

Millennium maestro

Tennis AFP, London

Andre Agassi has celebrated his personal millennium with victory at the Stella Artois Championships in his 1,000th professional match.



PHOTO: AP American Andre Agassi follows through on a serve against Peter Luczak of Australia in the second round match of the Queen's Club tennis tournament in London on Tuesday.

Wimbledon preparations got off to a hesitant start when the British number one squeezed past Davide Sanguinetti 3-6, 6-3, 7-6.

Hockey heroes back in India

AFP, New Delhi

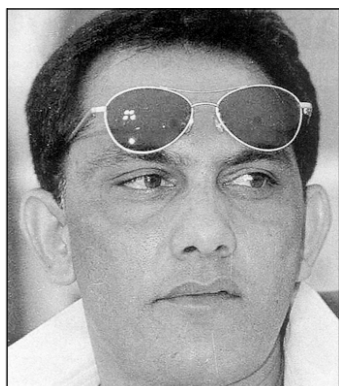
The Indian field hockey team returned to a rousing welcome here on Tuesday after winning a three-nation tournament in Australia, which also featured arch-rivals Pakistan.

Azhar wants a reprieve too

Cricket BBC ONLINE, London

were banned for life, while Ajay Jadeja and Manoj Prabhakar were suspended for five years.

Although Jadeja recently had his ban overturned, and returned to club cricket, Azharuddin's last



MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN attempt to arbitrate with the BCCI was turned down by a court in January.

Former India captain Mohammad Azharuddin has begun an appeal against his life-ban for match-fixing.

County calling Kiwi stars

Cricket CRICINFO, London

through a growth spurt in terms of my batting development, and I want to take every opportunity to consolidate this. There are still things I want to try and areas of my game I want to advance, and during my time with Yorkshire I will have the forum to do this exclusively.

The New Zealand pair of Stephen Fleming and Daniel Vettori have secured short-term contracts in English county cricket with Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire.

Backley eyes elusive golds

BBC ONLINE, London

Steve Backley is determined to capture a world or Olympic javelin gold medal before he retires at the end of the 2004 season.

Kucera crushes Kafelnikov

Tennis AFP, Halle

Russia's former men's tennis world number one Yevgeny Kafelnikov failed at the first hurdle in his bid to retain his ATP title as he was knocked out by Slovakian Karol Kucera 6-1, 6-7, 7-6.

deciding third. The Russian forced another tiebreak in the third as he broke Kucera when the Slovak served for the match at 5-4 - but the notoriously inconsistent Kafelnikov let it slip when 4-1 up in the tiebreak and his opponent rattled off six successive points to progress to the second round.

Lennox, Vitali bout June 21

AFP, Los Angeles

World Boxing Council champion Lennox Lewis of Britain will defend his crown against top-rated contender Vitali Klitschko of Ukraine here on June 21, promoters announced here Monday.

Russian women on rise

Tennis REUTERS, Moscow

Not so long ago Anna Kournikova was probably the only Russian woman tennis player most international fans had heard of.

Williams in the fourth round before bowing out to Petrova in the quarter-finals. Zvonareva moved up one place to 20th in the WTA Tour rankings this week, while Petrova leapt 47 places to 29th.

even three teams, good enough to challenge for the Fed Cup title. Certainly the days when the Russians had to rely primarily on the mood and physical condition of the U.S.-based Kournikova for their Fed Cup success have long gone.

Asghar

FROM PAGE 13 Stadium in Chittagong.

Bangabandhu National Stadium, Fatullah Cricket Stadium and BKSP will host Group C matches while Group D matches will be played in Khulna.

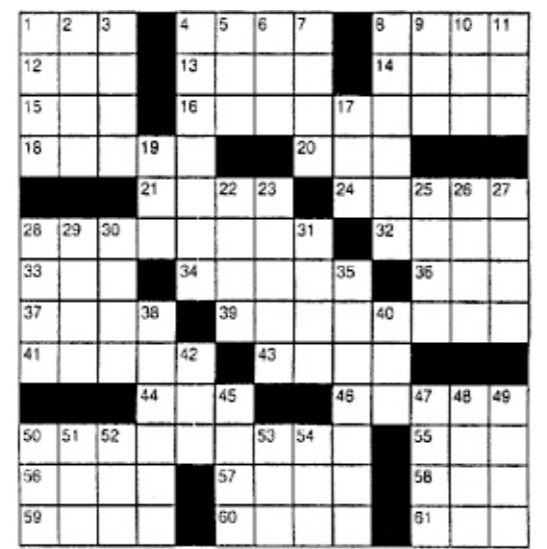
Henry, Smith

FROM PAGE 13 memory's in pretty good working order."

Woolmer also hinted at provincialism in South African cricket when he said, "Lance, I must tell you that if you live in Cape Town you have more chance of playing for South Africa, and you think I'm joking."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 44 Chowder-head 46 Correct word 50 Experiment - mater for dummies? Pan's caustic pooch 14 Authentic sheath 15 Sheath athlete 16 Losing proposition? Mrs. McKinley 18 Aromatic herb 20 Weeding tool 21 Overly theatrical 24 Makes like rodents 28 Goat wool 32 Tease 33 Pub 34 Too-too proper person 36 Binary digit 37 Branch 39 Monetary concern 41 Hyundai head-quarters 43 Othello, for one



CRYPTOQUIP

VWHM BYCM ZDSHGB JDII D BUGYSH, OF UWHK VDIS DGFLMO JGGKYM C HZQK QYJSHU BYCMB?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ATTRACTED TO SOLDIERS, SHE'D OFTEN FIND HERSELF IN "PLATOONIC" RELATIONSHIPS.

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.

Bend it like Barca!

FROM PAGE 13 struck with United would remain "at the disposal" of whoever won the presidential election.

United's announcement came a day after Beckham acknowledged for the first time he was ready to leave the club where he has spent his entire career.

the ex-Spice Girl Victoria Adams, as for his footballing ability. United pay him a reported 20,000 pounds a week on top of his basic salary just to retain rights to use his image in the club's marketing.

deterioration in Beckham's relationship with United boss Alex Ferguson. A dressing room bust-up after United's FA Cup defeat by Arsenal in February ended with Beckham needing stitches in his forehead after being hit by a boot Ferguson had kicked in anger.

