

What Waugh feels about Cronje

SYDNEY, Oct 12: Disgraced former South African cricket captain Hansie Cronje has to accept his life ban over match-fixing scandals...

High profile burglary!

LONDON, Oct 12: One of the West Indies' biggest cricket enthusiasts was charged Wednesday with stealing 70,000 pounds...

Investment banker and cricket author Vijay Priyadarshan Kumar, 41, flew from his home in New York City to be interviewed by Scotland Yard...

Kumar, born in Guyana, pleaded innocent to two charges of theft and one of attempted theft. He was released on a 6,000 pound (9,000 dollars) bond.

The case was adjourned until November 22. One charge accuses Kumar, author of the book 'Cricket, Lovely Cricket', of stealing cricket memorabilia from a bookstore in Surrey in February.

A second charge relates to cricket items allegedly stolen in late 1999 from an acquaintance's home in Colchester. A second bookstore is named in the attempted theft charge.

The missing items, valued at 70,000 pounds include several Wisden almanacs and autographs of famous cricket players dating back to the 19th century.

Cairns may miss South Africa tour

NAIROBI, Oct 12 (Internet report): The knee injury which hampered Chris Cairns during the tour of Zimbabwe, and again during the tournament in Nairobi, threatens to keep him out of the next leg of his team's African safari.

He flew from Harare to Johannesburg to undergo treatment, but then the whole problem flared up again in Nairobi during the match against Zimbabwe.

The problem has been with him for about two years, and the current situation is clearly a cause for concern, to the extent that his tour must now be considered to be in serious jeopardy.

Regarding the Black Caps' involvement in Sunday's match, it is possible that Cairns will be in the starting line-up, but playing purely as a batsman. The only problem is that, if he aggravates the injury while fielding, it might not be clear-cut that a substitute fielder would be allowed. A runner might equally be refused on the same grounds.

ICC praises

From page 13

Mohammad Qayyum which ended last year.

"Justice Qayyum's probe was extensive and he can be given another mandate," Zia said.

The judge conducted a judicial probe into match-fixing allegations from September 1998 to October 1999, although this did not include the last World Cup.

General Zia said the new inquiry would not have any adverse effect on players.

"I don't think players will be pressurised by this and we would do our best to get them up in short time, maybe before the series against England," he said.

Pakistan face England in three one-day matches and the same number of Tests from October 24.

In a related development, former London Metropolitan Police Commissioner Sir Paul Condon will next week brief the ICC board in Nairobi on the workings of the ICC's anti-corruption unit, which was set up in June.

Much of the work of this unit is focussed on the two 1999 World Cup matches which General Zia wants to be investigated in the judicial enquiry.

Milutinovic being realistic

TRIPOLI, Lebanon, Oct 12: China's charismatic coach Bora Milutinovic wrote off his team's chances of winning the Asian Cup on Thursday and said a draw against South Korea in their opening Group B match would be a creditable start, reports AFP.



BORA MILUTINOVIC

The globe-trotting Yugoslav, the only man to coach four different teams at the World Cup, claimed he had not had enough time to impose his style since he replaced Englishman Bobby Houghton at the beginning of the year.

"I really don't see us getting further than the last eight," he told AFP, ahead of Friday's match with the Koreans.

"South Korea, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Japan are very strong and it will take a great performance to get past one of them in the quarters," he added.

Milutinovic, who is no stranger to pulling off shocks as he showed when tiny Costa Rica beat Scotland and reached the last 16 of the 1990 World Cup, said although there was talent in Chinese football the current system made it difficult to unearth.

"While for sure there is a huge base of talent out there, because of the country being so huge it is difficult to discover," he said.

"The league is too small and I get to spend too little time with the players because four-five day spells are not sufficient for me to get the message across of my system and tactics."

Milutinovic played down any suggestion of internal strife since the popular Houghton was dismissed after China failed to qualify for the Olympics.

"There are no problems because the Chinese are extremely disciplined," he said. "They are very different to a lot of the other teams like the United States that I have coached in that they are always very positive."

"They are disciplined and in excellent physical condition but as I have said in competitions like this one needs a bit more than that and the Koreans are that much more battle hardened... they have qualified for the last four World Cups after all."

If Milutinovic is to pull off another of his giantkilling acts then he will need his two current 'stars' to lead by example. Experienced defender Fan Zhiyi of English First Division outfit Crystal Palace, will need to keep a lid on his famous temper as he attempts to shackle South Korea's young tyro Lee Dong-Gook.

Up front, Milutinovic will be looking to Perugia striker Ma Mingyu, the first Chinese player to sign for an Italian First Division club, to come good on his undoubted promise and get the better of Korean footballing icon and veteran of two World Cup finals, central defender Hong Myung-Bok.

Those two tantalising duels are where the match could well be won and lost, although Milutinovic remained phlegmatic about failure to impress in this tournament.

"I was hired to guide China to the World Cup finals," he said. "This is merely an aperitif. Although I need to see some progress on the pitch it will not be the end of the world if we go out in the quarters."

If China do make an early exit and Milutinovic finds himself out of a job, however, he will not be looking to Lancaster Gate for future employment.

The England job... under no circumstances!



Japanese footballers warming up during a training session at the Municipal Stadium in Beijing on October 11.

Bundesliga preview

Bayern can't afford to relax

BERLIN, Oct 12: Boosted by the success of the national team on World Cup duty against England last Saturday, the German domestic campaign resumes this weekend with leaders Bayern Munich making what would normally seem like a routine visit to basement dwellers Energie Cottbus, reports AFP.

But given that Ottmar Hitzfeld is likely to rest some of his championship squad in preparation for next week's crucial Champions League game against French outfit Paris Saint Germain and taking into account Bayern's recent form, Energie could fancy their chances of an upset.

Bayern's last league outing was a shock 1-0 home defeat against a modest Hansa Rostock side, which may have been a partial hangover from the Champions League loss four days earlier when PSG pulled a 1-0 victory out of the bag thanks to an injury-time winner from Laurent Leroy.

Hitzfeld will want to get back on the winning track before the Parisians arrive for the rematch as along with Norwegian champions Rosenborg, all three clubs are on six points - but only two teams advance to the next Group phase.

It would be a humiliating experience for last season's semi-finalists and 1999 runners-up to find themselves thrown into the dogfight that is the UEFA Cup, which is the

modest compensation for finishing third in the group. If Bayern do slip up, the surprise of the early season, Schalke 04 could clamour over them and go top, assuming they see off Eintracht Frankfurt in Gelsenkirchen's Parkstadion.

Bayer Leverkusen's Christoph Daum, the national coach-elect, is unlikely to have heard if the recent allegations against him of drug taking and involvement with prostitutes, but will put it all to one side Saturday for his team's trip to what has been a disappointing Werder Bremen side to date.

Daum received a boost earlier this week when Germany's justice minister Daubler-Gmelin, a Social Democrat, told the newspaper Bild: "It should not become a habit that an accused person has to prove his innocence."

Added to that, Daum on Monday supplied a hair sample in a bid to counter the drug-taking allegations.

Last year's runners-up are well-placed among the chasing pack, and if they can grab all three points at Bremen, it could put them among the top three and give them some momentum in their quest for that elusive first ever German title.

Struggling Kaiserslautern will be without French international midfielder Youri Djorkaeff for the visit to 1860 Munich, a game which will be the club's first match under new coach Andreas Brehme.

The World Cup and Euro 2000 winner is suffering from a

thigh injury and has only been able to undertake light jogging this week.

Brehme takes over from Otto Rehnhagel who resigned two weeks ago following the 1-1 draw against lowly Energie Cottbus.

In a match on Friday, third-placed Borussia Dortmund could go top, albeit temporarily, if they can find the ammunition to shoot down SC Freiburg in a home match well within their grasp of winning.

After spending last season camped in the bottom half of the table, and flirting precariously close to relegation, to be back amongst the leaders is welcome relief for the 1997 European Cup winners.

Hertzha Berlin are also enjoying a solid start to the season, just a point behind Dortmund, but will face a determined Hansa Rostock side in one of two Sunday matches.

Unterhaching host VfL Wolfsburg in the other Sunday match, with the home side fighting to get out of the bottom three.

FIXTURES Friday: Borussia Dortmund v SC Freiburg Saturday: 1860 Munich v Kaiserslautern, FC Cologne v VfL Bochum, Schalke 04 v Eintracht Frankfurt, Werder Bremen v Bayer Leverkusen, Energie Cottbus v Bayern Munich, VfB Stuttgart v SV Hamburg Sunday: Hansa Rostock v Werder Berlin, Unterhaching v VfL Wolfsburg

French First Division preview

Paris await a classic

PARIS, Oct 12: Paris Saint Germain entertain arch-rivals Marseille on Friday in what is always

one of the classic encounters of the French League season, while surprise early leaders Bastia host Monaco, reports AFP.

Elsewhere, Lyon host Toulouse as the basement dwellers come to town with newly-appointed coach Robert Nouzeau trying to breathe life into what is rapidly looking like a lost cause for the south-west club in June.

Much of the work of this unit is focussed on the two 1999 World Cup matches which General Zia wants to be investigated in the judicial enquiry.

PSG's in-form goalkeeper Lionel Letizi should start despite coming off during France's 1-1 draw with Cameroon last week with a groin injury.

It has been a dramatic turnaround for the former Metz keeper. Falling to crack the starting line-up to start the campaign, he was surprisingly recalled to the French squad by coach Roger Lemerre and started against the African champions.

"I resumed training Monday, felt no pain and was cautious handling certain shots but now I'm fully fit," said Letizi.

As for Marseille, coach Abel Braga will welcome the return of captain and right-back Patrick Blondeau who has been out since the first match of the season with a broken toe.

FIXTURES Friday: Paris Saint Germain v Marseille, Lyon v Toulouse, Bastia v Monaco Saturday: Strasbourg v Nantes, Rennes v Lens, Sedan v Saint Etienne, Metz v Troyes, Lille v Guingamp Sunday: Auxerre v Bordeaux

Paes, Bhupathi in last eight

TOKYO, Oct 12: India's Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi were inundated with fans seeking their autographs and pictures after winning their doubles match at the Japan Open on Thursday, reports AFP.

Paes and Bhupathi, the 1999 French Open and Wimbledon champions, survived a close battle against the eighth-seeded Australian duo of Paul Kilderry and Peter Tramacchi, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 in the second round.

Although it was an outside court and current French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten was attracting spectators at the centre stadium, some 50 fans kept Paes and Bhupathi busy with autograph signings.

In the quarterfinals, they will take on the second-seeded duo of Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden and David Prinosil of Germany.

Henman, Pioline the survivors

VIENNA, Oct 12: Sixth seed Tim Henman on Wednesday became only the second seed to survive the first round of the CA Trophy after his emphatic 6-3, 6-1 victory over Swiss Marc Rosset, reports Reuters.

The barrage of first-round defeats of seeds makes the Vienna 800,000 dollars tournament the first ATP event in 2000 to witness so many prominent early casualties.

Eighth-seeded Frenchman Cedric Pioline is the only other surviving seed at the event.

Thomas Enqvist set the ATP record earlier in the day when he became the sixth seeded player to bow out in the first round. The Swede retired with a foot injury when Czech Slava Dosedel was 5-3 up in the first set.

Gustavo keeps Andrea at bay

TOKYO, Oct 12: French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten fended off a spirited challenge from Andrea Gaudenzi on Thursday to make a berth in the quarterfinals at the Japan Open, reports AFP.

The 24-year-old Brazilian top seed, also the winner at Roland Garros in 1997, used effective drop shots and a lightning forehand to blunt the Italian's hard-charging tactics for a 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory.

Australia's power-server Mark Philippoussis stayed on course for a probable final showdown against Kuerten by putting an end to South Korean Yoon Yong-Il's excellent run with a 7-6 (9/7), 6-4 win.

In the quarterfinals Friday, Kuerten will take on seventh seed Dominik Hrbaty, who defeated ninth seed Karol Kucera 6-4, 6-4 in an all-Slovak match.

Asian Games dual gold medalist Yoon, who staged a marvellous comeback victory from one set and 2-5 down saving four match points Wednesday, again staged off live set points in the first set.

His next appointment will be 12th seed Sjeng Schalken of the Netherlands, who breezed past American Cecil Mamiit 6-2, 6-2.

Fourth seed Nicolas Pietrangeli of Ecuador safely went through, beating 13th seed Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 (7/4), while 15th seed Harel Levy of Israel downed Wayne Black of Zimbabwe 7-6 (7/5), 6-3.

Eighth seed Hicham Arazi of Morocco smashed aside American Eric Taino 6-4, 6-2, and sixth seed Byron Black of Zimbabwe subdued of Kalle Flygt of Sweden 6-2, 6-3.

On the women's side, American defending champion and second seed Amy Frazier coasted to an easy 6-1, 6-2 victory over Sylvia Pliskel of Austria, while Joannette Kruger of South Africa outclassed Janet Lee of Taiwan 6-3, 7-6 (7/5).

Davenport sails into qtrs

ZURICH, Oct 12: Lindsay Davenport eased her way into the quarterfinals of the Swisscom Challenge on Wednesday, beating Belgium's Sabine Appelman 6-2, 6-1 in her first match since quitting the Sydney Olympics with a foot injury, reports AFP.

In two all-Russian encounters, fourth seed Anna Kournikova defeated qualifier Tatiana Panova 6-3, 6-3, while another qualifier, Anastasia Myskina, pulled off the upset of the day by outlasting Olympic finalist Yelena Dementyeva 6-4, 2-6, 6-1.

And seventh-seeded American Chanda Rubin advanced as German qualifier Jana Kandarr retired with an abdominal strain when trailing 6-2, 2-0.

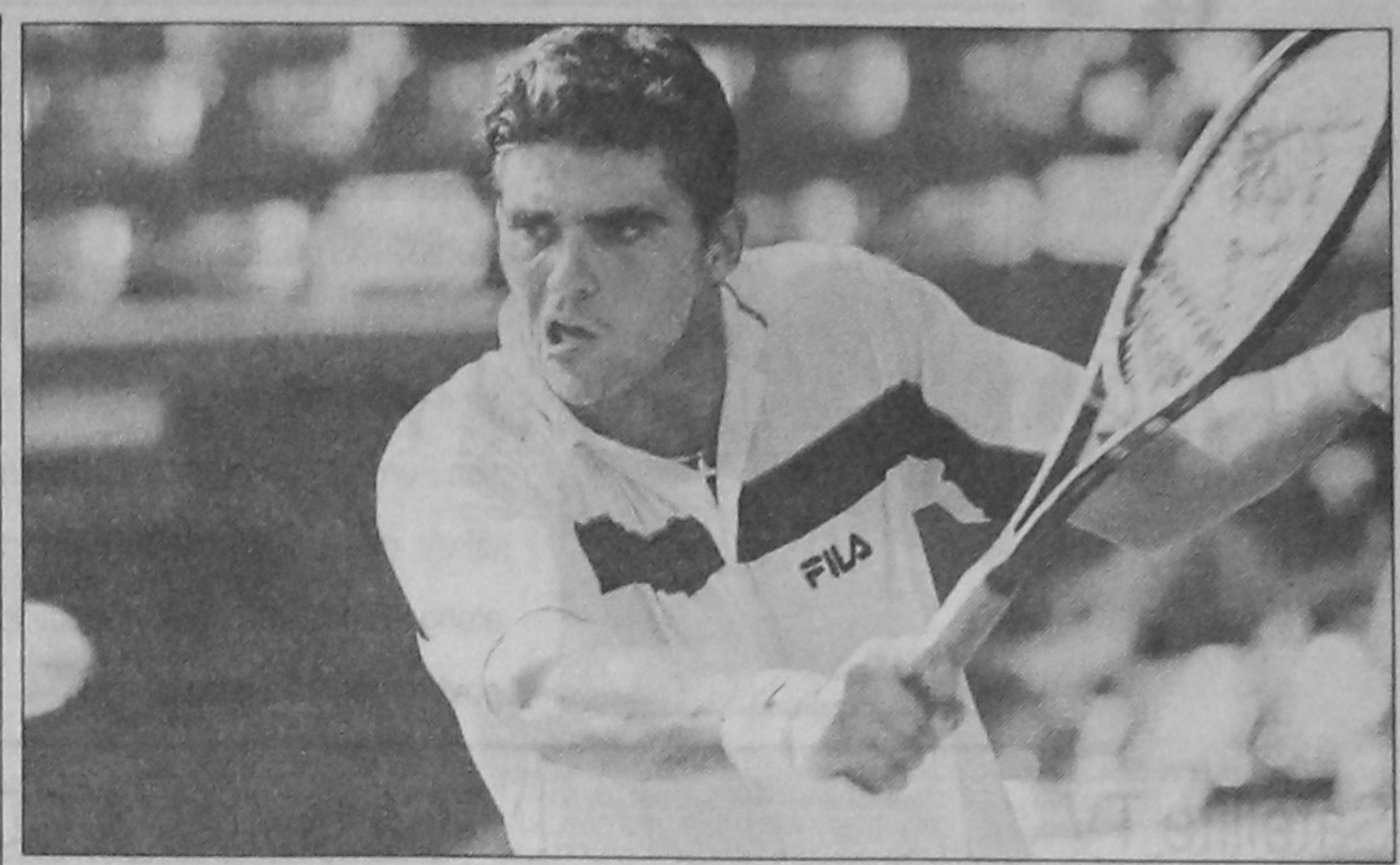
Tragic

ZAGREB, Oct 12: Croatia's most successful Olympic athlete to date was killed at his home in eastern Croatia, police reported Thursday, says AP.

Canoeist Matija Ljubek, 46, was shot and killed Wednesday night. His brother-in-law, Marko Varzic, a Major in the Croatian army, was arrested on suspicion of killing Ljubek and another cousin the same evening.

Croatian newspapers said Varzic reportedly had psychiatric problems and killed the two men because of a family argument.

Ljubek's death shocked Croats, who cherished him as the man who brought home four Olympic medals.



Australian Mark Philippoussis is about to make a backhand return against South Korean Yoon-Il Yoon during their Japan Open engagement in Tokyo yesterday.

Banking on Bangalore

BANGALORE, Oct 12 (AFP): The 750,000-dollar ATP World Doubles Championship comes to India in December, hoping to boost the interest of a cricket-mad public that still views tennis as somewhat elitist.

The four-day tournament, the richest ever held in India, will take place in the southern city of Bangalore from December 13-17, with top names including reigning Wimbledon champions Mark Woodforde and Todd Woodbridge, as well as the Indian duo of Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi.

"For India the tournament gives the audience a chance to watch world class tennis. It is very vital for the game here and it will be a driving force to revive the spirits of the enthusiasts," said C.S. Sunder Raju, secretary of Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association.

"Also, it will help break the elitist tag. One has to be a member of a club and as a result most of the youngsters lose out an opportunity to take to the game early. Our intention is to break this," Raju told AFP.

He said the tournament would help attract youngsters whose sporting dreams generally revolve around cricket bats rather than tennis rackets.

The Karnataka government plans to cash on the success of the tournament by making over 400 tennis courts in the state within four years.

"These courts will be public courts and any youngster wanting to play can enroll. This way we will take the game to the masses. We expect at least three to five players at the end of the four years to be among the world's top 100," Raju said.

The Amrithraj brothers in the late 1970s and early 1980s and Ramesh Krishnan have been among the few Indian players to make a mark on the international scene, followed by Paes and Bhupathi who won Wimbledon and the French Open in 1999.

"We have very few world class players. This tournament will help create a new wave of enthusiasm for the game in India," Raju said.

As a curtain raiser to the tournament, a Legends Tennis Tournament has been organised in Bangalore starting from November 9.

Veterans of the game including Bjorn Borg, Pat Cash, Roscoe Tanner, Vijay Amrithraj and Henri Leconte will compete for both singles and doubles titles.

Raju said it was for the first time in more than a decade that ATP World Doubles Championship was being held in the Asian region.

"It was held in Asia for the first time in Indonesia way back in 1991. Then it went to the West. Now after a gap of nearly 10 years it has come back to Asia," Raju said.

"We are also planning three world class tournaments every year including a WTA tournament, the Legends and the ATP tour," he said.

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construction, were paid for by the state government.

"Their total expenditure budget was about 2.5 billion," Egan said.

Egan later told state parliament all the Olympic and Paralympic costs had been covered.

"The only burden after the Games that we have to face is finding something decent to watch on television," he added.

Egan said he believed taxpayers had received value for money with the government set to capitalise on the international exposure Australia had received by pursuing overseas investment.

"We have put a badge of quality on Australia, not only a place to visit but a place to invest - there is a real window of opportunity over the next six months."

A full report on the cost of the Games was expected in the new few months.

But the state opposition claimed Egan had massaged the figures by excluding Olympic-related costs incurred by police and road and transport authorities.

"Mr Egan's figure doesn't include Olympics-related expenditure by all government agencies," opposition treasury spokesman Stephen O'Doherty said.

Meanwhile, the Games have been blamed by economists for a fall in Australia's overall employment in September, although a statistical quirk saw the unemployment level also fall marginally.

The staging of the Games during September coincided with a 40,000 fall in the number of part-time workers of more than 40,000 from August, although the number of full

time jobs rose by 9,700, according to Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) figures.

The total national labour force totalled 9.11 million in September, the ABS said.

However, Australia's unemployment rate also fell to 6.3 percent, its lowest level since April 1990.

Despite hosting the Olympics, with the games driving demand for both full-time and part-time workers, the state of New South Wales recorded an unemployment rate of 5.5 percent, the same as August.

The ABS said in a statement that the Olympics clearly affected September's labour market statistics.

The number of job advertisements and vacancies also fell sharply in September, with many employers deciding not to bother looking for new workers during the Olympics, the ABS said.

"You would have to be (magician) David Copperfield to conjure up any implications to today's employment data," Commonwealth Securities chief economist Craig James said, referring to the distorting effect of the Olympics.

"(Fewer) people were looking for jobs in September and (fewer) people found work during the month... these results will not come as a great surprise given that the attention of employers and employees alike was taken away by the Olympics."

ANZ Bank economist Karen Pringle agreed.

"Newspaper job advertising fell sharply in the month... because basically businesses thought it wasn't worth putting ads in papers because people wouldn't get past the sports pages," Pringle said.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Likely sellers' buys 9 Go off course 12 Wild a needle 13 Ancient tongue 14 Candie 15 Slaughterhouse structure 17 'Ay, there's the --' 18 Baseball's Bando 19 Crystal-lined cavities 21 Rook 24 Dumbo's 'wings' 25 Smack 26 -- the walrus' 28 Change the label 31 Lei's dad 33 Craze 35 Floss building 36 Georgia and Cal 38 Ill-lit 40 Miler Sebastian

Grid for crossword puzzle with numbers 1-30 and letters.

Solution time: 21 mins. SOLUTION: 1. LIKELY, 2. BUYERS, 3. GO OFF, 4. COURSE, 5. WILD, 6. NEEDLE, 7. ANCIENT, 8. TONGUE, 9. CANDIE, 10. SLAUGHTERHOUSE, 11. 'AY, THERE'S THE --', 12. BASEBALL'S, 13. BANDO, 14. CRYSTAL-LINED, 15. CAVITIES, 16. ROOK, 17. DUMBO'S, 18. WINGS, 19. SMACK, 20. -- THE, 21. THE, 22. WALRUS', 23. CHANGE, 24. THE, 25. LEI'S, 26. DAD, 27. CRAZE, 28. FLOSS, 29. BUILDING, 30. GEORGIA, 31. AND, 32. CAL, 33. ILL-LIT, 34. MILER, 35. SEBASTIAN

CRYPTOQUIP

I F K W Z R I M Z F T I J B X V I I M W C H W J B T X N V W W I C T B B N V K S K S V X R H M B Z C T H N X H M K B B X I IMAGINE THAT MECHANICS WILL OFTEN CHOOSE WRENCH DRESSING. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals S