

'It's off' says Jonsson

AFP, London

Television presenter Ulrika Jonsson said Wednesday her relationship with England football coach and fellow Swede Sven Goran Eriksson was over.

In a statement issued through her agent, Jonsson said she was "no longer a part of this relationship," but denied ever issuing Eriksson with an ultimatum.

She denied reports that she had demanded the 54-year-old England coach choose between her and his 37-year-old Italian girlfriend Nancy Dell'Olio.

"In the hope of dispelling any further rumours about my relationship with Sven Goran Eriksson, I would like to make it clear that I have never issued him with any ultimatums," said Jonsson.

"Like everybody else, I wish Sven the very best for the World Cup.

"But I also have a job to do, both as a mother and as a professional, and would like to be allowed to continue to do my job without any further speculation involving me and this relationship."

"I am no longer a part of this relationship," added Jonsson, 34.

On Tuesday it was reported that publishers Sidgwick and Jackson had paid one million pounds (£1.45million dollars) for Jonsson's autobiography.

Eriksson refused to comment about his relationship with Jonsson when questioned by reporters at the launch of England's official World Cup suit on Monday.

Refusing to give any details, Eriksson said: "I'm sure you will find out - you are parked outside my home."

Eriksson is expected at Highbury later Wednesday to watch English Premiership leaders Arsenal's match against London rivals West Ham.

England are going on a post-season trip to Dubai on May 13 for a short break where wives and girlfriends of players and staff have been invited.

It is not yet known if Dell'Olio, a lawyer, will accompany Eriksson.

Haas bows out

REUTERS, Houston

Top seed Tommy Haas crashed out in the second round of the \$400,000 US Clay Court Championships when he fell 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 to Australian Wayne Arthurs on Wednesday.

But second seed Andre Agassi eased into the quarter-finals with a 6-4, 7-5 win over South Korea's Hyung-Taik Lee to remain unbeaten on clay this season.

Arthurs fired 22 aces and saved seven out of eight break points, but still almost let the match slip when he went 4-1 behind to the German in the tie-break.

The Australian, though, swept the next six points to register his fifth career victory over a top 10 opponent, and his first since beating countryman Patrick Rafter in the French Open last year.

"I was up a mini-break in the tie-break but he played well on the big points when he had to," said Haas, a quarter-finalist at Monte Carlo last week.

"His serve is his biggest weapon and he played well."

Arthurs will now take on Argentine Guillermo Coria, who also rallied to claim a 3-6, 7-6, 6-0 win over Brazil's Flavio Saretta.

Playing in his first event since picking up a record fifth Miami Masters crown last month, Agassi appeared more comfortable on the dirt than he did in his opening-round match when he was stretched to three sets by Russian teenager Mikhail Yuzhny.

Cup corner

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tion to their long-serving flamboyant head coach Philippe Troussier, press reports said Thursday.

The Japanese national football association has hired French surgeon Jean-Pierre Palet to accompany the squad during the premier football event opening on May 31, the reports said.

A spokesman for the association could not immediately confirm the reports which appeared in most of the Japanese dailies including Nihon Keizai Shimbun, the Sports Nippon and the Tokyo Shimbun.

The 51-year-old specialist on joints, who looks after the French under-21 youth team and French first-division club Paris Saint Germain, is a confidante of Troussier's and has already helped a few Japanese sporting celebrities.

Last year, he performed surgery on Japanese sumo champion Takahana's right knee and checked injured Jubilo Iwata midfielder Hiroshi Nanami during Japan's European tour.

What to watch

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STAR Sports
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
Cricket Programming
Super Selector
Taped Version at 10:00 pm

Batting made the difference

Cricket

INTERNET, Port of Spain

Now the dust has settled on an intriguing Test in Port-of-Spain, it is time to have a closer look at how the match was won by the Indians.

It is true that Ashish Nehra will be remembered for dismissing Brian Lara and Carl Hooper in the second innings while Javagal Srinath toiled away gamely for 54 overs in the match.

But the department of the game which won India the match was their run-scoring.

On what is probably the most testing wicket for the batsmen in Caribbean cricket, Sachin Tendulkar's century in the first innings merely underlined the class we all knew he possessed.

But we should look too at VVS Laxman, that most enigmatic of batsmen - on his day a match-winner, but guilty of so many indiscretions he has now been dropped from the one-day squad.

Laxman followed on from his 69 in Georgetown with another 69, unbeaten, at the Queen's Park Oval and then an absolutely crucial 74 in the second innings.

And the man who joined him in a stand of 149 in the second innings was the skipper himself, Sourav Ganguly.

It was that stand - Ganguly ended with a patient, thoroughly professional 75 off 227 balls - that ultimately sucked the breath out of the West Indies.

Although the home side will say their batting let them down on the final day, both sides knew that they both had desperately weak tails and the batting had to be done by the top six.

This is a point worth driving home - numbers seven to 11 contributed 0, 0, 5, 18 and 0 in India's first innings.

McMillan ton goes awry

FROM PAGE 13

innings that lifted his team's dwindling morale after losing the first match of the series and succumbing to a procession of injuries.

The tourists' problems were further compounded when their dashing batsman Nathan Astle was ruled out of the remainder of the tour due to a torn ligament in his left knee. Astle will fly home on Friday.

Allrounder Chris Harris was also left out of the team after becoming the latest victim of a stomach bug that has worked its way through the touring party.

Captain Stephen Fleming, however, recovered in time from his upset stomach to return to the lineup, win the toss and elect to bat.

Chris Nevin and Styris - who like Fleming missed the first match in Karachi - also made it into the eleven.

Pakistan kept faith in the same eleven for the seventh time, a rarity in Pakistani cricket.

Nevin and Matthew Horne put on a brisk 44 in 8.3 overs before first change Abdul Razzaq bowled Nevin with a sharp incoming delivery for 23.

Lleyton sails, Yevgeny fails

Tennis

AFP, Barcelona

Lleyton Hewitt put behind him his miserable performance in Monte Carlo last week to defeat home boy Marc Lopez 7-6, 6-2 in the second round of the one-million-dollar Barcelona Open here on Wednesday.

The Australian top-seed, who stumbled to defeat at the hands of Carlos Moya at the first hurdle last week, was flying blind against his teenage opponent on Wednesday.

"I had no idea what he looked like until we went onto the court," said the 21-year-old world number one.

"But I know the feeling of playing at home. You have nothing to lose and you give it all you've got."

However, the major shock of the day was the exit of former Grand Slam winner Yevgeny Kafelnikov at the hands of a qualifier with the Russian admitting that the defeat would only serve to push him one step further to retirement at the end of the year.

Hewitt said that in the absence of an early April Davis Cup quarter-final date this year for Australia, he is using the Barcelona week to gain clay-court match practise before the May 27 start of the French Open.

"I had never played Monte Carlo or Barcelona, but they are good preparation for Roland Garros," said the Australian.

"I need some more matches but I don't want my tennis to peak too early. If I'm sitting here Sunday holding the trophy, I'll know I'm playing well."

"But it's the Grand Slams and the Davis Cup that you base your schedule around."

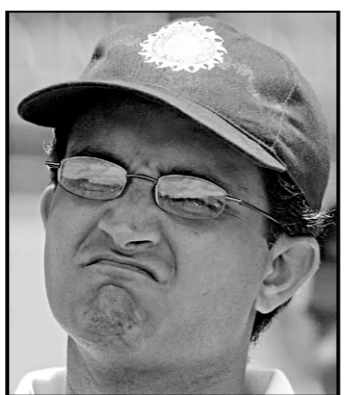
Hewitt emerged a tie-break winner in the first set after saving four set points against his battling opponent.

The Australian had served for the set but couldn't close it out. He broke Lopez for a 6-5 led only to lose his own serve in the next game as the Spaniard benefitted from an unforced error off the Australian's racket to take the first set into the tie-

and 0, 9, 6, 12 and 1 not out in West Indies' first innings.

In the second innings the story was even worse - 2, 0, 2, 4 and 0 for India, and 1, 0, 3, 1 and 4 for West Indies.

When Ganguly and Laxman came together late on Monday the score was 56 for four in India's second innings, and the lead was a



SOURAV GANGULY

small one, at 150.

The fifth-wicket pair clicked well together

If the West Indies could grab one more wicket, one end would be open and they would probably be chasing a score less than 200 to win.

But Laxman, the elegant right-hander who will forever be remembered for his remarkable 281 against Australia in Calcutta last year, showed few signs of nerves at the crease.

By contrast, Ganguly looked decidedly edgy early on.

And it looked for all the world that the cares of leading his country at such a crucial moment in such a crucial Test series would be too much to bear.

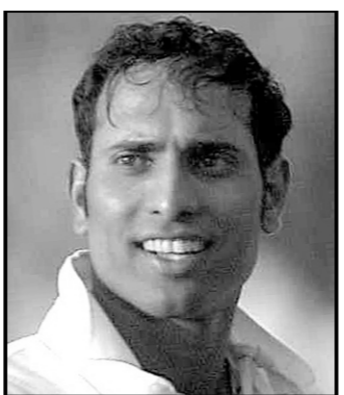
But once he had settled down, he looked like he simply would not be shifted.

And so it proved. He resisted the

short balls that the West Indies' pace quartet threw at him - desperate to avoid top-edging a hook, which had proved his downfall in Guyana.

He must have been a little perturbed that none of the lower order batsmen possessed the acumen to stick around while he built the score.

In truth, India could struggle in England if they do not strengthen



VVS LAXMAN

their lower order.

But the target of 313 always looked a mite distant for the home team.

Laxman himself has acknowledged he must hit more centuries. He has only two to his name so far in a career that has already seen him represent his country on 32 occasions.

Ganguly, for his part, remarkably reached the two centuries mark after just two Tests.

He has had his low points, suffering a terrible run of form for the whole of 2001 as the pressures of captaincy began to weigh heavily.

But a much-needed century against Zimbabwe in Delhi earlier this year has got him going again. He was always too doughty a campaigner to give in easily.

Jacobs' chance to impress

INTERNET, Barbados

Wicket-keeper Ridley Jacobs will captain a strong Busta XI side to play India in a three-day game in St Lucia later this week.

Jacobs has played 37 Tests for West Indies, taking 128 catches and scoring 1,476 runs.

But he is currently out of favour with the selectors, who preferred Junior Murray for the first two matches of the current series.

The Busta XI includes five other players with Test experience. They are batsmen Daren Ganga and Wavell Hinds, all-rounder Ryan Hinds, leg-spinner Dinanath Ramnarine and pace bowler Pedro Collins.

The match will be played at Mindoo Phillip Park in Castries, which last staged a game involving a senior international touring side when Australia played a West Indies Board President's XI there in 1995.

India, meanwhile, have confirmed that off-spinner Sarandeep Singh will stay with the squad for the remainder of the Test series.

He flew to the Caribbean when Harbhajan Singh suffered a shoulder injury and played in the opening Test in Guyana.

Busta XI squad: Ridley Jacobs (capt), Devon Smith, Daren Ganga, Wavell Hinds, Ryan Hinds, Tino Best, Kerry Jeremy, Dinanath Ramnarine, Darren Powell, Gareth Breesee, Pedro Collins, Runako Morton.

Wimbledon prize money increased

INTERNET, London

Organisers of the Wimbledon tennis championships have increased this year's prize money in the singles competition by 5%.

But the disparity between the men's and women's competitions remains.

The men's champion will receive £525,000 - an increase of £25,000 on the cheque won by Goran Ivanisevic last year.

The winner of the women's event will receive £486,000, up by £24,000 on Venus Williams' first prize last year.

The Australian and US Opens have recently decided to award men and women the same prize money, while the French Open, like Wimbledon, have continued to give more money to the men.

And the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) voiced their unhappiness at the continued gap in prize money on offer to the men and women.

"We continue to be concerned over the lack of equality between women's and men's prize money," said WTA chief operations officer Josh Riddle.

"Over the next year we will work with Wimbledon to review the disparity and to achieve an outcome which will reflect the ever increasing strength of the Sanex WTA Tour."

But Tim Phillips, chairman of the Wimbledon committee, said the increases were in line with the five-year average of the championship's prize fund increases.

"I said last year I didn't expect to see it [equal pay] in the foreseeable future," he said.

"We think we are being fair. We consider the US and Australian Opens to be the ones being out of line."

"There are no other tournaments with equal prize money and we are not sure there are many other sporting events with equal parity in terms of men and women."

"This game is all about the players. It is a fantastically competitive game and we felt that they deserved the increase which they have been given."

The prize fund for the men's and ladies' doubles competitions have increased by 2.4%.

The total prize money for the 2002 tournament will total more than £8.8m.

Tyson-Lewis bout tickets go on sale

INTERNET, London

Tickets for the much-anticipated heavyweight showdown between Mike Tyson and Lennox Lewis are due to go on sale in Memphis on Wednesday.

Fans in the local area have been given a one-day advantage to snap up the tickets ahead of the fight on June 8th.

Tickets will go on general sale across the United States from Thursday for the remainder of the seats at the Pyramid arena.

Ringside seats are priced from \$2,500 (£1728) with seats also available at \$1,400 (£968), \$900 (£622), \$500 (£345) and \$250 (£173) dollars.

Both Lewis and Tyson are due to stay in different casino hotels in Tunica, Mississippi in the days coming up to the bout.

Bedi's caution

Cricket

INTERNET, New Delhi

Indian legend Bishen Bedi says current Indian skipper Sourav Ganguly must avoid clinging onto a 1-0 series lead against the West Indies with three Tests to go.



BISHEN SINGH BEDI

Bedi was captain of the last Indian side to win a Test in the Caribbean - way back in 1976.

But the four-Test series was ultimately lost 2-1 in the deciding match in Jamaica.

Now Bedi reckons Ganguly must guard against becoming overly-defensive, and making the same mistake he did as captain 26 years

ago. India defeated the West Indies by 37 runs on Tuesday in Trinidad.

But former left-arm spinner Bedi warned: "Ganguly must not go into a defensive shell. That would enable the West Indies to bounce back."

"There's no doubt we are a better side, but we've got to prove it. This was a brilliant win, coming from a good team effort. But there are three Tests to go.

"We must resist the temptation of sitting on the lead, as we did in 1971. India could have won two more Tests in 1971 had we played our natural attacking game after winning the second Test match.

"I hope Ganguly does not follow the same pattern. It could be disastrous with the West Indies going all out on faster pitches in the remaining three Tests."

He said the scene was set for India to win more Tests during the current series and "bury the myth of its inability to win away from home."

Bedi disagreed with the decision to leave out ace leg-spinner Anil Kumble from the playing 11 in Trinidad.

"I was pleasantly surprised with the three medium pacers clicking, but Kumble would've made a vast difference," said Bedi.

"Had Kumble played, India would have skilted the West Indies batsmen a lot quicker on the final day."

Marauding Murray

Cricket

AFP, London

Former Zimbabwe batsman Murray Goodwin carried on from where he left off last season, making 162 for Sussex on the first day of their county championship match against Somerset at Hove.

Goodwin, who last season made 1521 championship runs at 58.50 for the Second Division titleholders, guided Sussex to a total of 337. At the close Somerset were four without loss.

Meanwhile, at Headingley, reigning First Division champions Yorkshire had a torrid opening day against title-contenders and 1999 and 2000 county kings Surrey.

Fresh from a 10 wicket win over Sussex, Surrey bowled out the home side for 140.

England paceman Alex Tudor took four for 31 and Pakistan's Azhar Mahmood, signed as temporary overseas cover for international team-mate Saqlain Mushtaq, was also on target with his medium-

pacers to finish with three for 33.

Surrey then rammed home their advantage by finishing on 115 without loss, club captain and England left-hander Mark Butcher unbeaten on 53 with fellow England southpaw Ian Ward 51 not out.

Lancashire's former England seamer Peter Martin claimed four for 77 as Warwickshire were bowled out for 297 at Edgbaston, a total that owed much to Neil Smith's 96 made at number eight.

South Africa captain Shaun Pollock could only manage 16 and was then wicketless as Lancashire finished on 48 without loss.

At the Rose Bowl, Leicestershire captain Vince Wells made 149 not out against the Hampshire attack, the visitors reaching 389 for six at stumps.

In the Second Division, New Zealand batsman Craig Spearman continued his good start to the season with Gloucestershire.

He made 80 against Essex at Chelmsford to add to his 111 in the opening match against Worcestershire.

But the batting hero this time

Pete downs Daniel

Tennis

INTERNET, London

Former world number one Pete Sampras had to come from a set down to beat Czech Daniel Vacek



PETE SAMPRAS

at the US Men's Clay Court Championships in Houston.

The tournament fourth seed and seven-time Wimbledon champion eventually won 4-6, 6-1, 7-5 to book his place in round two.

"It wasn't easy out there," said Sampras. "The court played pretty

slippery. That's clay. You have to grind it out. It's not going to be pretty."

Kristian Pless upset Jan-Michael Gambill.

He added: "Give him a lot of credit, he played tough. But it was a two-hour match and my legs held up. There's no question, I've got things to work on."

Top seed Tommy Haas of Germany had little trouble defeating American wild card Alex Kim 6-2 6-4 while defending champion Andy Roddick ousted fellow American Michael Russell 6-2 6-1.

Third seed Roddick is attempting to become the first player to win back-to-back titles at the \$400,000 event since Jose-Luis Clerc nearly 20 years ago.

While Roddick was easing his way past the first round, two other seeds were tumbling out.

Brazil's Flavio Saretta beat sixth seed Wayne Ferreira 6-4 7-5 while Denmark's Kristian Pless rallied to see off eighth seed Jan-Michael Gambill 2-6 6-2 7-5.

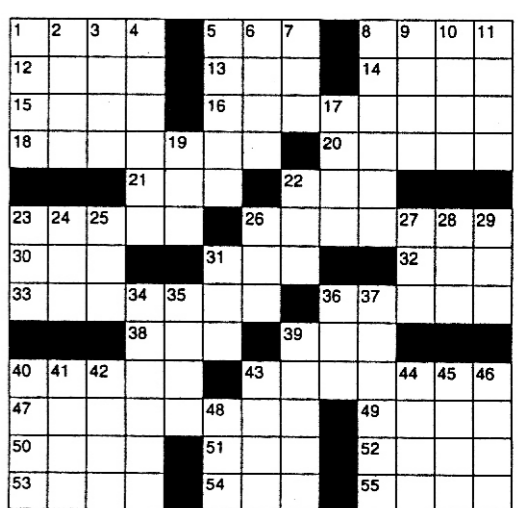
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Volcano output
5 Pump up the volume
8 Liniment target
12 On in years
13 Greet the villain
14 This one (Sp.)
15 Trifunction
16 Fast-selling breakfasts?
18 Night-club
20 Andean beast
21 Sailor
22 Sgt.
23 "Jerry Maguire" subject
26 Ballpark fare
30 "you sure?"
31 Annoy
32 Court
33 Prank with a match

36 Sells
38 Bagel
enhancement
39 Bell and Kettle
40 Sing like Bing
43 Beauty-parlor item
47 Trouble
49 Race-track shape
50 Carolina country
51 One of the Gershwins
52 Ashcroft's predecessor
53 Juror
54 Scale
55 Weight allowance
22 Trot
23 Jongg
predecessor
24 Guadalupe gold
25 Bottom line
26 Shack
27 Possess
28 Pantheon member
29 Brillo rival
31 Participate in pugilism
32 Blossom
35 Eugene's daughter
36 Industrial tub
37 Stag's lack
39 Aesopian conclusion
40 Bloke
41 Got up
42 Will-wisp link
43 Medal earner
44 Finished
45 Lion's pride
46 Rorschach sample
48 Frank McCourt book

Solution time: 27 mins.

GRAS UMS EMIT
ROT C PAH MESA
AMOR SOURBALL
DEP TICT TOLTIC
EARS WEIR
ETHREAL WAZE
MRT BABYS LOA
SIGH MAILSLOT
HOD SNOW
ABBREVI GELLER
ELE TIO PILE
SALT SOW BLEED



CRYPTOQUIP

MGRP YD. SOTBA VDTLROA
TDEBPN VGR MEDON EP
SGDFAVYTA RLR, FA FV T

"A T P V T S D B F A R" ?
Yesterday's CrypticPuzzle THE LAB RESEARCHER WAS WEIGHING SOME TINY BABY MICE. IT WAS A SMALL-SCALE EFFORT.

Today's CrypticPuzzle Clue: S equals C
The CrypticPuzzle 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
Australian Lleyton Hewitt looks at the ball during his match against Argentinian David Nalbandian in the third round of Conde de Godo Tennis Tournament at Real Tennis Club in Barcelona yesterday.