

Dalmiya BCCI's Patron-in-Chief

AFP/REUTERS, New Delhi

Indian cricket board president Jagmohan Dalmiya was named the Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) first ever Patron-in-Chief.

Dalmiya, whose term as president ends this month, is credited with making the board the richest sports body in the country.

"Jagmohan Dalmiya has been made the first Patron-in-Chief of the BCCI," Kamal Morarka, a board vice-president announced in the Madras after a special meeting on Sunday.

"It's always been in our constitution that we can appoint a patron or patrons. The provision was not used for the last 75 years but now Dalmiya has been unanimously appointed for the next three years."

Twenty-seven of the 30 board members were in favour of Dalmiya's elevation, which will enable him to attend International Cricket Council (ICC) and Asian Cricket Council (ACC) meetings until 2007 in a non-voting advisory capacity.

Dalmiya, 64, is the current ACC president and a former ICC chief.

The move had been expected and a court in the central city of Bhopal on Saturday directed the BCCI not to "act in any manner contrary to its rules and regulations" after a case was filed by a member of the city's local cricket association.

But Morarka said there was nothing extraordinary about the decision. He said a formal ruling on the extent of Dalmiya's powers in his new role would be made in the board's general body meeting later this month.



Did U Know?

The ICC Champions Trophy winning team will receive a cheque for £167,500, the semifinal winners will each get £69,735 and group match winners will claim £28,000 per match.

Star

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION 21

Tick the correct answers, post

The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 17, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the first gold medal in the Athens Olympics?	Galkina	Devers
Du		
2. Who became Asia Cup cricket champs?	India	Pakistan
3. Who clinched the Cincinnati Masters tennis title?	Federer	Henman
4. Who lifted the 25th nat'l hockey crown?	Usha Army	MSC Bangladesh
Name		
Class.....		
School Address		
Phone: (If any)		

Win appeases Smith



AFP, Birmingham

South Africa captain Graeme Smith promised no one in his side would ever take winning for granted after the Proteas' nine-wicket victory against Bangladesh at Edgbaston ended a 10-game one-day international losing streak.

Victory saw the Proteas off to an ideal start in the ICC Champions Trophy and set them up for their final Pool B clash against West Indies at The Oval on Saturday.

"It was important to put a dominant performance in and we did that today with both bat and ball," said Smith, who finished on 42 not out.

The Western Province left-hander added: "I know this team is never going to take winning for granted again."

"Confidence is important, even playing against a smaller international team like Bangladesh it is important to get good dominant wins and you can still take confidence out of these wins."

"So we move on to what is theoretically a quarterfinal with a win under our belts and a few high points. The team has always been in good spirits and the whole vibe within the team has been excellent."

"The confidence had taken a bit of a battering but we got a lot right today and we know we played good cricket. The team is moving on and getting stronger and stronger day by day."

The result was never in doubt after South Africa bowled out

AUSTRALIA-USA SCOREBOARD				
FROM PAGE 13				
Total: (For 1 wkt in 7.5 overs) 66				
Did not bat: Martyn, Lehmann, Symonds, Clarke, Kasprovicz, Lee, Gillespie, McGrath				
Fall of wicket: 1-41				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
H.Johnson	3	0	26	1
Reid	3	0	26	0
Blake	1	0	7	0
Zia	0.5	0	6	0

Result: Australia won by nine wickets.
Man-of-the-match: Michael Kasprovicz.

Bangladesh for 93 in 31.3 overs -- the Asian minnows' lowest one-day score against the Proteas following their 108 in Bloemfontein at last year's World Cup.

Man-of-the match Charl Langeveldt led the way by taking three for 17 in seven overs with Makhaya Ntini (three for 19) and left-arm spinner Nicky Boje (three for 23) also in the wickets.

In reply South Africa cruised home inside 18 overs with Smith 42 not out and Jacques Kallis 40 not out.

The entire match lasted just 49.2 overs -- four balls fewer than the maximum length of one limited-overs innings.

That the game finished so quickly was largely down to 20-year-old Bangladesh stand-in captain Rajin Saleh's decision to bat first after winning the toss.

"I was surprised. I thought there would be a little bit of juice in the wicket," said Smith, himself only 23. "We would definitely have bowled first."

The match was a personal triumph for Langeveldt whose wickets came in a new-ball burst of three for one run in seven balls.

It capped a remarkable return to the international stage for the 29-year-old former prison warder who three weeks ago was playing club

cricket in England.

"I got the call to play for South Africa, flew down to Zimbabwe, played one game (for South Africa A) there," said Langeveldt.

"And then I got called up to go to Sri Lanka (where South Africa were whitewashed 5-0 in a one-day series)," added the swing specialist who owed his chance to a back injury sustained by Andre Nel. "It's been hectic."

Langeveldt's display was watched from the stands by several of his Morecambe club teammates.

"There were quite a few in the ground and they were giving me loads of stick but that is part and parcel of cricket."

He added: "When I left them they were second but when I asked them how they were now they said they were third from bottom."

Saleh, leading Bangladesh for the first time in place of injured skipper Habibul Bashar, defended his toss decision by saying: "The wicket was dry and I like to bat first when the wicket is dry."

He paid tribute to Nafees Iqbal whose top-score of 40 was one of only two double figure totals by the Bangladesh batsman. "I first played with him in the Under-23s and he is a very good young player."

STANDINGS

REUTERS, London

ICC Champions Trophy standings after Monday's match between Australia and the United States:

POOL A						
Team	P	W	L	NR	Pts	NRR
Australia	1	1	0	0	2	+7.126
N Zealand	1	1	0	0	2	+4.200
USA	2	0	2	0	0	-5.121
POOL B						
Team	P	W	L	NR	Pts	NRR
S Africa	1	1	0	0	2	+3.411
W Indies	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
Bangladesh	1	0	1	0	0	-3.411
POOL C						
Team	P	W	L	NR	Pts	NRR
India	1	1	0	0	2	+1.960
Pakistan	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
Kenya	1	0	1	0	0	-1.960
POOL D						
Team	P	W	L	NR	Pts	NRR
England	1	1	0	0	2	+3.040
Sri Lanka	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
Zimbabwe	1	0	1	0	0	-3.040

What went wrong?

REUTERS, New York



facts never lie.

While this year's US Open has seen the Russian revolution continue its march to domination in the women's game, the big question raised on this side of the Atlantic is simple. What has happened to the Americans?

For the first time since 1988, no US competitor made it to the final of either singles event. More worryingly, also for the first time since 1988, no American has won any of the four grand slams.

So where have Andy Roddick and Andre Agassi, the Williams sisters, Lindsay Davenport and Jennifer Capriati been?

Of those six, only Roddick, who went out in the quarterfinals here, could definitely be said to be at the top of his game.

The world number two reached the final at Wimbledon and has won four other titles in 2004. But with time running out for Agassi, Roddick looks to be furrowing a lone path in the men's game.

Agassi continues to defy his 34 years. His quarterfinal match with eventual champion Roger Federer contained probably the highest quality tennis of the entire fortnight.

But the eight-time Grand Slam winner can only keep going at the top for so long.

Davenport and Capriati are both 28 and are unlikely to be around for too much longer.

Serena Williams and sister Venus have not won a Grand Slam in 14 months. Both have question marks surrounding their motivation after injuries and also the tragic death of their elder sister Yetunde last year.

Though Agassi and Roddick reached the quarterfinals, the underlying fact is that they were the only two American men to even get as far as the third round. And although Davenport and Capriati made it to the semis, only four US women reached the last 16.

What happened to the young Americans?

The talented James Blake missed the event though injury while Mardy Fish and Taylor Dent went out in round two. The situation is so bad that Vince Spadea, at the age of 30, is often talked about in terms of the future.

In the juniors, Jessica Kirkland reached the girls' final but she was

the only American to reach the last 16, while only three US competitors made the last 16 in the boys' singles.

United States Davis Cup captain Patrick McEnroe believes Fish has the ability to step up and join Roddick near the top.

"I believe in Mardy," McEnroe told reporters during the event.

"I legitimately think he's a top 10 player."

"I feel he has still just scratched the surface of what he is capable of doing. I like the type of talent and firepower he brings. He just needs to work harder from now on."

Despite the lack of depth in US tennis, Agassi believes the sport is safe in the hands of players like Roddick.

"It's about having the desire to look at the sport through the lens of many different needs," he said. "Andy's been great at that."

"He came in with a lot on his shoulders but I feel he always gives a lot back. He always leaves his heart out there on the court, which is where it needs to start. He always has time for the fans."

"I've never seen him not have time for people, which is also a great sign. He seems to care about things with a passion."

Uttara take solo lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Uttara Central Chess Club dropped one point in the second round but a 3-1 win over Mitra Chess Club at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall room yesterday was enough for them to take solo lead in the Metropolitan Second Division Chess League.

Uttara pushed their tally to seven points while Rajshahi Daba Khelwar Samity followed the leaders with 6.5 points. Rajshahi blanked Dhanmondi Pragati Sangha 4-0 in the second round.

In other matches, Friends Power beat Faith Chess Club 3-1, Double Mooring Club drubbed Josephites 4-0, Keraniganj Chess Club defeated Pratibadi Torun Samaj 3-1 and Ekata beat Auto Parts Merchants Association 3-1. Three matches ended in draws.

A first for France

REUTERS, London

Amelie Mauresmo became the first French tennis player to be ranked number one in the world on Monday.

Despite having never won a Grand Slam title, the consistent 25-year-old replaced Justine Henin-Hardenne at the pinnacle of the women's rankings after last week's quarterfinal appearance at the US Open in New York.

Mauresmo is the first player from France to hit top spot since official rankings were introduced in 1973 for men and 1975 for women.

Prior to official rankings a number of French players have been considered the world's best, from 12-time Grand Slam champion Suzanne Lenglen in the 1920s to Rene Lacoste, Henri Cochet and Jean Borotra in the men's game during the same period.

Mauresmo, winner of three titles this year, pipped former world number one Lindsay Davenport to the top ranking. Davenport would have reclaimed it had she won the Open, but the American lost to eventual champion Svetlana Kuznetsova in the semifinals.

Russian Kuznetsova jumped from ninth to sixth after her victory over compatriot Anastasia Myskina who climbed one place to second.

Henin-Hardenne, who had been ranked first for 46 weeks since October 2003, was a fourth round loser at the Open and dropped to fourth place three weeks after winning Olympic gold in Athens.

In the men's rankings, Roger Federer surged further ahead at the top after thrashing Lleyton Hewitt to win the US Open.

Multi-Mushfiq

FROM PAGE 13 performed well in the build-up matches.

Whatmore however said that Mahmud is a great motivator but thought that the former Bangladesh skipper could only get into the playing eleven against West Indies if the conditions demand four pacers.

He also brushed aside claims that Bangladesh was going downhill because of its performances.

"I am not with those people who believe Bangladesh hasn't any prospect in the international stage. There are a lot of young prospects. I just need time to develop a good combination," said Whatmore, who is into his second year as Bangladesh coach.

"I love challenges that's why I hope to continue working with the team up to the 2007 World Cup," he said while responding to a query whether he has any plans to step down early.

Time to settle down



INTERNET SOURCE, Madrid

David Beckham is renowned for preferring the quiet life in the company of his family, which is more than can be said for his neighbours - Brazilian stars Ronaldo and Roberto Carlos.

season - the norm is very different. Ronaldo, like Beckham, picks up around 120,000 a week.

But he is more likely to spend it on parties than anything else.

In his recent autobiography, ex-Real Madrid winger Steve Mcmanaman recalls the wild nights around Ronaldo.

Just slipping over after training could end up as a 24-hour party session.



DAVID BECKHAM

What made the stories about Beck's alleged affairs with SFX personal assistant Rebecca Loos last year so sensational was that they seemed so out of character for the straight-laced England captain.

For Brazilian striker Ronaldo - Beckham's best friend at Real last

Ducking pellets as the security guards take pot-shots at the wildlife, pouring yourself a pint from the huge beer pump in Ronaldo's front room, fishing his two prize tortoisoes out of his pool or hopping on his golf buggy and driving down to his private course -- the one at the end

Inzy wary of India

FROM PAGE 13 the United States -- have all been on the end of huge defeats at the Champions Trophy that have done little for the tournament as a whole.

"I think the small teams need more experience," said a sympathetic Inzamam.

"I know they are small teams but something needs to be done."

However, for Kenya captain Steve Tikolo warm words are not enough.

His side upset the old order by reaching the semifinals of last year's World Cup.

And their one-day international, if not full Test, status ought to have put them in a better position than other 'minnows'.

But until Saturday's match Kenya had gone 18 months without a one-day international. Afterwards

Tikolo criticised administrators for leaving his side with such a long break.

However, on Monday, the 33-year-old batsman said his words had fallen on deaf ears.

"Nobody has approached us. To

be honest most of us senior players, myself, Martin (Suij) and Kennedy (Obuya) are almost despairing.

"We feel if it is going to go on this way then what is the point of hanging around?" he added.

"For you to play a match over 18 months is not what we want. You need to come to these sort of tournaments when you are in form. To play the top teams once in a year or two years is not good enough. You'll come here and they will make you look bad."

He was also angry with South Africa for not doing more to assist Kenya.

"South Africa being the top nation in Africa, there's not been any support coming from them."

"I would like to have imagined they would have invited Kenya to take part in their domestic league, the four-dayers or the Standard Bank but that has not been forthcoming since 2000."

But Kenya did take part in the West Indies' domestic one-day competition earlier this year and Tikolo said: "I want to thank the West

of his garden.

Such is Ronaldo's famous hospitality that he isn't necessarily around when all this is going on. It's open house with or without him.

The Brazilian playboy may just as well be off somewhere with the latest potential Mrs Ronaldo.

Nothing swallows up the cash quite like chasing the ladies.

Until recently, Ronaldo was known for changing girlfriends with alarming regularity -- alarming for them more than for him.

It now seems he may have settled.

That is, if the fact that model-television presenter-triathlete Daniela Cicarelli's presence at Brazil's training camp is anything to go by.

He doesn't take every one of his fancy woman along to meet the manager.

During the build-up to Brazil's game with Bolivia, Daniela accompanied Ronaldo and received the thumbs-up from national team boss Carlos Alberto Parreira -- who reckons he'll keep the party animal on the straight and narrow.

"I have thanked her," he said, with a wink.

"Ronaldo is happy and slim and in-form."

"She'll have him eating right and getting plenty of early nights."

For Ronaldo, women have tended to be one of the favourite reasons in which he has been able to spend his money.

Charming, marrying and then divorcing his wife, Milene Domingues, earlier this year didn't come cheap. And back in March, he splashed out on an engagement ring for new girlfriend Mireia Canalda.

Later, he dug out his wallet to help him sweep across Dafne Fernandez off her feet.

But, now, it seems Ronaldo is ready to settle again.

He has a tattoo on his wrist with the initials of Daniela, which he shows to the cameras every time he scores. And, last week, he announced he'll be marrying her on Jan 2.

Pioneer final deferred

Indies for that gesture. But it's much easier for us to go to South Africa or Zimbabwe."

SPORTS REPORTER

the French Open for the second year in a row.

Becomes first Swiss man to win a Grand Slam by beating Mark Philippoussis to lift Wimbledon crown. Two days later he is presented with a milking cow named Juliette as a gift from tournament organisers in Gstaad.

Wins an ATP-high seven titles during the year, including the season-ending Masters Cup to finish 2003 ranked second in the world.

1998: Reaches Toulouse quarterfinal in second ATP event.

1999: Youngest player to finish year in top 100.

2000: Reaches first final, losing to countryman Marc Rosset in Marseille.

Loses bronze-medal match at Sydney Olympics to Arnaud Di Pasquale of France.

2001: Finishes year as number one Swiss player.

Wins first title in Milan.

Reaches first Grand Slam quarterfinal at French Open.

Follows up by reaching quarterfinal at Wimbledon after ending Pete Sampras's 31-match winning streak at the All England Club in fourth round.

2002: Wins titles in Sydney, Hamburg and Vienna.

Suffers shock first-round defeat at French Open and Wimbledon.

Helps Switzerland back into Davis Cup World Group with wins over Hicham Arazi and Younes El Aynaoui in Morocco.

Reaches semifinal of Tennis Masters Cup, losing to eventual winner Lleyton Hewitt.

2003: Loses in the first round of

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	39 Norm	4 Hardy's	25 Resembling
1 Journey segment	41 Fair share	the	(Suff.)
4 Discor-dance	45 Hetero-geneous	Obscure"	26 Ander-son's
7 Work drough	47 Have misgivings about	5 Moon-mission program	"High —"
12 Com-motion	48 Santa Fe Trail	6 FCC concern	30 Lemieux millieu
13 "— Lazy River"	52 Raw rock	7 Astute	31 Unruly bunch
14 Goose-bump-inducing	53 Perpen-dicular, at sea	8 Kan-neighbor	32 Beattludes verb
15 Instance of	54 Indivisible	9 Geologi-cal time	33 Poke Grand-