Cricket

AFP, Perth

England cricket captain Nasser Hussain Saturday scotched suggestions Australia had thrashed their oldest cricket rivals in the past seven Test series because of a mental edge.

Rather, the reason had been England's technical problems, he arqued at a media conference here after the tourists' first training session at the WACA Ground after they arrived late Friday.

"I have never seen a mental hurdle against Australia," he said. "Perhaps it is because I had some early success with runs against them, but I have never seen it.

"We have simply done the basic things wrong. You can't afford to drop Adam Gilchrist (Australia's dynamic low-order batsman) on 10 and people like this because they go on and make you pay.'

Hussain suggested talk of England struggling mentally against Australia made good reading.

"But it is not mental," he said. "It is just preparing and training the brain to do the basic things right and we didn't do that in the last series last

"In the first over to opening batsman Michael Slater we bowled badly and went for 16 runs, then we

Cricket

Young West Indies fast bowler

Jermaine Lawson is on cloud nine

after scalping two of the world's best

batsmen on his debut in the second

bowled both the top duo of Sachin

Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid to shine

in a spirited fightback by West Indies

the Indian team as my first two test

wickets is a dream stat (statistic) for

me," a thrilled Lawson told Reuters

Mervyn Dillon, who struck twice in

two successive deliveries, reduced

India to 190 for five at close after

West Indies were all out for 167 in

tion which has helped the team

move into a better position," Lawson

and make the batsmen make the

mistake," said the Spanish Town-

to keep working even harder," he

CROSSWORD

"I am happier I made a contribu-

"My plan was to build pressure

"But I know I will have to continue

Lawson and pace spearhead

"Getting the two top batsmen in

The 20-year-old Jamaican

**REUTERS, Madras** 

test against India.

after Friday's play.

their first innings.

said.

born player.

31 Battery

32 Kvoto

terminal

cummer-

bund

33 Exposed

on day two.

dropped catches, and we didn't particularly play Shane Warne (Aus-

tralia's star leg-spinner) very well. "Those things we have put right so far against other countries we now have to put right in this series."

At the same time, Hussain agreed the team's relative inexperience could help them because the majority of players had not represented England here before and would not carry the mental scars of not having won a series in Australia since 1986-

"I think it is good many of them come out with a free mind and without any scars from previous Ashes battles." he said.

England's opening tour match is a one-day carnival fixture against an Australian Cricket Board Chairman's XI at Lilac Hill Park, Caversham, near here. Tuesday.

In the meantime, Hussain played an impeccable straight bat at his opening media conference here on the day, refusing to become involved in what he called "cross-nation bantering"

Hussain was commenting on criticism attributed to Australian fast bowler Glenn McGrath about a statement by Hussain that England was looking to be able to compete with Australia in the five-Test Ashes series starting early next month.

McGrath had suggested

England fast bowler Darren Gough (L) obliges an autograph-hunter after arriving in Perth for the Ashes series on

Lawson bowled at a lively pace --

his fastest deliveries touching

around 148 kph -- with a vigorous

open action and showed he was a

He conceded 16 runs in his two

overs on Thursday and was hit for

three fours in one over on the sec-

JERMAINE LAWSON

ond day as India opener Virender

Sehwag punished his waywardness

Hooper's faith in including him in

place of the seasoned Cameron

Cuffy alongside debutant off-

spinner Gareth Breese to shore up

But Lawson justified skipper Carl

making an aggressive 61.

By Eugene Sheffer

21 On in

45 Popular

card

46 Vitamin

47 Pantheon

DOWN

the struggling side.

India are 1-0 up in the three-

Lawson's improvement on a

slow pitch was evident as he

removed Dravid during a sharp five-

over second spell that cost only

eight runs before coming back to

claim Tendulkar in a two-over spell

He beat Dravid with a delivery

which nipped back sharply to bowl

him between bat and pad as he

attempted a defensive shot to leave

India on 134 for two at the tea inter-

Dravid had hoped to match West

Indies Everton Weekes's record of

scoring centuries in five consecutive

test innings, but was left tied with

runs and frustrate the batsman.

The 29-year-old Tendulkar, who

became the first player to score

20.000 runs in tests and one-day

internationals together, looked

subdued and was deceived into

playing on from a widish ball which

swung in late from outside his off-

giving away only two runs.

match series after winning the first

test by an innings and 112 runs.

Beside the big names

as he struggled for rhythm.

Steve Waugh's world champion side even before the series had started.

"Whether I said it, I don't know, but I am not in this series going to get involved in wrangles with different quarters of the world, and start sledging each other." Hussain said.

"We respect any opposition we play. We play it tough on the field, and the last thing I am going to do as England captain is get involved in any kind of cross-nation bantering.

"Whatever Glenn's opinion is, he is a highly qualified bloke to have that opinion, and we'll listen to it and take it

Hussain rejected suggestions that England's task over the next three months could be regarded as a "Mission Impossible"

"Similar things were said when we went to Sir Lanka and Pakistan in 2000-2001 and when we came up against the West Indies in 2000 after not beating them for 33 years," he

"We showed all of them we could play - and we are here to show Australia that we can beat them as

England beat Sri Lanka 2-1. Pakistan 1-0 and the West Indies 3-1, but were hammered 4-1 by Australia in last year's Ashes series -- their seventh successive Ashes series



American Lindsay Davenport plays a forehand against Belgium's Kim Clijsters at the Swisscom Challenge Tennis tournament in on October 18.

## Kenya's World Cup preps

AFP, Nairobi

WC chess

in final

XINHUA, New Delhi

the other semifinal.

to emerge victorious.

pion Xu Yuhua of China.

**Anand meets** 

Kasimdzhanov

Defending champion Viswanathan

Hyderabad in south India on Friday.

continued in the rapid round tie-

before beating Dreev in the second

down 0.5-1.5 to defending cham-

the other semi-final, in the title-clash

breaker at 1-1 after two games.

Anand will meet Grandmaster

Kenya will play Zimbabwe and newcomers Namibia in two international fixtures over the coming months in preparation for next year's cricket World cup in South

Africa. local officials said Saturday. Namibia, on their first appearance in the World Cup, are expected in Nairobi on November 1 for three one-day matches against Kenya.

"Namibia requested to come here for exposure and we kindly accepted. Our team also required more first-class games since the tour of India failed to materialise," said the Kenya Cricket Association (KCA) committee chairman Sharad

Ghai said Kenya would tour Zimbabwe in December as part of a reciprocal pact reached between the two countries. The Zimbabwe "A" team toured Kenya last November and December.

Ghai said the KCA had expressed its disappointment to cricket's world governing body the ICC over the lack of training facilities accorded to Kenya as an ODI (oneday international) member.

"We wrote to the ICC Director of Development expressing our strong views that Kenya must be provided with better facilities by the ICC.

"We have requested that every Test-playing "A" team must be obligated to come here twice a year so that we know we have a fullyrecognised international itinerary, added Ghai He said the ICC director of

Development Andrew Eade will visit Kenya next month to discuss the

# The appetite

FROM PAGE 13

commitment he did Cronje, who died in a plane crash earlier this vear.

Kirsten still has an important role to play, even though he will be 35 next month and his international career is entering its final phase.

Younger batsmen like Smith. Australia's Jack Fingleton and Ashwell Prince and Martin van South Africa's Alan Melville on four. Jaarsveld are now being fed into the Tendulkar's dismissal for 43 team, and in Kirsten, they could have came late in the day when Lawson no finer role model. followed Hooper's plan to bowl just outside the off-stump to deny quick

### Windies edge

INDIA: First innings (overnight 190-

Bangar c Hooper b Dillon Sehwag b Collins Dravid b Lawson Tendulkar b Lawson Ganguly Ibw b Dillon Laxman c and b Breese 24 Patel st Jacobs b Breese 23 Harbhajan b Dillon Srinath run out Kumble not out Zaheer run out Extras: (b-4. lb-10. nb-7. w-1) Total: (All out in 106.1 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-93, 2-109, 3 155, 4-155, 5-180, 6-204, 7-255, 8-

281.9-305 **Bowler** 11 44 59 Collins 20 63 26.1 3 108 19 Hooper R Hinds 9 0 WEST INDIES: Second innings Gavle c Kumble b Srinath W Hinds c Ganguly b Harbhajan 61

Sarwan not out C'paul c Harbhajan b Srinath Hooper c Patel b Kumble R Hinds not out Extras: (b-9, lb-1, nb-3) Total: (For 4 wkts in 57 overs) 186 Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-96, 3-107,

Bowler 4 16 Zaheer 3 17 Harbhajan 19 4 60 Kumble 19 2 74 Sehwag Ω 9 Umpires: David Shepherd (Eng-

land) and Asoka de Silva (Sri Lanka)

#### Lindsay on a roll Davenport, who has a recent history of struggling to close out matches, then lost another four

Tennis

Defending champion Lindsay Davenport dismissed a tiring Kim

Clijsters 6-3, 7-6 to reach the semifinals of the Swisscom Challenge here on Friday, bringing her record in the event to 17 wins in 18 matches over five years. Her only defeat came against

Martina Hingis in the 2000 final. But seventh-seeded Slovak Daniela Hantuchova was edged out 6-7, 6-3, 7-6 by Switzerland's Patty

Schnyder. Clijsters appeared irritable and rushed her game at times, while Davenport used her big serve and powerful groundstrokes to gain the upper hand against an opponent who beat her at the same stage of

the Filderstadt event last week. Davenport broke in the opening game, immediately dropped her own serve with a double-fault, but then broke again to lead 3-2 and again for the set. Clijsters offered more resistance in the second set, recovering a break in the fifth game after being broken for 3-1.

The sixth-seeded Belgian also saved a match point at 5-4 with an match points before clinching victory on her sixth.

"I thought I got off to a good start, but I don't think she played nearly as well as she did last week," said Davenport. "She's probably a little bit tired after a lot of matches, but I thought I played pretty well and I'm really happy to pull it out. "It was tough there at the end. Sometimes she came up with some great shots and I wasn't able to close it out right

Clijsters, who for three consecutive rounds recovered from a set down to win the Filderstadt tournament last week, admitted that the effort had finally taken its toll on her.

"I just wasn't feeling a hundred per cent today," she admitted. "I'm over the virus I had, but I think it's a matter of it all coming together. I was playing last week while I was sick and the last few matches there were really tough. That took a lot out of me and I was going on adrenalin for my first couple of matches here."

Davenport will meet fourthseeded Justine Henin in the semifinal after the Belgian eased past Switzerland's Marie-Gaiane Mikaelian 7-5, 6-2

Open.
"Today was a great day for me,"

he said. "Everything came together

well. Last night's match didn't have

about my shots. It was a totally

different match," he said after win-

semifinals in a surprise, with

Sebastien Grosjean facing Agassi

on Saturday after knocking out

whose two-handed style with little

backswing can drive opponents

Quirky qualifier Fabrice Santoro.

Argentine Agustin Calleri 6-3, 7-6.

ning without being broken.

"I came out today and felt good

Two Frenchman are into the

as much rhythm.

second marathon battle in two days. Having been kept on court for two hours and 53 minutes and saving four match points in overcoming Elena Dementieva, she had to fight almost as long before conceding to Schnyder.

After taking the first set tiebreak with an ace and going up an early break in the second, Hantuchova seemed on course for a routine victory. But Schnyder's persistance from the baseline paid off, and despite losing a 4-2 lead in the final set she kept her nerve in the tiebreak to set up a semi-final showdown with Conchita Martinez.

Martinez, who reached the Bali final last month, continued her recent good form by overcoming qualifier Alexandra Stevenson. The American had beaten Jelena Dokic in the second round, following up her victory over Jennifer Capriati last week, but she was too careless to cause the Spanish veteran much

Stevenson did have chances, breaking to lead 5-4 in the first set before losing the next three games, and she also broke to lead 3-2 in the second set. But she double-faulted a seventh time to allow Martinez to level at 3-3, and then sent an overhead wide at match point.

# Agassi storms into semis

Tennis

AFP, Madrid

43

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12

ing him.'

Andre Agassi ignored the bull-fight atmosphere of an arena full of charged-up Spaniards as he put out crowd pleaser Juan Carlos Ferrero

6-3, 6-2 to rip into the semifinals of the 2.95-million-dollar Masters Series Friday. Agassi, the second seed, has rolled through the week so far at the debut Masters in Madrid. His com-

fortable defeat of the Iberian fifth seed leaves the hosts without a representative in the final four despite starting with seven representatives It was his second Spanish oppo-

nent of the week after beating Feliciano Lopez on Thursday. The 32-year-old American

couldn't believe his luck in escaping after just 74 minutes. "I was expecting it to be difficult,"

said the seven-time Grand Slam champion. "I worked hard today to have it seem a lot smoother than I was

expecting.' While he was pleased in victory he declined to compare the match to a Spanish bullfight, saying: "I don't know it that well. But the man usually wins - and he has horses help-

He said that taking command early quieted down a partisan crowd.

"There's two men out there and a lot of people watching. What happens between the points doesn't matter as much as what happens during the points.

"So you need to make sure that you're only fighting against one person.' Agassi put an emphatic end to

the contest with an ace on match point to take a step closer to a fifth title this season. Two of his four are at the Masters level, in Indian Wells and Miami during March. The American tennis icon is

challenging Lleyton Hewitt for world

number one status with their showdown to come at next month's Masters Cup in Shanghai.

The American is back on full form six weeks after losing to Pete

wild, scored an upset as he knocked out 12th seed and last weekend's Vienna champion Roger Federer of Switzerland 7-5, 6-3.

Santoro will next face 11thseeded Czech Jiri Novak, who came back to beat on-fire Thai Paradorn Srichaphan 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. Novak now moves into a three-way tie for sixth place in the Shanghai

Novak entered the match on 50 wins this season, which have taken him to six semi-finals and the Vienna final.

The Czech is surprised but obviously happy with his success.



France's Fabrice Santoro jubilates after beating Switzerland's Roger Federer in the quarterfinals of the Madrid Masters Series on October 18.

IAAF's athletes-of-yr List of

# nominees unveiled

REUTERS, Monaco

Paula Radcliffe and Tim Montgomery, who recently broke world records, have been named on the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) shortlists for male and female athlete of the year.

Britain's Radcliffe shattered the women's world marathon record last week in Chicago and smashed the European record in the final of the 10,000 metres at the European championships in August.

American Tim Montgomery broke Maurice Greene's three-yearold 100 metres world record when he clocked 9.78 seconds at the Paris Grand Prix last month.

The men's shortlist also features British triple-jump world record holder Jonathan Edwards, Moroccan 1,500 metres world champion Hicham El Guerrouj and Hungarian Robert Fazekas, who set a European championships record in the men's discus in August.

They are joined by Greece's Konstadinos Kederis, who completed an historic treble in the 200 metres with his victory at the European championships to add to his Olympic and world titles. American men's marathon world record holder Khalid Khannouchi and 800 metres world record holder Wilson Kipketer of Denmark.

In the women's shortlist Radcliffe is joined by Turkey's Sureyva Ayhan, European championship 1,500 metres gold medallist, Ethiopian 5.000 and 10.000 metre runner Berhane Adere, Swedish high jumper Kaisa Bergvist. American Olympic 100 metres hurdles champion Gail Devers and European and world pole vault record holder Svetlana Feofanova of Russia.

Bahamas sprinter Debbie Ferguson, Mexican 400 metres runner Ana Guevara, one of four athletes to share this year's Golden League Jackpot, American Marion Jones, who has gone undefeated in the 100 metres this season, and Mozambique's 800 metres runner Maria Mutola complete the list.

The winners will be announced on November 17.

## Ricky's run

players to return to the dressing room during the drinks breaks taken every 45 minutes.

### **SCOREBOARD**

on Saturday

Scoreboard at stumps on the opening day of the third and final cricket Test between Australia and Pakistan at the Sharjah cricket stadium here

89

142

23

33

AUSTRALIA: First innings Langer b Wagar Hayden c lobal b Saglain Ponting not out M Waugh c Latif b Saglain S Waugh not out Extras: (lb-6, nb-1) Total: (For 3 wkts in 85.3 overs)298

To bat: D Martyn, A Gilchrist, S Warne, B Lee, G McGrath, A Bichel **Bowler** 0 M 37 Wagar Sami 16 5 42 Saqlain 4 125 33 Kaneria 82 PAKISTAN: Waqar Younis, Taufiq

Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-188, 3-233

Umar, Imran Farhat, Younis Khan, Misbahul Haq, Hasan Raza, Faisal Iqbal, Rashid Latif, Saqlain Mushtaq, Danish Kaneria, Mohammad Sami. Umpires: Steve Bucknor (West

Indies) and Srinivas Venkataraghvan (India).

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19 20 **CRYPTOQUIP** 

TJEZ ZWWX JWDW KUKEWT, CQ TSBBQTW XLWM'C

OLQQTW XQ CQ XLW ODUJG? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CURIOUSLY, MY CAR REFUSES TO START UNLESS IT'S FALL. IT MUST BE AN AUTUMN-MOBILE. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals T 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.