#### Abuse made me

these series than at other times.

"Cricket is like this, wickets can come all at once and at other times you can bowl well and maybe not receive your rewards." added the 34-year-old, whose haul of 657 wickets leaves him second only to Australia leg-spin ace Shane Warne in the all-time list of leading Test wicket-takers

"If there is one thing that maybe has helped me this year it was the experience I had in Australia

"It may sound a strange thing to say as it was a very tough tour for me on and off the field, especially with the abuse we received.

"But if you go through difficult times and come out the other side, you become a stronger character for

"That's what happened to me. I like to think that I am guite strong mentally anyway. But these sort of experiences only make me more

#### Eng eye to win

FROM PAGE 17 didn't just rely in their established

"Tres is a very important one-day player for England but, as we've found with all the injuries we've had over the last 12 months, you can't rely on one or two players.

"You've got to be able to get performances from all round the team. "Hopefully we can do that in India and hopefully this win will give us a bit of momentum.'

Yardv. who took a miserly three for 24 from his maximum 10 overs -a haul which included Mohammad Yousuf, Shoaib Malik and Kamran Akmal -- was understandably

"I'm loving it," said Yardy who also played in England's five-wicket Twenty20 defeat against Pakistan at Bristol last month

The 25-year-old Sussex star's haul was all the more impressive as he'd only been bowling spin for under two years.

"October 2004, I switched. My seam bowling wasn't going anywhere so I thought I'd try spin and it's worked pretty well. I've had a great day today (Friday) but I'm not looking too far ahead.'

And a delighted Strauss added: "He's come in and done a great job. He proved again he can transfer his county form into one-day international cricket which is not easy to do. To bowl like he did in his first game was very impressive."

Howver, the match might have taken a different course had a controversial incident early in England's innings gone Pakistan's

Strauss, on five, edged Mohammad Asif and opposing captain Inzamamul Haq claimed a

catch at first slip. But the Middlesex left-hander was adamant the ball hadn't carried and stood his ground. Eventually

the umpires called for replay assistance and, with pictures inconclusive, third umpire Ian Gould gave Strauss not out. Inzamam, set to face ball-

tampering and disrepute charges arising out of last month's unprecedented fourth Test forfeit at The Oval at a two-day hearing in London on September 27 and 28, was clearly

### A fine-tuning

being rested from the Malaysian one-day series, but paceman Glenn McGrath is returning to international cricket for the first time since last January after supporting his wife's fight against breast cancer.

Michael Hussey will assume Gilchrist's vice-captain duties, breast cancer

Michael Hussey will assume Gilchrist's vice-captain duties, while New South Wales wicketkeeper Brad Haddin will be his replacement behind the stumps in Kuala Lumpur.



Pakistan's Muhammad Zubair (front) celebrates with teammate Muhammad Shabbir after scoring against New Zealand during their World Cup group phase match in Moenchengladbach on Friday.

## Kiwis hold Pakistan

Hockey

AFP, Monchengladbach

Argentina brought Spain back to the pack in Pool A by drawing 1-1 with Spain at the men's field hockey World Cup Championship here

New Zealand and Pakistan drew 4-4 and join Spain on four points at the head of Pool A, each having played two matches

Australia has no points from its 3-I loss to Spain on Thursday and will play their second match against Argentina on Saturday.

Australia can expect three points from a win over Argentina as Argentina will be backing up for its second match in two days while Australia has had the benefit of a rest day following its loss to Spain. South Korea is unchallenged at

the head of Pool B on six points after defeating England 1-0 also Friday.

South Korea can expect to win against South Africa and India and can lose against hosts Germany in the last pool match and still make the semi finals.

Spain beat Argentina 6-0 in July's Champions Trophy and was expected to win easily again Friday.

Argentina's defence crowded Spain's attack and Spain's usually reliable penalty corner combinations failed to execute any of the five corners awarded to Spain.

In the second half Eduard Tubau scored a rebound off a penalty corner for Spain and Lucas Cammereri scored a field goal for Argentina.

South Korea was a shadow of the team which defeated Netherlands 3-2 on Wednesday, beating England 1-0 in a lacklustre effort in which Sung Hoon Yoon scored a deflection from a free hit

Ninth ranked New Zealand took the game to fifth ranked Pakistan as the lead changed four times and Pakistan played catch-up.

Scoring started with penalty strokes to both teams.

Shakeel Abbasi flicked high to the right and Dean Couzins low to

Zealand traded penalty strokes in the first 15 minutes. New Zealand went ahead 2-1

with Blair Hopping's tip-in of Hayden Shaw's second penalty corner and Pakistan equalised through Muhammad Zubair's field goal.

the left as Pakistan and New

New Zealand converted a second stroke half a minute into the second half with Dean Couzins' stroke flying into the middle of the

Pakistan caught up again to 3-3 by Rehan Butt's field goal driven between the pads of New Zealand's goalkeeper Paul Woodford.

New Zealand took the lead 4-3 from Hayden Shaw's sizzling penalty corner flick into the top left of goal and Pakistan caught up again to 4-4 when Muhammad Zubair scored a second field goal.

Paul Woodford saved Sohai Abbas' penalty corner attempt after the final hooter to limit Pakistan to one point from the match.

# Katich the likely opener



**AFP,** Brisbane

Simon Katich is the leading contender to open Australia's innings with Adam Gilchrist in next month's ICC Champions Trophy one-day cricket series, captain Ricky Ponting said Saturday.

The Australian team left here Saturday to play India and the West Indies in a one-day Malaysian warmup tournament, starting in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday. Gilchrist is being rested from the

Kuala Lumpur tri-series ahead of the mini-World Cup in India, but Katich is in the driving seat to partner the Australian vice-captain at the top of the innings, Ponting told reporters.

Katich opened the batting in all eight one-day internationals on the tours of South Africa and Bangladesh earlier this year, averaging 38.40 and

"(Last year) Simon probably put a bit more pressure on himself and went into his shell a little bit," Ponting

"(But) the way he played in the VB (Australian tri) series, and a couple of times in South Africa as well, and then again in Bangladesh, I think we started to see the real Simon Katich come out.

"With him being a bit more confident with his position in the side now, I think we're going to see a better

player going forward. Contenders for an opening berth, Phil Jaques, Mark Cosgrove and the recalled Matthew Hayden, have all been named in the 18-man party although they missed the cut for the reduced-size 14-man Champions

Trophy squad Ponting said he has the highest expectations of pace spearhead Glenn McGrath despite his lack of international cricket since dropping out last January to support his wife's battle against breast

"He feels 25 again," Ponting said. "I think we'll try and give Glenn as much bowling as we can (in Malaysia). Glenn's one who's thrived with lots of bowling over the

"We need to make sure we're really monitoring his progress and try to get a fair bit of bowling into him. "I'm sure he'll play the first couple

of games and we'll just see how he pulls up after those." Australia open the tri-series

against the West Indies on Tuesday and Ponting's squad could play five games in 13 days should they reach the September 24 final. "These opportunities are the ones

we have to make the most of," Ponting said. "The whole idea of this series is to

try and give everyone a couple of

"(Chairman of selectors) Andrew Hilditch has already got mapped out possible teams for the upcoming games and when we get there we'll let the guys know who's playing when."

the three previous Grand Slam

finals of this year, losing to

### **Ref Procter** criticised

BBC ONLINE, undated

Match referee Mike Procter has been criticised for his handling of the Oval Test match controversy.

The game was awarded to England by forfeit and led to Pakistan skipper Inzamamul Haq facing disrepute and ball-tampering charges.

But the Guardian newspaper has guoted ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed as saying: "The whole issue has gotten out of hand.

"It should have been dealt with then and there by the match ref-

Procter is an experienced match official, having acted as referee in 41 Tests and 97 limited-overs internationals in the past four years.

He has not made any public comment on The Oval Test, but is likely to be a key witness at the disciplinary hearing on September 27-28 which will be conducted by the International Cricket Council's chief match referee Ranian Madugalle.

Inzamam faces a ban of two to four Test matches or four to eight one-day internationals if found guilty of the disrepute charge -- the balltampering charge carries a lower

The Pakistan Cricket Board has already indicated that an appeal would follow any finding of guilt in order to ensure Inzamam can play in the ICC Champions Trophy, which takes place in India in October and

#### Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 17 champions from each group will join the second round's teams.

A total of 24 teams, split into six groups, will play the second round and the group champions plus the best two runners-up will qualify for

SECOND ROUND TEAMS Group A: Qatar, UAE, Uzbekistan

and Group A champions of the first Group B: Korea Republic, Bahrain, Vietnam and Bangladesh.

Group C: Thailand, Kuwait, Yemen and Palestine. Group D: Iran, India, Hong Kong and Maldives

Group E: China, Oman, Malaysia and Group B champions of the first

Group F: Japan, DPR Korea, Turkmenistan and Pakistan

#### Oddo slams

Milan this season, the side Lazio will face on Sunday, but the 8million-pound price-tag made the move impossible even after his

it a ciud really wants you, then they'll find a way. I have another two years on my contract with Lazio and I'm proud to wear this shirt. The transfer market and everything that happened this summer is a closed chapter now."

#### Benitez warns

FROM PAGE 20 "I remember the first months he was here and people were talking about him not scoring." Benitez said.

"I always supported him because I have a lot of confidence in him. Now he has shown people that he is a player that can score goals, but he is not going to score 30 goals a season.

"He will create chances for others though, as well as score goals. He will create a lot of assists and that is important to the team."

Off the pitch, Liverpool have taken another major step forward in their plans to build a new ground with the news that the city council have agreed a 999-year lease on the proposed site.

Now the club have until the end of the month to guarantee that funds are in place to build the 180 million pounds stadium that will hold 60,000 fans.

### Cole forgives

FROM PAGE 20

December and at the Emirates Stadium in May. "I will take it to heart," he said. "I am a very shy person; you probably won't believe me but I am. Of course when you hear bad things about you it's going to hurt. I try to deflect it as much as I can because I have a job to do, and I have to go and play week in, week out. It is going to be hard for me but I

#### The end

and know that I am not a greedy person," he said.

"I have come here to win things and I believe I have a great chance of winning things at this club. I don't expect people to understand it, but my move has nothing to do with greed, money or loyalty.

"Whatever happened between myself and Arsenal happened for a reason. It's in the past now and I just want to move on and give everything for Chelsea."

# Russian roulette for Federer and Roddick



AFP, New York

Two unsung Russians stand in the way of a dream US Open final Sunday between top seed and defending champion Roger Federer and American flag-bearer Andy Roddick.

In Saturday's semifinals, Federer was taking on Nikolay Davydenko and Roddick went up against Mikhail Youzhny.

On paper it looks clear-cut. Federer, who lost his first set of the championship in his 7-6 (9/7), 6-0, 6-7 (9/11), 6-4 quarterfinal win over another American James Blake is 7-0 going up against seventh seed Davydenko.

Roddick is 2-2 against unseeded Youzhny, but has won the last two and under the tutelage of American legend Jimmy Connors he is looking close to being back to the kind of form that made him world No.1 in November

But both said they would not be under-estimating their opponents.

Federer, aiming to become just the third man in the Open era after John McEnroe and Ivan LendI to win a hattrick of titles in New York, said that Davydenko was a deceptively tough prospect.

"Andy and I look like the big favourites but we've seen what happened to favourites in the

"I've had some tough matches against Davydenko. He is playing excellent tennis and has improved a lot on hardcourts.

"He has found another gear. He is incredibly fit and has more self

belief than he used to have. "I will have to have great variety

my game and be aggressive." Davydenko, who came through gruelling five-setter against Germany's Tommy Haas to reach his second Grand Slam semifinal after the 2005 French Open recog-

before him. "It's like everybody else. How do you play against Federer?," he asked with a shrug of his slim shoulders.

nized the enormity of the task

But the frail, balding Ukraineborn player said he takes confidence from the four-setter, including two tie-breaks, he played against the Swiss star in the quarterfinals of the Australian Ópen in January.

"It was a tough match, yeah? But I lost in the third and fourth sets tie-breaks. I had so many set

"If I am feeling well, have great feelings backhand, forehand, running good. You need to think you can beat him. What's important what is in the head."

Roddick, who won through late Wednesday with a straight sets 6-3. 7-5. 6-4 trouncing of former champion Llevton Hewitt, said that Youzhny had fully deserved his

Nadal to make it through to the

"He played a great match. He layed flawlessly," he said.

"I don't think I'm going to give him as many balls to hit as Nadal. Hopefully I'll be able to make him play a little bit more defence than

he had to play against Nadal." The 24-year-old Youzhny is seen back home in Russia as a player who has so far failed to live up to his huge potential.

But against Nadal, he put aside all the self doubts that have beset him in the past to play the best

match of his career. In January, he was ranked a career-high No. 15, but as he has done in the past, he failed to keep up the level of his game. In a four-

month span earlier this year, he lost 11 of 16 matches. "I work very hard, end of last year and beginning of this year," he said. "Sometimes, I was just waiting for results, because I saw I played very well in practice. When I go play in matches, I cannot show

my best tennis "I think after Hamburg in May, I understand I cannot wait anymore for results. I need to do something for results to come to me.'

Against the big-hitting Roddick he will need to do something else.

### OPEN SECRETS

the US Open

**INTERNET**, undated

Challenges of the new replay system at the US Open had been relatively uneventful. That was until Jelena Jankovic began arguing with chair umpire Enric Molina during her semifinal match with Justine Henin-Hardenne on Friday. Through Thursday, there had

been 124 challenges on the men's side with a 29 percent success rate. On the women's side, 46 challenges had taken place and 33 percent were successful But none of the 170 challenges had the level of drama as Jankovic's

issues with Molina, which occurred

as she was two points away from advancing to the final. Leading 4-2 in the second set, Jankovic challenged an out call and won. But merely winning a challenge does not assure a player it will be overturned. Molina called a let and shortly thereafter, the Serbian started arguing about an out call on

That eventually led to a collapse against Henin-Hardenne, who easily finished the match in the third

Afterwards, Jankovic expressed

her frustration with the system. "I think he could have (handled it better) because when the ball is close the main umpire, he doesn't say anything," Jankovic said. "He just tells me it's close. But he also

has to be involved in that to make his call.
"If he saw the ball was out, he has to make a correction. Why does he always leave have to leave (it) to the players to challenge? We only have

two challenges then it's 50-50. You

cannot waste them. Then when it's big points, what are you going to

#### **NAVRATILOVA'S GRAND FINALE** Martina Navratilova is making the

most of her final tournament. With retirement right around the corner, Navratilova will end her career in the mixed doubles final at

Navratilova, just over a month from turning 50 years old, has made into final, along with partner Bob Navratilova, who retired from

singles matches in 1994, will be going for her 10th mixed doubles title and 32nd doubles title at a Grand Slam at the US Open. She won the mixed doubles title here in 1985 and 1987 and nine women's doubles titles from 1977 to 1990 "She did a lot for women's ten-

nis." Henin-Hardenne said. "She keeps fighting. It's sad for everyone to see her going away now, but it's probably time for her to do something else.'

even have to break a sweat Friday. They were supposed to face Meghann Shaughnessy and Justin Gimelstob in the semifinals but Gimelstob's back flared up.

**DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME** Kim Clijsters is unable to defend her US Open title due to a wrist injury. But one aspect of Clijsters' game made its appearance as Jankovic used a Clijster-esque split beyond the baseline in an attempt to hit a shot. The play happened in the third game of the second set. The numerous replays drew applause from fans at Arthur Ashe Stadium and a warning from CBS sports commentator John McEnroe, who told view-

#### ers. "Don't try this at home." **UNITED NATIONS**

Friday's women's semifinals saw four different countries represented (Russia, France, Serbia and Belgium). The last time that happened in the US Open was when Steffi Graf of Germany beat Switzerland's Martina Hingis and American Monica Seles beat Spain's Conchita Martinez. Seles, Graf and Hingis also were involved the last time it happened in a Grand Slam. In the 1999 Wimbledon semis, Hingis defeated Spain's Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and Graf

### knocked off Seles

**COULD USE THE MONEY** With a child on the way, Annemarie Leto Fletcher could have used the 1million-dollar grand prize in the "Chase Million Dollar Serve". To win the big prize, Fletcher had to hit the 18-inch Chase octagon. Fletcher missed by inches and her attempt to claim the 100,000-dollar prize was well short and she took the 10,000-

#### dollar consolation prize **QUOTE OF THE DAY**

Inzamam c and b Dalrymple

Total: (For 8 wkts in 50 overs) 235

Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-17, 3-41, 4-

115, 5-115, 6-117, 7-138, 8-165

0

10

10

3

10

10

33

49

38

24

78

0 16

Akmal c Strauss b Yardv

Akhtar c Joyce b Broad

Malik c and b Yardy

Razzag not out

Naved not out

Did not bat: Asif

**Bowler** 

Broad

Lewis

Yardv

Pietersen

**ENGLAND** 

Bell not out

Mahmood

Dalrymple 10

Collingwood 2

Strauss b Hafeez

Pietersen not out

Mahmood, Broad

Bowler

Akhtar

Asif

Naved

Joyce c Akmal b Asif

Extras: (lb-6, w-9, nb-4)

Fall of wickets: 1-38, 2-148

Total: (For 2 wkts in 46.2 overs)237

Did not bat: Collingwood,

Dalrymple, Yardy, Read, Lewis

1

2 34

36

0 М

8

10

Extras: (lb-8, w-16)

the stands.

"I'm getting so many calls on my phone and I don't even know those numbers, so I don't answer back. Who knows, maybe she was one of them over there." -- Jankovic, on if she got a phone call from Seles, whom one reporter claimed to see in

# Bell brings rare victory

fellow Middlesex left-hander Ed

Ireland-born Joyce replaced Marcus Trescothick, dropped for the first time in his international career 48 hours after saying he was unavailable for next month's Champions Trophy tournament in India while he recovered from a

stress-related illness. There was a controversial moment in the fourth over when Strauss, on five, edged Mohammad Asif and first slip Inzamam claimed the catch

Strauss, who told Inzamam "no

way", stood his ground and Daryl Harper, after consulting with on-field colleague Mark Benson, called for replay assistance. Television pictures were incon-

clusive and third umpire Ian Gould

gave Strauss not out. Inzamam, facing disciplinary charges following Pakistan's forfeit of the fourth Test at The Oval last month, where he fell out with another Australian umpire in Darrell Hair, risked further action as he continued to talk animatedly to

But there was no doubt when Joyce, on 13, edged Asif and wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal took an excellent catch, diving low to his New batsman Bell then made sure Razzaq didn't have it all his

own way with three fours off the pace bowling all-rounder in as many balls, including one textbook cover-Strauss then completed his fifty and England, at the 25-over halfway mark, were well placed at 118 for

But off-spinner Hafeez ended a stand spanning 20 overs when Strauss was bowled, sweeping, around his legs.

He faced 100 balls with 10 fours.

Earlier Razzaq smashed paceman Sajid Mahmood for two huge sixes in a penultimate over which cost 26 runs in total.

England now 148 for two in the 30th

before, off the last ball, driving him for a high straight six. In all 21 runs were scored off the 50th and final Yardy, in for dropped all-rounder Rikki Clarke, saw his purple patch

He then flat-batted seamer Jon

Lewis for two sixes over long-on

begin when Mohammad Yousuf played on to his quicker ball for 29. Two balls later Shoaib Malik chipped a gentle return catch straight to the 25-year-old, who later

dismissed Akmal. Dalrymple then caught and bowled Inzamam, driving too early, for 47. Pakistan were now 117 for six

toss in as many matches this series, chose to bat for the first time. Razzaq was then reprieved when he edged Yardy only for a diving Strauss to drop the slip

after Inzamam, who'd won his fourth

#### SCOREBOARD Scoreboard in the day-night fourth

chance

one-day international between England and Pakistan at Trent Bridge on Friday: PAKISTAN

Younis c Collingwood b Lewis

Hafeez c Strauss b Lewis

Afridi Ibw b Mahmood

Afridi Malik

Hafeez 4.2 0 21 wickets

Razzag 48 0 25 0 2 0 11 Result: England won by eight

Man-of-the-match: lan Bell.

Yousuf b Yardy

# Wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist is

while New South Wales wicketkeeper Brad Haddin will be his replacement behind the stumps in Kuala Lumpur.Wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist is being rested from the Malaysian one-day series, but paceman Glenn McGrath is returning to international cricket for the first time since last January after supporting his wife's fight against

Glamour against power "It is a little bit of everything," Mauresmo said. "I wasn't focussed

"Even when I won the second set

I didn't feel things were going my

or thinking clearly.

way. All the credit goes to her." The players stayed on serve for the first nine games of the second before Mauresmo got her first service break of the match to grab the set 6-4. In the third set, Mauresmo's

earlier problems returned to haunt

her as she served poorly and could-

n't find an answer for Sharapova's

stinging backhand. Serving for the match, Sharapova opened with a double fault but then came up with another backhand winner to clinch the

attack on big points.

The Belgian second seed Henin-Hardenne has made it to all four Grand Slam finals this year but she had to earn this berth as the 21year-old Serb Jankovic gave her all Both players came into Friday's semifinal with injuries as Henin-

Hardenne was complaining of a sore rib and Jankovic a bad back. winning the final 10 games of the A heavy underdog going into the match, Jankovic came out with more intensity, surprising the 2003 US Open champ by stepping up her fight a lot," she said.

Jankovic, who advanced further

in the US Open than ever before,

closed out some long rallies with

flash backhands and clinically sliced

drop shots which brought cheers from the crowd and a big smile to her But she lost her nerve in the

seventh game of the second set when she argued a call with the chair umpire. She was one set up and holding 4-2 lead in the second when she got distracted and failed to win another game in the match. Henin-Hardenne finished it off by

"I feel lucky to be in final, but I did

"She put a lot of pressure on me

Henin-Hardenne had reached

and had a lot of motivation. That

maybe would have been the kind of

match I would have lost a year ago."

Mauresmo in the Australian Open the French Open final.

> the match." Henin-Hardenne said. In the third set. Henin-Hardenne began to hold serve for the first time in the match. That spelled trouble for Jankovic who was no longer able to win the long rallies or dictate points.

and Wimbledon finals and defeating Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia in But Jankovic clinched the first set on the second opportunity with a backhand winner down the line. "I was nervous at the beginning of

Henin-Hardenne became the first player to make the final of all four Grand Slams in a year since Martina Hingis in 1997.