

Atapattu 207 Rain ruins third day

KANDY, Sri Lanka, June 30: Sri Lanka were 467 for five in their first innings when play was called off due to rain on the third day of the third and final test against Pakistan today, reports Reuters.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play on the rain-affected third day of the third and final cricket Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka at the Asgiriya International Stadium on Friday. SRI LANKA: First innings (night 449/5) 207...

South American qualifying No stopping Argentina



MONTEVIDEO, June 30: Argentina, thanks to a 3-1 win over Colombia on Thursday night, have tightened their grip on the South American Zone World Cup qualifying group, reports AFP.

home to third-placed Uruguay on Wednesday, with eight. Argentina had their talismanic striker Gabriel Batistuta largely to thank for their unblemished qualifying record so far with the newly signed AS Roma player netting a first half double against Colombia.

Hernan Crespo wrapped up the win in the last quarter of an hour. Humiliated for Brazil at their Maracana stadium headquarters 24 hours earlier was avoided by a late penalty from Rivaldo.

Patrick yet to get into the groove

LONDON, June 30 (AFP): The mystique of Wimbledon has a tough time rubbing off on Australia's two-time US Open winner Patrick Rafter.

It's not for a lack of trying. Like most of the Aussie players, the 27-year-old 12th-seeded Queenslander has memories of the grass-court Grand Slam stretching back to childhood.

Rafter used to watch the 'Big Event' with his brothers in the middle of the night on television. 'We'd get up at 2 a.m. to watch,' he said on Thursday after defeating compatriot and friend Todd Woodbridge 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 for a third-round spot at the All-England Club.

Johnson leads Zimbabwe

NOTTINGHAM, England, June 30: An exhibition of attacking strokeplay from all-rounders Neil Johnson saw Zimbabwe cruise to a five-wicket victory over an in-form Nottinghamshire team here on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Set 208 to win, the tourists reached their target with 51 balls to spare as Johnson timed the ball exquisitely to stroke an unbeaten 40 from just 26 balls.

Notts, sitting proud on top of the Second Division of the National Cricket League with seven one-day wins out of eight in the competition this season, should have provided stiffer opposition.

But the visitors displayed a high-class limited-overs pedigree by easing to victory in this warm-up for next month's triangular tournament with England and the West Indies.

Openers Craig Wishart and Guy Whittall set the ball rolling with 31 quickfire runs in six overs, before the former was bowled by David Lucas.

Murray Goodwin, who scored a Test century on the ground earlier in the season but revealed on Wednesday that he was quitting Zimbabwean cricket after this tour to return to Sheffield Shield side Western Australia, followed for just three.

Former captain Alistair Campbell then anchored the innings while Whittall, Andy and Grant Flower and finally Johnson blazed away at the other end.

Whittall was dropped on nine, by wicketkeeper Chris Read but was finally snapped up behind the stumps when he topped a pull shot on 44.

Andy Flower hit 26 before a straight full toss trapped him low while brother Grant added 13 before being caught in the gully allowing Johnson in for his cameo performance.

Earlier, young Notts opener Guy Welton superbly held together the innings with an excellent 94, surviving all but three balls of the allotted 50 overs.



American Andre Agassi stretches for a return against compatriot Todd Martin in the second round of the Wimbledon on June 29.

Seeds sent packing

LONDON, June 30: Amid claims that the tennis season has become too long and a drain on player's fitness a clutch of seeds crashed out of Wimbledon on Thursday while men's defending champion Pete Sampras faced a race against time to overcome a foot injury and stay in the event, reports AFP.

Seeds to survive included fourth seed and French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten, British eighth seed Tim Henman, Aussie 10th seed Mark Philippoussis and 12th-seeded compatriot Pat Rafter, who all reached the third round of the men's singles with fairly straightforward wins.

Men's second seed and former champion Andre Agassi saw his match with fellow American Todd Martin suspended for rain.

The winner of their duel will play Jerome Golmard of France, who beat Austrian Stefan Kouber.

Agassi, winner here in 1992, led two sets to one, 6-4, 2-6, 7-6 with Martin leading 1-0 in the fourth set after 2hr 10min on Centre Court when play was suspended as both men were slipping and sliding around.

Russian fifth seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov became the ninth men's seed to lose when Thomas Johansson of Sweden beat the former world number one 6-1, 7-6, 6-4.

Kafelnikov only added to the injury debate when he said he was suffering from sore ribs.

Women's title-holder Lindsay Davenport of the United States progressed.

Sampras' dreams of a seventh Wimbledon crown and a record 13th Grand Slam title hung in the balance following

treatment for the ankle injury he suffered in Wednesday's second-round victory over Slovakia's Karol Kucera.

'Sampras' coach Paul Annacone revealed the problem had appeared as soon as he started warming up on court.

'We'll have to see how it progresses in the next 24 hours. But he's resilient. He's going to do whatever he can to try to play.'

If Sampras can shrug off his injury in time to face compatriot Justin Gimelstob on Friday he has an excellent chance of moving through to the final as Swedish ninth seed Thomas Enqvist is the only other seed left in his half of the draw.

Kuerten, looking to become the first man since Bjorn Borg in 1980 to add the Wimbledon crown to a French Open triumph in the same year, raced past South African qualifier Justin Bower in straight sets 6-4, 6-4, 7-5.

'I think it's a good moment for my game. I have a lot of confidence and I have to take advantage of that. I'm starting to find my rhythm,' said Kuerten, who took just 90min to win his 15th match in succession - the longest winning streak of his career at Tour level.

He now meets Germany's Alexander Popp, who came past diminutive American Michael Chang 7-6, 4-6, 6-7, 6-3, 8-6.

In other matches, Philippoussis needed four sets to beat Arnaud Di Pasquale of France, 4-6, 7-6, 6-3, 6-0 to set up a meeting with Sjeng Schalken of the Netherlands.

Henman advanced 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 on Centre Court over Frenchman Arnaud Clement, ranked 58 in the world and who ended the hopes of three-time runner-up Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia in the first round.

Henman, semi-finalist in each of the past two years and the last British survivor, next faces Hicham Arazi of Morocco, who edged Sebastian Lareau of Canada 6-3, 3-6, 6-7, 6-4, 9-7.

'I had to work hard out there - but to come through in straight sets is a good win for me,' Henman said.

Earlier, Russian 15th seed Marat Safin lost to Martin Damm of the Czech Republic. Damm ousted Safin, a major force on clay but inexperienced on grass, 7-5, 7-6, 6-3.

Back among the women, Davenport had to fight to reach round three before ousting Elena Likhovtseva of Russia in three sets.

Spain's ninth seed Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, twice a finalist and making her 14th consecutive appearance here, stroled to a 6-3, 6-1 victory over Italy's Rita Grande.

American sixth seed Monica Seles, the 1992 finalist and seeking to win the only Grand Slam singles title to elude her, beat Belgium's Els Callens 6-4, 6-4.

Frenchwoman Sarah Pitkowski awaits Seles in the third round.

Aussie teenager Jelena Dokic defeated Gaia Leon Garcia of Spain 7-6, 6-1.

As in the men's tournament women's seeds have been falling like ninespins with six having departed the event in the first round - an all time record.

And 12th-seeded South African Amanda Coetzer joined them on the scrapheap as Lilia Osterloh of the USA beat her 7-6, 6-2 in a second-round match.

Nine seeded women have been eliminated, including 1994 title winner Conchita Martinez of Spain, a second-round loser on Wednesday.

King needs more time

CAPE TOWN, June 30: The Commission's interim report into match-fixing in South African cricket, due to be handed over on Friday, will be delayed to August 11, the commission secretary said on Thursday, reports AFP.

Commission head Judge Edwin King was due to deliver the interim report to President Thabo Mbeki on Friday, the day the South African cricket team leaves on a tour of Sri Lanka.

Alliaki had extended the period by which King has to present the report, commission secretary John Bacon said in a statement.

The extension has been necessitated by the volume of work involved in the preparation of the interim report,' he said.

After 10 days of hearings, spread over more than three weeks, the commission adjourned on Monday to enable King to prepare his report and for further investigation to be conducted.

Hearings are not expected to be resumed until September.

Match-fixing

Indians could be offered amnesty

NEW DELHI, June 30: Indian Minister Ram Jethmalani urged strongly Friday for an amnesty for any Indian cricketer who comes clean on match-fixing and declares all his hidden income, reports AFP.

They must admit their wrongdoing publicly and pay taxes on their concealed income,' Jethmalani said in a statement released by the government.

If there is genuine repentance and remorse, then the fact that the cricketers are suffering public humiliation should be considered enough punishment and we should forgive and forget,' Jethmalani said.

The minister also stressed at any foreign exchange of assets or underworld links uncovered by a federal investigation into match-fixing should be fully investigated.

India's Central Bureau of Investigation is currently running an extensive inquiry into possible match-fixing especially in the wake of allegations arising from the Hansie Cronje affair.

Pierce slips on grass

LONDON, June 30: French Open champion Mary Pierce fell off her Roland Garros cloud on Thursday as the French third seed slid out of Wimbledon, beaten 7-6, 7-6 by Magui Serna of Spain in the second round, reports AFP.

Pierce said the thrill of becoming the first home winner of Roland Garros in 33 years, emulating 1967 winner Francoise Durr, had taken too much out of her as she failed in her attempt to land 'La Grande Nation' a first women's singles title here since Suzanne Lenglen in 1925.

'I was mentally and physically tired,' admitted the 25-year-old.

'It just wasn't my day. It wasn't meant to be. I was missing something and she played a good match. She served very well. I should have gone to the net more,' said Pierce, who elected to play just a charity match at Newport, Rhode Island, as a warm-up.

'I have to give my body a bit of a rest,' said Canadian-born Pierce, who revealed she was suffering from a stiff shoulder and thigh, although she will continue competing in the doubles alongside Martina Hingis.

'I love playing doubles. I have great fun with Martina,' said Pierce, who won the French Open women's doubles crown alongside the Swiss teenager.

Pierce has been surfing a wave this year with her success in Paris as she has re-discovered Catholicism since settling into a long-term relationship with Major League Baseball star Roberto Alomar.

Pierce has never really enjoyed her trips to south London, with a 1996 quarter-final appearance her best effort in six attempts.

Last year she bowed out in the fourth round to Aussie teen star and qualifier Jelena Dokic, who had humiliated Hingis in the opening round.

Earlier in the week she admitted she preferred the atmosphere at other events.

'Wimbledon is not very player-friendly. They don't want to pick you up at the airport,' she claimed.

'It is the most prestigious tournament but not so enjoyable as the others.'

Pierce said she will now take a break having admitted after Roland Garros that 'I no longer want to torture myself on court.'

As for this year's Wimbledon singles are concerned the torturer's over.



Frenchwoman Mary Pierce in action against Spaniard Magui Serna in the second round of Wimbledon on June 29.

Demon Dokic is back!

LONDON, June 30 (AFP): Aussie tennis prodigy Jelena Dokic reached the semifinals on her Wimbledon debut last year after putting out world number one Martina Hingis in the opening round - but she's playing second fiddle here this year ... to her father.

Damir Dokic was in trouble with the authorities Thursday after breaking a reporter's mobile phone and police escorted him from the premises.

But he was expected back at the stadium Friday to watch 17-year-old Jelena play in two doubles matches alongside American Jennifer Capriati.

Mr Dokic, who branded Britain a 'fascist' country during an argument with the press, was interviewed by police over the phone incident but they took no further action.

It was the second time the unruly Mr Dokic had been in hot water in Britain.

A year ago he was thrown out of the DFS Classic in Edgbaston for making too much noise.

He was then arrested by police for lying down in the road.

WIMBLEDON NOTEBOOK

LONDON, June 30 (AFP): Brazilian Gustavo Kuerten normally spends longer doing his hair than he does beating opponents.

Asked how many hours it takes to prepare his blonded rastafarian dreadlocks he replied: 'Three to four hours. I think I'm going to keep it for a while.'

Kuerten, who is looking to become the first man since Bjorn Borg in 1980 to add the Wimbledon crown to a French Open triumph in the same year.

WEIRD PLAYERS At Wimbledon, every player seems to have a superstition or quirk. Routines have to be rigorously adhered to, the mischievous gods of tennis plucked.

Brazilian Gustavo Kuerten always asks for three balls and then throws one away. Australian Lleyton Hewitt never leaves his pony-tail alone.

Billie-Jean King used to have her lucky bath in the locker room and woe betide any player who took it.

Conchita Martinez never walks on the lines. Alexandra Stevenson wears the same dress until she loses. Iva Majoli will eat the same breakfast every morning when she is winning.

with just the flag in front of their body, the important parts,' she said.

SUPERBRAT RECOGNISED Once upon a time, John McEnroe was 'Superbrat,' the tempestuous talent with short fuse.

How times have changed since his epic duels with officialdom and Bjorn Borg - in the Eighties. For the Millennium Wimbledon, he is proving a huge hit with viewers on BBC Television with his wit and acerbic comments.

And now he has received the ultimate academic accolade - the latest Oxford Dictionary of Quotations has even included his most famous rant at the umpire: 'You canNOT be serious.'

NAUGHTY NAVRATILOVA! You don't have to be sexy to be a good tennis player. Martina Navratilova insists.

Back at the Wimbledon tournament she loves so much, the nine-time champion complained that sex was being oversold among the singles girls.

'We don't see the guys posing

TV Guide

Saturday 1st July All programmes are in local time, unless otherwise stated. Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

Center 7:00 News For Weather 7:05 Ceetinnallyo (Song of Robindranath) 7:25 Series: Mowgli (Bangla Dubb) 8:00 Bangla News At 8:30 Weekly Drama: Autopur Ekdin ('Pijush Bondopadhyay, Lucky Inam, Ridi Hoqu, Tapos Sarkar) 10:00 News At Ten (English) 10:30 Khola Jaanala (Talk Show) 10:55 Mini Series: 11:30 Sambad (Bangla News) 11:35 English News 11:40 A Programme Outline For Sunday B) National Song, 11:45 Closing

20:20 Shonibar Chaya Chobi: Lal Benarshi 11:30 Ei Shtah 12:45 European Football Show ATN 5:30 Islamic Programme 6:32 Child Prog 7:10 Viewers Prog 7:50 Magazine Prog 8:25 Drama Serial 9:00 Drama Serial 9:35 Musical Prog 10:10 Reporting Prog 10:45 Bangla Film-Shesh Aghat 6:32 Child Prog 7:10 Drama Serial 7:50 Film Songs 8:25 Musical Prog 9:00 Drama Serial 9:35 Musical Prog 10:10 Drama Serial 10:45 Bangla Film-Zid Mukharjee, Arindam) 8:30 Jalsaghar-Barnali 9:00 Special Prog - / Katha O Kahini 9:25 Serial: Bangla Amar Bangla 10:00 Khas Khabar 10:20 Mokho Mukhi 10:50 News & Bengali Sambad 11:20 Shantantik 11:40 Shoni Basor & Closed ALPHA TV BANGLA 6:30 Alaap 7:00 Monthbar 7:30 Bharat Bhromam 8:00 Serial: Bhavanepurer Chattugge 8:30 Serial: Mitir Bari 9:00 Plabon 9:30 Bahari Aahar 10:00 Gribhosaja 10:30 Serial: Ihara Samayer Upkatha 11:00 Serial: Daag 11:30 Serial: Sanghata 12:00 Serial: Sapanal 12:30 Jigisha 1:00 Aapnader Janyee 1:30 Bahari Aahar 2:00 Serial: Aamra Probashi#17 2:30 Bangla Movie. 5:00 Bharat Bhromam 5:30 Asian Sky Show 6:00 Manabi 6:30 Jale Jale 7:00 Amay Bhuban 7:30 News In Bangali 8:00 Serial: Shoni-Robi Mugar Chobi #16 8:30 Half Ticket 9:00 Serial: Major Khala 9:30 Serial: Gost House 10:00 News In Bangali 10:30 Saregama ('Host- Babul Suprio) 11:30 Serial: Hiyar Majhe 12:00 Gugly 12:30 Bharat Bhromam 12:00 Gribhosaja 1:30 Bangla Movie. 4:00 Serial: Reem 4:30 Serial: Shoni-Robi Mugar Chobi #16

SONY ENT. TV 7:30 Aatma 8:00 Sant Asaram Wani 8:30 Ramayan #63 9:30 Music Mantra (Trailer show) 10:00 Chartist 10:30 Star Yarr Kalakar 11:30 Jeannie 12:00 Archana Talkies 12:30 Boogie Woogie 1:30 The Good Home Show 2:00 Cook It Up With Tarla Dalal 2:30 Weekend Matinee Hindi Film: Waqt 6:00 Heena #78 ('Rakhi Bhijan, Siman Singh, Rahul Bhatt, Nina Kulkarni) 6:30 Kanyasada #35 ('Kiran Kher, Poonam Narula) 7:00 Saaya #81 ('Achimay Kaur, Anup Soni, Aar Mahadev, Monisha) 7:30 C.I.D. Files Ep- 8:30 Special Event- 12:30 Midnight Hours: CATS #19 Ep- The Strangler Pt 1-100 Aahat #225 Ep- 1:30 Missing #52 Ep- (Pre- Jacky Shroff) 2:00 CID #120 Ep- The Clue In The Ashes Pt-2 2:30 Mare Aangan Mein 3:00 Rang Birangee 3:30 Cine Night-Film: Toofan Aur Bijli

BBC WORLD 6:00 BBC World News 6:30 Click Online 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Asia Today 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Asia Today 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Asia Today 9:45 World Business Report 10:00 BBC News 10:30 World Living - Talking Movies (Pres- Tom Brook) 11:00 World News 11:30 Australia Direct 12:00 World News 12:30 Talking Movies: Question Time India Talk (Presenter- Dr. Prnooy Roy) 1:30 BBC World News 1:30 Correspondent-Europe 2:00 BBC World News 2:10 Holiday Guides #1/4- South East Asia 3:10 The Nazis- A Warning From History #1/6- Helped Into Power 4:30 World Living: Rough Guide To The World #4/4- Russia- A Curtain

Raiser 5:00 BBC News 5:30 This Week 6:00 World Headlines 6:10 Holiday Guides #1/4- South East Asia 7:00 BBC World News 7:30 Life- India Inhales 8:10 Great Railway Journeys #6/7- London To Arcadia With Ben Okri 9:00 BBC World News 9:10 The Nazis- A Warning From History #1/6- Helped Into Power 10:00 World News 10:30 It: India Tomorrow 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 This Week 12:00 World News 12:30 Earth Report- Hidden Camis 1:00 World News Headlines 1:10 Holiday Guides #1/4- South East Asia 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 Talking Movies (Presenter- Tom Brook) 3:00 BBC World News 3:10 Great Railway Journeys #6/7- London To Arcadia With Ben Okri 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Australia Direct

10:30 Without Warning 11:30 Earth Quark 12:00 Grizh 12:30 New Sanctuaries 1:00 Oceans of Mystery- 1:30 Rulers of The Deep 2:30 The Elephant 3:30 Return of The Dooma 4:30 Beyond 2000- 5:00 Discovery News- 5:30 Ultimate Guide 6:30 Going Wild With Left Corwin- 7:00 So You Want To Be? 7:30 Extreme Machines- 8:30 Challenge 9:30 High Adventure- 10:00 Outer Bounds- 10:30 Wings Future Wings 11:30 Ultrascience- 12:00 Next Step 12:30 Challenge 1:30 High Adventure- 2:00 Outer Bounds SET MAX 7:30 Film Show: Pyar Ka aagar 10:00 Live- Cricket- Test Series- Pakistan Vs Sri Lanka 3rd Test 4th Day 6:00 Film Show: Andher Nagri 8:30 Chartbusters 9:00 Music Mantra 9:30 Film Show: Zindagi Ek Juaa ('Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit) 12:30 Film Show: Sheeha ('Mithun, Moon Moon Sen) 3:30 Film Show: Nishan

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution time of 22 mins and a 'Yesterday's answer' section.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with a 10x10 grid of numbers and letters.

CRYPTOQUIP R A C R X X Z R G Y P . S J G A Q G V D Q A Q J A - W J D K U B W J G P V B U K V A R C X F P Z U R Y S G R B Y X F Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A THIN-SKINNED AIRPLANE PILOT IS PRETTY LIKELY TO FLY OFF THE HANDLE. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals H