

# Imran's views on politics

ISLAMABAD, Jan 21: Popular Pakistani cricketer and World Cup hero Imran Khan says he has no intention of becoming Pakistan's prime minister given the exorbitant cost of entering politics, and its inherent dishonesty, reports AFP.

nence after Pakistan won the World Cup in 1992 received an enthusiastic response when he appealed for donations to build a multi-million dollar cancer hospital in memory of his mother who died of the disease. Housewives handed him



IMRAN KHAN

their jewelry while small traders and students, whom he calls "my real force," joined his 45-day countrywide fund raising campaign.

A man in his native town of Peshawar sold his bungalow to donate some 80,000 dollars when the former skipper announced he was short of 40

million dollars to complete his mission. Cheering crowds have greeted him with chants of "Prime Minister Imran Khan." But Imran, who has completed the first phase of a modern cancer hospital in eastern Lahore city, said he could serve his people in social work and would like successive governments "to support me rather than be threatened by me."

In his statement, Imran wondered why his "spiritual involvement" had caused concern in certain circles who dubbed him as anti-west.

"I feel that by a deeper understanding of Islam, I have been able to control the desire of the self and my real potential has been released," he said.

"My Islam is tolerant of other points of view and believes in the Koranic injunction, there is no compulsion in religion," he added.

However, he said he had "nothing but contempt for those Pakistani westernised liberal atheists who are so intolerant of anyone who talks about Islam."

Calling upon the nation to learn to stand on its own feet, he said, "I hate it when our leaders or elite feel that by licking the sole of the feet of the foreign countries we will somehow be given aid and we will progress."

# Steve Waugh in marauding mood

SYDNEY, Jan 21: Australian all-rounder Steve Waugh snatched an unbeaten 156 as New South Wales revived their faltering Sheffield Shield campaign with a resolute batting display against Tasmania on Friday, reports Reuter.

Waugh's century, his fifth in 11 innings at Hobart's Bellerive Oval, helped the Shield champions reach 298 for three at close of play on a rain-affected first day of their four-day match.

Waugh, acting New South Wales captain in the absence of Mark Taylor who was rested, scored his runs from 188 balls after winning the toss and electing to bat.

He clubbed 22 fours and shared a 167-run partnership for the third wicket with fellow Test batsman Michael Bevan, who contributed 70 runs.

New South Wales and Tasmania share last place in the Shield standings on eight points.

In Brisbane, Queensland and Australia A paceman Greg Rowell took four wickets for 48 to help reduce visitors Western Australia to 178 for nine at close of play on a rain-disrupted first day at the Gabba.

Western Australia opener Mike Veletta was reported for dissent after protesting against his dismissal for 22.

The veteran batsman was clearly upset after being given out to a catch behind the stumps off fast bowler Carl Rackemann.

Veletta was reprimanded for dissent following a similar incident during Western Australia's Shield match against Tasmania last weekend.

# WSC may've done Bevan good

ADELAIDE, Jan 21: The controversial inclusion of the Australia A side in this summer's World Series competition could yet be the life raft that rescues Michael Bevan's floundering Test cricket career, reports AFP.

The Australian Test selectors will link up by telephone Sunday to settle on a 12 for the fourth Ashes Test against England, starting at the Adelaide Oval here on Australia day.

Bevan made a sparkling debut in the series in Pakistan last October but has found the going hard on home soil, scoring just 81 runs in his five innings against England.

The left-hander seemed doomed after his miserable double of eight and seven in the third Test at Sydney but a team allowed Bevan a vehicle to rediscover his touch.

Demoted to the second side, Bevan responded with knocks of 105 and 73 among his four innings and reeled off a solid half-century against Tasmania Friday.

Bevan's rivals have not been in riveting form and the selectors could yet offer one last chance that must be taken here.

On the bowling side, spinner Tim May will nervously await his fate.

May tore a hamstring almost a fortnight ago and his results were poor over the first three Tests with just one wicket falling to the off spinner.

The touring teams for New Zealand and the West Indies are also due to be named soon possibly as early as Sunday.

# Nash repents

WELLINGTON, Jan 21: New Zealand cricketer Dion Nash has decided not to appeal against a three-match suspension imposed on him for allegedly smoking cannabis during New Zealand's recent tour of South Africa, his lawyer said Saturday, reports AP.

Nash, Stephen Fleming and Matthew Hart were suspended on Thursday for three one-day internationals against the West Indies, after admitting to team management that they smoked cannabis while on tour.

Fleming and Hart have publicly apologised but Nash was to appeal against the suspension.

The Northern Districts all-rounder, whose contract with English county Middlesex is in jeopardy because of the incident, said he had decided to let the matter rest.

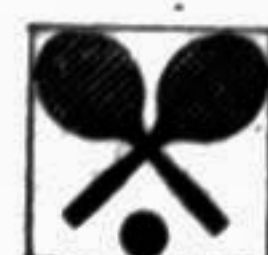
Lawyer Kevin Ryan said Nash felt lodging an appeal would generate more publicity.

The limited-over series between New Zealand and the West Indies starts at Eden Park in Auckland on Sunday.

# Osaka marathon cancelled

TOKYO, Jan 21: The Osaka international women's marathon scheduled for January 29 has been cancelled following Tuesday's earthquake, which killed more than 4,500 people, an official of the Japan Amateur Athletics Federation said today, reports Reuter.

# Agassi's advice for punters



MELBOURNE, Jan 21: Andre Agassi, the tennis gambler from Las Vegas, Saturday advised fans to

back him to win the Australian Open, reports AP.

The flamboyant American,

he appeared to have Rafter in trouble. But in the opening game of the fourth set, a chair umpire over-ruled the South African.

With Ondruska serving at 40-30, the linesman ruled a shot by Rafter wide. But International Tennis Federa-



Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan celebrates her win over compatriot Kimiko Date at the Australian Open in Melbourne yesterday. Sawamatsu won 3-6, 6-3, 6-3. — AFP photo

tion umpire Wayne McKewen of Australia over-ruled the linesman and said the ball was good.

Instead of the point going Ondruska's way and giving him the first game of the fourth set, Rafter got the point and went on to break Ondruska en route to his easy fourth-set win.

Rafter broke Ondruska to open the deciding set and again in the seventh game. Ondruska, who won only four games from the point of the over-rule, also became upset in the fifth set with crowd noise that often interrupted play.

Agassi's compatriots Aaron Krickstein, Patrick McEnroe and David Wheaton all won matches Saturday, while two-time champion Stefan Edberg overcame the blustery wind in

beating German Hendrik Dreekmann in straight sets to also advance to the last 16. The Swede, seeded No. 6, won 7-6 (10-8), 6-2, 6-3 in just over two hours after saving a set point in the first set.

The match was halted briefly by rain with Dreekmann leading 4-3 in the tiebreaker. Edberg then took command after staving off the set point at 5-6, clinching the set with an ace.

Edberg now plays Krickstein, a 6-1, 6-4, 7-6 (7-1) winner over Petr Korda of the Czech Republic.

McEnroe won 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 against David Prinosil of Germany - leaving that country without a representative in the fourth round.

Wheaton won through to the fourth round with a 7-6 (8-6), 6-4, 6-3 win over Italian Renzo Furlan in a match that was halted by rain late Friday.

Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands served 13 aces, repeatedly rushed the net and ousted No. 14 seed Thomas Muster of the Austria 6-3, 6-2, 2-6, 7-5.

No. 10 seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia downed Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden 4-6, 6-1, 6-2, 7-6 (10-8).

Noako Sawamatsu of Japan, whose family home was flattened by the devastating earthquake in Kobe on Tuesday and whose best friend still is missing, continued her run at the tournament with a 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 third-round win over her seventh-seeded compatriot Kimiko Date in the women's singles.

Sawamatsu beat Date for only the second time in eight meetings and reversed her loss to her compatriot in the Asian Games final in Hiroshima in September.

It was one of two early upsets in women's singles action.

Angelica Gavaldon of Mexico downed No. 15 Lori McNeil of the United States 2-6, 6-3, 8-6. Gavaldon's cause was helped by 12 double faults and 80 unforced errors by McNeil, who at 31 is a decade her senior.

Gavaldon, who was a quarterfinalist here in 1990, now faces No. 3 seed Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic, who had some uncomfortable moments before defeating American Lisa Raymond 6-1, 3-6, 9-7 in a 124-minute struggle that featured 12 breaks of serve.

Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain - the top seed in a Grand Slam event for the first time, defeated error-prone American Zina Garrison Jackson 6-1, 6-3 in 66 minutes and now plays Karina Habsudova of Slovakia.

Sanchez-Vicario maintained her career domination of Garrison Jackson. She has won 10 of the 12 times they have played.

Habsudova defeated Meike Babel of Germany 2-6, 6-1, 6-3, breaking her opponent's serve seven times during the match.

No. 11 seed Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States defeated South African Amanda Coetzer 6-3, 5-7, 6-2.

Barbara Paulus of Austria equalled her best performance in a Grand Slam when she advanced to the last 16 with a 6-1, 6-3 win over Sabine Appelmans of Belgium in just 56 minutes and now plays American Marianne Werde Witmeyer, a winner over Elena Makarova of Russia 6-2, 6-0.

The tournament, sponsored by Ford, is being played on rubberized Rebound Ace courts. It offers prize money of US \$1.6 million and continues through Jan 29.

# AUSSIE OPEN AT A GLANCE

MELBOURNE, Jan 21 (AP): Highlights and key information Saturday from the Australian Open tennis championship:

**Weather:** Gusty winds, brief rainy periods but mostly sunny and cool; high of 18C (64F).

**Attendance:** 16,897 day, 10,553 night; 27,450 total for the day.

**Results:** Second seed Andre Agassi and sixth seed Stefan Edberg advanced, as did top women's seed Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and third seed Jana Novotna.

**Upsets:** Naoko Sawamatsu beat countryman, close friend and seventh seed Kimiko Date of Japan 3-6, 6-3, 6-3; Angelica Gavaldon of Mexico beat 15th seed Lori McNeil of the United States 2-6, 6-3, 8-6; Jacco Eltingh of the Netherlands beat 14th seed Thomas Muster of Austria.

**Injuries:** None reported.

**Stat of the day:** Eight American men have moved into the round of 16 for the first time in 13 years at the Australian Open.

**Quote:** "Everybody plays ugly tennis in this kind of wind," Novotna on her wind-blown win over American Lisa Raymond.

**Sunday's highlights:** Top seed Pete Sampras plays 15th-seeded Magnus Larsson of Sweden; fifth seed Michael Chang and ninth-seeded Jim Courier also play their round-of-16 matches; women's second seed Conchita Martinez plays Irina Spirlea of Romania, fourth seed Mary Pierce of France and sixth seed Lindsay Davenport of the United States also play.

# Algerian soccer federation chief gunned down

ALGIERS, Jan 21: The president of Algeria's football federation, Rachid Harague, was shot and killed early today by suspected Islamic militants, security services said, reports AP.

They said "armed terrorists" struck at 7:30 am (0630 GMT) has Harague, 58, was preparing to drive away from his home in central Algiers.

Harague, appointed soccer federation head only last year, was taken to hospital where he died from his injuries.

"Terrorists" is the term used officially to designate Islamic fundamentalists who have waged a three-year insurgency against the military-backed secular regime.

At least 20,000 people are estimated to have been killed since in the conflict which has escalated into virtual civil war.

# Dubai Desert golf results

DUBAI, Jan 21: American Fred Couples fired a 4-under par 68 Saturday and climbed into a tie with Scotland's Colin Montgomerie for the third-round lead in the Dubai Desert Classic. They have 54 hole scores of 202, reports AP.

Montgomerie, who led by three strokes going into the round, had trouble with his putting on the back nine and shot a 71.

Defending champion Ernie Els of South Africa had a 67 Saturday and shared third place with Greg Norman, one stroke behind the co-leaders. Norman had a 69 in the third round.

Nick Price of Zimbabwe was at 204 with Sweden's Pierre Fulke. Price had a 69 Saturday, while Fulke, yet to win a tournament, had a 68.

# Windies' first one-dayer against Kiwis today

# W Benjamin may not play

AUCKLAND, Jan 21: Winston Benjamin is likely to be ruled out of the West Indies side for its opening one-day cricket international against New Zealand on Sunday at Eden Park, reports AP.

the Test series 2-1 and failed to win a one-day international. Chris Pringle, one of the best limited-overs bowlers in the world, was dropped from



WINSTON BENJAMIN

the New Zealand team for unspecified off-field misbehavior in South Africa not related to the drug scandal.

West Indies captain Courtney Walsh said his side had ignored "a" problems with

New Zealand cricket.

West Indies manager David Holford said Benjamin was unlikely to be named in the squad of 12.

New Zealand will not name the team until the morning of the match but it is likely that one of the pace bowlers - either newcomer Roydon Hayes or the expensive but attacking Simon Doull - will be left out.

# TEAMS

**WEST INDIES (likely):** Courtney Walsh (captain), Brian Lara (vice-captain), Sherwin Campbell, Stuart Williams, Keith Arthurton, Roland Holder, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Jimmy Adams, Anderson Cummins, Curtis Ambrose, Kenny Benjamin, Rajindra Dhanraj.

**NEW ZEALAND (from):** Ken Rutherford (captain), Danny Morrison (vice-captain), Bryan Young, Mark Douglas, Andrew Jones, Adam Parore, Shane Thomson, Justin Aslie, Gavin Larsen, Nathan Vaughan, Dipak Patel, Roydon Hayes, Simon Doull.

# Kafelnikov ready to star

MELBOURNE, Jan 21: Fast-rising Russian tennis player Yevgeny Kafelnikov believes he is ready to mount a serious challenge at a Grand Slam tournament, reports AP.

Kafelnikov, 20, climbed from 104 at the end of 1993 to his current standing of 12th.

He scored eight wins over top 10 players last year and won ATP tournaments in Adelaide, Copenhagen and Long Island, New York, for a 67-28 singles match record.

"I'm getting older. I don't feel like a junior anymore," the 10th-seeded Kafelnikov said after his 4-6, 6-1, 6-2, 7-6 (10-8) third round win over Swede Jonas Bjorkman at the Australian Open on Saturday.

"I'm not a veteran, but from match to match I'm getting more experience. Before I came here I felt like I could do something big."

There's no question the next big point would be to do something big in a Grand Slam.

"This is the biggest chance for me to do so. There's no question this is easiest of

# Leconte gets married

ARLES, France, Jan 21: French tennis ace Henri Leconte met his match off-court Friday as he married Marie Sara in the southern village of Les-Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, famed for its annual gypsy pilgrimages, reports AP.

The partners, both aged 31, tied the knot in a ceremony at the local Sainte Sarah church attended by a crowd of well-wishers and journalists.

Accompanied by their bridesmaids and pageboys, the couple then rode through the village in a horse-drawn coach escorted by local "knights" clad in traditional costume.

"It's the greatest event of my life," shouted Marie Sara, an expert in local-style bullfighting on horseback, to on-lookers.

Henri Leconte, hugely popular in France and beyond for his swashbuckling tennis and for helping the national team to victory in the 1991 Davis Cup, said: "The Davis Cup was great but this marriage is even better."



French tennis ace Henri Leconte and his bride, bullfighter Marie Sara, wave to a cheering crowd during their wedding in Saintes-Maries-de-la-Mer, southern France on Jan 20. — AFP photo

# CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Big brotly
  - 5 Teeny tale
  - 8 Like the wind
  - 12 Lotion add-in
  - 13 Blackbird
  - 14 Neighbor of Ontario
  - 15 - Beauty
  - 17 Chaplin prop
  - 18 Cistern
  - 19 Shrewdness
  - 21 Interests
  - 24 Oriana
  - 25 Coffee-makers
  - 26 Beauty is only -
  - 30 Glacier stuff
  - 31 Bridge forerunner
  - 32 Wildebeest
  - 33 Beauty and -
  - 35 Alge-sic's target
  - 36 Caps
  - 37 Pop
- DOWN**
- 38 "Algiers" star
  - 41 Luau gunk
  - 42 English river
  - 43 - beauty is...
  - 48 Mr. Jagger
  - 49 Greek X
  - 50 Singer Turner
  - 51 Requests
  - 52 Daughter of Loki
  - 53 Toboggan
  - 1 Petrol
  - 2 The whole shootin' match
  - 3 Curly's pal
  - 4 Annoy-ances
  - 5 - accompli
  - 6 Hostel
  - 7 He's had one too many
  - 8 Fruitful
  - 9 Composer Khachaturian
  - 10 Trig function
  - 11 Adolescent
  - 16 - de
  - 20 Jargon
  - 21 Fit
  - 22 St. Louis landmark
  - 23 A some-down joint
  - 24 - in the Dark
  - 26 One of the fiery furnace trio
  - 27 "Zounds"
  - 28 Oklahoma city
  - 29 Insignificant
  - 31 Dam
  - 34 Empty spaces
  - 35 Emulates Degas
  - 37 "How - love thee"
  - 38 Tibetan monk
  - 39 Hertz competitor
  - 40 Travesty
  - 41 Oprah's rival
  - 44 Article in "Time"
  - 45 Hodges of baseball
  - 46 Inseparable
  - 47 Temporary craze

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

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AXE	BOTTOMS	SUP
GAR	BOSEL	IFA
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**CRYPTOQUIP**  
ALYTKJLI YACXEYJAL  
TULOX PALO PEKYUICK  
JTIC TO YAEQX KTIRO  
I KJUJR IJ  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SAID BEST PATRON OF OUTGOING BARTENDER: HE'S POURING HIS HEART OUT.  
Today's Cryptoquip clue: Y equals C  
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.