

ISL Varsity Boys show promise in Düsseldorf RUGBY

By Phil Moran,
Varsity Boys Football Coach

The ISL Varsity Boys travelled to Düsseldorf for their first football fixture of the season on 21-22 September. The International School of Düsseldorf, already with several successful games under their belts, very quickly took advantage of ISL's players, jaded from four hours of travel, and clearly lacking competitive fixtures. For 20 minutes ISL were ripped apart and found difficulty regrouping. Despite going three goal down, ISL responded with a fine header from captain François Faber and showed great team spirit. The final result, 4-1, was taken as a lesson well learned.

A clear, crisp morning greeted the team the next day. ISL had to face a side from The American School of The Hague, whom the Düsseldorf coaches described as stronger than theirs. Luxembourg's resolve to stick to positions, absorb the pressure and outplay the opposition on the break paid dividends in the first half hour.

A free kick from François Faber to Marcus Friberg was whipped across goal to Stuart Lyall who controlled, turned, and blasted the ball into the back of the net. (1-0) On the stroke of half time, valiant defensive work resulted in a penalty that ISL keeper, Rocky van Riet, couldn't quite keep out, despite getting a hand on it

and the scores were level at the break.

Constant pressure from ISL saw their forwards tirelessly take the game to The Hague in the second

half and resulted in a wonderfully executed goal, blasted from the edge of the penalty area by Alessandro Lingua, following a fluid move from midfield. The final result, a well deserved 2-1 to ISL.



Ivanovic wins Fortis Championships

Serbian French Open runner-up Ana Ivanovic won this year's Fortis Championships after beating Daniela Hantuchova in one of the best finals ever seen at Kockelscheuer on Sunday afternoon. Ivanovic, ranked fourth in the world, had her work cut out to overcome Hantuchova after the

Slovakian world number 10 won the first set 6-3 and led 3-0 in what turned out to be a thrilling second set. But Ivanovic won five games in a row, and then had to defend three break balls before sealing the set to draw level. The 19-year-old from Belgrade then broke Hantuchova in the

seventh game of the final set and never looked back as she won the decider 6-4. After thanking the organizers and crowds for a great tournament, Ivanovic said that she had endured a tough match. "Daniela started off really well, playing aggressively and going for her shots. I struggled

to find my rhythm," she told reporters.

She said that she had no choice but to be more aggressive when 0-3 down in the second set. "It was a riskier approach but better that way, and it worked for me."

TENNIS

Schleck just misses out on Worlds medal

Luxembourg cyclist Frank Schleck just missed out on a medal at the World Road Race Championships in Stuttgart last weekend when he finished fourth in the 267km race, pipped at the line in a sprint finish as he was clocked at

6:44:43" - exactly the same time as the three medal winners.

Italy's Paolo Bettini, the reigning champion, picked up gold as he was adjudged to have crossed the line first ahead of silver medallist Alexander Kolobnev of Russia and

bronze medallist Stefan Schumacher of Germany.

Schleck's Luxembourg team-mates, his brother Andy, Kim Kirchen and Laurent Didier all gave up as just 25 riders finished the race.

CYCLING



CHINA  Collection
Antiques and Passion

76, ROUTE DE THIONVILLE LUXEMBOURG. 25, RUE DES CAPUCINS LUXEMBOURG. WWW.CHINA.LU