

Zim drop Carlisle

REUTERS, Bulawayo

Zimbabwe left out Stuart Carlisle and included uncapped batsman Alester Maregwede when they named a 14-man squad for a five-match one-day series against the West Indies starting later this week.

Carlisle, 31, was the only casualty from the team that lost the two-Test series 1-0 to Brian Lara's touring side last week. Harare-born Carlisle scored 38 runs in his four innings in the Test series and averages 27.26 in 98 one-day internationals.

The squad includes all rounders Gary Brent and Sean Ervine who returns from a knee injury as well as batsmen Barney Rogers.

Maregwede, 22, scored 69 against the West Indies in a limited overs tour match in Kwekwe on Wednesday. Zimbabwe did not include injured pair Grant Flower and Douglas Hondo.

The first two matches in the one-day series will be played in Bulawayo on Saturday and Sunday.

SQUAD

Heath Streak (captain), Vusimuzi Sibanda, Trevor Gripper, Barney Rogers, Craig Wishart, Stuart Matsikenyeri, Mark Vermeulen, Tatenda Taibu, Andy Bignault, Ray Price, Blessing Mahwire, Sean Ervine, Gary Brent, Alester Maregwede.

WI warm up

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Maribwede was top scorer with 69 and this earned him a place in the 14-man squad for the first of the series of five one-day internationals which starts at Queens Sports Club Bulawayo on Saturday. Maribwede took sixes off Chris Gayle and Samuels.

Barney Rogers also found a place in the squad with his 54 and Sean Ervine and Gary Brent are also in the 14.

But Stuart Carlisle has been dropped from the national side after a series of failures in Tests and his 28 here was not sufficient for a recall.

Wavell Hinds, who seems to find Zimbabwe very much to his liking, also took 4-38 in his 10 overs.

The West Indies had an early setback when Rogers took a fine catch off the bowling of Brent to dispose of Chris Gayle in the second over. But it was a coast from then on.

BRIEFS CORES

ZIMBABWE A: 239-9 in 50 overs (Maribwede 69, Rogers 54; Hinds 4-38)

WEST INDIES: 240-3 in 39 overs (Hinds 69 retired, Chanderpaul 63 retired, Samuels 51 not out)

Result: West Indies won by 7 wickets.

Aussies seeded

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the final ratings are drawn up on December 1.

West Indies the sixth team along with Sri Lanka, Pakistan, England, India and New Zealand looking for one of the two remaining seedings have a five-match series in Zimbabwe.

Matches in the ICC Champions Trophy will be played at three venues in England from September 10 to 25.

The tournament schedule will be drawn up once the groupings have been finalised.

Groupings will be based on the ICC ODI Championship standings on December 1 as follows:

Poool1	Poool2	Poool3	Poool4
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
Qualifier	11	10	9

ICC ONE-DAY TABLE

Pos	Team	Points
1	Australia	136
2	South Africa	118
3	Sri Lanka	107
4	Pakistan	107
5	West Indies	106
6	England	106
7	India	105
8	New Zealand	103
9	Zimbabwe	63
10	Kenya	28
11	Bangladesh	0

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Hoover 17-
Dam lake Down
5 "Hog- wash!" 42 New
8 Bouquet York
12— Domini prison
13 Work with 45 Leash
14 Sarah 49 Humilia-
McLach- ling
lan song 51 Stallion's
15 Catcher's compan-
aid ion
16 St. 52 Rose
Patrick's 30— de
Day base-
emblem 53 Exist ball
18 Procla- 54 Shake-
mations speare's
20 Imbibes river
21 Pledge 55 Watches
23— Fran- 56 Disen-
cisco cumber
24 Hair-care 57 Fit
products snugly
28 Succor inside
31 Young opposite
seal

Solution time: 24 mins.

32 Dalmatian's
decorations
34 Meadow
35 "It shouldn't happen to —"
37 Scene of great disorder

DOWN

1 Broadway musical
2 Okla- homa
3 Con city
4 Internet business
5 They're on the line
6 Blond shade
7 Be in de ux
8 Outcast charge of
9 Rosie Hook's
10 Ailing hench-
man man
11 Tibetan 36 Makes
beasts dirty
17 Nuptial 38 Gotham
address City's
19 Reveille's savior
20 Expert
42 Venom- ous
vipers
43 Quaker address
44 From a distance
46 Possess
47 Cupid's alter ego
48 Broadway hit
50 Swiss canton



PHOTO: AFP

Sri Lanka coach John Dyson (R) is all smiles while one-day captain Marvan Atapattu looks on during a press conference in Colombo yesterday. The Lankans take on England in the second ODI today.

SL ready for Eng U-turn



REUTERS/AFP, undated

Sri Lanka coach John Dyson expects England to return to form quickly following their humiliating 10-wicket loss in the opening match of the three-game one-day series.

Sri Lanka bowled England out for 88 at Dambulla on Tuesday, almost a record low total, but Dyson said he knew Michael Vaughan's side were capable of big scores.

"We have seen that England are gelling into a good unit and that defeat might have been a wake-up call," Dyson told reporters on the eve of Friday's second match.

"I would expect them to come back very strongly," the former Australia opening batsman added.

Sri Lanka captain Marvan Atapattu said his side remained full of confidence.

"We know that we can wrap up the series if we play like we did on Tuesday," the skipper told reporters.

Sri Lanka are expected to name an

unchanged team with moist conditions again likely to favour the seam bowlers.

England must decide on their replacement for paceman James Anderson, who will miss the next two one-day matches and is in doubt for next month's first Test because of an ankle ligament injury.

"James has been receiving ice treatment to the area," said a spokesman for the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB).

"He was injured playing squash and will undergo an X-ray on Thursday, with further assessment likely in the next 24 to 48 hours."

England physiotherapist Dean Conway said, "We need a couple of days to assess but the doctors are optimistic that he will be back between 10 days and two weeks."

James Kirtley, who was playing squash with Anderson when the injury occurred, is tipped to be included.

"The opportunity to play would be great but my concern now is for Jimmy (Anderson)," said Kirtley.

"No one likes losing like that but we are a young side and it would be foolish to not learn from it."

Anderson's injury came just hours

after it was revealed that England strike bowler Steve Harmison would miss the three-match Test series with a back injury he suffered last month.

Richard Johnson will retain his place in the Test squad after originally being called up as a replacement. The three-Test series begins at Galle on December 2.

The third match in the one-day series will be played on Sunday.

TEAMS

SRI LANKA (from): Marvan Atapattu (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Russel Arnold, TM Dilshan, Upul Chandana, Kumar Dharmasena, Nuwan Zoysa, Muttiah Murali-tharan, Chamara Silva, Nuwan Kulasekara, Chaminda Vaas, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Dinusha Fernando.

ENGLAND (from): Michael Vaughan (captain), Gareth Batty, Ian Blackwell, Rikki Clarke, Paul Collingwood, Andrew Flintoff, Ashley Giles, Richard Johnson, James Kirtley, Anthony McGrath, Chris Read, Vikram Solanki, Andrew Strauss, Marcus Trescothick.

Gillespie back with a bang

AFP, Melbourne

Australian Test paceman Jason Gillespie ran riot as South Australia seemingly took an iron grip on the Sheffield Shield clash with New South Wales in Adelaide Thursday.

Just back from a side strain and desperate to prove he is ready for the first Test against India in Brisbane next month, Gillespie snatched 5-54 in the New South Wales second innings of 267 at Adelaide Oval.

The blitz included an amazing four wickets from seven balls to bring an abrupt end to the visitors' innings.

Wicket spoils final

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On a wicket that suited the spinners Mohammad Rafique led the way for Biman with three wickets for 25 runs that included the prized scalp of Rajin Saleh, the second highest Comilla scorer with 26. His slow left-arm partner Saifullah Khan took two for 17.

Mushfiq also took a wicket to complete a good day's work with bat and ball. He was later adjudged man-of-the-final.

But it seems there was no luck for Mohammed Ashraf. The youngest Test centurion on debut scored only ten opening the innings with Javed.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Emirates National Cricket Championship final match between Biman and Comilla at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

COMILLA

Hannan c Mushfiq b Anis	8
Boglu c S Kadir b Aminul jr	14
Rajin c Saifullah b Rafique	26
Sumon b Anis	1
Bashar c & b Mushfiq	1
Wasel c & b Rafique	16
Monirul st S Kadir b Saifullah	11
Rashed c & b Saifullah	3
James not out	29
Ali Arman b K Mahmud	10
Kabir b Rafique	1
Extras: (b-1, lb-1, w-9)	11
Total: (All out in 47.3 overs)	132
Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-31, 3-33, 4-36, 5-75, 6-82, 7-87, 8-96, 9-131.	

Bowler

Aminul jr 0	8	0	2	8
Anis 2	10	2	2	4
K Mahmud	7	0	20	1
Mushfiq 16	4 1	0		
Rafique 25	9.3 3	2		
Saifullah 17	9 2	3		
BIMAN				
Javed c Bashar b Arman				23
Ashraf ul c Bashar b Sumon				10
Jahangir lbw b Kabir				4
Sanwar c Rashed b Monirul				12
Mushfiq not out				45
K Mahmud b Monirul				24

Broken finger won't stop Smith

REUTERS, George

Graeme Smith is determined not to let a broken finger interrupt his cricket, the South African captain told this news agency on Wednesday.

Smith suffered a break to the middle finger of his right hand while attempting to take a catch off his own bowling on the final day of the Supersport Series match between Western Province and Gauteng at Newlands on Monday.

Although the finger is broken, Smith is expected to train with Western Province on Thursday. A decision on whether he is able to play for his province in a domestic one-day game on Friday will be taken later.

"I had a little bit this morning and it was very, very painful," Smith told Reuters by telephone. "Tomorrow morning I'm going to have a local anaesthetic and I'll have a bat again to see if it works. If it does, I'll have another injection before Friday's game."

"Even if I get hit on it, it can't get any worse. It's not not connected to anything," Smith said.

South African national team physiotherapist Shane Jabaar said the break was "an innocuous, undisplaced fracture and is not too serious."

Reds' golden

FROM PAGE 13

a couple of Mohammedan players and found an unmarked Lajuk on the left flank. Lajuk took a step or two before sending in a teasing left-foot cross which the frail figure of Mollah found too hot to handle and Kanchan outjumped him to score the all important goal (2-1).

Yellow cards: Prodeep, Ghansha, Bidyut, Moni (Muktijoddha), Basala, Doland, Afala and Farhad (Mohammedan).

TEAMS

MUKTIJODDHA SANGSAD: Aminul, Hasan Al-Mamun, Prodeep, Harry, Riad (Saiful), Ghansha, Matiur Munna, Bidyut (Lajuk), Kanchan and Moni (Gerald).

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Milan, Basala, Jewel Rana, Faisal, Amin Rana (Doland), Olinga (Khokon Das), Kaiser, Rashed Pappu, Afala, Bakhtiaruddin and Farhad (Ashraf ul).

Referee: Ehsanul Haque.

ROLL OF HONOUR

Year	Champions	Runners up
1980	Mohammedan & Brothers Union	
1981	Mohammedan	Abahani
1982	Mohammedan & Abahani	
1983	Mohammedan	Abahani
1984	Abandoned	
1985	Abahani	Brothers Union
1986	Abahani	Brothers Union
1987	Mohammedan	Wanderers
1988	Abahani	Mohammedan
1989	Mohammedan	Abahani
1990	Not held	
1991	Brothers Union	Mohammedan
1992	Not held	
1993	Not held	
1994	Muktijoddha	Abahani
1995	Mohammedan	Abahani
1996	Not held	
1997	Abahani	Arambagh
1998	Not held	
1999	Abahani	Muktijoddha
2000	Abahani	Mohammedan
2001	Muktijoddha	Arambagh
2002	Mohammedan	Muktijoddha
2003	Muktijoddha	Mohammedan

Rafique not out				4
Extras: (b-1, lb-2, nb-2, w-9)				14
Total: (For 5 wkts in 42.1 overs)				136
Fall of wickets: 1-17, 2-25, 3-59, 4-59, 5-110.				
Bowler	O	M	R	
W				
Kabir	10	2		
19	1			
Sumon	7	1	2	0
1				
Monirul	10	4		
34	2			
Ali Arman	8.1	2	3	1
1				
James	5	1	2	2
0				
Rajin	2	0	7	
0				

Result: Biman won by five wickets. Man-of-the-match: Mushfiqur Rahman (Biman).

ROLL OF HONOUR

Year	Champions	Runners up
1974-75	Comilla	Barisal
1975-76	Fairdipur	Comilla
1976-77	Comilla	Dhaka
1977-78	Biman	Rajshahi
1978-79	Dhaka University	Biman
1979-80	Dhaka University	Biman
1980-81	Biman	Chittagong
1981-82	BSC	Dhaka
1982-83	Sylhet	Dhaka
1983-84	Dhaka University	Biman
1984-85	Dhaka University	Barisal
1985-86	Dhaka University	Barisal
1986-87	Dhaka University	Biman
1987-88	Biman	Barisal
1988-89	Chittagong	Dhaka University
1989-90	Dhaka University	Narayanganj
1990-91	Not held	
1991-92	Chittagong	Sylhet
1992-93	Chittagong	Biman
1993-94	Sylhet	Dhaka University
1994-95	Sylhet	Dhaka
1995-96	Chittagong	Biman
1996-97	Chittagong	Biman
1997-98	Narayanganj	Chittagong
1998-99	Biman	Jessore
1999-2000	Not held	
2000-01		Not held
2001-02		Not held
2002-03		Biman & Rajshahi
2003-04	Biman	Comilla
*BSC (Bangladesh Shipping Corporation)		

India go down under today



AFP, New Delhi

Saurav Ganguly's India leave for a demanding cricket tour of Australia on Friday with history and recent form suggesting another pasting at the hands of the world champions.

India's overseas Test record is so disappointing that even die-hard fans are reluctant to give their team a chance in the four Test matches against the formidable foes.

India have not won a Test series outside the sub-continent since 1986, having struggled even against teams with lesser talent than Australia.

They drew a two-Test series in Zimbabwe and then lost in Sri Lanka two years ago, raising doubts over the team's ability to win abroad.

Worse, India have always fared badly in seven previous tours of Australia where they have won just three of 28 Test matches, their last victory coming in 1981.

Ganguly's men lost three of the four one-dayers to Australia in the recent tri-series despite the tourists' missing the dreaded pace trio of Glenn McGrath, Jason Gillespie and Brett Lee.

The Indian captain was under no illusion about his team's prospects against a full-strength Australian team which, experts believe, has forgotten how to lose.

"They really are at the top of their game," said Ganguly, whose team will also play a tri-series in January with Zimbabwe as the third side.

"It's going to be a hard tour. This will be a real test of our ability. All of us will have to lift our game to compete against a very, very good side."

India's last trip Down Under in 1999-2000 ended in a nightmare when they lost all three Tests despite a reliable batting line-up of the then captain Sachin Tendulkar, Ganguly, Rahul Dravid and Venkatsai Laxman.

Ganguly said the performances of the 'big four' will play a key role against a combination of fearsome fast bowling and bounciness.

India's big problem is that the batting has only a middle, but no established openers and a long tail.

Virender Sehwag has yet to show consistency, Sadagoppan Ramesh returns after spending two years in the

SQUAD
Saurav Ganguly (captain), Rahul Dravid (vice-captain), Akash Chopra, Virender Sehwag, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatsai Laxman, Sadagoppan Ramesh, Zaheer Khan, Ajit Agarkar, Ashish Nehra, Irfan Pathan, Laxmipathy Balaji, Harbhajan Singh, Anil Kumble, Parthiv Patel, Deep Dasgupta.
Coach: John Wright.
Manager: Shivlal Yadav.

Wessels suspended for racial remark



REUTERS, George

Former South Africa captain Kepler Wessels has been suspended as coach of Eastern Province following allegations of racism, according to newspaper reports on Thursday.

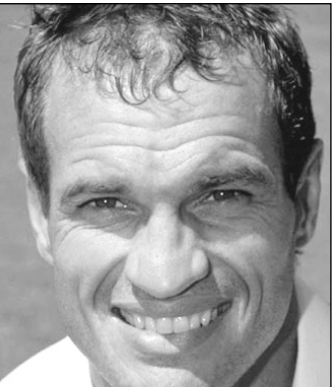
The move follows an instruction from the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) on Wednesday that Wessels, who denies the claim, be suspended on full pay pending the outcome of a disciplinary hearing.

The Port Elizabeth Herald, the local newspaper of the Eastern Province region, reported on Wednesday that Wessels was alleged to have made a racist remark during a net practice last month.

"I can confirm that two players have lodged complaints of racism with EP cricket," Eastern Province chief executive Dave Emslie told the Herald.

Wessels, who played 40 Tests for Australia and South Africa, has welcomed the inquiry, saying: "I demand the investigation take place as soon as possible. I welcome it."

"The matter is in the hands of my legal advisors and we will fight it all the way. I am looking forward to the outcome."



KEPLER WESSELS

The Ashes of rugby

AFP, Sydney

One of the oldest sporting rivalries in the world is set for a new chapter when Australia face England in the Rugby World Cup final at Olympic Stadium here Saturday.

To the committed on both sides, this weekend's match is about more than just a mere game of rugby although the rivalry to outsiders must seem odd.

Even though it is over 200 years ago since the first convict settlers arrived here from Britain, Australia still has Queen Elizabeth II as its head of state and the Union Jack as part of its national flag.

And earlier this month Australian Prime Minister John Howard unveiled a memorial in London honouring his country's war dead who served alongside their British counterparts in both World Wars.

Sport though helped Australia establish itself as a separate entity from Britain, its victories against the far more populous "mother country" always cherished.

And it almost caused a permanent breakdown in Anglo-Australian relations with England's 'Bodyline' tactics during its victorious 1932-33 cricket tour of Australia creating a major diplomatic incident.

But that was a rare moment of English dominance in a series stretching back to the first ever cricket Test in Melbourne in 1877.

Australia won that match and haven't lost a series against their oldest foes since 1986-87.

Their rugby league record is even better. Australia's recent win in England left Great Britain still looking for its first series victory over the Kangaroos since 1970.

England centre Will Greenwood is well aware of the added spice that is involved in any Anglo-Australian clash.

"It's something as a kid you grow up marvelling at," the 31-year-old Harlequins midfielder explained.

But Greenwood added: "The Ashes (cricket), the Kangaroos in rugby league, we always see to come out on the wrong end of it, the ledger always has us on the wrong side in the past 20, 25 years."

However, he said he drew inspiration from a message he had received from his brother recalling the heroics of England all-rounder Ian Botham who

singlehandedly turned the 1981 Ashes cricket series on its head.

"My brother sent me a text saying remember Botham 81, so we have had our moments going back."

Rugby Union has been more competitive, Australia leading England 16-11 with one draw in their 28 Tests including a 12-6 victory at London's Twickenham ground in the 1991 World Cup final.

But in recent years England have had the edge, winning the last four matches, including a first victory on Australian soil in June where they outscored the Wallabies three tries to one in a 25-14 triumph.

That performance produced adulatory headlines, even in Australia. But Greenwood knows that a win on Saturday would leave an indelible mark.

"As players we'd love to have Sydney 2003 etched into the history books but I'm sure there's an Australian XV who've got something to say about that."

Yet whatever the result, for some the English will always be a bunch of "whingeing Poms" and Australians will all be called 'Bruce' and have corks dangling from their hats.



PHOTO: AFP

England's star flyhalf Jonny Wilkinson (C) answers questions during a press conference in Sydney on November 18. England will play Australia tomorrow in the Rugby World Cup final at Olympic Stadium