England seek a fresh start



LONDON, Aug 4: England's cricketers will attempt to make a fresh start under new Michael

captain Atherton at Edgbaston on Thursday with two 40-year-olds sitting in their dressing-room, reports Reuter.

Australia may hold an unbeatable 3-0 lead with two Tests to play in a one-sided Ashes series, but England's selectors still seem convinced experience is the best option with a Caribbean tour looming early in

Apart from Graham Gooch, replaced as captain by Atherton last week, the Australians will find veteran off-spinner John Emburey amongst the fifth Test opposition as they seek to emulate their 4-0 margin of 1989.

Emburey was drafted in, following much selectorial debate, after it was discovered the Edgbaston pitch was likely to prove much more friendly to spin than seam this weekend.

England manager Keith Fletcher revealed it had taken him "just 10 seconds" of looking at the Test strip to realise the home side's strategy had to be reassessed.

The unflappable Emburey, dropped seemingly for good after the winter tour of India and Shri Lanka, was finally picked ahead of Midlesex teammate Phil Tufnell and leg-spinner Ian Salisbury, but Fletcher denied the choice was a backward step.

"We decided that, at the moment, we just wanted the best team to win a Test match. Phil Tufnell is not bowling as well as the two off-spinners at the moment," argued Fletcher. Salisbury is still not fully match fit after a shoulder injury.

"It's perfectly good pitch but it is dry and will turn," Fletcher added. "After two and a half a days it will turn more." It represents a major bonus for Emburey, who seems certain to win his 63rd cap. He was se-

ornia, Aug 4: Wor-

ld number one

Steffi Graf over-

headaches

dizziness to defeat French

woman Karine Quentrec 6-3, 6-

2 on Tuesday night in a second-

round match at the 375,000

Mazda Tennis Classic, reports

The top-seeded Graf, 24,

ATP top 20

Leading money winners in

men's tennis as released by the

Association of Tennis

Professionals (ATP) on Monday,

1,508,936 Dollars

1,352,275

1,205,654

1,189,251

755, 169

594,713

588,763

579,329

552,236

530,719

471,686

466,404

441,308

433,871

426,818

394,000

378,262

371,098

reports Reuter.

Jim Courier (

2. Pete Sampras

Sergi Bruguera

4. Michael Stich

(Germany)

5. Stefan Edberg

Sweden)

(Ukraine)

8. Boris Becker

(Germany)

Karel Novacek

10. Michael Chang

12. Thomas Muster

(Australia)

15. Wayne Ferreira

14. Todd Martin (US)

(South Africa)

Magnus Gustafsson

16. Richey Reneberg

Sweden)

(Australia)

19. Carlos Costa

(Spain)

Cedric Pioline

[France]

18. Mark Woodforde

(Austria)

Wally Masur

Petr Korda

(Czech Republic)

(Czech Republic)

Andrei Medvedev

Richard Krajicek (Netherlands)

MONTE CARLO, Aug 4:

came a bout of

lected for just one Test in India taking two for 144 in Bombay and his 144 Test wickets have

cost over 37 apiece. His form for Middlesex has been good lately - he took career-best figures of eight for 40 last week — but his selection has reopened the debate about the future of English cricket.

Former England captain Tony Greig took issue on Tuesday with the continued selection of Gooch as a batsman. saying he would not pick a man who intended opting out of a



JOHN EMBUREY...recalled subsequent tough winter tour.

Gooch's rough treatment in recent weeks, not to mention his Test match record, meant the selectors felt differently, but Atherton must pray his side enjoy a change in fortune.

His bowlers have never looked like bowling the Australians out twice to win a match, and his batsmen, including the recalled Matthew Maynard in the middle order, will have to face Australian spinners Shane Warne and Tim May on another helpful track.

May is expected to take his place in the side despite straining his right hamstring during the recent match against Glamorgan, even though his mobility in the field may be

bothered recently by nagging

foot and shoulder ailments, has

not feeling 100 percent at the

moment," said Graf, who with-

drew from the doubles competi-

tion with Australian partner

happen called a blocked jaw

and that's caused headaches

and dizziness a few time," said

Graf, who won back-to-back

singles titles at this event in

began about a week ago on a

flight from her German home in

Bruehl to her other residence in

she had never suffered anything

more than a toothache, she

office after the headaches be-

and there was nothing she

could do but take pain-killers,

said the reigning French Open

and ear doctor and he also said

, for the last few days but it

on Wednesday for a light prac-

tice session, hoping she can

"I don't think it's anything

Graf said the rash of recent

But the newest ailment has

"I had been able to practice

Although Graf won in 58

"I didn't return very well. I

injuries forced her to take some

real hard. This weekend I felt

OK. For the past week my

minutes, she wasn't pleased

with her game against the

had a lot of unforced errors and

world's 86th ranked player.

time off and that felt great."

it's a blocked jaw," Graf said.

started again today."

fully recover.

major," said Graf.

her frustrated again.

shoulder felt great."

"Then I went to a throat nose

"Actually it's been all right

Graf plans to use her off-day

and Wimbledon champion.

headed straight for the dentist's

The German star admitted

Thinking it was nothing

Delray Beach, Florida.

The 24-year-old said it all

"I've had something weird

"It's a blocked jaw and I'm

a new problem.

Rennae Stubbs

1988 and 1989

like this before.

But with most of his scam attack on the treatment table. manager Bobby Simpson is still ruling out a late call-up for fast bowlers Mike Whitney and Jo Angel, both in England despite not making the original squad.

To try and call someone in for a Test match is very difficult because you've no idea how they might go," said Simpson. "They haven't played five-day cricket or done anything sub-

stantial. With West Indies tour places up for grabs, the England side will be eager to exploit any weakness they can find, but their opponents show no sign of

casing up. David Boon, Michael Slater and the Waugh twins fill the top four places in the national batting averages, and Boon is averaging just over 96 every time he walks to the crease in firstclass cricket.

Skipper Allan Border is also reconsidering his likely exit from the Test side next year.

"I now think that if I'm still making the grade in terms of fitness, then I'd want to think about staying on as a player," he told a British newspaper this

"But it would only be if were making heaps of runs. I would hate to retire as captain then decide to play and not get picked in the side. That would be shattering.

TEAMS

ENGLAND: Michael Atherton, Graham Gooch, Robin Smith, Matthew Maynard, Alec Stewart (or Jack Russell), Nasser Hussain, Graham Thorpe, Martin Bicknell, Mark Ilott, John Emburey, Devon Malcolm, Steve Watkin, Peter

AUSTRALIA: Michael Slater Mark Taylor, David Boon, Mark Waugh, Allan Boarder, Steve Waugh, Ian Healy, Merv Hughes, Paul Reiffel, Shane Warne, Tim May, Wayne Holdsworth, Brendon Julian.

too late."

1-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2,

57 minute victory.

Conchita Martinez, both of

Spain, and two-time defending

champion Jennifer Capriati of

the United States, seeded

fourth, open with second-round

matches on Wednesday after

LOS ANGELES, Aug 4: Magic

Johnson is set for another

ball-but he is unlikely to make

Johnson, who has been di-

agnosed as having the HIV virus

which causes AIDS, is consider-

ing rejoining the Los Angeles

Lakers in the National

Basketball Association for the

said a request 'would be given

European exhibition tour with

General manager Jerry West

Johnson first faces a

second half of a season.

serious consideration."

an all-star team

a full-time return to the sport,

reports AFP.

comeback to big time basket

receiving first-round byes.

other times I hit the ball much

In other second-round results, fifth-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria routed Rosana de Los Rios of Paraguay 6-1, 6-0 in 43 minutes but 17year-old Elena Likhovtseva of Kazakhstan surprised eighth seed Nathalie Tauziat of France

Tauziat, ranked 15th in the world, easily captured the opening set before the teen-aged baseliner got untracked and the end of the month. levelled the match.

In the deciding set, Likhovtseva jumped to a 3-1 lead before Tauziat held for 3-2. but Likhovtseva ran off the final three games for the one hour.

"It's the biggest win of my career," said Likhovtseva, ranked 244th in the world." It court season, and I don't feel at was a tough match and I had to all flat after Wimbledon, fight hard to win. It wasn't

Second seed Arantxa champion, displayed his power-ful serve-and-volley game Achilles' tendon surgery.

in a deadlock Magic set for another comeback

Bangkok are locked in a battle to win the final spot in a proposed six-team Asian basketball league, organisers said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

the league.

playing standards, the Taiwan franchise is ahead in the race,' he said.

bid-suffered because of a lack of playing talent in Thailand, where basketball enjoys only minority status.

weak in comparison to the other countries and the introduction of import players can only do so much," he said.

The league, due to start in December, is being launched by a Perth-based group with backing from Basketball Australia the sport's controlling body in Australia.

The idea of an Asian league is such a good one -its time has come," Marshall said. "We are looking for the final sixth team to sign up in the next week or two.

But he said the league planned to go ahead under another format even if both Taiwan and Bangkok pulled

"We could invite a third Australian team to join or play the competition with just five teams," he said.

scheduled to meet in Singapore or Kuala Lumpur on September

We aim to have sponsorship and felevision rights finalised by them," Marshall said

Guttler, Van Almsick steal show



SHEFFIELD, Aug 4: Karoly Guttler shattered a world record and German teenage prodigy Franziska

van Almstek scooped two golds at the European Swimming championships on Tuesday. reports Reuter. Guttler grabbed first the

world record and then the 100 metres breaststroke title which had belonged to his fellow Hungarian Norbert Rozsa, who is now half a world away in Australia.

She concluded the day in style with a second gold in the 4x200 metres freestyle relay and the prospect of seven golds in six days of swimming a distinct possibility.

Hungary's Krisztina Egerszegi, winner of three golds at both the Olympics and the last European Championships, turned the opposition into an irrelevance in her majestic defence of the 400 metres individual medley title.

But fellow Olympic champion Evgeny Sadovyi was upstaged by 19-year-old Finn and brought the championships to dramatic life after five lowkey days of diving, synchro-

nised swimming and water polo. The 25-year-old Hungarian, denied the 1988 Olympic title by Britain's Adrian Moorhouse by just one hundredth of a second, pounded out a world mark of one minute 00.95 seconds to banish any lingering sleep from the spectators' eyes.

He repeated the savage treatment of his rivals in the final, narrowly missing another world mark but still thrusting home almost a second faster

Van Almsick and Egerszegi, Europe's outstanding women swimmers, were in a class of their own and dominated their

Van Almsick forged away in the 100 metres freestyle and won by a vast gulf of 1.4 seconds in 54.57-0.16 of a second inside the 1986 European mark of fellow former East German Kristin Otto and just 0.09 outside the 1992 world mark of American Jenny Thompson.

"This win is special. It is my first major title," the 15-year-old Berliner said. "I didn't expect to be so quick in the 100. It was very hard for me. It's been

Kerstin Kielgass, who shred Germany's relay win with Van Almsick, said: "Franziska is a rare talent, the sort born once every 10 years."

Martina Moravcova, 17, gave Slovakia an unexpected silver by taking second place in the 100 behind Van Almsick and ahead of defending champion

Catherine Plewinski of France. Egerszegi triumphantly negotiated the first leg of a challenge for four golds by retaining her 400 metres individual medley title with consummate

She led all the way and was never threatened, winning by more than five seconds from Russian Daria Shmeleva

Nineteen-year-old Kasvic, double European junior champion in 1990, grabbed the 200 freestyle gold in a thrilling battle with Sadovyi and Swedish veteran Anders Holmertz, the 1987 gold medalist.

Holmertz set the pace for the first 100 but Kasvio hurtled through in the second 100 to relegate Sadovyi and Holmertzthe two men who beat him in the Olympic final — to second and third with just over half a second separating the three.

MEDALS TABLE Medals table at the European Swimming Championships on Tuesday (tabulate under gold, silver, bronze):

Germany Russia Hungry Finland France Sweden Britain Slovakia Czech Republic Italy Ukraine

Zetra Stadium — an arena



August 3

"I was happy to break this

record and surprised," Guttler

said after slicing 0.34 of a sec-

ond from the absent Rozsa's

1991 world mark in the morn-

matching it in the final.

ing's heats and very nearly

the limelight at 14 by winning

four medals at the 1992

talisingly close to breaking the

women's 100 metres freestyle

world record but had to settle

for a European mark and her

first senior championship gold.

Barcelona Olympics, came tan-

Van Almsick, who burst into

SARAJEVO, Aug 4: For the past few months, Muhammed Cavdar has made a twice-

weekly visit to Sarajevo's Zetra Olympic Stadium, where the 1984 Winter Games were held, reports IPS.

In normal times, he may have gone there perhaps to reminisce about the fierce but friendly competition ten years ago among athletes from around the world.

But Sarajevo has been as neighbour slaughters neighbour for territory. And Cavdar treks to the stadium every morning to pry loose its wooden seats so he can fashion them into coffins. While he has contemplated the symbolism of his work-crafting wood previously used to seat spectators united in the spirit of the Olympic Games into coffins to bury Muslim war dead - Cavdar cannot afford to dwell on such

thoughts for too long.

ACROSS

34 Grass-

hopper's

"I am not a philosopher. I am a carpenter," says the 62-yearold Sarajevan. "We have permission from the city to go to Zetra and use the wood. I am a man with limited choices. It's either this or I have nothing."

German teenage prodigy Franziska van Almsick on her way to winning the gold medal

in the women's 200m freestyle at the European Championships in Sheffield on

Antti Kasvio, who adopted the

shaven-headed style the

Russian sported the Barcelona

Games and surged away with

the gold in the 200 metres

women's three-metres spring-

board diving crown she had

won 10 years earlier in Rome to

make it four diving titles in four

days for Germany, who now

lead the medals table with six

Guttler's world record pro-

vided a sizzling start to the day

Brita Baldus recaptured the

freestylė.

From the Stadium Cavdar carries the 1x2 metre lecquared planks on his make-shift shop behind a combination mosque and morgue on the edge of Sarajevo's old city.

There he steeps them of all adhesives, planes them to a wartime coffin thickness of two centimetres instead of the traditional five, and cobbles them into simple, three sided frames intended for immediate use.

"I only help here while there is a war," Cavdar says. "Before the war, I worked as a furniture maker in Blazuj in Bosnia. Now we are 12 here plus my boss."

There are 1,500 finished coffins in nearby Visoko, but these are inaccessible because the village lies behind Serbian lines. The United Nations, he says, refuses to transport the

11 Spasm

23 Laura

25 Inlet

amount

Petrie's

ending?

28 Here, to

Henri

Ripley

ceous

32 Cera-

29 Menag-

hubby

coffins apparently because it would violate their mandate.

- AFP photo

than British silver medalist Nick

last year's Olympic 100 metres

final and finished fifth in the

200, took six months off after

Barcelona and returned re-

time. I've been lucky," said

Guttler. The Hungarian federa-

tion had optimistically entered

Rozsa's name for Sheffield but

the world champion preferred to

stay in Australia where he has

been granted permanent-resi-

"I didn't think I'd do a good

Guttler, who failed to make

Gillingham in 1:01.04.

freshed in January.

"This is not fair for Muslims," he says. "We have always paid with our blood. Not we are denied this. I don't understand." Sarajevo, a city with a peace-

time population of 400,000 has now been under siege for 15 months, food and water have run out and the World Health Organisation has predicted mass deaths not seen in Europe since the end of the Second World War.

By mid-June, 9,000 Sarajevans had died, 52,000 were wounded. Of the dead 1,400 were children.

As the city's cemeteries overflow, the dead are buried in public parks, but even these are now full, and some burials are taking place in the only field of the Olympic Stadium.

"The world must know that if help does not reach Sarajevo immediately to alleviate our most serious shortages, the suffering will be immense. In a few

days we will have deaths en

masse from hunger, thirst and epidemics," says the mayor of Sarajevo, Mohamed Kresevila-

Cavdar would prefer to be fighting on the frontline, but the army and the politicians have told him there will be a lot of work as long as the war grinds

"I will have plenty to do," he says while sizing up a strip of wood for the coffin of a 19-yearold Turkish journalist killed the day before by sniper fire. "Look at this poor boy, his features

Cavdar's boss, Asim Mahmutovic, 42, has been building coffins for more than 15 years. Mahmutovic says he and his 12 employees must sometimes work nearly round-

the-clock to keep up with the demand. "Our busiest day was in June when we built 52 coffins for soldiers killed in a battle near Sarajevo," says Mahmu tovic while adjusting the red felt

fez cap on his head

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

52 Play area

product

Swayze

Statue of

Liberty

1 Urban 35 Wolfman 53 Bruce 19 Sullen Jack's Wayne's transport 4 Genie's 20 Whatever milieu inspiration shelter 36 In the DOWN 8 Bloke 1 Scorch past 12 Shade 37 John 2 Emana-13 Met solo Ritter's tion 24 Flightless 14 "Arrive-3 "Where dad derci, --" 38 Transport have you 15 "Diafor two 26 Novel 45 Second-4 Hercules' monds dozen hand Forever* 5 Perfumery 27 Boy 16 "A Man 46 Jason's

rebuker

for All 6 Gentle Seasons* 47 Daiguiri playwright 7 Duffy or base 48 Quasi-17 Storedoor sign 8 Part of the 31 Item for modo's 18 One way charge to choose 49 Ogle 50 Blackbird 9 Kachina a winner

21 - pro 51 Post-Christmas nobis 22 Hostel event 23 Picture Solution time: 23 mins. 26 Gelid

BIZHONEYCOMB Fortensky ADZ OPENS 30 The Tent-LEAKETD FAZE JAPAN SINANE 40 Dudley maker 31 Send out OLIVES ALG invitations GAPENTAUNISLE 32 Baylor's home 33 Broker's advice

worship-34 The time of your life 10 The last 35 CD ancestor 36 Bemuse

37 Calvin's Hobbes is 38 Vats 39 Cruising Do-Right's 41 Tar (Sp.) 42 Grouch 43 Moth

variety

44 Send out

CRYPTOQUIP SNH TKLS WDMHW

PHODG. PDO

JKEG EDGJ SK GDGO Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I LIKED THE BEACHCOMBER'S WARES, BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO SHELL OUT THE MONEY.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals W

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. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.



Brits Baldus (R) and fellow-German Simons Koch proudly show their gold and bronze medals respectively after the women's 3m springboard diving event at the European Championships in Sheffield on August 3.

England go into the fifth Test at Edgbasion 3-0 down in the six-Text series. Business as usual

for Sampras

Russell recalled

as a standby

4: England called up wicket-

keeper Jack Russell on

Wednesday as standby for the

injured Alec Stewart in the fifth

Test against Australia starting

rolling on a ball in the field at

there is no break. He has got

bruising and the problem seems

to have got worse," England

able to play, but Jack has been

called here as cover just in

"We're still hoping he will be

captain Mike Atherton said.

Stewart has a rib injury after

"Alec has had an X-ray and

on Thursday, reports Reuter.

the weekend.

BIRMINGHAM, England, Aug

LOS ANGELES, Aug 4: Top seed and world number one Pete Sampras had an easy time beating Andrew Sznajder of Canada 6-1, 6-2 in the first round of the 300,000 Volvo Tennis Classic on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

Second-seeded Michael Stich of Germany belted 11 aces en rote to beating Mikael Pernfors of Sweden 6-2, 6-4 in 67 minutes in the first round of the 32-player hard court tourna-

up to the US Open. Unseeded Aaron Krickstein erased bad memories of a years ago here, when he broke his left foot in the semifinals, as he upset sixth-seeded Wayne Ferreira of South Africa 4-6, 6-0, 6-3 in

a one hour, 43 minute firstround match Fourth seed and defending champion Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands relied on his powerful first serve to win the crucial points in the first set tiebreak and defeat Italian

Gianluca Pozzi 7-6 (7-2), 6-3 in his first-round match. Fifth-seeded Alexander Volkov of Russia beat American Brian MacPhie 6-2, 6-3 and eighth-seeded American Brad Gilbert overcame Luiz Mattar of Brazil 3-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2 in

other first-round matches. Sampras, the reigning Wimbledon champion, never dropped his serve against the 156th-ranked Sznajder and controlled his opponent's service game by rallying patiently from the baseline and waiting for an opening to attack the

Sampras is using the next three tournaments to prepare for his attempt to win his second US Open title beginning at

"I felt like I lost strength at Wimbledon and I worked to get that back before coming to these tournaments. My focus is to get back in the habit of winning matches.

"I'm really looking forward to the next few weeks in the hard Sampras said.

Stich, the 1991 Wimbledon against the 37th-ranked Pernfors, who has climbed out of the mid-200's in the ranking after being sidelined with

Bangkok, Taiwan

SYDNEY, Aug 4: Taiwan and

Five cities - Singapore Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Perth and Cairns -have already committed themselves to the competition, said Alan Marshall, a partner in the Australian Consortium backing

In terms of organisation and

Marshall said the Bangkok

"The standard of play is

The franchise owners are