

## Sabatini set to retire?

NEW YORK, Oct 22: Gabriela Sabatini may announce this week she is to retire from women's tennis at 26, reports AFP.

The Argentine, plagued by stomach muscle injury recently has called a press conference at Madison Square Garden on Thursday.

Sabatini, who missed the French Open and Wimbledon this year, has not won a tournament since January, 1995.

Two years ago she was ranked third in the world behind Monica Seles and Steffi Graf but has now slipped to 29th.

In 13 years on the professional circuit she has won 27 tournaments, including the US Open in 1990.

## Eurocard Open results

STUTTGART, Germany, Oct 22: Richard Krajicek called upon his new reservoir of confidence from last summer's Wimbledon triumph to rally after a poor start and earn a 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 win over Frenchman Arnaud Boetsch here Tuesday in the 2.2 million dollars Eurocard Open, reports AFP.

"Today I didn't feel so good on court," admitted the eighth seed who claimed the Stuttgart title in 1995 over German Michael Stich. "But it didn't matter. I was able to remind myself that I had won a Grand Slam title and lift my game."

"I don't know if it has much to do with winning Wimbledon, but I'm feeling pretty relaxed these days."

Krajicek said he had fully recovered from the knee problem which forced him to pull out of Davis Cup competition and a tournament in Singapore in recent weeks.

Americans Richey Reneberg and former world number one Jim Courier both won. Reneberg beat Spain's Francisco Clavet 6-1, 6-4 in the first round while the 15th-seeded Courier reached the third round 7-6, 6-4 over Czech Bohdan Ulrich in 1hr 32 minutes and two match points.

Italian Renzo Furlan and Nicolas Kiefer of Germany both scored straight-set first round wins in the penultimate event of the super nine series.

Furlan beat lucky loser Filip Dewulf of Belgium while Kiefer saw off Herman Gurny of Argentina on the relatively slow-paced indoor carpet.

Second seed and US Open finalist Michael Chang was playing a later match against Australian Todd Woodbridge while French Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia, No. 4, faced Dutchman Jan Siemerink.

Stefan Edberg cruised to an easy 6-4, 6-2 win over Tim Henman of Britain in the opening round on Monday.

The Swede, who plans to quit tennis at the end of the year, needed 90 minutes to eliminate Henman, a Czech Open semifinalist last week but still searching for his first ATP Tour win.

Edberg, who has been suffering from a cold in the last week, said he was pleased to have overcome the first hurdle here so easily.

"The first match of a tournament is always very tricky," he said. "I felt very comfortable tonight."

The Swede, ranked 17th in the world, prised open a close first set by breaking serve to go ahead 5-4 and then holding his own serve. That seemed to deflate Henman, who won just two of the next eight games.

## ATP top earners

MONACO, Oct 22 (Reuters): Leading prize-money winners issued by the ATP Tour on Monday:

1. Kafelnikov (Russia) 1,863,713 dollars  
2. Sampras (USA) 1,756,922  
3. Agassi (USA) 1,516,160  
4. Ivanisevic (Croatia) 1,424,105  
5. Chang (USA) 1,379,916  
6. Krajicek (Netherlands) 1,190,261  
7. Agassi (USA) 1,045,660  
8. Woodbridge (Australia) 942,738  
9. Woodbridge (Australia) 919,482  
10. Ferreira (South Africa) 899,390  
11. Becker (Germany) 849,827  
12. Rosset (Switzerland) 813,239  
13. Hlasek (Czech Republic) 807,128  
14. Costa (Spain) 764,411  
15. Rio (Chile) 743,648  
16. Haarhuis (Netherlands) 742,306  
17. Martin (USA) 728,686  
18. Stich (Germany) 655,995  
19. Siemerink (Netherlands) 627,476  
20. Black (Zimbabwe) 625,612

## India-S Africa tie today



JAIPUR, India, Oct 22: Sachin Tendulkar's India are determined to build on Monday's dramatic win over Australia as Titan triangular limited-overs namely enters a crucial phase, reports AFP.

"We must not look back now," Tendulkar said ahead of the return clash against the all-conquering South Africans at the Sawai Man Singh Stadium here on Wednesday.

Australia are capable of bouncing back even though they lost the first two games. And India showed on Monday they are a side to reckon with. We will not be relenting one bit,"

Cronje remembers the World Cup in March when the South Africans swept through the league only to lose to the West Indies in the quarter finals.

"One-day cricket can never be taken for granted. You're as good as your performance on that day," said Cronje, whose team has won 21 of their 24 one-dayers this year.

A visibly buoyant Tendulkar hoped Monday's win would mean a fresh start for India, who have yet to win a limited-overs tournament this year.

"If we play the same way as we did in Bangalore, there's no reason why we should not be in the final," the 23-year-old said. "But the batting still looks a big brittle. We are unable to post good scores."

With rookie batsman Sujith Somasundar managing just 10 and seven in the first two matches, the Indians are still looking for a suitable opening partner for Tendulkar.

Test star Navjot Sidhu, who has served out a 50-day ban for deserting the team midway through the recent tour of England, appears to be the obvious

partner for Tendulkar.

The Indians surprised them-

selves at Bangalore on Monday

when the ninth-wicket pair of Jagval Srinath and Anil Kumble hammered 52 off 40 balls to defeat Australia with seven balls to spare.

The win enabled the home team to stay in contention for a place in the final of the tour-

TENDULKAR

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