

SPORTS RESULTS

Bodyboarding

Dominic Bodyboard Pro/IBA World Tour
Dominic, Spain
Final placings: 1. Mark McCarthy (RSA); 2. Uri Valadao (Bra); 3. Rene Xavier (Esp); 4. Ben Player (Aus)

Cricket

KZNCO competitions
Inter-District A
DCOU 189-7 (C Flowers 38, F Lazarus 35, L Madsen 38, P Du Bruyn 38no, M Van Vuuren 3-38, MCA 152-4 (A Van Vuuren 105no) MCA won by 6 wickets
Uthungulu v Ilembe – Match not played.
Inter-District B
Venulam 243-6 (V Subramoney 65, A Razak 67no, P Subrayan 73), Umzimlo 237 (M Khan 98, R. Baijran 32, Y Arin 30, T. Govender 33, I Patheer 3-53, V Moody 3-2), Venum won by 6 runs
Southern Natal 237-4 (J Koekemoer 30, D. Slater 48, G. Bishop 80no, M. Bishop 57no)
Tongaat 141-9 (C Govender 33), Southern Natal won by 96 runs

Cycling

Tour of Spain
Ninth stage (Vielha to Sabiñanigo, 200km): 1. Greg Van Avermaet (Bel) Silence-Lotto 4hrs 57mins 22sec; 2. Davide Rebellin (Ita) Gerolsteiner; 3. Juan Antonio Flecha (Esp) Rabobank; 4. Rinaldo Nocentini (Ita) AG2R; 5. Damiano Cunego (Ita) Lampyre; 6. Xabier Zandio (Esp) Caisse d'Epargne; 7. Patrice Halgand (Fra) Credit Agricole; 8. Andrea Tonti (Ita) Quick-Step; 9. Christophe Kern (Fra) Credit Agricole; 10. Egoi Martinez (Esp) Euskaltel all same time.
Leading overall standings: 1. Egoi Martinez (Esp) Euskaltel 33: 23:56; 2. Levi Leipheimer (US) Astana at 11sec; 3. Alberto Contador (Esp) Astana at 32:4; Alejandro Valverde (Esp) Caisse d'Epargne at 1:00; 5. Carlos Sastre (Esp) Team CSC at 1:38; 6. Ezequiel Mosquera (Esp) Xacobeo at 2:10; 7. Igor Antona (Esp) Euskaltel at 2:23; 8. Daniel Moreno (Esp) Caisse d'Epargne at 2:34; 9. Jurgen Van Goolen (Bel) Team CSC at 2:54

Golf

BMW Championship
Bethpage CC, St Louis, Missouri
Leading final round
(US unless stated, par 70):
265 – Camilo Villegas (Col) 65 66 66 68
267 – Dudley Hart (GB) 69 66 66 69
268 – Anthony Kim 68 67 66 67, Jim Furyk 70 62 66 70
269 – Ki Chul (Kor) 70 68 64 67, D.J. Tahvan 71 63 68 67, Stephen Ames (Can) 69 69 68 68
270 – Hunter Mahan 69 67 68 66, **Tim Clark** (RSA) 67 68 66 69
271 – Aaron Baddeley (Aus) 71 64 67 69, Steve Stricker 66 71 68 66, Fredrik Jacobson (Swe) 67 67 62 65
278 – **Trevor Immelman** (RSA) 69 67 70 67, Brian Gay 67 67 72, Lucas Glover 68 68 68 68, Ben Curtis 70 70 68 65
279 – Phil Mickelson 68 65 71 70, Justin Leonard 69 67 68 70, **Ernie Els** (RSA) 68 72 66 68
also
280 – **Rory Sabbatini** (RSA) 72 66 67 75

Paralympics

2008 Paralympic Games
Beijing, China
Archery
Men's Recurve - F55 & 56: 1. Leonardo Diaz (Cub) Class 56 40.87m; 2. Ali Mohammad Yari (Iri) F56 39.39; 3. Tanto Campbell (Jam) F56 39.31
Triple Jump - P12: 1. Osmah Alsharqiti (Ksa) 15.37m; 2. Ivan Kysenka (Ukr) 15.24; 3. Vladimir Zayets (Aze) 15.00
Women's Shot Put - F54-56: 1. Eva Kacan (Cze) Class F54 6.73m; 2. Martina Monika Wiling (Ger) F56 8.61; 3. Marianne Bugenhagen (Ger) F55 8.54; 12 **Zaneta Szu** (RSA) F54 5.07
Javelin F42-46: 1. Juan Fao (Chn) Class F44 40.51m; 2. Andrea Hegen (Ger) F46 39.23; 3. Modelene Hogen (Aus) F46 39.39
Cycling (Track)
Men's 10m Time Trial (B&V): 1. Anthony Kappes & Barney Storey (GB) 57.266secs; 2. Ben Denery & Shaun Hopkins (Aus) 56.488secs; 3. Kieren Rodda & 12 **Lawrence** (Aus) 56.203; 1. **Gavin Kipphut** & **Michael Thomson** (RSA) 56.135
Individual Pursuit (L&T): 1. Michael Gallagher (Aus) 50.833; 2. Wolfgang Sacher (Ger) 50.211; 3. Fabio Tizol (Ita) 50.468
Individual Pursuit (L&T): 1. Jiri Jezek (Cze) 50.174; 2. Roberto Alcalde (Esp) 49.800; 3. Jan Boyen (Bel) 49.545
Women's 500m Time Trial (L&T-2 & Cp 4): 1. Jennifer Schulte (USA) 34.331; 2. Yaping Ye (Chi) 36.125; 3. Jingping Dong (Chn) 36.882; 6 **Rory Burt** (RSA) 36.882
500m Time Trial (L&T-4 & Cp 3): 1. Paula Teodorino (Nor) 43.281; 2. Natalie Simanowski (Ger) 43.800; 3. Jayme Paris (Aus) 44.490
Equestrian
Individual Championship Test Grade II: 1. Britta Naepe (Ger) % Score 71.909secs; 2. Lauren Barwick (Can) 68.454; 3. C C Nielsen (Den) 68.182; 17 **Kenny Noble** (RSA) 51.909
Shooting
Men's R10m Air Rifle Standing (SH1): 1. Jonas Jacobsson (Swe) 700.5pts; 2. Norbert Gau (Ger) 693.7; 3. Franco Prieter (Slo) 693.2
Women's P210m Air Pistol (SH1): 1. Haylen Lin (Chn) 467.7pts; 2. Aesha Khan (Kor) 463.2; 3. Natalia Delekova (Rus) 462.6

Medals table			
	Gold	Silver	Bronze Total
China	8	10	28
United States	8	4	17
Great Britain	7	5	15
Australia	6	5	21
South Africa	4	0	1 5
Canada	3	2	4
Brazil	3	0	6
Czech Republic	3	0	3
Algeria	3	0	1
Mexico	3	0	1
Ukraine	2	4	10
Russia	2	3	10
Cuba	2	0	4
Sweden	2	0	2
Germany	1	8	12
Spain	1	7	2
France	1	3	5
Belarus	1	0	2
New Zealand	1	1	0
Denmark	1	0	2
Hungary	1	0	2
Venezuela	1	0	1
Cyprus	0	3	0
Latvia	0	1	0
Saudi Arabia	0	1	0
Slovakia	0	1	0
Japan	0	3	0
Korea	0	2	1
Netherlands	0	2	1
Iran	0	2	0
Greece	0	1	2
Poland	0	0	1
Israel	0	1	0
Norway	0	1	0
Turkey	0	0	1
Argentina	0	0	2
Azerbaijan	0	0	2
Belgium	0	0	1
Finland	0	0	1
Italy	0	0	1
Jamaica	0	0	1
Puerto Rico	0	0	1
Slovenia	0	0	1

Squash

Dutch Open
Amstelveen
Men's Final: (1) Nick Matthew (Eng) bt (3) Cameron Pilley (Aus) 11-8 11-6 11-2
Women's Final: (1) Nicol David (Mal) bt (2) Natalie Grinham (Ned) 11-9 11-9 11-4

Tennis

US Open
Flushing Meadows, New York
Men's Singles Semifinal: (5) Andy Murray (GB) bt (1) Rafael Nadal (Esp) 6-2 7-6 (7-5) 4-6 6-4
Women's Singles Final: (4) Serena Williams (USA) bt (2) Jelena Jankovic (Ser) 6-4 7-5
WTA Commonwealth Bank Classic
Bell, Indiana
First round: Maria Domachinova (Pol) bt Lavinia Tanasu (Ita) 6-2 6-3; (5) Francesca Schiavone (Ita) bt Sandy Gumulya (Ita) 6-2 6-0; Meng Yau (Chn) bt Yaroslava Shvedova (Kaz) 5-7 6-2 7-5; (6) Shuai Peng (Chn) bt Ayumi Morita (Jpn) 6-2 6-1; Akgul Amanmuradova (Uzb) bt Ayu Fani Damayanti (Ind) 6-2 6-1; Tania Paszek (Aut) bt Anna-Lena Groenfeldt (Ger) 7-5, 6-4.
Romanian Open, Bucharest
First round: Florent Serra (Fra) bt Nicolas Devilder (Fra) 5-7 6-6(8) 7-6(4); Denis Gremelmayr (Ger) bt Jeremy Chardy (Fra) 6-1 5-7 6-4; Potto Starace (Ita) bt (7) Marcel Granollers (Esp) 6-2 6-4

SPORT

Now we will see if Boks were brilliant or if Aussies just did not care

IT'S a match thousands of miles away between two foreign countries, and in no sense does it affect South Africa or the Springboks.

Well, that's the common perception of this Saturday's last Tri-Nations match of the 2008 season. But I'd suggest that events in Brisbane, when Australia take on New Zealand, have a huge significance for South Africa and especially their coach, Peter de Villiers.



PETER BILLS
Special writer

When the Springboks hammered the Wallabies 53-8 in Johannesburg 10 days ago, De Villiers made big play of the improvement in his side. He boasted that someone

was inevitably going to get hampered by the Boks sooner or later, and it just happened to be the Aussies.

My take on that game was a little different and certainly contentious, judging by the reaction of overseas Springbok fans living in New Zealand.

I felt then, and still believe, that the Wallabies weren't interested in that game. I don't mean coach Robbie Deans sent them out to lose 53-8, but by starting

without five key players, Deans was broadcasting a message loud and clear to his troops – do your best, but don't kill yourself.

The real match, the one that matters, is in a fortnight, in Brisbane. Even if Australia had won in Johannesburg, they would still have needed to beat New Zealand in Brisbane to clinch the trophy. Deans was already looking ahead, showing the vision for which he is renowned.

I said at the time that I'd concede I was wrong if the Australians got turned over by 40 or 50 points in Brisbane. That would prove what I'd said was totally wide of the mark but would also undermine De Villiers's claim that it was his side's great play, as opposed to Australia's indifference, that was the key factor.

It's not my reading of this Saturday's game that Australia are about to cop another 53-

point hiding. Suddenly, you'll find, key men like George Smith and Stephen Moore will return. They'll probably also have fit by then Berrick Barnes. Most important of all, the Wallabies' attitude will be 100% different.

Despite New Zealand's run-away 100-point win over Manu Samoa last week, I'd rate the odds for this Brisbane Test as about 50-50. New Zealand's new side is improving, but it's far from the finished product.

The Australians have made real progress under Robbie Deans's shrewd coaching this season, and writing them off in their own back yard is never a clever act.

If pushed, I'd probably just favour the All Blacks to do it. But should Australia win, as they well could, where then would that leave the Springboks' much-vaunted 53-point romp? In the bin marked "flawed", I'd suggest.

WILLIAMS TOPS WOMEN'S RANKINGS FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 2003

Exuberant Serena celebrates her win



US OPEN champion and new world No 1 Serena Williams poses with her trophy in New York's Times Square a day after beating Jelena Jankovic in the women's final

It could be Steyn's big moment in Dubai

STUART HESS

JOHANNESBURG: Dale Steyn's impact on the international cricket scene could further increase this evening at the International Cricket Council awards in Dubai.

Steyn's nomination in two categories – cricketer of the year and Test player of the year – is a testimony to the performances he has delivered this season, that have seen South Africa win seven of their last eight Test series.

Steyn is the leading wicket-taker in Test cricket this year, having claimed 52 wickets in nine matches in 2008.

His role in making South Africa such a formidable Test outfit stretches back to Pakistan last year, where he claimed 10 wickets in South Africa's historic 1-0 series triumph.

Besides Steyn, a further indication of South Africa's steady improvement in the Test arena is the nomination of Graeme Smith and Jacques Kallis. Smith joins Steyn in the cricketer of the year category, while Kallis is nominated in the Test player section.

Smith is the leading run-scorer

in Tests in 2008, racking up an aggregate of 1179 runs in 11 matches. He shared in a world record opening stand of 415 with Neil McKenzie in the second Test against Bangladesh in Chittagong in February. Smith made 232 in that innings, but it is his unbeaten 154 in the third Test against England that has probably earned him a nomination.

That knock, which won South Africa their first Test series in England in over 40 years, ranks as one of the great Test innings by a South African, and historically is among the top 10 individual fourth innings scores to win a Test.

Smith and Steyn are joined in the cricketer of the year category by the West Indies' Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who has scored 707 in seven Tests this year, and Sri Lankan captain Mahela Jayawardene, who has scored 485 runs in five Tests this year.

He has also led his side to four Test series wins in their last eight series, while losing only against Australia.

Morne Morkel was the other South African nominated.

Hamilton penalty 'unacceptable'

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS (Belgium): Formula One faced familiar accusations of shooting itself in the foot yesterday after McLaren's Lewis Hamilton was stripped of a sensational Belgian Grand Prix win.

"This is the worst judgment in the history of F1," stated former champion and TV commentator Niki Lauda after race stewards handed McLaren's championship leader a retrospective 25-second penalty that dropped him to third place.

"It's absolutely unacceptable when three (stewards) influence the championship like this," the Austrian told German reporters.

After a processional European Grand Prix in Valencia last month, and against a backdrop of concern about the lack of thrills and overtaking, Hamilton's winner-take-all duel with Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen of Finland at Spa had given the sport exactly what it had wanted.

The fans left hailing a stirring Hamilton victory, only to find out hours later that Ferrari's Felipe Massa was the victor.

Britain's tabloid newspapers bellowed an entirely predictable chorus of outrage after what had been hailed as one of the greatest wins of the 23-year-old Briton's career.

"Just when you thought F1 couldn't get any more ridiculous," declared the *Daily Mail* in a back-page headline.

"Instead of celebrating one of the greatest duels of recent times, revelling in true genius by Raikkonen and Hamilton and lauding a remarkable win, that same old stench emanated from Formula One," said the *Daily Mirror* in a race report. – *Reuters*

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New York

DISPLAYING the talent and tenacity that helped her dominate tennis earlier in the decade, Serena Williams outlasted Jelena Jankovic of Serbia 6-4, 7-5 for her third US Open championship and ninth grand slam title on Sunday.

She threw her racket in the air, whooping and leaping in a celebration that even she thought might have been over the top.

"I'm sorry I got so excited," she told Jankovic when they met at the net.

Williams's father, Richard, jumped to his feet after the final point. He didn't seem to expect his daughter to do the same.

"I never knew Serena to be very, very excited. I knew Serena to be very, very mean," he said after it was over. "I describe her as being a combination of a pit-bull dog, a young Mike Tyson and an alligator."

The fourth-seeded Williams beat sister Venus in the quarter-finals and barrelled through the tournament without losing a set.

This win did more than earn

Serena her third silver trophy at Flushing Meadows; it assured she returned to No 1 in the rankings for the time since August 2003, the longest gap at the top for a woman.

"It's been so long," she said.

Williams calmed down in time for the on-court trophy presentation, and smiled when she received the winner's check for \$1.5 million (R12 million).

Jankovic earned \$750 000 (R6 million) for her first showing in a Grand Slam final.

The second-seeded Jankovic certainly had her chances – up 5-3 in the second set, she led 40-0 with Williams serving.

"I felt I had her. I had her, because she was really tired at the end of the second set," Jankovic said. "Who knows what would have happened if I had got into a third set?"

Jankovic won over fans with more than her determined play and her penchant for doing the splits to reach shots. She is a crowd favourite, often talking to people in the stands and frequently watching herself on the giant video boards high above Arthurs Ashen Stadium.

At one point, she caught a glimpse of herself on the screen and promptly fixed her hair.

"They should turn it off, because I keep looking," she said.

"You see your big face up there and you can't help but look up."

Venus Williams got ample air time, too. Sitting in the guest box, she cheered on the sister she had teamed up with to win the Olympic doubles title.

Serena Williams won her first grand slam championship since the 2007 Australian Open, and took over the No 1 ranking Jankovic held last month for exactly one week.

Given the way Roger Federer has played lately, it seems like it has been a while since he has been on top, too, even though he only lost the top ranking last month for the first time since February 2004.

Federer faced Britain's Andy Murray late last night in an attempt for his first grand slam victory this year. – *Sapa-AP*

A report of the the Federer v Murray final will be carried in *The Mercury* tomorrow.

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