# SL-Zimbabwe tie today

SINGER WORLD SERIES

Sports Reporter

World Champions Sri Lanka take on lowly Zimbabwe today in their last league match of the four-nation Singer World Series at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground in Colombo.

For Sri Lanka, who already have ensured their place in the September 7 final, it will be nothing but icing on the cake as their World Cup warriors are in the finest nick of time. But, for Zimbabwe, the only team left without a win, it will be their last chance to garner some unlikely consolation before bowing out of the tournament.

The unheralded Zimbabweans, who lost their previous matches to India and Australia will be led by Alister Campbell while Arjuna Ranatunga will skipper the islanders.

Star Sports will televise the match live from Colombo, beginning at 10 am (BST).

The two other contenders in the tourney, India and Australia will lock horns on September 5 to sort out the other finalists alongside the

## Cairns carves Notts' win

LONDON, Sept 2: New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns took four for 26 on Sunday as Nottinghamshire secured a comfortable win over Kent to maintain the pressure on Sunday League leaders Yorkshire, reports Reuter.

A fiery spell from Cairns at Tunbridge Wells reduced Kent to 34 for six at one stage before Graham Cowdrey (38) helped last year's champions to a paltry 99 all out.

Nottinghamshire easily scored the winning runs for the loss of only three wickets with 16 overs in hand.

We put the ball in the right places, it swung and seamed and we got our rewards, said Nottinghamshire skipper Paul Johnson." That makes it seven games unbeaten and with two left against Leicestershire and Yorkshire we'd like to make it nine."

Yorkshire retained their two-point lead at the top of the table over Nottinghamshire. Surrey and Northamptonshire after England discard Craig White helped dismiss Essex for 108 with four for 21 from his eight overs.

Captain David Byas ensured his team's eighth victory in nine matches with an unbeaten 40 in the six-wicket victory at

Headingley. Surrey and Northamptonshire kept their hopes alive with wins over Warwickshire and Gloucestershire respec-

# Karachi to host NEW YORK, Sept World Open squash in Nov

KARACHI, Sept 2: The Pak istan Squash Federation (PSF) announced Sunday the next World Open championship will be held in Karachi in November with total prize money of 120,000 dollars, reports AFP.

All top players are expected to participate in the November 17-22 championship, it said.

PSF's senior vice president Air Marshal Ali Uddin said preparations for the championship were going on smoothly.

Pakistan has previously organised two World Championships in 1984 and 1993. "None has indicated to us

that he is not going to partieipate in the championship due to law and order situation in Karachi. Things are normal especially when we see the recent matches of the sixth cricket World Cup were held here in very good atmosphere." Ali

"This championship is also going to help us in finding a successor to Jansher." Ali said. At present only two Pakistani players, world champion Jansher Khan and Zarak Khan. are in the top 10 ranking in the international Squash circuit.

Pakistan's junior team ranked third in the Junior World Championship held in Cairo this year.

# Milan to miss Baresi

MILAN, Sept 2: AC Milan's veteran captain Franco Baresi will be out for a month after twisting his left ankle in an Italian Cup victory on Sunday. doctors said, reports Reuter.

The former international defender sustained the injury in the 28th minute of Milan's 2-0 victory over Empoli in a second-round cup replay and will miss start of the Serie A season next week.

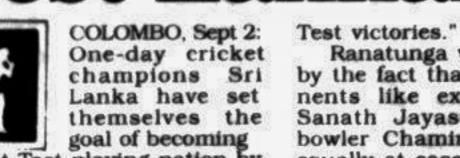
We'll be missing a man who's crucial to the defence." Milan's new Uruguayan coach Oscar Tabarez said.

Milan were held to a 1-1 draw by Empoli in their first encounter but in the return they outclassed opponents who have just been promoted to the Second Division.

Marco Simone scored Milan's goals in the seventh and 41st minutes.

Liberian striker George Weah, the world player of the year who has been struggling to rediscover his form, came on for 15 minutes in the second half.

# Test Lankans' next test



the best Test-playing nation by the turn of the century, reports And captain Arjuna Rana-

tunga believes the task can be "We are ready to leave our mark in Test cricket," said the

32-year-old, who has been a part of the national team since Sri Lanka's international debut in 1981. "Winning the World Cup ear-

lier this year was the high point of our cricket and no one can deny that our success was welldeserved," Ranatunga said. "But teams are remembered

more for how they fare in the traditional game than one-day cricket. We want to be the best in Test cricket too.

Sri Lanka took the first step towards achieving that last year when they won their first two Test series abroad in New Zealand and Pakistan.

The victories answered critics like Kapil Dev of India and Pakistan's Imran Khan, who said Sri Lanka would never win abroad because they will not have the support of home um-

The comments followed acrimonious series in Sri Lanka in 1985 and 1986 when India and Pakistan lost Tests marred by controversial decisions.

But Ranaturga said: "No one can afford to take us lightly any more, and that's a good sign," he said. "We now have to translate our one-day success into more

Ranatunga was encouraged by the fact that one-day exponents like explosive opener Sanath Jayasuriya and fast bowler Chaminda Vaas, were equally at ease in the five-day Tests.

"Almost the same combination that plays one-day cricket also features in our Test matches," he said. "They adapt very well to both forms."



ARJUNA RANATUNGA Sri Lanka showed they are the undisputed masters of limited-overs cricket by routing strong opponents Australia and India in the ongoing Singer Cup

tournament here. Left-hander Jayasuriya, who holds world records of the fastest one-day century (48 balls) and fastest fifty (17 balls). has been in rollicking form slamming an unbeaten 120 off 128 balls against India and 44

off 28 balls against Australia.

Jayasuriya's success has not gone unrewarded even outside Sri Lanka. An Indian clothing firm honoured him on Sunday night with a trophy and a wardrobe that would take care of his formal attire for a year.

"Sanath has brought joy to not only Sri Lanka, but cricket fans around the world," company head Rakesh Biyani said while making the presentation. The Sri Lankans are in great demand after the World Cup tri-

umph. The team that earlier complained of a lack of international exposure now have a virtual non-stop schedule for the next three years. They take on Zimbabwe for two Tests soon after the Singer

Cup, then travel to Nairobi for a limited-overs tournament against South Africa, Pakistan and the hosts. In November, Sri Lanka go to Sharjah in the United Arab

Emirates to play Pakistan and

New Zealand in the Champions Trophy. This will be followed by Test series in New Zealand and West Indies from January to March next year, and a limited-overs tournament in May to celebrate

independence. In July, Sri Lanka host the regional Asian Cup tournament before playing a home Test and one-day series against India. Ranatunga dismisses fears

of burn-out, saying the crick-

eters will benefit by the gru-

the 50th anniversary of India's

elling schedule. "The hard work will not kill anyone," said the captain, who wants to play top-level cricket for at least the next three years.

Cricket's greatest year continues its triumphant march on Star Sports with live and exclusive coverage of an exciting and novel concept in cricket: the Hong Kong International Cricket Sixes - the world's largest and most prestigious Sixes competition. Live telecast starts on September 21, 1996 at

11:00 (BST), says a press release. The tournament is a virtual Sixes World Cup featuring as it does teams from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Australia, England, South Africa, West Indies, New Zealand and Hong Kong. While team members are still to be announced, it is expected that South Africa will be sending a full strength squad to defend the title they won last year. With 600,000 Hong Kong dollars at stake as prize money, other nations too are expected to send strong sides.

The fifth edition of the Hong Kong International Cricket Sixes sees a change in venue from the Kowloon Cricket Club to the Hong Kong Stadium in Hong Kong. This change will enhance spectator and viewer enjoyment as the top-class floodlighting facilities in the stadium will make possible day-night fixtures. The prestige of the Hong Kong International Cricket Series is further enhanced by the fact that the International Cricket Council (ICC) accorded official recognition to the tournament.

### TELECAST SCHEDULE (BST)

Hong Kong 11:00-18:30 Cricket 6's Day 1 Hong Kong 8:00—18:00 Cricket 6's Day 2

## Big deal for Thai boxer

BANGKOK, Sept 2: Fresh ports AFP

play the leading role in a historical TV drama about a Thai boxing hero of the 18th century. The Nation reported Monday.

A month after his victory at the Atlanta Games, which he dedicated to the King of Thai-Kanom Thom - a kickboxer who brought fame to Thailand when it was still known as the Kingdom of Siam.

to become an actor - he follows Frank Bruno - Somluck is a comes to the love scenes.

moral support from all my fans during my new career. I don't know how my acting will turn out, but I will try to the best of my ability." he told The Nation. One of his hardest tasks

Somluck, a sailor in the

That Navy, was catapulted to national stardom when he won a points decision over his Bulgarian opponent to win the gold in the flyweight division in the Olympics in August.

He has since been showered with endorsements and gifts. including a two million baht (80,000 dollars) house from the Prime Minister

from an Olympic triumph that earned Thailand's first ever gold medal, featherweight boxer Somluck Kamsing has announced a step that should assure his position in the pantheon of national heroes, re-Blending ringcraft with

stagecraft, the 23-year-old will

land in the monarch's fiftieth anniversary year. Somlack has agreed to play the part of Although not the first boxer

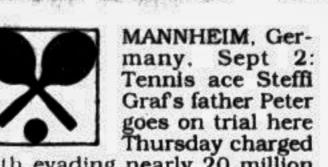
in the footsteps of the British heavyweight pantomime player little nervous about being a thespian, particularly when it I would like to ask for

would be learning how to speak

slowly and clearly, he said.



# HK cricket 6s on Star Sports Grafs' day of reckoning



goes on trial here Thursday charged with evading nearly 20 million marks (13 million dollars) in taxes on his daughter's earnings between 1989 and 1993, reports

The revelations of Graf's fiscal manoeuvrings through a host of foreign bank accounts have made headlines since his arrest a year ago, but the big

question still to be answered is how much Steffi knew about it. The 27-year-old darling of the German public, which considers her the greatest tennis player of all time, has consistently denied knowing how her

father managed the vast fortune

she has acquired on her way to

20 Grand Slam titles. Few people have a kind word to say about Peter Graf, a for-



Lichtenstein and the Netherlands, and then invested in the Dutch West Indies via the Sunpark Sports Company set up in Apart from Steffi's role, the trial of Peter Graf, 60, and his tax adviser Joachim Eckardt should clear up a few other questions, notably the attitude

up in the world only because of

million marks in bail failed to

get him out of jail pending the

Even an offer of up to 15

The figures being bandied

about are dazzling: Steffi Graf is

estimated to have earned more

than 150 million marks (100

million dollars) in prize money

According to German tax au-

his daughter's talent.

of the German authorities. State and federal officials and politicians are suspected of turning a blind eye to the fiddles in order to keep at least some of the cash, and not to see a national heroine decamp to

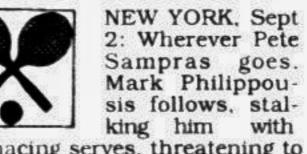
some tax haven. The Popular Press, which agonises over whether Steffi deserves a jail sentence, claims a deal will be done, whereby she will be wiped clear of all suspicion against a payment of just

three million marks. Officially the legal procedures launched in April 1995 after years of warnings, fines and assessments targeted Stefanie Maria Graf, professional tennis player, rather than her father or Eckardt.

But Steffi is not even being called as a witness by the prosecution, while her father seems prepared to take all the blame. However, Eckardt's lawyer is less obliging, saying a fair trial is impossible without her testimony.

## Of the twin tormentors off 18 aces in a 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 rout (219 kmph) serve. When Sam-

THE GRAFS... in happier times



sis follows, stalmenacing serves, threatening to grab a Grand Slam title himself one-day and usurp the No 1 On Sunday they blew past

their third round opponents to set up Sampras vs Philippoussis IV, a sequel with 'Rockey' overtones, report agencies.

Sampras, the defending champion and No. 1 seed reeled



PETE SAMPRAS

of Russian Alexander Volkov on the Stadium Court. Next door on the Grandstand court, the unseeded 19-year-old Philippoussis looked no less impressive with 25 aces in a 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 romp over 1993 finalist and No. 16 seed Cedric Pio-

gives me an opportunity to be that much more aggressive on my return games," said Sampras, who didn't face a break point in the entire match. "My whole game revolves

"When I'm serving that big, it

around my service percentage. If it was like today, I feel I'm tough to beat."

Philippoussis' serve was so intimidating that Pioline flipped his racket around at set point, trailing 40-0, in the second set to try to hit the ball with the handle as if it were a baseball bat. Pioline foul-tipped the ball and lost the set. Sampras and Philippoussis

have played three times in Grand Slam events in the past year: Sampras won here a year ago in a tough, four-setter; Philippoussis blasted him in straight sets on the hardcourt at the Australian Open in January; and Sampras finessed his way to a victory in straight sets on the grass at Wimbledon. The next meeting will be Tuesday.

So far this tournament Philippoussis has popped 78 aces in three matches and set a US Open record with a 137 mph pras became the youngest Open winner at 19 in 1990, he served 100 aces for the whole tournament.

More impressively, the No. 22-ranked Philippoussis is playing smarter tennis than he did at Wimbledon, mixing up the pace, direction and spin of his serves under the tutelage of new coach Peter McNamara. In every facet of his game, from groundstrokes to volleys, Philippoussis has improved since beating Sampras in the Australian.



MARK PHILIPPOUSSIS

# Stefan sticks to his guns

NEW YORK, Sept

2: Stefan Edberg relishes the chase for a seventh Grand Slam title but insists that nothing not even another US Open championship - will change his mind about retirement, report agencies.

Edberg staved calm as evere in his last hurrah Even when caught out of po-

## Five African athletes seek Aussie asylum

SYDNEY. Sept 2: Five African athletes are seeking refugee status in Australia after the world junior athletics championships here, the legal aid commission and media reports said Thursday, reports

The athletes were identified as four Ethiopians and one Somali. SBS television reported that

refugee status because they feared persecution if they returned home. The Sydney Daily Telegraph identified the four as 18-yearold men's 10,000 metre and 5,000 metre runner Sisay Bez-

abeh. 16-year-old men's 1,500

metre runner Mizan Mehari,

the Ethiopians were seeking

16-year-old women's 800 and 1.500 metre runner Sentayehu Fikre and 19-year-old women's 5,000 metre walker Aberash Adera A Somali athlete is also seeking refugee status, the legal aid commission said, but did

not identify the athlete. The rest of the Ethiopian and Somali teams left Australia on Monday following the championships which ended here Sunday

ported

Immigration officials have told the Ethiopian athletes they could stay until their visas expired, but they risked detention while their refugee case was heard, the Daily Telegraph re-

sition, as the Swede was at set point in a tie-breaker, he scampered across the court, chased down a volley and ripped a forehand winner in one of the highlights of a 6-4, 7-6 (7-4), 6-1 victory over Dutchman Paul Haarhuis on Sunday.

Too often, though, the brilliant shots were offset by mediocre ones, and Edberg knew he would have to raise his game to have a chance at a third title here in his 54th consecutive and final Grand Slam



STEFAN EDBERG

In reaching the round of 16. Edberg surpassed his showings in his last three visits to the US. Open — third round losses the past two years and a secondround exit in 1993 after winning the title in 1991 and 1992. Edberg's fourth-round oppo-

nent will be Britain's Tim Henman, who upset 12th seeded Todd Martin 6-2, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4 Sunday night

If Edberg reaches the quarterfinals, he may find himself facing one of the biggest left handed servers in the game. No 4 Goran Ivanisevic, who advanced to the fourth round with a 6 3, 6 2, 7 6 (13 11) victory over Hendrik Preekman

"The way I'm playing, I definitely have a chance of moving forward here into the tournament," said the 30-year-old Edberg, who announced before the season that this would be his last campaign.

"A good thing is that I played

three matches and there hasn't

been any long matches. Physi-

cally, mentally, I feel good about my game. I'm looking forward to the rest of it. Edberg still makes the trip from service line to the net with silky grace and makes the volley as deftly as a fencer going

for the kill. The sting may be gone from his once-biting serve, and endurance may yet come into question, but so far the national Tennis Centre crowds have been enthralled by the farewell performance of the

two-time champion. "At the moment I'm feeling good about my game, and I feel excited being out there," said Edberg.

"When you're playing good tennis, it's such a good feeling. I think in order to come up with some good tennis. I need to be fired up. I need to be excited out there. I need to feel the tension and be part of it. It's important."

Edberg can sense a difference in how he is being treated here. "I think a lot of the players are coming up and saying well done, well played, probably a little more than usual."

"It's going to be really difficult to win it, because everybody keeps asking, "do you feel you have a chance?" "I feel I have a little chance, because so many things can happen." Edberg said winning would

not change his retirement plans. In fact, it would be icing on the cake. "That was the intention, to

go away on a high note," he said. I know that I can't keep going forever, it's just not physically and mentally possible. I want to finish playing good tennis. It's so much nicer to do it that way." "I may have a fantastic end

towards the end here, so much the better," he said. "I'll be so much more happy retiring."

# Goran keeps his cool!

A month after

she surprised the

tennis world by

winning the gold

medal at the Sum-

mer Games, Lindsay Davenport

shocked herself Sunday and the

US Open crowd with a collapse

in the fourth round, reports AP.

Grand Slam victory, Davenport

hit shots all around the court

except inside the lines as her

steadier and more aggressive

compatriot Linda Wild beat her

6-2. 3-6, 6-0, on a packed Sta-

out of it," said the eighth-seeded

Davenport, who hadn't lost a

match since the second round at

Wimbledon. "She started off

playing unbelievable. She was

too good for me. I kind of lost

my confidence in the beginning.

It's definitely a huge disap-

port shed 20 pounds (32 kilo-

grams), the ferocious training

that brought her the gold, the

The diet that helped Daven-

"I don't feel sick, I just feel

dium Court.

pointment.

Hoping for a break through

NEW YORK, Sept Goran Ivanisevic has historically been his own worst enemy at the US Open, losing his temper as well as firstround matches the last two

set tie-breaker.

And though Ivanisevic promptly served up a double fault, this time the incident did not set off a calamitous tantrum.

on the next point followed by a forehand volley winner to wrap up a 6-3, 6-2, 7-6 win over Germany's Hendrik Greekmann to reach the fourth round of the Open for the first time in five years.

mind then," the fourth-seeded Ivanisevic said of his mellow approach. You have to deal with it, you have to stay cool. If I didn't stay cool you can lose the match.

"Maybe I would lose before.

in this match.

Wild, ranked No. 32, raced to a 5-0 lead in the first set, then came back from the second-set loss to trounce Davenport in the decider. Wild's shots seemed to be laser-guided to the lines and corners, and Davenport stared at them helplessly.

en route to a title at Manhattan Beach. California two weeks

later - they all meant nothing

From (L to R) Australian Lucy Tyler-Sharman (silver), French Marion Glignet (gold) and

Italian Antonella Bellutti (bronze) jubilate on the podium after winning the women's in-

dividual pursuit at the Manchester World Track cycling championships in UK on Sunday

Davenport, who has never gone beyond the fourth round in the Open, didn't blame burnout or the emotional ride after winning the Olympics "Having one bad night does-

n't mean I'm exhausted or the summer has caught up," she said. "I could go out tomorrow and play unbelievable. Who knows? She certainly played unbelievable tonight. That's what happens in this unfortunate game.

In the quarter-finals, Wild will face fourth-seeded Spaniard Conchita Martinez. who beat Swede Asa Carlsson 6-

2.6-1. Second-seeded Monica Seles

# confidence she gained in Atbooked a final eight berth with lanta and in beating Steffi Graf

years, reports Reuter. On Sunday, the fuse was lit again on the Croatian's explosive disposition when he was called for a foot fault that negated an ace on his third match point at 11-10 in a final-

Instead huge regrouped to launch a 128 mph (206 kph) ace

"It's too important this tournament, I didn't want to lose my

but his time I was so focused. said Ivanisevic. "I said, no, no, no, you're still in there. You just have to keep cool, then maybe after the match you deal with the guy."

Did he deal with the lines

smiling lyanisevic replied. Smiles and wins have been scarce for Ivanisevic at the Open and only now can he finally enjoy this Grand Slam, he "I think I have achieved one

of goals, to play Tuesday," said

lvanisevic, who twice has

reached the Wimbledon final

man after the match? "I told

him lot of things afterwards," a

"Usually I was already back in Croatia watching TV. "Now I think I can play more relaxed. If I'm here in the second week, anything is possible." Dreekmann is a believer after being overwhelmed by

Ivanisevic's rocket serve for 25

"If he serves like that, two or three aces in a game, it's tough, you can't do anything against it" said Dreekmann. "You just think of one corner and go for it. If he's taking the other corner, it's too late. The 24-year-old lyanisevic

has emerged as a fan favourite with his high voltage playing style and personality

Linda lambasts Lindsay a 7-5, 6-0 victory over Sandrine

-AFP/UNB photo

Testud of France. Testud served for the first set at 5-4 but was broken without having a set point. That gave Seles the only opening she needed. The 22-year-old American, who is nursing a shoulder injury that affects her serve. won that game and nine more to

take the match. In the quarters, Seles wil face South African Amanda Coetzer, who beat American

Lisa Raymond 6-4, 6-1



Linda Wild of the United States returns a backhand during her match against compatriot Lindsay Davenport, seeded eight, at the US Open on Sept 1. Linda upset -AFP/UNB photo Lindsay 6-2, 3-6, 6-0