SPORT

Zimbabwe A battle on

SPORTS REPORTER

Hosts Zimbabwe A thrived on a couple of half-centuries from Stuart Matsikenyeri and Kasteni as they closed the second day of the second four-day match against Bangladesh A on a better note at the Mutare Sports Club ground

The Zimbabwean second-string side batted out two sessions to reach 251 for 8 at stumps.

Test cap Matsikenyeri struck 61 while Kasteni scored 52. Mufambisi

also contributed 44 runs. Left-arm spinner Enamul Haque continued his brilliant form, picking up three wickets for 60. Paceman Mohammad Sharif picked two wickets for the visitors.

Earlier, Bangladesh A ended their first innings on 380 runs, after resuming the day on 307 for 6.

Border named **Aussie selector**

AFP, Sydney

Former Australian Test captain Allan Border was Friday appointed as the fourth member of the national cricket selection panel, officials said.

Border, who served as a selector from 1998 to 2005, will join chairman of selectors Andrew Hilditch and David Boon and Merv Hughes on the panel, Cricket Australia said.

I have always loved working as a selector and only stood down because of other time constraints." the former batsman, who captained Australia a record 93 times,

"My circumstances have now changed and I am very happy to once again make myself available for this important role in Australian

LEADING SCORERS

FROM PAGE 17

Lee Chun-soo (South Korea), Ljungberg (Sweden), Maniche (Portugal), Materazzi (Italy), Messi (Argentina), Mnari (Tunisia), Mohamed Kader (Togo), CA Moore (Australia), Muntari (Ghana), Nakamura (Japan), Neuville (Germany), Park Ji-sung (South Korea), Pauleta (Portugal), Pirlo (Italy), Raul (Spain), Rebrov (Ukraine), Robben (Netherlands), Rusol (Ukraine), Saviola (Argentina), Senderos (Switzerland), Simao Sabrosa (Portugal), Sma (Croatia), Tamada (Japan), Tevez (Argentina), Van Nistelrooy (Netherlands), Van Persie (Netherlands), Vieira (France), Xabi Alonso (Spain), Zigic (Serbia-Montenegro), Zinha (Mexico)

The numbers

2 - South America started with 4 of 32 (12.5%) teams and ended up with 3 for 16 (18.8%)

3 - CONCACAF started with 4 for 32 (12.5%) and ended up with 1 for 16

4-tie Africa and Asia/Oceania each started with 5 for 32 (15.6%) teams and ended up each with 1 for 16



227 yellow cards were handed out and 15 players sent off during the 1994 World Cup.





"Ronaldo is getting better and



TEN Sports West Indies v India Third Test, Day Four Live at 8:00 pm

Ganga, Sarwan batter India Vaughan's new

Cricket

AFP, Basseterre

Daren Ganga and Ramnaresh Sarwan both completed hundreds to put West Indies in a healthy position before a torrential downpour that started during tea brought an early close on Friday in the third Test against India at Warner Park.

Ganga scored 135 -- his third Test hundred -- and Sarwan made 116 -his eighth Test hundred -- in a double-hundred, second wicket stand that paved the way for West Indies to reach 420 for five in their first innings at the tea break before rain forced the remainder of the day to be aborted.

Munaf Patel was the most successful Indian bowler with three wickets for 120 runs from 27 overs.

Ganga and Sarwan, both strugglers in the previous two Tests in the series, added 203 for the second wicket, after West Indies continued from their bedtime total of 207 for

Ganga struck 15 boundaries from 294 balls in 61/2 hours for his highest Test score, and Sarwan hit one six from 174 balls in 4-1/2 hours.

Both were dismissed within half an hour either side of the lunch interval to allow India to regain some

Sarwan, celebrating his 26th birthday, began an action-packed morning period with a lofted six over wide long-on off Virender Sehwag's uncomplicated off-spin.

The West Indies captain reached his 50, when he on-drove Anil Kumble through mid-on and a sloppy Sehwag failed to stop with his right boot, and the ball sped away to the boundary for the batsman's ninth four.

Ganga, whose place in the side had been questioned following a string of insignificant scores in the first two Tests, had continued to inch his way along and reached his milestone, when he cut a short, wide delivery from Patel for his 11th

Sarwan too, was eyeing his landmark, and on 75 went totally ballistic, and Patel was the target for his aggression, as he struck six fours in the over to equal teammate Chris Gayle's similar achievement off Matthew Hoggard against England two years ago at The Oval.

He drove the first ball of the beanpolé fast bowler's fifth over of the day -- and fourth with the second new ball -- through cover for four, then pulled a short ball through square leg, and was fortunate that the airborne Yuvraj Singh could only get his fingertips to another big cover drive.

Next ball, Sarwan was again fortunate when he inside edged a full length delivery from Patel past the off-stump, but then chopped a short ball between second slip and gully to third man for four, and cut a

short, wide, no-ball through square coverforfour.

The last legitimate ball of the over, Sarwan again tried to steer to third man, but picked out the gully fielder instead. One away from his hundred, he arrived at the landmark, when he tucked Shantha Sreesanth into mid-wicket and jogged a single in the next over.

Ganga and Sarwan literally had the Indian bowlers at their mercy, when Patel made the breakthrough. Ganga was bowled when he essayed a back-foot drive and inside edged the ball on to his stumps.

caught behind for 21 edging a delivery as he tried to steer off the

back-foot. For the remainder of the period, Chanderpaul and Marlon Samuels kept the Indian bowlers at bay before the rain brought an early

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close on the second day of the third Test between West Indies and India at Warner Park on Friday:

WEST INDIES: First innings (overnight 207 for 1) Gayleb Patel Gangab Patel 135



West Indian batsman Shivnarine Chanderpaul drives the ball on the third day of the third Test against India at the Warner Park Stadium in St Kitts on Saturday.

Lara arrived and got off the mark Sarwan lbw b Sreesanth with a sweet cover drive off Patel for four, but on nine, he almost gave Anil Kumble a return catch, before Patel had him adjudged lbw for 10 playing forward to a well-pitched delivery as West Indies reached 362 for three at lunch.

After the interval, India claimed two wickets, including Sarwan, to claw their way, but the dark clouds gradually gathered over the By then, Sreesanth had claimed

Sarwan with a well-pitched inswinging delivery, and Harbhajan Singh removed Dwayne Bravo Sehwag

116 Lara lbw b Patel 10 Chanderpaul not out 21 Bravo c Dhoni b Harbhajan Samuels not out Extras: (lb=12.nb-11) Total: (For 5 wkts in 125 overs) 420 To bat: Ramdin, Collins, Taylor, Collymore. Fall of wickets: 1-143, 2-346, 3-362,

4-371, 5-406. OMRW Bowler Patel

4 120 7 67 25 Sreesanth 37 7 100 0 29 2 96 1 7 1 25 0 Kumble 37 Harbhaian 29

fitness worry

AFP, London

Michael Vaughan is set to find out whether he needs more surgery on his injured knee on Monday after a meeting between England and Yorkshire physios.

The England captain condition's appeared to worsen while he was playing in Yorkshire's innings and 25-run County Championship First Division defeat away to Sussex at Arundel concluded Friday.

Vaughan, missing England's ongoing one-day series against Sri Lanka after being sidelined from the 1-1 drawn Test campaign earlier this season, has been ruled out of Yorkshire's C and G one-day Trophy match against Worcestershire at

New Road on Sunday. He spent much of the match at Arundel in the dressing room while Yorkshire were fielding. And when he came out to bat Friday he could only manage four runs off four balls before being lbw to Pakistan seamer Yasir Arafat.

"Michael's rehab programme seems to have suffered a setback and we will have to decide whether he needs a longer period of strengthening his knee or if some other course of action is required,' Yorkshire physio Scott McAllister told Saturday's edition of the Northern Echonewspaper. "A fourth operation on his knee

is a possibility but at this stage nothing has been set in stone and the situation needs to be carefully assessed."

A fresh operation would likely sideline Vaughan, 31, from the remainder of the season with both Yorkshire and England, keeping him out of the Test series against Pakistan starting next month at Lord's.

Agassi to leave after US Open

AFP, London

US tennis star Andre Agassi announced Saturday that he will retire after this year's US Open, which starts on August 28.

The 36-year-old has won eight Grand Slam singles titles in his career and is one of only five players to win all four Grand Slam events. A former world number one,

Agassi won his first Grand Slam at Wimbledon in 1992. He has also won the Australian Open four times, the US Open twice before completing his slam with the 1999

"This Wimbledon will be my last and the US Open will be my last tournament," said Agassi on

He has won 60 ATP titles since turning professional in 1986.

Bell tolls as Eng make 261 took two wickets for 23 runs in his over having faced 114 balls with

Cricket

AFP, Chester-Le-Street

Ian Bell's patient 77 guided England to a total of 261 for seven in the third match of their series with Sri Lanka at the Riverside here Saturday.

Bell shared fifty stands with Paul Collingwood (33) and Jamie Dalrymple (35) in a match where victory for Sri Lanka would see the tourists take an unbeatable 3-0 lead in the five-match NatWest Series.

Geraint Jones was 22 not out and Liam Plunkett unbeaten on six.

England, whose captain Andrew Strauss win the toss, enjoyed their best opening stand of the series to date, fifty up in 64 balls with a straight-driven four by Marcus Trescothick off left-arm seamer Chaminda Vaas which umpire Mark Benson did well to avoid.

However, soon afterwards, Vaas made the breakthrough when he had Strauss lbw for 32, England 62 for one in the 13th over when Bell came to the crease.

Vaas struck again when he bowled Strauss's fellow left-hander Trescothick for a 39-ball 36 featuring six fours after the Somerset batsman tried to turn him legside.

The 32-year-old Vaas, appearing in his 278th one-day international, opening eight-over spell before his three fours. first over back went for 15 as England accelerated.

Sri Lanka claimed the prize wicket of dangerman Kevin Pietersen for just six. Pietersen, hampered after inside-edging the ball onto his knee, edged a flatfooted cut off Lasith Malinga to wicket-keeper Kumar Sangakkara.

Bell, on the ground where he scored a Test-best 162 not out against Bangladesh last year, and Durham all-rounder Collingwood, in front of his home crowd, repaired some of the early damage.

But Malinga Bandara, in for Muttiah Muralitharan after the Sri Lanka star had left the tour to be with his ill son, broke the partnership when Collingwood (33) chipped the leg-spinner straight to Tillakaratne Dilshan at short extra-

England's innings had become becalmed, Bell taking 69 balls to score his first boundary on what seemed a slow pitch.

But Dalrymple, in only his fourth match at this level, injected impretus by driving Bandara, who finished with a creditable one for

35 from eight overs, for six. But his innings was ended when paceman Malinga bowled him around his legs for a 32-ball 35.

Bell, almost run-out on 72, exited that way in the penultimate

His Warwickshire teammate and England debutant Alex Loudon then suffered the embarrassment of being run out without facing. But England still managed to score 45 runs off the last five

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the England innings in the third one-day international against Sri Lanka at the Riverside on Saturday

ENGLAND Trescothick b Vaas Strauss lbw b Vaas 32 Bellrunout Pietersen c Sangakkara b Malinga 6 Collingwood c Dilshan b Bandara 33 Dalrymple b Malinga Jones not out Loudon run out Plunkettnotout Extras: (lb-5, w-6, nb-3) Total: (For 7 wkts in 50 overs) 261

145, 5-208, 6-252, 7-253 Did not bat: S Mahmood, S Harmison

Bowler 9 0 38 2 Vaas 0 50 2 Malinga 10 0 68 0 Fernando 10 Maharoof 0 38 0 0 35 Bandara 0 27 0 Jayasuriya

Fall of wickets: 1-62, 2-75, 3-92, 4-

Reality bites



AFP, Hanover

Coach Dick Advocaat believes South Korea are "almost unbeatable" on home soil but lack the biggame experience to match the top sides outside of their shores. The Koreans, surprise semi-

finalists four years ago in their own backyard, went out of the tournament in the first round after losing 2-O to Switzerland on Friday. They won their first ever World

Cup game outside of South Korea when they overcame African debutants Togo 2-1 in their opening game and battled to a 1-1 draw with Group G favourites France but failed to call time on the clockwork Swiss. Advocaat said that South Korea

had shown enough during the

tournament to prove that their glory

run in 2002 was no fluke but the

team still was not the finished arti-

"It was a very disappointing result against Switzerland," said Advocaat, who took over the team last October.

"The Swiss were the better side in the first half. The majority of their players play in European leagues, which is a better competition than the Korean league where the majority of my team play. That difference showed in the

first half. 'In the second half we pressurised them and I think we deserved

more for our efforts. "We were very close (to getting an equaliser) but not close enough. "The Korea team did really well

group including 1998 champions France) but we expected more from the game against Switzerland. "My overall impression (from his time with the team) is that Korea are

almost unbeatable at home but

away.'

The former Glasgow Rangers coach said that his team could have displayed more of a killer instinct. "I think we were too polite,

showed them a bit much respect especially in the first half. Several of the key players in this team compete in the Korean league and they had a problem with the pace of the game. "The first option (for the Korean

football authorities) is to improve the local league," he said.

teams play the game.

Advocaat added that South Korea had lost to a good team and should not be ashamed of their

organised team, they get a lot of players behind the ball but are very quick on the counter attack," said Advocaat, who took Holland to the

GERMANY 2006

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FROM PAGE 24

ward.

famous oeuvre.

the last 16.

birthday as him because he will doubtless be in inspired form to send his adopted country for the last four years -- Spain -- packing.

The French though will be hugely grateful to the newbies in the team. Florent Malouda of Lyon and Franck Ribery of Olympique Marseilles, both turned in sparkling performances. The former ran the game with his intelligent play while the latter tore into the heart of the Togo defence with his precision running and fancy dribbling. Ribery's finishing left a lot to be desired but that will be of little concern if he can bother the opposition as much as he did yesterday. What will bother France is the continued inability of their muchvaunted forward line to perform. Thierry Henry bar the wonderful goal that he scored, rarely looked

team trained there during a brief

World Cup campaign coached by

Brazilian legend Zico, left a mark on

the historical former west German

capital. The visitors' book at the

Beethoven House, the birthplace of

the 18th century composer, was full

of messages in Japanese ranging

from the witty to the straightfor-

national team will evolve from now.

Let us sing the 'Ode to Joy' four

years later," wrote a Takehiko

Okamoto, referring to Beethoven's

But an unsigned message said

bluntly: "Zico, you are finished as

Lyon coach Gerard Houllier must

be licking his lips for next season

with his French champions so well

represented at the World Cup they

And all of them have made it to

Goalkeeper Gregory Coupet

and clubmates Eric Abidal, Sydney

Govou, Florent Malouda and

Sylvain Wiltord are with France,

Cris, Juninho and Fred are on the

Brazilian roster, Patrick Muller is

with the Swiss, Tiago plays for

Portugal and new signing Kim

could field a team of their own.

"The 'Destiny' of Japan's

like the player that he is and David Trezeguet too, was alarmingly shambolic in front of goal.

men from the Mediterranean will

prove a much tougher proposition

Next up will be Spain and the

than the mystery shrouded African nation who take their bow, albeit with pride left intact. Speaking of the Spanish, they too eased into the second round on the back of a 1-0 win against the Saudis that meant nothing. Spain fielded a virtual reserve team and showed that they have immense

via an Andriy Shevchenko penalty. However, the story of the night besides the France qualification was of South Korea who made a

strength in depth. Ukraine too

moved to the second round with a

1-0 win over north Africans Tunisia

believe their eyes when Philip Senderos gave the Swiss the lead and their misery was compounded when Alexander Frei scored a hotly disputed goal. The win meant that the Swiss go through as group champions and consign the last time semifinalists to a first round exit. What this means is that of the four semifinalists that participated in Korea-Japan, two have advanced, one has taken the early plane home while another did not even qualify. I will leave you to

figure out the teams. The Swiss win means that they will now play Ukraine in the Round of sixteen in what is possibly the most unfashionable match in the round. However don't let that be a guiding light. As we all know. All that glitters is not gold!

A score of Korean fans could not AFP, Duisburg Saturday. The 30-year-old centre-back

Nesta ruled out

Italy defender Alessandro Nesta has been ruled out of Monday's World Cup second round match against Australia after failing to recover from a groin strain, team doctor Enrico Castellaci said

Castellacci said it was too early to say if Nesta would be fit for the

come the Aussies. Marco Materazzi, who scored

Midfielder Daniele De Rossi will also be absent as he serves the second of a four-match ban for elbowing Brian McBride in the face during a 1-1 draw with the United

Reyes delighted

INTERNET, undated

Jose Antonio Reyes added to his terrific season by making his World Cup debut in Spain's 1-0 win over Saudi Arabia.

Tunisia, Spain coach Luis Aragones made wholesale changes and Arsenal winger Reyes was given a starting place. And the 22-year-old Gunner

which Juanito headed in. made the assist for my team's goal on my World Cup debut," Reyes

"Personally, I felt good, I wasn't nervous at all despite making my

champions on Tuesday. be ready for this type of competicannot wait for the game against should could have had a couple

"That goal against the Czech Republic gave me a lot of motivation," said Gyan. The first game did not go so well for me and I went back to the

'Everyone knows Brazil are one of the best teams in the world and

team hotel to focus on what went

of course we have to respect them. "But there is no pressure on us. We can be relaxed.

Klose not for sale

INTERNET, undated

Werder Bremen has insisted that German international striker Miroslav Klose will not join a Premiership club this summer.

Klose, who is the top scorer in

the World Cup after netting four goals in three games, has been linked with both Manchester United and Arsenal. But Werder's director of football

Klaus Allofs said: 'Miroslav Klose is not for sale, we are not giving him The 28-year-old, who scored 25

Bundesliga goals last year, joined Werder from Kaiserslautern.

Refs are good, really INTERNET, undated

Veteran Australian defender Craig Moore has a pretty good poker face, but he lost it Friday when asked whether Italy might try to use its experience to goad the Socceroos into retaliation or other incidents.

"Yeah, but the referees, I think,

have been extremely good. I'm sure that will be the case again," he replied. Moore's straight face dissolved

and he could not continue, breaking into laughter along with reporters.

The Australians were unhappy at the work of Germany's Markus Merk in the 2-0 loss to Brazil, in which 25 fouls were called against the Socceroos as opposed to nine against the defending champs. In their last game against Croatia, English referee Graham Poll gave Croatian defender Josip Simunic three yellow cards before finally sending him off just after the final whistle.

Against Croatia, the Aussies got

"Also, I really needed to have the team together for four or five months ahead of the World Cup to get them used to the pace the top

points wise (four points from a performance

"Switzerland are a very well quarter-finals of the 1994 World Cup. need to improve when playing

INTERNET, undated

The head of Football Federation

"The further we go, and even as far we've gone already, quite reputable well-known coaches are approaching us," said John O'Neill, the federation's CEO.

national team. "There's never been any doubt about the fact we need another Guus Hiddink. What a difference

he's made," O'Neill said. O'Neill also wants the next coach to spend more time in Australia, to follow the domestic A-League and help improve coaching

and development programs. Talks continue with former Liverpool manager Gerard Houllier and "a few others," O'Neill said. The coaching job won't be decided until after the tournament, he

Becks backs Ronaldo

INTERNET, undated

David Beckham is glad Ronaldo has proved critics wrong with two goals in Brazil's 4-1 win over Japan on

"I think some of the things that

wrong," Beckham said. "Even the players in our team and players I've watched the Brazilian games with can't actually believe some of the things (that have) been said. "It's not the criticism of him as a

he's all about." Ronaldo's 13th and 14th World Cup goals tied him with Gerd Mueller

for in Brazil's first two games.

tearful exit as Switzerland won 2-0.

MG BRIEFS

Kallstrom is with Sweden.

No bound for joy Church authorities in the western town of Oberhausen have installed 300 square metres of artificial grass as the local priest tries to match worship with hero worship. Bernd Wolharn, 39-year-old pastor and known for original initiatives, says there is no contradiction between Christian joy and the joy of football.

A customer at a hotel in the western town of Muhleim-an-der-Ruhr who found five tickets for the Argentina versus Mexico match threw them in the bin thinking they

'Many of the older folk under-

stand well the desire to attract the

younger people to church," he

Cup of ... Islamic radicals have denounced

the World Cup as a plot to "turn

Muslims away from jihad ('holy'

war). A video placed online Friday

denounced "pro-Zionist Arab

were simple adverts.

When the five Mexico fans who had come over specially for the game realised what had happened they tried to get them back without success. The five contacted the police and they were finally given permission to attend the game. events.

media who are occupying them-selves by showing the World Cup to turn Muslims from their religion and jihad." The video shows three other

submission and humiliation" and

the "Cup of glory and pride."

Abigrise Up to three million people were set World Cup but where Berlin is

Where there's a will...

same month last year.

can'tbe."

"cups" -- "the Cup of Zionist and crusader hatred," the "Cup of

to throng Germany across the concerned the tourism boom happened in the two months leading up to the tournament, the Berlin Tourism Marketing authority says. The organisation says 616,739 people visited the capital

Germany say their will to win can carry them all the way to a fourth title after a decade in the relative wilderness, a run to the 2002 final aside. The new confidence in the team is in stark contrast to recent Veteran defender Jens Nowotny

said six years ago after a disastrous

Euro 2002: "The future of German

football is positive. Less commit-

ment, willpower and readiness just

made the most of his opportunity in April, a 14.7 percent rise on the

debut in a top tournament.

"It's a fantastic feeling to play in a World Cup as a footballer and I hope I am given more minutes in the future and am able to score."

Rio in fitness race

Rio Ferdinand's fitness remains a concern for England ahead of the World Cup second-round clash with Ecuador in Stuttgart on Sunday

suffered the injury in the 17th minute of Thursday's 2-0 victory over the Czech Republic which left Italy as Group Ewinners.

Italy's first goal against the Czechs after coming off the bench to replace Nesta, will retain his place at the heart of the Azzurri's defence.

With victories in their first two games against Ukraine and

by setting up his team's only goal with a free-kick in the first half "I am extremely happy to have

"Having played big games for Arsenal this season, it has really helped me mature as a player and

INTERNET, undated

The Manchester United centreback suffered a groin injury early in the second half of the 2-2 draw with Sweden on Tuesday and was

to train fully since the setback and was restricted to some field work with physio Gary Lewin on Friday. quarter-finals should Italy over-It would seem unlikely coach Sven-Goran Eriksson would risk the player in the last-16 encounter unless he is able to participate fully

in today's final training session.

replaced by Sol Campbell.

Ferdinand, 27, has been unable

Beckham claimed: "Every player apart from Michael (Owen) is fit and apart from Gary Neville who is coming back and hopefully may be fit for the weekend.

"Rio (Ferdinand) will be probably

Eriksson will have the final say

on who plays but skipper David

training Saturday. Everything else apart from that is perfect."

Couch time for Bruce INTERNET, undated

World Cup, US coach Bruce Arena has some simple plans for the rest of the tournament. "Watch it on television and be like everyone else," Arena said. 'Just criticize players and coaches. I'm going to have the time of my

Now that the United States team

has been eliminated from the

Also on his agenda: "Lose a bunch of golf balls, just have a good Gyan can't wait for

He looks certain to return to the team after missing the victory

Gyan, a quick but erratic striker, who plays for Serie B side Medina, one penalty kick, but feel the

Brazil INTERNET, undated

Ghana striker Asamoah Gyan is determined to savour the moment when he faces the reigning world

against the USA - which secured their passage into the second phase - through suspension.

BITS AND BOBS

Hiddink's successor

Australia says the team's success at the tournament is helping drum up applicants for the coaching job that Guus Hiddink is vacating after the World Cup.

O'Neill wants a high-profile coach to succeed Hiddink, who is leaving to take over the Russian

Thursday night. The England captain, no stranger to criticism himself, says his Real Madrid teammate has been harshly judged on his fitness and weight.

have been said about Roni are

player, it's the personal criticism of him about his shape and things like that. I'm glad he showed people what

as the competition's career scoring leader. Not bad, considering Ronaldo failed to score and was substituted

