

Jones drives the nail in Pak coffin

MELBOURNE, Jan 12: Dean Jones led Australia to a 32-run victory over Pakistan in a World Series limited-over cricket match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Tuesday night, but suffered a chipped right thumb in the

Hayden brightens his chances

SYDNEY, Jan 12: Opener Matthew Hayden spent his fourth consecutive day on the field as Queensland's Sheffield Shield match, with South Australia ended in the tannest of draws in Adelaide on Monday, reports Reuters.

Hayden followed an unbeaten 161 in the first innings with 35 not out in the second, enhancing his England tour prospects.

Hayden's feat has been achieved nine times in Test cricket, the last by England's Geoff Boycott in 1977.

South Australia batted on into the last session on Monday before skipper Jamie Siddons declared at 310 for nine, leaving Queensland the impossible task of scoring 309 off 24 overs.

Siddons said he was not prepared to risk handing away the match after Queensland had batted so slowly on Sunday.

In Perth, Tony Dodemaide celebrated his recall to international cricket, against Pakistan today, with 123 to save Victoria from defeat by Western Australia.

Thirty minutes after he was out, play ended by mutual consent with Victoria 457 for seven after trailing by 175 on the first innings.

process, reports AP. Jones top-scored with 84 in Australia's total of 212 for six but batted in pain for much of



D JONES ... man-of-match

his innings after being struck on the right hand by a ball from fast bowler Waqar Younis.

World Cup holder Pakistan could only manage 180 for seven in their allotted 50-overs in reply and the loss eliminated them from playoff contention.

Australia will face the West Indies to decide the winner of the triangular series.

Jones struck three fours and one six after being given painkillers by team physiotherapist Errol Alcott.

The 31-year-old said later he was still hopeful he would be fit for Thursday's now meaningless match against Pakistan at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

"There's a crack right through the top knuckle and I've got the thumb in a splint at the moment," Jones said.

"It's pretty sore, but I'll play with a couple of injections in Sydney if I have to."

"I can't afford to have the time off at the moment and the only real problem I'm going to have are with my throwing and catching."

Jones came to the crease with Australia at nine for one after the early loss of vice-captain Mark Taylor and provided the backbone of the Australian innings, sharing a 124-run stand with David Boon, who contributed a solid 64.

Australian captain Allan Border became only the fourth batsman after Desmond Haynes, Javed Miandad and Viv Richards to post 6,000 one-day runs when he reached 11. He was unbeaten on 14 at the close of the innings.

Pakistan never really got going in their run-chase. After 41 overs the tourists' target was an impossible 10 runs per over.

Captain Javed Miandad and Rameez Raja both contributed 40 and Salim Malik chipped in with 37, but the Pakistanis never threatened an under-strength Australian attack.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps in Tuesday's World Series limited-overs cricket match between Australia and Pakistan at the Melbourne Cricket Ground:

AUSTRALIA: M Taylor c Rashid b Aaqib 4

D Boon c Shahid b Mujtaba	64
D Jones b Waqar	84
S Waugh c b Mujtaba	5
M Waugh b Waqar	12
A Border not out	14
I Healy run out	3
I Dodemaide not out	15
Extras: (3b, 21b, 3w, 3nb)	11
Total: (six wickets)	212
Fall of wickets: 9: 133; 153: 180; 181; 187.	

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Wasim Akram	10	1	28	0
Aaqib Javed	8	0	39	1
Waqar Younis	10	0	39	2
Aamir Sohail	5	0	27	0
Shahid Saeed	8	0	36	0
Asif Mujtaba	9	0	38	2

PAKISTAN:	O	M	R	W
A Sohail c Healy b McDermott	13	2	26	2
R Raja c Healy b S Waugh	40			
S Saeed b Dodemaide	3			
S Malik b McDermott	37			
J Miandad c Border b M Waugh	40			
Inzamam-ul-Haq not out	39			
W Akram c M Waugh b Reiffel	3			
R Latif c Healy b Reiffel	5			
A Mujtaba not out	5			
Extras: (1b 4lb)	5			
Total: (seven wickets)	180			
Fall of wickets: 10: 28; 69: 97; 142; 154; 171.				

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Craig McDermott	10	2	26	2
Tony Dodemaide	8	0	25	1
Paul Reiffel	10	1	37	2
Steve Waugh	8	0	22	1
Tim May	10	0	41	0
Mark Waugh	4	0	24	1

Australia won by 32 runs.
Man-of-the-Match: Dean Jones.

STANDINGS

Standings in the World Series limited-overs cricket competition after Tuesday night's match (tabulate under matches played, won, lost, tied or no result, points):

West Indies	8	5	3	0	10
Australia	7	4	2	1	9
Pakistan	7	1	5	1	3

Transvaal within 145 runs of Castle Cup victory

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 12: Transvaal were within 145 runs of their first Castle Cup cricket title in five years after routing Natal for 71 in their second innings on Monday, reports Reuters.

It was a remarkable reversal of fortunes that saw Transvaal recover after beginning the third day of the four-day match on a perilous 66 for nine reply to Natal's first innings 279.

West Indian pacesman Malcolm Marshall was largely responsible for Transvaal's troubles with figures of six for 45 but a last wicket partnership of 88 between new Springbok Daryl Cullinan, who made 76, and Steven Jack put the home side back in the match.

Natal still began their second innings with a healthy lead of 125 but Transvaal seamers Clive Eksteen, Richard Snell and Jack Tore through their batting.

Eksteen finished with four for 16, Snell three for 28 and Jack two for seven. Former Transvaal captain Clive Rice suffered the ignominy of being dismissed first ball by Snell.

By the close, Transvaal had made 52 without loss and needed a further 145 for victory which would clinch the title.

In Bloemfontein, Free State set themselves up to snatch the title should Transvaal falter.

An unbeaten 161 from Hansie Crojane enabled Free State to declare their second innings at 303 for one and set Western Province the difficult target of scoring 405 off a possible 130 overs.

By close of play, Western Province were 72 for one but Free State still looked the more likely victors.

Indian Test squad reshuffled

NEW DELHI, Jan 12: Mohammad Azharuddin is to stay as India's cricket captain despite his dismal record, but has been named only for the start of the impending series against England, reports Reuters.

India's selectors on Monday appointed Azharuddin for the first two one-day internationals and the first Test against England, making clear his job was on the line.

Azharuddin was retained despite having won only one of the 17 Tests in which he captained India. He led the side who lost both the Test and

Vishwanath said Kapil Dev and teenage batting prodigy Sachin Tendulkar had been briefly considered for the captaincy.

Azharuddin has weathered many a storm since he took over as Indian captain in 1990. There was major support for giving Kapil Dev the job for last year's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand which followed India's abysmal Test series in Australia.

Azharuddin retained the job for India's first tour of South Africa, the selectors voting 3-2 to keep him, but calls for his replacement grew louder during their very poor performance there.

Australia last year, to partner Woorkeri Raman in the search for a stable opening partnership.

Replacing Manjrekar is Tendulkar's former schoolmate Vinod Kamble—they once put on 664 runs in a schools match—while More's place goes to Vijay Yadav, who impressed as a batsman in the one-day matches in South Africa.

A major surprise as off-spinner is Rajesh Chowhan, who has played little first-class cricket and had tough competition for the job from at least two former internationals.

Banerjee, who saw little action in South Africa, gives way



S. MANJREKAR ... dropped limited overs series in South Africa

Selection committee chairman Gundappa Vishwanath said in Bombay "Poor batting was the cause for the Indian debacle in South Africa but Azhar handled the team in the field quite well and we decided to give him another chance."

The Indian squad arrived home only on Sunday after losing the one-day series against South Africa 5-2 and a four-match Test series 1-0, with three games drawn.

India and England are scheduled to play six one-day matches and three Tests, starting with a limited overs game in Jaipur next Monday.

The original opener was due to be held in Ahmedabad on Saturday but was called off because most of the city was under a round-the-clock curfew due to Hindu-Muslim riots in which some 59 people have died over the past six days.

The Indian selectors axed five players who took part in the South African tour when they named a squad of 14 for the first two one-day internationals and first Test against England.

Ravi Shastri, injured on South Africa, was out of the reckoning but fellow opener Ajay Jadeja was axed along with Sanjay Manjrekar, the elegant middle-order batsman who has not lived up to his promise in the last two seasons.

Also out went wicketkeeper Kiran More and fast-medium bowlers Subroto Banerjee and Chetan Sharma.

India have recalled Navjot Sidhu, left out of the South African venture after touring



K. MORE ... axed to Bombay medium-pace Salil Ankola, who went to Pakistan with the Indian squad in 1989-90 but played little. He has improved considerably since then under coaching from Frank Tyson.

INDIAN SQUAD: Mohammad Azharuddin (Captain), Navjot Sidhu, Woorkeri Raman, Sachin Tendulkar, Vinod Kamble, Praveen Amre, Vijay Yadav, Kapil Dev, Manoj Prabhakar, Javagal Srinath, Anil Kumble, Venkatapathy Raju, Rajesh Chowhan and Salil Ankola.

Agassi's bad luck

SYDNEY, Jan 12: Andre Agassi, who had planned to make his Australian Open debut next week, has been forced to withdraw because of illness, officials said Tuesday, reports AP.

Geoff Pollard, president of Tennis Australia, said he had been informed that a virus and a bacterial infection had developed into bronchitis and would keep the Wimbledon champion from competing in the two-week Grand Slam event.

"Obviously we are disappointed," Pollard said. "Although Andre's ranking has slipped to nine, he is still an exciting player and we were looking forward to seeing him here."

Pollard said there are still hopes that Agassi will come to Melbourne for the first-round Davis Cup pairing against the United States March 26-28.

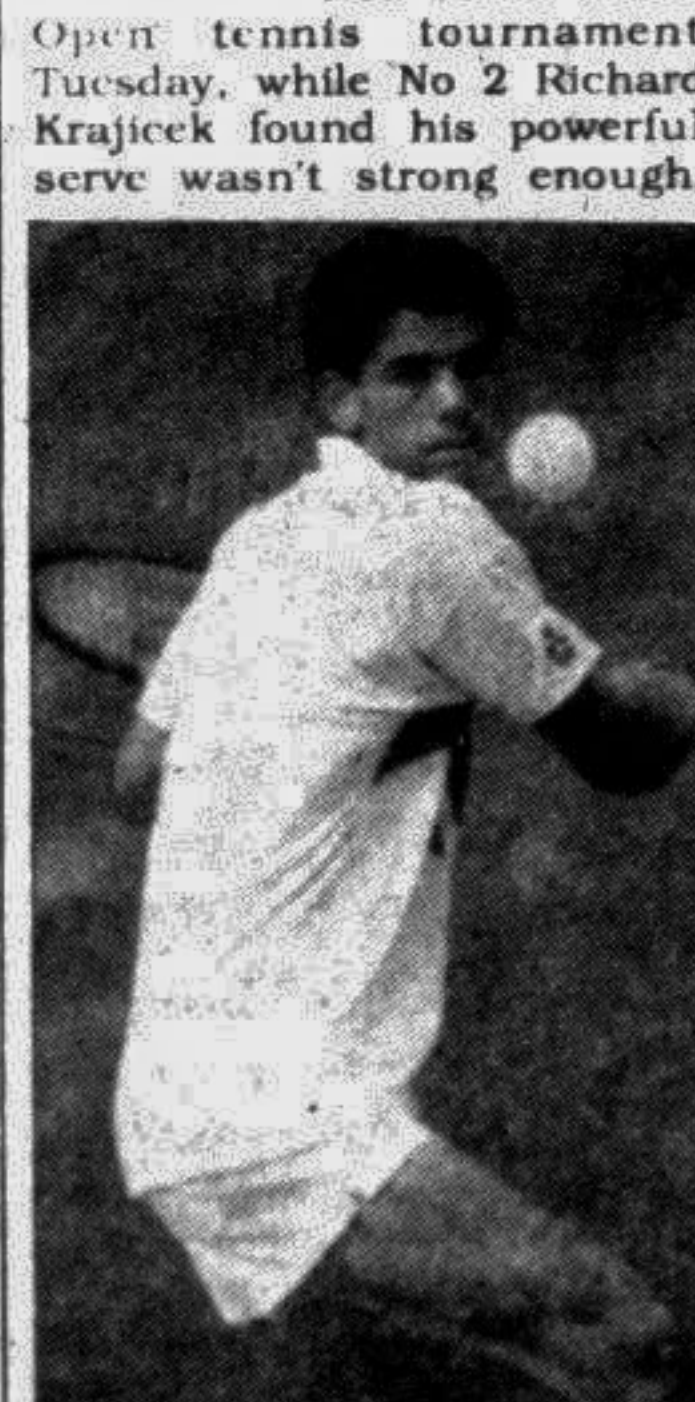
The Open, to be played from January 18 to 31, has attracted the world's top five players, including number one Jim Courier who will be defending the title he won in 1992.

The women's draw is the strongest in the Open's history with 29 of the top 30 women players, including number one and defending champion Monica Seles.

There is also a question mark over Ivan Lendl's fitness for the Open after his withdrawal from this week's New South Wales Open with a nagging groin injury.

Sloppy Sampras squeezes through

SYDNEY, Jan 12: Top-seeded Sampras nearly double-faulted his way out of the New South Wales Open tennis tournament Tuesday, while No 2 Richard Krajicek found his powerful serve wasn't strong enough.



PETE SAMPRAS reports AP.

Sampras overcame a slow start to defeat Andrei Medvedev 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 in a first-round match. But Krajicek ran into defending champion Emilio Sanchez of Spain and lost 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (7-3).

No 3 Guy Forget of France and No 5 Carlos Costa of Spain

also were ousted from the dlr 575,000 event, leaving only half the eight men's seeds in the second round. Costa lost 6-1, 5-7, 6-4 to Israel's Amos Mansdorf, while Forget was beaten by fellow Frenchman Cedric Pioline 7-6 (7-6), 6-3.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, the No 2 women's seed, shrugged off an injury to beat Lela Meskhi of Georgia 4-6, 6-4, 6-0. The women's runner-up here last year twisted her right ankle at deuce with the score 4-3 in the second set. She had it taped heavily and did not seem to be hampered seriously.

Jennifer Capriati, the 16-year-old No 4 women's seed, made her debut at the White City complex a quick one, zipping past France's Isabelle Demongot 6-1, 6-2.

American compatriot Lori McNeil, the No 7 seed, also advanced with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Florentina Labat of Argentina. No 5 Anke Huber fought off a pair of match points in the third set to beat American Ann Grossman 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5).

Sampras, an American ranked third in the world, double-faulted seven times in the first set in the gusty, swirling Centre-Court winds, including twice at Break point to hand Medvedev the lead.

He again double-faulted to give Medvedev a break and a 3-2 lead in the second set before the Ukraine native dug himself a hole in the next game, committing two unforced errors

and a double fault. Sampras ran off nine of 10 games, including a stretch where he won 23 of 29 points. The only problem he had the rest of the way was a brief bloody nose that he blamed on dry conditions in his hotel room.

"I got off to a pretty slow start. I was down a set and a break before I knew it," said the 21-year-old Sampras. "I finally got it together. As the match went on, I played better and better."

He said a first-round battle against a player the calibre of Medvedev, who has risen 202 places in the last year to his current 24th ranking, provides a good idea of how well he is hitting after taking nearly a month off.

"To get through that match is a pretty good effort," Sampras said. "It was a match I could have lost very easily."

He said he feels good going into next week's Australian Open, where injuries have knocked him out the last two years. And the possibility of taking the No 1 ranking provides extra motivation.

"It's something I've definitely thought about," Sampras said.

"I've had two pretty good sniffs at it. But I'm not going to dwell on it."

Sanchez, known more as a baseliner, used a strong serve-and-volley style to advance to the second round against Krajicek. There were no service breaks in either set.

Indian effort to revive hockey glory

NEW DELHI, Jan 12: India, the once-great power of world hockey now fallen on hard times, said on Monday they were seeking a foreign coach for the first time to revive the fortunes of the national side, reports Reuters.

"We have decided to seek the services of a foreign coach to train the Indian team after the debacle at Barcelona," Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) chief Raghunandan Prasad told Reuters.

India, eight-times Olympic hockey champions, finished seventh out of 12 at last year's Barcelona Games. Prasad said the IHF had asked the Indian Sports Ministry to hire a foreign coach this year.

"The International Hockey Federation has also been approached to suggest some coaches to help us revive Indian hockey," Prasad said.

"Our standard has fallen but Indian hockey is still liked and appreciated."

Former Australian captain Ric Charlesworth, who played 227 internationals, is being considered for the job after offering his services.

Critics accused Indian coaches of being out of touch with the tactical changes brought about by the introduction of artificial surfaces.

Significantly India's last major title in the sport they ruled for four decades was the 1975 World Cup.

Ten per cent of athletes dopers?

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Jan 12: The International Olympic Committee's drug chief believes that 10 per cent of athletes are regular substance abusers, even though only a few get caught at the Olympics, reports AP.

He also questioned China's excellent performance during the Summer Games in Barcelona, where it finished fourth in the overall medal tables.

"Based on the steroid profiles 10 per cent ... would be users," said Prince Alexandre de Merode in News Olympics, the official publication of the Belgian Olympic Committee, which was released Monday.

De Merode said the 10 per cent figure excluded occasional use of banned substances. He said it referred only to "regular users."

De Merode, who is abroad, could not be reached to elaborate on the comments, his office said.

The figure contrasts sharply with the number of athletes who were caught using banned substances during the Summer Olympics. Five were caught in Barcelona in a field of 9,366 athletes, down from 10 in the Seoul Olympics.

The drop over the last four years has been seen as an indication of success in the IOC's fight against drugs in sports. But de Merode said the drop told only part of the story.

His comments also boosted claims of American sprinter Gwen Torrance, winner of two gold medals and one silver, who alleged that drug taking was rampant among athletes competing in Barcelona. She also accused some sprinters of using illegal substances, although she did not name any one.

In a panel discussion on drugs published in the magazine, De Merode also questioned China's performance at Barcelona and indicated Chinese athletes might have beaten the drug testing.

"China is often cited as a nation where everything is possible. Perhaps that is so—and there are far too few controls (there)," he said. "It comes down to convincing the central authorities that things have to change."

China won 54 medals, including 16 gold, and was beaten only by the Unified Team of the former Soviet republics, the United States and Germany. A Chinese volleyball player Wu Tan, tested positive for the stimulant Styrcholine and was thrown out of the Games.

To boost the fight against drug abuse, De Merode said the "out of competition" controls needed to be improved because currently "the system doesn't work."

"Some (national) federations make gigantic efforts while others do nothing," he said.

In a landmark case,

Germany's Katrin Krabbe was suspended for use of banned substance during training in South Africa, but De Merode said the sprint star would have escaped because of procedural errors had she not been caught a second time.

"If Krabbe had not been as stupid as to use Clenbuterol a few times more, she would have gone free after the case in South Africa," he said.

To close the net on drug abusers further, the IOC plans to introduce blood testing during next year's Winter Games in Lillehammer, Norway. "I still expect a storm of protest," said De Merode. Some athletes claim blood testing is an invasion of privacy.

Tyson's attorney vindicates plea for retrial

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan 12: Barring three witnesses from testifying at Mike Tyson's rape trial and reports that his victim had made plans for book and movie deals should be grounds for a new trial, the boxer's lawyer said Monday, reports AP.

Alan M. Dershowitz, who is representing Tyson on appeal, and three jurors who last year convicted the former heavyweight boxing champion appeared on the syndicated "Maury Povich Show."

Love birds seek another golden double

TOKYO, Jan 12: Olympic champions Susi Susanti and Allan Budi Kusuma of Indonesia will launch their campaign for another golden double, taking part in the 110,000-dollar Japan Open badminton championships this week, reports AP.

Defending champion Susanti, who clinched her country's first Olympic gold medal at Barcelona since its debut in 1952, is seeded top

Washington wins

AUCKLAND, Jan 12: Top-seeded MaliVai Washington struggled to a three-set victory Tuesday, while fellow American Chuck Adams upset third-seeded Andrei Chesnokov in the first round of the dlr 182,500 Benson and Hedges Open tennis championship, reports AP.

Washington downed Spaniard Marcos Gorria 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 after an uncomfortable first set and a half. Doubles expert Adams stunned the Russian 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (13-11) in a marathon.

Washington struggled on serve and sprayed groundstrokes wide before finally finding form against Gorria, who returned particularly well.

"I wasn't doing exactly what I wanted to out there, but I think the best thing that came out of the match today was that I just hung in there and I was able to pull it out," Washington said.

in the women's singles event, vying for the top prize money of 5,500 dollars.

Kusuma, who downed his compatriot Ardy Wiranata in the final at Barcelona to complete a romantic golden double with his fiancée Susanti, aims for a repeat performance as a joint third seed in the men's singles competition.

His first real danger could come from either Wu Wenkai of China or Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen of Denmark, both seeded ninth, who will play each other in the third round if the seeds progress in order.

Even if Kusuma clears the hurdles, the other quarter of

the bottom half includes his teammate Joko Suprianto, fifth seed, and second-seeded Rashid Sidek of Malaysia.

Kusuma lost to the Malaysian in the Grand Prix final in Kuala Lumpur last month, while Suprianto wrestled his Thailand Open trophy in November.

Two-time defending champion Wiranata, who shrugged off his Olympic disappointment by winning the Indonesian Open for a third year running, also has a tough road toward a hat-trick here, which is worth 7,150 dollars.

The top seed, playing his first match against Hannes

Fuchs of Australia and third against Andrei Antropov of Russia, is expected to face a major threat either from all-England champion Liu Jun of China or Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen of Denmark in the quarter-finals.

He is in the same half with world champion Zhao Jianhua of China, compatriots Hermawan Susanto, Olympics bronze medalist, and Herianto Arbie, and Wimbledon champion Darren Hall of Britain.

Meanwhile, Susanti enjoys a first-round bye before taking on Martha Millar of Philippines in the second, and receives a tough quarter-final challenge from Ye Zhaoying of China, a joint fifth seed.

The 18-year-old Chinese, who lost to Susanti in the final here last year, gained sweet revenge when she dashed the Indonesian's hope of her third consecutive all-England victory by a 5-11, 11-5, 11-5 success in March.

Also in the upper half of the draw are world champion Tang Jiahong of China, Lee Heung-Soon of South Korea, former European junior champion Camilla Martin of Denmark and Japan's ace Hisako Mizut, the Canadian Open winner.

Second-seeded Bang Soo-hyun of South Korea, the silver medalist at Barcelona, leads the bottom half with bronze medalist Huang Hua of China, European champion Pernille Nedergaard of Denmark, Lin Xiaogang of Sweden and Sarwendah Kusumawardani of Indonesia.



Susi Susanti and Allan Budi Kusuma ... love birds

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Robin
38 Leading
Cook
39 Postal
5 Emulate
Niobe
8 Swear
12 Actress
Nettleton
13 Yon
14 Maiden
15 Jillian and
Reinking
16 George's
brother
17 "18th
Century
Drawing