

An all-Spanish affair

UMAG, Croatia, Aug 18: Carlos Moya dominated Christian Ruud of Norway in 53 minutes Saturday, winning 6-1, 6-2 to set up an all-Spanish final at the 400,000 dollars Croatia Open, reports AP.

The fourth-seeded Moya finished off with an ace to advance to play third-seeded countryman Felix Mantilla, who led Slava Dosedel 4-2 when the Czech retired in the first set with back pain.

Ruud seemed unable to control Moya's very heavy forehand.

"As long as that forehead works... it will be easy for me to win," Moya said.

Dosedel started out strongly against Mantilla, winning 10 of the first 12 points and leading 2-0. However, he quickly developed intense back pain, which he said was caused by a minor ankle injury sustained Friday forcing him to lean on his left leg more.

Sunday's final will be Moya's third and Mantilla's sixth on the ATP tour. It also will be the sixth all-Spanish final on the men's circuit this year.

Also Saturday, Carlos Costa of Spain, who was fined 10,000 dollars because his racket hit the line judge in a head last Thursday, issued an apology.

"I regret my action and would like to apologise," Costa said in a statement, distributed to reporters.

Costa said he "involuntarily" hit the line judge after losing control of a racket, as he hit the ball out of the court. He added that he suffered from stomach pains and dizziness and acted that way "due to my frustration at not being able to win... due to pain."

"I am morally destroyed after the incident and I feel more hurt than anybody else," Costa wrote.

Post-Olympic job hunt on

ATLANTA, Aug 18: Olympic workers, their tenure brought to a close by the completion of the Atlanta Summer Games, showed up Saturday for a job fair arranged with the help of their former employer, reports AP.

About 100 of the workers showed their desire to find new jobs by lining up a half-hour before the job fair opened at the former Olympic Welcome Centre.

Hundreds more, all former or soon-to-be former employees of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games and some still wearing a heavy necklace of Olympic identification cards, came after the 9 a.m. opening.

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Most of the workers are management-technical or white-collar. Manual labour or blue-collar jobs were filled during the Games by a temporary staffing service.

In addition to the fair, an employment office at ACOG headquarters will remain open until October, said Linda Kammer-Tiffan, a spokeswoman for Drake Beam Morin, which is providing the service.

Leverkusen dump Dortmund

BONN, Aug 18: Two early goals by Bayer Leverkusen set them up for a 4-2 victory over champions Borussia Dortmund in their opening Bundesliga match on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Leverkusen were 2-0 up after the first seven minutes through goals by Paulo Sergio and Ulf Kirsten.

Dortmund, hit by injuries to German internationals Matthias Sammer, Steffen Freund and Karl-Heinz Riedle as well as newcomers Paulo Sousa and Rene Schneider, hit back before the interval to level the scores.

Scottish newcomer Paul Lambert scored from a magnificent cross from Stephane Chapuisat and five minutes later Ghanian Ibrahim Tanko, making his first appearance since October, added the second.

But Holger Fach restored Leverkusen's lead shortly after the interval and nine minutes from the end Rene Rydlewicz took advantage of Dortmund's, shaky defence to add the fourth.

Championship favourites Bayern Munich made a goos start to their season on Friday when they beat St Pauli 2-1 at home.

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Giovane Elber, Matthias Hagner, Krassimir Balakov and German international Fredi Bobic provided the goals.

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But a penalty by Alain Sutter four minutes from time sealed victory.

Munich 1860 had a comfortable 2-1 win over Hamburg with Bernhard Winkler scoring twice, one of them for the penalty spot. Hamburg's only success came through an own goal by Marco Walker four minutes from the end.

Singer tones up World Series

Sports Reporter

Singer has announced prize money for the Singer World Series 1996 — cricket tournament to be held in Sri Lanka from August 26 to September 7. This will be Singer's fourth

innings, having already organised the four-nation World Series Cup 1994 in Sri Lanka, the triangular Champions Trophy 1995 in Sharjah and the triangular Singer Cup 1996 in Singapore earlier this year.

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1 9 9 6

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Harden's ton halts Kent

LONDON, Aug 18: Somerset's Richard Harden scored his first century of the county championship season to thwart title-seeking Kent's chances of victory at Canterbury on Saturday, reports Reuters.

In other matches, Derbyshire, Warwickshire and Lancashire put themselves in match winning positions after three days play.

Harden batted 458 minutes for his 136, made off 399 balls with 18 fours, to help Somerset reach 389 for eight, still 78 short of the follow-on target.

He had strong support from left-hander Simon Eccleston, who hit a career-best 94 in only his third county game of the season.

Devon Malcolm and Phillip DeFreitas put title contenders Derbyshire on course for victory at Derby.

Faced with a target of 402, Nottinghamshire collapsed from 43 without loss to 72 for four by the close after Malcolm and DeFreitas took two wickets each.

Kim Barnett, with his first century since the opening match of the season, and Chris Adams, with his fifth first-class hundred of the county season, but Derbyshire on their way by plundering 177 for the second wicket.

Andy Afford took six for 87 in Derbyshire's total of 377 for eight declared.

Gloucestershire's last pair of Robert Croft and Owen Parkinson cost Warwickshire the chance of a day off with a partnership of 77 at Edgbaston.

The champions seemed set for victory in three days until Croft smashed 78 off 94 balls while Parkinson made only one scoring shot, an edge for four, in their 18 overs together.

When Croft mistimed a pull off Tim Munton after hitting seven fours and three sixes, Glamorgan had reached 419, setting Warwickshire a target of just 136. They were 11 without loss at the close.

England spinner Phil Tufnell hit a maiden half-century and shared in a century last-wicket stand to cap an astonishing Middlesex tail-end revival against Worcestershire at Lord's.

Tufnell reached his maiden 50th in his 12th over and, at the declaration on 352 for nine, was not out.

The Middlesex number 11 combined with John Carr in a stand of 101 — the county's first century stand for the last wicket in 15 years. Middlesex at one stage were 167 for six.

John Crawley hit a timely reminder to England's Test selectors with his first century of the season against Hampshire at Old Trafford.

Crawley scored an unbeaten 100 as Lancashire made 306 for five declared and Hampshire, having been set a victory target of 415, were 21 for one at the close.

As soon as I started to serve good in the beginning of the match, I knew it was going to be a good match for me," Ivanisevic said. "I was very confident."

Commemorative gold coins struck for the Atlanta Olympics appear to have boosted recent demand for the metal in the United States.

While the world's costliest footballer was getting little change out of an Everton defence, Ravanelli was making merry on his Premier league debut for Middlesbrough with a hat-trick against Liverpool, reports Reuters.

It was a stunning performance by the Italian, one of a batch of foreigners who are plying their skills in the English game this season.

But the player who cost seven million pounds (10.8 million dollars) from Juventus — less than half the sum Newcastle parted with for Shearer — was philosophical about his instant stardom at Middlesbrough.

"I am a professional and the goals will come," he said. "I never put a target on the number 11 score."

"The other players in the team are more important to me than goals."

"It was a very interesting day but it would have been much better if we had won."

It took a late strike from

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