told reporters.

Lara recalled that Sri Lanka beat the West Indian tourists in both Test and one-day series when the sides last met in 2001, and collected another win during the World Cup in southern Africa earlier this year.

He picked out Chaminda Vaas,

Muttiah Muralitharan and Sanath Jayasuriya as the dangermen.

Sri Lanka have dropped middle-order batsman Russel Arnold and all-rounder Kaushalya Weeraratne from their one-day squad, including 29-year-old left-hander Naveed Nawaz and swing bowler Dinusha Fernando instead.

Former captain Duleep Mendis will coach the tourists on an interim basis following an unsuccessful search for a replacement for Dav Whatmore, whose contract expired.

West Indies and Sri Lanka play one-day internationals on June 7, 8 and 11, and two Test matches beginning June 20 and June 27.

### TEAMS

**WEST INDIES** (from): Brian Lara (captain), Ramnaresh Sarwan, Omari Banks, David Bernard, Corey Collymore, Mervyn Dillon, Vasbert Drakes, Chris Gayle, Wavell Hinds, Ryan Hurley, Ridley Jacobs, Daren Powell, Ricardo Powell, Marlon Samuels, Devon Smith.

**SRI LANKA** (from): Marvan Atapattu (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Naveed Nawaz, Upul Chandana, Chaminda Vaas, Dharshana Gamage, Prabath Nissanka, Kaushal Lokurachchi, Kumar Dharmasena, Muttiah Muralitharan, Dinusha Fernando

# CJKS polls tomorrow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

The much-awaited elections of the Chattagram Jela Krira Sangstha (CJKS), the ruling body of local sports, will be held tomorrow.

A total of 58 candidates, which is a record in the 54-year history of CJKS, are vying for 24 posts. But their fate depends on the whims of 131 voters.

Filing of cases by the feuding quarters against and for holding the elections had earlier smeared the image of CJKS, resulting in deferment of the polls from its original date.

The High Court issued a stay order on holding the elections last Tuesday. But, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court vacated the order, thus paving the way for the election.

Current general secretary Shahed Asgar Chowdhury, present joint secretaries Hafizur Rahman and FH Khan Fazu are contending for the post of general secretary.

For three vice-president posts five persons are contesting. They are present VP and BNP city general secretary Dastagir Chowdhury, Awami League leader AZM Nasiruddin, veteran sports organizer Abdul Shukur Chowdhury, M Abu Jafar and another existing VP Mozammel Haq.

# Khulna DSA polls Friday

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Elections to the 24-post executive committee of the Khulna District Sports Association (KDSA) will be held tomorrow. Polling will begin at 8 am and continue till 4 pm without any break.

A total of 51 candidates are vying for the posts. However, it is expected that the main rivalry will be limited within two platforms under the names Sammilito Kiriha Sangathak Parishad and Kiriha Sangathak Parishad.

Both these panels are being backed by two rival groups of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party. The Sammilito Parishad is getting the backing of Mayor Shaikh Tayebur Rahman, while Ali Asghar Lobby, MP, is backing the other panel.

# Thirty-six-team

**FROM PAGE 13**  
Gazipur, Nawabganj, Netrokona, Feni, Cox's Bazar, Noakhali, Chittagong, Laxmipur, Chandpur, Comilla, Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Jhenidah, Magura, Chuadanga, Jessore, Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Pabna, Kurigram, Natore, Chanchainawabganj, Naogaon, Bogra, Sirajganj, Barisal, Barguna

# Is it U-19

**FROM PAGE 13**  
"We have already contacted Sri Lankan officials. Hopefully we will get the clarification by tomorrow (Thursday)," said Asif.

He informed that the team might even tour as the BCB Development Squad.

The team is to fly for Sri Lanka on June 18 and will play three two-day and three one-day matches.

# Kader Mia

**FROM PAGE 13**  
For the job never allowed him to stay away from the sports sector. Starting from the BNS to the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium and even less distinguishable grounds, he was just a call away from reaching there.

Kader was one of those rare breed, who was prepared to live for the affection of sports and rather fittingly he breathed his last at his beloved arena.

# A lot to play

**FROM PAGE 13**  
Somerset seamer Johnson, having ousted Kirtley from England's one-day squad last week, will be the favourite to get the nod from the selectors.

### TEAMS

**ENGLAND** (from): Nasser Hussain (captain), James Anderson, Mark Butcher, Ashley Giles, Steve Harmison, Robert Key, James Kirtley, Richard Johnson, Anthony McGrath, Alec Stewart, Marcus Trescothick, Michael Vaughan.

**ZIMBABWE**: Mark Vermeulen, Dion Ebrahim, Stuart Carlisle, Grant Flower, Tatenda Taibu, Sean Ervine, Heath Streak (captain), Andy Blignaut, Travis Friend, Raymond Price, Douglas Hondo.

# Rain-enforced

**FROM PAGE 13**  
The decision was another example of the inept handling of the competition by the tournament committee. They could have easily left an additional day for the final but there was no such option in the tournament's bylaws. Besides, with the weather remaining ominous, the committee chief didn't need to fly to Chittagong just to take such an obvious action.

# Battle royal for Henin

## Women's semifinals today

French Open

AFP, Paris

Barring a major upset not even tiny Belgian dynamo Justine Henin-Hardenne can stand in the way of top seed Serena Williams' charge towards her fifth straight Grand Slam title at Roland Garros.

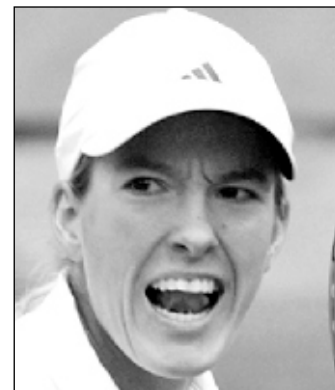
Henin-Hardenne may have had the better of the American world number one in their last meeting at



SERENA WILLIAMS



KIM CLIJSTERS



JUSTINE HENIN-HARDENNE



NADIA PETROVA

Charleston, but the defending champion has served notice that beating her in WTA events is an entirely different story from the Slams.

And after mercilessly eliminating France's Amelie Mauresmo, the last player to have dared to topple the Queen of Tennis, Williams is ready to mete out the same treatment on fourth seeded Henin-Hardenne during their semifinal meeting on Thursday.

"I don't necessarily feel revenge. I didn't play well," explains Williams

very pumped up to be in the semifinal," said the 21-year-old American.

"The quarterfinals of a Grand Slam is usually when I put in a new year and I say to myself, 'I have a chance to win this tournament. I've gotten this far, maybe I can go another couple steps.' 'You have to do this. 'Go, go, go.'"

And she knows now what she has to do against the 21-year-old Belgian.

"I know what to expect, what I should do, and what I should have

done in the last match," said Williams.

Henin-Hardenne, a 2001 semifinalist and Wimbledon runner-up, is relishing the underdog status.

"I think she is the favorite, for sure. I know she has great motivation and she wants to win the French Open, and she's going to give everything for that. But we'll see on the court. We can talk a lot about that. It's on the court that we will have the answer."

Compatriot Kim Clijsters, meanwhile, is seen by most as the best

in her stride.

"I'm not overloaded with emotions at the moment," said the Russian.

"I grew up in Juniors together with her (Clijsters) and we have a good friendship. I think it's just going to be an enjoyable match."

Clijsters, who lost the final here two years ago to Capriati going 12-10 in the longest final set at a French Open final, knows to take nothing for granted.

"She's (Petrova) obviously playing very well. She looks like at

# Akram accepts

**FROM PAGE 13**  
that with a win.

"A lot of Pakistanis and Indians living in England have requested me to play just one more time, and I can give it a thought," said Wasim, who was captain when Pakistan last toured India in 1999-2000.

Pakistan and India played their only match in three years in the World Cup in South Africa in March this year.

Political tensions between the nuclear-armed South Asian neighbours have severed cricketing ties, but recent moves towards peace have bolstered hopes that the two sides could take to the pitch once again.

# India in no hurry

**FROM PAGE 13**  
World Cup in South Africa, a game that passed off without incident.

India have not played a Test match in Pakistan since 1989, while Pakistan played three Tests in India in 1999-2000 despite threats from Hindu fundamentalists to disrupt the tour.

The Tests in Madras and New Delhi went off peacefully, but the third at the Eden Gardens in Calcutta ended in front of an empty stadium after police were forced to clear the stands following crowd trouble.

The Indian team, meanwhile, has been granted permission to take part in the six-nation Asia Cup cricket tournament to be held either in Sri Lanka or Bangladesh some time next year, Varma said.

India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, United Arab Emirates and Hong Kong are due to take part in the tournament.

# Test going

**FROM PAGE 13**  
For the best part of a century, international matches in England were essentially restricted to six grounds Lord's and The Oval in London, Edgbaston and Trent Bridge (Nottingham) in the Midlands and Old Trafford (Manchester) and Headingley (Leeds) in the north of the country.

But particularly with the expansion of the home international programme which since 2000 has seen England stage seven Tests a year and from this season 13 one-day internationals, grounds have started to compete for the honour of staging major games.

The Riverside made its international bow at the 1999 World Cup. It is guaranteed another one-day international next season and another Test in 2005.

Meanwhile Hampshire's Rose Bowl ground will join the top table of English grounds when they stage a triangular one-day international match between South Africa and Zimbabwe later this season.

# Agassi, Moya falter

French Open

AFP, Paris

Andre Agassi's bid to land a second French Open crown ended in failure on Tuesday when Argentine seventh seed Guillermo Coria beat the 33-year-old American 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 to reach the men's semifinals.

And a second former champion packed his bags when Spain's Carlos Moya, winner here in 1998, slid out to Dutch newcomer Martin Verkerk, who blitzed him 6-3, 6-4, 5-7, 4-6, 8-6 in 3hr 43min to set up a meeting with Coria.

Coria, who came here as a top contender having lifted the Hamburg Masters title for a breakthrough success, suggested he would need a ladder to face up to Verkerk, who at 1.91 metres (6ft 3ins) is 16 centimetres (6ins) taller.

It feels like a lot more, according to 21-year-old Coria, who has never met the Dutchman.

"He's four times taller than I am! He's huge! But I played (Mark) Philippoussis in Hamburg and I was not cowed by his size. I will just have to chase down every ball."

Coria, who donned an Argentine football shirt to face the press afterwards, said beating childhood hero Agassi, who had defeated him in their two previous meetings, was a momentous achievement.

"After losing the opening set I left my fears behind and I relaxed. I'll never forget this win all my life. Everything went my way today."

Agassi, playing the 999th match of a sparkling career which has brought a complete collection of Grand Slam singles titles - achieved uniquely on three different surfaces - was targeting a fourth final appearance after his 1999 success and

losing appearances in 1990 and 1991.

Had he made the trophy match he would have displaced Australian Lleyton Hewitt as world number one for the second time this season.

Instead, his 1,000th match will have to wait, probably until Wimbledon, as Coria moved on after a 2hr 32min display of passion and precision - once he had recovered from squandering a 4-1 lead to drop the opening set.

At the death an exhausted Agassi dove long and Coria



ANDRE AGASSI



CARLOS MOYA

slumped over the net, hardly able to drink in a famous win.

"That was really hard. Agassi is my childhood idol," said Coria who experienced the agony of a doping suspension two seasons ago for taking a food supplement which later proved to be contaminated.

"It's a dream to get into the semis at Roland Garros," added Coria, who had never previously come so far at a Grand Slam event.

Agassi saluted his opponent. "He's a good mover, no question about it. It gives him a lot of options in his game. He's a good decision-

maker in the court. Today he was hitting a good variety of shots and executing real well," said Agassi.

"He deserved to win that match. The scoreboard doesn't lie."

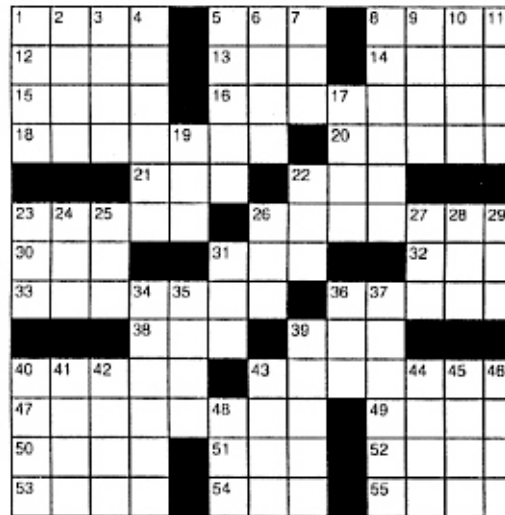
Agassi's only real purple patch was in winning five straight games to wrest the opening set - but thereafter he was rarely in the running once he had missed two break points at 5-3 down in the second set against a man determined to avenge an Australian Open loss last January.

On that occasion Coria retired in the second set with blisters.

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
38 Buzz  
1 Capital of Togo  
5 Bracketed word  
8 Stage object  
12 Author Haley  
13 Blond shade  
14 Clinton Cabinet member  
15 Jelly flavor  
16 Andalusian dance  
18 Old French dance  
20 Pursuing  
21 Ooh's  
22 Actress Farrow  
23 Permission  
26 "The forbidden dance"  
30 Citric quaff  
31 Sly rasul  
32 Parly bowful  
33 Hungarian dance  
36 Christmas entree, maybe

**DOWN**  
2 Hodge-podge  
3 Waiter's handout  
4 Crowd-scene actors  
5 Lock-boxes  
6 Capri, for one  
7 Oriental tea  
8 Easy-to-assemble  
9 Landlord's due  
10 Formerly to gravity  
11 Indigent  
14 Mayberry mail abbr.  
15 Back talk  
19 Plato's P  
23 Upper limit  
25 Pouch  
24 Wood-shaping tool  
25 Verily  
26 Part of UCLA  
27 Com-motion  
28 Insult, slangily  
29 Mirmic  
31 Cable-guide abbr.  
34 Type of scholar  
35 Russian assembly  
36 Slickum  
37 Preoccupy  
39 Pen's victim?  
40 Small salamanders  
41 Brazilian rubber  
42 Warm and cozy  
43 Weekend lover's abbr.  
44 Albacore  
45 Historic periods  
46 Band in Boston?  
48 Ford's veep's monogram



CRYPTOQUIP

Z O Z K D Z R R G N O O Y Y N M  
A B M Y G C , Z K H D D N K Y  
Z S ' J X Y V R R B A V C Y A Y  
L N S H M J Y X S L Y G N R R V X .  
Yesterday's Cryptquip: WHEN YOU DEVELOP SEVERE WRITER'S CRAMP, COULD THAT MEAN YOU HAVE AUTHORITIS?  
Today's Cryptquip Clue: R equals L

The Cryptquip 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.