

SL-India first one-dayer today

Tillekeratne back in team

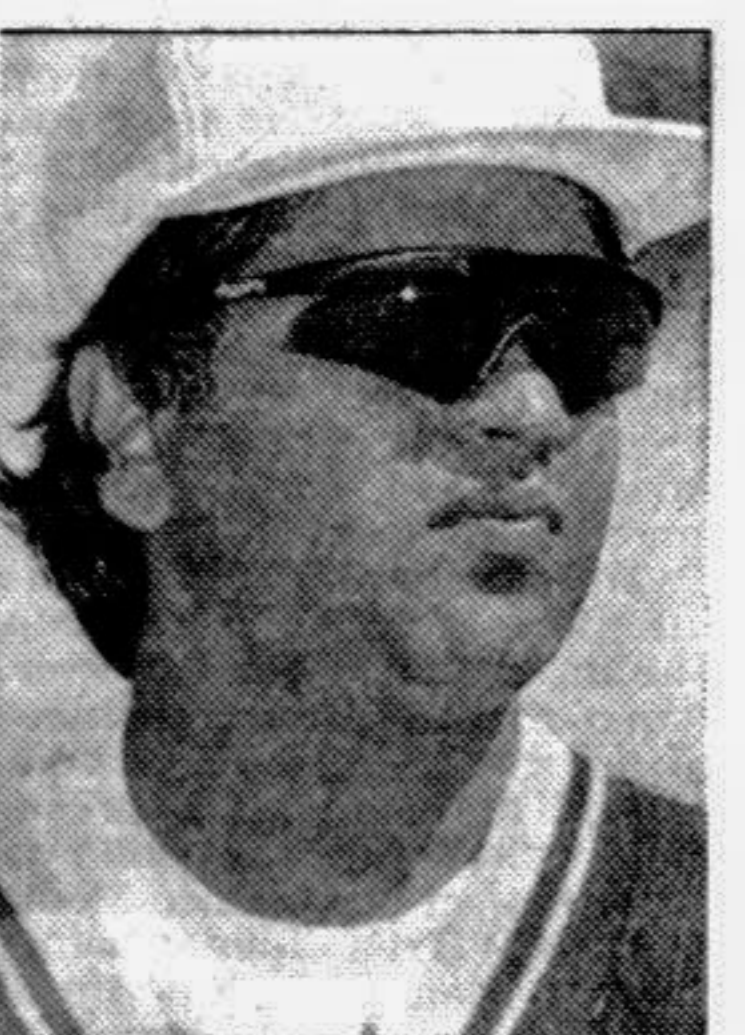
COLOMBO, Aug 16: Sri Lanka's experienced middle-order batsman Hashan Tillekeratne is back in the cricket team for the first one-day international against India on Sunday, the cricket board said Saturday, report agencies.

Tillekeratne, nicknamed "Mr Dependable" by commentators for his steady batting at number six, has been sidelined since a curly arm delivery fractured his left hand two months ago in the Caribbean.

He missed last month's Asia Cup, which Sri Lanka won, and the two-Test series against India in the last two weeks, which was drawn.

Tillekeratne captained a Board President's XI in a warm up match yesterday, impressing with a 33 run knock off 51 balls.

With Tillekeratne's return, new middle-order batsman



ARJUNA RANATUNGA

Mahela Jayawardhana, who played in the two Test matches, has been dropped from the 14-member squad.

Wicketkeeper Lanka de Silva, who impressed during his debut in the Asia Cup, returns, after regular stumpers Ramesh Kaluwitharana flopped once again during the Test matches.

Lanka manager Duleep Mendis was confident of winning the series, but warned his team and home fans not to take victory for granted.

"I expect India to fight back because they are hungry for success," he said. "I will never take them lightly."

Sachin Tendulkar's beleaguered India meanwhile are planning desperate tactics to prevent being steamrolled by the hosts.

Not many give India's chance against the reigning world champions, who have won all their three meetings so far this year including two in the Asia Cup here last month.

The Indians, realising that hopeless situations warrant unorthodox solutions, will turn around the batting order in order to catch the Sri Lankans by surprise in the first day-night encounter of the three-match series, at the Premadasa Stadium.

Coach Madan Lal refused to divulge the changes but hinted that Tendulkar will open again with Saurav Ganguly after dropping himself down the order in the Asia Cup final.

Trinidad-born all-rounder Robin Singh is expected to take up the pinch-hitter's role at number three, to be followed by the in-form Mohammad Azharuddin and Rahul Dravid.

The number six slot will be taken up by one of the remaining specialist batsmen, Vinod Kambli, Navjot Sidhu or Ajay Jadhava.

"It is not easy to keep the Sri Lankan batsmen in check, so the best thing is to score as many runs against them," Madan Lal said. "Nothing less than 270 works these days."

The stingless Indian bowling has so far proved no match for the rampaging Sri Lankan batsmen on this tour.

Having outbatted India in their two Asia Cup meetings, the Sri Lankans hammered a world record score of 952 for seven in the first Test and 332 and 415 for seven declared in the second.

The home team's top order devastated the Indians in the Test series, with opener Sanath

Jayasuriya making 340 and 199, Roshan Mahanama 225 and Aravinda de Silva centuries in each of his three innings.

But Madan Lal, under whom India have won just four of their last 17 one-dayers is hopeful that the rot can be stemmed.

"One-day matches cannot be predicted. Hopefully it will be our turn now to dictate terms," he said.

The second one-dayer will also be played under lights at the Premadasa Stadium on Wednesday, while the third will be a day-game at the Sinhalese Sports Club next Saturday.

TEAMS

INDIA (from): Sachin Tendulkar (capt), Saurav Ganguly, Robin Singh, Rahul Dravid, Mohammad Azharuddin, Ajay Jadhava, Vinod Kambli, Navjot Sidhu, Nayan Mongia, Anil Kumble, Rajesh Chauhan, Venkatesh Prasad, Akuruvilla, Nilesh Kulkarni.



SACHIN TENDULKAR

SRI LANKA (from): Sanath Jayasuriya, Marvan Atapattu, Roshan Mahanama, Aravinda de Silva (vice captain), Arjuna Ranatunga (captain), Hashan Tillekeratne, Lanka de Silva, Kumara Dharmasena, Chaminda Vaas, Sajeeva de Silva, Muthiah Muralitharan, Ruwan Kalpage, Upul Chandana, Dulip Liyanage.

India win warm-up

COLOMBO, Aug 16: India beat the Sri Lanka Board President's Eleven by two wickets in a warm-up one day match on Friday, report agencies.

Bating first, the Board Eleven, led by Hashan Tillekeratne who scored a breezy 51-ball 33, mustered 246 for seven in their share of 50 overs.

India scrapped through to win the match with two wickets in hand and three balls to spare. Rahul Dravid top-scored with 95.

Robin Singh, promoted to bat at number three, made 33.

Independence Day vow

COLOMBO, Aug 16: The touring Indian cricketers in Sri Lanka celebrated the 50th year of their country's independence Friday with a vow to win the World Cup "four or five times" in the next 50 years, reports AFP.

"We have done it once so far. I hope we can win the Cup at least four or five times in the next 50 years," said coach Madan Lal, a key member of the 1983 World Cup winning squad.

The tourists attended an early morning flag-hoisting ceremony at the Indian high commissioner's residence in Colombo.

Sachin Tendulkar's men, sporting the team blazer over their cricket flannels, listened attentively as High Commissioner Nareshwar Dayal read out a speech delivered by President K R Narayanan at the special midnight session of parliament in New Delhi seven hours earlier.

"It is obviously a very special moment. The last time I attended a flag-raising ceremony was in school," said former captain Mohammad Azharuddin, a veteran of 13 years on the international circuit.

Saqlain gives Surrey a grip

LONDON, Aug 16: Pakistani off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq claimed a hat-trick as Surrey took control of their English county championship game against Middlesex at Lord's on Friday, reports Reuters.

Saqlain, who finished with figures of five for 50, took the scalps of Keith Brown, Richard Johnson and Jamie Hewitt as Middlesex collapsed from 142 for two to 162 for nine and were eventually bowled out for 205 on the first day of the four-day match.

Surrey closed on 123 for two. With leaders Kent not playing, second placed Glamorgan had high hopes of closing the 12-point gap against Worcestershire, a team without a home win all season. However, it did not work out that way as Tim Curran hit 160 to help his side to 342 for four.

Another man in the runs was Australian Darren Lehmann, who hammered 182 to put Yorkshire in a very strong position against Hampshire at Portsmouth.

Lehmann's five-and-a-half hour innings enabled Yorkshire to recover from 39 for two and end the day on 389 for six. Bottom county Derbyshire took charge against Lancashire as former Lancashire all-rounder Phil DeFreitas hit 96 off just 80 balls to rescue his team from 99 for four to close on 408 for nine.

Gloucestershire had Bobby Dawson (98) to thank for their total of 291 for eight against Sussex after they were struggling at 76 for three.

In the day's other game Somerset closed against Nottinghamshire on 290 for six.

Croft fined

LONDON, Aug 16: Glamorgan on Thursday fined off-spinner Robert Croft 1,000 pounds (£1,580 dollars) and warned him about his future conduct following his televised pushing match with Essex's Mark Ilett, reports Reuters.

The two players were involved in an animated argument after Ilett appealed against the light during the NatWest Trophy semifinal at Chelmsford on Tuesday. Essex went on to win by one wicket.

The two players subsequently shook hands and have apologised for their behaviour.

Imran ready for a bloodtest

LONDON, Aug 16: Pakistani cricket hero turned politician Imran Khan, ruled by a US judge to be the father of an illegitimate five-year-old girl, on Thursday offered to take a blood test, reports Reuters.

He also pledged to abide by any decision of a Pakistani court on the paternity issue.

"Imran Khan is the father of the child," Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner (Judge) Anthony Jones ruled on Wednesday after hearing evidence from the child's mother, Sita White, daughter of the late British industrialist Lord Gordon White.

Khan, defeated in his bid to become prime minister of Pakistan in February, did not appear in court but issued a statement through a London publicist.

"As I do not live in California or in England, my response is to welcome Sita White to Pakistan, where I live," he said.

"And I would more than welcome the opportunity to present my side of the story in a Pakistani court rather than conducting an undignified trial by media."

"I will of course be prepared to submit to a blood test in Pakistan and will fully stand by the decision of the competent Pakistani courts."

White testified that she met Khan, then captain of the Pakistan cricket team, in 1988, and conceived a child by him in 1991. The girl, referred to in court only by her first and middle names, Tyran Jade, was born on June 15, 1992.

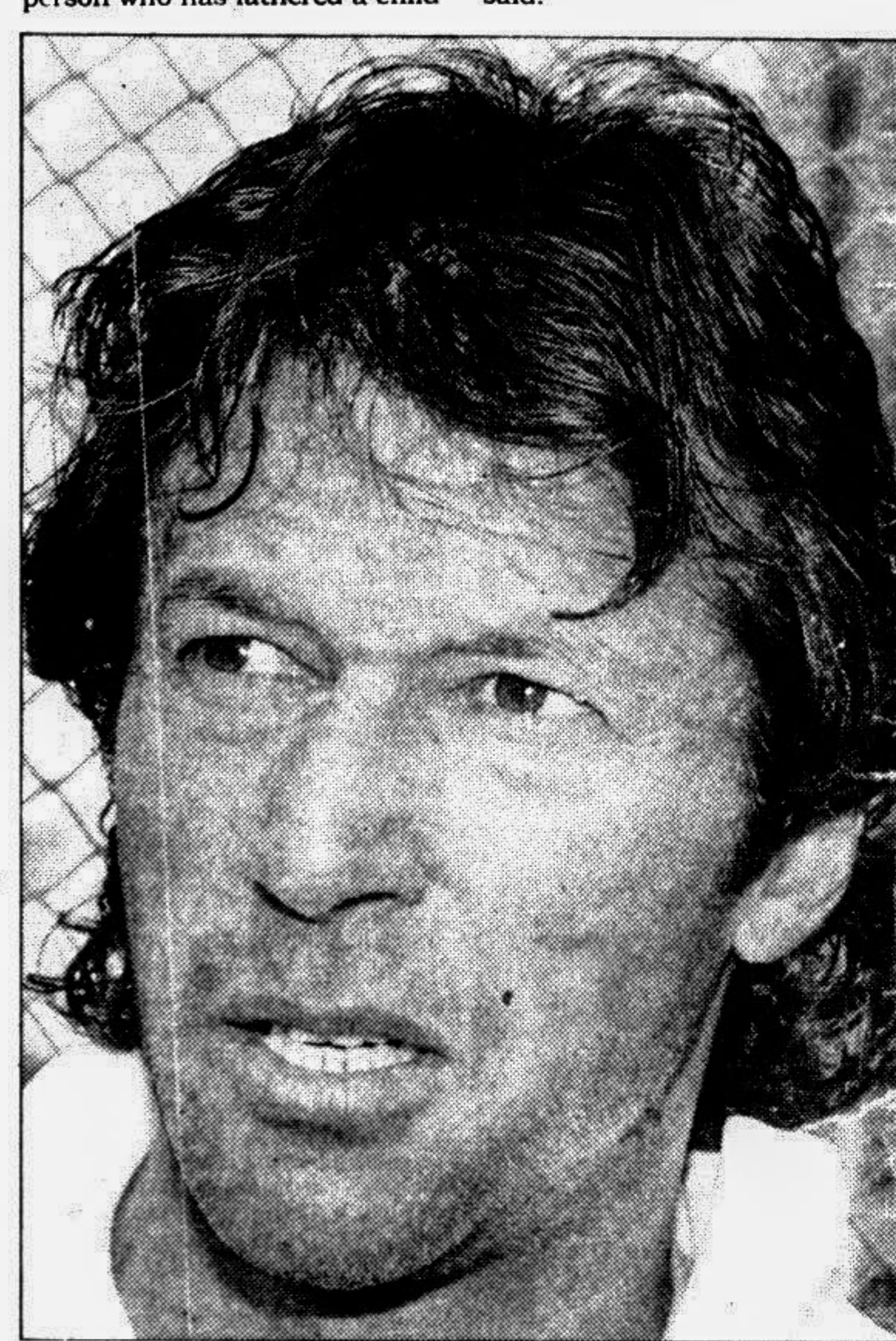
Since Tyran Jade was born, Imran "has never seen nor spoken" to the girl, said White's celebrity attorney Gloria Allred.

Imran is now married to the

daughter of another British tycoon and has a son.

"Apparently in Pakistan, a person who has fathered a child

outside of marriage could be disqualified from being eligible to be prime minister," Allred said.



IMRAN KHAN

Yevgeny stays on course

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut, Aug 16: Top seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov, preparing for the US Open, survived against seventh-seeded Tim Henman 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 Friday in the quarterfinals of the Pilot Pen tennis tournament, reports Reuters.

"My goal is to play consistent tennis and to win this tournament," said Kafelnikov. "If I do that, then I'll be ready for the Open."

The 23-year-old Russian big-server reached the semifinals here for the third time in four years. He will face fifth-seeded Czech Petr Korda, who survived four match points to beat unseeded American David Wheaton 4-6, 7-6 (9-7), 6-4.

Second seed Sergi Bruguera of Spain was upset by eighth seed Patrick Rafter of Australia 7-5, 2-6, 6-2, and 11th seed Greg Rusedski of Britain blasted away fourth-seeded Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands 7-6 (7-5), 3-6, 6-3 and became just the second player in the history

of the game to be recorded serving above 140 miles per hour (225 kph).

Henman was able to convert only two of 12 break-point opportunities against Kafelnikov.

Bruguera, however, was not so fortunate. The Spanish clay court artist fell victim in Rafter's heavier artillery.

Rafter dominated the third

set, breaking early and taking a 3-0 lead. Bruguera never came close to recovering. Rafter broke a final time in the last game, gaining the last two points with a topspin lob and a backhand passing shot.

There were only two service breaks in the battle of booming serves between Rusedski and Krajicek. The crucial break came in the second game of the third set to give Rusedski a 2-0 lead.

Krajicek said he is going to take a long rest before the Open. Wheaton's comeback effort came to a crashing halt as he just could not finish off Korda.

Wheaton, who had upset third-seeded Philippoussis in the first round, held four match points in the second set and a 5-1 lead in the tiebreaker.

Wheaton double-faulted away his final match point at 6-5 in the breaker at 7-7. Korda served an ace and Wheaton netted a stretch volley to end the breaker and force the third set.

Wheaton, losing, tinged his service in the 10th game of the final set to end the struggle.

Shocking!

ROME, Aug 16: Racist graffiti against two Brazilian footballers was discovered outside the football club Roma's training ground on Thursday, Italian police said Thursday, reports AFP.

The Brazilians Cafu and Paulo Sergio, have just joined the club.

They were greeted with the graffiti: "Roma whites only" and "Cafu and Paulo Sergio out, the last being written in German."

The club president, Aldo Scafio said, "These acts will be condemned by every civilised person."



Olga Sedakova of Russia performs her freestyle solo synchronized routine at the European Swimming Championships in Sevilla, Spain on Friday. The defending champion scored 99.24 points to finish ahead of Virginie Dedieu of France and Italian Giovanna Burlando.

Agassi streak ends abruptly

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug 16: Australian Mark Woodford put a halt to the comeback progress of former world number one Andre Agassi with a 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 defeat in the quarterfinals of the one million dollars RCA Championships Friday, reports Reuters.

Agassi, determined to recover from a slump which has taken him down to a career-low ATP Tour ranking of 74th, dropped serve twice in the final set as the 31-year-old from Adelaide claimed the victory in slightly more than two hours.

"Winning the first match was more than I expected, no joke," said Agassi, the 14th seed, who will rest and train next week before the August 25 start of the US open in New York.

In another match sixth seed Carlos Moya of Spain defeated Czech Jiri Novak 6-3, 7-5.

"Woody," one-half of the five-times Wimbledon champion doubles pairing with Todd Woodbridge, will face ninth seed Jonas Bjorkman today the Sweden beat American qualifier Tommy Ho 5-7, 6-4, 7-5.

Bjorkman reached his eighth semifinal of 1997 and boasts a match record since January of 43 wins, 18 defeats.

The Monte Carlo-based player admitted that he might need to consider moving to North America based on his solid results in the United States this year.

Sweden's 16th seed Magnus Larsson, who knocked out world No 1 Pete Sampras, lost to ninth seed Wayne Ferreira of South Africa 3-6, 6-3, 7-6.

Ferreira and Moya play in the second semifinal today.

Bulgaria-Israel WC tie Aug 20

SOFIA, Aug 16: Bulgaria host Israel in a World Cup qualifier on Wednesday that could go a long way towards deciding the destiny of Group Five, reports Reuters.

Russia top the group with 14 points from six games with Wednesday's protagonists second and third. Israel, bidding to qualify for the finals for only the second time, have 13 points from seven games with Bulgaria a point back but with two games in hand.

Bulgaria, semifinalist in the 1994 World Cup, lost 2-1 to Israel in their first meeting and cannot afford another slip with two games against Russia still to come.

Bulgarian striker Hristo Stoichkov also gave credit to the Israelis but said his teammates were in confident mood. "These 90 minutes will be much harder than the match against Russia," said the Barcelona man. "But not one of us thinks we will lose this match."

The squad have gathered in the village of Panchevo on the outskirts of Sofia for their first training session. They will be joined by Ivailo Yordanov from Portugal's Sporting Lisbon.

This will be Israel's final qualifying match while Bulgaria host Russia on September 10 and then play the return fixture on October 11.

Yifter seeks asylum in Canada

TORONTO, Aug 16: Miruts Yifter, a double gold medalist at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, has left Ethiopia to seek asylum in Canada, reports AP.

"Hopefully he will be granted refugee status," Mulken Muchie, editor of Hawarya, an Amharic-language newspaper in the local Ethiopian expatriate community, told the Toronto Globe and Mail on Friday. "He has a political problem at home and has started the formal process."

Yifter, whose age varies from 51 to 57 depending on the source, won the 5,000 and 10,000 metres at Moscow, dethroning Lasse Viren of Finland. Yifter also earned the 10,000-metre bronze at the Munich Games in 1972 but missed the Montreal Olympics when African countries boycotted in protest against New Zealand's sports links with South Africa's former apartheid regime.

Yifter also won the 5,000 and 10,000 at the World Championships in 1977 and 1979.

What's wise for Warne

MELBOURNE, Aug 16: Aussie leg-spinner Shane Warne needs few rest and should reject lucrative offers to play English county cricket, former Australian captain Allan Border urged Friday, reports AFP.

Border conceded it would be hard to stop Warne playing his trade for an English county but said his massive workload and importance to Australian cricket meant he needed a rest.

"To be quite honest, I'd prefer to see him not go and play county cricket," Border told reporters here.

"But it's something he wants to do, he wants to experience county cricket."

"We've let countless others go over there, me included, so it will be hard to stop him but given the workload he is under

and what's expected in the future I'd like to see him put the feet up and watch a bit of football."

Warne has expressed interest in offers from several English counties but has yet to make a decision.

Border said Warne would be the key to Australia's fortunes when they tour the sub-continent next year.

Australia take on India from February to April next year and Pakistan in September and October.

"I think we can win in the sub-continent but the Warne factor looms large in that," the highest run-scorer in Test history said.

"That (Australia's lack of success in the sub-continent) has been one of the buggers for me personally and for Australian cricket over the past 25 or 30 years since we've never won a series over there."

"If we can keep Warne fit,

there's a couple of young spinners on the horizon that can work with him in tandem and that's what you need in the sub-continent."

"We've got a couple of good quick bowlers and the batting won't be a problem — it hinges on Warne and hopefully we can keep him fit."

Border said series wins in the sub-continent would prove beyond doubt the worth of the current Australian team.

He said Mark Taylor's players had proved on performances alone over the past two years that they are the top cricket team in the world.

"I think they deserve to be lauded with the great sides of the Bradman era, the Benaud era, the Chappell era," Border said.

"It's just been fantastic to retain the Ashes again and to win an Ashes contest for the fifth consecutive time speaks volumes about the way the side is playing at the moment."

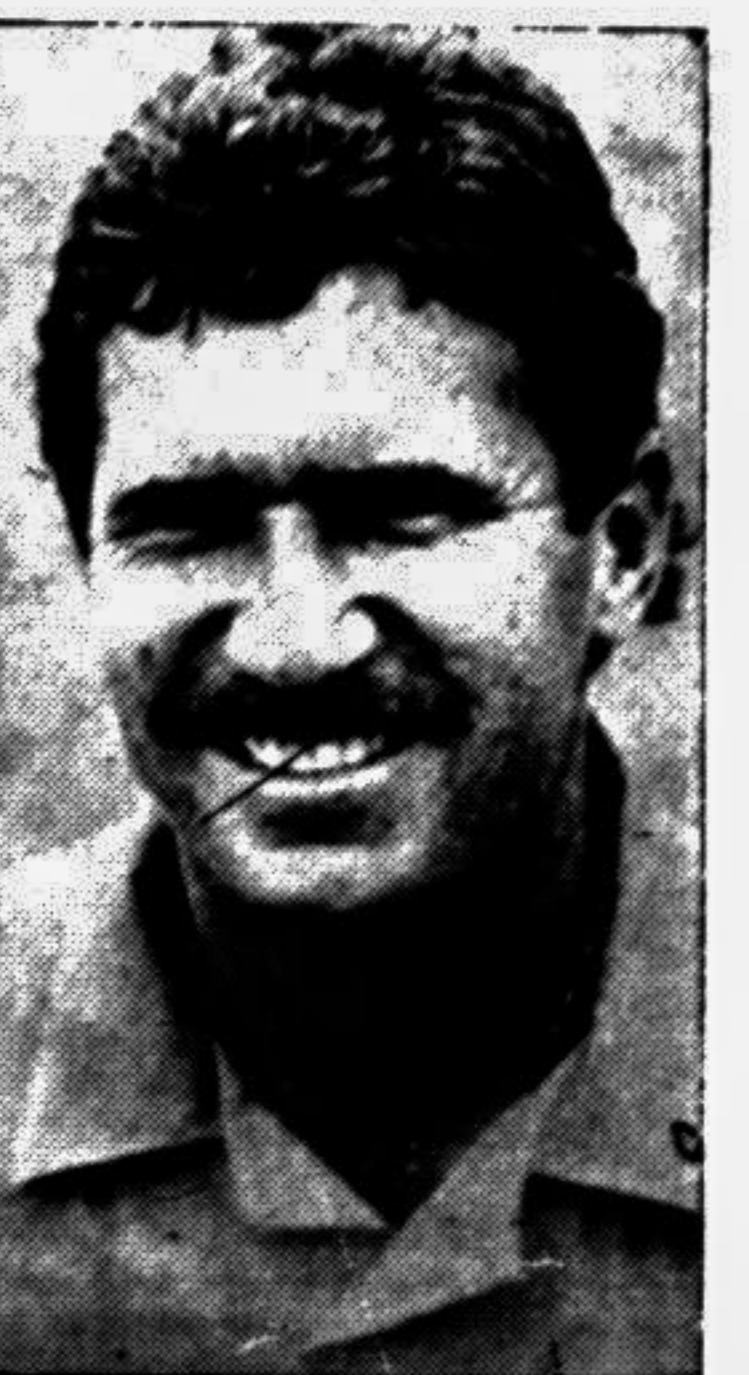
"It's been great cricket to watch and I'm very proud of them," he said.

Aussies turn to Young & Lee

LONDON, Aug 16: Australia on Thursday called up Shaun Young and Shane Lee into their depleted squad but Brendan Julian was named as another of their ever-increasing injury problems, reports AFP.

Gloucestershire overseas player Young and Lee, who was playing in the central Lancashire league with Enfield, were named following the loss of Julian, Paul Reiffel and Jason Gillespie over the past two days.

The pair will join up with the rest of the Australian party in Canterbury on Friday and are both likely to play as the tourists weight up their options for the final Test.



ALLAN BORDER

The Daily Star Entertainment Guide

Sunday 17th August
(All programmes are in local time. There may be changes in the programme)

BBC

6:00am BBC World News 6:30 World Living: Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India 7:00 BBC World News/Asia Today/24 Hours 10:00 BBC World News 10:05 World Focus: Panorama 11:00 BBC Newsdesk 12:30 BBC Newsdesk 12:30 Hard Talk 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 BBC World News 2:30 World Living: The Travel Show 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 Hard Talk 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India 5:00 BBC Newsdesk 5:00pm BBC Newsdesk 6:30 World Focus: Panorama 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC Newsdesk 8:00 BBC World News 8:30 Hard Talk 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 World Living: Jeremy Clarkson's Motorworld 11:00

The World Today 12:00am The World Today 12:30 Hard Talk 1:00 BBC World News 1:30 World Focus: Correspondent 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Living: Airport 3:00 BBC Newsdesk 4:00 World Business Report 24 Hours 4:00 BBC Newsdesk 4:30 Asia Today & World Business 5:00 BBC World News 5:10 Newsnight

CHANNEL V

6:30am Rewind VJ Sophia 7:00 Tune On T [V] 8:30 Rewind VJ Sophia 9:00 Tune On T [V] 11:00 BPL 9:30 12:00 Winner Mangia Hai 12:30 Liberty First Day First Show 1:00 Videoclan Flashback 1:30 Tune On T [V] 2:30 Viewer's Choice Award Special 4:30 [V] Hour Special 5:30 Tune On T [V] 6:30pm Simply Show 7:30 Rexona Deo Out There 8:00 The Indian Top 10 8:30 Mailbu Jammin VJ Sophia 9:00 Speak Easy 9:30 70's Rewind VJ Sophia 10:00 [V] Mainstage 12:00 Tune On T [V] 2:00 By Demand VJ Trey 3:00 Pepsi Chinese Top 20 5:00 Tune On T [V] 5:30 Amped

STAR PLUS

6:30am Voltun 7:00 Wildlife International 7:30 King Arthur 8:00 Dungeons & Dragons 8:30 Ek Lamha Seeth Tumhara 9:00 Meri Pasand 9:30 Chandrakanta 10:30 Janata Ki Adalat 11:00 Maal Hai To Taal Hai 11:30 Amul India Show 12:00am The Great Escape 12:30 India Business Week 1:00 Living On The Edge 1:30 Star Trek 2:30 Film Festival: Current 3:00 Chandrakanta 3:30 Plus Preview 7:00 Amul India Show 7:30 Priya Tendulkar Show 8:30 Ooh La La 9:30 Ek Din Ek Jeevan 10:30 Freedom 50-UK & Around the World 10:30 Star News Sunday 11:30 Dynasty 12:30 India Business Week 1:00 Star News Sunday 2:00 BBC Documentary: The Look 3:00 Movie Classic: Love Affair 5:00 Burke's Law

STAR SPORTS

6:00am Inside Cricket 1st Session 6:30am Samsung Nations Cup 7:30 Omega Tour Sports Open Day 3 HLT 8:30 World Wrestling Federation Live Wire 9:30 Asia

Sports Show 10:00 Powerboats World Champs 10:30 Water-sports World 11:30 High 5 11:20 Live Omega Tour '97 Canon Singapore Open Final Day 3:00 Inside PGA Tour 3:30 Asia Sports Show 4:00 US PGA Championships Golf 1997 Day 3 9:00 Film World Motorcycle Championships Grand Prix '97 British GP 11:30 Inside PGA Tour 12:00 Live US PGA Championship Golf 1997 Final Day 4:30 FIM World Motorcycle Championships 97 British Grand Prix

STAR MOVIES

7:30am Adventure: White Wolves... A Cry in the Wild 11:20 9:30 Family: The Magic Adventure G 11:00 The Bhaskar Ghosh Show 11:30 Family: Bach and Broccoli PG (Hindi Subtitles) 1:30 Thriller: The Island of Dr. Moreau 15:30 Comedy: National Lampoon's Scuba School 15:30 Sunday Family: Double Feature: The Mask 15 (Hindi Subtitles) 7:30 Sunday Family Double Feature: The Dog Who Stopped The War PG (Hindi Subtitles) 9:30 The

Bhaskar Ghosh Show 10:00 Gold: An American Citizen 12:00 True Stories: Gypsy 15 (Arabic Subtitles) 2:00 Horror: Twins of Evil 18 4:00 Comedy: Get Crazy 18 5:00 Comedy: Romantic Undertaking 15 (Arabic Subtitles)

PTV

08:00 TILAWAT AUR TARJUMA/HAM NAAT/WARZ-KHABRAIN 8:30 CARTOON 8:30 KHAIRAN 8:45 Fun Time 9:05 TV ENCYCLOPEDIA 9:25 KHAIR FARMASHA 9:40 SPORTS CLINIC 10:05 PTV Gold 10:30 ENGLISH FILM: DARKING DUCK 10:55 MAST MAST SANYO 11:00 KHAIRAN 11:10 SPORTS HOUR 12:05 Biscop '95/Qasmi Hahani 12:55 QURAN-E-HAKEEM 1:00 BISMILLAH 1:15 Aaj Ki Kahani 1:40 Aaj Ki Dham 2:00 DRAMA SERIAL 2:55 Ghost Writer 3:55 Karobar 4:15 Education 5:25 Razi for 9th 5:55 Zameen Per Zameen (Drama Serial) 6:25 AIOU COURSES 7:00 ENGLISH NEWS 7:30 English Film: Star Trek Deep Space Nine 8:30 Hawwa Ki

Naam (Serial) 9:00 Break for Headlines News 9:20 TBA 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News 11:00 Serial: Puzwan 11:30 Movie Victim (New Serial) 12:35 MUSIC MASTERS: Raag Rang 1:00 KHAS KHAS KHAIRAN CLOSE DOWN

EL TV

7:00 Yeadon Ki Bara 7:20 Stand By (Trailer Show) 7:30 Hindi Film 10:30 Hey Ha Hoo (Top Chart Serial) 11:00 Cine Smile 11:30 Liberty Public Demand 12:30 Sorry Sorry Lorry 1:00 Gujrat: Madhyr Antikahdi 2:00 Hindi Film (B/W) 5:00 Hindi Film (B/W) 7:30 Serial: Campus 7:50 Hassan Pal 8:00 The Real Countdown 9:00 TBA 9:30 Fasana 10:00 Atco-Ru-Ba-Ru 10:30 Stand By (Trailer Show) 10:45 Hindi Feature Film 1:30 Yeh Dunia Gazar Ki 2:00 Tehkikat 2:30 VIP Number One 3:00 Anurag 3:30 Mast Mast Show 4:00 Hindi Feature Film (B/W)

DD 7

9:00 Harek Rakam Ba/Janmadin

(Birthday Greetings) 9:30 Movie Club (Rpt) 12:30 Serial: Gopal Bhar 1:00 Nabajanna (Serial) 1:30 Movie Club Film (Rpt) 3:30 Geet Sangeet 4:3