

Sport

U-19 one-day cricket

England beat South Africa

CANTERBURY, England, July 2: Young England captain Marcus Trescothick led from the front as he and Yorkshire's Alex McGrath inspired their side to a 10-wicket victory against South Africa in the under-19 one-day international here on Saturday, reports AFP.

The England youngsters won with more than 17 overs to spare, with McGrath finishing on 89 not out and Somerset's Trescothick unbeaten on 84 to pass South Africa's disappointing total of 182.

McGrath, who made his championship debut for Yorkshire earlier this summer, hit 14 fours and a six from 123 balls, while Trescothick played himself back into form with 10 fours in a 104-ball innings.

The visitors started well but then lost their way in mid-innings, slipping from 121 for two to 137 for seven, with McGrath's Yorkshire teammate Alex Morris picking up four for 34 in a 10-over stint, having at lunch taken three for eight in four overs.

Neil Killeen from Durham picked up two wickets in two balls to quicken the South African demise before Trescothick and McGrath made sure of victory in this, the first limited over international of the series.

Emburey spell sinks Surrey

LONDON, July 2: John Emburey, to be 43 next month, spun Middlesex to victory by an innings and 76 runs over London rivals Surrey at Lord's on Saturday with a day to spare in their four-day English country championship match, reports Reuter.

The former England off-spinner took 5 for 34 to give him match figures of 10 for 98 as Surrey managed only 140 in their second innings after following on 216 behind Middlesex's first innings total of 425.

Surrey's misery was compounded when their captain and England international Alec Stewart retired hurt on 12 after receiving a blow on his right hand.

Stewart, a vital member of the England side as wicket-keeper and opening batsman, was taken to hospital for an X-Ray which disclosed only bruised and not a break.

He said later he would be fit to play in the third Test against West Indies starting at Edgbaston next Thursday.

Defending champions Warwickshire narrowed the gap with leaders Northamptonshire to 19 points when they wrapped up victory over Essex inside three days at LL Ford.

Warwickshire crushed Essex by 10 wickets, their victory coming in the final over after they had claimed the extra half hour.

Off-spinner Neil Smith returned his season's best figures of 5 for 67 as Essex were bowled out for 219 in their second innings, leaving the visitors and target of just 35 to ensure a maximum haul of 24 points and their first championship triumph at Valentine's Park in seven attempts.

The only real resistance came from Nasser Hussain, who followed up his first innings 94 with a battling 59.

Warwickshire had earlier gained a first innings lead of 185 after amassing a formidable 513, with Trevor Penney extending his overnight 114 to 141.

Aussie booters woo Brazil

SYDNEY, July 2: World champions Brazil are expected to invite Australia to play at the Maracana Stadium later this year following Australia's stout-hearted display against Argentina in Buenos Aires on Friday, reports AFP.

Australia lost 2-0 to the two-time world champions with glamour striker Gabriel Batistuta scoring the second goal off a deflection deep into injury time.

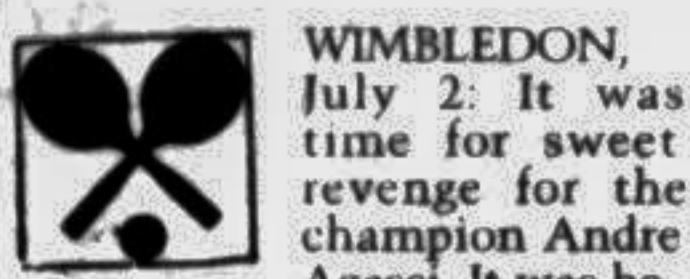
"We needed a good performance to clinch the game against Brazil who are interested in hosting the Soccerros in Rio de Janeiro in October. Hopefully we can finalise an agreement within the next three weeks," said national team coach Eddie Thomson from Buenos Aires Saturday.

Thomson was delighted with the form of his predominantly home-based squad, who had two days to recover from a 15-hour flight, poor training conditions and bitterly cold weather.

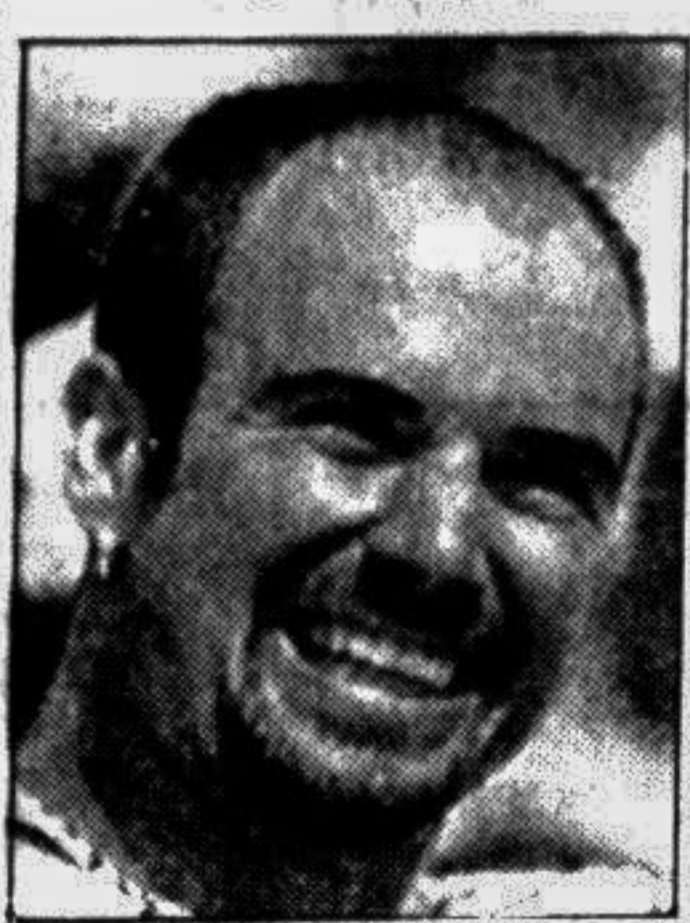
Kalac has now passed the target of 12 internationals for Australia, one of the conditions needed to obtain a player's permit in England and his display is likely to have impressed agents and club officials.

Agassi settles a score

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan



WIMBLEDON, July 2: It was time for sweet revenge for the champion Andre Agassi. It was here on this lawn David



ANDRE AGASSI

Wheaton handed out a five-set defeat to the number one seed five years ago in the quarterfinal. But on Saturday in front of a packed Centre Court it was one up for the champion. This time it was the same venue but the result was different: 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2, in favour of the "Pirate".

Prior to yesterday's important match they had met six times and each won thrice. The two have known each other for a long time, and both of them are the products of Nick Bollettieri's famous tennis academy in Florida.

Wheaton, known for his big serve and fighting spirit was in a mood to take the battle into Agassi's territory. Agassi had a warmup before the match against Wheaton in the Aorangi Park practice courts under the watchful eyes of his coach Brad Gilbert and started the match in a whirlwind fashion. The world number one produced some electrifying passing shots and walked over Wheaton with comparative ease. In his previous two matches also Agassi had shown his brilliance with his double-handed backhand and stunning forehands, especially returning the serves. But Wheaton was not to be cowed down.

The 26-year-old from Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, played himself in brilliantly with some exceptional return of serves and it was on set all. The third set was crucial. It looked though that Wheaton was going to prolong his stay in the bright and warm city of London and Agassi taking the ride home with his girlfriend who was in the players' guest box. Agassi got the vital break at four-all and went on to win the set 6-4. As has happened so far in this championship, once the top players led their opponents, the latter gave in and meekly surrendered. But the 6ft 4 in. David Wheaton was an exception. With cramps in his calf muscle, Wheaton tried

to outlast Agassi in a marathon three-hour battle. Agassi, however, was in a more powerful mood and he had the stamina to win. He won the match 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2.

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Another big blow for Marinos

TOKYO, July 2: Front-runners Yokohama Marinos suffered another humiliating blow when they crashed to Bellmare Hiratsuka 0-3 for their third straight defeat on Saturday in the Japanese Football League, reports AFP.

The Marinos, without their top striker Ramon Ismael Medina Bello of Argentina, went down with an own goal in the 69th minute and never recovered the deficit.

With five games left each in the first stage, the Marinos stood with 13 wins against eight defeats for 40 points, only one point ahead of Kashima Antlers and JEF United Ichihara.

The Antlers have a 13-8 win-loss record and the JEF United, Bellmare and Jubilo Iwata 12-9 records.

The JEF United lost to two-time champions Verdy Kawasaki 2-3 in a penalty shootout.

Nenad Maslovic of the former Yugoslavia scored twice to end the regulation time 2-2, but failed to equal the scores again when his penalty in the shootout was saved with the score at 2-3.

The Antlers, missing their Brazilian internationals Leonardo and Jorginho due to the South American championships, put an end to their three-match losing streak with a 2-1 win over Gamba Osaka.

Sanfrece Hiroshima ran out 3-1 winners over Jubilo Iwata. Dutch striker John van Loen completed a hat-trick, while top goal scorer Salvatore Schillaci of Italy managed to pull back one for his 19th of the season.

In other games, Cerezo Osaka shot down Yokohama Flugels 5-3, while Urawa Red Diamonds defeated Kashima Reysol 2-1.

Nagoya Grampus Eight notched up their sixth straight win, the first time in the J-League, when they defeated Shimizu S-Pulse 2-1.

his best to keep his chances alive but with Agassi firing in his ground shots and occasional volleys, Wheaton ultimately failed to save the day. Agassi was all praise for Wheaton after the match. "David always raises his game against me, against Sampras, Courier and Chang. Before today we'd played six times and won three each, so this was never going to be easy. David has clipped his first serve a little which gives him a higher percentage in and he's a lot more confident now." Agassi now plays Alexander Mronz of Germany in the fourth round Monday.



Actress Brooke Shields joy knows no bound as her boyfriend Andre Agassi wins his thrilling third round encounter against compatriot David Wheaton at the Wimbledon's Centre Court on July 1. Agassi played some classic tennis to win the match 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, 6-2. — AFP/UNB photo

WIMBLEDON NOTEBOOK

WIMBLEDON, July 2 (AFP): Pam Shriver has had so much trouble with her shoulder she's become something of an expert on injuries. So it could be bad news for Steffi Graf when the American says the German's back injury could finish her career.

"I believe her back will be bad for the rest of her career," said Shriver, who turned 33 Tuesday and is making her 16th appearance at Wimbledon.

"She must try to keep it contained and keep it from getting worse. But that's easier said than done and I'm sure it is on her mind all the time.

"I would not be surprised if at any time she said 'Hey, I have battled through this pain as long as I can and it's time to let it go,'" said Shriver, who needed surgery in 1990 to repair a loose and unstable shoulder.

Graf, a 26-year-old five-time Wimbledon champion, has defied her back trouble to make it to the fourth round. She overpowered Dutch player Kristie Boogert 6-1, 6-0 Saturday.

"Naturally, I can't answer for her," Shriver said. "But I think this year is the year to say 'is it going to get worse or is it going to stay as it is.'"

STICK TO TENNIS, PETE: Pete Sampras admits he hits the ball like John Daly. The golf ball, that is.

The defending Wimbledon champion says he's an enthusiastic golfer when he's away from the tennis court. Renowned for his big serves, he admits some of it rubs off on the golf course.

"I like to give the ball a real belt like Daly," he said. "I swing all out and I guess I can hit it 300 yards at times."

"Mind you, Daly has a lot more control than me. My long drives often finish in the trees."

Daly probably wouldn't agree, but Sampras believes that golf isn't as tough as tennis.

"Golf should be easy," he said. "After all, the ball never moves and you try to produce the same swing all the time."

AGASSI'S EVERYWHERE: Emulating the Andre Agassi pirate look is easier these days.

That's because Agassi's sponsor, Nike, has put out a purely promotional kit called the "AKA - The official Also Known As Agassi look-alike kit."

The kit provides Agassi clones with one black swoosh bandana, a paste-on goatee and sideburns and two hoop earrings.

"Everybody loves Andre and would like to experience what it's like to be Andre," said Jason Cohn, the Nike marketing person who developed the gimmicky idea. "It's a lot of fun. We're just giving it out here at Wimbledon as a promotional item."



Brazilian soccer legend Pele talking with US President Bill Clinton before the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics at the Yale Bowl Stadium in New Haven, Connecticut on July 1. — AFP/UNB photo

Michelle makes history

HONG KONG, July 2: Australian Michelle Martin became the first woman to capture three consecutive world titles when she beat compatriot Sarah Fitz-Gerald in the women's World Squash Championship final here Sunday, reports AFP.

Martin, 28, achieved a feat even the great Sue Devoy of New Zealand failed to do, taking control of the match in the second game to win in 45 minutes, 8-10, 9-2, 9-6, 9-3.

Devoy, arguably the greatest women's player in modern times, won four titles between 1985 and 1992.

Top seed and defending champion Martin has played dynamic squash over the week and proved conclusively that her loss to Liz Irving in the final of last week's Malaysian Open was only a minor lapse.

That defeat ended a 10-tournament winning streak for Martin, who is now looking forward to continued dominance in the sport.

"I've got to keep working harder and harder to keep a step ahead of the rest," said Martin, who won 58,700 US dollars.

"This has been the toughest World Championship for me and the final was very hard. It is tremendous to win three in a row. When I won the first one, I thought it was magnificent, but this one has been better," she said.

Fitz-Gerald was hoping to exact revenge over Martin, who came from 2-0 and 8-4 down to beat her in the Malaysian Open semifinal.

"I should have won it in Malaysia, even Michelle told me so," said Fitz-Gerald.

"But I couldn't do anything this time. I thought if I had won the third game it could have been a different story."

"I knew the shots I wanted to play, but they were not quite coming off."

Fitz-Gerald trailed 8-1 in the first game, but rallied hard to win the game, prompting Martin to compare herself with Czech tennis player Jana Novotna, who shed tears after the 1993 Wimbledon final when she let a huge lead slip to eventual winner Steffi Graf.

But there were to be no tears for Martin, who did not disappoint her army of fans, including her sister, mother, husband, uncle and four friends who had travelled from Australia to see her retain the title.

Special Olympics open

NEW HAVEN, United States, July 2: President Bill Clinton and a star-studded cast on Saturday night kicked off the 1995 Special Olympics in an opening ceremony featuring 7200 athletes from 146 countries, reports Reuter.

A festive mood was prevalent in New Haven's Yale Bowl Stadium as teams from each country were introduced and crowded onto the field to the cheers of about 70,000 spectators. Skydivers dropped into the stadium, fireworks exploded and a blimp soared overhead.

"Lange and small nations are represented here, welcome as equals," Clinton said as he declared the Games open.

"We have seen here people brought together of every race, colour and creed, of every faith, in a joyful celebration of peaceful competition, good will and the triumph of the human spirit. The world can learn a great lesson from all of you standing down here in the Yale Bowl tonight, everybody counts, and everybody can do something very, very important," he said.

The Special Olympics, touted by promoters as the world's largest sporting event of the year — and three times larger than the 1994 Winter Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway — are to unfold over nine days at Yale and four other Connecticut area colleges.

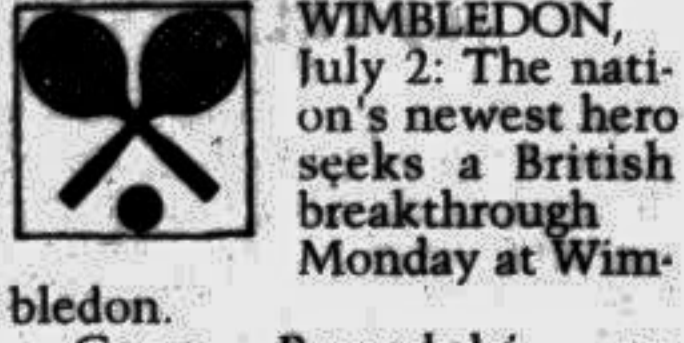
The 7200 athletes from 146 countries will compete in 19 Olympic-type sports, and 13 of them will feature unified teams with an equal number of athletes with and without mental retardation.

Clinton said he was happy to see one of his favourite sports, bowling, represented at the Games.

In keeping with that spirit of unity, the Special Olympics torch was lit by two athletes, one with and one without mental retardation.

Clinton and his wife Hillary were among a host of stars and dignitaries present, including the founder of the Games Eunice Shriver, as well as supermodel Elle MacPherson, actor Jean-Claude Van Damme, the musical group Hootie and the Blowfish, and American Olympic gold medal winners Bonnie Blair and Dan Jansen.

Rusedski's real test today



WIMBLEDON, July 2: The nation's newest hero seeks a British breakthrough Monday at Wimbledon.

Greg Rusedski, an Englishman only since May will enjoy the home-court advantage on the grandest stage in tennis against two-time defending champion Pete Sampras, reports AP.

With a win, Rusedski would become the first Briton to reach the men's quarterfinals at Wimbledon since Peter Frothingham was famous.

Roger Taylor last achieved the feat in 1973. Now Rusedski will try to do it by snapping Sampras' 17-match winning streak at the All England Club.

"He's got a big serve, he's lefty, and whenever you get those two things on grass it's going to be a tough match," the second-seeded Sampras said. "And he's obviously filled with a lot of emotion, a lot of confidence."

"There's not a whole lot of strategy involved when you play someone like him. But it should be a good match."

The 32 players remaining in the men's and women's draws took Sunday off. All are scheduled for four-round matches Monday. Those still alive include 15 unseeded players, nine on the men's side.

Top seed Andre Agassi will play Germany's Alexander Mronz, who advanced when Californian Jeff Tarango defaulted Saturday. Tarango threw a tirade, then alleged that the chair umpire was corrupt and had influenced matches for some players.

In other matches Monday, No 3 Boris Becker will play Belgian Dick Norman, and No. 4 Goran Ivanisevic will

face Todd Martin, one of five Americans left on the men's side.

In women's play, top seed Steffi Graf will meet Ines Gorrochategui of Argentina. No. 2 Arantxa Sanchez Vicario plays Germany's Anke Huber. Mary Joe Fernandez faces Lindsay Davenport in an All-American battle, and Lisa Raymond — the other Ameri-

can remaining — takes on Gabriela Sabatini.

The Canadian-born Rusedski, who created a controversy switching to Britain's Davis Cup team this spring, became a favourite with the Wimbledon crowd by winning his first three matches. It's his best showing in seven Grand Slam tournaments.

"I thought it would take a little while for the public to warm to me," said Rusedski, 21, who complements his game with a winning smile.

"They've taken me in very, very nicely, and they've just been wonderful."

One reason the English are rooting for Rusedski is that their most recent Wimbledon men's champion was Fred

Peres in 1936, before Framp-ton was even born.

Sampras' own popularity at the All England Club has grown with his winning streak, but he played the heavy in the second round while beating another Englishman, Tim Henman.

The crowd was definitely pulling for their boy," Sampras said. "You have to go into the match expecting that, and just be prepared for it."

While Sampras wields one of the game's most effective serves, Rusedski would be happy to decide the match on aces. He hit 36 in the third round against Olivier Delaitre.

"He's going to ace me," Sampras said. "I can't get discouraged. I'll just keep plugging away."

Star parade in Paris track GP

PARIS, July 2: Two world record attempts and another Carl Lewis against Linford Christie battle highlight Monday's Paris' Gaz de France Grand Prix track meet, reports AP.

Algerian Nourredine Morceli, already holder of the world 1,500-metre, 3,000 and mile records, seeks to better the 2,000-metre mark set at the last Grand Prix regular-season track meet in Paris.

Said Aouita did 4 minutes 50.81 seconds in 1987 before the meet was sent to Villeneuve d'Ascq, in northern France, for better facilities.

Now with a new stadium in southern Paris, meet organisers have returned to the French capital with a top field including Olympic and world champions in many events.



BORIS BECKER

also have a chance at the Wimbledon," he said. Becker is a veteran at 27. And who knows how long the crowd at Wimbledon will have the privilege to see him at the Centre Court.

UMPIRES' PERIL There are many perils to being an umpire at Wimbledon. Ricochets, sun-stroke

and even boredom. But a new menace must be added: the tennis player's wife, writes Malcolm Colley in The Mail on Sunday.

On Saturday, Alexander Mronz of Germany was playing Jeff Tarango of the USA on Show Court Number 13. During the second set Tarango walked out of the court presumably in protest of a line call a umpire.

As he walked into the dressing room his wife Benedicte leap on court to slap the official Bruno Rebeuh. The controversy began when Rebeuh was officiating in Tarango's third round match against Mronz. Tarango thought he served an ace but the ball was called out. After an argument with Rebeuh, he eventually shouted: "You are the most corrupt official in the game. I am not standing for this. I am not playing." The referee's office immediately issued a statement defaulting Tarango from all matches at Wimbledon this year. It also said that a post-match investigation on Tarango's comments will take place in due course.

In an interview, Wimbledon referee Alan Mills denied any allegation of corruption against Rebeuh. He also told a questioner that Tarango will definitely be fined for his conduct which can run upto five figures. But further action, like suspension, will be taken after the investigation.

According to reports Tarango and his 30-year-old French wife had a meeting with Alan Mills at the All England Club till late last night. There will be more meetings today. Today is a rest day.

Becker & Centre Court

From Tawfiq Aziz Khan

Three seeded as a potential contender.

The 13,000 strong crowd at the Centre Court cheered Becker as he strode off the court. "It was nice feeling to be back on the nice Centre Court. Walking out there now means much more to me than when I was a teenager. In those days I didn't understand what it all meant. But now I do — and I definitely — find it an inspiration. As long as I'm a full-time player and as long as I'm able to be a top player from time to time I'll



BORIS BECKER

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UMPIRES' PERIL There are many perils to being an umpire at Wimbledon. Ricochets, sun-stroke

Tarangos' terrific tantrum

LONDON, July 2: Jeff Tarango, whose row with an umpire on Saturday created one of Wimbledon's biggest sensations, typifies what in sport is called a journeyman — a player whose persistence and dedication far outweigh his achievements, reports Reuter.

Ranked 80th in the world, the 26-year-old Californian has never been ranked higher than 42nd, and until this year had never won a match in six previous visits to Wimbledon.

Yet on Saturday, the player, whose third round appearance at Wimbledon was only the third time he had got so far in 25 major events over the last eight years, turned the tennis into a sideshow in one of the tournament's most bizarre incidents.

Tarango, mired in the second set against German Alexander Mronz, gullotined a dispute with match umpire Bruno Rebeuh by storming off court and accusing him of being the most corrupt official in the game.

He accused the umpire, with whom he has had a long running dispute since a tournament in Toulouse, France in 1993, of showing bias to-

wards certain players and awarding them victories in return for friendship.

It was not the first brush Tarango has had with officialdom but it was probably the first time his French wife Benedicte 30, has become involved. She later slapped Rebeuh across the face to show her displeasure.

"Well, you know women are emotional. I think what she did was great," Tarango said.

Tarango acknowledges he has been in trouble with officials before but feels strongly that some of his punishments have not fitted his crimes.

"I've been fined irregularly for quite a while now and I'm getting fined the maximum for things that other people are getting fined the minimum for," he said.

He disagreed over a warning for obscenity after telling the crowd to shut up during his match with Mronz.

For them to give me an obscenity call and a fine on national television I think that, that is outrageous."

He knows he has a reputation as a hot head and feels it is unjust.

"For people to always say that Jeff is psycho, that Jeff is a hot-head, that Jeff is mean — I'm not. You know I'd definitely have probably a little Latin in me but I'm an intellectual person who does not fly off the cuff without reason."

The official players guide says Tarango's interests include philosophy, creative writing and bridge, but not a lot is really known about the Californian.

To be honest, the guy has been pretty insignificant and there has been no reason to find out anything about him, one veteran observer of the tennis scene said.

Another respected commentator, American statistician Steve Flink said "to suggest an umpire would give matches to a player is absurd. It's impossible because the umpires are scrutinised by the supervisors and they'd lose their job if they did that."

Tarango, who was later defaulted from his mixed doubles, defended his on court action.

"I don't feel a player has any defence these days. Just getting some kind of justice when things go wrong against him."

"Apparently no one wanted to help me today, so I had to just stand up for what I believe in."