

## Osterloh shocks Bartoli

AFP, Stanford

Wimbledon finalist Marion Bartoli of France crashed out of the 600,000-dollar WTA hardcourt tournament here Wednesday, falling in three sets to Lilia Osterloh.

The unheralded American downed the second-seeded French woman 5-7, 6-4, 6-3 in the second-round clash.

Osterloh, ranked 106th in the world, received a wildcard invitation into the draw. She had beaten fellow American Jill Craybas in the first round while Bartoli, as one of the top four seeds, enjoyed a bye and was playing for the first time since she fell to Venus Williams in the Wimbledon final.

The defeat, in 2hr 23min, meant that world No. 11 Bartoli failed to build on her success at the All-England Club, and saw Osterloh even her head-to-head record with the French player at 1-1.

Osterloh booked a quarterfinal meeting with eighth-seeded Austrian Sybille Bammer, who ousted American Meilen Tu 6-4, 6-2.

Bammer, 27, broke Tu three times en route to the victory.

Third-seeded Daniela Hantuchova and No. 7 Katarina Srebotnik both advanced to the quarterfinals.

The remaining quarterfinal berths will be on offer on Thursday.

Top-seeded Anna Chakvetadze of Russia, seeking to build on last last week's singles' title in Cincinnati, will face Eleni Daniilidou of Greece.

Fourth-seeded Patty Schnyder of Switzerland will play Yaroslava Shvedova of Russia.

Schnyder reached the finals here last year but lost to Kim Clijsters of Belgium, who retired from the tour in May.

Tatiana Golovin of France, the sixth seed and a semifinalist here last year, meets Sania Mirza of India on Thursday, while No. 5 Shahar Peer of Israel will face Olga Govortsova of Belarus.

## Moeen urges

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Describing sports as part of education, General Moeen said, "One can become a good student by only studying, but he must take part in sports and cultural activities to become a real human being."

He noted that sportsmen represent the country abroad by carrying the national flag. "So, we have to stress on improving quality of our sports arena," he said.

## Italian Cup

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alongside the six survivors of the previous two rounds.

The eight winning teams in the third round will then be joined by the top eight seeds, including holders and Serie A champions Inter Milan, for the round of 16 when ties will revert back to two legs all the way to the final.

However, the final will be a single match and is expected to be played at Rome's Olympic stadium.

The Italian Cup is lightly regarded by Italy's top clubs and attendances tend to be very low until the competition reaches the latter stages.

## Buffon wants

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years and I hope to still be there in 2018."

Buffon won a special place in Juventini hearts when he decided to remain a Bianconero despite the side's demotion to Serie B and he took time to explain the reasons for his choice.

"I stayed in Turin because the directors and the fans showed me how important I was in the reconstruction of the squad. Most of all, I believed in the objectives that were set," he declared.

## Khulna Abahani

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backpass," said Manik.

Khulna Abahani, who ended their campaign in Dhaka against Rahmatganj, will be braced for a great battle as both the teams would be eager to avoid a bottom-table finish.

Both Khulna Abahani and Rahmatganj are on 13 points but the port city side have an edge by virtue of a better goal difference.

Meanwhile, the B. League authority has decided to kick off the remaining matches at 4.15pm.

## TEAMS

**KHULNA ABAHANI:** Iran, Hadiuzzaman, Ashraf, Shahin, Nafiz, Khalid (Imrose), Moshil, Tajul, Prashanta, Mamun (Tariqul) and Pukul (Ashiqul).

**MOHAMMEDAN:** Himel, Arif, Odafe, Biplob (Mithu), Zahid, Kamal, Sharif (Belal), Divine, Paul (Rony), Emeka and Farhad.

**Referee:** Abdul Hannan.



Andy Roddick of the US goes for a return against Russia's Evgeny Korolev during their match of Indianapolis ATP tournament at the Indianapolis Tennis Centre on Wednesday.

## Roddick advances at Indianapolis

### Tennis

AFP, Indianapolis

Andy Roddick advanced to the quarterfinals of the Indianapolis tennis championships on Wednesday while boyhood friend Mardy Fish bowed out after one set with a knee injury.

Top seed Roddick, bidding to lift a third title in five editions at the US Open tune-up, rolled over Russian Evgeny Korolev 6-3, 6-2.

"I hit the ball cleanly," said Roddick, ranked fifth in the world. "My serve was off, but I had a rock-solid return game."

"My serve will come around. I'll take good matches when I can get them and this was a good match," he said.

It was hard luck for the injured Fish, suffering badly in recent days with tendinitis in both knees.

After calling for the trainer after losing the opening set, he packed it in one point into the second.

Russian Igor Kunitsyn took the

quick victory, taking the first set 6-4 over the fourth seed.

"It just happened after the first serve of the second set. I couldn't put pressure on my leg," said Fish, who is due to have a scan on Thursday.

"It's a little frustrating because I have worked really hard. I haven't had any really great results the last few months and I was trying to turn it around."

"I feel like I've been playing well."

Kunitsyn will play on Friday in a quarterfinal against the 109th-ranked Frank Dancevic.

The Canadian worked a come-back miracle, fighting past Argentina's Juan del Potro, 3-6, 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 to reach his first ATP quarterfinal.

Dancevic had never before strung together two wins in a row at the ATP level.

"I'm so excited to be in my first quarter-final," Dancevic said. "I don't know how I won. He served and returned well the whole match."

Dancevic became the first man from his hockey-loving homeland

to reach the last eight in an ATP tournament since Sebastien Lareau in 2001 at Memphis.

South Korean sixth seed Lee Hyung-taik also advanced with a second-round triumph, eliminating American Paul Goldstein 6-3, 6-3.

Lee will next face Roddick, who has won eight of their nine meetings.

Dancevic drove more than 800 kilometres from his home in Niagara Falls to reach the event on short notice after receiving a late entry.

Dancevic fired 17 aces in a two-hour, 10-minute victory over Del Potro, an 18-year-old South American ranked 56th. Del Potro saved two match points in the ninth game of the final set before Dancevic won on an ace in the next game.

"I was the last guy into the tournament field and I was behind this whole match," said Dancevic. "I was even down 5-2 in the second-set tiebreaker, but I kept hanging in and he gave me a small opening."

"I just tried to stick it to him. I tried to take my opportunities."

## Le Tour de Farce

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negative. I don't feel I can do anything more than that."

But as Rasmussen crept toward what would have been his first Tour victory, race directors repeatedly said he never should have been allowed to compete.

"We cannot say that Rasmussen cheated, but his flippancy and his lies on his whereabouts had become unbearable," Tour director Christian Prudhomme told The Associated Press, reacting to Rasmussen's withdrawal.

The head of cycling's governing body applauded the decision.

"My immediate reaction is, why didn't they do this at the end of June, when they had the same information?" International Cycling Union president Pat McQuaid told The AP.

"The team decided to pull him out -- that's their prerogative. I can only applaud that. It's a zero-tolerance policy and it's a lesson for the future."

After the Tour's upbeat start in London, when millions of spectators lined streets to watch, bad news -- nearly all of it related to doping -- quickly dominated.

German rider Patrick Sinkewitz crashed into a spectator and was then revealed to have failed a drug test in training before the four. Star Alexandre Vinokourov was sent home after testing positive for a banned blood transfusion. On Wednesday, as Rasmussen was riding toward his stage win, the Cofidis squad confirmed that its Italian rider Cristian Moreni failed a doping test, prompting the withdrawal of the entire squad.

Police detained Moreni after he failed the stage and searched the hotel where his Cofidis team was staying. Results from the raid

weren't expected until Thursday. France has tough laws against trafficking in doping products.

Cofidis manager Eric Boyer said Moreni "accepted his wrongdoing" and waived his right for a follow-up test to confirm the results of the first, which was positive for the male hormone testosterone.

Rasmussen's ejection spared Tour organizers having a rider clouded by suspicion standing atop the winner's podium on the Champs-Elysees on Sunday. Rasmussen had a lead of 3 minutes, 10 seconds over Contador which, barring an upset, should have been sufficient to carry him through the last four days to victory.

Although Rasmussen has not tested positive, some fellow cyclists and many race observers were baffled by his performance in a time trial last Saturday, when he stunned the field by finishing 11th -- good enough to retain his overall lead. Lacking the power that usually makes for good time-trialing, Rasmussen had been expected to flounder in the event -- as he had at the 2005 Tour, when he fell off his bike twice in a time trial, dashing his hopes of a podium finish.

That time trial and the way he has fended off rivals in the mountains with apparent ease added to the scepticism about the rider.

Fans had booed Rasmussen at the start of Wednesday's stage, and most French teams staged a protest to express disgust at the doping scandals that have left cycling's credibility in tatters. As the starter's flag came down, dozens of protesting riders stood still as Rasmussen, ace sprinter Tom Boonen and several others began riding away.

Some riders were forced to lift up

their bicycles to get around their protesting colleagues, who eventually raced. But the message was sent. The demonstration caused a 13-minute delay.

Jean-Francois Lamour, vice president of the World Anti-Doping Agency, suggested on Wednesday that the sport should be withdrawn from the Olympics. German public broadcasters have stopped airing the race, and one of Switzerland's biggest newspapers stopped writing about it. The daily *Tages Anzeiger* said on its Web site on Wednesday it will limit its coverage to results and doping stories.

Associated Press Writers Jamey Keaten and Jean-Luc Courthial in Gourette, France, John Leicester in Paris contributed to this report.

### Hitzfeld not

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"Sandro played well and made a lot of progress in the Stuttgart match, he held the ball up well and put in a good performance" said Hitzfeld, although Wagner faces stiff competition from Bayern's four international strikers competing for one of the two places up front.

But after Bayern endured their worst season for a decade by finishing fourth and missing out on a Champions League place, Hitzfeld is pleased with the chemistry in his squad.

"There is a good feeling in the squad," he said.

"It all depends on the type of players you have, but performers like Franck Ribery, (Brazilian forward) Ze Roberto and Bastian Schweinsteiger have real substance and I am looking forward to seeing combinations develop."

## Five kept out of T20 WC

AFP, Karachi

The international Cricket Council Thursday announced the umpires and match referees for the inaugural Twenty20 world championships, excluding five involved in April's shambolic World Cup final.

"A total of three ICC match referees and nine umpires will officiate during the 27-match Twenty20 World Cup, which is scheduled to take place from 11-24 September in South Africa," an ICC press release said.

The three referees, all from the ICC Elite Panel, are headed by former Sri Lanka captain Ranjan Madugalle and include Mike Procter, the former South Africa all-rounder and ex-England opening batsman Chris Broad.

The nine umpires include five officials from the ICC Elite Panel, namely Australians Daryl Harper and Simon Taufel, England's Mark Benson, Billy Doctrove of the West Indies, and Asad Rauf from Pakistan.

The four other umpires, who are from the ICC International Panel, are Steve Davis of Australia, South African Ian Howell, England's Nigel Llong and Tony Hill from New Zealand.

The match appointments for the opening stage of the tournament will be made and announced in due course, said the release.

The ICC however said that it had left out all five officials who were responsible for the bungled end to the World Cup final in the West Indies earlier this year.

It announced the decision to omit them last month.

Australia's victory against Sri Lanka in the showpiece match in Barbados on April 28 was overshadowed by a farcical climax brought about by a failure to apply a standard playing condition.

Referee Jeff Crowe, on-field umpires Steve Bucknor and Aleem Dar, third umpire Rudi Koertzen and reserve official Billy Bowden incorrectly ruled, after a stoppage for bad light, the game had to continue even though the required minimum of 20 overs in the second innings had by then already been bowled.

The officials insisted Sri Lanka bat out the final three overs of the game in darkness.

All 10 Test playing countries, along with associate teams Kenya and Scotland, will compete in the Twenty20 event. Matches will be held at Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg, the ICC said.

### England wary

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And if one of India's batting stars comes off at Trent Bridge, England could yet ruin their failure to take just one more wicket at Lord's.

### TEAMS

**England (from):** Andrew Strauss, Alastair Cook, Michael Vaughan (capt), Kevin Pietersen, Paul Collingwood, Ian Bell, Matt Prior (wk), Chris Tremlett, Ryan Sidebottom, Monty Panesar, James Anderson, Stuart Broad.

**India (from):** Wasim Jaffer, Dinesh Karthik, Rahul Dravid (capt), Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, VVS Laxman, Mahendra Singh Dhoni (wk), Anil Kumble, Zaheer Khan, Rudra Pratap Singh, Shanthakumaran Sreesanth, Yuvraj Singh.

**Umpires:** Simon Taufel (Aus), Ian Howell (SA).

## Jaques's wet exploits

### Cricket

INTERNET, undated

Phil Jaques had hoped to spend the off-season honing his skills in England, preparing for a tilt at Justin Langer's recently vacated Test post next summer. Instead, the Blues opener has found himself caught in the midst of the worst floods to hit Britain in more than 60 years, severely restricting his time in the middle and, on at least one occasion, forcing him to come to the rescue of a troubled team-mate.

Jaques's county club, Worcestershire, is effectively a nomadic team at the moment; its home ground, New Road, completely submerged by floodwaters from the nearby River Severn. Most players lost their equipment in the floods, forcing them to play recent first-class fixtures with borrowed equipment.

"I guess I was one of the lucky ones, because when I saw how fast the waters were rising the day before the floods hit, I got my gear

out of there," Jaques said. "(Worcestershire and NSW teammate) Doug Bollinger lost everything except for one shoe."

"We went back to the ground to have a look at it, and cars in the car park were completely submerged and pads and gloves and bats were floating across the ground. We had to enter the dressing rooms through the roof, and we fed the swans from the second deck of the pavilion. I've never seen anything like it."</