

Donald designs Warwickshire win

LONDON, Aug 26: South African Allan Donald lifted champions Warwickshire back towards the top of the English County Championship table with a superb spell of pace bowling on Friday, reports Reuters.

Donald's burst of three wickets for five runs in 14 balls shattered Worcester's run chase at Edgbaston as they were dismissed for 177, losing their last eight wickets for 31.

Slow left-arm Ashley Giles grabbed five for 23 to enable second-place Warwickshire to enforce the follow-on.

Worcestershire were 16 for one in their second innings at the close—still 269 short of avoiding an innings defeat.

Leaders Middlesex were facing stubborn Yorkshire resistance at Headingley despite England reject Mark Ramprakash completing a double century as his side reached 516 for nine declared.

Yorkshire skipper Martyn Moxon frustrated Middlesex hopes, hitting a patient 86 not out as the homeside made it through to the close on 202 for three.

Ramprakash's 235 was a career-best and the highest by any Middlesex batsman against Yorkshire since World War Two. He faced 426 balls and hit a six and 34 fours.

Hansie Cronje was another double-century maker as he scored a sparkling 213 for Leicestershire against Somerset at Weston-Super-Mare.

The South African Test captain smacked 28 fours and six sixes before he was bowled by former England paceman Andrew Caddick off the last ball of the day, with Leicestershire 48 ahead on 341 for nine.

Essex bowler Mark Ilett, picked for the England 13 for the current Test against West Indies but then omitted from the team, made his point to the England selectors by claiming six for 58 as Kent were dismissed for 178 in reply to Essex's 472 at Canterbury.

Ambrose freed from accusation

LONDON, Aug 26: West Indian fast bowler Curtly Ambrose was cleared of deliberately pushing England's Dominic Cork in the final cricket Test on Friday, reports Reuters.

Ambrose was called before match referee John Reid after appearing to shove Cork as he ran a single.

Reid voiced displeasure at Ambrose's fellow pacemen Kenny Benjamin and Ian Bishop kicking the ground on separate occasions but took no disciplinary action.

Both had shown their frustration during a tough and hot second day's play at The Oval in which England amassed 454 in their first innings. West Indies were 50 for one at the close.

On the Ambrose incident Reid said: "After a detailed discussion and a viewing of a video tape with the manager and captain of the West Indies I accept that the contact on the pitch was accidental and merely a reflex defensive action on the part of the bowler."

Bagan beat FCI

CALCUTTA, Aug 26: Title aspirants Mohun Bagan shrugged off their lethargy to trounce Food Corporation of India (FCI) 3-0 in the Churns Super Division League match at their home ground here yesterday, reports PTI.

Striker Sisir Ghosh struck two goals in quick succession in the opening session while the speedy Manoharan pumped in another goal after the interval to demolish FCI's hopes of maintaining their winning run.

Sisir Ghosh, who played well put the local giants ahead in the 24th minute of the contest capitalising on a lovely chip by Achinta Beel from the top of the box.

The veteran striker was again in the limelight 14 minutes later when he headed home with ease from a measured corner kick by Subir Ghosh to send thousands of Mohun Bagan supporters into a frenzy.

After leading 2-0 at the breather, Manoharan gave the finishing touches to the rout when he capped a combined move from the left flank with a gentle tap, giving no chance to the FCI custodian.

Tarango apologises to fans

NEW YORK, Aug 26: American Jeff Tarango, who incurred record fines and suspensions for his extraordinary outburst at Wimbledon, released a lengthy apology to tennis fans for his behaviour at the All England Club, reports Reuters.

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other opener, Stuart Williams, had been dismissed for 30.

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a ball from Cork to third slip Atherton and the West Indies, who started the day 50 for one, was 94 for two.

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Rising Sun's gold plus

FUKUOKA, Japan, Aug 26: American's speed in the swimming pool wasn't quite enough to overtake Japan in the World University Games medals race Saturday as Japan added another gold to its judo collection, reports AP.

The United States won three of the day's six swimming races, but Japan won two to go with its judo gold, leaving the Japanese ahead 10 to 8 in golds and 26 to 24 in total medals after three days of competition.

Russia's Evgenii Chabiev won the men's all-around gymnastics gold, giving his nation a total of four golds in a collection of 10 medals. South Korea had three golds and nine medals overall.

Brazil broke up the US-Japan duel in swimming when Fernando Scherer and Gustavo Borges placed 1-2 in the men's 100-metre freestyle, giving their nation its first gold here.

Italy also won its first gold when Maria Valentina Vezzali took the women's foil fencing.

China, South Korea and Cuba each picked up one gold in judo.

Americans have won eight of the 18 swimming races held so far and Japan has four victories.

Japan leads in its native sport of judo with five golds from 12 events. South Korea has three and Cuba two.

Japan, SA move into last eight

FUKUOKA, Japan, Aug 26: Striker Daizo Okitsu was unstoppable Saturday scoring two goals and creating two others as Japan trounced Slovakia 5-2 in the soccer competition at the World University Games, reports AP.

The win gave Japan victory in Pool A of the 16-nation competition, sealing a quarterfinal spot for the host nation, which joined South Korea, Russia and South Africa in the last eight.

Okitsu repeatedly had the Slovak defence in trouble with his pace as Japan maintained their unbeaten record by scoring all five of their goals after the teams had been level 0-0 after a first half played in torrential rain.

Midfielder Kiyotaka Ishimaru started the goal avalanche seven minutes after the break when he stabbed the ball home with the Slovak defence indistinct after a corner from the 21-year-old Okitsu.

South Africa, who lost 3-2 to Japan in their tournament opener, scored a 2-1 victory over Canada to clinch the second quarterfinal spot from the group.

Striker Tebogo Springbok, who scored a hat-trick against Slovakia, and midfielder Kenneth Liebenberg netted second-half goals for the South Africans, while Alex Percy was the Canadian marksman.

Russia and 1993 silver medalists South Korea, both of whom already had clinched quarterfinal berths from Pool C played to a 0-0 draw earlier Saturday as both maintained their unbeaten records.

Muster mauls Arrese

UMAG, Croatia, Aug 26: Top-seeded Thomas Muster of Austria on Friday took only 64 minutes to crush Jordi Arrese of Spain 6-1, 6-3 and advance to the semifinals of the 375,000 dollars Croatia Open tennis tournament, reports AP.

Muster, a left-hander, won the first set in 34 minutes. He lost two initial games serving in the second set, but then broke Arrese's generally weak serves. The eighth-seeded Spaniard picked up only one game while serving.

Muster, third on the ATP list, has already won three matches in the tournament—all against Spanish opponents—and will face another Spaniard in the semifinals Saturday: fifth-seeded Francisco Clavet.

Clavet had less trouble than expected, defeating Magnus Gustafsson of Sweden 6-2, 6-3.

Third seed Andrea Gaudenzi of Italy beat sixth-seeded Javier Sanchez of Spain, 6-2, 6-4.

Sanchez, who played in the final in Umag in 1991, improved his play in the second set but was not strong enough to turn the tables on the Italian.

Seventh-seeded Carlos Costa of Spain seemed provided a big surprise by beating second-seeded countryman Alberto Berasategui, 6-4, 6-4.

In the first set, Berasategui led 3-2, but he could not defend the advantage and of the following five games he won only one.



Maria Mutola of Mozambique waves after she broke the world record in women's 1000m with a time of 2 minutes 29.34 seconds at the 19th Ivo Van Damme memorial athletics meet in Brussels on August 25. — AFP/UNB photo

Veterans on the make



BRUSSELS, Aug 26: Mozambique's Maria Mutola earned some financial and mental consolation for her bitterly disappointing World Championships when she broke the women's 1,000 metres world record at the Brussels Grand Prix on Friday, reports Reuters.

The 1993 world champion, who was disqualified in the semifinals of the women's 800 metres at the Gothenburg championships after running out of lane, picked up prizes worth 50,000 dollars with a run of two minutes 29.34 seconds.

On a mild evening which was perfect for distance running, the 22-year-old shaved 1.33 seconds off the previous best of 2:30.67 set by former East Germany's Christine Wachtel in Berlin in August 1990.

Although the performance in the non-championship event could not make up for her Gothenburg failure, Mutola became the first woman to run the distance under 2 1/2 minutes and was able to walk away from Brussels with 25,000 dollars in cash and a sports car worth the same amount.

"I do not see this as revenge for the disqualification

another convincing 100 metres victory from Britain's Olympic champion Linford Christie, who has also bounced back from a disappointing World Championships.

Kenyan Moses Kiptanui, who became the first man to break eight minutes for the 3,000 metres steeplechase at last week's Zurich meeting, ran another remarkable race in his world record of 7:59.18.

It was a superb performance just nine days after his record. But the Kenyan complained he had run an untidy last lap over the barriers.

"Every jump cost me an extra second. I lost the new world record in the last lap," Kiptanui said. "But this is the second time ever so I am happy with it."

Algeria's multi-talented Noureddine Morcelli ran