

lion. "I thank the spectators in Australia who have seen the world's greatest players do battle in Melbourne and Sydney and the tens of millions of cricket fans around the world who have tuned in to the action. "I also thank our valued broadcast partners including the Host Broadcaster Channel Nine in Australia, our title sponsor Johnnie Walker, our Official Partners ABN Amro, Emirates, Hero Honda, LG and Mastercard, and our official suppliers Hyundai, Reebok and Ben Sherman.

"Many staff and volunteers have dedicated the last few months of their lives to making this tournament a success and I would like to congratulate them for a job well done and thank them for their dedication and tremendous efforts." Cricket Australia Chairman Bob Merriman thanked the ICC for awarding the hosting of the inaugural Johnnie Walker Super Series to Australia. "Thank you to the ICC for providing Australian cricket with the opportunity to host this tournament," said Mr Merriman. "We appreciate the work and commitment from the venues - the Telstra Dome and the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust - for the wonderful facilities to stage the event.

"And most importantly, we thank the cricket fans for their attendance and support throughout the Johnnie Walker Super Series."

## Mcgrath best pace bowler in Test history

BY CLIFFORD Landers from Australia

Photo by - Vernon J (Snni)

Glenn McGrath could not have asked for a better opposition and venue in becoming the best fast bowler in history today. McGrath who is four months shy of reaching 36 years, surpassed West Indian Courtney Walsh's 519-wicket mark (132 games) and has shared the bowling mantle with the

current world's highest wicket taker Shane Warne in guiding the Aussies to its dominance in world cricket for over decade. It was ideal in that he outbeat the tally whilst playing against the best players in the world (ICC World XI) on his home ground- the SCG - and before his ardent supporters. He is only the second medium pace bowler with West Indian

Courtney Walsh to top the 500-wicket milestone in the history of the game and the third best- trailing behind Warne (626) and Sri Lankan spinner Muttiah Muralitharan (565).

He is expected to play until the 2007 World Cup and is strongly tipped to top the 600 mark before he retire. His career began at 23-years of age in 1993/94 against Zimbabwe in Australia. McGrath's overall record is: 113 matches, 4397.3 overs, 1314 maidens, 11066 runs. Best figures of 8 for 24 against Pakistan. Best match figures of 10 for 27, 21.28 Average, 2.51 Economy rate, 50.7 Striking rate, 25 five-wicket hauls and claimed match bags of 10 wickets or more on three occasions.

His record against Sri Lanka is: played 8, 304.4 overs, 37 wickets, 803 runs, 5 for 37 best figures and 7 for 61 match-bag, 22.24 average, 49.4 striking rate and two five-wicket hauls. Opener Sanath Jayasuriya is the most dismissed Sri Lankan batsman (five times) while overall Englishman Michael Atherton is the most dismissed batsman (19 times).



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