

**No new face in India's WC team**

BANGALORE, Jan 22: India named three spinners in their 14-man squad today for the cricket World Cup starting on February 14, reports Reuter.

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble, left-arm spinner Venkatesh Prasad and off-spinner Aashish Kapoor were in the team which contained no surprises.

"We do not want to experiment for the World Cup," chief Indian selector Gundappa Vishwanath said, adding the selectors had stuck to a proven formula.

The squad will attend a conditioning camp until February 2 before dispersing for six days of rest and re-assembling at Calcutta on February 9.

**SQUAD**

Mohammad Azharuddin (captain), Sachin Tendulkar, Manoj Prabhakar, Ajay Jadeja, Navjot Sidhu, Vinod Kambli, Sanjay Manjrekar, Nayan Mongia (wicketkeeper), Aashish Kapoor, Javagal Srinath, Anil Kumble, Venkatesh Prasad, Venkatesh Raju, Salil Ankola.

**S Africa name WC squad**

PORT ELIZABETH, Jan 21: South Africa on Sunday included teenage wrist-spinner Paul Adams in their 14-man squad for next month's World Cup tournament in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, reports Reuter.

The 19-year-old bowler with a unique action who only recently began playing first-class cricket, had been viewed as something of a selection gamble because of his relative inexperience.

Adams, man-of-the-match in South Africa's 14-run victory over England in the sixth one-day international on Friday, was named in the squad after South Africa's 64-run win over England in the seventh and final match at St George's Park on Sunday.

Seamer Fanie de Villiers, who missed the entire Test series because of a groin strain, was included in the squad. But there was no place for hard-hitting all-rounder Adrian Kuiper — named man-of-the-match on Sunday for his unbeaten 61 from 66 deliveries.

Wicketkeeper Dave Richardson, who broke a finger during South Africa's win on Friday, has been replaced by Steve Palfreman.

**SQUAD**

Hansie Cronje (captain), Craig Matthews, Gary Kirsten, Andrew Hudson, Jacques Kallis, Daryll Cullinan, Jonty Rhodes, Brian McMillan, Shaun Pollock, Steve Palfreman, Pat Simcox, Fanie de Villiers, Allan Donald, Paul Adams.

**Kiwis firm in control**



AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 22: New Zealand wiped out a 75 run first innings deficit against Zimbabwe on the third day of the second Test here Monday and at the close had scored 138 without losing a wicket, report agencies.

Craig Spearman was 71 not out and Roger Twose 57 not out, giving New Zealand a lead of 63 runs.

New Zealand trailed by 75 runs on the first innings after Zimbabwe reached 326 for nine in the morning session.

Spearman completed his first Test half-century, while former English professional Twose's third Test half-century had taken him four hours and came from over 200 balls.

Their unbroken stand represents the first century opening partnership for New Zealand since John Wright and Mark Greatbatch put on 111 against Australia in 1993. Spearman said the pair had batted with the intention of occupying the crease for as long as possible.

"The batsmen had a meeting and decided that the game was pretty well advanced after two days — with all but both innings over — and the most important thing was that we batted for time," Spearman said.

"We want to get into such a strong position that we

can't lose, and hopefully press on for a win.

"If we hadn't batted for a long time today we could have been in some trouble." Zimbabwe earlier took a useful first innings lead as their lower-order scored impressively.

Leading Zimbabwe batsman David Houghton had to retire hurt on 104 — his foot in plaster after being hit by a ball from Robert Kennedy — but the Zimbabwe tail-enders added 95 for the last two wickets.

Eddo Brandes made a hard-hitting 39, including two sixes, as he added 79 in 81 minutes with Paul Strang. He hit sixes off Kennedy and Dipak Patel before he was caught by Nathan Astle trying to hit a ball from Patel out of the ground.

Paul Strang made a hard-fought 44 before he, too, hit a ball from Patel in the air, where Adam Parore took the catch at mid-wicket.

Bryan Strang was not out on 14 when the innings ended.

For New Zealand, Geoff Allott took three for 56 and Chris Cairns had two for 92. Patel was very expensive, his two late wickets costing 60 runs off 12 overs.

Gavin Larsen had one for 30 off 21 overs and Kennedy a disappointing one for 73.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard at tea on the

third day of the second Test between New Zealand and Zimbabwe at Eden Park here Monday:

**NEW ZEALAND:** First innings 251 (Parore 84, Cairns 57, Strang 3-50, B Strang 3-64).

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>ZIMBABWE:</b> First innings (overnight 231-7) | 5   |
| G Flower lbw b Allott                            | 2   |
| Carlisle c Astle b Kennedy                       | 27  |
| Whittall c Gernon b Cairns                       | 104 |
| Houghton retired hurt                            | 35  |
| A Flower lbw b Allott                            | 7   |
| Campbell lbw b Allott                            | 7   |
| Wishart b Larsen                                 | 7   |
| Strang b Cairns                                  | 2   |
| P Strang c Parore b Patel                        | 44  |
| Brandes c Astle b Patel                          | 39  |
| B Strang not out                                 | 14  |
| Extras: (1b, 11b, 6nb, 2w)                       | 326 |
| Total:   | 326 |

Fall of wickets: 1-5; 2-38; 3-50; 4-138; 5-196; 6-217; 7-222; 8-310; 9-326.

|                 |    |    |    |   |
|-----------------|----|----|----|---|
| <b>BOWLING:</b> | O  | M  | R  | W |
| Cairns          | 31 | 12 | 92 | 2 |
| Allott          | 23 | 7  | 56 | 3 |
| Kennedy         | 20 | 3  | 73 | 1 |
| Patel           | 12 | 0  | 60 | 2 |
| Larsen          | 21 | 8  | 30 | 1 |
| Astle           | 3  | 1  | 3  | 0 |

**NEW ZEALAND:** Second innings: Spearman not out 71, Twose not out 57, Extras: (b-4, lb-6) total (for no wkt, 64 overs) 138.

|                 |    |   |    |   |
|-----------------|----|---|----|---|
| <b>BOWLING:</b> | O  | M | R  | W |
| Strang          | 12 | 3 | 29 | 0 |
| Brandes         | 7  | 2 | 21 | 0 |
| B Strang        | 16 | 5 | 18 | 0 |
| Whittall        | 7  | 3 | 11 | 0 |
| Strang          | 20 | 5 | 46 | 0 |
| Campbell        | 2  | 0 | 3  | 0 |

**Dowling's belated wisdom**



MELBOURNE, Jan 22: International Cricket Council match referee Graham Dowling will attempt to mediate a peace between Australian and Sri Lankan cricketers after a serious deterioration in relations, the Australian newspaper reported on Monday, report agencies.

Dowling, who has overseen the current controversial Test series between the two sides, intervened after Australia's win in an acrimonious World Series limited overs final on Saturday.

"Clearly tensions have been building during the series. Behind the scenes, every effort has been made to settle things down, clear the air," Dowling was quoted as saying.

Dowling will meet with senior players and team management from both sides before the third and final Test, starting in Adelaide on Thursday, the paper said. Australia lead the series 2-0 and also won the one-day series which also included the West Indies.

"I've got to try and get to the nub of the problem — problems, plural — so that we can get on and have a good Test match to round off the series," Dowling told the paper.

Australia beat the Sri Lankans by eight runs on Saturday in an ill-tempered one-day match at the Sydney Cricket Ground that featured several heated and ugly exchanges between the players.

Australian skipper Mark Taylor had asked for Sri Lanka's off-field woes not to interfere with the on-field relations between the two teams, which had been good until Saturday night's second final of the World Series limited-overs tournament in Sydney.

The rain-affected match was marred by a heated clash between Australian wicket-keeper Ian Healy and Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga, while Australian fast bowler Glenn McGrath deliberately obstructed Sri Lankan batsman Sanath Jayasuriya as he went for a run.

After the game, vice-captain Aravinda de Silva refused to shake hands with Taylor.

The Sri Lankans already are in Adelaide preparing for the third Test against Australia, which begins on Thursday.

Sri Lankan officials have said they want to meet with ACB officials and International Cricket Council match referee Graham Dowling of New Zealand before the match to discuss several problems which have arisen on their tour.

Australia's three-Test series against the Sri Lankans has been overshadowed by several controversial incidents. The tourists were found guilty and then exonerated of ball-tempering during last month's first Test in Perth. Off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was subsequently no-balled for throwing during the second Test in Melbourne later in the month.

Both incidents prompted swift protestations of innocence from the Sri Lankan camp.

But cricket buffs across the world were taken aback with the dubious role of ICC and ACB in defusing the dispute.

**Gritty Woodforde downs Philippoussis**

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

Mark Philippoussis, who stunned the tennis world by beating world No. 1 Pete Sampras on Saturday, surprised his admirers again, only 48 hours later, as he was sent on his bike by Mark Woodforde — another Australian, in the fourth round of the Australian Open.

The veteran from the southern city of Adelaide turned 31 last September, had a foolproof game-plan against his 19-year-old opponent. And he executed it meticulously giving no chance to Philippoussis to stage a comeback at any point in the game.

A master 'doubles' player Woodforde reached highest singles ranking in his career in March 1993 which was 21. But with Todd Woodbridge he has an outstanding 22-4 lifetime record in doubles finals.

It was beyond anybody's imagination that Philippoussis would be defeated by an opponent who was a good 11 years older than him.

As the match started in the Centre Court it soon became obvious that Philippoussis was not his usual self. His ground strokes betrayed him and his service games were broken by Woodforde with consummate ease. Philippoussis himself admitted after the match that he had taken the encounter lightly and paid the price. One can very well argue that he was not as fired up as he was against Sampras and he had spent all his energy in that all important match. The margin does not reflect the talent Philippoussis has but it definitely portrays the grit and determination that Woodforde showed (6-2, 6-2, 6-2).

Woodforde now moves into the quarter-finals.

**Valdano pays the price**

MADRID, Jan 22: It took only seven months for Jorge Valdano to go from darling to despised, reports AP.

Less than a year after the 39-year-old Argentine coach restored Real Madrid to their past glory with a 26th Spanish league title, Valdano was sacked Sunday following the club's 2-1 loss to lowly cross-town rival Rayo Vallecano.

As the losses and disappointing results mounted, the criticism increased geometrically. Sunday's loss combined with Wednesday's defeat and elimination from the King's Cup by Espanyol was too much for club management.

**Villa close the gap**

LONDON, Jan 22: A superbly struck angled shot by Dwight Yorke 11 minutes from time gave Aston Villa a 2-1 win over Tottenham in a pulsating English premier league match on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The victory lifted Villa from ninth to fifth and denied Spurs the chance to move into second place behind Newcastle.

Newcastle, who beat Bolton 2-1 on Saturday, lead the standings with 54 points, followed by Liverpool and Manchester United on 42 and Spurs on 41. Villa are on 39.

**Nations' Cup Ivory Coast in with a chance**

PORT ELIZABETH, Jan 22: Ivory Coast kept alive their hopes of qualifying for the last eight of the African Nations' Cup with a 1-0 victory over Mozambique at Voet Erasmus on Sunday, reports Reuter.

A 33rd minute goal from Ivory Coast captain Joel Tiedi gave his side the points in their Group D match.

Ghana lead the standings with six points from their opening two games, followed by Ivory Coast with three and Tunisia and Mozambique with one each.

Wednesday's final round of matches sees Mozambique playing already-qualified Ghana and Tunisia meeting Ivory Coast.

Ivory Coast's goal on Sunday came after a goalmouth scramble which drew Mozambique goalkeeper Rui Alves off his line, a speculative ball across the area from Tchirrasoa Guel found Tiedi unmarked six metres out and he made no mistake.

In the second half Jojo's run into the box was ended by a foul, but Mozambique's claims for a penalty fell on the deaf ears of referee Gama Ghandour from Egypt.

Alves kept his side's hopes alive with two saves from Tiedi in the 40th minute. The second was a brilliant reflex effort at point blank range.

Guel had a chance to make the game safe in the 79th minute when he collected a clever through from Badra Aliou Siby inside the box, but Alves was on hand again with a fine save.

Mozambique now face the unenviable task of beating tournament favourites Ghana in order to stay in the competition.

**Woody tames a toughie**



MELBOURNE, Jan 22: Teen sensation Mark Philippoussis, flying high after conquering Pete Sampras, was

shot down Monday by the slicing and softballing of wily veteran Mark Woodforde in the Australian Open, report agencies.

Philippoussis, who never dropped service in knocking Sampras out of the No 1 ranking two days earlier, was broken seven times in his 6-2, 6-2, 6-2 loss.

Australian fans thus had one of their native sons in the quarterfinals, but not the one many thought had the weapons to become the first Australian winner at the Open since Mark Edmondson in 1976.

This was the first time Woodforde, 30, one of the

While German fourth seed Boris Becker flirted with danger against New Zealand's Brett Steven dropping a set before storming home to seal his place in the last eight.

World number four Becker beat the 37th ranked Steven 1-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 in two hours 16 minutes, completing the match with an ace to set up a quarterfinal clash with Russia's world number six Yevgeny Kafelnikov.

Becker looked out of sorts in the first set, losing five straight games and allowing the athletic Steven to take control at the net.

But as so often with Becker, he got a grip on himself and his game, using lightning reflexes at the net and booming aces on the important points to put Steven on the back-foot and transform the match, running away with the next three

against Woodforde — nearly off-set by eight double faults.

Woodforde blocked back some of his fastest serves, retrieved other tough shots, hit low slices that Philippoussis couldn't tee off on, and at other times set him back with high topspins.

"It was very hard for me, after beating Sampras, to come back," Philippoussis said. "I think I maybe went on a bit too relaxed. When things didn't go too well at the start, I couldn't pump myself up (even though) it was a big occasion for me, one of the biggest matches of my life, to get into the quarterfinals of the Australian Open."

Woodforde agreed that "the deflating wasn't the same player who played Pete Sampras." But, he added, "he's such a great player that I think you should all just forget about this match and look forward to him playing much, much better tennis."

Woodforde, who is ranked No 67 to Philippoussis' 40, "wasn't scared at all," of the big teen. "I've beaten him in practice," Woodforde said, adding that his experience in playing against Philippoussis in doubles had helped in figuring out his serve.

At the end, "I was trying to blink away the tears," Woodforde said. "I was really overcome out there."

He rejected what he called "the myth in tennis that after age, 25, if you haven't reached the top 10 you're nothing."

Becker, in his match, put his first set drubbing down to difficulty in fathoming out Steven's weaknesses because he had only played him once before in 1994, a match the New Zealander won.

"I really had to think hard and dig deeper," said Becker who described the turning point as breaking Steven's serve while down a break at 2-3 in the second set.

"It was a good thing I broke him right back. All of a sudden my game was a notch better."

Becker, who also had two nail-biting five setters on his way to the last 16, has now posted his best performance at an Australian Open since winning the title in 1991.

Becker joins Kafelnikov, world number two Andre Agassi, world number five Michael Chang, eighth seed Jim Courier, unseeded Australian Mark Woodforde, and Swedes Thomas Enqvist and Mikael Tillstrom.



World No. 4 Boris Becker is all concentration as he hits a forehand against Brett Steven in their fourth round game at the Aussie Open in Melbourne on January 22. Becker overcame an early setback winning 1-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2. — AFP/UNB photo

**Teens ring the changes**



MELBOURNE, Jan 22: Swiss teenage prodigy Martina Hingis upset the script at the Australian Open today with a light-hearted demolition of 11th seed Brenda Schultz-McCarthy, reports Reuter.

Unseeded Hingis, who even served under-arm at one stage, reached her first Grand Slam quarterfinals, becoming the youngest woman to achieve the feat in Australian Open history.

Hingis, 15, obviously enjoyed herself in beating her big Dutch opponent 6-1, 6-4, in 59 minutes on Centre Court to provide the day's only surprise in the fourth round of the women's draw at Flinders Park.

Second seed Conchita Martinez of Spain, eighth-seeded German Anke Huber and South African Amanda Coetzer, seeded 16, all progressed to the last eight with comfortable straight-set wins.

Hingis, who smiled and giggled throughout her match, joined fellow teenagers Iva Majoli of Croatia and American Chanda Rubin in the quarterfinals as the younger generation issued their challenge to American top seed Monica Seles.

Schultz-McCarthy, the only seed to fall today showed little resistance despite hitting the fastest serve ever recorded in a women's tournament — a 196 kph (121.8 mph) delivery.

In sharp contrast, Hingis tried to trick her opponent with a gentle under-arm serve at 5-1 in the first set.

"She was standing maybe three metres behind the baseline, so it was fun," said Hingis, whose cheeky tactic failed to win her the point.

"I played very well," said Hingis, who eclipsed the record of American Jennifer Capriati, a quarterfinalist here in 1992 two months before her 16th birthday.

"I did not make many mistakes and I kept the pressure on her," said Hingis, who turns 16 in September.

Schultz-McCarthy, a relative veteran at the age of 25 and a friend of Hingis, was not upset by her opponent's quirky serve. "She's just a little girl and she is enjoying her tennis. It's just fun for her," said Schultz-McCarthy.

Martinez had surprisingly little difficulty in overwhelming American tenth seed Lindsay Davenport 6-3, 6-1 in an earlier match on Centre Court.

Davenport, a losing finalist against Seles at the Peters International tournament in Sydney eight days ago, failed to cope with a succession of sliced shots by Martinez, ranked number two behind joint number ones Seles and Germany's Steffi Graf.

"I was moving her around with my slice and she made some mistakes," said Martinez, who will meet Huber for a place in the semifinals.

Huber booked her passage with a comfortable 6-3, 6-2 victory over unseeded Austrian Barbara Schett.

Coetzer, who has rebuilt her game over the past two years in a bid to compete with a new band of hard-hitting teenagers, reaped the reward by reaching her second Grand Slam quarterfinal.

Coetzer defeated Russian Elena Likhovtseva 6-3, 6-3 to equal her achievement at the US Open two years ago and set up a meeting with Hingis.

**Yevgeny aming No one**



MELBOURNE, Jan 22: Refreshingly confident Yevgeny Kafelnikov cherishes the dream of becoming world No 1 even for "one second" as

he continues his bid for his first Grand Slam title at the Australian Open, reports AFP.

The sixth seeded Russian steamed into the quarterfinals — his fourth in his last five Slams — by taking out American Malival Washington, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 in 113 minutes on Centre Court Monday.

Kafelnikov will face either fourth-seed Boris Becker or New Zealander Brett Steven in the quarterfinals.

One of the hardest workers on the men's tour, playing a total of 171 singles and doubles matches last year, Kafelnikov covets the ambition of attaining the number one ranking, even ahead of a Grand Slam crown.

"I would like to get to number one spot, even for one week, that's my goal ... even for one minute, one second, I would like to be there, just to remember," said Kafelnikov.

Fortright and confident in his own abilities, 21-year-old Kafelnikov typically fired straight from the hip after his latest victory here, declaring: "I feel I can really win this one."

"I don't feel the same way in the French Open when I was in the semi-finals against Thomas Muster, like I feel right now."

Kafelnikov, who knocked top seed Andre Agassi out in the quarters of last year's French Open, is relieved to see the back of world No 1 Pete Sampras in his half of the draw here.

"The player who I have never beaten, Pete Sampras, is out of the tournament," he said. "Everybody else I have beaten, so why can't I win the Australian Open?"



KALASHNIKOV ON FIRE... World No. 6 Yevgeny Kafelnikov, nicknamed "the Kalashnikov" after the famous Russian rifle, jubilates after winning his fourth round match at the Australian Open in Melbourne on January 22. The young Russian is set to take on Boris Becker's blitzkrieg in the quarters. — AFP/UNB photo

**Spain surprise India**

BARCELONA, Jan 22: In sharp contrast to their glorious 4-1 win over the Netherlands on Sunday, India did not have a shot on target in a tepid 0-0 draw with Spain in the men's Olympic hockey qualifying tournament today, reports Reuter.

The result brought to an end Spain's 100 per cent start to the competition after two wins, but with five points they stay top of the standings. India, still unbeaten after their opening three matches, moved into second place with four points.

Unbeaten Britain defeated Belarus 4-1 to move up to third place. Belarus have no points after three games.

**US secure 3rd spot**

LOS ANGELES, Jan 22: The United States, led by a goal from all-time American top scorer Eric Wynalda, defeated Guatemala 3-0 to take third place in the CONCACAF Gold Cup on Sunday, reports Reuter.

In the match between the losing semifinalists, the Americans, who lost disappointingly to Brazil 1-0 on Friday, were made to work for their victory by a dogged Guatemala, who had lost 1-0 to Mexico on Friday.

With rain pouring down on a sell-out crowd of more than 80,000, passing was made difficult by huge puddles on the field and skilled play was almost impossible.

It was not until three minutes from the end, that the Americans could breathe easily, when Manchester United's Jovan Korovski coolly sidefooted home after running onto a Claudio Reyna pass that split the defence.

In the 24th minute Guatemalas Juan Carlos Plata broke down the left and his low cross was met by a stretching Jorge Rodas, but the ball rolled just wide, with Keller beaten.

The US stormed back in the driving rain and first Wynalda scored with a downward header from a Reyna cross in the 34th minute. The goal was his 22nd and gave Wynalda the all-time record for goals for the US national team.

Then three minutes later, Cobi Jones broke on the right, his cross was back-heeled out by a defender and Jeff Agos was on the spot to power home from 25 yards.

**European leagues**

**Leaders latch on to top slot**



PARIS, Jan 22: Paris St Germain saw their lead cut to four points in the French First Division when they managed only a 1-1 draw with Le Havre after conceding a last-minute goal from a free-kick just outside the area, reports AFP.

Metz took full advantage. They moved two points closer by beating Strasbourg 2-1 — their goals coming from Cyrille Pouget and Samba N'Diaye.