the final at Melbourne Park, over-

came Roddick to win Wimbledon

and triumphed over Hewitt to clinch

the ability to beat anyone on a given

grand slam final last year. I think the

favourites are those three and (An-

tournaments as everyone else but he is always good at Grand Slams, and

then you have (Tim) Henman and

Having gone through 2004 with-

day and win tournaments," he said.

"Lleyton, Andy and Marat all have

"Every one (of them) played a

"Agassi doesn't play as many

the US Open.

(Carlos) Moya."

SPORT

Dementieva doubtful

REUTERS, Melbourne

Russia's Elena Dementieva remains doubtful for this week's Australian Open after succumbing to 'heat

Dementieva pulled out of the Sydney International on Friday after falling victim to the Australian summer when on-court temperatures soared towards 50 degrees Celcius (122,00F).

The French and US Open runnerup spent two days in bed trying to recover but was still unable to hit a ball by Sunday afternoon.

"This is the first day I've been able to get out of bed," she told

"I feel like I'm getting better but I'm still not 100 per cent."

Dementieva, seeded sixth in Melbourne, is due to play Ukraine's Alyona Bondarenko in the first round on Tuesday but said she would not make a final decision on her fitness until Monday.

"It depends how I train tomorrow. I will decide then, " she said.

Dementieva was not scheduled to practice on Sunday but went on one of the outside courts for an impromptu session with her coach Olga Morozova.

She spent about 40 minutes on the court, running and stretching, and throwing the medicine ball to

Tigers can

Day of the second and final Test between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe at the Bangabandhu National

Stadium in Dhaka on Sunday: ZIMBABWE: First innings 298 (Taibu 85 not out, Matsikenyeri 51;

BANGLADESH: First innings (overnight 169-8) Omarc Taibub Hondo Iqbal cTaibu b Hondo Basharb Hondo Ashraful Ibw b Hondo Saleh c Masakadza b Cremer

Aftab c Matsikenyeri b Hondo Mashud b Hondo Rafique c Ebrahim b Masakadza 56 Mashrafee c Chigumbura

b Panyangara Baisya c Chigumbura b Cremer 13 Enamul not out

22

ZIMBABWE: Second innings

Masakadza c Saleh b Rafique

Total: (For 6 wkts in 72 overs)

Chigumbura c Mashud b Ashraful 0

Fall of wickets: 1-30, 2-36, 3-37, 4-37

16

10

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22

FROM PAGE 13 When his team were batting in

difficult conditions earlier in the

plinary hearing after play Saturday

International Cricket Council code

of conduct forbidding criticism of

where the fine was imposed.

banshee 38 Large

match officials.

1 Cry like a

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Vaughan was called to a disci-

He breached a condition of the

Hefty fine

Rogers lbw b Mashrafee

Taylorb Enamul

Panyangara not out

Extras: (lb-2, nb-4)

Taibu not out

5-187, 6-196

Mashrafee

Bowler

Baisya

Rafique

Matsikenyeri lbwb Mashrafee

Chigumbura

59

32

32

203

45

32

47

67

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

super-

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Amazing Race*

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5 Intended

coming

7 Deluge

refuge

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6 Have

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number

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contest

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Boje earlier led a strong perfor-mance by the tail, hitting 48 as South Africa's last three wickets added 113 Extras: (lb-7, nb-5) runs to enable the home side to take Total: (All out in 78.4 overs) an eight-run first innings lead. Fall of wickets: 1-58, 2-71, 3-84, 4-85, Matthew Hoggard, who took five for 144, dismissed Shaun Pollock with 5-103, 6-107, 7-132, 8-168, 9-203 M R 5 37 17 Panyangara

the second ball of the day and had Boje, on four, dropped off an inside edge by wicketkeeper Geraint Jones three balls later.

VB Series one-day international at Hobart yesterday.

The miss proved costly as Boje shared in partnerships of 52 for the eighth wicket with Herschelle Gibbs

Cricket

Marcus Trescothick hit a rapid half-

century as England overcame the early loss of the prolific Andrew

Strauss on the fourth day of the fourth

Test against South Africa at the

Wanderers Stadium Sunday. England hurried to 131 for two off

Trescothick on 69 not out off 96 balls.

during fielding practice before the

AFP, Johannesburg

and 41 for the ninth with Makhaya

Proteas take slim lead

MAN-OF-THE-MATCH: Australia opener Michael Clarke pulls Pakistan fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar for four during their

England in charge after

Gibbs took his overnight score of 136 to 161 before he was caught by Hoggard at third man off a top-edged cut against James Anderson.

Strauss, who had scored 612 runs at an average of 102 in his previous seven innings in the series, slashed at Ntini's first ball in the second over of England's second innings and AB de Villiers held a sharp shoulder-high

chance at third slip.

But Trescothick kept the score moving rapidly. He and Robert Keyput 29 overs by tea in their second innings, an overall lead of 123 with opener on 49 for the second wicket before he South Africa were led in the field by was joined by captain Michael vice-captain Nicky Boje after captain Vaughan in an unbeaten stand of 80 Graeme Smith suffered concussion for the third wicket. when he was hit on the head by a ball

Smith was hit on the left cheek, near the temple, during fielding practice before play.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the fourth day of the fourth Test between South Africa and England at the Wanderers Stadium in Johannesburg on Sunday. ENGLAND: First innings 411 for 8 declared (Strauss 147, Key 83, Vaughan 82; Ntini 4-111, Steyn 2-75, Pollock 2-

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings (overnight306-6) Smithlbwb Hoggard Gibbs c Hoggard b Anderson

Rudolph c Giles b Hoggard Kallis b Hoggard DippenaarcTrescothickbFlintoff DeVilliers c Giles b Hoggard Boucher c Strauss b Anderson Pollocklbwb Hoggard Bojerunout(Giles) Extras: (b-9, lb-11, nb-9, w-6) Total: (All out in 118.1 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-64, 2-75, 3-138, 4-149, 5-184, 6-304, 7-306, 8-358, 9-399 Bowler 0 144 Hoggard 4 25 3 117 12.5 Harmison 28 Anderson 30.1 Flintoff 8.1 Giles Trescothick **ENGLAND: Second innings** Trescothick not out Straussc De Villiers b Ntini KevcKallisbNtini Vaughan not out Extras (lb-2, nb-4, w-6) 131 Total: (For 2 wkts in 29 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-51 0 47 0 31 Ntini Kallis 2 30

CA seeks SA, WI dates

Cricket

AFP, Hobart

Australia will seek to host the West Indies and South Africa for Test series during the 2005-2006 season. Cricket Australia (CA) chief executive James Sutherland confirmed here Sunday.

Sutherland said CA -- the sport's governing body here -- wanted to play three Tests each against the two touring nations.

He said the dates were still a long way from being finalised but CA hoped to play the West Indies in three Tests -- down from the usual five in Australia -- at the start of the southern hemisphere summer in December.

But the total number of Tests would then be increased to six overall by playing a further three against South Africa after

noon, on

26 Staff

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comment

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Christmas. "All we can really say at this stage is we are working towards a six-Test summer next (season), but in terms of how that falls and where the matches fall, it's way too early to be confirming that," Sutherland said.

Hobart's Bellerive Oval, which has not hosted a Test since Australia and New Zealand played a rainaffected draw in 2001-02, would most likely host one of the West Indies Tests, Sutherland said.

The West Indies' last five Test tours to Australia have been fivematch series, and while Sutherland preferred to keep a five-match format against one of Australia's more traditional rivals, he said the demands of international scheduling made it too difficult.

If Hobart is granted a West Indies Test, it will be the first time the Caribbean side has played one in

On top of the extra Test, Australia

DASV U JFGPSWIUOL AUR

WSOLBV AS GKHAZ SVIBN

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. It 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.

Safin's need for speed AFP, Melbourne

Marathon-man Marat Safin will be a tennis player in a hurry when the Australian Open gets underway here

The fiery fourth seed is determined to avoid a repeat of last year when a series of draining five-setters left him exhausted by the time of the

Safin, who faces Serb qualifier Novak Djokovic on Monday, played a record-equalling 30 sets spanning over 21 hours last year before losing to Roger Federer in the match that

The 24-year-old said Sunday he had learned his lesson and would seek to be more clinical in the early rounds of the Open.

"I know that if I want to maintain myself, to give myself a chance to win the tournament or just get a little bit closer to the final, I will have to make my first rounds as fast as possible," Safin said.

"If you want to do well, you have to keep it short."

Safin, who was once hailed as the future of tennis after thrashing Pete Sampras to win the 2000 US Open, has hauled himself back to the top of the sport after an injury-ravaged

Although he struggled to immediately build on his stronger-thanexpected showing at last year's Australian, he finished the season on a high, reeling off tournament wins in Beijing, Madrid and Paris.

Safin, who has finished a runnerup twice before in Melbourne, said he was happy that the pretournament spotlight had focused largely on top seed Federer and Australian third seed Lleyton

"Time will show who's going to be in the final," Safin said.

"That's why I don't have any pressure. I put pressure on myself because I want to do well.

"But it's a different kind of pressure when people are talking all around, when people expect them to be in the final. It's even better for

Safin meanwhile paid tribute to the exploits of Russian players in the women's game, saying he had not expected to see them dominate last year, when they won three out of four Grand Slam titles.

Butcher expects

FROM PAGE 13 International cricket," he told BCC radio on Sunday.

"I know I am going to be back in the pack. They are going to want to give Robert Key or whoever else a little bit of a run in the side and I have got to make sure I am ready and in top form for when the time

Butcher also struggled with injury in 2004, missing the home series against West Indies with neck and thigh injuries.

Richards fears

FROM PAGE 13

Between Western Australia and Victoria was played to a packed house, and the game between Australia A and Pakistan attracted much interest.

"The thing that amazes me is how rapid it is," Richards said. "If we're all cricket lovers, it means that we are winning in some capacity because it's an addition to the game that people appear to be embracing."

Malik lbwb Symonds

Afridi not out

Mahmood not out

Inzamam lbw b Kasprowicz

Razzaq c Clarke b McGrath

Youhana c Martyn b Kasprowicz 30

Still Australia amble

For Matthew Hayden, who is being rested, and Adam Gilchrist who has Pakistan began shakily before

steadying.

The tourists, who have been tinkering with their batting line-up all summer, had wicketkeeper

Kamran Akmal partnering Butt to open the innings. That part of the experiment failed when veteran Glenn McGrath

made an early breakthrough, enticing Kamran to play at an outswinging delivery which he edged to Clarke at second slip for

The tourists also moved their two most talented batsmen, Inzamam and Yousuf Youhana to fifth and sixth in the order, dropping Shoaib Malikinto fourth place. Malik's solid 31 from 43 deliver-

ies helped steady Pakistan after they had lost Kamran and then Mohammad Hafeez for a duck -caught by Brad Hogg off Lee behind square leg -- to be on 30 for 2.

Inzamam then came in to steer the ship for Pakistan. Yousuf contributed 30 but was

caught by Damien Martyn off Michael Kasprowicz with the score on 191 for 5. When Inzamam fell lbw to Kasprowicz just 13 runs later, it was left to Afridi to set the innings

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the VB Series one-day international between Australia and Pakistan at Hobart's Bellerive Oval on Sunday: PAKISTAN

Buttc Lehmann b Hogg Akmal c Clarke b McGrath

Extras: (b-1, w-4, nb-1) 6 Total: (For 7 wkts in 50 overs) 272 Fall of wickets: 1-15, 2-30, 3-83, 4-117,5-191,6-2-4,7-251. Did not bat: Akhtar, Naved 0 2 McGrath 10 10 0 Lee Kasprowicz 2 Symonds 0 55 0 Hogg 28 0 Lehmann AUSTRALIA 97 Clarke c Naved b Hafeez Katich b Azhar 38 Penting cAkmal b Afridi 11 Martyn b Razzag Lehmann not out 49 Symonds b Razzaq Haddin c Hafeez b Naved 30 Hoggnotout Extras: (lb-5, w-6, nb-8) Total: (For 6 wkts in 43 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-107, 2-118, 3-141, 4-184, 5-186, 6-243 Did not bat: Lee, McGrath, Kasprowicz 0 R M Bowler Akhtar 0 54 0 0 60 Naved Mahmood 0 33 Afridi

Hafeez 0 17 Result: Australia won by four wickets in D-L method. Man-of-the-match: Michael

Nextmatch: PakistanvWIndies, Jan 19.

Clarke.

Toss: Pakistan.

Federer fancies a rivalry

Australian 3 Open

REUTERS, Melbourne

Roger Federer won three of the four Grand Slams in 2004 and the world number one believes the chasing pack can lift him to even greater

heights over the next couple of years. The Swiss player, who goes into the Australian Open which starts on Monday as one of the hottest favourites in the tournament's 100-year history, has not lost to anyone inside the top 10 for more than a year.

Unlike the eras of John McEnroe

and Jimmy Connors, Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg, and Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi, Federer is unrivalled at the top, with no one having been able to get the better of

him on a regular basis With Andy Roddick, Lleyton Hewitt and Marat Safin trying to bridge the gap, however, Federer says a rivalry with one or more of the others could help him to improve

"I'm playing so well right now but maybe a rivalry could lift my game,"

"If I started to lose to the number two, three, four, it would definitely

be interesting. Last year, Federer beat Safin in

out a coach, Federer has teamed up with former French Open champion Tony Roche, who will work with him

on a part-time basis. Roche helped Ivan Lendl and Pat Rafter to several Grand Slam titles and Federer said the Australian's presence gave him more confidence.

Last year I had to fight with the expectations and the comments of people telling me that I don't have a coach, that that was a totally wrong decision, and those things put the pressure on me," he said.

"Now one year without a coach, I feel very confident. I know that I can handle it myself. Plus now with the help of Tony...things couldn't be any better."

While Federer said Roche had a tough job to improve his results, he said it would be his own fault if he faltered in the coming months.

"I think the experts, and me and Tony, we all know it's not his mistake if my ranking drops. Eventually it will drop. I can't stay number one for

The leading ladies

a chance.

tough game."

success last year.

Kuznetsova said.

people expect from us."

lowly ranked Sesil Karatantcheva of

Bulgaria on Monday, said she

believes any player in the top 10 had

itive at the moment," she said.

"Women's tennis is very compet-

"Everyone in the top 10 are very

Sharapova's comments were

"Many players can win. I think

good players, and you know when

you play them you're going to have a

echoed by fifth seed Kuznetsova,

who faces unheralded American

it's really open," said Kuznetsova,

saying she expected Russians play-

ers would be targeted after their

better for our matches now,"

because we already did something

good and we have to keep going, and

"Players will definitely prepare

"There is more pressure on us

The path to the title has opened

up for the Russian contingent,

thanks to the withdrawal through

injury of last year's winner Justine Henin-Hardenne, beaten finalist

Kim Clijsters and former champion

Jessica Kirland in the first round.

WHERE IT ALL STARTED: Defending champion and top-ranked Roger

Federer of Switzerland smiles during a press conference at the Melbourne

Park media centre a day before the Australian Open got underway.

Australian 3 Open

AFP, Melbourne

Who can stop the relentless advance of Russia's 'tsarinas' is the question as an injury-hit Australian Open women's singles gets underway here Monday.

Having never won a Grand Slam title before last season, Russian women now stand on the brink of holding all four major crowns at the same time, with a powerful Open contingent that includes five of the top 10 seeds.

A multi-pronged challenge will be led by Roland Garros winner Anastasia Myskina, teenage Wimbledon queen Maria Sharapova and US Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova.

Many believe it is 17-year-old Sharapova who is the best equipped to prevail during the Melbourne

seed refused to speculate on what the next fortnight and forthcoming season might hold in store. "I can't predict the future, what is

"You know, I would never have predicted that I would have won Wimbledon last year, so why predict what's going to happen this year?" Sharapova, who opens against

fortnight, possessing a powerful allround game and a steely mentality that belie her tender years. Yet the US-based number four

Jennifer Capriati. But while form and sheer weight of numbers point to the Russians, the bookmakers have installed going to happen," Sharapova said. Williams as favourite.

former world number one Serena Williams, who has not played in Melbourne since winning here two years ago, failed to win a Grand Slam

title last season but is adamant she

can come back after an injury-

"I can definitely get back there,"

'I don'thave any issues."

Williams is seeded seven for the tournament and opens her campaign against France's Camille Pin

has not won a Grand Slam crown since the 2001 US Open, is also confident she can end her major

Big sister Venus, meanwhile, who

"I know for a fact that I have the same ability as before, even better than before actually," Williams said. "I definitely understand the

game much better. It's just about being able to take those opportuni-World number one Lindsay

Davenport represents the other major challenge to Russian domination, and has declared herself fit after being laid low by bronchitis last

"I'm a hundred per cent playing," she said Sunday.

"I'm feeling better. I've definitely got some more energy and gotten most of my voice back.

"Of course you never know till you're out playing in a match and running a lot. But I would think by Tuesday I should be a hundred per

Davenport, who shelved retirement plans after rediscovering her best form in the second half of last season, said the fact all four 2004 slams were won by different players was proof of the strength in the women's game.



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DIRECTORATE GENERAL DEFENCE PURCHASE

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

NEW AIRPORT ROAD, TEJGAON, DHAKA-1215

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders in local currency are invited from bonafide manufacturers/dealers/suppliers/indentors (enlisted firms of this Directorate General) for supply of following items:

Ser	Nomenclature	Date of selling		Date of	Currency	Tender No.
No		From	To	opening	ili forgibilit (g	as the second
a.	1. Pad Lock IG/Cast Iron 1-1/2" X 4 Lever, Oty-1000 Nos. 2. Pad Lock IG/Cast Iron 1-1/4" X 4 Lever, Oty-500 Nos. 3. Pad Lock IG/Cast Iron 2" X 5 Lever, Oty-1000 Nos. 4. Pad Lock IG/Cast Iron 3" X 6 Lever, Oty-500 Nos.	27-01-05	22-02-05	23-02-05	Local	214/2490/ G-1/DGDP/ Ord/P-5(B)
b.	1. Nails Wire round shank 1-1/2" X 14 SWG, Qty-1000.000 kg. 2. Nails Wire round shank 2" X 12 SWG, Qty-500.000 kg. 3. Nails Wire round shank 2-1/2" X 9 SWG, Qty-2000.000 kg. 4. Nails Wire round shank 3" X 8 SWG, Qty-700.000 kg. 5. Nails Wire round shank 4" X 6 SWG, Qty-1600.000 kg. 6. Nails Wire round shank 6" X 4 SWG, Qty-500.000 kg.	27-01-05	22-02-05	23-02-05	Local	214/2491/ G-1/DGDP/ Ord/P-5(B)

2. Tender schedule with detailed specifications/conditions will be available on payment as per I/T selling rate (non-refundable) during office hours between 0800 hours to 1300 hours. The tender can be dropped latest by 1000 hrs and opened at 1005 hours on the specified date of opening in presence of all tenderers (if present).

Major DFP-919-11/1/05

For Director General

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42 Hirt hit 43 Alkali neutral 44 Hotel accommoda-46 Modern day evidence

47 Squabble

CRYPTOQUIP XKVKRASC DBWL, CB NBF

U P K Z B X J U H S W ? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: YOU SAID THAT YOU INVENTED BALLOONS, BUT I HAVE TO BELIEVE YOU'RE FULL OF HOT AIR. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals N

the World XI in a one-off Test and three limited-overs matches in A flying visit to New Zealand in December to play three one-dayers in the Chappell-Hadlee series is also

is also being tipped to play a Rest of

on the cards. Sutherland also confirmed CA was keen on scheduling a domestic Twenty20 competition after being buoyed by crowds of more than 20,000 at each of the matches played