



Spanish star Rafael Nadal receives replica of the Conde de Godo trophy at the Royal Tennis Club in Barcelona on Thursday. Nadal is the only player to have won the tournament five times, so the organization decided to honour him with a full size replica of the giant trophy.

## Schnyder ends Clijsters hopes

AFP, Luxembourg

US Open champion Kim Clijsters suffered a midnight defeat at the 220,000-dollar WTA Luxembourg tournament when Swiss veteran Patty Schnyder won their second round clash 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (8/6).

Clijsters, the second seed, was bidding for a sixth title in this event, and second tournament victory since her return from two years of retirement.

Schnyder, the world number 47, had beaten Clijsters just twice in their eight prior meetings, and one of those was because of an injury retirement.

But she battled for almost two hours, recovering from a lost 5-3 lead in the third set and then regrouping after letting go a 4-0 lead in the tie-break.

"Patty played extremely smart. It's tough to force errors on her and break through her game," said Clijsters.

"I made more unforced errors and my first serve wasn't working the way I would have liked it to. I had my chances in the first set and I tried to fight through. It's disappointing when you're not playing your best."

Schnyder goes on to face German sixth seed Sabine Lisicki in the quarterfinals.

## Law SL's assistant coach

CRICINFO, undated

Stuart Law has been appointed Sri Lanka's assistant coach and will assist Trevor Bayliss, the head coach, during the team's tour of India in November. Somachanda de Silva, the president of SLC's interim committee, told Cricinfo that the decision to appoint Law, the former Australia batsman, in place of Paul Farbrace was taken at a meeting on Friday.

De Silva revealed that Venkatesh Prasad, the former India bowling coach, was also a contender for the post and had submitted "a strong application" but the Sri Lankan board decided in favour of Law as he suited their requirements.

"We felt that Law, who has a good knowledge of cricket and conditions around the world, was more suited for the job," de Silva told Cricinfo. "But I must admit that Prasad was a strong contender too. Moving ahead, we would like Law to be there till the 2011 World Cup but we are yet to formalise a contract. First we will have him assist Bayliss on the India tour, take a call, and move forward from there."

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Swann has more reason than most for wanting to do well against South Africa, now ranked as the world's leading Test side.

"I wanted to give up and become a hack (journalist)," he explained.

"There was a lot of time when I couldn't imagine playing for England again."

But since making his Test bow, against India in December, Swann has established himself as England's premier spinner.

Swann, who in 12 Tests has taken 48 wickets at a shade over 30 apiece, returned recently to South Africa for the Champions Trophy one-day event, including spending time in the hotel where he once slept in.

"I woke up and thought I was an hour late but I was four hours early and suffering with jet-lag," he said.

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