

Beckham blasted

AFP, London

England captain David Beckham has been branded a crybaby and a cheat by Slovakia's playmaker Miroslav Karhan.

Lleyton, Serena in Hopman Cup

REUTERS, Perth

World number ones Lleyton Hewitt and Serena Williams will begin their preparations for next year's Australian Open at the Hopman Cup, tournament organisers have announced.

Work hard

FROM PAGE 13 hop which the batsman happily puts away for a boundary. But then like a poker player who deliberately allows himself to be caught bluffing a few times to disguise the trump card) Warne bowls a delivery which looks very similar to the earlier long-hops but which actually is the flipper and shoots forward from halfway down the pitch, low and straight towards the stumps.



North Koreans bid goodbye as they board the passenger boat at Busan yesterday. The Mangyongbong arrived on September 28, carrying 343 North Korean supporters for the 14th Asian Games.

Busan sheds a tear

14th Asian Games BUSAN 2002 AFP, Busan

This bustling South Korean port bid an emotional farewell Tuesday to a North Korean cheering squad whose presence at the Asian Games, with all its propaganda trappings, has sparked a mood of reconciliation.

and reunite. The rigid communist state was taking part in an international sport meeting in the South for the first time and to add to the spectacle, it mobilised attractive young women as cheerleaders for its sporting elite, who pulled in the crowds wherever they went.

pastor, who fought the Soviets when as a soldier in the Japanese imperial army when Korea was under Japanese colonial rule, complained: "They should act in a more open manner."

Martinez advances

REUTERS, Zurich

Former Wimbledon champion Conchita Martinez wrecked Swiss youngster Myriam Casanova's hopes of home success when she sliced her way to a 6-4, 6-3 victory in the Swisscom Challenge.

Reality begins to sink in

14th Asian Games BUSAN 2002 AFP, Busan

Swathes of empty seats and officiating controversies at the 14th Asian Games are likely to put a dampener on Busan's reported dream of mounting a successful bid for the 2016 Olympics.

Taek. "Events like volleyball, basketball and taekwondo were completely sold out (at times) due to their popularity. Other events sold less well than we would have liked."

Those 20 medals were part of a Chinese haul of 150 golds that saw them finish a long way ahead of their rivals at the top of the medal table.

'SA need to change tack'

Cricket INTERNET, Bloemfontein

The recent chopping and changing to the national cricket team could be blamed for the fact that most players in the squad are victims of "an inhibiting fear of failure", said Jonty Rhodes in his latest newsletter on his website.

said. Rhodes said that the reason for South Africa's successes in the past was that they took to the field with the same team in almost 85 per cent of matches. "Injuries were the main reason for any changes."

was changed during this season did nothing for the confidence of the individuals within the team and the team as a whole.

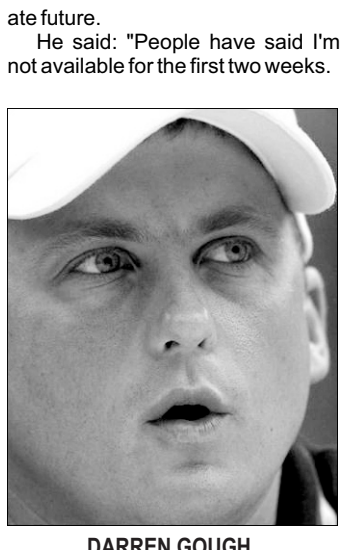


JONTY RHODES

Gough in fitness race

Cricket INTERNET, London

Darren Gough has confirmed he is still on course to be fit for England's first Test against Australia in Brisbane on November 7.



DARREN GOUGH

"Obviously with the winter here I've done no bowling and I don't want to jar my knee by bowling indoors.

Michael gives

FROM PAGE 13 last six SA wickets falling for 24 runs. Paceman Will Carr finished with 4-42.

Too spicy Chileans

Tennis REUTERS, Madrid

Fernando Gonzalez and Marcelo Rios made it a Chilean double while Alex Corretja safely avoided a potential upset against fellow Spaniard Fernando Vicente as the Madrid Masters began at a cracking pace.

Tommy Robredo blasted past Max Mirnyi of Belarus, who finished as runner-up to Tommy Haas in last year's final in Stuttgart, 6-4, 6-4 to book a second-round clash with the Czech Republic's Jiri Novak.

There was one success for Argentina, with qualifier Agustin Calleri overcoming a shaky start to see off the American James Blake 6-4, 6-2.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across, Down, and Cryptic sections.

Cryptic crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions.

Aussies go to

FROM PAGE 13 Indies XI, Cave Hill May 1-5: Third Test, Bridgetown May 9-13: Fourth Test, St John's

Costa battles to be fit

REUTERS, Madrid Spain's Albert Costa has suffered a back injury during a practice match and is facing a race to be fit in time to play in the Madrid Masters.

Kamal the new

FROM PAGE 13 Hossain, Maleq beat Mojibul Haque, Shahnur beat Habibur Rahman and Abid beat Badal Kumar Das.

Dokic's double fault!

Tennis REUTERS, Zurich

Jelena Dokic has chosen to snub her former homeland once again by not playing in January's Australian Open.



JELENA DOKIC

Australian circuit at the start of the 2003 tennis season. "I think if you want to play high level tennis you cannot play Fed Cup the weeks you have off. It's