

Kim crumbles, Lindsay coasts

AFP, Filderstadt

German Anke Huber caused a major upset at the \$65,000-dollar Filderstadt WTA event Thursday when she ousted fourth-seeded Belgian Kim Clijsters in their second round tie.

French seventh seed Nathalie Tauziat, who is in her last season on the WTA circuit, was also on her way home after going down 7-6, 6-2 to Russian Tatiana Panova.

Earlier third seeded American Lindsay Davenport easily saw off Luxembourg's Anne Kremer 7-5, 6-1 and France's Sandrine Testud came away a 6-4, 6-4 winner against Spaniard Magui Serna.

The 26-year-old Huber, who has announced that she also intends retiring after the Australian Open in January, gave an impressive performance in front of the home crowd here.

Last match today

FROM PAGE 13

Wicketkeeper James Foster and Hussain, along with Zimbabwe's Andy Flower, were severely reprimanded by match referee Colonel Naushad Ali of Pakistan after two heated verbal exchanges during the third match.

"There was a fair share of controversy in the summer (against Australia) and there was some controversy in Sri Lanka and Pakistan (earlier this year) -- that's the game now," Hussain said at a news conference.

"There are hundreds of media and cameras picking up on everything and that is the game and there is controversy all around."

"You can't have a media core and not (have them) picking up on things. We play Zimbabwe in the same way we play any other side."

Zimbabwe stand-in captain Alistair Campbell called Hussain a bad sport after the third match as relations between the sides cooled.

However, Hussain said ahead of Saturday's game: "I'll shake hands warmly with the opposing captain."

The tour has been a playing success for England, who have won the first four one-day internationals.

"We've put in good performances," Hussain said. "We've found out about certain players and created an atmosphere learning about one-day cricket and discussed things before and after matches."

"Generally we've worked at the game of one-day cricket. We don't get many opportunities to do that. It always seems to be a bit of a tag-on at the end of a tour."

"It's the first opportunity that (coach) Duncan (Fletcher) and myself have had to sit down with the boys and say, 'right this is what one-day cricket is about, let's just focus on that'."

"Obviously we will play better sides and will have to play against better teams if we are going to progress but don't underestimate Zimbabwe by any means."

Nazar new

FROM PAGE 13

Bakht will work as assistant coach to Nazir in Sharjah, where organisers have vowed to proceed with the three-nation event despite the heightened tension in the region.

At its meeting in Lahore the PCB also discussed possible neutral venues for holding future Pakistan international matches. Sharjah, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Tangiers came under discussion.

But the PCB spokesman said a final decision would only be taken after the International Cricket Council (ICC) meeting which starts in Kuala Lumpur on October 15.

The PCB has also handed down a one-year ban on fast bowler Muhammad Akram for a serious breach of discipline.

Akram, who has played nine Tests, was selected in the Pakistan squad for the Asian Test championship match against Bangladesh in August but left the training camp for England without permission.

Kapil unready to coach



AFP, New Delhi

Cricket legend Kapil Dev on Wednesday brushed aside speculation he wanted to become India's coach again, saying he was not mentally prepared for the job.

"It is not on my mind," the former world bowling record holder told AFP. "I am not ready for it."

Speculation about Kapil's future in Indian cricket grew when he ended a self-imposed exile from the game on Tuesday by agreeing to a request from Test seamer Ashish Nehra to help out with his bowling action.

The hour-long session with Nehra's Delhi Ranji Trophy team at the Ferozeshah Kotla ground surprised even the Delhi coach, former Test spinner Bishan Bedi.

"I didn't know he was going to come," Bedi said. "But it was nice to see him interact with the boys. He motivated them with his advice and guidance."

Last year, Kapil resigned as India coach and vowed never to set foot on a cricket field again after being accused of match-fixing by former team-mate Manoj Prabhakar.

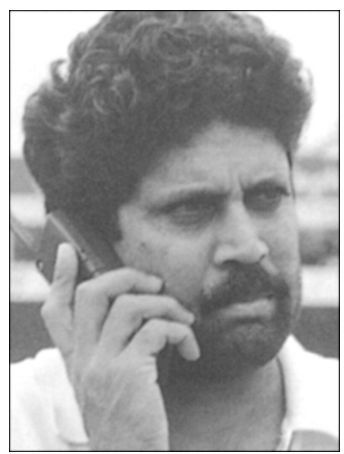
Kapil was later absolved of any wrongdoing by the federal Central Bureau of Investigation, but preferred to pursue his growing passion with golf instead of returning to cricket.

"If some youngster asks me for help, how can I say no?" Kapil said

after meeting Nehra on Tuesday. "When a person says he's giving up studying, it doesn't mean he's saying he'll never read again."

The sudden change in Kapil's stance triggered speculation the 42-year-old wanted to return to the game, possibly as India's coach.

"Indian cricket is full of surprises, there could be another in store," an



KAPIL DEV

observer said.

Kapil, however, rejected the notion, saying he was not interested in working with the Indian cricket board because it had not backed him during the match-fixing crisis.

"They (the board) did not believe me when I said I was innocent," Kapil said. "They investigated me and when they found nothing, at least I should have got an apology,"

Kapil said.

"They did not have the decency to talk to me, let alone write a letter of apology."

Since Jagmohan Dalmiya's election as president of the Indian board last month, there have been indications a major overhaul of Indian cricket is on the cards.

One of Dalmiya's first tasks was to pull up current coach John Wright of New Zealand for the national team's dismal performance.

Dalimiya wrote to Wright, currently with the Indian team on the South African tour, seeking reasons why the team was down to eighth out of 10 in the Test rankings -- above only minnows Zimbabwe and Bangladesh.

Dalimiya, former chief of the International Cricket Council, has also summoned the national selectors for a brain-storming session in New Delhi on Thursday.

It has not gone unnoticed that Dalimiya appointed the other Indian great, Sunil Gavaskar, as head of the National Cricket Academy soon after he took over.

Kapil, one of the game's finest all-rounders, took 434 wickets and scored 5,248 runs in 131 Tests before retiring in 1994.

The highlight of his career was leading India to victory in the 1983 World Cup in England.

Kapil was Test cricket's highest wicket-taker till West Indian Courtney Walsh overtook him two seasons ago.

Ferrero, Safin saunter

AFP, Lyon

Spaniard Juan Carlos Ferrero and Russian Marat Safin marched into the quarterfinals of the \$80,000 Lyon ATP tournament here Thursday with straight sets victories.

Second-seeded Ferrero had little difficulty swatting aside German Nicolas Pietrangeli 6-2, 6-2, while third-seed Safin defeated Israeli qualifier Naomi Ozkun 6-3, 6-4 in their second round ties.

However fourth-seeded Frenchman Sebastien Grosjean was dumped out of the tournament following a three set battle with Swede Jonas Bjorkman.

Grosjean had struggled in the first set coming from 4-2 down to 5-4 but after forcing a tie-break lost it 7/2. The Frenchman rallied in the second set which he took 6-1.

But the Swede surged to a 4-0 lead in the third with Grosjean looking destabilised following several controversial calls.

The 23-year-old from Marseille came back to 4-3 but missed a shot to level the scores at 4-4 losing the set 6-4 and the match in 2hr 06min.

Bjorkman will meet either title-holder Arnaud Clement of France or Belgian Xavier Malisse, who play later Thursday.

Meanwhile Croat Ivan Ljubicic, first-round slayer of world number one Gustavo Kuerten, advanced to the final eight after defeating France's Julien Benneteau 7-5, 7-5. Ljubicic next plays Argentine Gaston Gaudio Friday.

Safin meets Belarussian Max Mirnyi, who defeated Moroccan Hicham Arazi 7-6, 6-2, in the quarterfinal.

Seles reaches last four

AFP, Shanghai

Monica Seles of the United States secured a spot in the semifinals of the \$140,000-dollar WTA women's tournament here on Friday.

The 27-year-old American top seed advanced after defeating Stephanie Foretz of France 6-1, 5-7, 6-2 on the fifth day of the Shanghai event.

Ai Sugiyama, Japan's fourth-seeded medal hope, was not so lucky, bowing out of a match against Italy's seventh seed Rita Grande.

Sugiyama, a 26-year-old Wimbledon doubles finalist, retired in the third set due to back problems, according to organizers.

Elsewhere, Australia scored a double triumph in Friday's matches.

Australia's Nicole Pratt beat Taiwan's Janet Lee 6-2, 2-6, 6-4, while Pratt's compatriot Alicia Molik defeated Cho Yoon-Jeong of South Korea 7-5, 7-5.

Jordan makes long-awaited comeback

AFP, Auburn Hills

Michael Jordan spent just 17 minutes on the court with the Washington Wizards here Thursday and scored eight points in an exhibition game against the Detroit Pistons.

Despite the presence of Jordan, acknowledged as the world's all-time great basketball player, the Wizards lost 95-85.

After months of speculation about his comeback, Jordan, 38, finally took the court. He received a standing ovation from the sellout crowd of more than 22,000 at The Palace of Auburn Hills and did not disappoint anyone who came to see him.

In the opening minutes, Jordan came from the weak side to swat a shot out of bounds and later used a headfake to free himself for a 20-footer over Corliss Williamson.

ated the England management.

Flintoff, however, now seems to have buckled down.

"I've worked hard," the 24-year-old said.

"I approach batting in the same way no matter where I come in. I just go in there and play straight and hit the ball -- it's a simple way of playing."

"Shot selection is a thing I've always struggled with throughout my career, but I think it's improving."

"I come on to bowl when the ball is older. So I think I have to work on a bit of variation. My slower ball needs work."

"When and someone like Andy Flower is trying to get after you it is quite difficult."

There is clearly more hard work ahead, however.

England, who arrived in Zimbabwe having lost 11 one-dayers in a row and who hope to complete a 5-0 whitewash on Saturday, next travel to India and then New Zealand for Test and one-day series.

Flintoff, however, has been overlooked and will join an England Academy side on a winter tour to Australia.

Flintoff finds his feet



REUTERS, Bulawayo

All-rounder Andrew Flintoff has averaged over 50 in helping England end a disastrous run of one-day defeats against Zimbabwe and still he is not happy.

His bowling is not where he wants it and neither is his shot selection.

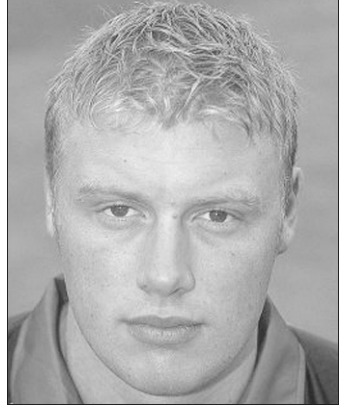
Flintoff, long seen as a man big on potential -- and waistline -- but short on achievement or application, seems to be coming of age at last.

The Lancashire player, batting at six or seven, has averaged 54 in England's four consecutive wins over Zimbabwe as well as chipping in with three wickets.

"I'm happy with the way I'm batting but I'm a bit disappointed that I've only got two scores of 46," he said.

"Maybe on Sunday in Harare I should have been there in the end with 60 or 70 not out to win the game."

"Yesterday I could have got a few



ANDREW FLINTOFF

more, and I think I've still got a way to go with my bowling also."

The 6ft 4ins (1.93m) Flintoff, a powerful orthodox batsman who also bowls lively medium-pace, made his England debut three years ago but has failed to establish him in the side.

Back injuries, caused in part by lack of discipline over his eating habits which saw him weigh in at 17st 12lb (114kg) at one stage, hampered his progress and infuri-

Federer on a roll



AFP, Vienna

Roger Federer, the 20-year-old Swiss player who has been labelled as the Pete Sampras of the future, continued his bid to qualify for the tour-end finals for the first time by reaching the quarterfinals of the CA Trophy here Thursday.

But once Federer had re-achieved parity his level went up a notch, while Costa fell away markedly.

Federer achieved a mini-break on the first point of the tie-break and after achieving another four rallies later and taking the tie-break 7-1, got right on top.

He also got to set point in the next game and had two more in the game after that, as Federer slipped to 15-40 on his serve.

But once these opportunities had slipped away Costa never threatened again.

The story might have been different had not the Spaniard delivered two double faults as he served for the set, one of them on game point.

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Before the end Costa, who became the father of twins earlier in the year, was playing as though he had had a few sleepless nights too many. If Federer does go on to

become the champion, he will overtake Britain's Tim Henman in ninth place in the Champion's Race and move to within one point of Sampras in eighth.

The top seven plus a wild card will qualify for next month's tour finals in Sydney.

Olympic finalist Tommy Haas also made ground on reaching the Champions Race finals when he came from behind to reach the last eight.

The 23-year-old German number one beat the Czech number one Jiri Novak 7-6, 6-3, recovering from a break down in the first set to impose his all court game on his elegant base-lining opponent.

Beefy Tyson



AP, Copenhagen

Mike Tyson will fight at the heaviest weight in his career when he faces Denmark's Brian Nielsen in their 10-round bout in the Danish capital on Saturday.

Tyson, 35, tipped the scales at 239 pounds (108.6 kilos) on Thursday, 17 pounds (7.7 kilos) heavier than he was a year ago in his last fight, a two-round no-decision against Andrew Golota.

Nielsen, 36, weighted in at his

bare-chested Tyson, his sparring partner Stacy McKinley taunted Nielsen, shouting at him and calling him a "watermelon" and challenging him to take off his black T-shirt.

"Take of that shirt," McKinley said.

Nielsen (62-1, 43 KO's), very popular at home where he is known as "Super Brian," walked away laughing with his shirt on.

"The crowd is going to help. I want to go out there and fight for the whole nation," said Nielsen, an Olympic bronze medalist in 1992. "Be there Saturday night if you want to see Tyson down."



PHOTO: AFP

Former world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson (L) and his foe Brian Nielsen of Denmark look eye-to-eye during the weigh-in at a Copenhagen hotel on October 11.

heaviest in three years, 259 3/4 pounds (117.8 kilograms) as he goes into the biggest fight of his career before a partisan crowd expected near 47,000 at Parken Stadium.

Tyson's trainer Tommy Brooks has encouraged the former undisputed champion to beef up. Four months ago Tyson began training under Los Angeles-based fitness coach Gunnar Peterson, who has changed his diet and training routine.

Tyson (48-3, 2 no contests, 42 KO's) stared stone-faced at Nielsen during the weigh-in, saying only "I'm ready to fight." Standing next to the

Tyson, who says he's in the best shaped since he returned to boxing six years ago after leaving prison, has said he feels "young and vibrant" under his new training regimen.

His boxing trainer Tommy Brooks also seemed satisfied Thursday.

"I have been telling Mike all along that he is getting older and I didn't want him to lose all that weight, Brian Nielsen is a heavy guy. I wanted him to get comfortable at that weight."

"I don't think he's going to lose speed. Ask the sparring partners about the speed and the power. I don't think he's lost anything."

Saturday is supposed to be another walkover with Tyson in line for a title fight against the winner of the Nov. 17 bout between Hasim Rahman and Lennox Lewis. The winner of the Evander Holyfield vs. John Ruiz bout is also a possibility.

Tyson has fought only 11 rounds since returning from suspension in January 1999. Nielsen has fought 82 rounds in that span. He's also fought four times since Tyson's last fight a year ago.

Nielsen is a year older than Tyson and regarded as "very hittable," although he's been knocked down only once in his professional and amateur career. At 6-feet-2 (1.88 cm) he has KO wins over ex-heavyweight champions Tim Witherspoon and Tony Tubbs. He also out-pointed former champion Larry Holmes.

A Muslim, Tyson said he wanted to stay in Europe after the fight rather than return home and get caught in the "crossfire" following terrorist attacks a month ago. He said a European stay would keep him relaxed and focused on regaining the undisputed title.

"That's my goal and that's my main objective and I'm just interested in doing that. I'm just hoping that it happens."

"I've been pretty sporadic in my life and very volatile," he added. "I'm just pretty cool now. I'm happy. I've been through the ordeals in my life ... and I'm ready to be mature now."

"I'm tired of all the junk; getting falsely accused, or putting myself in position of getting accused of something crazy."

Tyson said he'd prefer to fight Rahman because he's easier to hit, though he also has a "score to settle" with Holyfield. And Lewis would be an easier fight to arrange since -- unlike Rahman -- he's not managed by Don King.

Tyson is reported to use antidepressants, tapering off as the fight nears. But Brooks said he didn't know what Tyson was taking.

"I don't know if he's taking medication or what. I don't know. I don't have a clue."

Tyson's longtime friend Jay Bright also declined to say much.

"That's a medical thing for him and his doctor to gauge."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

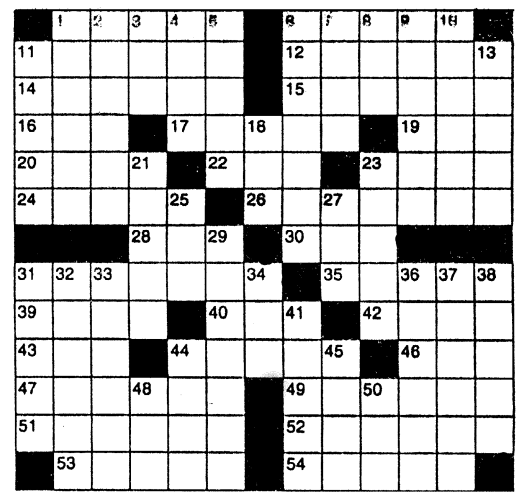
ACROSS
 1 Fact now
 6 Fiction?
 11 Skulls
 12 Restaurant's clientele
 14 Slot-machine symbols
 15 Storage area
 16 Recede
 17 Put into words
 19 Pitch
 20 Shakespeare title start
 22 Ostrich's kin
 23 Rick's love, in "Casa-blanca"
 24 Saw parts
 26 Go on
 28 Fashionable no more
 30 Old English letter
 31 Board-game prop

DOWN
 1 Times three
 2 Go all over the map
 3 Popular card game
 4 Super-market stack
 5 Precipitousness
 6 Prof's discourse
 7 Eli's place
 8 "How was — know?"
 9 Get all snug and cozy
 10 Travolta movie
 11 Spike
 13 Ritzy fiddle
 18 Pump up the volume
 21 Phillips of NBC News
 23 Blood of the gods
 25 Attila, most notably
 27 "— bodkins
 29 Storm
 31 Bridge coups
 32 Slues
 33 Queued
 34 Li'l Kim's genre
 36 Stimulat
 37 Coral rings
 38 Settle a debt
 41 Tumbler
 44 Shelter
 45 Egress
 48 Exist
 50 Scott Hamilton arena

Solution time: 23 mins.

ACROSS
 1 FACT, 6 FICTION, 11 SKULLS, 12 RESTAURANT, 14 SLOTS, 15 STORAGE, 16 RECEDE, 17 WORDS, 19 PITCH, 20 SHAKESPEARE, 22 OSTRICH, 23 RICK, 24 SAW, 26 GO, 28 FASHION, 30 OLD, 31 BOARD, 32 SLUES, 33 QUEUED, 34 LIL' KIM, 36 STIMULATED, 37 CORAL, 38 SETTLED, 41 TUMBLER, 44 SHELTER, 45 EGRESS, 48 EXIST, 50 SCOTT HAMILTON

DOWN
 1 THREE, 2 ALL, 3 POPULAR, 4 SUPERMARKET, 5 PRECIPITOUSNESS, 6 PROFESSOR, 7 ELI, 8 HOW WAS, 9 GET ALL, 10 TRAVOLTA, 11 SPIKE, 13 RITZY, 18 PUMP UP THE VOLUME, 21 PHILLIPS, 23 NEWS, 25 ATTILA, 27 BODKINS, 29 STORM, 31 BRIDGE, 32 SLUES, 33 QUEUED, 34 LIL' KIM, 36 STIMULATED, 37 CORAL, 38 SETTLED, 41 TUMBLER, 44 SHELTER, 45 EGRESS, 48 EXIST, 50 SCOTT HAMILTON



CRYPTOQUIP

Y J K H D A D J Y G Y K L Q
 Z D A S F X S Y A S R D
 G F I P , Z F X I P S R D L D H D
 K G R Y I I Y A S R D R D Y L ?
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A FILM ABOUT WORLD HISTORY IS FUNNY, IT COULD BE CALLED A "COMEDY OF ERAS."
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals H

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



PHOTO: AFP

Washington Wizard's legendary player Michael Jordan (L) tries to dodge past a Detroit Pistons guard during their NBA game in Michigan on October 11. This was Jordan's comeback match.