SYDNEY. Oct 15 (AFP): Australian captain Steve Waugh has welcomed Courtney Walsh's decision to tour with the West todies here this summer, saving it would make his cricket team switch on.

Walsh is the backbone of the der-performing Windies team and needs 17 more wickets to become the first player to reach 500 Test wickets.

Wangh, who already knew about the pace bowler's decision, said the milestone of 500 wickets would have been an meentive for him to head down under despite a tough year.

"I knew he was coming four weeks ago." Wangh said, adding "the cricket grapevine" had kept lmn abreast of develop-

"I'd rather see him out here -- I'm glad he's coming because he'll make us switch on.

"People have been telling us we're going to beat them easily but it won't be easy.

"He's a quality player and he'll be a real threat out here this summer." Walsh's decision was re-

vealed by West Indies chairman of selectors Mike Findlay in an interview for the Sydney Morning Herald website. He was quoted as saving:

"We had a discussion on the telephone and he informed me he would be available to tour Australia.

"Now the selectors have to meet on Monday and come up with the touring squad. Courtney is yet to tell us if he will be available for one-day games as well as Tests.

"Obviously, with a guy as experienced as Courtney making himself available, we are confident of putting together a strong team.

"He is still a force - his recent efforts speak for themselves. He is also a great presence to have around the younger guys, and his knowledge and experience are invaluable." Findlay added.

Walsh's strike partner Curtly Ambrose retired after the Oval Test, the final battle in the five-match series.

Findlay also confirmed that the squad to tour Australia would be captained by Jimmy Adams, despite the Jamaican coming in for criticism for his performances in the field this summer.

Suspected cricketers to

be named soon

NAIROBI. Oct 15 (Renters): Indian authorities will release the names of four players suspected of match-fixing this week, a senior official attending the International Cricket Council (ICC) board meeting in Nairobi said on Sunday.

The official, who declined to be identified, told Renters that four names could be released 'as soon as tomorrow (Monday) but did not divulge whether the information would come from the Indian police or from cricket authorities. Indian police in April named

four South African players. including former captain Hansie Cronje, as being involved in fixing matches. The others were Herschelle Gibbs. Pieter Strydom and Nicky Boje. Cronje was sacked as cap-

tain shortly after the allegation were made. South Africa's United Cricket Board (UCB) said last week it was planning to ban him for life.

Gibbs and Strydoni were banned from international cricket until the end of the year The ICC is expected to focus on corruption in the game when 4 it begins a two-day meeting in Nairobi on Monday.

Magura cricket

From Our Correspondent MAGURA, Oct 15: Murad Smriti Sangha moved into the semifinal defeating Babul Smriti Sangha by 58 runs in the Abdus Sattar Laskar Smriti cricket tournament at the Mithun-Kazal-Musa playground today. Batting first. Murad Smriii made 145 for all out in 24

In reply. Babul Smriti managed 87 losing all wickets in

Martina meets Lindsay

ZURICH, Oct 15: Switzerland's Martina Hingis and American Lindsay Davenport will face off

Challenge title after the top two | the fourth seed. seeds advanced to Sunday's final with straight set victories.

reports AFP. Top seeded Hingis overcame sixth seed Jennifer Caprian of the USA 6-3, 6-2 to reach her 10th final of the year, and twotime champion Davenport ended the run of unseeded

Austrian Barbara Schett, beating her 6-2, 6-1. Capriati offered some stiff resistance, and her powerful

forehand often had Hingis scrambling. Hingis was forced to save a break point in the opening game, but then managed to claim the first break to lead 3-1.

Capriati broke back immediately, and Hingis received a warning for cracking her racquet in frustration as the American levelled at 3-3.

THE

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With Hingis mixing in the occasional dropshot to vary the baseline rallies, she regained third game. the lead when Capriati doublefaulted twice in succession in the eighth game. Capriati still kept the pressure on and Hingis had to save a break point in sive and he let me play, but he the next game before claiming started attacking me from the

Kasimov denies Qatar

SAIDA. Lebanon. Oct 15: Uzbekistan captain Mirdjalal Kasimov's brilliant freekick LEBANON 2000 brought his side

an undeserved point here on Saturday in a 1-1 draw with Qatar in their Asian Cup Group C match, reports AFP

The strike by the 29-yearold, described as the brains of the team', cancelled out Mohammed Gholam's header to rob the Qataris - known as the 'Grapey team' because they usually play in red grape colours - of a point against a side made up of mostly Russian Premiershp based profession-

Kasimov, who was a member of the 1997 Russian championship winning side Alania Vladikaykaz, struck a beautiful curling effort from 25 yards out - totally out of keeping with the generally low class of play - to totally bemuse 'keeper Amer Al

Gholam, who had gone close to opening the score in the firsthalf, nodded home completely unmarked to give the Qataris

the lead just after the hour. The overall paucity of the play had been highlighted in farcical fashion a minute before Gholam's goal when he had blasted the ball 30 yards back towards the halfway line when attempting a volley on goal from five metres out.

Second-half substitute Mishal Mubarak should have doubled their adayantage with 23 minutes to go but after doing the hard bit of beating the defender and getting in on the 'keeper he fluffed his shot completely draging it five metres

The first-half had been a pretty low key affair in which Qatar had shown the brighter

Pavel Bugalo to thank for Saleh Al-Enazi's superb downkeeping the scores level as he word header. pulled off two remarkable saves in the matter of seconds as he of the team that their late coach first got down brilliantly to Mahmoud Rakihmov guided Gholam's fierce effort from five through the qualifiers in the metres and then blocked Ab- United Arab Emirates, did at

Gholam, however, should have done better as early as the fifth minute when he airkicked instead of connecting with the ball three metres out from lor-

when Rustam Durmanov rat tled the ball home but it was

ruled out for a dubious offside. However, their below-par performance left coach Sarkisyan Kurty, who was the third



Saad al-Shammari of Qatar (L) controls the ball during the Asian Cup fixture against Lebanon on October 14.

- AFP photo

The Uzbeks had 'keeper Munich triallist Mohammed of the year following Rakihmov's

The Uzbeks, a pale shadow of his dugout to yell at his playdulnasser Al Obaidy's follow- least get the ball into the net day.

ers throughout the match. of that before Uzbekistan face an impressive Japan on Tues-

death in a car crash, distinctly

unimpressed and he came out

Warne treated harshly had no trouble whatsoever with



yes and outpointed by rival Stuart MacGill -- as New South Waies pounded Victoria in a one-day cricket cup match here Sunday. Blues openers Brad Haddin

(69) and Michael Slater (61) were merciless on the erratic Warne in New South Wales' eight-wicket win at North Sydnev Oval.

The Australian leg-spinner was playing for the first time since undergoing a minor knee operation following his stint in English county cricket with Hampshire. Warne's six-over spell cost

47 runs -- almost eight an over -- and Slater and Haddin each hit two sixes off him as New South Wales successfully chased a bonus point in the new competition format.

Warne had to put up with tralian team for the past two endless jeering from the crowd seasons. and his mood wasn't helped as he took a hammering -- in- catch off Warne, who had hit a cluding one over in which he full-blooded drive straight back gave up 16 runs to Slater.

Haddin said he and Slater ished with 2-40 off his 10 decided to go after Warne be- overs. cause they thought he wouldn't be at his best due to a recent les said Warne had come knee operation.

"We knew he probably was- problems. n't 100 per cent fit because of

SYDNEY. Oct 15 his knee so we just kept going at him." Haddin said. Shane Earlier, his stint at the batting crease lasted five balls and produced one run as MacGill got the better of the man who



SHANE WARNE has kept him out of the Aus-

MacGill took a brave return at the Blues' leggie, who fin-

Victorian coach John Schothrough the match without any

"He's as good as gold and

"But he'll also be better for that, psychologically and confidence-wise."

his knee." Scholes said.

Meanwhile, at Perth. Queensland pace trio Adam Dale, Andy Bichel and Andrew Notfke thrust the Sheffield Shield champions towards victory on the third day of their shield

clash with Western Australia here Sunday. At the WACA ground, Western Australia were struggling with 148-3 in their second innings, still needing another 99 runs to make Queensland bat

195 in the first. Queensland rattled up 442 in their first innings. Dale was chief destroyer in

again, after being skittled for

Western Australia's first knock. claiming 5-41. Newcomer Noffke (3-51) and Bichel (2-50) provided spirited support. Only Test wicketkeeper

Adam Gilchrist (59) and Test aspirant Michael Hussey provided major resistance. When Western Australia

padded up again. Bichel (2-32) and Noffke (1-34) were once more on song. Fourth-wicket pair Damien

Martyn (70 not out) and Simon Katich (39 not out) fought a dogged rearguard action, adding 105 in an unbroken stand. but Western Australia still faced probable defeat on the final day Monday.

Kramnik throws away advantage

LONDON, Oct 15: The Brain Games World Chess Champiouship's fourth game ended in a draw after a major mistake by Vladimir Kramník, who had a winning position against his former teacher Garry Kasparov. the undisputed number one since 1985, reports AFP.

The game took 74 moves and lasted six-and-a-half hours. Kramnik is leading by 2.5-1.5.

The match is taking place over 16 games. Kramnik won the second one, which was the first Kasparov defeat since January 1999, and the other two were drawn.

The prize fund is two million dollars, two-thirds going to the

Kasparov will play with white pieces in the fifth game on Sunday, at 3 pm (1400

Game days in London's Riverside Studio are Tuesday. Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. In 1993 Kasparov left the International Chess Federation (FIDE). which has its own World Championship.

Karpov in Iraq BAGHDAD, Oct 15: Former world chess champion Anatoli Karpov of Russia is paying a four-day visit to Iraq, the official

Iraqi news agency INA said

Saturday, reports AFP. Karpov, who arrived in sanctions-hit Iraq by land late Friday, is to visit chess clubs and meet Iraqi sporting authorities. INA said.

In 1996 Karpov was supposed to defend his title in Baghdad against US chessmaster Gata Kamsky.

But the match never took place after Washington protested against the International Chess Federation's decision to hold the event in Iraq, citing "the brutalities and antidemocratic nature" of the Iraqi leadership.

Masud Ahmed Rumi of BSS

earned double crown in the Jatiya Press Club (JPC) table tennis tournament, organised He will have to do a lot more by the club marking its 46" founding anniversary at the club vesterday, reports BSS.

Rumi defeated Quazi Rawnak Hossain of monthly Sargam 21-18, 21-11 to clinch the singles title.

Rumi, pairing with Ajay Barua of the daily Sangbad. grabbed the doubles title defeating Faisal Mokammel of Bangladesh Bank and Quazi Rawnak Hossain 21-10, 21-17 in the final. Faisal got the third position

in the singles beating Rouful Hasan of the Bangladesh Observer 21-15, 21-18 in the play

Rajshahi soccer

From Our Correspondent RAJSHAHI. Oct 15: Tanore Upazila Krira Sangha and Godagari Upazila Krira Sangstha ended the match in a goalless draw in the first round of Rajshahi inter-upazila football tournament at the Godagari Degree College playground.

Meanwhile, Sampad Enterprise and Rajshahi Sports Corner won their respective matches in the Professor Sarwar Jahan Smriti football tournament at the Tikapara Eidgah playground today.

In the first match, Sampad beat Prantik Club-B 5-0. Sports Corner defeated Prantik-B 3-2 in the second match of the day at the same playground.

Norman seeks to shine in Shanghai

SHANGHAI, Oct 15: Magnus Norman will be looking to the Shanghai Open to save the fastdwindling second half of his tennis season, reports AFP.

nalist stands fourth in the ATP Tour's Champions race points table, trailing double Roland Garros winner Gustavo Kuerten of Brazil, US Open champion American Pete Sampras.

make him a hot contender at the 375,000-dollar Open, starting on Monday, but the 24year-old is vearning for some satisfaction after letting his game drop after a demoralising June loss in the Paris final to Kuerten.

Shanghai holds good memories for Norman, who clinched a fifth title there last year after a ram postponed final against Chile's Marcelo Rios. Despite the problem, Nor-

man is not in favour of a roof for the new Xian Xia complex. "I don't think they need one. "This is an outdoor tournament and that's what it should

to finish despite the rain." Norman opens play against Italian Andrea Gaudenzi. Second seed is Ecuador's Nicolas Lapentti, beaten by Dutchman

Long-time Asian favourite Michael Chang is third seed ahead of Byron Black of Zimbabwe.

winner Nicolas Kiefer of Gerchronic wrist injury which re-Philippoussis. The tournament is the only

men's ATP Tour-level event in mainland China SEEDS Magnus Norman (Swe x1) Nicolas Lapentti (Ecu x2)

Byron Black (Zim x4) Mariano Zabaleta (Arg x5) Andrew Ilie (Aus x6) Sjeng Schalken (Ned x7) Jonas Bjorkman (Swe x8)

Paes, Bhupathi triumph



970.000-dollar Japan Open,

The unseeded pair, the 1999 French Open and Wimbledon champions, edged past the fifth-seeded Australian-American duo of Michael Hill and Jeff Tarango 6-4, 6-7 (1/7),

It was the first time a



after winning the Japan Open doubles title yesterday. - AFP photo

Japanese title had gone to India since Ramesh Krishnan won the men's singles in

"The first thing I'd like to say is. I think that the Indian Express is rolling again and I'm happy that we played some

good tennis today," said Paes. "Jeff and Michael played really a good match today, they returned really well, and it made it a lot more difficult for us, but the level of tennis today was the highest of all this week and I'm happy with it.

"In the third set, we managed to have a good break at 3-4 and I have to say that this tournament gives us a lot of confidence.

Paes and Bhupathi had their finest season last year, becoming the first team to reach the finals of all four Grand Slams in the same year since Frank Sedgman and Ken McGregor in 1952.

They reached a number one ranking in April and finished the year on the same level. But since then Paes and

Bhupathi have been struggling with injuries, playing only five tournaments this season.

"This year, we both had a lot of injuries, so it makes it much more special winning the Japan Open, it was the first one back together again since we are both in good heath," said Paes.

The pair are one of the most popular partnerships in the game and have been surrounded by fans throughout the week.

Bhupathi won the 1997 French Open mixed doubles title with Japan's Rika Hiraki and the US Open with Ai Sugiyama last year.

Julie's terrific double pan Open after winning the

Doubles world Decugis. number one Julie Halard-Decugis match points be fore beating defending cham-

women's singles title at the game Japan Open on Sunday, reports The French top seed was one but Frazier hit her 19th double set and 3-5 down when she

stormed back to score a 5-7, 7-5. 6-4 victory over the American Halard-Decugis. second seed. second set. I served pretty well following point, hit a service on the match points and it was return winner to clinch her first

very tight from the beginning of

the match. It was really a tough

TOKYO, Oct 15: to win today," said Halard-

but that was evened out thanks Tokyo. to Frazier's double fault number 17 on the Frenchwoman's pion Amy Frazier to win the advantage point in the fourth Halard-Decugis missed five break points in the sixth game.

fault of the day in the 10th to give double match point to Halard-Decugis, whose fore-"I think I was lucky in the hand landed in the net on the

> singles victory in Japan. It was a double victory in

doubles title with American Corina Morariu Saturday to She dropped her serve in the wind up her two-week visit to opening game of the final set For Halard-Decugis, 30, who emerged victorious in three out of four finals in two weeks in

> her triumph at Eastbourne, and 12th overall. She was a singles runner-up to American Serena Williams at the Princess Cup in Tokyo a week ago.

Tokyo, it was her second sin-

gles title this season following

The Frenchwoman collected a winner's check of 27.000 It was her second win over

Frazier against three defeats in major tournaments. For Frazier, also the winner in 1995, it was a fourth time to finish runner-up out of nine appearances in the Japan

Open, earning herself 13,500dollar runner-up prize. Beijing Marathon

Nelson & Wei's BEIJING, Oct 15: Kenya's Ndereva Nelson won the men's event in the Beijing International Marathon Sunday in 2 hours, 13 minutes and 52 seconds, the official Xinhua news agency said, reports AFP.

In the women's event, China's Wei Yanan led a 1-2-3 Chinese sweep, coming in at 2 hours. 26 minutes and 34 seconds, the best time in the Beijing marathon history since 1981 when the race began. Nelson's victory in the 42.195-kilometre race was his

one of the 10 largest marathons in the world. The Kenvan has competed in the Beijing marathon race since 1996, when he took his first title here with his personal best time of 2 hours 10 minutes and

second at the event, billed as

37 seconds. China's three-time champion Hu Gangjun came second at 2 hours, 14 minutes and 01 second, followed by another Chinese runner Zhan Donglin, only 5 seconds behind.

Female champion Wei was followed by Sun Yingjie at 2 hours, 26 minutes and 36 seconds. Women's third place went to Tian Mei with 2 hours, 30 minutes and 07 seconds.

Successful Schalken



reports AFP.

beating Nicolas Lapentti of Ecua dor to win the men's singles final for his biggest career title at the Japan Open on Sunday.

The Dutch 12th seed, seeking his first title since a victory at Auckland in January last year, emerged victorious in a power-packed baseline battle for the WTA Swisscom for a 6-4. 3-6. 6-1 victory over "It's obviously a very big ti-

tle. the biggest title I've ever

won, and it's a very prestigious

tournament and the biggest tournament in Asia, It shows that I'm improving," said Schalken. "Of course sometimes you have good part in a year and sometimes you are not playing that well, but now I see if I play

well. I can win a title. That's a very good feeling." two breaks while losing his own net!' and it ended in the victory. once. Schalken found few So it was good tactics, he AFP, chances to charge to the net as added. Lapentti started to serve better

Lapentti aggressively in the at Valencia in 1995. Jakarta in to file motions in the case, but decider, and after scoring a 1996. Boston in 1997 and doesn't affect the trial date -break in the second game, he Auckland last season. raced away for the victory, only allowing Lapentti to break the ord against Lapentti to two wins

beat me, he was playing defen-

first ball," said Schalken.

"I thought he would let me Sjeng Schalken go to the net, but his first serve continued his ex- was going very hard and it was pens. I guess it was Schalken's cellent run by tough to control. "In the third set, I was just



SJENG SCHALKEN

After taking the first set with thinking 'Go for it! Go to the

He reduced his wm-loss recagainst three defeats in major "Actually, I was very sur- tournaments, earning himself be paid is impeding attorneys' prised with the way Nicolas the winner's check of 115,000 efforts to defend Johnson and

seems that things were not going my way today. It hapday, he deserved to win today."

on the tour and I'm happy for him. Of course I'm a little bit disappointed, but it's tennis, only one can win and he was the one today. It's good to see a nice guy win." he added. since Lyon a year ago to be

The victory in the 80,000- sion, issued Thursday, gives in the second set to square the dollar ATP event was the biggest title for the 24-year-old But Schalken attacked Schalken, who previously won

played because the last time he dollars. "The difference was a few president points," said Lapentti, a good friend of Schalken since their a status conference on pre-trial challengers series days. "It matters.

"He is one of the nicest guys

Lapentti missed his first title

satisfied with the 60,600-dollar runner-up prize. Salt Lake scandal Judge grants

more time SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Oct. 15: A judge has granted defence lawyers more time to prepare for the trial of two men accused of bribing Olympic officials in order to win the bid to host the 2002 Winter Games, reports

Judge Ronald Boyce's deci-

lawyers representing two top

members of the Salt Lake

Olympic Committee more time

set for June. Wheeler told reporters the question of how legal fees will

Tom Welch, former SLOC

The judge's decision came in

Sweden's French Open fi-

Marat Safin of Russia and Norman's 586 points still

stay. They've always managed

Sjeng Schalken in Sunday's final at the Japan Open in To-

This month's Hong kong man had to pull out with a surfaced during his title win a week ago over Australian Mark

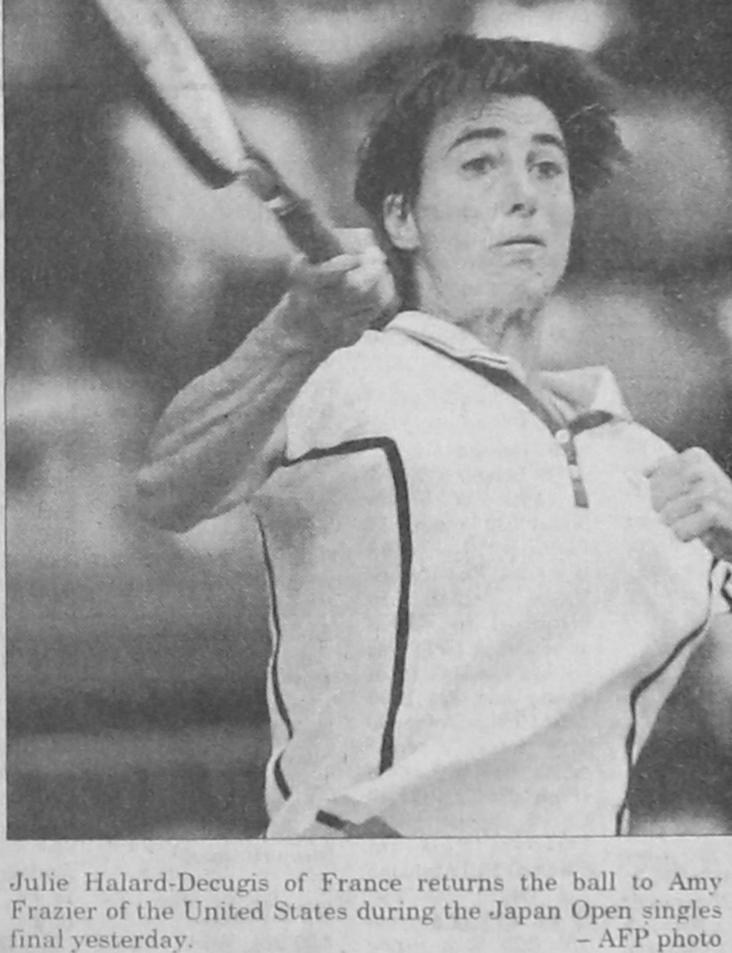
Michael Chang (USA x3)

By Eugene Sheffer 2 La Scala 24 Towel inscription 25 Reaction to pyrotechnics 26 Veggie in Chinese cuisine 28 Street abbr. 29 Crudites 36 37 items 30 Entry baby's schedule 31 Ar-tee link 36 Windshield needs 37 Away

SIQC YVACQUIL CQLU GU

OACSGVXZC: LXS KGAZ HAUC QU IXZX! Yesterday's Cryptoquip: YOU CAN BE SURE

another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.



match and I just feel very lucky her first appearance in the Ja-

Julie Halard-Decugis of France returns the ball to Amy

show-

3 Duck

stopper

hunter's

device

modate

ingredi-

Parsegh-

7 Weakling

8 Shocked

9 Cauli- '

flower

white

struck

lander's

19 Preposition 38 Investi-

from

41 Ring

WSW

victory

43 Exchange

premium

42 G.I. Joe,

44 Risque

out of

51 Seek

context?

kin

11 Dumb-

21 Main-

Solution time: 28 mins,

10 011-

ent

6 Coach

4 Accom-

CROSSWORD

5 Cornfield 45 Finished

loo" group 49 Curved

42 Well-

dressed

the

50 Blonde

shade

52 Tarzan's

transport

53 Hall a Jim

Carrey

54 "Color of

Money"

prop

55 Malefic

56 Privation

58 Nigerian

singer

1 Comfy-

COZY

57 Undeni-

puzzle

molding

ACROSS

8 "Water-

ron's

13 Swiss

cousin

canton

15 Streamlet

16 Rotating

17 Sharpen

18 California

surfers'

keyboard

24 Firetruck DOWN

bulton

need

32 Charged

33 Zsa Zsa's

opener

35 Bestowed

pockets

39 Take top

honors

40 Mamie's

man

SIS

34 Vegas

38 Pick-

27 Sax range

mecca

20 Set

22 P.E.

23 PC

part

14 Enlarge

1 Texas city

HXOEGUC HYEXZK

THAT A SPY WHO WEARS A WIG IS HARBORING A TOP SECRET. 47 Oklahoma Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals B

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for