



Jonas Bjorkman (L) and Todd Woodbridge raise their trophies after the men's doubles final on Saturday.

### Navratilova rolls on

AFP, London

Martina Navratilova moved within sight of a record-equalling 20th Wimbledon crown on Sunday when she and Leander Paes of India moved into the mixed doubles final with a 7-5, 6-4 win over Leos Friedl of the Czech Republic and South Africa's Lizele Huber.

Navratilova, 46, and Paes will meet Israeli Andy Ram and Russia's Anastassia Rodionova in the final later Sunday.

To date, Navratilova has won nine singles crowns, seven women's doubles titles and three mixed doubles at the All England Club 303 matches on from her 1976 debut.

The Czech-born naturalised American is hoping to level Billie Jean King's record 20 titles comprising six singles wins, 10 doubles and four mixed triumphs between 1961 and 1979.

### Woodbridge's record eighth

AFP, London

Todd Woodbridge of Australia and Swede Jonas Bjorkman retained their men's doubles crown at Wimbledon on Saturday, making it a record eight crowns in all for Woodbridge, who landed six with the retired Mark Woodforde.

The fourth-seeded pair saw off top seeds Mahesh Bhupathi of India and Max Mirnyi of Belarus 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7/4), 6-3 in 2hr 39min before a three quarters full centre court crowd.

Woodbridge, a 32-year-old from Sydney, has now won 76 doubles titles in his career - making him the third most-decorated men's doubles player in history after Dutchman Tom Okker, who holds the mark of 78, and US legend John McEnroe, who won 77.

Woodbridge and Mirnyi additionally won the 2001 Australian Open playing alongside each other.

The Aussie's haul here is a joint record - but an overall record for the Open Era dating back to the dawn of professionalism in 1968.

Victorian era partners Hugh and Reggie Doherty also landed eight crowns between 1897 and 1905.

### Swiss fairytale

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pressure with a masterful display of all-court tennis to serve out the set with his 14th ace.

An overrule from umpire Gerry Armstrong saved Philippoussis at 1-1 in the third set, when a second serve which landed bang on the line at 30-40 was initially called out.

Federer was briefly threatened in the next game when he was taken to deuce on serve for the first time in the match, but he responded with yet another forehand winner and an ace for 2-2.

There were signs that Philippoussis was warming to the task as he rediscovered his serving rhythm, but he still could not make an impression on his opponent's delivery.

The pressure told at 5-5 when he served a double fault to hand Federer two break points. But he breathed a sigh of relief when the Swiss hit a forehand centimetres long with the court at his mercy.

As the match moved into another tiebreak, a mis-hit forehand return that dropped agonisingly inside the baseline gave Federer a 3-1 lead and when Philippoussis missed a simple volley the writing was on the wall.

Federer missed a backhand on his first championship point at 6-1 and Philippoussis held off another with a powerful serve. But the Swiss made no mistake at 6-3, dropping to his knees in triumph when Philippoussis failed to make a return.

"I thought about selling them a few years ago, but I knew people would just say 'oh he's selling them because he's desperate for the money,'" Best wrote in the Mail on Sunday.

"Well, now I don't need the money, but it would be nice to have it. I've looked after my family financially, now selling the trophies would be for me - money for me to enjoy while I'm alive."

He added: "They are of no use in the bank, and if I brought them home someone would probably walk off with them."

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# Waiting for a breakthrough

Football

BBC ONLINE, London

Confusion still surrounds the future of Brazilian striker Ronaldinho.

Manchester United and Real Madrid remain locked in a tug-of-war for the Paris St Germain star, who has visited both England and Spain this week.

Both clubs are believed to have made bids for the 23-year-old, but his destination may depend on an accurate translation of Spanish.

His brief statement of "tengo la mente en blanco," can be translated either as "I have an open mind" or also "I am thinking about white".

The latter could easily be taken as a reference to Madrid's famous white shirts and Ronaldinho's state of limbo is further enhanced by his personal preferences.

The Brazil World Cup winner is keen to leave Paris St Germain as soon as possible, as revealed by this website earlier this week.

That would leave Manchester United as favourites, as Madrid do not want the player until after next season.

Yet Ronaldinho has already said that he would rather play in Spain.

The player returned to London on Sunday, having visited Madrid, yet claimed he was "on holiday".

During this week, Ronaldinho



SEE YOU AGAIN? Brazilian superstar Ronaldinho waves bye at London's Gatwick Airport while boarding a plane for Madrid on July 5.

has promoted a video game in London and filmed an advert in Madrid, providing the perfect platform for continued talks.

And his visit to London fuelled claims that Chelsea, boosted by new owner Roman Abramovich's millions, had joined the race to sign the World Cup winner.

"I don't know if I'll be returning to England to play or not next season," Ronaldinho said before departing.

PSG have rejected an opening bid from United that was believed to be in the region of £14m.

And the French club's president Francis Graille claims Real have lodged a better offer that would also see Ronaldinho stay in France for one more year.

"Manchester United are still negotiating with Paris St Germain," said Roberto Assis, Ronaldinho's agent and brother.

"There is also some interest from Chelsea, although there hasn't been an official offer put to the club yet."

Assis is still confident Manchester United can agree a deal with PSG.

"We are very calm, talks are ongoing," he said. "The player is not on the streets and he has proved his worth on the pitch so we will wait and see what happens."

"I am certain Manchester United will make another bid. It is important that we let the clubs find a possible solution."

# Serena consoles Venus

WIMBLEDON

AFP, London

Serena Williams' 13th encounter with her elder sister Venus proved to be the most painful one of all as she landed her second straight Wimbledon singles title - and the fourth in a row for the family.

The 21-year-old's 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 win in a 2hr 03min Centre Court tussle was paradoxically made all the harder by the fact that Venus, the 2000 and 2001 champion, was labouring under abdominal and hip injuries which became hard to bear by the final set. The celebrations were therefore muted compared with last year, when "little" sister swatted "big" sister to deprive her of a Wimbledon hat-trick in what on that occasion had been only the second final between siblings in the history of the event stretching back to Maud Watson's 1884 win over Lillian.

Serena said Venus would have landed the trophy again had she not won the match.

"She played really well in the first set - she had me on the defensive. Venus played really well, she ran down every ball," said Serena, who landed 535,000 pounds

(896,000 dollars) for her win, with a further additional 40,000 pounds added on by a women's sports equipment firm to make up the shortfall on the men's prize money.

Serena denied letting Venus off the hook in the opening set.

"I don't have problems playing someone who's injured. I just keep playing."

"I was just telling myself, if anything, this is Wimbledon. God knows if I would get this opportunity again."

"She never told me anything, she didn't talk to me about the injury at all."

Serena, whose win was watched court-side by the Williams clan with the exception of father Richard, said she was happy to have made up for allowing the French Open crown to slip from her head when she lost in the semifinal a month ago to Justin Henin-Hardenne, who went on to take the title.

"I'm definitely satisfied - but I should have won the French," she insisted afterwards.

Having surpassed former world number one Martina Hingis' haul of five Grand Slam titles - she has now won the US Open and Wimbledon twice each and the Australian Open and the French Open once - Serena said she could not rest on her laurels.

"I'm gonna go home, keep working hard because there's no time to rest," she said firmly, insisting if not Venus would otherwise only pass her.

"Today could have swung either way. She had a couple of chances to break in the second (set)," she noted, saluting her opponent's "class, spirit and fighting qualities" in lasting the distance when so far below full fitness.

"People are catching up with my ranking - that keeps me very hungry," said the champion, who wants to leave her mark in tennis history.

"I hope there's several Slams left in me," she said when asked how many more she might net.

She joked that one reason for targeting more titles is the financial price which comes with being a champion in the United States.

Asked what she would spend her prize money on she grimaced and lamented: "I'll probably be writing a cheque to the International Revenue Service!"

Venus meanwhile hit back at her critics, who blasted her for pulling out injured at the last minute before a meeting with Serena at Indian Wells in 2001 - a no show which brought howls of protest from fans and broadcasters alike.

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 195**

Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star. Win attractive prizes.

Competition closes at 8 pm July 11, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards.

1. Who will lead the Australia bound Bangladesh cricket team?

Mashud Aminul Mahmud

2. How many ODI centuries has Brian Lara scored?

21 31 17

3. Who clinched the French Open men's title?

Hewitt Agassi Ferrero

4. Who became Dew Cup hockey champions?

Name: .....

Class: ..... Roll No. ....

School Address: .....

Phone: (if any) .....

# Proteas toy with Zim

Cricket

AFP, Cardiff

South Africa opener Herschelle Gibbs found his form with an unbeaten 93 as the Proteas beat Zimbabwe by nine wickets in their triangular series one-day international here on Sunday.

Gibbs, who had made five, five and one in South Africa's three previous series matches, faced 97-balls including two sixes and 12 fours.

But Zimbabwe were convinced they had Gibbs caught behind for nought in the first over of South Africa's s reply to their inadequate 174 for eight.

Martin van Jaarsveld was eight not out.

South Africa captain Graeme Smith, who had seen several of his bowling changes rewarded with quick wickets, made 58 in an opening stand with Gibbs of 154.

### SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard in the NatWest triangular series one-day international between South Africa and Zimbabwe at Sophia Gardens on Saturday:

ZIMBABWE: 174 for eight (H Streak 54, G Flower 26, D Ebrahim 20; J Kallis 3-47, A Hall 2-19)

SOUTH AFRICA

Smith c Taibu b Ervine 58

Gibbs not out 93

Van Jaarsveld not 8

Extras: (lb-4, w-11, nb-1) 16

Total: (For 1 wkt in 34.2 overs) 175

Fall of wicket: 1-154

Did not bat: Hall, Kallis, Rudolph, Pollock, Adams, Boucher, Langeveldt, Ntini

Bowler O M R W

Streak 6 1 16 0

Hondo 5 0 22 0

Blignaut 5 0 40 0

Marillier 3 0 20 0

Price 9 1 33 0

Friend 4 0 27 0

Ervine 2.2 0 13 1

Result: South Africa won by nine wickets.

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Tummy muscles

4 Campus square

8 One of the Three Bears

12 Usually bracketed word

13 Bear in the air

14 Particular

15 Exaggerated sentimentality

17 Zilch

18 Erstwhile acorn

19 Solver of the Sphinx's Riddle

21 Rang up

24 Fix the sound-track

25 Placed

26 Eminence's genre

28 Seeks finger-prints

32 Bread spread

34 Collector of pap smears?

DOWN

1 Ninny

2 Pen name?

3 Beer vessel

4 Friend

5 Internet address

6 Regard-ing

7 In a stupor

8 Small vehicle

9 On

10 Carte

11 Iowa city

16 Answer to the Sphinx's Riddle

20 Flop instrument

22 Head-light?

23 Bryl-cream quantity

27 Trench

29 German composer

30 Implement

31 Undo a dele

33 Vet

35 Fragment

38 Bamb's Aunt Ena, e.g.

40 One side of the Urals

43 Zest

45 Wire measure

46 Last writes?

47 Its construction took more than 24 hours

48 Blueprint

49 Strike-breaker

53 Med. plan

54 CSA soldier

55 Moment

CRYPTOQUIP

T H F V T N F A G R J Z Q T Y W G E

E W K T D H W I N Z K Q E Z R J ,

T U A E F N N Q R N F I J : " K G E

Z E W U V D Y Z N N . "

Yesterday's Cryptquip: IT TAKES QUITE A LOT TO QUENCH HIS THIRST. ONLY YESTERDAY HE DRANK CANADA DRY.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: N equals L

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.

### 'Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 13

series, which has been labelled the greatest mismatch in Test cricket history.

"We are very young and inexperienced so it will take time," Mahmud said.

"We are not nervous. We know that they are a far (stronger) side than us."

"But we are looking forward to playing and improving our individual cricketers ... and just developing the team to improve a little bit."

Bangladesh take on the Northern Territory Chief Minister's XI their third warm-up to the two-Test series against Australia in a four-day match starting on Thursday.

Included in the Chief Minister's XI team are Australian one-day internationals, batsman Michael Clarke and off-spinner Nathan Hauritz.

Hauritz said he expected the Bangladeshis to put up a good fight.

"It is tough work coming into international cricket starting from virtually scratch and they played very well," he said.

"I'm sure they will just keep learning every time they get to play and I think this tour in Australia will really put them in good stead for the future."

The opening Test gets under way in Darwin on July 18.

### Vieira assures Gunners

AFP, London

French midfielder Patrick Vieira has committed his future to Arsenal by signing a new three-year deal with the Highbury outfit.

The news ended months of speculation that the 27-year-old World Cup winner could be on his way on a big money deal to Real Madrid or Manchester United.

Vieira will be paid 70,000 pounds (116,000 dollars) a week in an 11 million pounds (18 million dollars) contract, according to The News Of The World.

The 27-year-old's previous contract was due to expire next summer.

"This is a key time for Arsenal - the next two or three years will be very important for the club's history," Vieira told the paper.

"I genuinely feel lucky to be part of that. I believe in the people I work with. I believe in Arsene Wenger - both as a man and as a manager - and I am very happy to be part of it all."

"I still feel young and I have a lot of good football left in me. And although people were saying we played some of the finest football they have ever seen last season I still think Arsenal can take their football to another level."

"That is an exciting prospect and the real reason why I am not worried about Arsenal's ability to compete with the biggest clubs in Europe."

"I have just turned 27. I never said I wanted to quit the club and I want to stay here for a long time."

"I want to win trophies with Arsenal. Our style of play and the players we have here means we are capable of winning trophies."

### Best so poor!

AFP, London

Former Manchester United great George Best has started selling off his footballing awards as he wants some extra cash.

The Ulsterman hopes to get 150,000 pounds (250,000 dollars) each for his English and European Footballer of the Year awards, which he won in 1968, so he has "money to enjoy".

"I thought about selling them a few years ago, but I knew people would just say 'oh he's selling them because he's desperate for the money,'" Best wrote in the Mail on Sunday.

"Well, now I don't need the money, but it would be nice to have it. I've looked after my family financially, now selling the trophies would be for me - money for me to enjoy while I'm alive."

He added: "They are of no use in the bank, and if I brought them home someone would probably walk off with them."

### Mac didn't like it

AFP, London

Three-time men's Wimbledon champion John McEnroe said Saturday he was distinctly unimpressed at Manchester United's decision to sell David Beckham to Real Madrid.

McEnroe, nicknamed Superbrat for his regular run-ins with authority - particularly at the All England Club - had hoped to see Beckham turn out on United's upcoming pre-season tour of the United States.

Spotting United coach Sir Alex Ferguson in the centre court crowd while commenting on the Wimbledon women's final for BBC television, McEnroe asked rhetorically: "How dare he get rid of David Beckham. What's wrong with the world?"

"I wanted to see my man David Beckham - and now I feel deflated!"

# Gala Henry wedding

Football

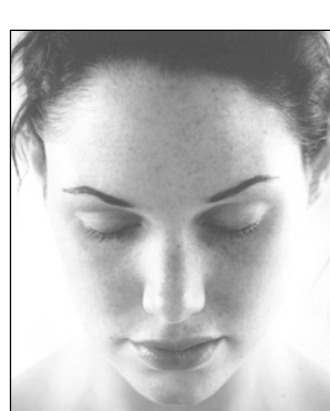
AFP, Newbury

Some 200 guests flocked Saturday to one of the finest Victorian mansions in Britain for the wedding of Arsenal striker Thierry Henry to his model girlfriend.

The 25-year-old French international hired out Highclere Castle for his marriage to English model Nicole Merry, his co-star in a Renault Clio car commercial currently on the airwaves in Britain.

The castle - set in the Berkshire countryside, to the west of London - was shut to the public for the day. Security was tight as guests, including fellow team players, arrived to enjoy the event.

Henry was tying the knot six



NICOLE MERRY

days after he scored the golden goal to give France a 1-0 victory over Cameroon in the Confederations Cup final in Paris.

Henry began dating Merry, 22,

from London, two years ago. It's believed that he especially asked for her to appear in the Renault commercial, in which she wears his jersey and he goes "va va vroom".

Guests included Henry's former Arsenal teammate now with Chelsea Emmanuel Petit and his wife, and Arsenal skipper Patrick Vieira.

Highclere hosted Queen Elizabeth II and the late Princess Diana in 1992 when its owner, the Earl of Carnarvon, held his own nuptials on its carefully manicured grounds.

The Earl of Carnarvon's great-grandfather was the man who discovered the tomb of the ancient Egyptian king Tutankhamen in 1922. He died four months later from malaria, sparking the myth of a curse upon the tomb.

# Luxemburgo jailed

Football

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Former Brazil coach Wanderley Luxemburgo was jailed for five years and three months and fined 479,100 reais (170,000 dollars) for tax fraud here on Saturday.

However, the court said Luxemburgo would serve his sentence under special conditions allowing him to work during the day before returning to sleep in prison.

Luxemburgo's lawyer Michel Asséf said his client would appeal against the sentence.

He was named Brazil coach after the 1998 World Cup finals but was sacked in October 2000 following a string of poor results in qualifiers for the 2002 World Cup and amid mounting speculation surrounding his tax affairs.

Luxemburgo, who is currently coaching Brazilian first division side Cruzeiro, has already paid a fine of 1.3 million reais after being found guilty of making false tax declarations from 1994 to 1997.

He was also found guilty of possessing false identity documents.

In a written verdict, Judge Valeria Caldi Magalhães said: "The only reason for this crime was gain, despite the fact that he already enjoyed a very good financial and professional status."

Luxemburgo's crime came to light in 2000 when his former secretary and mistress, Renata Alves, tipped off police.

A final decision on whether Liverpool would sign the players was not supposed to be made until July 20 but manager Gerard Houllier said he wants the players immediately.

The transfer of the two 18-year-old cousins will be seen as a blow to Le Havre who were relegated from their first division in May.

Le Tallec and Sinama-Pongolle were instrumental in leading France to the World Under-17 title in 2001.

Their impressive performances then caught the attention of top European clubs and scouts said they were being closely watched by Real Madrid and Manchester United.