

**Publisher Becker**

REUTERS, Berlin

Three-times Wimbledon champion Boris Becker has become the publisher of Tennis Magazin.

"Our readers will learn a lot about Boris and the active players will benefit from his knowledge," the editor of the German magazine, Thomas Kosinski said in a statement released on Friday - Becker's 35th birthday.

Becker, whose company, BCI, recently acquired the marketing right for the Hamburg Masters Series tournament, will write a regular column in Tennis Magazin, which comes out every two months.

**British natants cautioned**

INTERNET, London

Britain's swimmers have been warned they will have to do it the hard way in this weekend's New York leg of the FINA World Cup.

National performance director Bill Sweetenham has told the team they must remain in training throughout the event to help toughen themselves up physically and mentally.

They will also be refused rest and massages and not allowed to shave down body hair or wear the 'go faster' body suit to improve aerodynamics.

"I think our athletes are ready for the next step up, and this will be a change of gear from the last two years," said Sweetenham.

"It will be much more challenging and dynamic."

Arguably the highlight of the two days competition in New York will be the men's 50m and 100m breast-stroke events.

British Commonwealth gold medalist James Gibson will go up against America's 100m short-course world record-holder Ed Moses, as well as 50m world record-holder Ole Lisogor of the Ukraine.

The high-calibre field is completed by long-course 100m breast-stroke world record-holder Roman Sloudnov of Russia.

In the women's 50m breast-stroke event, Britain's long-course world record-holder Zoe Baker is up against the likes of Sweden's Emma Igelstrom who is holder of the world short-course record.

**WHIZZ KID-184**

**correct answers**

- Who won the 18th Federation Cup Football Tournament? Ans: Mohammedan
- Who clinched the Delta Life handball title? Ans: Yquarunissa
- West Indies defeated India in the first ODI by Ans: 4-wkts
- Who lifted the Paris Masters Series title? Ans: Safin
- Who won the Fed Cup tennis title? Ans: Slovakia

**WHIZZ KID-183**

**winner**

**Shaik Jawad Ibrahim**  
(Cosmic Kindergarten, Dhaka)

**CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer**

**ACROSS**  
1 Title holder  
6 Back  
9 Work with bricks  
12 On top of the world?  
13 Depressed  
14 "All About"  
15 Saw  
16 Sedimentary deposits  
18 Seafood soup  
20 Within reach  
21 "Caught ya!"  
23 Baltimore newspaper  
24 Ohio senator  
25 Match component  
27 Expatriate  
29 African herd  
31 Capital of Zambia  
35 Steer  
37 Thin  
38 Winning  
41 Plagiarize

**DOWN**  
1 IRS employee  
2 Scuttle  
3 Heart of Dixie  
4 Yuletide trio  
5 Fourth estate  
6 Show off  
7 Portrayal  
8 Pussycat's partner  
9 Where to wait for the Robert E. Lee  
10 It's for the birds  
11 Long bird  
17 If not member  
19 Resemblance  
21 "A, B, C"  
22 Linden or Holbrooke  
24 Eland's cousin  
26 Become meshed  
28 Toast toppings  
30 Flop  
32 Forage crop  
33 Tease  
34 Doctors' org.  
36 Bleak  
38 Anticipate  
39 Divide in two  
40 "Mary Tyler Moore Show" cast  
42 East Indian pepper  
45 Formally precise  
46 Mah-jongg piece  
48 Ovine remark  
50 Accomplished  
51 Pulver's rank (Abbr.)

**HOBBLE** ALP WARE  
TIOLO STEE USER  
KIND TIA STAG  
ENAMOR KNEELIS  
ARI OUR  
JOAN NEARMISS  
ALS GAS SUE  
RETTICENT SKIT  
ONE USA  
GIANDLE TONSILL  
ALIT THE DADA  
NEST NTL ALLY  
ACHE AMY LIEIS

**Solution time: 25 mins.**



Australian spin-king Shane Warne roars for joy after taking the wicket of Andy Caddick of England on the second day of the second Test yesterday. Warne finished with 4-93 to become the most successful Test bowler in 2002.

**Injuries cost 'em dearly**

AFP, Adelaide

England desperately need continuity to provide the momentum to make it a contest with Australia in the Ashes Test series, England coach Duncan Fletcher said on Friday.

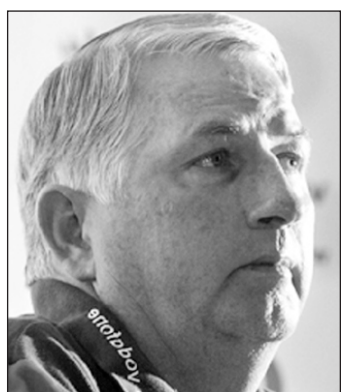
The tourists, hammered by 384 runs in the first Brisbane Test, undid all their good work of Thursday to unravel and be all out for 342, their last six wickets tumbling for 47 on Friday's second day of the second Test at the Adelaide Oval.

Australia had raced to 247 for two -- 95 runs behind England's total -- by the close on Friday with Ricky Ponting unbeaten on 83 and Damien Martyn not out 48.

England have been wracked by injury on their Australian tour and already have been forced to send bowlers, Darren Gough, Simon Jones and Ashley Giles, home with injuries.

All-rounder Andy Flintoff is out for

the first three Tests with complications from a mid-year hernia operation and seasoned batsman John Crawley was unavailable for this Test with a badly bruised hip.



DUNCAN FLETCHER

England have been forced to choose inexperienced team members, Richard Dawson, Robert Key and Steve Harmison to fill the gaps and are paying for it as a result.

"We want continuity so we can build some momentum," Fletcher

said after Friday's play. "But if you walk in there and suddenly you've got three or four new faces, then you have to make sure those guys have to gain that experience which should have been with other players that have played with us for some time to continue that momentum that we asked for."

"We've shown over the (northern) summer that we can build some big totals."

"We can't hide from the fact that injuries have hurt us."

England have another injury problem looming with opener Michael Vaughan, who topscored with 177 in England's first innings here, troubled by a sore shoulder.

"It could be a slight problem batting for him (in the second innings) at this stage," said Fletcher. "He's struggling to turn his arm over, it's sore and still, and he couldn't throw a cricket ball."

"It's badly bruised and it was checked this morning and there's nothing more serious than bruising," Vaughan didn't field during Australia's first innings on Friday.

**Aus take charge quickly**

FROM PAGE 13

two runs later he was dropped by Caddick in his follow-through one-handed.

Stewart badly missed two chances to dismiss Martyn. The right-hander was on 18 when the 39-year-old Stewart spilled a regular catch off Dawson and he had another life on 39 when the keeper was slow to snap up a chance to his right.

England's miserable day began when they failed to capitalise on opener Michael Vaughan's blazing knock of 177 on Thursday.

Leg-spin tormentor Shane Warne and home-town hero Gillespie took four wickets each to have England all out just before lunch.

Gillespie triggered the collapse with an inspired spell of 4-10 off 6.5 overs, while Warne claimed 2-10 off seven overs in the morning session.

Gillespie finished the innings with 4-78 and Warne took 4-93.

Gillespie, bowling beautifully off the seam, unhinged England when he dislodged Butcher and White in the first half-hour.

Gillespie, who had two catches put down off his bowling on the opening day, got Butcher to edge to Adam Gilchrist for 22 and then enticed White to hook to Andy Bichel positioned at long-leg for one and leave the tourists at 308 for six.

Warne chipped in mesmerising Dawson (6) and Caddick (0) before Gillespie polished things off with the wickets of Alec Stewart (29) and Matthew Hoggard (6).

Vaughan's wicket just three balls before stumps on Thursday ulti-

mately proved crucial as Australia seized the advantage of bowling at the lower order at the outset of Friday.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the second Ashes Test between Australia and England at the Adelaide Oval on Friday:

**ENGLAND:** First innings (overnight 295-4)

Trescothick b McGrath	35
Vaughan c Warne b Bichel	177
Key c Ponting b Warne	1
Hussain c Gilchrist b Warne	47
Butcher c Gilchrist b Gillespie	22
Stewart lbw b Gillespie	29
White c Bichel b Gillespie	1
Dawson lbw b Warne	6
Caddick b Warne	0
Hoggard c Gilchrist b Gillespie	6
Harmison not out	3
Extras: (lb-7, nb-8)	15
Total: (All out in 115.5 overs)	342

**Fall of wickets:** 1-88, 2-106, 3-246, 4-295, 5-295, 6-308, 7-325, 8-325, 9-337

Bowler	O	M	R	W
McGrath	30	11	77	1
Gillespie	26.5	8	78	4
Bichel	20	2	78	1
Warne	34	10	93	4
Waugh	5	1	9	0

**AUSTRALIA:** First innings

Langer c Stewart b Dawson	48
Hayden c Caddick b White	46
Ponting not out	83
Martyn not out	48
Extras: (lb-6, w-6, nb-10)	22
Total: (For 2 wkts in 64 overs)	247

**Fall of wickets:** 1-101, 2-114

To bat: Steve Waugh, Darren Lehmann, Adam Gilchrist, Shane Warne, Jason Gillespie, Andy Bichel, Glenn McGrath

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Caddick	10	0	61	0
Hoggard	11	1	34	0
Harmison	13	3	45	0
White	10	1	38	1
Dawson	20	2	63	1

**Umpires:** Steve Bucknor and Rudi Koertzen.

**Ndereba to run London Marathon**

INTERNET, London

Catherine Ndereba, whose world marathon record was smashed by Paula Radcliffe in Chicago last month, will contest next year's Flora London Marathon.

Race director Dave Bedford, announcing a world class field for the women's race on April 13, said: Catherine is one of the world's greatest marathon runners. Having her in the race guarantees another super fast run."

Ndereba heads an exciting field including two-time London winner Joyce Chepchumba, the Kenyan who also claimed the New York title at the beginning of this month.

The pair will be joined by double Olympic 10000 metres gold medalist Derartu Tulu of Ethiopia, reigning European champion, Italy's Maria Guida, and another former New York champion, Adriana Fernandez from Mexico.

**Warne top Test bowler in 2002**

AFP, Adelaide

Shane Warne has overtaken Harbhajan Singh as the leading wicket-taker in Test cricket this year.

Warne claimed 4-93 in England's first innings of the second Ashes Test here on Friday to move to 485 career Test wickets.

The 33-year-old champion leg-spinner now leads all Test bowlers in 2002 with 61 wickets in nine matches, ahead of fellow spinners, India's Singh (58 in 11) and Sri Lankan Muttiah Muralitharan (55 in eight).

Warne has been the leading bowler in three of the last nine years -- taking 70 wickets in 1993, followed by 72 in 1994 and 68 in 1997.

With the chance to bowl in another five Test innings against England before the end of the year Warne has the opportunity of surpassing those bests of recent years.

He is taking a wicket every 41 deliveries this year, well ahead of Harbhajan (57) and Muralitharan (73), and his average of 19.21 remains outstanding for a spinner.

Retired West Indian fast bowler Courtney Walsh holds the world record for most Test wickets with 519 in 132 Tests.

**Plucknett no more**

AFP, Boston

American Ben Plucknett, a former world discus record holder, has died of a brain hemorrhage, the Boston Globe newspaper reported on Wednesday.

Plucknett, 48, died Sunday morning at his home in Essex, Missouri.

Visitors to his home found Plucknett soon after he collapsed, but emergency medical workers declared him dead at the scene.

Plucknett broke the world discus record twice in 1981, the second time besting his own mark.

His throw of 72.34 metres (237 feet, 4 inches) on July 7 in Stockholm stood as the world record until 1986, when it was broken by Germany's Jurgen Schult. The mark still stands as the US record.

**Nemov falters**

REUTERS, Debrecen

Alexei Nemov's challenge for three gold medals at the 36th World Championships got off to a disastrous start on Thursday.

But while the Russian all-round Olympic winner faltered, the Chinese men topped the qualifiers in two of the six men's apparatus disciplines.

Nemov, one of the most successful gymnasts in history with 11 Olympic medals to his name, came unstruck on both the horizontal and parallel bars.

The Sydney all-round champion lost his rhythm in the middle of a swing and landed awkwardly on the parallel bar during his first event.

Nemov acknowledged his disappointing score of 8.300, which immediately eliminated him from contention, with a bemused smile and helpless shrug.

The defending Olympics horizontal bars champion, who had a dreadful outing in Ghent twelve months ago when he failed to reach any of the finals, next performed a daring routine incorporating six release and catch moves.

His creativity was spoilt by a stumble on landing but a score of 9.462 left him facing an anxious wait before scraping through to the semi-finals in 15th place.

Though Nemov's floor exercise lacked some of the flair and athleticism of the other participants, he punched the air in delight with clenched fists at having finally completed a routine with no obvious errors. He qualified for the semis in 10th position with 9.550.

Mentally exhausted by the ordeal and with sweat pouring off his face, Nemov limped out of the arena to a standing ovation.

China's Li Xiaopeng and Xiao Qin topped the vault and pommel horse disciplines.

**Yet Dravid not happy**

INTERNET, Jodhpur

India's stand-in skipper Rahul Dravid breathed a sigh of relief after his side overhauled a modest West Indies total of 201 to win the sixth one-day international in Jodhpur.

Both teams now have three victories in the series and Sunday's game in Vijayawada is now certain to be a pressure-cooker affair.

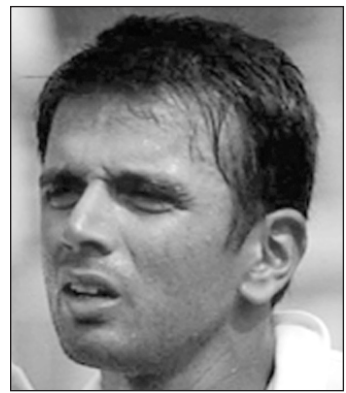
"We have ourselves to blame for not winning this by a bigger margin," Dravid said after India scraped to a three-wicket win with 22 balls to spare.

A 99-run stand for the third wicket between Dravid and Yuvraj Singh looked to have been decisive, but then a clatter of wickets showed there was plenty of tension in the Indian camp.

"Yuvraj and I should have stayed in the middle and finished it professionally," said Dravid. "We've been batting quite well,

and today we also bowled well," he said. "That makes me confident as we head for Vijayawada."

Windies captain Hooper said he was pleased at his team's fighting



RAHUL DRAVID

spirit despite their loss on Thursday at the Barkat Ullah Stadium.

"This wicket's bounce wasn't as true as we had encountered in the previous five matches," he said. "We fell 30-40 runs short of what

would've been an ideal total on this pitch. But I think we still gave this game a very good try.

"For me, that was a positive to emerge from this game."

Hooper said the series decider would "bring out the best from both teams."

This was the first low-scoring game of the current series, and the first time a bowler -- Indian medium-pacer Ajit Agarkar -- had emerged as the man-of-the-match.

Agarkar, coming back into the Indian team after being dropped for the last two one-dayers, said he had managed to forget the mauling he had endured at the start of the series.

"It's not been a great series for the bowlers, but one learns not to think about the previous matches," Agarkar said.

"I concentrated on bowling wicket to wicket, keeping the deliveries as straight as possible.

It wasn't an easy wicket to play shots on and that sure helped me."

**Eves' WC starts Sunday Australia up against Argentina**

AFP, Perth

Host nation Australia -- reigning world and Olympic champions -- will face a stern challenge from Argentina in the women's World Cup field hockey tournament starting here Sunday.

While Australia have lost many of the stars who enabled them to dominate world hockey for six years until 2000, Argentina retain most of the players who carried them to the silver medal at the Sydney Olympics two years ago.

After strong performances in the past two Champions' Trophy tournaments -- including the silver medal in the 2002 event -- the Argentinians are considered the new benchmark in women's hockey, and many have installed them as favourites for the Perth shoot-out.

But Argentina's coach, Sergio Vigil, has played down expectations that his side may dominate the 16-nation, 72-game contest at the Perth Hockey Stadium.

"I don't know whether we are favourites -- but for me it is more important that we try to play better during every outing and improve in every tournament," he said Thursday.

"The teams all start equal this weekend and there are a number who have an even chance of winning -- Australia, Holland, Spain,

China, South Korea and Germany. "Then you have teams like New Zealand, England, South Africa, Japan and the United States who can cause an upset on a given day," Australian coach David Bell has no doubt Argentina are the team to beat here.

"They are a skilful, fast-breaking team," he said. "Their players have the ability to score field or penalty corner goals."

"And one of their biggest pluses is that they have only one key player missing from the Sydney Olympics."

Because they are in different pools, Argentina and Australia will not lock horns until, at the earliest, the semi-finals on December 6.

Argentina will again be looking for a star performance from resolute defender Cecilia Rognoni, the 2002 Champions' Trophy Player of the Tournament, who controls both the attack and defensive areas of the team's game.

Another of their key players will be midfielder Luciana Aymar, who won the International Hockey Federation Player of the Year award last year.

Argentina open their Pool A campaign Sunday with a clash against New Zealand, sixth in the 1998 World Cup and the 2000 Olympics and fifth in the recent Champions' Trophy.

They also come up against Ukraine, Germany, China, Scotland, South Korea and Russia in Pool games.

China, fifth in the Sydney

Olympics and winners of the recent Champions' Trophy in Macau, promise to provide especially tough opposition.

Much interest will focus on China's giant goalkeeper Nie Ya Li, who almost single-handedly earned her team the gold medal at the Champions' Trophy contest.

In their bid to defend their world title, Australia are fielding a young team they aim to have at their peak for the 2004 Athens Olympics.

They still have the services of experienced strikers Katrina Powell and Nikki Hudson, who will need to be on song if the side are to prosper.

Other influential players promise to be Louise Dobson, who holds together the defence, and Melanie Twitt, expected to be dominant in the midfield.

Australia's toughest Pool B rivals appear likely to be the Netherlands, runners-up to Australia in the 1998 World Cup and bronze medal winners in the Olympics and the 2002 Champions' Trophy.

The Dutch captain, Mijntje Donners, is a dangerous striker with her speed, field shots and penalty corner hitting power.

Midfielder Minke Smabers is another important component in the Dutch attack.

The host nation open their fixtures Sunday with an encounter with the United States, eighth in the last World Cup.

Australia will also come up against England, Ireland, Japan, South Africa and Spain in other Pool meetings.

**France upbeat**

AFP, Paris

France are quietly confident they can retain the Davis Cup won in Australia last year -- even if skipper Guy Forget has already begun the mind games and made his side's Russian opponents favourites.

Whereas the Russian players have yet to come together at their Monaco base the French have been fine-tuning their strategy at Royan on the Atlantic west coast right next to the viticultural attractions of the Medoc wine-growing region.

Despite the close team spirit for which they are renowned the French are not ready to drink to success yet ahead of the final on indoor clay at the Bercy stadium in eastern Paris from November 29 to December 1.

"Everyone is doing fine, even those undergoing treatment for various niggles," said team doctor Bernard Montalvan.

Adding to the optimistic spirit in the team camp was news that replacement and hitting partner Paul-Henri Mathieu, who could yet make the actual team as Forget can bring him in right up to an hour before the start, is back in full training.

The 20-year-old had been in doubt after missing the Paris Masters Series at Bercy three weeks ago with rib and back problems.

But the youngster, who has in recent weeks won back to back titles -- his first career wins -- at the Kremlin Cup and Lyon -- is raring to go again and twice took to the courts for a knock-up with no adverse ill-effects.

"Mathieu is gaining power even if he has to remain vigilant. The big test for him will be the two big training days Thursday and Friday," said Montalvan.

Elsewhere, Arnaud Clement is having to have treatment for inflammation of his right wrist, a problem which dates back to Roland Garros in June, but the problem is receding.

French number one Sebastien Grosjean is fully fit and looking forward to scoring what would be a decisive win over Russian number one Marat Safin.

The form of Grosjean will be key as his wins over Andy Roddick and James Blake were instrumental in the French scoring a 3-2 win over the United States in the semi-final.

Grosjean has already proved he can get past Russians in their own den, having won his first title of the season at the one-million-dollar Saint Petersburg Open, beating local favourite Mikhail Youzhny in the final.

The doubles pair is set to comprise Nicolas Escude and Fabrice Santoro -- although the French have several options this is the one Forget prefers.

The French, bidding for a tenth Davis title -- the Russians have never won -- were happily signing autographs Wednesday for children clad in French blue football shirts.

The young fans had the players' nicknames emblazoned on the back, names which owed more to Gallic cartoon heroes Asterix and Obelix than sports stars.

There was "Rusix" for Grosjean,

"Rapidix" for Clement, "Surfix" for Escude, "Magix" for Santoro, "Fourbix" for Mathieu -- and "Captainix" for Forget.

Whereas Asterix and Obelix had to measure themselves against the forces of the Roman Empire their modern day, racquet-wielding equivalents "merely" have to see off the Russian tennis empire in the shape of Grand Slam champions Safin and Yevgeny Kafelnikov.