

Waiver on Tendulkar's Ferrari
Kapil blasts government

Cricket

AFP, Bangalore

India's cricket great Kapil Dev on Thursday joined the row over Sachin Tendulkar's duty-free Ferrari by castigating the government for adopting "double standards".

foreign-made cars generated heated debate and dented Tendulkar's demi-god status in cricket-crazy India. The Delhi High Court was forced to issue notices to Tendulkar and the Indian government asking them to explain why the import duty was exempted.



Kuerten, Blake in last eight

AFP, Commark

Second seed Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil reached the quarterfinals of the 355,000-dollar ATP hardcourt tournament here Wednesday, but American James Blake stopped third-seeded Spaniard Tommy Robredo in the second round of this US Open tune-up.

Kuerten rolled past qualifier Karol Beck, 7-5, 6-3, in a second-round match, one day after eliminating another Slovakian, lucky loser Dominik Hrbaty.

A three-time French Open champion, Kuerten accepted a wild card entry into the tournament. His next opponent will be seventh seed Younes El Aynaoui of Morocco, who had a 7-6, 3-0 lead over Rik de Voest when the South African qualifier retired due to a groin injury.

Blake continued to play well on home soil, registering a 6-3, 6-4 victory over third-seeded Robredo. Blake's best efforts this season have come in the United States, where he reached the semi-finals in San Jose and the quarterfinals in Houston, Indian Wells, Scottsdale and Washington.

It's Henman v Roddick

US OPEN

AFP, New York

Top seed Andre Agassi and emerging US star Andy Roddick could meet in the final of the US Open Tennis Championships, but both will face difficult first-round matches in the final Grand Slam tournament of the year.

The draw, announced Wednesday, pits Agassi, a two-time champion and runner-up last year to Pete Sampras, up against former top-10 player and US Open semi-finalist Alex Corretja of Spain in the opening round at Flushing Meadows next week.

Roddick, the fourth seed who staked his claim to contender status with back-to-back Masters Series titles in Montreal and Cincinnati, will first face the only player who has defeated him in the hardcourt build-up to the Open - Britain's Tim Henman.

Henman, who is lying 31st in the ATP Champions Race but just missed out on being seeded, beat Roddick in the semi-finals at

Washington on August 2. Men's second seed Roger Federer of Switzerland, the reigning Wimbledon champion, will take on Jose Acasuso of Argentina. French Open champion Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain is the third seed and opens his campaign against Guillermo Canas of Argentina. If Roddick makes it to the quarter-finals, he could face Australian Open finalist Rainer Schuettler of Germany. Agassi could come up against fifth-seeded Guillermo Coria in the quarters -- the same round in which Coria ousted him at the French Open.

Govt to act in Warne case

AFP, Melbourne

The problems won't go away for controversial cricketer Shane Warne who's facing a training ban during his 12-month drug suspension under pressure from the Australian government.

Rameez's mission

Cricket

REUTERS/AFP, Karachi

Pakistan's top cricket official Thursday said he would press hard to revive cricketing ties with rival India when he travels to Bombay for international cricket talks in September.

"Pakistan has been willing to play India and we believe that ties should be resumed as early as next year," Raja, who once captained Pakistan, told AFP.

India broke bilateral ties with Pakistan after the deadly December 2001 attacks on its parliament which they blamed on militants based across the border. Islamabad denied the charges.

"I view the visit as significant because it provides us with an opportunity to tell the Indian people and officials why it is important to have regular cricket ties," Raja told Reuters. "This is a good opportunity for us to highlight the futility of not playing against each other," he said, adding that he had applied for a visa and hoped it would come through soon.

Now Nitol's

FROM PAGE 13 general secretary Manjiv Hossain Malu and other BFF officials were present on the occasion. Six teams, split into two groups, will feature in the final phase of the biggest domestic football event of the country. Moulvibazar Wanderers Club, Abahani Krira Chakra and Chittagong Mohammedans have been placed in Group A, while Group B comprises Mohammedan Sporting Club, Muktijoddha Sangsad and Arambagh Krira Sangha.

B'DESH-PAK

Table with 5 columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Lists bowling figures for various players like Mashrafe, Baisya, Mahmud, Rafique, Sanwar, Kapali, Saleh.

Toss: Pakistan. Umpires: Steve Bucknor and TH Wijewardena.

'He can score

FROM PAGE 13 Pakistan's Javed Miandad (8,832). Waugh reckons India had the team to give a stiff fight to their opponents away from home because they had a "confident" captain in Saurav Ganguly.

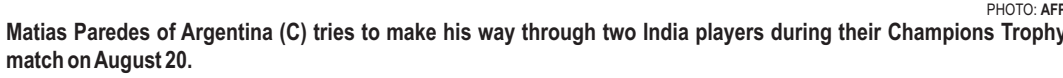
BCCI wants

FROM PAGE 13 investigations identified that many of the allegations made by GCC's marketing agent World Sport Nimbus (WSN) lacked substance," the ICC said in a statement from London on Tuesday.

Kirsten resists Eng

FROM PAGE 13 Stephen Harmison and Warwickshire left-arm spinner Ashley Giles were dropped from the Trent Bridge team, took a wicket with his fifth ball.

Scoreboard table with columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Lists players like Gibb, Kirsten, Kallis, McKenzie, Kabir, Rudolph, Boucher, Anderson, Flintoff.



Argentina rout India

AFP, Amsterdam

outstanding player for Germany, saving seven hot shots in the first half and three in the second. Australia pressed Germany again in the second half earning a second goal to Grant Schubert and penalty corner goal to Aaron Hopkins for Australia to lead 6-0 with 15 minutes to play.

Baljit Dhillon Singh found the net (63rd minute), taking the score to 4-2 and India threw everyone forward to score again. Argentina's Juan Hourquebie attracted a yellow card suspension to put the South Americans under more pressure (59th minute), but the Argentines weathered the pressure without India scoring again.

Hats off

FROM PAGE 13 "Apart from Mashrafe who I had to play carefully against none of the others seemed threatening," said Yasir who felt sorry not being able to convert his century into a double hundred.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard at tea on the first day of the fourth Test between England and South Africa at Headingley on Thursday.

Capriati battles her way thru'

Tennis

AFP, New Haven

After receiving a first-round bye, second seed Jennifer Capriati survived a second-round scare Wednesday at the 625,000-dollar WTA Tour hardcourt tournament here.

qualifier Cara Black of Zimbabwe upset fourth seed Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia 6-3, 6-2. Hantuchova reached a career-best fifth in the WTA Tour rankings earlier this season but has struggled lately.



Jennifer Capriati hits returns to Elena Bovina of Russia during their match at the Pilot Pen Tennis tournament on August 20 at the Connecticut Tennis Centre in New Haven.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words. Includes clues like 'Mimicked the data', 'Greek colonnade', 'Skunk's defense', etc.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with clues for letters. Includes clues like 'Omega precursor', 'Nephew of Caligula', 'Further carryall', etc.