

### Coach Marsh turns selector

SYDNEY, Sept 18 (Internet report): A five-man panel has been formed to appoint the new Australian coach at a meeting of Australian Cricket Board (ACB) directors on Friday.

The panel, consisting of ACB chairman Denis Rogers, chief executive Malcolm Speed, former Australia Test batsman Wally Edwards, Trevor Robertson of South Australia and the ACB's operations general manager Richard Watson, will draw up a shortlist of candidates and commence interviewing for the post as soon as possible.

The position will not be advertised and it is hoped an appointment can be made by the end of October, prior to the beginning of the domestic international season.

The vacancy was created by the recent resignation of Geoff Marsh, coach since 1996, who leaves the role at the end of Australia's current tour of Sri Lanka.

Meanwhile, Marsh has been named as a new selector.

Marsh has been appointed as an international selector and will join the current three-man panel of chairman Trevor Hohns, Allan Border and Andrew Hilditch.

Board chairman Rogers has been re-appointed to the post for a further 12 months.

Rogers, from Tasmania, who first became an ACB director in 1989, has been chairman of the board since 1995.

### Ronaldo's visit to Kosovo put back

BRUSSELS, Sept 18: Plans by Inter Milan striker Ronaldo to visit a school in war-ravaged Kosovo have been put back a week, a Belgian charity said today, reports Reuters.

The reason for this last-minute delay is that Ronaldo's club, Inter Milan, wants to associate itself with this humanitarian gesture... and has asked for a couple of days to organise, Caritas Secours International said in a statement.

Brazil international Ronaldo would now visit the school in Gjakove, which has been rebuilt as part of a United Nations Development Programme, on September 27, rather than on Monday.

Van Bruesselein said she believed Inter Milan hoped to organise a plane to make Ronaldo's trip easier but full details should become known next week.

### Steffi settles in with Andre

LAS VEGAS, Sept 18 (Internet report): Steffi Graf has moved into the Las Vegas home of Andre Agassi, the mass-circulation newspaper Bild reported today.

"They have a lot of time for each other and are bouncing around in the area," Bild quoted Graf's manager Hans Engert as saying.

The newspaper, with the largest readership in Germany, devoted a three-page spread, including a front-page story, to the reported romance between the tennis stars.

Graf announced this week that she had broken up with her boyfriend of seven years, German racing driver Michael Bartels.

Neither Graf nor Agassi have confirmed their romance, which has been making headlines in Germany for three days.

Graf, 30, retired earlier this (northern) summer. The former No.1 attended the men's final of the US Open last Sunday between Agassi and Todd Martin.

New York newspapers said Graf and Agassi spent some time in conversation at the US Open and that they were later seen together at a restaurant.

### Carlos attacks MU's mode of attack

MADRID, Sept 18: Real Madrid full back Roberto Carlos has criticised Manchester United for their limited attacking options, reports Reuters.

In an interview with Spanish daily As published on Friday, Roberto Carlos compares United's route to goal with that of his club.

"All United do is give the ball to David Beckham on the right for him to cross it into the area."

Real Madrid were very different, said the Brazilian international.

"We create chances differently, from the wing, through the middle, from the back. We give ourselves so many alternatives."

"We're just a short way off being the best team in Europe. All we need is for our forwards to learn to get into the right positions."

The only way other teams try to beat us is through the long ball. It's an ugly type of football."

### Costa Rica after Mario Zagallo

SAN JOSE, Sept 18: Brazilian legend Mario Zagallo is among the candidates to become the new coach of Costa Rica's national team, the Central American country's football chiefs revealed Friday, reports AFP.

Costa Rican Football Federation (FCF) president Arnoldo Hernandez confirmed: "There have been 18 applications sent to the FCF from both one and two former Brazil coaches."

## Slater turns up heat



COLOMBO, Sept 18 (AFP): Opening batsman Michael Slater with 119 and rookie fast bowler Scott Muller with five for 64 took the honours for Australia on the second day of their three-day tour game against a Board XI at the Colombo CC grounds Saturday. Slater stroked a magnificent 119 off 136 balls hitting three sixes and 14 fours and Muller took five wickets for 64 runs on his international debut to give Australia a firm grip on the game.

Australia who took a first innings lead of 41 stretched it to 264 by the close when they reached 223 for three wickets going into the third and final day tomorrow.

Cutting and driving with conviction Slater shared a third wicket stand of 110 with Mark Waugh before being stumped off part time bowler Saman Jayawardene shortly before the close.

Waugh whose last seven first class innings in Sri Lanka has produced six ducks, finally got off the mark with a single and raised his bat in relief as he received applause from the small crowd.

He overcame some short-pitched bowling by Ravindra Pushpakumara and Indika Galage to remain unbeaten on 37 at the close. Waugh batted over two hours for his 37.

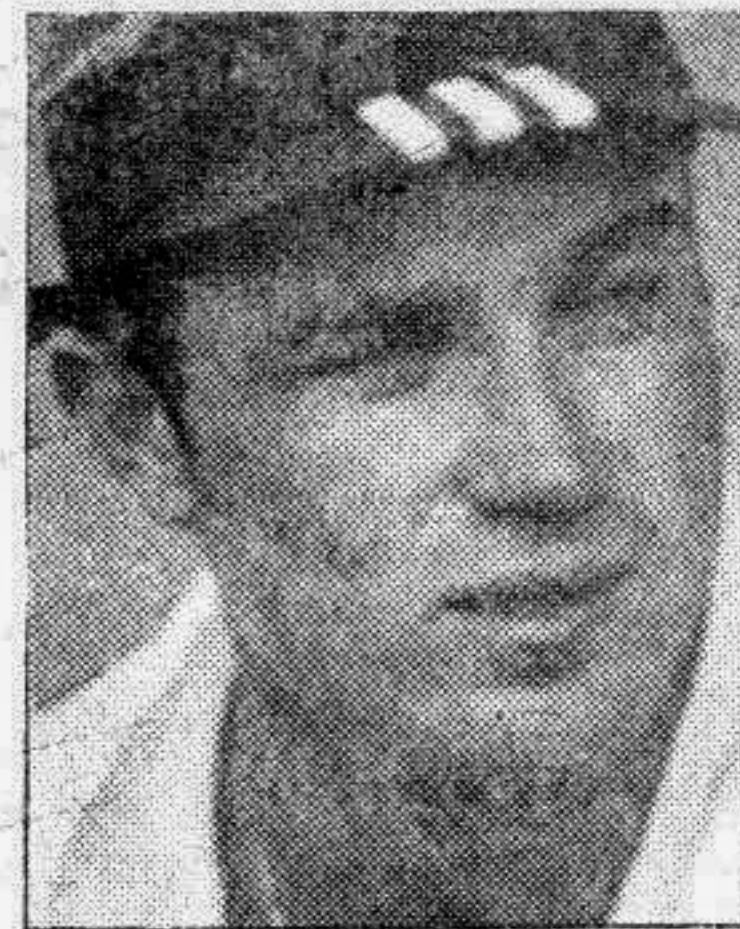
The Board XI resuming at 29-3 in reply to Australia's first innings of 226, were dismissed for 185 with fast bowlers

Damien Fleming and Muller taking the major honours with nine wickets between them.

Muller bowling at full steam troubled all the batsmen with his pace and bounce, while Fleming also made use of the helpful pitch to take 4-40.

Only 19-year-old Chamara Silva batted with some confidence stroking his way to 10 fours in his innings of 66 scored off 86 balls.

Tail-ender Suresh Perera



MICHAEL SLATER

helped the home side recover from 125-8 to their final score of 185, with a rapid knock of 46 off 52 balls. He hit three sixes off leg-spinner Shane Warne. His innings also included five fours.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day tour match between a Sri Lanka Board XI

and Australia on Saturday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings

226	BOARD XI: First innings (29-3 over)				
A Gunawardana lbw b Muller	1	0			
T Dilshan b Fleming	2	0			
S Jayantha c Healy b Fleming	2	0			
C Silva c Slater b Fleming	66	2			
R Kalpage c Slater b Muller	2	0			
I de Saram c Healy b Muller	23	0			
F Jayawardene c Healy b Fleming	19	0			
N Perera c Muller b Warne	1	0			
S Perera b Muller	46	0			
I Gallage c Slater b Muller	2	0			
R Pushpakumara not out	5	0			
Extras: (lb-5, w-2, nb-11)	18				
Total: (All out)	185				
Fall of wickets: 1-1: 2-8; 3-10: 4-87; 5-96; 6-112; 7-119; 8-125; 9-162.					

Bowler:	O	M	R	W
Fleming	17	5	40	4
Muller	15.2	2	64	5
Miller	10	0	33	0
Warne	9	2	43	1
Blewett	1	1	0	0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Blewett c Jayawardene	b	16			
Pushpakumara	b	16			
Slater st Jayawardene	b	119			
Jayantha	b	21			
Langer b S Perera	b	37			
M Waugh not out	9				
Ponting not out	9				
Extras: (b-5, lb-1, w-2, nb-13)	21				
Total: (For three wickets)	223				
Fall of wickets: 1-49; 2-89; 3-199.					

Bowler:

Gallage	10	2	27	0
Pushpakumara	9	0	57	1
Perera	8	4	27	1
Kalpage	7	0	30	0
N Perera	11	1	67	0
Jayantha	3	1	9	1

### Dortmund move into second

BERLIN, Sept 18: Borussia Dortmund moved level on points with German First Division leaders Hamburg SV with a 3-0 win at TSV 1860 Munich on Friday, reports Reuters.

Three days after their 1-1 draw at Feyenoord in the opening Champions League group match the 1997 European champions, who are now second, confirmed they travel well. They have now won two of their three away league matches.

Veteran midfielder Andreas Mueller put Dortmund ahead in the 24th minute and an own goal by TSV 1860 defender Marco Kurz gave them a 2-0 lead in the 38th minute.

Fredi Bobic sealed Dortmund's win five minutes into the second half. In Friday's other match three goals by Tunisian striker Abel Sellimi helped SC Freiburg to a 5-0 win over 10-man Hansa Rostock — their largest Bundesliga victory.

Defender Stefan Mueller and Tunisian midfielder Zoubair Baya were the other marksmen. Bremen had Egyptian midfielder Yasser Radwan sent off for handling the ball in the 25th minute.

Hamburg visit Kaiserslautern on Sunday. Champions Bayern Munich are away to Eintracht Frankfurt today.

#### STANDINGS

Bundesliga table after match on Friday (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):							
Hamburg	4	3	1	0	13	4	10
Borussia	5	3	1	1	7	3	10
Leipzig	4	3	1	0	7	3	10
Frankfurt	5	2	2	1	12	5	8
Wolfsburg	4	2	1	1	8	6	7
Bayern	4	2	1	1	5	7	7
Bielefeld	4	1	3	0	4	2	6
Unterhaching	4	2	0	2	4	6	6
1860 Munich	5	2	0	3	7	9	6
Rostock	5	2	0	3	8	5	6
Bremen	4	1	2	1	6	2	5
Hertha	4	1	2	1	8	9	5
Schalke 04	4	1	1	2	5	7	4
Kaiserslautern	4	1	0	3	3	11	3
Duisburg	4	0	2	2	3	6	2
Ulm	4	0	1	3	3	8	1
Stuttgart	4	0	1	3	1	7	1

### Boro will miss Juninho, Gazza

MIDDLESBROUGH, England, Sept 18: Neither newly-signed Brazilian Juninho or Paul Gascoigne will play for Middlesbrough in the Premiership clash with Leeds United on Sunday, reports AFP.

Juninho has not received international clearance from Spain to play against Leeds United, at Elland Road, while former England star Gascoigne is ruled out with a calf injury.

A Premier League spokesman said: "Friday is the last day to register players for games on a Saturday or a Sunday."

Juninho arrived in Middlesbrough on Friday to start a loan spell at his old club with a view to a permanent move from Atletico Madrid.

Of Gascoigne, manager Bryan Robson said: "Gazza was troubled with a calf injury after the Worthington (League) Cup tie at Chesterfield on Tuesday night."

"If he played against Leeds he would probably rip his calf and that would keep him out for weeks. I want to give him enough time to recover and do himself justice."

### Clough set for Forest return

NOTTINGHAM, England, Sept 18: Former Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough will return to the City Ground on Sunday to rededicate the Executive Stand as The Brian Clough Stand and unveil a bust of himself at the main entrance to the ground, reports AFP.

The legendary manager, who had 18 years of almost unbroken success at Forest, including back-to-back European Cup triumphs in 1979 and 1980, will be guest of honour at the first division match with Wolverhampton Wanderers.

It will be the first time Clough has attended a first-team match since he retired in 1993.

"It's something I am really looking forward to. I've lost count of the number of people who have also said they are coming along to share a few memories with me," said Clough.

"I'm delighted that Forest are renaming the stand after me. Looking back, I certainly got a lot of pleasure from raising the money that built it. They were very happy times for me and a lot of Nottingham people."

### Ferguson's call

MANCHESTER, England, Sept 18: Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson has called for a cap on players' wages to stop salaries spiralling out of control, reports AFP.

Ferguson is alarmed by the huge increases in wages over the last few years. Some of the English Premiership's top earners are taking home in excess of 40,000 pounds (64,000 dollars) a week.

"We're living in an era of football where some of the salaries are crazy and it does worry me," he said in the official Manchester United magazine.

"But we just have to try and do our best and we've been successful with what we try to do."

"I'm all for progress and I believe top players should be given top wages, but I also believe there has to be a system of wage-capping before things get too far out of control."

United have been criticised for operating a salary ceiling at Old Trafford and it is believed top earners like Australian goalkeeper Mark Bosnich take home around 30,000 pounds a week.



Action from the All-Africa football semifinal between South Africa and Zambia. — AFP photo

### All Africa Games

## Cameroon-Zambia final



JOHANNESBURG, Sept 18 (Reuters/AFP): Zambia beat South Africa 1-0 after extra time to reach Sunday's soccer final of the All Africa Games when they will face Cameroon.

The goal by substitute Bernard Makufi in the 106th minute earned six years after a tragic plane crash destroyed the heart of the national soccer side.

Eighteen team members died with 12 other passengers and crew when a Zambian military plane taking them to a World Cup qualifier in Senegal crashed shortly after refuelling in Gabon.

The dead included six of the players in the Zambian team who beat Italy 4-0 in the 1988 Olympic Games — Zambia's finest football achievement — and wiped out one of the continent's most promising teams.

Makufi's back post header came in front of a 40,000 crowd at the Orlando Stadium in

Soweto who had to endure poor South African finishing in a scrappy match.

Zambia face an uphill task to beat the physically strong Cameroonians who they lost to 2-0 in the opening rounds.

Zambia will also be without team captain Moses Sichone for Sunday's game after he left South Africa for a trial with German side Cologne.

Cameroon cruised to a 1-0 semifinal victory over Uganda with a 19th minute goal by Parfait Mbida.

However, Cameroon will be aiming to end the decade as they started it by lifting the title.

The Central African nation defeated Tunisia 1-0 in Cairo eight years ago and they will be hot favourites at the 40,000-capacity Johannesburg Stadium.

Cameroon begin with the psychological advantage of a convincing 2-0 win over Zambia last Sunday in a mini-league match staged in unseasonal cold conditions.

Like many matches at the eight-nation championship, it was a physical, foul-riddled affair with seven yellow cards being flashed before Zambian captain Moses Sichone got his marching orders.

Coach Ben Bamfuchile successfully rearranged his defence in a tight, tense semifinal against South Africa, who were restricted to a couple of half-chances despite the backing of a 45,000 crowd.

Zambia also struggled in attack until substitute Bernard Makufi headed an extra-time winner and it promises to be even more difficult against the best defence in the competition.

Cameroon goalkeeper Daniel Bekono from the famous Canon Yaounde club has conceded only one goal in 360 minutes with the Central Africans massing in defence at the slightest hint of danger.

Equally impressive is their ability to punish blunders. South Africa, only the second host nation not to qualify for the final in seven editions, face surprise packets Uganda in a curtain-raiser to determine who collects the bronze medals.

### Bid for 2006 World Cup

## It's a two-way race?



JOHANNESBURG, Sept 18: South Africa's soccer World Cup bid chief Danny Jordaan said on Friday the race to stage the 2006 World Cup finals had come down to a battle between Germany and South Africa only, reports Reuters.

At the same time he said he was not dismissing England's bid, but that Germany were "formidable candidates." He did not mention the bids from either Morocco or Brazil, Jordaan, spearheading South Africa's own campaign to host the tournament said that the Germans were "formidable candidates" and that the race for the finals had boiled down to just Germany and South Africa.

"It is clear to me that the decision by UEFA to endorse Germany as the candidate of Europe is still a major factor in support for Germany on the European continent," Jordaan told reporters, although that is not strictly understood to be the case.

Although UEFA president Lennart Johansson has said he is in favour of Germany's bid, he has also said he will not order European delegates to follow a "party line" in their voting.

He has repeatedly said they can vote for whoever they wish. Jordaan said England was still in the running for the finals but that it could not justify its claim to the finals simply on the grounds that it was the home of football.

"It's Africa's turn... We hear the claims that this or that country is the home of football. The truth of the matter is that the home of football is planet earth," Jordaan said.

South Africa deserved the finals on the grounds that Africa had never hosted the soccer tournament since it started in 1930, and South Africa was fully up to organising the spectacular.

"We say we are ready to host a viable, profitable World Cup for the first time on this continent... 2006 must be Africa's turn," Jordaan said.

Jordaan's remarks can be interpreted in many different ways, but are likely to have little influence on FIFA's 24-man Executive Committee who will decide which nation hosts the finals in July 2000.

FIFA inspectors start visiting the bidding countries later this year, and a clearer picture of who is or who is not in the running will only begin to emerge after their visits have been completed.

### Joao snubs Brazil's bid

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 18 (Internet report): Former FIFA president Joao Havelange gave England's World Cup bid a shot in the arm by urging Brazil to pull out of the race to host the 2006 event.

The country hoped to bring the tournament to South America and submitted an official application in Switzerland this summer, but Brazilian Havelange on Friday advised the South Americans to withdraw their bid and take aim at 2010.

"I'd prefer to lose a finger than lose a hand; in order to win, you also have to know how to lose," he told Brazilian newspaper Estado.



French heptathlete Eunice Barber glides over the hurdles during the 'Decastar' meeting in Talence yesterday. — AFP photo



1860 Munich's Bernhard Winkler (R) goes past a Borussia Dortmund player in their Bundesliga encounter on September 17. — AFP photo

## Serena only in doubles



STANFORD, California, Sept 17: US Open champion Serena Williams will play only doubles as the United States take on Russia in the 1999 Fed Cup final this weekend, reports AFP.

Her elder sister Venus and Lindsay Davenport, both eliminated in the semifinals at Flushing Meadows, will carry the US flag in singles, against Russian number one Elena Likhovtseva and Elena Dementieva, who is playing Fed Cup singles for the first time.

"I try to go mostly by rankings," US captain Billie Jean King said of a team selection that leaves veteran Monica Seles on the sidelines throughout the two-day tie. "Not always, but mostly by rankings."

Serena Williams, 17, moved up to fourth in the world after her triumph over world number one Martina Hingis of Switzerland last Sunday, one place in front of Seles.

But Davenport is still the top-ranked US player at number two, and Venus Williams is ranked third.

"It's hard," King said of the selection process. "I think they all deserve to play."

Venus Williams will open play against Elena Likhovtseva, ranked 17th in the world, on Saturday. The matches start on both days at 20:00 GMT at the Taube Family Tennis Center on the campus of Stanford University.

Williams has won all three of their previous meetings, in Moscow in 1997 and 1998 and at the WTA Tour event here in Stanford in 1998.

After that, Davenport will take on the 68th-ranked 17-year-old, who she has never played before.

"I've heard of her. I've never watched her play," said Davenport, who admitted that she had been expecting to play Tatiana Panova. "We'll talk about it tonight and figure out what to do."

Russian captain Konstantin Bogorodetski said he chose Dementieva over Panova because he thought the young player's style would match up well against the hard-hitting Americans.

"She knows how to play, and she doesn't have any fear some more experienced players might have," he added.

While the tie is a mismatch on paper, Bogorodetski said the underdog status might help his players.

"We don't have to win," he said.

"I think we all want to win," said Likhovtseva. "But it puts more pressure on when you have to win."

King said she expected her

players to thrive on the high expectations.

"I like high expectations," she said. "The pursuit of excellence is important to all of us."

Russia reached the final by defeating France 3-2 in Moscow in the first round, then ousting the Slovak Republic 3-2 in the semifinals.

The United States blanked Croatia 5-0 at home in the first round then beat Italy in Ancona in the semifinals.

Spain, who defeated Switzerland in the 1998 final, were ousted by Italy in the first round, when the Swiss bowed out to Slovakia.

who won the women's doubles title at the US Open, play Dementieva and Elena Makarova in doubles.

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Chen Hong of China exults after beating Taipei's F