

Aussies aim to be less aggressive

AFP, Brisbane

Australia's one-day cricketers will temper their renowned attacking philosophy with a more conservative approach as they prepare for their World Cup title defence in South Africa next year, the team's coach said Monday.

Coach John Buchanan today at a press conference said Australia was adopting a more defensive bowling policy, placing more pressure on quick but explosive Brett Lee to improve his control.

The move has coincided with Ricky Ponting's elevation to the captaincy at the expense of sacked skipper Steve Waugh, who moulded Australia into the most attacking team in international cricket.

Buchanan said the world champions were trying to find the best approach to one-day cricket as the World Cup looms in nine months' time. "All we're trying to do is see how best to deal with an opposition batting team and make sure our bowlers can best deliver the tactics we need," Buchanan said.

"It's something that we're trying to formulate and it comes down to good control."

Australia face Pakistan in the third and final match of a one-day series at the Gabba Ground on Wednesday. The teams are currently level 1-1 in the series.

Halle crown Kafelnikov's

AFP, Halle

Russian top seed Yevgeny Kafelnikov came from a set down to defeat Germany's Nicolas Kiefer 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 and clinch the 800,000-dollar Halle ATP grass-court tournament for the third time on Sunday.

The winner of the title in 1997 and 1998 and a semi-finalist in 2001, Kafelnikov was outplayed by his opponent in the first set but he eventually found his range in the second set to take the match into a decider.

The Russian broke to lead 3-1 while Kiefer squandered two chances to break back in the sixth before Kafelnikov wrapped up the title in one hour and 53 minutes.

"It was a good decision to play in Halle," said Kafelnikov after winning the 25th singles crown of his career, but his first since taking the Moscow tournament in October 2001 where he also beat Kiefer.

The German can at least go on to Wimbledon on a high note having strung together his best run of form having won more matches in a week in Halle than he had managed all season.

He had lost in the first round of ten consecutive tournaments before this week.



What to Watch

- ESPN**
Australia vs Pakistan
First ODI, Highlights
Taped Version at 7:30 am
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
- STAR Sports**
Futbol Mundial
Repeat at 9:30 am
World Cup Today
Repeat at 10:00 am
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 10:30 pm
World Cup Today
Live at 11:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 173
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Competition closes at 8 pm June 21, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Bangladesh A beat USA by how many wickets in the Malaysia Cricket Challenge final.	5-wkts	7-wkts	3-wkts
2. Who clinched the Open FIDE Rating chess title?	Aminul	Rajib	Refaat
3. Who won the First Division cricket title?			

Name.....
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Class..... Roll No.....
School Address.....
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Phone: (if any).....

Speed for ODI C'ship



AFP, London

International Cricket Council (ICC) chief executive Malcolm Speed announced plans Sunday for a new world one-day championship along the lines of the one currently in place for Test matches.

Interviewed on BBC Radio, Speed speaking ahead of next week's ICC executive board meeting at Lord's said: "We will put in place a similar thing for one-day cricket."

But he admitted that the current Test Championship, where all major cricket nations play each other home and away during a five-year period was facing problems.

The political situation in Pakistan has seen nations reluctant to tour there with New Zealand leaving before their scheduled second Test when a bomb exploded near their

hotel. Continuing tensions between India and Pakistan have also led to cancelled series between those countries.

Some players' representatives have said they would not advise their members to sign contracts as they stand because their rights are not protected.

Asked if a strike was a realistic possibility, Speed replied: "Certainly not. I'm sure we can deal with the problems that exist now."

"We are having a lot of discussions with FIFA (world football's governing body) who have a lot of experience in this area."

And Speed insisted that one of the major concerns of world cricket in recent years -- the possibility for corruption at neutral venues -- was being addressed thanks to the work of former London police chief Paul Condon's anti-corruption unit.

"We are on top of corruption at neutral venues thanks to Lord Condon," said Speed.



MALCOLM SPEED
And Speed admitted: "The Test Championship is in danger of grinding to a halt if series are cancelled."

Tudor troubles SL



AFP, Manchester

Sri Lanka were struggling to save the third and final Test against England here at Old Trafford on Sunday.

When bad light forced an early finish on the fourth day Sri Lanka, already 1-0 down in the series, were 63 for one in their second innings still 196 runs behind England's first innings 512.

That they were following on was largely down to fast bowler Alex Tudor's four-wicket haul -- a return all the more impressive as senior quick Andrew Caddick was off the field all day with a left side strain.

"Andy's a great bowler and with him off it needed one of us to step up to the plate," said Tudor.

With Darren Gough out of this match because of a knee injury, the 24-year-old Tudor also paid tribute to fellow young England quicks Andrew Flintoff and Matthew Hoggard.

At stumps on Sunday Russel

De Silva c Hussain b Flintoff	18
Jayasuriya lbw b Hoggard	35
Tillekeratne c Flintoff b Giles	20
Vaas lbw b Hoggard	14
Upashantha c Stewart b Tudor	1
Fernando not out	6
Muralitharan c Stewart b Tudor	6
Extras: (b-1, lb-3, nb-20)	24
Total: (For 9 wkts in 92.3 overs) 253	
Fall of wickets: 1-107, 2-142, 3-149, 4-171, 5-219, 6-227, 7-228, 8-240, 9-253	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Caddick	5.3	2	17	0
Hoggard	16	4	38	3
Flintoff	23	5	65	1
Tudor	25	8	65	4
Giles	23	4	64	1

SRI LANKA: Second innings
Arnold not out 26
Jayasuriya b Hoggard 26
Sangakkara not out 9
Extras: (lb-1, nb-1) 2
Total: (For 1wkt in 16.3 overs) 63
Fall of wickets: 1-44

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hoggard	8	1	27	1
Flintoff	7	0	32	0
Giles	1	0	2	0
Tudor	0.3	0	1	0

Umpires: Steve Bucknor (West Indies) and David Orchard (South Africa).

Hewitt too hot



AFP, London

Australian top seed Lleyton Hewitt defeated Britain's Tim Henman 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 to clinch the 800,000-dollar Queen's Club title here on Sunday and join John McEnroe as the only other three-time winner on the West London grass.

McEnroe claimed his hat-trick from 1979-81 with Hewitt following the American legend into the record books beating Henman in just over two hours in a re-run of last year's final at the pre-Wimbledon tune-up tournament.

Hewitt, the world number one, improved to 5-0 career record over Henman, a three-time Wimbledon semifinalist.

Their last meeting prior to Sunday's cloud-shrouded affair was the final on hardcourts at Indian Wells, California, where the 21-year-old Aussie carved up his opponent 6-1, 6-2.

Hewitt last lost here in a 1999 semi-final to Pete Sampras and has now won 15 matches in a row at the event -- with only three dropped sets.

"It's been getting better and better," said Hewitt, whose best Wimbledon showing has been the fourth round.

"It's a short grass court season, so the more matches you get, the better off you will be. I'm feeling pretty good at the moment, and this is one of my favourite weeks of the year."

Henman started with determination as he claimed the opening set in 54 minutes.

The pair traded breaks in the first two games, with Hewitt rallying after losing his serve to love in the opener to quickly notch break-back.

Hewitt lost serve a second time in the ninth game after going to three deuces before dropping to 4-5. Henman collected the set on his second opportunity, with a back-hand volley winner.

But the tide turned quickly in the second, with the aggressive Hewitt taking it to 4-0 on two breaks of the embattled Brit.

Henman earned a token game for

1-5, but couldn't hold off the Hewitt charge, netting a return to square the match at set each.

Hewitt took control in the third, his attacking shots doing immediate damage as he took the title on the first of his three match point chances.

"I had chances late in the first set,



A proud Lleyton Hewitt of Australia holds the Stella Artois Championship trophy at Queen's Club in London on June 16.

but I couldn't get the break back," said Hewitt. "It's great to hold up this trophy again. To win it three times is incredible."

"I just about feel at home here. I've been getting better with each match, I hope to carry this form into Wimbledon."

The capacity crowd was enter-

taind after the final by a tie-break celebrity exhibition with Prime Minister Tony Blair partnering Pat Cash, with Ilie Nastase and impressionist Alistair McGowan on the other team.

"It's not every day an enthusiast, but complete amateur, like me gets to play with two tennis legends like

Pat Cash and Ilie Nastase," said Blair.

Lawn Tennis Association chief executive John Crowther: "It was great to see the Prime Minister enjoying his tennis so much and encouraging others to play the sport more often."

Vice-president Tunko Imran will go in his place, he said, adding that Bangladesh's Mohammad Ali Asgher will take over as ACC president.

Green Delta hockey Mariner maul Usha

SPORTS REPORTER

Mariner Young's Club joined Mohammedan Sporting Club atop the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League after a convincing 6-2 win over Usha Krira Chakra in their penultimate return leg clash at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 2-1. Razzak, Yamin Bhaty, Yamin Miah, Shahin, Moksed and Kutubiddin Yen scored one goal each for Mariner while Tutul Kumar Nag and Habul reduced the margin for Usha.

Mariner's 14th win in 17 matches raised their tally to 44 points equal with Mohammedan who have a match in hand.

On the other hand, the defeat did not have any bearing for Usha as far as their position in the table as they remained fourth with 31 points from 17 matches, 12 points ahead of fifth-placed Bangladesh Sporting Club and Ajax Sporting Club.

In the other match of the day, Ajax registered a 2-0 win over Sonali Bank in their last match.

Biaka Lusai and Proshanto Kumar struck one each. Ajax finished the league in mid-table having earned 19 points from 18 matches.

It was the bankers' eighth defeat against three wins and six draws that kept them third from bottom with 15 points from 17 matches.

Booters' transfer over

SPORTS REPORTER

The four-day inter-club booters' transfer for the Premier and First Division Football Leagues concluded at the Dhaka Mahanagar Football League Committee office at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The day's only transfer of note was the departure of national midfielder Parvez Babu from Brothers Union to Abahani Krira Chakra. He replaces mercurial midfielder Arman Mia who along with six other national stars joined Muktiyoddha Sangsad on the opening day.

A total of 302 footballers issued tokens out of which 253 changed clubs this year.

The football season is scheduled to kick off with the Premier League in the first week of July.

Pakistan wishes to play with India

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistani Asian Cricket Council (ACC) secretary Zakir Hussain Syed told AFP on Sunday that he hoped the recent easing of military tensions between Pakistan and India will help reopen cricket links between the two countries.

"We are getting better signals as far as the tension between Pakistan and India are concerned and this gives us hope that cricket relations will be revived in the near future," said Syed.

India has severed sporting links with Pakistan over the disputed state of Kashmir, where New Delhi accuses Islamabad of sponsoring an Islamic insurgency. The two national teams last met on the cricket pitch during the Asia Cup in Dhaka two years ago.

One million troops are currently massed on the India-Pakistan borders but the threat of war has faded somewhat in recent days.

Syed also said Pakistan will transfer ACC leadership to Bangladesh during an annual general meeting in London later this month.

"After completing the term of two years Pakistan will hand over the powers to Bangladesh in the ACC meeting in London on June 30," Syed told AFP.

"Cricket has progressed by leaps and bounds in the region during our term and with a permanent headquarters in Malaysia and new vistas opened it will go a long way in the continent in future."

Syed said the current ACC president, Pakistan's Lieutenant General Tauqir Zia, would not go to the London meeting because he is busy with his military duties.

Vice-president Tunko Imran will go in his place, he said, adding that Bangladesh's Mohammad Ali Asgher will take over as ACC president.

and strong. Brian McBride, he's big and strong. If we do our defending properly we will do very well against Germany."

"We will not be satisfied unless we either win or get knocked out fair and square and know that we've poured our blood out on the field. That's what all the boys are like."

"Sometimes in games in the past other things have let us down, but the effort and the heart has never ever been lacking in American players."

Arena, commenting on changes in his starting team, said: "We needed some fresh legs in there today."

He said Mexico and the United States knew each other well. "It's a rivalry. We know each other and there's been a lot of bad blood over the years but when the game's over we're friends again."

WI win in controversy



AFP, Kingstown

The West Indies clinched a dramatic four-wicket last ball thriller victory against New Zealand on Sunday, but Kiwi skipper Stephen Fleming blasted "incompetent" match officials for robbing his team of victory.

New Zealand scored a huge 291 for eight at the picturesque Arnos Vale Ground on this small Caribbean island where interna-

second highest total to win a match. New Zealand, 2-0 down in the series at one stage, clawed their way back into the series in Trinidad on Wednesday and looked to have set a winning total on Sunday when Fleming (65), Craig McMillan (83) and Lou Vincent (55) clubbed a weakened West Indies bowling attack to all corners of the ground overlooking the Caribbean Sea.

Without pace bowler Mervyn Dillon, suffering from a strained back, the West Indies attack lacked bite and the pick of the bowlers was



West Indies' Shivnarine Chanderpaul (L) and Wavell Hinds set off for a single during the final one-day international against New Zealand on June 16.

tional cricket is played rarely, but opening batsman Chris Gayle, who took four for 54 and scored 67 to win man-of-the-match and man-of-the-series.

Set 291, the West Indies made their usual flamboyant start, scoring 60 from the first 10 overs before Chanderpaul was struck on the forearm by a 90 miles per hour Shane Bond delivery.

Chanderpaul left the field for X-rays and Brian Lara took his place. The left-handed Trinidadian and Gayle put on 67 before Gayle was eventually caught going for another big shot from the bowling of spinner Daniel Vettori. Lara survived two confident leg before appeals, going on to score 47 from 65 balls.

Lara handed Chris Harris a simple caught and bowled three runs short of his half-century and skipper Carl Hooper came in, adding a lusty 45 in 38 balls before 21-year-old Ramnaresh Sarwan scored 52, taking the West Indies to within 31 runs of victory.

Still needing 32 from the last four overs, New Zealand grabbed more wickets and the pendulum swung back towards the tourists, but

Fleming's angry reaction took the gloss off a thrilling match, in which the West Indies scored their

Wavell Hinds struck some big shots to bring the target down to 20 from 12 balls.

Chanderpaul then reappeared at the crease: "The doctor said it's a bruised bone but he's asked for a second opinion. I couldn't hold the bat when I went off," he said after the match.

Needing 15 from the last over, Fleming was forced to bowl medium pacer Daryl Tuffey, who had already been hit for 33 runs from four overs.

Hitchcock had bowled nine overs for 55 although the scoreboard indicated he had bowled ten.

Chanderpaul grasped the opportunity, smashing three consecutive fours from friendly half volleys. With the scores tied on the last ball, Fleming brought his field up and Chanderpaul casually flicked Tuffey's loose final delivery into the crowd of thousands of supporters rushing onto the field, to win the match and the series.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the fifth and final one-day international between New Zealand and the West Indies at Arnos Vale Ground on Sunday:
NEW ZEALAND
Fleming b Collins 65
Astle c Jacobs b Collins 1
Nevin c Hooper b Gayle 30
McMillan c and b Hooper 83
Vincent b Gayle 55
Styris c Chanderpaul b Gayle 2
Harris not out 29
Vettori b Hooper 1
Bond c Collins b Gayle 1
Tuffey not out 0
Extras: (b-2, lb-6, nb-9, w-7) 29
Total: (For 8 wkts in 50 overs) 241
Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-92, 3-112, 4-251, 5-254, 6-273, 7-280, 8-285

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Cuffy	8	0	45	0
Collins	10	1	64	2
Collymore	4	1	23	0
Hooper	10	0	48	2
Gayle	10	0	54	4
R Hinds	8	0	49	0

WEST INDIES
Gayle c Harris b Vettori 67
Chanderpaul not out 28
Lara c and b Harris 47
Hooper c Fleming b Hitchcock 45
Sarwan c Tuffey b Bond 52
Jacobs c McMillan b Styris 4
W Hinds not out 18
R Hinds b Bond 4
Extras: (b-7, lb-6, w-8, nb-6) 27
Total: (For 6 wkts in 50 overs) 292
Fall of wickets: 1-127, 2-163, 3-219, 4-235, 5-260, 6-274

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Bond	10	3	41	2
Tuffey	5	0	48	0
Hitchcock	9	0	55	1
Styris	10	1	43	1
Vettori	7	0	46	1
Harris	9	0	46	1

Result: West won the match by four wickets and take the series 3-1.
Man-of-the-match and man-of-the-series: Chris Gayle.

Politics can wait

FROM PAGE 13
break against Spain.

"Spain are a very good team and to take them that close and almost win, I think the Irish can be really, really proud of themselves. I felt desperately sorry for them losing like that," he said.

The football-mad Irish prime minister Bertie Ahern has not missed a bit as Mick McCarthy's men battled their way through to the last 16 and at times he has sounded more like a coach than a premier.

"I said before the game that I would have settled for a good performance, but as time went on in the game it was touch and go as we played better and better," was his post-match analysis after the Spain loss.

"In extra time I thought we should have won it, especially when they went down to 10 men. But penalties are penalties. They are dodgy."

Football is the order of the day too with German chancellor Gerhard Schroeder who missed the first half of Germany's match against Cameroon to meet with the visiting Sultan of Brunei.

Smiling Uncle Sam

FROM PAGE 13
in the world in our opening game and were the only team to get a point off (co-hosts South) Korea.

"We have had some impressive results in this World Cup, I wouldn't call that lucky."

Looking ahead to the quarter-finals clash between the United States and Germany on Friday, he said:

"We've got a very difficult opponent in Germany on Friday but I think when Friday comes round our team will be ready to play."

"I think our fitness paid off (today) and that's certainly going to be important against the Germans, whose physical presence is very impressive."

"On paper it looks to be no match. However we don't play this game on paper," he said.

U.S. goalkeeper Brad Friedel, who had another outstanding game, also talked about the physical threat posed by Germany, but said the Americans were a match for them in that department.

"They're big, like about my size. But we're not terribly small. Tony Sannah, Eddie Pope, Gregg Berhalter who played today, he's big

But he made no mistake for the second round game against Paraguay, getting up early, going out to buy bread rolls for a family breakfast to avoid any last-minute distractions.

"Then we will get into the mood in front of television. We'll tremble and cross our fingers," he said on his Internet site.

Schroeder trembled and crossed effectively as the Germans went through 1-0 with a late goal and next play Mexico or the United States on Friday.

Presumably he will be backing Blair for a light agenda in Seville.

The first round elimination of champions France came at an awkward moment for President Jacques Chirac falling in between two rounds of voting in the French parliamentary election where he was desperate for a right-wing victory.

But following the coup de grace against Denmark, Chirac sent out a rallying call to the team, which could have doubled as a personal statement of Gaullist intentions to voters.