

Roddick, Henin race

Australian Open

REUTERS, Melbourne

The Australian Open's top seeds led from the front on Monday, Andy Roddick and Justine Henin-Hardenne both posting impressive first-round victories at the season's first Grand Slam.

The world number ones faced very different challenges at a sunny Melbourne Park but the outcome was the same.

While Henin-Hardenne destroyed 15-year-old Australian wildcard Olivia Lukaszewicz 6-0, 6-0 at barely a canter, Roddick heaved aside burly Chilean Fernando Gonzalez 6-2, 7-5, 7-6.

The comprehensive manner of the American world number one's victory against a player regarded as one of the most dangerous non-seeds in the Open's 128-man draw

serves as notice that he is peaking at the right time.

A more powerful Henin-Hardenne did not face such stern opposition against her overawed opponent and barely put a foot wrong during the 46-minute match.

Sixth seed Rainer Schuettler, on the other hand, will have even less confidence after a disappointing loss to Sweden's Robin Soderling.

A surprise runner-up to Andre Agassi here last year, Schuettler let slip a two-set lead before exiting 4-6, 4-7, 5-7, 6-3, 6-4.

Another former finalist left the tournament on day one but Carlos Moya had not even had a chance to hit a ball.

The Spaniard, runner-up in 1997, pulled out of his first round match with James Blake with an ankle injury.

Schuettler and Moya were joined at the exit by Russian seeds

Elena Dementieva and Nadia Petrova, who were also both early casualties in Melbourne.

Seventh seed Dementieva slumped to Jelena Jankovic of Serbia and Montenegro 6-1, 6-4 while 10th seed Petrova lost to Hungarian Aniko Kapros 6-3, 6-3.

A dejected Dementieva, who also lost in the first round last year said: "Maybe I should not play the Australian Open next season because I never play well here."

Vera Zvonareva and Svetlana Kuznetsova fared better in a mixed start for the Russians.

Eleventh seed Zvonareva pounced Czech Zuzana Ondraskova 6-3, 6-1 and 30th seed Kuznetsova breezed past American Sherry Perry 6-3, 6-3.

Fourth seed Amelie Mauresmo swept past Taiwanese Chuang Chia-Jung for the loss of just one game and fifth seed Lindsay Davenport wiped Ruxandra Dragomir 6-2, 6-3.

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Aussies mourn



ZDRAVCO MICEVIC

Former teammate Ian Chappell said Hooke was not an aggressive man.

"He was always prepared to

speak his opinion and we might have got an animated discussion out of him but certainly not fighting," former Test skipper Chappell said.

"It sounds like a classic case of wrong place at the wrong time."

Zimbabwe captain Heath Streak said he and his team, in Australia for a tri-nation one-day series, were shocked when they heard the news.

"Most of our players know David and of course our coach Geoff Marsh had played with him and against him over the years," Streak said.

Close friend Ernie Els found his joy at retaining the US PGA Tour's Sony Open title quickly tempered.

"I've got chills. It's terrible, South Africa's world No. 3 said from Hawaii.

Dhaka, Sylhet take control

FROM PAGE 13

SYLHET V BARISAL

Venue: Barisal Stadium

SYLHET: First innings 375 all out in

143.1 overs

(Nasirul 89, Rana 73, Parvez

55, Mowla 49; Mustadir 3/84, Tariqul

3/93)

BARISAL: First innings (overnight 99 for

5 in 35 overs)

Imran b Jakwan

0

Faisal c Ejaz b Nabil

17

Nahidul b Jakwan

9

Proshenjit lbw b Jakwan

21

Mustadir lbw b Ejaz

35

Tohidul c Nasirul b Nabil

21

Salahuddin c Mabud b Jakwan

54

Shaheen c Nasirul b Nabil

10

Arman not out

22

Tariqul run out

13

Bikash c Jumma b Emtiaz

0

Extras: (b-6, lb-8, nb-1)

15

Total: (All out in 84.2 overs)

217

Fall of wkts: 1-1, 2-17, 3-53, 4-67, 5-99, 6-

139, 7-173, 8-181, 9-217, 10-217.

Bowler

O

M

R

W

Nasir

7

2

1

Jakwan

28

5

Parvez

7

2

17

0

Nabil

30

13

Emtiaz

10.2

0

Ejaz

2

6

1

SYLHET: Second innings

Mabud c Shaheen b Arafat

5

Emtiaz c Jamal b Tariqul

9

Parvez c Arafat

1

Atiqur b Mustadir

44

Mowla c Imran b Tariqul

10

Nasir not out

16

Rana not out

6

Extras: (b-6, lb-1)

8

Total: (For 5 wkt in 40 overs)

99

Fall of wkts: 1-11, 2-15, 3-17, 4-46, 5-93.

Bowler

O

M

R

W

Bikash

4

2

8

Arafat

9

4

15

Tariqul

12

3

38

Arman

6

0

Mustadir

9

2

13

1

RAJSHAHI V DHAKA

Venue: Dhamondi Cricket Stadium

RAJSHAHI: First innings 249 all out in 86

overs (Anisur 76 no, Rafiqul 47, Aminul 42, Shahzada 25; Naimur 4/76, Elias 3/53, Ashraf 2/46)

SYLHET: First innings (overnight 254 for 5 in 93 overs)

Uttam c Emran b Saifullah 12

Mehrab c Shahzada b Saifullah 169

Sazzad b Saifullah 0

Sanwar c Rafiqul b Saifullah 42

Jahangir b Mahbub 29

Naimur c Saifullah b Mahbub 14

Kadir c Mahbub b Emran 67

Neeyamur c Mortaza b Saifullah 15

Elias lbw b Shahzada 10

Shahriar not out 1

Ashraf c Mortaza b Shahzada 1

Extras: (b-2, lb-6, w-6) 14

Total: (All out in 138.3 overs) 374

Fall of wkts: 1-29, 2-39, 3-124, 4-187, 5-211, 6-344, 7-350, 8-372, 9-372, 10-374.

Bowler O M R W

Aminul 10.5 6 12 0

Shahzada 22.4 5 52 2

Saifullah 39 6 113 5

Emran 34 7 101 1

Mahbub 32 7 81 2

Nuruzzaman 1 0 7 0

Rafiqul c azzad b Elias 25

Jamal not out 46

Anisur c Saifullah b Elias 8

Rafiqul replaced Nafees Iqbal when the Board announced a 14-member squad on January 15.

ASHIQRUH: Second innings

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Jamal not out 46

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SCORERS IN BRIEF

BANGLADESH: First innings (overnight 2