

## ECB's austerity

AFP, London

England cricket chiefs revealed Tuesday they will have to cut costs by four million pounds (6.3 million dollars) in the wake of the national team's boycott of their World Cup match in Zimbabwe.

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) chief executive Tim Lamb hinted the move was a result of repercussions from England's boycott of their pool-stage World Cup match in Zimbabwe two months ago.

The International Cricket Council subsequently withheld 2.3 million pounds of World Cup money from English cricket and it is that shortfall which appears to have already forced the ECB to take action.

Lamb warned before England pulled out of their Pool A match in Harare on February 13 for safety reasons that a boycott would be likely to cost English cricket.

Fears that Zimbabwe would retaliate by cancelling their tour of England this summer appear to have been allayed.

But the cut will have to be made to a budget which caters for grass-roots cricket up to the allocation of central contracts.

Lamb told the BBC Sport Website: "It is regrettable that these cost savings need to be found, but they are part of the financial fall-out from the 2003 World Cup."

"It is only right and proper that all parts of the game should bear the pain. The ECB is committed to managing cricket on a thoroughly professional and modern basis, and we need to balance our books."

## Schnyder makes early exit

BBC ONLINE, London

Third seed Patty Schnyder of Switzerland was a surprise loser on day one in Florida, going down 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 to American Ansley Cargill.

Cargill claimed just her fifth win in main draw WTA events by claiming the decisive break with the scores tied at 4-4 in the final set.

Number seven seed Nathalie Dechy of France had few problems against Denisa Chladkova as she came through 6-4, 6-2.

Marie-Gaïane Mikaelian of Switzerland had a good 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 win against Daja Bedanova of the Czech Republic, and Thailand's Tamarine Tanasugarn beat 18-year-old American Shenay Perry 7-6, 6-2.



- ESPN**
- Primera Liga
  - Real Madrid vs Atletico Madrid
  - Repeat at 9:00 am
  - UEFA Champions League
  - Juventus vs Deportivo
  - Repeat at 6:30 pm
  - Sportscentre Hindi**
  - Sport News
  - Live at 8:30 pm
  - STAR Sports**
  - Futbol Mundial
  - Taped Version at 5:30 pm
  - Sportsline Tonight**
  - Sport News
  - Live at 8:00 pm
  - Harsha Online
  - Crickel Talk Show
  - Taped Version at 9:30 pm

## Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 192

Tick the correct answers, post to

### The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm April 11, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who was the man-of-the-tournament in the Cricket World Cup?		
Tendulkar    Ganguly    Lee		
2. Who was the man-of-the-match in the World Cup final?		
Ponting    Bichel    McGrath		
3. What was the lowest score in the World Cup?		
36    40    43		
4. What was the highest score in the World Cup?		
359    345    394		
<b>Name</b> .....		
<b>Class</b> .....	<b>Roll No.</b> .....	
<b>School Address</b> .....		
<b>Phone: (If any)</b> .....		

## Latif raring to go



REUTERS, Sharjah

New Pakistan captain Rashid Latif is relishing the challenge of leading a young side at the four-nation Sharjah Cup starting on Thursday.

"I feel very confident and, God willing, I will perform this challenging assignment most effectively," Latif told Reuters on Tuesday after a practice session under the guidance of new coach Javed Miandad.

Latif was handed the captaincy after Pakistan's dismal performance in the 2003 World Cup after which skipper Waqar Younis, and senior players Wasim Akram, Shoaib Akhtar, Saad Anwar and Inzamamul Haq were dropped.

"Most of the players in the side are young and hence we will try and work on improving the technical aspect of their game," the 34-year-old Latif said before his team's opening match against Zimbabwe. The tournament also features Sri Lanka and Kenya.

"The team is young, but we are not very short on experience. Except for two players Umer Gulf and Mohammad

Hafeez all have played international cricket.

"But one has to be patient. We are not expecting the team to perform miracles. If they win here in Sharjah it will be a bonus. The idea is to build the team for future," he said.

"If you look at my career, I have been through crisis situations many a times and each time, by the grace of God, have come on top.

"This is a challenging job, no doubt, but I am confident of handling it," said Latif, who was frank enough to admit that he would have retired from cricket if Pakistan had done well in the World Cup.

"I had made up mind (of quitting), but couldn't refuse the offer from the Pakistan Cricket Board. I fact, I am grateful to the board for assigning me this significant task, initially for one year," he said.

"Pakistan cricket is going through a transition period and it will take to build the team, but the process has begun in the right direction.

"With Javed Miandad, whom I consider one of the best brains in cricket, at the helm, Pakistan can look forward to regaining lost glory," Latif added.

## Davis Cup

# Tough task for Swedes



AFP, Malmo

With Lleyton Hewitt back to full health, under-strength Sweden face an uphill battle at home when they take on Australia in a Davis Cup World Group quarterfinal starting Friday.

World Number one Hewitt, in the southern Swedish port city since the weekend after flying in from Miami, has pronounced himself fit from a stomach virus which contributed to an opening-match knockout at last week's Masters Series.

There is little that can stop the gung-ho Aussie when it comes to playing Davis Cup, the main event - along with the Grand Slams - on his yearly calendar.

And the 22-year-old is ready to put his Miami mishap from some dodgy room service food well out of mind when he leads Mark Philippoussis in singles on indoor carpet at the Baltiskahallen.

"I want to be in the best shape possible. When I get onto the court, Miami's not going to enter my mind," he vowed.

Hewitt's dedication and the one-two punch he packs with the big-hitting Philippoussis could mean a nightmare scenario for the slumping Swedes.

Despite the overwhelming firepower of Australia, Hewitt is taking the safe, cautious approach in view of what is sure to be a pro-Swedish crowd.

"It's gonna be a tough match, I'm glad we've got a fully-fit side. We're going to need it," he said.

With Sweden's Number one Thomas Johansson still recovering from knee surgery, it's down to former Top 10

player Thomas Enqvist to try and get the job done.

Backing him up with a pair of veterans whose careers have also seen better days.

Jonas Bjorkman, world No 4 six years ago, is now more successful at doubles. Magnus Norman once stood within a hair of the top three years ago, but a hip injury has reduced the game of the one-time French Open finalist as he still struggles with form. Swedish coach Mats Wilander is trialing 21-year-old newcomer Joachim Johansson, who has yet to play his first Davis rubber. All of the home side players stand well outside the ATP top 50.

Australia last played the Swedes in Sydney in September, 2001, with the hosts winning their sixth tie from eight in the series to reach the final against France, the 46th finale in Aussie history.

Sweden's two victories have both come at home - and both indoors - on clay and carpet.

Wilander rated the visitors as favourites, but is not counting his side out, recalling a 3-2 upset of Brazil in February's first round.

"We all know what Hewitt and Philippoussis are capable of. But anyone can beat anyone is today's game," he said.

The coach played for the Nordic nation in 1983 and 1986 when Sweden lost final to the Aussies.

Enqvist has won just four matches while losing nine since January, but with encouraging wins over Andre Agassi and Gustavo Kuerten last month in the US.

Norman, never the same player since his hip surgery in 2001, is 3-3 and has been reduced to playing qualifying rounds. He last flew the Davis flag at this venue two years ago in 4-1 quarter-final win over Russia.

## Woolmer rejects

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England between 1975 and 1981 as a batsman and occasional medium pace bowler, scoring 1,059 runs in 19 Tests.

But his coaching CV has outstripped his playing career, having achieved notable success for South Africa and Warwickshire.

## 'Pardon us, King'

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repitidation down the track," King said.

"There's a lot of angst, and nervousness bordering on fear."

Former West Indian star Gus Logie is serving as interim coach for this month's home series against Australia.

# Nayeem, Tarek

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**BROTHERS UNION:** First inning 265 for 8 in 100 overs (Halim Shah 87, Salauddin 55, Mushfiq 2-48)

**VICTORIA:** First innings (overnight 70 for 1 in 26 overs)

WNayeem b Masroor	121			
Parvez lbw b Mustad	23			
Nurazzaman lbw b Mustad	13			
Azam c Shamim b Mustad	0			
Anisur c Halim Shah b Mustad	0			
Salim c sub b Mustad	5			
Mushfiq run out	30			
Manzarul c Salauddin b Mustad	46			
Sabbir lbw b Sohel	14			
Razzak not out	5			
Saiful not out	8			
Extras: (b-3, nb-2, w-7)	12			
Total: (For 96 wickets in 91 overs)	277			
Fall of wicket: 1-49, 2-88, 3-88, 4-98, 5-188, 7-229, 8-264, 9-264.				

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Shahnawaz	4	1	16	0
Morshed	23	4	91	0
Mustadir	29	12	71	6
Mostakim	13	4	19	0
Sohel	16	3	55	1
Mosaddek	3	0	13	0
Masroor	2	1	4	1
Halim Shah	1	0	5	0

**Result: Match drawn.**  
**City Club v Uttara SC**

Venue: DCS

**UTTARA SC:** First innings 93 all out in 36.4 overs (Shafiq 29, Shahrir 15, Saiful 3-23, Saifulah 5-28)

**CITY CLUB:** First innings 329 for 5 in 75 overs (Moniruzzaman 91, Jamaluddin 10 n.o., Faruque 33)

**UTTARA:** Second innings (overnight 83 for 5 in 22 overs)

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tarek	11	4	41	7
Rezaul Haq	7	2	23	0
Saifulah	8.3	0	18	2
Jamaluddin	2	0	20	0
Sajib	3	1	5	0

**Result: City Club won by an innings and 114 runs.**

## Akram joins Hants

AFP, London

Pakistani all-rounder Wasim Akram has replaced Australian spinner Shane Warne at English county cricket side Hampshire.

The 36-year-old has signed a one-year deal with the Second Division side. Warne, who was due to captain Hampshire this season, was banned for a year for testing positive for a banned diuretic just before the World Cup.

Hampshire then tried to sign Wasim's Pakistan teammate Shoaib Akhtar, but the move for the world's fastest bowler fell through because of his Test commitments.

But Wasim, 36, is not certain to fill the captaincy position made vacant by Warne.

"Wasim Akram has signed a one-year contract with Hampshire," a club spokesman told the BBC Sport website.

"He flew in just before midnight on Tuesday to meet with club officials, put pen to paper before flying out to St Lucia to play in a double wicket competition.

"Wasim has not been offered the captaincy, but it is fair to say he is in the running with the likes of John Crawley.

"The club should be in a position to make an announcement later in the week."

The left-armed, who spent a decade at Lancashire, is the only bowler ever to take 500 wickets in one-day internationals. He has also topped 400 wickets in Test cricket, and has made almost 3,000 runs with a best score of 257 not out.

"For me it is a fresh challenge and a new chapter in my career," Wasim said Wednesday.

"The aim is for Hampshire to gain promotion in both competitions this year, and I hope to be able to play a part in that ambition."

### AKRAM STATS

Born: 03/06/1966  
Tests: 104  
Test wickets: 414  
Average: 23.62  
One-day int'l's: 356  
One-day wickets: 502  
Average: 23.52

## Leonardo giving up for good

AFP, Rome

AC Milan's veteran Brazilian midfielder Leonardo said Tuesday he is retiring from football early so that he concentrate on his duties as the Italian club's assistant vice-president.

The 33-year-old, who played in the 1998 World Cup final defeat by France, returned to Milan last October having left them in the summer of 2001 to play back home in Brazil.

Originally he said he was going to quit at the end of the current season when his player contract expires, but has decided to hang up his boots now so he can focus on boardroom duties.

"I have chosen to stop my football career before the end of the season because I have so many things to look after apart from playing that it becomes impossible to combine training with all my other engagements," he said.

"I am looking forward to working for the club which has shown great respect and love towards me."

Leonardo last played for Milan on December 22 against Brescia.

## Virus-struck AFC!

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supplied by the football associations of Singapore and Chinese Taipei on the outbreak of SARS, said AFC general secretary Peter Velappan.

"FIFA and AFC will closely monitor the situation and fix the new dates for the two matches when the situation improves and also, once the health authorities of these two countries give the green light," Velappan said.

Hong Kong and Singapore are among the countries hardest hit by the virus, which has no known cure.

## Cricket time

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Each team plays the other once with the two top advancing to the final on April 10.

### FIXTURES

Match schedule for the 150,000-dollar Sharjah Cup limited-overs tournament starting on Thursday:

Apr 3: Pak v Zim  
Apr 4: Pak v SL  
Apr 5: Zim v Kenya  
Apr 6: SL v Kenya  
Apr 7: SL v Zim  
Apr 8: Pak v Kenya  
Apr 9: Rest day  
Apr 10: Final

**FROM PAGE 8**  
Bangladesh on April 11.

### SQUAD

Saurav Ganguly (captain), Virender Sehwag (vice captain), Mohammad Kaif, Dinesh Mongia, Harbhajan Singh, Yuvraj Singh, Ajit Agarkar, Sarandeep Singh, Parthiv Patel (wicket keeper), Avishkar Salvi, Gautam Gambhir, Amit Mishra, Amit Bhandari and Avijit Kale.

# No dethroning Diouf



AFP, Johannesburg

Senegal striker El Hadji Diouf was named 2002 African Footballer of the Year at a banquet here Tuesday.

It was the second successive year the greatest individual award in African football was won by the 22-year-old star who plays for English Premiership club Liverpool.

Success for Diouf crowned a wonderful evening for the West African state of Senegal, who won six of the 11 categories. The other awards went to Egypt (three) and Ghana (two).

The Senegal squad that reached the 2002 World Cup quarter-finals was named Team of the Year and the Frenchman who masterminded their glorious run, Bruno Metsu, was chosen Coach of the Year.

Tony Sylva was voted Goalkeeper of the Year, Pape Bouba Diop won the Goal of the Year section for his effort against Uruguay during the World Cup

## THE AWARDEES

The winners of the annual Confederation of African Football (CAF) awards were announced here Tuesday:

- Footballer of the Year:** El Hadji Diouf (Sen)
- Young Footballer of the Year:** Ahmed 'Mido' Hossam (Egy)
- Goalkeeper of the Year:** Tony Sylva (Sen)
- Coach of the Year:** Bruno Metsu (Sen)
- Club of the Year:** Zamalek (Egy)
- Team of the Year:** Senegal
- African Champions League Footballer of the Year:** Walid Abdellatif (Zamalek, Egy)
- Televised Goal of the Year:** Pape Bouba Diop (Sen)
- Women's Footballer of the Year:** Alberta Sackey (Gha)
- Youth Development Award:** Ghana
- Merit Achievement Award:** Mwade Wade (Sen)

## Kadhafi buying Barca date!

AFP, Barcelona

Al Saadi Kadhafi, the football-mad son of Libya leader Moamer Kadhafi, has paid out 300,000 euros (327,000 dollars) to set up a date between his club Al Ittihad and Spanish giants Barcelona.

The 29-year-old Kadhafi, who like his father has the rank of colonel, is a director of his club, the reigning Libyan champions, and holds the same post with his country's football federation.

And as his side's owner he is fairly certain to play some part in the unlikely match-up in his position as midfielder.

His club coach, Italian Giuseppe Dosena observed Tuesday: "He's a decent player and what's more, he's the boss."

Kadhafi junior is reportedly a huge fan of Barcelona's Argentinian Javier Saviola and Real Madrid's Brazilian World Cup winner Ronaldo.

Al Ittihad are in the Catalan capital until April 10 to prepare for their first leg African Champions League match against Moroccan side Hassania Agadir in Casablanca on April 13.

Kadhafi got a sneak preview of the fabled Nou Camp on Tuesday in company with Barca director general Javier Perez Farguell

## Kleberon still dreams Premiership

AFP, London

Brazil's World Cup winning midfielder Kleberon is still hoping to play English Premiership football.

"It is a dream for me to play one day in England," the midfielder said in the Guardian newspaper. "I believe I am ready to take this challenge."

Newcastle manager Bobby Robson was at Portugal's 2-1 win against Brazil last Saturday, prompting Kleberon to believe they may renew interest.

A Newcastle offer for the 23-year-old was rejected in January, and then his club, Atletico Paranaense, refused to sanction a loan deal.

Newcastle chairman Freddy Shepherd said in February a 5 million pound (7.5 million dollar) transfer was a possibility once the season ends.

With Kleberon's contract due to expire in February 2004, Atletico, who are in deep financial trouble, may be more keen to do business now.

Kleberon began the World Cup on the bench before replacing Juninho in the team and establishing a match-winning partnership with Gilberto Silva.

He said he remained in touch with Gilberto, now playing for Arsenal, who had nothing but praise for the Premiership.

and a Merit Achievement award went to veteran administrator Mwade Wade.

Champions League winners Zamalek won the Club of the Year category, their midfielder Walid Abdellatif was voted Champions League Footballer of the Year, and Ahmed 'Mido' Hossam Young Footballer of the Year.

Alberta Sackey of Ghana, leading scorer at the 2002 African women's championship in Nigeria, was crowned African Women's Footballer of the Year and the Youth Development award went to the Ghana Football Association.

There were no surprises with Diouf favoured since December to emulate retired Ghana star Abedi 'Pele' Ayew and win the award outright twice in a row.

Liberian George Weah shared it in 1994 and won it the following year.

The other finalists were Senegal midfielder Diop, who plays for French club Lens, and Egypt striker Hossam, recently lent by Ajax Amsterdam of the Netherlands to Celta Vigo of Spain.

While Diouf received rapturous applause from 600 guests at a convention centre in an exclusive Johannesburg suburb, the award will increase pressure on him to improve a tarnished image.

He missed a shootout penalty when Senegal lost to Cameroon in the 2002 African Nations Cup final, and was overshadowed by Diop and Khalidou Fadiga at the World Cup.

Diouf has not set Anfield alight either, drifting in and out of the Liverpool starting line-up, and was suspended by European governing body UEFA last month for spitting at Celtic supporters in Scotland. But playing for Liverpool gives Diouf, a worldwide media profile beyond the wildest dreams of Diop and Hossam and his close cropped peroxide blond hairstyle is difficult to miss.

Diop is a defensive midfielder with an eye for attacking opportunities who claims he is being watched by English giants Manchester United, and Hossam a gifted if temperamental

# Rio denies 'fixing'