

Graf, Edberg Hall of Fame nominees

AFP, Newport

Steffi Graf, the 22-time Grand Slam singles winner married to top-ranked Andre Agassi, joined Sweden's Stefan Edberg as nominees for induction to the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

Edberg, Graf and American octogenarian Dorothy Cheney will be considered for enshrinement at the Hall's 50th anniversary induction ceremonies next July. There are currently 183 members from 18 nations enshrined to date.



Kashem Smriti Sangsad goalkeeper makes a save against Abahani during their 15th DSA Cup football tournament encounter at the Khulna stadium yesterday. Abahani won 8-7 in tie-breaker.

Gibbs gives

FROM PAGE 13
just clear the slow moving Bicknell at mid-on.

Gibbs took two and the next ball thrashed Anderson through cover point where Mark Butcher, seemingly taken aback by the pace of the shot, failed to react at all before the ball crossed the boundary rope.

In all 15 runs came off the over as Gibbs outloose.

South Africa, 2-1 up in the five-Test campaign and needing just a draw to win their first series in England since 1965, made an ideal start after captain Graeme Smith won the toss and chose to bat.

Left-hander Smith, also of Western Province, and Gibbs made a brisk start with 41 runs coming in the first 10 overs.

But Gibbs appeared fortunate not to be given out lbw for 26 when Bicknell saw Indian umpire Srinivasaraghavan Venkataraghavan give the batsman the benefit of the doubt.

And he then gifted England a wicket when his reckless attempt to take a single off Giles saw Smith run out for 18 after he failed to beat Vaughan's under-arm throw from cover to wicketkeeper Alec Stewart.

South Africa were then 63 for one in the 15th over but from then on it was one-way traffic.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the first day of the fifth Test between England and South Africa at The Oval on Thursday.

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings				
Smith run out	18			
Gibbs not out	122			
Kirsten not out	71			
Extras: (b-4, lb-9, w-1, nb-5)	19			
Total: (For 1 wkt in 60 overs)	230			
Fall of wickets: 1-63				
To bat: Kallis, McKenzie, Rudolph, Boucher, Pollock, Hall, Adams, Ntini				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Bicknell	11	2	37	0
Anderson	11	0	56	0
Harmison	13	4	38	0
Giles	13	1	46	0
Flintoff	8	2	26	0
Vaughan	4	0	14	0

ENGLAND: Trescothick, Vaughan, Butcher, Thorpe, Smith, Stewart, Flintoff, Giles, Bicknell, Harmison, Anderson

Toss: South Africa
Umpires: Sri Venkataraghavan (India) and Simon Taufel (Australia)

For brother Ben



AFP, London

Adam Holloake announced plans Wednesday for a 2,000-mile trip from Edinburgh to the northern Moroccan town of Tangiers to help raise money for the memorial fund set up following the death of his younger brother Ben.

Adam Holloake is currently the captain of Surrey, from where he and Ben both went on to represent England.

When Ben, 24, was killed in a car crash in Perth, Western Australia, in March 2002, his family set up the Ben Holloake Memorial Fund.

Now, in order to raise money for the fund, Adam will walk, cycle and sail the 2,000 mile from Edinburgh to Tangiers after setting off from the Scottish capital on October 2.

Holloake's journey is expected to take two months and the funds raised will begin the pledge made by the Holloake family to raise 5 million pounds (8 million dollars) over the next five years for the CHASE Children's Hospice Service in London.

CHASE works to support of

children who are not expected to reach their 19th birthday and was a charity both Holloake brothers had supported.

However, Adam, 32 on Friday, said Wednesday: "I got involved with CHASE over the last six years



BEN HOLLOAKE

but I was a fairly fair-weather charity supporter just doing the odd piece of shirt-signing.

"But this is the biggest thing I have been involved with charity-wise," he said.

"Ben was very similar to me, just signing a few shirts, but he had helped out with this charity before

and so it seemed appropriate to take the UK walking phase of the journey to Brighton Marina, Holloake and his companions will set sail for Dieppe, France, on board the Ocean Youth Trust boat.

Also joining him at some point on the UK walking phase of the journey will be former British Prime Minister and lifelong Surrey fan John Major as well as members of the current England squad.

That walk will see Holloake aim to complete 594 miles over 28 days, an average of nearly 30 miles per day.

Holloake said: "I was involved in choosing the route, I wanted to travel a long way."

On Saturday November 1, at Brighton Marina, Holloake and his companions will set sail for Dieppe, France, on board the Ocean Youth Trust boat.

They then cycle from Dieppe to Gibraltar via the southwestern French town of Perpignan, and from Gibraltar to Tangiers by boat.

"We would like to raise 5 million to pay for the building of a new day centre for CHASE.

"This should also cover the initial running costs," Holloake explained.



FROM NOW I'LL BAT LEFT-HANDED! India superstar Sachin Tendulkar (L) giving some batting tips to Yuvraj Singh at Bangalore yesterday. 35 Indian probables are now taking part in a conditioning camp in Bangalore.

Rose joins

FROM PAGE 13
"He will bring some invaluable experience and quality to our bowling attack for our crucial remaining matches."

"We are delighted that we have been able to get Franklin registered in time for our match against Kent today," former Surrey leg-spinner Medlycott added.

"He will be a major boost in our bid to win both the Frizzell County Championship and National Cricket League."

Rose, 31, has played 19 Tests and 21 one-day internationals. He previously played in England for Northamptonshire and had taken 53 Test wickets at an average of nearly 31.

SCORECARD

FROM PAGE 13
Ali 14 4 43 1
Saqlain 25 5 61 1
Hafeez 3 1 7 0

PAKISTAN: First innings 21

Hafeez lbw b Mahmud	12
Butt c Mashud b Mahmud	39
Hameed b Rafique	10
Inzamam c Hannan b Mahmud	34
Younis c Mashud b Mahmud	25
Adil lbw b Rafique	5
Latif c Kapali b Baisya	9
Saqlain b Rafique	4
Shabbir lbw b Rafique	5
Gul b Rafique	0
Ali not out	0
Extras: (lb-5, b-1, nb-5)	11
Total: (All out in 54.4 overs)	175
Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-36, 3-50, 4-121, 5-135, 6-152, 7-154, 8-166, 9-170	

BAWLER: First innings
Hannan c Latif b Gul 3
Javed c Inzamam b Shabbir 16
Bashar c Latif b Gul 3
Ashraf c Butt b Shabbir 3
Saleh not out 29
Kapali retired hurt 17
Mahmud not out 2
Extras: (lb-1, w-1, nb-2) 4

Total: (For 4 wks in 21 overs) 77
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-9, 3-23, 4-41
To bat: Mashud, Rafique, Baisya, Manjurul

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Gul	8	0	32	2
Shabbir	10	5	29	2
Ali	1	0	6	0
Saqlain	2	0	9	0

Toss: Bangladesh
Umpires: Asoka de Silva (Sri Lanka) and Russell Tiffin (Zimbabwe)

PAKISTAN DIARY

FROM PAGE 13
This is making the viewers of Ten Sports very confused as to who was correct in their comments.

TOO MUCH EXPERIMENTATION
The inclusion of three debutants in the Pakistan team for the third Test against Bangladesh has triggered the local media to hit out at the selectors.

They voiced their concern at the selectors' excessive experimentation ahead of the home series against South Africa, which begins with the first one-day international in Karachi on September 26.

The criticism focused on the stats of all the 26 cricketers were given chances to play international cricket - 21 in Test matches and five in one-dayers - by the present ad-hoc set up of the PCB since 1999.

The majority has disappeared without trace after getting their chances.

The critics also blamed the PCB for distributing caps among every Tom, Dick and Harry.

They cited that right-arm fast bowler Yasir Ali who made his way into the Pakistan team without having played any first-class cricket.

A Monday final?

AFP, New York

US Open officials will make men play four rounds in as many days, and possibly in a Monday final for the first time since 1987, under a revamped schedule for the rain-ravaged event announced Wednesday.

Showers drenched the Grand Slam tennis gathering for the third day in a row here Wednesday. Only three matches have been completed since Sunday and heavy rain is forecast Thursday, after which skies are predicted to clear for a week.

ATP and WTA Tour officials met with global broadcasters and US Tennis Association officials for 2 1/2 hours to develop a plan that would have only two players looking at more than one match a day on the way to the finals.

The plan has men's quarterfinals Friday, semi-finals Saturday and the final on Sunday while women would play the semi-finals in a special Friday night session and the final Saturday night.

But that relies upon finishing men's fourth round and women's quarterfinal matches Thursday. If rain reigns again, men are looking at a Monday final.

"Let's get a Monday final going. I don't see why not," US fourth seed Andy Roddick said.

"It could compromise the quality of the tennis if we play four straight days, but that's not my decision to make."

That choice belonged to Arlen Kantarian, USTA president, who found the pain of a possible Monday men's final easier to swallow than the potential for men's players having to play two best-of-five matches in a single day.

"Certainly it's not desirable. It's very disappointing," Kantarian said of a Monday final. "We have less viewers watching the talent out here on a Monday or Tuesday."

World number one Andre Agassi has a huge edge in his bid for a ninth Grand Slam title as a result. On Tuesday, Agassi reached the quarterfinals, a match he will not play until Friday or Saturday versus a foe who played a day before.

"It would be really tough. It would be tough on everybody," said Agassi, the oldest man here at 33. "It's hard for all the guys. I have to hopefully deal with it better than my opponent."

While disdaining the phrase "crisis mode", Kantarian called the situation "challenging" and admitted changes are possible, saying, "This is a rolling calendar at this point that is changing to a large degree by the hour."

Gough warns

FROM PAGE 13
retire from Test cricket earlier this summer because of a long-term knee problem.

He told BBC Sport careers spanning more than a decade will become rare as heavy workloads take their toll.

"It's a hard one, finding the right balance between getting the players to play and learning the game and resting them," he said.

"You can understand why the selectors want players rested in between Test matches but at the same time they sometimes need county games to learn their trade a bit more."

"I think in the future, players will not have 10-12 year careers, it is going to be more like six to seven years."

As stalwart Alec Stewart prepared to play his last Test, Gough hailed the wicketkeeper-batsman as one of England's best.

He said: "Alec Stewart is one of the best England cricketers ever... he's got to be."

"Without him we would have been a poor side over the years. He's been a great all-rounder and a great ambassador as well."

"For a 40-year-old, he's one of the three fittest guys in the side and that says a lot about him."

"I think he could go on for another couple of years but he wants to go out at the top."

Gough believes the toss will be an important one to win if England were to square the series with South Africa.

But he was delighted Graham Thorpe was back in the Test fold after a year out with family problems.

Gough added: "We haven't got many world class players but he's one of them."

"He's back in now so let's hope he's still got that desire and hunger he had a few years ago."

"I would have brought him back two Test matches ago."

Abahani third

FROM PAGE 13
Yellow cards: Jalal, Ladi Baba and Milon (Wanderers).

TEAMS
ABAHANI KC: Titumir (Apel), Aminul, Nazrul, Sila Fode, Minton, Liton, Pranatosh, Ague, Asad (Bulbul) (Shuvro), Sandro and Khokon.
MOULVIBAZAR WANDERERS: Mohammad Ali, Gobinda, Deen, Mohammad (Shamim), Mithu, Milon, Jalal, Kabir, Jahangir (Apu), Rony, Ladi (Chanchal) and Bode.
Referee: R. Alam



NOT AGAIN! Spectators read a weather related sign on a board that usually gives match scores at the US Open on September 3.

Roddick beats the rain



AFP, New York

Andy Roddick joined Andre Agassi in the US Open quarterfinals Wednesday by beating Xavier Malisse 6-3, 6-4, 7-6, giving the Americans' title hopes a major boost at the rain-ravaged Grand Slam event.

Playing through conditions rejected as unsafe by rivals Sjeng Schalken and Rainer Schuettler on another court, Roddick surrendered just three points on his serve in the first two sets, then spoiled the Belgian's upset bid.

"He definitely raised his level in the third set and I don't know if I maintained mine," Roddick said.

"It was tough. I knew it was a little slick but I didn't think it was that bad. I'm just glad to get through."

Just four matches have been completed in three consecutive rainy days, but Agassi and Roddick advanced in part because they were top US television draws playing at Arthur Ashe Stadium, the top priority court to dry at the US Open.

Instead of facing four matches in as many days to win the title like all their rivals, Roddick and Agassi have Thursday off. But should predicted rain hit Thursday, the men's final would go to Monday for the first time since 1987.

"That's what makes tennis so special - regardless of the circumstances, two guys usually have to deal with it, have to find a way," Agassi said.

"At the end of the day you are

seeing sort of the human spirit try to prevail.

"While it's not comfortable for anybody, sometimes it can lead to some real special moments."

Agassi, the oldest man here at 33, could have to play three matches in as many days to win a ninth Grand Slam title. Every rival would be coming off less rest after he advanced in Tuesday's only completed match.

"It would be really tough," Agassi said. "It would be tough on everybody."

Roddick had given up on playing before the rain eased and he was able to play. Showers halted the match after 44 minutes with Roddick up 6-3, 2-2, and caused slick moments in the match. But playing beat waiting.

"It's just frustrating," Roddick said. "You want to get out there and play. You have to listen to everybody's theories. Are we going to play Monday? Play four in four days? All die because we're going to play four in four days?"

So how big an edge is not having to?

"Ask me in four days," Roddick said.

"I'm not worried about how many days. I'm not going to get caught up in that. I'm just glad to get through. I don't have to worry about the weather tomorrow."

Ten other scheduled matches did not finish. Dutch 12th seed Schalken led German eighth seed Schuettler 5-1 after 25 minutes. When Roddick resumed, they decided against it, joining 11 other matches on Thursday's schedule.

World number one Kim Clijsters took advantage of 10 unforced errors by French fifth seed Amelie Mauresmo to seize a 3-0 lead after 10 minutes of their quarter-final, the only earlier match to sneak points between raindrops.

Organisers will try to finish the women's quarterfinals and men's fourth round on Thursday, although that means double duty for two women who will see their round of 16 matches that began Monday take four days to end, at least.

Japanese 15th seed Ai Sugiyama led Italy's Francesca Schiavone 7-6, 5-4 and Russian seventh seed Anastasia Myskina led France's Mary Pierce 7-6, 2-0. They will try to complete matters early Thursday.

US sixth seed Jennifer Capriati awaits Sugiyama or Schiavone on a day's rest while French Open champion Justine Henin-Hardenne, the Belgian second seed, will play Pierce or Myskina.

Sugiyama has finally become a scheduling priority with organisers. She was not on Wednesday and missed valuable time on an outer court.

Rain began as she unzipped her racket bag and the match, as most, was called off before late clearing allowed Roddick to finish.

Thursday's other men's resumption finds Thai 11th seed Paradorn Srichapan leading Australian sixth seed Lleyton Hewitt 4-3. Spanish third seed Juan Carlos Ferrero leading American Todd Martin 6-2 and Guillermo Coria, the fifth seed from Argentina, leading Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman 6-2, 2-0.

Jackpot awaits Mutola



AFP, Brussels

Kelli White and Maria Mutola go into the final Golden League meeting of the season here on Friday both desperate to win their respective events but for vastly different reasons.

Both are recently crowned world champions but for White the joy of being the first woman since Katrin

Krabbe to achieve the 100 metres/200m double has turned to misery.

Having tested positive for the stimulant modafinil the American faces the likelihood of being stripped of her medals.

Mutola on the other hand stamped her authority for the umpteenth time on the 800m, beating home training partner Kelly Holmes in Paris, and can become the first athlete since the inception of the Golden League series to scoop the million-dollar bonus just for herself.

"Money is not my principal motivation for running," the 30-year-old Olympic champion said.

"I just love the thrill of the competing and the fact that I am constantly faced with different challenges and challengers," added the Mozambique star.

White has insisted that she will fight to keep her titles despite the IAAF indicating she will probably lose them.

Though the stimulant will not appear on the banned list till next year it falls into the 'related substances' category and White's failure to indicate she was taking it looks likely to prove costly.

The 26-year-old claimed she took it for narcolepsy, a condition which causes extreme tiredness, and looks set to lose more sleep over her oversight but rebounding with victory here would prove a point -- if only a pyretic one.

However on Wednesday she said there was no way she was going to take any punishment lying down.

"I do intend to fight to keep my medals."

"I am disappointed about losing my medals. I worked the whole season for it. My reputation has been tarnished. But I do intend to fight to keep my medals."

She will face among others the woman who stands to take her mantle of 100m champion Torri Edwards and the Bahamas' Chandra Sturup, who flopped in Paris after being the dominant sprinter in the first two Golden League meetings and should White be demoted she will move into bronze medal position.

While records did not exactly tumble at the world championships, Ethiopia's Haile Gebrselassie will try to bounce back from being beaten in the 10,000m by compatriot Kenenisa Bekele and break his own world mark.

The 30-year-old Olympic champion will bring the meeting to a climactic close as he runs with the background filled with the live music of a band from Burundi and he believes that will help him.

"I want to go for the record again. The drums should give me the right beat to go along with and I am hopeful I can lower the mark further," said the ever-smiling Ethiopian.



Maria Mutola of Mozambique addresses a news conference in Brussels yesterday, on the eve of the Golden League meeting.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40 Tagged	3 Thickens	25 Old
1 Witticism	4 Like	4 Like	French
5 Fill the bill	41 Arouse	some big	coin
9 LBJ	resentment	smiles	26 Special
beagle	ment	5 Unaltered	tactics
12 Sandwich	43 Will	6 One	team
treat	subject	(Pref.)	27 Open a
13 Stud fee?	47 Debtor's	7 "Monly	little
14 "—not	48 Retire	8 Python"	29 Crumple
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17 X rating?	54 Despondent	10 Mid-	9-Across
18 Get snug	55 Bygone	March	35 Will 36-
19 Checker	VHS alter-	20 Symbol of	Across,
move?	native	intrigue	Lionel
21 Grades	56 Hair salon	22 It requires	Richie
9-12	supplies	great	song
(Abbr.)	interest	37 Be there	38 Clinic
22 Sports	23 Senate	40 Some-	goings-on,
surprise	staffer	what	for some
24 Wan	24 Throw	(Suff.)	39 Clin-
27 Simile	1812	41 Mom's	gings-on,
center	battle site	desserts	for some
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that	21 Intrigue	43 Spouter	spouter
"How —	22 Battle site	44 "Hi,	45 Docile
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