

Germon's defeat in debut

BANGALORE, India, Oct 20: Leg spinner Anil Kumble completed a match haul of nine

for 120 and opener Ajay Jadeja hit a stylish 73 as India trounced New Zealand by eight wickets in the first Test today, reports Reuter.

India, needing 151 to win after dismissing New Zealand for 233 in their second innings, romped home with an hour and two days to spare to lead 1-0 in the three-Test series.

Jadeja's dashing 73 off 92 deliveries, marked by punishing off-side strokes, contained 12 fours. He was brilliantly caught by a diving Adam Parore at cover as he tried to square drive Matthew Hart's left-arm spin.

Jadeja put on 101 with fellow opener Manoj Prabhakar (43), the pair leaving Sanjay Manjrekar (29 not out) to complete the job at 151 for two.

India's captain Mohammad Azharuddin was named man-of-the-match for his 87 in the first innings, which was a key element in their critical lead of 83.

"Jadeja is my man-of-the-match," said Azharuddin, playing down his own role in his 10th win in 12 home Tests as captain. His overall record is 11 victories in 32 Tests.

India's other influential performer was Kumble, exploiting uneven bounce on his home ground to return second innings figures of five for 81.

"We expected a turning wicket here," said New Zealand coach Glenn Turner. "Maybe it is more entertaining for the crowd to see matches finishing in three days. But we like them to last five days."

"A lot of our top batsmen got out to medium pacers. We have to address that."

New Zealand captain Lee Germon said, "The critical part was that we did not score well on the first day. A score of 220 or 230 would have given us a fighting chance."

But he defended his decision to bat after winning the toss. "It was not a wrong decision to bat first. I would do that again."

New Zealand, 125 for five overnight, suffered an immediate blow when Chris Cairns lost his middle stump to paceman Javagal Srinath in the first over of the day without adding to his 23.

Kumble then removed Stephen Fleming for 41, taking an easy return catch to end a patient knock of almost two hours which included three fours and a six.

Germon and Dion Nash added 39 for the eighth wicket, the stand ending when Nash (17) skied left-arm spinner Venkatapathy Raju to Kumble at cover.

Germon, leading his country on his Test debut, scored a fighting 41 to hold up the home side, hitting six boundaries in a 96-minute stay before falling lbw to Kumble.

Hart offered a late flourish with an unbeaten 27 before Kumble wrapped up the innings by accounting for last man Danny Morrison.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between



ANIL KUMBLE 9 for 120

Cairns b Srinath	23
Germon lbw b Kumble	41
Nash c Kumble b Raju	17
Hart not out	27
Morrison c Azharuddin b Kumble	9
Extras: (b-8, lb-10)	18
Total:	233
Fall of wickets: 1-19; 2-32; 3-36; 4-58; 5-80; 6-130; 7-134; 8-173; 9-210.	
Bowling:	O M R W
Prabhakar	8 3 23 2
Srinath	15 6 41 2
Kumble	27 2 81 5
Chauhan	9 1 27 0
Raju	14 2 43 1
INDIA: Second innings	
Prabhakar c Greatbatch b Hart	43
Jadeja c Parore b Hart	73
Manjrekar not out	29
Tendulkar not out	6
Extras: (nb-3, lb-3)	6
Total: (for two wickets)	151
Fall of wickets: 1-101; 2-145	
Bowling:	O M R W
Nash	7 1 26 0
Morrison	7 1 34 0
Cairns	6 1 13 0
Thomson	11 3 41 0
Hart	9 5 34 2
Result: India won by eight wickets	
Second Test: Oct 25-29 (Madras)	
Third Test: Nov 8-12 (Cuttack)	
NEW ZEALAND: Second innings (overnight 125-5)	
Greatbatch b Prabhakar	6
Young lbw b Prabhakar	8

Mike for pace vs pace

JOHANNESBURG, G. Oct 20: Captain Mike Atherton pledged on Thursday England's cricketers would "tight fire with fire" against South Africa's fast bowlers in the forthcoming Test series, reports Reuter.

The South African pace-attack would be an important factor, Atherton said when the England team arrived on the first official tour for 30 years.

Judge's son in a stew

LOS ANGELES, Oct 20: Officials have issued a warrant for the arrest of the 35-year-old stepson of Judge Lance Ito, who presided over O J Simpson's murder trial, the Los Angeles city attorney's office said on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Dennis Mandaley York, who is the son of Ito's wife, police captain Peggy York, is wanted for failing to appear on two counts each of theft and operating without a California contractor's license.

A spokesman said York, of Ramsey, New Jersey, failed to appear in front of LA commissioner Kirkland Nyby on Tuesday on the criminal misdemeanor charges.

He declined to characterize York's line of business or give further details.

"Pace is obviously their strong suit but we have a very settled top five and our batsmen are not shy as they've proved in the past," he told a news conference.

"We have also got some pace of our own and if need to be we can fight fire with fire."

England manager Ray Illingworth predicted a very close series and hoped England could repeat their form of the drawn six-Test summer series against West Indies.

England play five Tests and seven one-day internationals on the 14-week tour.

Four-nation soccer tourney in S Africa

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 20: South Africa are to host a four-nation soccer tournament next month, the South African Football Association announced on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

The six-match tournament will involve the country's national team and those of Egypt, Nigeria and Zambia.

The matches will be played in three different venues and the tournament will be decided on a round-robin basis with three points for a win and one for a draw.

The mini-tournament serves as a warm-up for South Africa's hosting of the African Nations' Cup finals next January.

Jones sets Gabba on fire

BRISBANE, Oct 20: Former Australia Test batsman Dean Jones smashed his 25th century for Victoria to give his side the initiative against Queensland today, reports Reuter.

Jones hit 17 fours and a six on his way to three figures and was unbeaten on 118 at the close on the second day as Victoria reached 300 for one at the Gabba.

Chasing Queensland's 361 for eight declared, Jones added 194 in an unbroken second-wicket partnership with opener Matthew Elliot, who contributed 125 not out.

Elliot, whose patient, composed innings contrasted sharply with Jones' brutal onslaught, had already scored 62 runs when his captain, who will lead Derbyshire in the English County Championship next season, strode to the wicket.

Former Australia captain Allan Border added to the home side's frustration by dropping three slip catches during the day, including two chances offered by Jones.

Resuming on 306 for five after winning the toss, Queensland captain Stuart Law delayed his side's declaration until wicketkeeper Wade Secombe had reached a half-century just before lunch.

Shane Warne was the most successful of the Victoria bowlers, finishing with figures of three for 111 from 34 overs.

In Perth, Western Australia lead New South Wales by 188 runs in their second innings with one day to go at the WACA ground.

At close of play on the third day, Western Australia were 48 for no wicket after restricting the visitors to 211 for nine declared.

Starting the day on 10 for one in reply to Western Australia's 351 for three declared, New South Wales fell victim to pace trio Bruce Reid, Jo Angel and Brendon Julian, who each took two wickets.

Zaragoza beat the Belgians, who also finished the match with ten men, with goals from Santiago Aragon, who scored with a 28th minute penalty, and Daniel Garcia Dani who made it 2-0 six minutes later.

Gazza obsessed with hair

LONDON, Oct 20: Soccer star Paul Gascoigne put barbers up and down the country on a state of alert on Thursday as he said he was considering another change in the colour of his hair, reports AFP.

The Rangers and England player's brush with peroxide resulted in scores of teenagers copying him in the summer.

Gazza's hair was later dyed jet black, but he has now returned to his natural brown.

As he opened a hair-dressing salon in Edinburgh, he said, "I'm thinking about a change, I might do it."

He had been pleased when his peroxide look was copied. "It was quite flattering seeing it on the kids. I might go back to that." He only had time for a quick cut at the Charlie Miller Salon in South St Andrew Street in the city centre but is expected to come back for more.

The player, who has complained about media harassment since he joined the Ibrox club, said he was enjoying living in Scotland.

He is hoping to be in the Rangers squad on Saturday after being out injured.

Majoli enters elite sixteen

NEW YORK, Oct 20: Consecutive titles this month at Zurich and Filderstadt have earned Croatian teenager Iva Majoli a berth in the elite 16-player field of the season-ending WTA Championships, tournament organisers announced on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria and Czech veteran Jana Novotna have also nailed down spots for the November 13-19 tournament formerly known as the Virginia Slims Championships.

The 18-year-old Majoli will be looking to improve on last year's opening-round loss to Novotna, who will be making her fifth consecutive trip to the season finale at New York's Madison Square Garden.

Steffi Graf, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, Conchita Martinez, Mary Pierce, Kimiko Date and defending champion Gabriela Sabatini had previously qualified for the event.

Three-time champion Monica Seles, forced to miss the championships the past two years after being stabbed in the back during a Hamburg tournament in 1993, will also claim one of the 16 places in the draw.



An air borne Barry Horne (L) of Everton is about to come down on Feyenoord's Henrik Larsson (C) during their European Cup Winners' Cup clash at Goodison Park, UK on Oct 19.

Halmstad humble Parma

LONDON, Oct 20: Nayim, whose unforgettable 50-metre goal gave Real Zaragoza victory in the European Cup Winners' Cup final last May, was sent off as his team continued their defence of the trophy with a narrow 2-1 win over Club Brugge on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Nayim, whose astonishing shot from almost the halfway line in the last minute of extra-time gave Zaragoza a 2-1 win over Arsenal in last season's final, experienced the other side of soccer when he was shown the red card after being book twice.

Zaragoza beat the Belgians, who also finished the match with ten men, with goals from Santiago Aragon, who scored with a 28th minute penalty, and Daniel Garcia Dani who made it 2-0 six minutes later.

Lorenzo Staelens pulled a vital goal back for Brugge with a 72nd minute penalty.

Just after Nayim's dismissal, that red card rules him out of the second leg in Brugge in two weeks. Pascal Renier of Brugge who was sent off after 60 minutes, also misses the second-leg.

The biggest surprise of the night was Halmstad's 3-0 victory over Parma, who won the trophy in 1993, were runners-up in 1994 and added the UEFA Cup to their growing collection of honours last May.

Parma, second in the Italian League, never recovered after falling behind to a seventh minute goal scored by Swedish international Niklas Gudmundsson who added a second in the 39th minute.

Robert Andersson scored the goal that could well ensure Halmstad a place in the last eight 14 minutes from time.

But only 9,000 fans watched the game, which was moved 150-km north to Gothenburg because Halmstad's stadium could not be used because of a strike by local council workers.

There was also a three-goal winning margin for Borussia Moenchengladbach who beat AEK Athens 4-1 with another Swedish international scoring twice.

Martin Dahlin put Borussia ahead after 51 minutes and scored what could prove to be a decisive goal in the last minute for his second of the night.

He also created Karl-Heinz Pfiffsen's goal after 55 minutes. Peter Wynnoff was Borussia's other scorer after 67 minutes.

Sporting Lisbon, whose only European success came when they won this trophy in 1964, also achieve an important win, beating Rapid Vienna at home with goals from Pinto after 15 minutes and Paulo Alves 10 minutes later.

But four ties are still evenly balanced. Moscow Dynamo, Paris St Germain and Deportivo La Coruna only scored 1-0 wins over Hradec Kralove, Celtic and Trabzonspor respectively, while Everton and Feyenoord drew their first leg 0-0 in England.

Evander's ultimate ambition

NEW YORK, Oct 20: Evander Holyfield, a two-time heavyweight champion and noted career spender, doesn't need the money or the fame to keep fighting at 33, reports Reuter.

But he needs the competition, another mountain to climb. And he has found it in Riddick Bowe, who at 6.5 (1.95 metres) and 240 pounds (108.8 kg) is expected to give Holyfield all he can handle in their November 4 fight at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

Holyfield is guaranteed 9 million dollars for his third encounter with Bowe, considered by many to have the most natural ability among heavyweights today.

But Bowe, 28, hasn't always exploited his talents, sometimes not training hard enough and sometimes not seeming particularly motivated.

That makes him the exact opposite of Holyfield, who more than makes up for his relatively small size and lack of knockout power with a heart the size of the Grand Canyon.

"It has always been my goal to be the best I can be and if I'm in the game I need to give 100 per cent," Holyfield said in a teleconference call from Houston on Wednesday.

"I have the ultimate respect for Bowe in the ring." The two men have split their two previous fights, considered among the best heavyweight encounters in recent years.

Bowe, 37-1, won the first fight on November 13, 1992, out-pointing Holyfield to win the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation crowns. Holyfield, 31-2, responded twelve months later, by taking back the same two belts with a decision victory.

But Holyfield lost the titles to Michael Moorer. "There is no doubt that

Bowe is one of the most talented big guys who has put on the gloves and when you get a big guy who is talented, you have to be on or you are going to get wiped out," said Holyfield.

Holyfield's disposition to take on the biggest challenge available does not surprise his promoter Dino Duva.

"He is the kind of person who always wants the best and toughest fights out there," said Duva.

Holyfield retired with a suspected heart ailment after losing to Bowe. But doctors gave him clearance to continue his career and Holyfield beat the tough Ray Mercer in a decision five months ago.

"After the Mercer fight he said that he didn't want to mess around with little fights anymore," Duva said.

Bowe has stopped 31 opponents under the distance, including Cuban Jorge Gonzalez, who he destroyed in June with a sixth-round knockout.

"In this fight, you will see me doing whatever it takes to win, whether it is brawling or boxing," said Holyfield, whose combative spirit often has pushed him into brawls he should have avoided.

"I think you will see a combination of both because against a guy like Bowe, a one dimensional fight is out of the picture."

Chang, rated fifth in the world, beat the 110th-ranked Briton 6-3, 6-2 in 51 minutes to enter the quarter-finals.

Chang sticks the course

BEIJING, Oct 20: American top seed Michael Chang beat Englishman Jeremy Bates in a battle of the baseliners in the second round of the Beijing Open tennis tournament here on Thursday, reports AFP.

Chang, rated fifth in the world, beat the 110th-ranked Briton 6-3, 6-2 in 51 minutes to enter the quarter-finals.

English soccer clubs get more options

LONDON, Oct 20: English Premier League clubs backed a move on Thursday which will allow them to name five substitutes per match next season, reports Reuter.

The proposal, passed at the clubs' annual autumn meeting, means managers will go into games with a much stronger tactical hand, although they will still only be able to send three substitutes into action in any one match.

Although most clubs were in agreement with the proposal, Alan Ball, whose Manchester City team are bottom of the league with only one point from the nine games, was against the idea.

He said, "The rule change would help the Newcastle, Arsenal and Manchester Uniteds who can keep big squads but won't be much help to the Coventrys or Southamptons of this world."

Premier League chief executive Rick Parry welcomed the move, claiming that the benefits would outweigh the drawbacks.

He said, "We feel that this will give more flexibility to managers, end the dilemma of whether to put keepers on the substitutes' bench and bring us in line with the rules governing European competitions. I believe it is a positive and progressive step."

Shilton's sigh of relief

MANCHESTER, England, Oct 20: Former England goalkeeper Peter Shilton escaped having to petition for bankruptcy on Thursday when creditors accepted his proposals to pay off debts estimated at 448,000 pounds (704,300 dollars), reports Reuter.

Shilton, 46, and his wife Sue, owe the money to a number of creditors and the player said they had "got into a bit of a hole with property."

Shilton, who was estimated to have been earning 250,000 pounds (400,000 dollars) a year at the peak of his career, once owned three luxury homes and race horses.

"I am absolutely delighted that my creditors have supported my proposals," he said after meeting them at an accountants office in Manchester.

"This agreement will enable me to arrange my finances to the benefit of all concerned."

"I am also grateful to my creditors for their understanding and co-operation and I now look forward to the future with great confidence."

Shilton's financial troubles began about three years ago.

"I got into a bit of a hole with property. That resulted in financial pressure. I tried to keep things going as best I could, but things came to a head."

Shilton, who recently renewed his contract with Coventry City as reserve goalkeeper, said he had experience with promotional and TV work.

"Obviously, that side of thing has been dormant for the past three years. I believe I can do a lot more than I have been doing."

During his 30-year career Shilton won a record 125 England caps, which was also a world record until earlier this year.

Shilton made his first class debut with Leicester City in May 1966, and has made a record 996 English league appearances for Leicester, Stoke, Southampton, Derby, Nottingham Forest, Plymouth and Bolton.

He played in the semi-finals of the World Cup with England in 1990.

USA2 team take Bermuda Bowl title

BEIJING, Oct 20: The USA2 team fended off a spirited last-day comeback by Canada today to win the Bermuda Bowl men's bridge championship in Beijing, reports Reuter.

The US team started the day with a 75-point lead but the Canadians paired that to just 26 points with one 16-board stanza to go. USA2 held their own in the final stanza to take the championship 338-295.

Germany won the Venice Cup women's championship on Thursday evening, beating USA1 312-248.

Organisers called the event a big success, with a large local audience and live coverage of some sessions on national television.

Bridge is already popular in China, counting paramount leader Deng Xiaoping among its leading fans.



Mike Tyson seems to indicate 'everything's fire' while having his hands wrapped by Stacey McKinnley during a public workout session outside the MGM Grand Theme Park in Las Vegas on Oct 19.