

Molik clinches Sydney crown

Alicia Molik ended a 25-year Australian title drought with a hard-earned victory over compatriot Samantha Stosur in the women's final of the Sydney International on Saturday.

Sixth-seed Molik finally subdued the 59th-ranked Stosur to claim her fifth career WTA title with a 6-7, 6-4, 7-5 win in two hours 26 minutes.

Molik became the first Australian woman to win the Sydney title since Wendy Turnbull's success in 1980.

It was the first all-Australian women's final at the event since 1978 when Dianne Balestrat downed Turnbull and the last time there was all-Aussie women's final on the WTA Tour was in 1992 when Nicole Provis defeated Rachel McQuillan.

Complacency

FROM PAGE 13

Bashar b Hondo	10
Ashraf b lbw b Hondo	5
Saleh c Masakadza b Cremer	24
Aftab c Matsikenyeri b Hondo	0
Mashud b Hondo	0
Rafique c Ebrahim b Masakadza	56
Mortuza not out	4
Baisya not out	0
Extras: (lb-3, nb-5)	18
Total: (For 8 wks in 63 overs)	169
Fall of wickets: 1-58, 2-71, 3-84, 4-85, 5-103, 6-107, 7-132, 8-168.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Panyangura	13	5	31	0
Mpofu	11	3	28	0
Hondo	17	6	45	6
Chigumbura	5	0	23	0
Cremer	10	1	23	1
Masakadza	7	1	16	1

Toss: Zimbabwe

Umpires: Nadeem Ghauri (PAK) and Gamini Silva (SRI)

TV umpire: Mahbubur Rahman (BAN)

Match-referee: Roshan Mahanama (SRI)

Vaughan slams

FROM PAGE 13

decisions made today.

"When the fielding side is in a bit of trouble you'd expect them to ask the umpires, any captain would, but it's up to the umpires to make a decision."

South African team spokesman Gerald de Kock denied captain Graeme Smith, or any other team member, had approached the umpires about the light.

"I spoke to Steve Bucknor and he told me that he and Aleem Dar had discussed the light and made the decision that it was too bad to continue. There was no request from the South African side," De Kock said.

Vaughan said he was delighted with his team's position at stumps after they earlier lost five wickets for 16 runs.

"We're in a great position considering the conditions we were asked to bat in today, on a wicket that was offering seam and swing. Harmison and I were delighted to take every run."

Shaun Pollock and Makhaya Ntini had bowled so many overs towards the end that they must have been quite tired, and Ashley Giles and Steve deserve credit for the crucial role they played in changing the momentum of the game."

Giles scored 26 in an eighth-wicket stand of 51 with Vaughan, while Harmison finished the day on 30 not out.

Pollock said much of South Africa's initiative had been wrested away in the final session.

"I thought Michael Vaughan played well, but Harmison and Giles changed their arms and got away with it, but that's how you'd expect them to play on that sort of pitch," said Pollock.

"They brought the attack to us and hit some boundaries. They weren't all great shots, but they were effective."

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	39 Dock	DOWN	23 Plead
1 Earn an	with	1 Venom-	25 Adagio
Obie,	diamonds	ous vipers	26 Take on
maybe	41 Pod	2 Confab	27 First
4 Center	group	3 Forum	victim
7 Harvest	43 Witticism	fashion	28 Believe,
11 Boulique	44 Tourney	4 With it	old-style
13 Judge	situations	5 Beehive	29 -- browns
Lance	46 Allen or	State	30 Costa
14 Apiece	Frome	6 Seat of	follower
15 Senale	50 Tarzan's	emotions	31 Get all
employee	missus	7 Fast alth-	weepee
16 -- de	53 Energy	lete, often	35 Rep. rival
deux	55 Facility	8 Perfume-	38 Monterrey
17 Fed lines	56 Singer	label word	monarch
Tori	9 Expert	40 1970	
18 Walk of	57 JFK info	10 Third	Peter
Fame	58 Contrite	degree?	Boyle
array	one	12 Athlete's	movie
20 Vagrant	59 Lightbulb	stat	42 Cut
22 Long	unit	19 Get some	45 Location
lunch?	60 Flushed	rays	47 Amount
24 Actress	61 Terhune	21 Ovine	stolen
Mason	dog	remark	48 On the
28 Palace			briny
furniture			49 Dweeb
32 Extrem-			50 Uppercut
porize			target
33 Bail			51 Dr.'s
game			org.
postponer			52 "What I
34 Pantheon			just said
member			was in
36 Aching			jest"
37 1991			54 Alfred E.
Stallone			Neuman's
movie			magazine



State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman (C) inaugurates the 19th GrameenPhone Bangladesh International Junior Tennis Championships at the National Tennis Complex at Ramna yesterday.

Pacy prospect at Hobart

Pakistan take on Australia today

AFP, Hobart



The world's two fastest bowlers will meet head-on in Hobart on Sunday but Pakistan's Shoaib Akhtar has been warned by his skipper not to get caught up in a pace race with Australian Brett Lee.

The two speedsters will spearhead the attacks for their respective countries when they meet in the second tri-series one-day cricket game at Bellerive Oval -- Australia crushed the West Indies by 116 runs in the opening fixture in Melbourne on Friday.

But Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq, himself reportedly under pressure for a lack of leadership, has made his feelings clear to Shoaib about what his priorities must be.

While he conceded a Lee-Shoaib showdown was an exciting prospect, Inzamam urged the Pakistani star to remember his rhythm on what is likely to be a good batting wicket.

"His main thing is to concentrate on line and length and how he performs, and not his competition on speed," Inzamam said.

"It's not a game of speed, he's (Shoaib) definitely the world's fastest bowler, but the main thing is line, length and swing."

Shoaib bowled the fastest delivery ever recorded at 161 kilometres per hour (100 miles per hour) in the third Test against New Zealand in Lahore in April 2002.

For his part, Lee, who bowled at speeds of 150 kilometres per hour (94 miles per hour) in his brilliant 3-36 spell on return to the national team against the West Indies on Friday, said he knew Shoaib could not resist the temptation to bowl as quickly as possible.

"I was watching (some) of that Twenty20 match in Adelaide and Shoaib bowled a couple of real quick 130, 140, 150 kilometre-per-hour outswingers, which got Brad Haddin out," he said.

"I think when the crowd gets there tomorrow and he's pretty fired up I'm sure he'll be steaming ahead."

"There is always talk when myself and Shoaib get the chance to play against each other."

"But the most important thing I've said time and time again is, it's not just speed, it's about taking wickets and doing well for your team."

Shoaib will also need to play a big part if Pakistan is to get through their overs in time after the tourists' slow over rate meant Australia A was awarded six bonus runs in Thursday's Twenty20 match in Adelaide.

Inzamam admitted Shoaib's long run-up made it hard for his fellow bowlers to get through their overs quickly, but the skipper was confident his side could make up the time lost over 50 overs to avoid match fines.

"The Pakistan line-up remains unsettled and a final team will not be named until just before Sunday's match."

The tourists have tested 15 players in last week's two matches against Australia A and have a constantly changing batting order.

Youngster Salman Butt and Yasir Hameed opened in the 50-over match against Australia A while Yasir and Taufeeq Umar opened in the Twenty20 clash.

Pakistan has also struggled to find the right balance in its bowling line-up with all-rounders Shahid Afridi, Abdul Razzaq and Azhar Mahmood.

Off-spinning all-rounder Shoaib Malik could also play, but only as a

batsman because of a bowling action deemed flawed by the International Cricket Council.

But Inzamam was confident his side could bounce back from the 3-0 Test series drubbing it suffered against Australia.

"The boys are really geared up and they've really worked hard and hopefully if we put some runs on the board and our bowling is also very effective ... if we make 260, 270 runs, I think it will be a good game," he said.

The laid-back 34-year-old also said he was comfortable in the role as captain.

"It's not my decision, it's the board's decision, but we're ... only thinking on this series," he said.

"I'm comfortable with the captaincy and I wish to continue."

For Australia, opener Matthew Hayden will again be rested while his partner Adam Gilchrist will miss the match with a nagging knee injury.

His role as wicketkeeper will be taken by Australia A captain Brad Haddin.

"Australia will also be without pace bowler Jason Gillespie who has a calf strain."

**TEAMS**

**AUSTRALIA (from):** Ricky Ponting (captain), Brad Haddin, Damien Martyn, Darren Lehmann, Michael Clarke, Andrew Symonds, Michael Kasprowicz, Glenn McGrath, Brett Lee, Simon Katich, Shane Watson, Brad Hogg.

**PAKISTAN (from):** Inzamamul Haq (captain), Taufeeq Umar, Salman Butt, Yasir Hameed, Mohammad Hafeez, Younis Khan, Yousuf Youhana, Kamran Akmal, Shahid Afridi, Abdul Razzaq, Azhar Mahmood, Shoaib Malik, Shoaib Akhtar, Mohammad Khalil, Navedul Hasan, Rao Iftikhar.

Gibbs among runs for SA

FROM PAGE 13

attempted forcing shot into his stumps.

Boeta Dippenaar batted for 37 minutes and 20 balls before he was caught at slip by Marcus Trescothick off Andrew Flintoff without scoring.

Trescothick had to lean forward to scoop the ball virtually off the turf and Dippenaar waited for a decision from umpire Aleem Dar before going back to the dressing room.

Gibbs had not scored a Test half-century since the third Test against New Zealand in Wellington last

March and had scored only 99 runs in seven subsequent innings.

But he got off the mark with an imposing straight drive for four off Hoggard and then played some handsome strokes, although his progress slowed as wickets started to fall. He reached his fifty off 114 balls with ten fours.

England captain Michael Vaughan declared when overnight rain prevented a planned early start to make up for overs lost on the first two days.

The South African innings

started 20 minutes later than the revised time under a heavily overcast sky with the floodlights on but the weather cleared and the sun came out. The lights were switched off after half an hour.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard at tea on the third day of the fourth Test between South Africa and England at the Wanderers Stadium on Saturday:

ENGLAND: First innings (overnight 411-8)

Trescothick c Boucher b Steyn 167

Strauss c Kallis b Pollock 147

Key c Smith b Ntini 83

Vaughan not out 82

Thorpe c Dippenaar b Ntini 0

Hoggard c De Villiers b Ntini 5

Flintoff c Smith b Ntini 2

Jones c Smith b Pollock 2

Giles c Gibbs b Steyn 26

Harmison not out 30

Extras: (lb-13, nb-5) 18

Total: (For 8 wks decl in 124 overs) 411

Fall of wickets: 1-45, 2-227, 3-262, 4-263, 5-273, 6-275, 7-278, 8-329

Did not bat: Anderson

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11		12	13			14			
15			16			17			
18		19		20		21			
		22		23				25	26
28	29	30			31		32		
33				34	35		36		
37			38	39	40				
41				42		43			
		44		45	46		47	48	49
50	51	52		53	54		55		
56				57			58		
59				60			61		

DEH KFUO MAFM DEH

UIJLIMLO SFNNEEIK, SHM

U AFJL ME SLNULJL DEH'QL

CHNN EC AEM FUQ.

Saturday's Cryptquip: WHEN THAT TRAFFIC COP HALTED THE SNOWMAN, ONE MIGHT SAY FROSTY WAS STOPPED COLD.

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.

Romario snubs

Pele's advice

AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Pele's advice to his compatriot Romario this week to accept the inevitable and retire has put the 1994 World Cup winner's nose firmly out of joint.

The Brazilian international striker was clearly incensed at Pele's gentle suggestion Wednesday that the time had come to hang up his boots.

"It's up to me to decide if I have to stop," he stormed.

"When Pele's silent he's a poet, he should keep quiet and look after his own business."

"It'd be best for him if he put a sock in his mouth."

Despite his blunt retort he nevertheless went on to concede that Pele held no peers in his playing career.

"As a player he was the best of all time. He's a king, agod."

Romario was speaking Friday after training on Copacabana beach here ahead of Sunday's beach football game between Rio and Sao Paulo in Guaraju.

Romario, who turns 39 at the end of the month, added that he was 90 per cent certain to sign a new contract with Vasco, despite offers from other clubs overseas.

"I'd prefer to stay in Rio," he stressed.

In November Romario returned to the Rose Bowl stadium in Los Angeles, the scene of his finest hour where he helped Brazil win the 1994 World Cup, to take part in a game against Mexico to mark his international retirement.

And he clearly enjoyed the occasion, scoring both goals in Brazil's 2-1 win.

Australian Open

FROM PAGE 13

arena was built for 10,000 people. We went from probably having the weakest venue to having arguably the venue that others want to follow in some way, with its two covered show courts."

McNamee also said he was strengthening ties with Asia as he looks to further boost the standing of the event.

"The biggest challenge has always been to move to being a global event when you're from a country that only has less than 20 million people," said McNamee.

"How do we get that, to be a player with the big guys, not just in tennis but in other sports? That has been our challenge, and engagement with Asia has always been the solution to that challenge and is absolutely central to our future."

"It's our backyard and we have to play there, and do it in a way that's honourable and with good intention and to be a good neighbour and a good leader."

"And that is exactly what our role should be as a Grand Slam. We have to step up to the plate too, and we're determined to do that. You're widening the base and getting the critical mass we lack, and it has to be a great event for the region and not just for this country."

Marketing executive Richard Gee spends 30 weeks a year in Asia, and incentives such as coaching clinics and using ball-kids from Asian countries has helped to integrate Asia into the event.

A total of 36 full-time staff work on the tournament year-round, with operations taking the most important role. What makes their task especially difficult is that the Australian Open only rents the venue and they have to set up and pack away in a short space of time.

Other departments include media, marketing, sponsorship and sponsor sales, ticketing and global communications which involves interfacing with television, radio and the Internet.

BCCI's AGM

FROM PAGE 13

The Supreme Court barred Jagmohan Dalmiya from becoming patron-in-chief of the board while also sending back all other issues related to the voting, including the matter of the president's casting vote, to the Madras High Court. It had advised that the adjourned annual general meeting be concluded even if matters pertaining to Dalmiya's nomination as patron-in-chief could not be conducted.

Hot reception

FROM PAGE 13

"Graveny said: 'We feel that it is prudent to add Kevin to the squad as the team face seven one day internationals in 15 days following hard on the heels of an intensive Test Series.'"

"Kevin had an encouraging start to his international career in Zimbabwe and we feel that his inclusion will give the captain and coach another option if they decide a different balance to the side is required."

Pietersen, who hit a maiden half-century for England in Zimbabwe, has had to spend four years gaining eligibility for his adopted country.

His controversial decision sparked an angry rebuke from South African skipper Graeme Smith who accused him of walking out on his country.

"He ran out when things got tough," Smith told a magazine. "If he didn't want to be here then we don't want him here."

'Gerrard going nowhere'

Football

AFP, Liverpool

Liverpool boss Rafael Benitez has insisted that the 6.3-million-pound arrival of Spanish striker Fernando Morientes will not mean Steven Gerrard is heading for the Anfield exit door.

Morientes, who was officially presented on Friday after completing his move from Real Madrid, will make his debut against Manchester United on Saturday but Benitez used the occasion to rubbish rumours that Real Madrid had secured first option on Gerrard should he ever be allowed to leave Anfield.

"The arrival of Morientes does not mean the departure of Steven Gerrard," said Benitez.

"I have said many times that I do not want to sell Gerrard, it is that simple. Sometimes people talk, talk but really we do not want to sell, and I have talked to Steven and he knows exactly the situation."

"When we started negotiations we knew that at the end Madrid

would say many things, but we explained many, many times that we do not want to sell Gerrard and that is how it is."

Benitez said he intends to hand Morientes and defender Mauricio Pellegrino debuts in the Anfield match against Liverpool's bitter rivals.

"They both will be involved, why not? Fernando and myself see the game with Manchester United as the same as Real Madrid against Barcelona," said Benitez.

"We all understand that and know this is the same."

"Two big cities with important clubs, it is a good comparison. I have a lot of confidence that we can win, but maybe Mr Ferguson will say the same thing."

"But he is a manager to aspire to. I have watched from Spain and seen how he has been at United for many, many years and it is a challenge for me and all managers to be at the same club for so long and to win trophies."

Benitez also insisted that Liverpool are still looking for further additions.

"We are still looking for new players, but not as desperately as we

have been in the past few weeks to get Morientes," said Benitez.

"Our priority now is the next game only, after that we will see what the market still holds for us."

The Liverpool manager said he had full confidence that Morientes would make a success of his time in England.

"We have signed a very important player for the club, for the team and the supporters," said Benitez.

"He is very crucial to us in terms of the confidence he can bring to the side. We signed Morientes for games like Manchester United, because we know he can handle such big occasions."

"Morientes is not expensive, he's a good player and he can fit into this squad."

"And I want to play him against United, it is an important game for us because they are in the top four and we need to use our best players for such a game."

"It is a problem that he cannot play in the Champions League. But we knew the situation and we are looking ahead to future seasons when he can play in the top competition."

Gravesen's Real deal

Football

AFP, Madrid

Danish international midfielder Thomas Gravesen completed his 2.5-million-pound move to Real Madrid from Everton on Friday and admitted the transfer represented a dream opportunity to win trophies.

The 28-year-old, who has been signed by the Spanish giants to add a little steel to their midfield soft centre, put pen to paper on a three-and-a-half year deal after spending four years with Everton whom he joined from Hamburg.

"I am very happy to be here," said the Dane.

"It is a dream to come to the greatest club in the world and I am

very proud. I have come here to win trophies and I will give everything to do that."

Real president Florentino Perez, who has seen striker Fernando Morientes move to Everton rivals Liverpool for 6.3-million pounds this week, said Gravesen would make a major difference to the side and give the team added bite.

"Gravesen is the player we were missing. We have signed Denmark's best player. I am sure he is going to do some great things this season."

"Those who know him say he's a fighter, a guy with a competitive instinct," Perez said.

The club said Gravesen "will play for Real Madrid for the remainder of the season and three more years."

Everton manager David Moyes said he was disappointed to lose a

player who has been instrumental in the Merseysiders' push for a Champions League place this season.

But Gravesen, who would have been out of contract at the end of the season, could have left for nothing in the summer.

"We didn't want to lose him. We had a right to turn around and say, 'You're not going,'" Moyes told the Everton official website.

"But we've taken 3.5 million euros, plus a 20 per cent sell-on fee and a buy-back clause for him -- plus one or two odds and ends to go on top of that deal."

"So with six months of his contract to go, with a player who wants to leave, it was the best deal we could get out of the situation."

Ferguson retaliates

Football

AFP, London

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson has hit out at cheating claims by Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho and hinted skipper John Terry is used to influencing referees.

And Mourinho's most recent remarks about the referee in the midweek League Cup semifinal against United are being looked into by the Football Association.

Mourinho's initial comments on the performance of referee Neale Barry during Wednesday's 0-0, first leg draw at Stamford Bridge were not deemed worthy of further action.

But he expanded on his criticisms on Chelsea TV on Thursday night, prompting the FA to review the Portuguese's comments and also to examine those made by Chelsea captain John Terry.

A statement on the FA website, www.theFA.com, said: "Following

recent comments attributed to John Terry and those made by Jose Mourinho on Chelsea TV after this week's League Cup semi-final first leg, the FA's position is that we are aware of these reported comments and they are under consideration."

Mourinho said it was "fault after fault, cheat after cheat" after half-time on Wednesday.

The former Porto boss insinuated United players were diving to win free-kicks and Barry, whom he had seen talking to Ferguson at the end of the first half, was favouring the visitors with his decisions.

Having considered Mourinho's comments, Ferguson has come to the conclusion that the main reason behind them was to try and exert his own influence on Graham Poll who takes charge of Saturday's encounter between Chelsea and Tottenham at White Hart Lane.

But the Scot was annoyed enough to recall Porto's diving antics during last season's Champions League clash with

United when the Portugal side were still under Mourinho's control.

Ferguson then set his sights on Terry's claim that Barry refused to listen to him during then game.

"I think Mourinho has opened a can of worms for himself," said Ferguson. "We remember what happened in Porto. Look back a couple of weeks to the penalty decision that went their way against Liverpool and how Rafael Benitez handled that."

"But I don't think his comments have anything to do with what happened on Wednesday. It was more about trying to influence the referee for tomorrow's game against Tottenham."

"What I find more interesting are John Terry's comments when he says the referee wouldn't listen to him."

"I ask the question 'why would he listen to him?'. Is he saying he can influence other referees? I have never heard a captain come out with comments like that before."

Federer's superb show

Tennis

AFP, Melbourne

Roger Federer reinforced his position as runaway favourite for the Australian Open as he beat Andy Roddick for the fifth time in succession to win the Kooyong Classic Saturday.

The 6-4, 7-5 scoreline for the superlative Swiss left no doubt that the winner of three of last year's four Grand Slams will be off to a fighting start at 2005's first major.

Federer dealt with nine Roddick aces as he defeated his world number two rival with another efficient display.

Watching for the first time after signing on as part-time coach to the Swiss stand-out was legendary Australian mentor Tony Roche, in from Sydney with the start of the Australian Open less than 48 hours

away.

Though victory came in his usual comprehensive style, Federer went into the match with modest expectations for the eight-man special event.

"Even with a loss, this tournament would have been good preparation," he said. "It's great, my confidence is high. I surprised myself by winning."

"I felt I played well," said the Swiss, who won a title to start the season last weekend in Doha. "My game is ready to go. Today I proved that again."

Roddick dealt with a low-grade ankle tweak in the second set which he insists will not affect his Open preparation.

"It's not serious. I just jammed it a bit and it didn't get any worse. It's manageable, just a bit sore. It was probably good to keep playing and get some blood flowing. I'm not too worried about it."

Roddick called for the trainer with a 2-1 lead in the second set, complaining of a mild shooting pain but took no treatment. The problem became no more than a distraction until the end after 66 minutes.

Federer takes his untouchable game to Melbourne Park after defeating Roddick for the fourth time in six months -- including ATP finals at Wimbledon, Montreal and Bangkok. During the period, he has lost only one set out of ten played.

Enamul

FROM PAGE 13

was not happy at the end of the day as his side slumped to 169 for 8.

He also thanked his ace partner Mohammad Rafique for his great help from the other end. "Rafique bhai was bowling a tight line from the other end which forced the Zimbabwe batsmen to after me," he added.

adjudged man-of-the-match, took 5-36 as Victoria were shot out for 86 while chasing 235 for victory at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium.

The league will end tomorrow with three matches.

Minhaz rides into sunset

FROM PAGE 13

Lost the last nine wickets for 58 runs despite a swashbuckling 82-ball 79 by opener Nazimuddin.

DOHS and City Club, who handed a massive 148-run defeat on two-time champions Victoria

Sporting Club on the same day, ended level on 18 points from 11 matches but DOHS are crowned champions by virtue of their head-to-head record. DOHS defeated City Club in the second round.

Out-of-favour Tareq Aziz,

SCORES IN BRIEF

Venue: Dhanmondi Stadium	Venue: BKSP	Venue: Fatullah Stadium
AGRAH: 205-9 in 50 overs (Kuntal 60, Riyadh 38, extras 44, Dollar 4-57).	ABAHANI: 222-6 in 50 overs (Imran 51, Saqib 63, Dharmasena 45 n.o., Shahadat 2-58).	CITY CLUB: 234-7 in 50 overs (Majid 58, Riyadh 54, Shahriar 40, Razzak 5-40).
MSC: 206-5 in 49.3 overs (Minhazul 71 n.o., Shamsur 49; Bashir 2-20).	DOHS: 160 all out in 40.3 overs (Nazim 79, Al Shahriar 34, Ahsanullah 2-29, Nazim 3-26, Rajan 4-6).	VICTORIA: 86 all out in 23.2 overs (Kapali 27, Tareq 5-36, Mahmud 2-17, Mehrah Jr 2-11).
Result: Mohammedan won by five wickets.	Result: Ahsanullah won by 62 runs.	Result: City won by 148 runs.