

Collins faces doping probe

2002 Manchester THE XVII COMMONWEALTH GAMES

INTERNET, Manchester

The World Anti-Doping Agency will investigate Commonwealth Games 100m champion Kim Collins after the sprinter's positive test for salbutamol.

Collins of St Kitts and Nevis was allowed to keep his title as the substance was contained in medication he was using to treat asthma.

Fair outcome in Collins case? Have your say

But the WADA, which observed drug testing procedures at the Games, will still look into his case.

"Obviously it's a borderline situation with what appears to be a genuine medical condition," said WADA chairman Dick Pound.

This has taught me a powerful lesson and one that all athletes should learn from

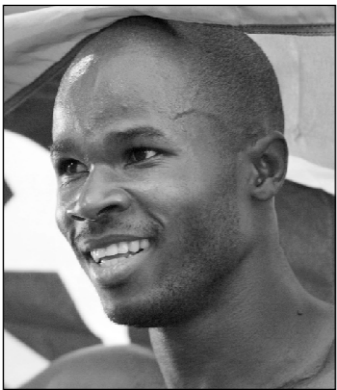
Kim Collins

"You've got to be fair to athletes if you have a genuine medical condition - you can't be discriminated against because you're an athlete."

Pound has also asked Australian officials to explain why shooter Phillip Adams was allowed to compete despite testing positive for a banned substance that was also in prescribed medication.

Adams, who won silver in the 25m pistol pairs, tested positive for a diuretic contained in medication for high blood pressure which he had been taking for two years.

He escaped punishment because the Australian Shooting Association accepted he did not know he was taking a banned substance.



KIM COLLINS

stance, and that it could not assist his performance.

But Pound insisted that even if Adams unknowingly took the banned drug, strict liability had to apply.

"Diuretics are there usually to hide something. Shooting is not just having a low pulse rate and a good

eye," added Pound.

"We will certainly be asking the Australians to tell us about this case. The initial reaction is it was a somewhat odd resolution."

Canadian triathlete Kelly Guest is the only athlete to be expelled from the Games after testing positive in a pre-Games test for nandrolone.

Guest's team-mate Fred Asselin is waiting to learn if he can compete in the rugby sevens.

Asselin tested positive for a banned substance contained in medication he used for a toothache.

The Commonwealth Games Federation said Collins should have declared the medication he was taking before he was tested in Manchester.

But it accepted the levels found were "consistent with normal therapeutic use and not considered to be performance-enhancing".

Collins said: "This has taught me a powerful lesson and one that all athletes should learn from."

"This is my future and I will take personal responsibility for making sure all competition requirements are met."

"I would like to thank the Commonwealth Games Federation for the very fair manner in which this matter has been dealt with."

Lanka name side for Morocco Cup

REUTERS, Colombo

Sri Lanka named its squad for the Morocco Cup on Friday, sticking to the same players selected for the upcoming one-day international series against Bangladesh.

The three-match series against Bangladesh begins on Sunday. Sri Lanka will face Pakistan and South Africa in the Morocco Cup beginning on August 12 in Tangier, north Africa's first international venue.

SQUAD Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Aravinda de Silva, Russel Arnold, Hasantha Fernando, Chaminda Vaas, Chamila Gamage, Dilhara Fernando, Muttiah Muralitharan, Buddhika Fernando, Upul Chandana, TM Dilshan, Pulasthi Gunaratne.

India's practice rained away

AFP, London

For the second successive day, rain washed out play in the tour match between Worcestershire and India at New Road, Worcester, on Thursday.

This four-day fixture is India's last match before the second Test against England starts at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, on Thursday, August 8.

The tourists were looking to use this match to re-adjust to first-class cricket after losing the Test series opener by a crushing 170 runs at Lord's on Monday.

India, who last month beat England at Lord's in the final of the triangular one-day tournament, have not won a Test series outside of the sub-continent since 1986.

Their team manager, Ranga Reddy, said: "It is frustrating. We were looking for a good game and good practice and these county games are important for the team. We need to get adjusted to five-day cricket after all the one-dayers."

Tykes, Surrey look to umps

AFP, London

Prospects of Yorkshire and Surrey playing their Trophy semifinal away from a rain-sodden Headingley will depend upon an umpires' inspection on Friday morning.

Play has been washed out without a ball being bowled during the past two days and the weather is not predicted to improve for Friday's final reserve day.

However, a final decision on whether to move the match will not be made until the umpires have had one more inspection.

"We will have a look tomorrow (Friday) and if it is still raining at lunchtime, we will consider moving to a suitable ground within an hour's striking distance," said Yorkshire chief executive Chris Hassell.

If the teams cannot play at least a 10-overs per side match on Friday the game would be decided by a bowl out - cricket's equivalent of the penalty shoot-out -- at Headingley's indoor school.

Somerset and Kent were playing their semi-final as scheduled at Taunton on Thursday.

The final of the Trophy, England's senior one-day competition, takes place at Lord's on August 31.

Price's golden

FROM PAGE 13

Australians Geoff Huegill and Leisel Jones were also back in the hunt for more titles after winning gold the previous evening.

Huegill, the men's 50 metres butterfly champion, settled for second in his 100 metres butterfly heat in 54.18 behind England's James Hickman (53.90). Canada's Mike Mintenko was quickest semi-final qualifier in 53.72.

"It was a very relaxed swim," defending champion Huegill said. "I just threw my arms over and rolled through the stroke. I'll work at it tonight."

Jones, the new 200 metres breaststroke champion, was fourth-fastest semi-final qualifier in the 100 breaststroke, the event in which she is Olympic and world silver medalist. Canada's Rhiannon Leier was fastest in 1:09.46.

South Africa's Natalie du Toit, who had her left leg amputated at the knee after a scooter accident in February 2001, set a world record in the S9 disabled category of 1:02.83 for the 100 freestyle in the multi-disability heats.

Du Toit was later racing against able-bodied swimmers in the 800 metres freestyle final.

Canada's Brian Johns, the world championship silver medalist, led qualifiers for the evening's 400 metres individual medley final in 4:20.85, while Scotland's Alison Sheppard turned in the most rapid qualifying time for the evening's 50 metres freestyle semi-finals, a Games record 24.68.

Thorpe won his 100 metres backstroke heat in 56.45 and was second-fastest semi-final qualifier behind world champion Matt Welsh.



Kate Walsh of England scores the first goal against Australia in their semifinal of the Commonwealth Games women's hockey tournament in Manchester on August 1.

Women's hockey England shock Australia

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AFP, Manchester

Hosts England stunned world champions Australia 2-1 on Thursday to enter the women's hockey final of the Commonwealth Games where they face equally surprise aspirants India.

India, braving heavy rain and a controversial umpiring decision by Dawn Henning of England, fought back after conceding an early goal to down New Zealand 2-1 in the first semi-final.

Australia, the reigning world and Olympic champions, were taken by surprise by their determined rivals who delighted some 5,000 home fans with the biggest shock of the competition.

Two goals by Kate Walsh and Helen Grant following penalty corners within the first 25 minutes rattled the Australians, for whom Louise Dobson missed a penalty stroke just before half-time.

Jeered by the crowd as she settled to take the stroke, Dobson's weak pass was padded away by English goalkeeper Hilary Rose.

Dobson made amends by converting a penalty corner four minutes from the end, but her effort was too little, too late to prevent an upset.

Henman bows out

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AFP, Toronto

Fourth seed Tim Henman squandered three winning chances and paid the price a set later with a 4-6, 7-6, 7-5 loss to Wimbledon finalist David Nalbandian in the third round of the 2.95-million-dollar Masters Series here on Thursday.

Britain's Henman had not dropped his serve coming into the contest on a sweltering cement court at the National Tennis Centre.

But 20-year-old Nalbandian showed his tennis pedigree as he rallied after saving three Henman match points late in the second set.

Three straight unforced errors off the Briton's racket - the last a costly

double-fault - threw the Argentine a lifeline a month after losing in the title match at the All England Club to Lleyton Hewitt.

Squaring the match was a tonic for Nalbandian, who broke in the final game of the third to clinch the upset in two hours, 50 minutes.

Henman admitted he threw the match away.

"It was obviously a match I should have won," said the first man this season to claim 40 match victories on the ATP. "I didn't play particularly well."

"My game was not as good as it was in the first two matches. It happens," said Henman. "You can't always play your best tennis."

"We're not machines out on the court. You play better some days and not others. I got close to winning - you can't get much closer than

three match points."

Nalbandian is playing just his second full season on the ATP circuit and now stands 28-16 on the season.

Beating Henman in the pair's first meeting put the South American into his first career Masters Series quarter-final.

Steady Czech Jiri Novak, seeded 14th, ousted Taylor Dent 5-7, 6-3, preventing the American from matching the quarter-final appearance achieved by his father Phil here in 1979 when he lost to Ivan Lendl.

The elder Dent's best results were in 1975 and 1977 when he advanced to the semi-finals.

Meanwhile, Frenchman Fabrice Santoro stopped American veteran Todd Martin 6-2, 6-4.

GAMES DIARY

2002 Manchester THE XVII COMMONWEALTH GAMES

AFP, Manchester

Commonwealth Games diary for Friday:

England's Adam Whitehead proved himself a worthy successor to British breaststroke greats Adrian Moorhouse and Nick Gillingham with his triumph in the 100m at the Commonwealth Games, but there was a time when the pressure of early expectations threatened to drive him out of swimming.

After winning the European short-course title in 1998, he made an attempt on the world short-course record that ended with him semi-conscious on the pool deck.

He said the time since has been "four years of hell and turmoil," with his biggest regret from those years his decision to miss his sister's wedding in favour of the 1999 European Championships.

"I'll regret it for the rest of my life," he said. "This medal is for her, her husband and my nephew."

SWIMMING UPSTREAM

Australian world record-holder Geoff Huegill won the 50m butterfly, but one of his biggest thrills of the Manchester Commonwealth Games was swimming up a waterfall for a television trailer.

"It was awesome," he said. "I never thought I would be asked to do something like that, so I jumped at the chance."

STADIUM DOOMED BUT WARM-UP TRACK GETS SECOND LIFE

The City of Manchester Stadium, which has created such an electric

Fourth gold for Anjali

INTERNET, Manchester

India's Anjali Bhagwat picked up her fourth gold medal of the Games in the women's 50m rifle event.

Team-mate Raj Kumari took silver with Roslina Bakar third.

Bhagwat's winning total of 678.0 means that India have now collected 10 golds in the shooting.

It was Bhagwat's fourth gold of the Games after her victory in the 50m three positions and the 10m air rifle singles and pairs events.

Bhagwat clinches third gold

Canada's Metodij Igorov won the men's 25m rapid fire pistol title.

Bruce Quick of Australia was second with Allan Stuart McDonald of South Africa picking up the medal.



PHOTO: AFP

India's Anjali Bhagwat poses for photographs after winning her fourth gold in the 50m Rifle 3 Positions at the Commonwealth Games on August 2.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid and clues including: ACROSS 1 Luminary, 5 Reggae-like music, 8 Forbidden, 12 Color quality, 13 Resembling (Suff.), 14 Rainbow, 15 McCormack of 'Will & Grace', 16 Standard support, 18 Skunk, 20 Crew member, 21 Two, in Tijuana, 22 Rival of Peter Pan?, 23 Emitted light beams, 26 Hunter of diamonds, 30 Microbrewery product, 31 Charged bit, 32 Conk out, 33 Seafood picnic.

Cryptquip puzzle grid with letters and numbers for solving.

CRYPTOQUIP

RORDS QDYP HG QLJHFHLD UHKW KWR YFV LVLPR "KHJR'GQNEUWRE

SYN'DR WLOHEP QFHRG" Yesterday's Cryptquip: WHEN CINDERELLA GETS READY TO SNORKEL, SHE ALWAYS PACKS A PAIR OF GLASS FLIPPERS.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: Q equals F The Cryptquip 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.

ACB turns to soccer

AFP, Melbourne

Essendon football manager Matthew Drain has accepted a management role with the Australian Cricket Board and will leave the Bombers at the end of the Australian Football League season, the ACB said on Friday.

Drain will become the High Performance Cricket Manager for the ACB, overseeing development of a planned centre of excellence for players, umpires, administrators and groundkeepers, incorporating the Cricket Academy.

He will also be responsible for identifying and developing national talent as well as Australia's elite youth cricket competition structure.

Singh to talk with Sussex

AFP, London

India off-spinner Harbhajan Singh is set to have talks with English county Sussex as the ambitious south coast club look to make him their second overseas player for next season.

First Division Sussex are ready to offer Harbhajan, 22, who was left out of India's 170 run first Test defeat against England concluded Monday, a one-year deal.

The Hove-based club could face opposition for Harbhajan's signature from Lancashire.

They too have expressed interest in having the 'Turbanator' on board if first-class counties ratify proposals to increase the number of overseas players from one to two per club at a meeting on August 12.

However, Sussex are due to have talks with Harbhajan later this week before the second Test starts at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, on Thursday, August 8.

Sussex captain Chris Adams said: "A look at his record tells you that Harbhajan is a quality performer."

"He averages nearly five wickets per Test at the moment and is the sort of bowler who is consistently going to get good players out."

"Our batting unit is already pretty solid, we have depth and talent in seam bowling but spin is an area where we are deficient and Mark Davis has carried us since Umar Rashid died."

Sussex's current overseas player is former Zimbabwe batsman Murray Goodwin.

Swiss Davis Cup coach killed

REUTERS, Geneva

Peter Carter, the coach of Switzerland's Davis Cup team and head coach of Swiss men's tennis, died in a traffic accident on Thursday, the Swiss Tennis Federation said.

Carter, 37, was on holiday in South Africa with his wife Sylvia when the accident occurred.

WHIZZ KID-176 correct answers

- 1. Who scored he first hattrick in the National Bank Premier Football League? Ans. Nakib. 2. Who won the man-of-the-match award in the NatWest Series final? Ans. Kaif. 3. How many ODI centuries has Sachin Tendulkar scored so far? Ans. 33. 4. Who clinched Swiss open tennis title? And. Corretja. 5. Who is No. 1 in the WTA Tour rankings? Ans. Serena.



Briton Tim Henman cools off with an ice pack during his match with Argentine David Nalbandian at the Tennis Masters in Toronto on August 1.