

Column One

Boost sports
WHIZZ KIDCOMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-86

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm
on Jan 9, 1998

1 Who is the Australia cricket coach?

Lille Marsh Simpson

2 Who is the Argentina soccer coach?

Passarella Venables Cruyff

3 Which county will Lara lead next year?

Essex Durham Warwickshire

4 Who hit the first century in this year's Premier Division cricket league?

Nadim Saeed Kazmi

5 Who lifted the women's singles title of the national TT championships?

Lanu Tumpa Zulekha

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

EN-VITS

SPORTS TALK



Ian Healy

(Australia's No 1 wicket-keeper)

"I doubt if I'll play any more one-day internationals, though I'll always be available."

After not being included in the limited-over side.

Seeds sail

GOLD COAST, Australia, Jan 7: Second seed Ruxandra Dragomir of Romania and fourth seed Ai Sugiyama of Japan overcame slow starts to post second round wins at the Australian women's hardcourt tennis championship Wednesday, reports AP.

But top seed Brenda Schultz-McCarthy of the United States had less trouble in beating compatriot Corina Morariu 6-4, 6-2 in her rain-affected second round match.

Schultz-McCarthy will face Venezuela's Maria Vento in the quarterfinals. Vento beat seventh-seeded Elena Likhovtseva of Russia on Tuesday.

Dragomir beat Magdalena Grzybowska of Poland 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, while Sugiyama defeated Australia's Catherine Barclay 7-6 (7-4), 6-1. Also in the second round, Shi-Ting Wang of Taiwan mastered the gusting winds to beat Australia's Rachel McQuillan 1-6, 6-4, 6-4.

The win gave Wang, 24, revenge for a first-round loss to McMillan in this tournament last year.

Strong winds earlier in the day made conditions difficult, but Wang was able to handle them against McQuillan, Australia's highest-ranked woman at No. 48 in the world.

Wang, with a world ranking of 68 and six WTA singles titles to her credit, said she went into the match buoyed by advice from her father and coach Wen-Chih.

Wang next faces Dragomir in the quarterfinals.

In other matches Sarah Pitkowski of France beat Denisa Chladkova of the Czech Republic 6-1, 7-5 and next faces Sugiyama, while South Africa's Mariaan de Swardt beat Jana Kandarr of Germany 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

Yevgeny misses it again

MELBOURNE, Jan 7: Russia's world No. 5 tennis player Yevgeny Kafelnikov withdrew from the Australian Open on Wednesday to miss the event for the second year running, reports AP.

Kafelnikov pulled out of this week's ATP tournament in Qatar because of a knee injury.

He also suffered slight facial burns when fireworks exploded near him during a New Year's celebration with friends in Frankfurt.

Kafelnikov withdrew from last year's Australian Open after fracturing his right hand while working out at a Melbourne gym the week before the Grand Slam tournament began.

Kafelnikov missed three months of last season but played well enough to reach the season-ending finals in Frankfurt, where he lost the final against Pete Sampras.

Marvan's marvellous 2nd



KANDY, Jan 7 (Reuters, AP). Opener Marvan Atapattu hit his second Test century to pl

lot Sri Lanka to a solid 265 for four wickets at the close of the opening day of the first Test against Zimbabwe today.

The stylish right-hander faced 276 balls and struck 16 boundaries in his unbeaten 129 which settled the home side after fast bowler Heath Streak took two quick wickets in the morning session.

Atapattu and Aravinda de Silva, with 75, steadied the Sri Lankan innings with a third wicket stand of 140. Atapattu's previous best score was 108 against India at Mohali last year.

Streak had Sanath Jayasuriya leg before wicket for six. He then forced Roshan Mahanama to fend at a sharp, rising delivery and Zimbabwe captain Alistair Campbell held a difficult catch in the slips. Mahanama made seven.

De Silva continued his sparkling form of 1997 to hit an impeccable 75 which included one six and nine fours, before he mistimed a drive and was caught in the covers.

Skipper Arjuna Ranatunga played a short cameo innings of 27 with a six and two fours, adding 53 with Atapattu for the fourth wicket before being bowled around his legs by off-spinner Andy Whitall.

At close of play Hashan Tillekeratne was 11 not out.

Earlier Sri Lanka, with their powerful batting line-up, elected to bat after winning the toss.

"It is a good pitch to bat and

we are confident of a good score," said Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga after calling the coin right.



ATAPATTU ... 129 n.o.

The match is being played at Asigiriya Stadium in the temple town of Kandy in central Sri Lanka.

The home side has made three changes in the team that drew the third and final Test against India in Bombay last month.

Zimbabwe gave 25-year-old right hand batsman Murray Goodwin his first Test cap while Sri Lanka opted for the left-arm spin of Jayantha Silva and left out Kumar Dharmasena.

Wicket-keeper Romesh Kaluwitharana has been recalled, strengthening the batting line and off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan is also back in the side after an injury kept him out in Mumbai.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close of play on the first day of the first Test between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka at the Asigiriya Stadium on Wednesday:

SRI LANKA: First innings

Jayasuriya lbw Streak 6

Atapattu not out 129

Mahanama c Campbell b Streak 7

De Silva c Whittall b Huckle 75

Ranatunga b A Whittall 27

Tillekeratne not out 11

Extras: (lb-1, nb-9) 10

Total: (For 4 wickets) 265

To bat: Romesh Kaluwitharana, Chaminda Vaas, Ravindra Pushpakumara, Muttiah Muralitharan, Jayantha Silva.

Fall of wickets: 1-16; 2-33; 3-173; 4-226.

Bowling

Streak 24 8 58 2

B Strang 21 4 65 0

P Strang 20 6 69 0

Whittall 14 2 31 1

Huckle 11 2 41 1

Richie rates Shane high



SYDNEY, Jan 7: Shane Warne can double his existing tally and create a new record by taking 600 Test

wickets before the end of his career, according to former Australia Test captain Richie Benaud, reports Reuters.

Benaud, who took 248 Test wickets between 1952 and 1964, said Warne was easily capable of eclipsing the world record of 434 wickets, held by retired Indian all-rounder Kapil Dev.

"If he (Warne) goes on for as long as I did, he will play for another six years, when he'll be 34 and if you do your sums, that's another 300 wickets, giving him 600," said the 67-year-old television commentator, who captained Australia 28 times.

Leg-spinner Warne claimed his 300th Test wicket — becoming the 13th bowler in history to achieve the feat — in the second Test against South Africa on Monday.

Warne has played 63 Tests for Australia, the same number as Benaud, another leg-spinner, since making his debut against India in January 1992.

"Shane's got 300 wickets. I got 248 — he is a much better bowler than I was," Benaud was quoted as saying in the Australian newspaper today.

In reaching the milestone, Warne completed match figures of 11 for 109 against South Africa, the decisive performer.

mance in Australia's crushing win by an innings and 21 runs inside four days at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Warne, who boasts a Test average of 23.56, won praise from another former Australia Test leg-spinner, Kerry O'Keefe.

"He simply bowls the best leg-breaks that have ever been bowled," O'Keefe told the Sydney Morning Herald newspaper.

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hand, an injury caused by the 300 milestone behind three fast bowlers — Dennis Lillee, Richard Hadlee and Malcolm Marshall, who are all retired.

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McGrath doubtful

SYDNEY, Jan 7: Australia's key fast bowler Glenn McGrath will miss the next four one-day cricket matches because of a feared abdominal muscle tear and may not recover in time for the deciding third cricket Test against South Africa, reports Reuters.

McGrath said after a visit to doctors today he would definitely miss the next four one-day matches in the current tri-nation series against South Africa and New Zealand.

There's probably a tear in the abdominal muscle which isn't good," McGrath told reporters after a function launching a congratulatory fax service for the Australian team competing in the world swimming championships. "The one-dayers are a no-show," he said.

Selectors on Tuesday rested McGrath for the next two matches, but he said then he would be fit for the third Test.

Australia won the second Test against South Africa on Monday by an innings and 21 runs to take a one-nil lead in the series that has been billed as South Africa's challenge to Australia's unofficial status as world Test champions.

Australia is scheduled to play at least four one-day matches before the January 30 start of the third Test in Adelaide and may play as many as seven one-day matches if it makes the series of three final matches.

McGrath said the final results of medical tests of the injury would be available on Thursday and he would have a clearer idea of how soon he would recover.

He said it could take three to four weeks to recover from such an injury, leaving little room for error before the Test began.

"I'm hoping it will be fine."

Farina pulls through

AUCKLAND, Jan 7: Sixth seed Silvia Farina of Italy beat Austrian qualifier Barbara Schwartz 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 in the second round Wednesday to advance to the quarterfinals of the New Zealand Classic women's tennis tournament, reports AP.

Farina next faces Julie Halard-Decugis of France on Thursday. Halard-Decugis beat Catalina Cristea of Romania 6-2, 7-5 in another second round encounter Wednesday at the Stanley Street courts.

Farina struggled early in her match against Schwartz, 18, who only made the qualifying draw on a wild card.

Schwartz started strongly, but wilted in the heat and humidity after winning the first set.

She is still 18, but she played a great match and it was really tough today," Farina said.

Farina has yet to beat Halard-Decugis in four previous matches.

Halard-Decugis, back to playing after a layoff because of injury, was pleased with her win but admitted she lacked match fitness.

"I'm suffering from a bit of muscle soreness which happens after such a long layoff, but now it is a matter of getting as many games as I can," the French woman said.

Elsewhere, top seed Sandrine Testud of France made short work of her second round opponent, Slovakia's Janette Husarova, winning 6-2, 6-0 to set up a quarterfinal against 1996 classic champion Sandra Cacic of the United States.

Cacic advanced when her German opponent, Meike Babel, withdrew Wednesday morning suffering from influenza.

Tamarine Tanasugarn of Thailand, the seventh seed, beat Japan's Yuka Yoshida 7-5, 7-6 in the second round and next faces tournament third seed Dominique van Roost of Belgium.

Van Roost downed Czech Lenka Nemeczkova 6-0, 6-4.