

Lankans level the series

COLOMBO, Sept 4: Sri Lanka levelled the three match one-day series with an exciting 44-run win over South Africa in the third and final one-day international here today, reports AFP.

South Africa chasing a target of 198, crashed to 154 all out in the first ball of the 47th over in front of a massive crowd that had gathered for this second day-night clash at the Kettarana Stadium.

The South Africans, however, grabbed the spotlight in

Jarvis
terminated

LEEDS, England, Sept 4: England pace bowler Paul Jarvis was sacked by Yorkshire on Friday, less than four months after facing Australia, reports AFP.

The 28-year-old, who played in the one-day internationals, has been troubled by a leg strain recently and this was a major factor in Yorkshire's decision. Jarvis has been plagued by injuries during his 12 years with the county.

Opening batsman Ashley Metcalfe has also been released. The 29-year-old has failed to regain a regular place in the Yorkshire side since being dropped in May last year, when he was vice-captain, a position he has since lost.

dying stages when their last pair of Richard Snell and Fanie de Villiers produced 51 runs to delay the Sri Lankan victory. Snell was last man out for a brave 51. With this win Sri Lanka avenged their 124-run defeat at the hands of the tourists in the second one-day match on Thursday.

The first one-day game ended without a result due to rain.

The architects of the Sri Lankan win were vice-captain Aravinda de Silva who made an unbeaten 61 to help his side reach 198-9 in 50 overs. Then, seamer Champaka Ramayake made a great come-back to the side with a one-day best of 17.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the third and final one-day cricket international between Sri Lanka and South Africa today.

SHRI LANKA:

Richardson b Symcox 41
b Symcox 41
Hathurusinghe c Richardson 2
b Donald 2
Hathurusinghe c Richardson 15
b McMillan 15
De Silva not out 61
Ranatunga c Donald b Snell 30
Jayasuriya b Donald 5
Wickremarathne st Richardson 1
b Symcox 1
Kalpage c and b Snell 9
Dassanayake run out 14
Wickremasinghe b De Villiers 0
Extras: (b-1, lb-5, w-14) 20
Total: (for 9 wickets-50 overs) 198

Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-53; 3-73; 4-127; 5-136; 6-141; 7-156; 8-191; 9-198.

Did not bat: C Ramanayake
Bowling: O M R W
Donald 10 0 35 2 (2w)
De Villiers 10 1 31 1
Snell 10 0 52 2
McMillan 10 0 41 1
Symcox 10 1 35 2

SOUTH AFRICA:

Hudson c Dassanayake 1
b Wickremasinghe 1
Wessels lbw Ramanayake 16
Cronje c Dassanayake 2
b Ramanayake 3
Cullinan b Ramanayake 27
Rhodes b Kalpage 7
McMillan c Mahanama 5
b Hathurusinghe 5
Richardson run out 5
Symcox c Kalpage 5
b Hathurusinghe 3
Snell c Kalpage b 51
Ramanayake 0
Donald b Kalpage 0
Villiers not out 12
Extras: (lb-3, nb-5, w-19) 27
Total: (all out, 46.1 overs) 154

Fall of wickets: 1-2; 2-10; 3-18; 4-38; 5-56; 6-72; 7-77; 8-101; 9-103.

Bowling: O M R W

Ramanayake 8.1 0 17 4
Wickremasinghe 6 2 24 1
Hathurusinghe 10 2 18 2
Ranatunga 6 0 24 0
Kalpage 10 0 36 2
Jayasuriya 6 0 32 0

Result: Sri Lanka won by 44 runs

Toss won by Sri Lanka

Umpires: KT Francis and P Manuel.

Moin-ud-Dollah Cup opener washed out

The inaugural match of the Moin-ud-Dollah Gold Cup invitational cricket tournament was not held yesterday in the Indian city of Hyderabad due to rain, reports UNB.

The postponed match between the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) Eleven and the Hyderabad Cricket Association President Eleven will now be played at Lalbahadur Stadium on Monday (Sept 6).

The BCCB Eleven, placed in Group D, will play their second and last group match against the Chempet team on Wednesday (Sept 8).

MPC to be set up at Hotel Purbani

The Main Press Centre (MPC) of the 6th South Asian Federation (SAF) Games with adequate modern facilities will be set up at the Hotel Purbani annex building at Dilkusha C/A, reports UNB.

The SAF Games, to be participated by all the seven SAARC nations, will be held December 20-27 in Dhaka for the second time after the 2nd SAF Games in 1985.

The decision was taken yesterday at a meeting of the Games media committee with its chairman, Energy and Mineral Resources Secretary M Faizur Razzak, in the chair.

The meeting decided to provided six fax, three telex, four ISD telephones and 15 English typewriters as well as seating arrangements for nearly 200 local and foreign journalists at the MPC.

Television sets, national newspapers, magazines, Games bulletins and light refreshment facilities will also be available at the press centre.

Besides, three media sub-centres — one each at Mirpur indoor stadium complex, Dhanmondi gymnasium and Gulshan shooting range — will also be set up with fax and telephone facilities.

Four hot lines will link the Main Press Centre with the three sub-centres and the Dhaka Stadium, the venue for football and the opening and closing ceremonies.

The media committee will publish daily SAF Game bulletins during the Games.

Special bulletins will be published before the Games on October 15, November 1, November 15 and December 1.

Shuttle buses between the Main Press Centre and different venues will run regularly according to the Games schedule.

The media committee will arrange sight-seeing trip for the journalists at a convenient time during the Games.

ESSEX SCORE sets record

LONDON, Sept 4: A record for the number of runs scored in a match in England was set at Hove on Friday as Essex beat Sussex by seven wickets after being set 411 to win, reports Reuter.

The four-day game produced 1,808 runs, beating the 1,723 amassed in the Test between England and Australia at Leeds in 1948.

The previous aggregate record for a County Championship match was 1,650 when Surrey played Lancashire at the Oval in 1990.

Seven players hit centuries in the Hove match.

Essex clinched victory with eight overs remaining after John Stephenson and Nasser Hussain had put them firmly to point to a smooth running of the national games as further proof Beijing can handle the 2000 Olympics.

Chinese officials also hope that some of the more than 4,200 athletes in Beijing will be able to break Asian or world records, underlining the nation's rapid rise as a sports power.

In the run-up to the national games, Beijing has sought to beautify its drab appearance by lining streets with colourful banners and displays of potted plants and flowers.

Captain Graham Gooch (74 not out) and Salim Malik (63 not out) then steered Essex home with an unbroken partnership of 143 in 22 overs.

Gooch cracked two sixes and seven fours in his 69-ball stay.

When Jim Courier speaks of survival games here, he doesn't

Sport Becker sizzles, Wilander wobbles



NEW YORK, Sept 4: Boris Becker strode off the sizzling griddle of the US Open stadium court, looking no worse for the ordeal of playing in 108-degree (42 C) heat just 18 hours after his two-day first-round match, reports AP.

"You know," he said with just a hint of a smile, "I'm a strong son of a gun."

Strong, spry and surprisingly quick, Becker scorched Jakob Hlasek 6-2, 6-2, 6-4 in just 1 hour, 47 minutes and was thankful it didn't go any longer.

"Straight sets — perfect," Becker said.

None was the angry Becker who stormed the court and screamed at the umpire in a five-setter that began Wednesday night, was suspended by rain to Thursday afternoon, was suspended again by rain and finished on Thursday night.

Becker, admittedly tired, came out tame this time, content to beat Hlasek from the baseline or at the net when the opportunities were there. Becker served just four aces, but he didn't need his big serve. All he had to do was rally a bit, then come in and put the ball away, which he did 45 of the 56 times he approached the net.

"I know Boris quite well," Hlasek said. "And it seems to me always when he is tired he plays better. Because he knows that he cannot play long points. He has to go for two, three quick shots. I think that is where he is the most dangerous."

To which Becker responded:

"Well, I also play pretty good when I am not that tired. No one was more tired than Mats Wilander, the 1988 champion, and Mikael Pernfors, a former two-time NCAA champion at Georgia. The two Swedes ended the day 10 hours later with a glorious 4-hour, 1-minute duel that concluded at 2.26 am — the latest singles match in Open history."

Wilander, who left the tour for a less hectic life, rode his wild-card bid into the third round with a 7-6 (7-3), 3-6, 1-6, 7-6 (8-6), 6-4 victory.

Long, brilliant rallies from the baseline, punctuated by occasional forays to the net by Wilander and perfect lobs by Pernfors, produced a match that kept a couple of thousand hardy fans cheering until the end.

Wilander is ranked No 558, Pernfors No 37, but no one could tell it by the gusty way they played.

Pernfors left skid marks on the court as he dove for a drop volley and shot back a winner crosscourt to start the fourth-set tiebreaker. As he lay on the court a few moments, Wilander just stared at him in disbelief.

But Wilander showed his own resolve and stamina, bouncing around while Pernfors massaged his cramping leg muscles, and pushed the match to a fifth set.

Pernfors ached throughout the final set and started taking riskier shots to shorten the rallies. Wilander, steady as ever, refueled himself with bananas and fluids and never relented. He broke Pernfors at love to take a 4-2 lead that seemed to clinch the match. Yet Pernfors somehow found a way to break back to 4-3.

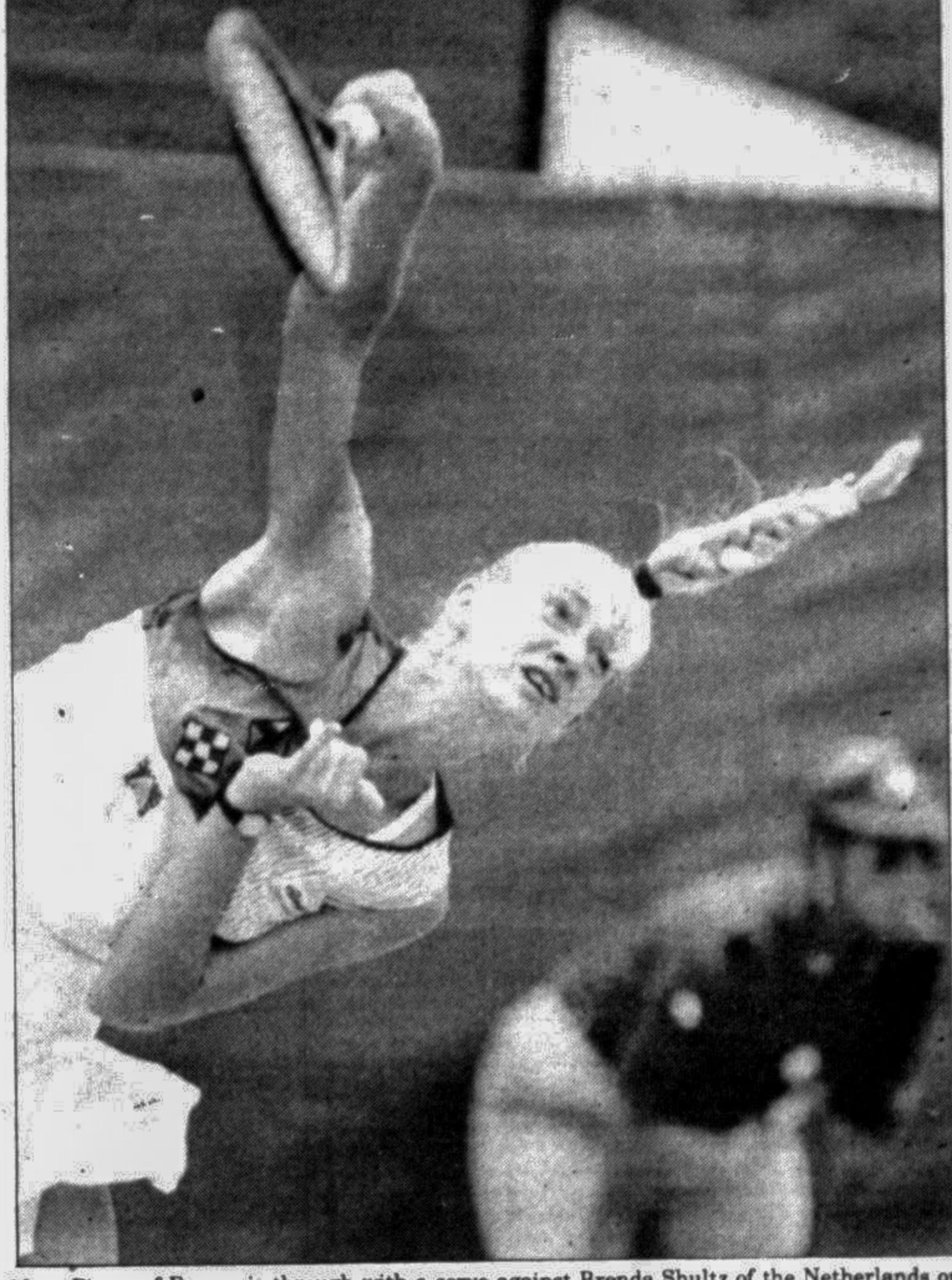
It was 2:13 by that point, and giddy fans started doing the wave round and round the stadium during the change over.

The match resumed on serve to 5-4, Wilander leading. Then on Pernfors serve, Wilander amazingly achieved match point at 30-40 by keeping alive a rally with a desperate scoop of a lob backwards from behind the baseline. Pernfors netted a ball a few shots later, and lost the match with a forehand long on the next point.

Exhausted, the compatriots and friends embraced as the crowd rose in a long ovation. Wilander beat Pernfors in straight sets in the third round en route to his Open title, and a repeat of such afeat would be truly incredible.

When Jim Courier speaks of

survival games here, he doesn't



Mary Pierce of France is through with a serve against Brenda Shultz of the Netherlands on September 3 in one of the third round matches of the 1993 US Open championship at Flushing Meadow, New York.

— AFP photo

mean firing paint balls in forests. He's talking about the rumble of invisible jets in the haze, potholes on the practice courts, sweltering heat, fans gabbing during points and dangerous floaters pulling upsets.

He hates the tiny locker room and the crowded lounge, complains there's "really nowhere for us to hide." The whole place is "always kind of crazy," he says. "I just try to put the mute button on when I am on the court."

And that is how he is getting through the Open when all around him chaos reigns. Six seeded men dropped before the No 1 Courier reached the third round by beating Michael Joyce 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

Another seeded player vanished a little while later. No 11 Goran Ivanisevic, falling to Carlos Costa 6-3, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-5). Never in US Open history have so many seeded men fallen in the first two rounds.

Ivanisevic led 5-0 in the third-set tiebreaker before Costa swept the next seven points. Costa reached match point on a spectacular diving backhand drop-volley and won on a forehand wide with Ivanisevic, who flung his racket in disgust from the baseline to 4-3.

It was 2:13 by that point, and giddy fans started doing the wave round and round the stadium during the change over.

The match resumed on serve to 5-4, Wilander leading. Then on Pernfors serve, Wilander amazingly achieved match point at 30-40 by keeping alive a rally with a desperate scoop of a lob backwards from behind the baseline. Pernfors netted a ball a few shots later, and lost the match with a forehand long on the next point.

Captain Graham Gooch (74 not out) and Salim Malik (63 not out) then steered Essex home with an unbroken partnership of 143 in 22 overs.

Gooch cracked two sixes and seven fours in his 69-ball stay.

When Jim Courier speaks of

survival games here, he doesn't

mean firing paint balls in forests. He's talking about the rumble of invisible jets in the haze, potholes on the practice courts, sweltering heat, fans gabbing during points and dangerous floaters pulling upsets.

He hates the tiny locker room and the crowded lounge, complains there's "really nowhere for us to hide." The whole place is "always kind of crazy," he says. "I just try to put the mute button on when I am on the court."

And that is how he is getting through the Open when all around him chaos reigns. Six seeded men dropped before the No 1 Courier reached the third round by beating Michael Joyce 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

Another seeded player vanished a little while later. No 11 Goran Ivanisevic, falling to Carlos Costa 6-3, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-5). Never in US Open history have so many seeded men fallen in the first two rounds.

Ivanisevic led 5-0 in the third-set tiebreaker before Costa swept the next seven points. Costa reached match point on a spectacular diving backhand drop-volley and won on a forehand wide with Ivanisevic, who flung his racket in disgust from the baseline to 4-3.

It was 2:13 by that point, and giddy fans started doing the wave round and round the stadium during the change over.

The match resumed on serve to 5-4, Wilander leading. Then on Pernfors serve, Wilander amazingly achieved match point at 30-40 by keeping alive a rally with a desperate scoop of a lob backwards from behind the baseline. Pernfors netted a ball a few shots later, and lost the match with a forehand long on the next point.

Captain Graham Gooch (74 not out) and Salim Malik (63 not out) then steered Essex home with an unbroken partnership of 143 in 22 overs.

Gooch cracked two sixes and seven fours in his 69-ball stay.

When Jim Courier speaks of

survival games here, he doesn't

mean firing paint balls in forests. He's talking about the rumble of invisible jets in the haze, potholes on the practice courts, sweltering heat, fans gabbing during points and dangerous floaters pulling upsets.

He hates the tiny locker room and the crowded lounge, complains there's "really nowhere for us to hide." The whole place is "always kind of crazy," he says. "I just try to put the mute button on when I am on the court."

And that is how he is getting through the Open when all around him chaos reigns. Six seeded men dropped before the No 1 Courier reached the third round by beating Michael Joyce 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.

Another seeded player vanished a little while later. No 11 Goran Ivanisevic, falling to Carlos Costa 6-3, 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-5). Never in US Open history have so many seeded men fallen in the first two rounds.

Ivanisevic led 5-0 in the third-set tiebreaker before Costa swept the next seven points. Costa reached match point on a spectacular diving backhand drop-volley and won on a forehand wide with Ivanisevic, who flung his racket in disgust from the baseline to 4-3.

It was 2:13 by that point, and giddy fans started doing the wave round and round the stadium during the change over.

The match resumed on serve to 5-4, Wilander leading. Then on Pernfors serve