# SPORT

### **Playing in India** helped me, Anderson

#### CRICINFO, undated

James Anderson, the England fast bowler, believes his prior experience in India has helped him become a better bowler ahead of the Champions Trophy.

"Things seemed to come together for me here earlier in the year," he told BBC Sport. "I developed a couple of balls, cutters and things, I didn't have before. Now I can use them with confidence.

During the tour of India earlier this vear. Anderson grabbed six wickets in the final Test at Mumbai to set up an England win and was the pick in the ODI series.

However, a stress fracture of the back put him out of action until the last week of the English county season. "Since then I have not felt a thing in my back, I have worked hard in the gym on my core fitness," Anderson said.

"In the back of my mind, when I started bowling, I was left wondering what it was going to feel like but it has been fine.

#### BHF picks 33 FROM PAGE 17

Khondoker Hasan Ahmed Shahidullah Titu, Zahidul Islam Raian and Krishna Kumar Das (Usha), Prashanta Kumar, Rahul Kanti Roy, Asaduzzaman Chandan, Mosharraf Hossain Kuti and Prince (Mariners), Zahid Bin Talib Shuvo, Mazharul Islam Mokshed and Hossain Mobarak Sumon (Sonali Bank) and Imran Hossain Shuvo (Ajax).

## Rain disrupts

#### FROM PAGE 17

lashed south Mumbai this morning, also resulted making the Brabourne Stadium outfield slushy and forced the postponement of today's scheduled morning practice session of the Australian team to the afternoon.

The weather in Mumbai is pretty humid over the last few days and the organisers are keeping their fingers crossed that no rain disruptions occur when the first Champions Trophy match, a qualifier between title holders West Indies and Sri Lanka, takes place at the Brabourne Stadium on October 14

## **Trophy Treats**

FROM PAGE 17 with Sarad Power as chair and most importantly local suprimo Lalit Modi as the vice-president of the current board and in charge of financial issues also.

Chief selector Faruque Ahmed was confused as to whether the Mohali or the Jaipur stadium is better.

"What a beautiful stadium and your vision will be big if you have such a good ground and practice facilities. I can't understand why we don't have this kind of venue. I will submit a report to the board about the facilities of the venues I have seen here," he said.



England fast bowler Stephen Harmison is pictured in his bowling stride during a training session at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur on Wednesday.

## Gatting bats for Flintoff

### Cricket

**REUTERS**, London

Mike Gatting, the last England captain to win a Test series in Australia, has implored his former team to ease the burden on captain Andrew Flintoff when the Ashes campaign starts there next

rounder Flintoff must also shoulder the burden of captaincy.

The 49-year-old Gatting, who "On our trip to Australia I said to will be in Australia combining commentary with hospitality work Beefy: 'Go out and enjoy yourself during the Ashes series which away from the cricket'." said Gatting, who hit 4,409 runs in 79 starts next month. described Flintoff's captaincy style as a cross between Michael Vaughan and "I wasn't going to put any curfew on him and he wouldn't have Nasser Hussain.

stuck to it if I had. You had to give "He is guite an imposing character. Michael is laid back, Nasser was more up front while Freddie is Tushar salvages the guy a chance to relax and to do in the middle," said Gatting.

## **Upul blows Zim away**

Zimbabwe last November after 24 Tests and 84 one-day internationals, accusing the country's cricket board of financial mismanagement.

He had stints playing club cricket in Bangladesh and England before moving to South Africa, where he considered trying to qualify for the Proteas

Taibu signs

FROM PAGE 17

That would take four years, while he would need five to become eligible for Namibia.

Taibu has not ruled out returning to his homeland, adding: "It's a possibility, but if nothing happens soon I won't be going back to play for Zimbabwe.

"I really can't say what my longterm future is right now, but I'll have a better idea in a couple of weeks from now.'

### Same old story

FROM PAGE 17 successful bowler with three for 14 in 10 overs while Taylor, Collymore and Samuels took two wickets each. SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Champions Trophy qualifying match between Bangladesh and the West Indies at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium on Wednesday

BANGLADESH Nafees c Gayle b Samuels 38 Ashraful Ibw b Taylor Aftab c Chanderpaul b Samuels 59 Hasan b Collymore Bashar Ibw b Collymore 0 Reza b Bravo 22 7 Mashud not out Rafique Ibw b Gayle Mortuza c and b Bravo Razzak c Baugh b Bravo Rasel c Samuels b Taylor Extras: (b-1, lb-1, w-5) Total: (All out in 46.3 overs) 161 Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-95, 3-96, 4 96, 5-107, 6-111, 7-125, 8-132, 9-151.

0 Μ Bowler 0 32 25 Taylor 5.3 7 1 Bradshaw Collymore 8 0 0 Samuels 8 10 1 Bravo 0 Gayle 8 WEST INDIES Gayle not out Chanderpaul not out Extras: (lb-2, w-4, nb-2)

Total: (For no loss in 36.4 overs)164 Did not bat: Sarwan, Lara, Samuels, Bravo, Hinds, Baugh, Bradshaw, Taylor, Collymore. 0 М R w Bowler

2 25 Mortuza 0 Rasel 5 1 26 0 0 Razzak 9.4 30 0 Rafique 8 0 41 0 Hasan 5 0 12 0 Reza 0 16 0 Aftab 0 12 0 Result: West Indies won by ten

wickets. Man-of-the-match: Chris Gayle. Toss: Bangladesh Umpires: Billy Bowden (NZL) and Simon Taufel (AUS)

second Dutchman to fall in the first round after popular Swedish veteran Jonas Bjorkman put out Peter Wessels 7-5, 6-2.

ing more his team could have done.

"We played two and won both so that is as good as it gets," he said. bowlers, the most impressive being "We have one more match in hand leg-spinner Tafadzwa Kamungozi against the West Indies and will who picked up two for 55 in his 10 certainly try to win that as well. overs

"The qualifiers are a good preparation for the main event but the number of extras we conceded (19 wides and seven no-balls) remains an area of concern "We will rectify that soon. I am

very pleased the way we have played our two games so far.'

Tharanga's sixth one-day century from 31 matches was studded with 13 boundaries and a six that helped his team recover from a shakv start.

Tharanga put on 165 in 169 balls Paceman Lasith Malinga for the third wicket with his mentor claimed 3-25 and Dilhara Fernando Kumar Sangakkara (80) after Sri and Muttiah Muralidaran picked up Lanka were struggling at 49-2 in the two wickets each, but Zimbabwe at 11th over. least surpassed the 85 they made Both batsmen departed in suc-

against the West Indies here on cessive overs attempting to force the pace, but Sri Lanka added 104 Sri Lanka will learn on runs in the last 15 overs despite Wednesday, when the West Indies losing five wickets. take on Bangladesh in Jaipur, if they

Tharanga made his international debut eight months after his home in Sri Lanka's west coast fishing town of Ambalangoda was swept away by the deadly tsunami which killed thousands across Asia on December 26, 2004.

Tharanga shifted base to Colombo where Sangakkara sheltered the talented youngster and gave him his entire cricket kit.

Sri Lanka elected to bat after winning the toss but were stunned when Sanath Jayasuriya was run out for nine and Jayawardene fell for

Zimbabwe put on an improved display in the field with tight bowling

Nadal, who won an indoor title

last year in Madrid, needed a set to

get comfortable as Sluiter chal-

lenged throughout the opener

before the top seed claimed the

winner broke to start the second set

and tightened his grip on the match

on the way to the second round.

The double Roland Garros

Belgium's Kristof Vliegen blew

out Nicolas Massu's hopes of a

winning birthday celebration with a

6-2, 6-4 first-round win over the

broke five times in his one-hour, 20

improved to 28-20 on the season.

with the 27 victories more than he

had amassed in his entire ATP

circumstances as he plowed a backhand into the net to lose on

Massu turned 27 in depressing

career prior to 2006.

minute win at the Kungligahallen

The seventh-seeded Vliegen

The 24-year-old winner

## Nadal gets going

early lead

Chilean

### Tennis

#### AFP, Stockholm

Rafael Nadal rebounded after a fiveweek break from the ATP circuit when overcoming Raemon Sluiter 6-4. 6-2 to make a winning debut at the Stockholm Open on Tuesday.

ICC CHAMPIONS

TROPHY

Opener Upul Tharanga hit a second

successive century as Sri Lanka

whipped Zimbabwe by 144 runs on

Tuesday to virtually qualify for the

main rounds of the Champions

followed his 105 against

Bangladesh on Saturday with 110

as Sri Lanka piled up 285-7 in their

50 overs and then bowled out lowly

will advance to the main tournament

starting on October 15 without

resorting to mathematical calcula-

A West Indian win will put both Sri

Lanka and Brian Lara's men through

to the next round against Australia,

Zealand and England.

India, Pakistan, South Africa, New

Bangladesh create an upset on

Wednesday and the West Indies

beat Sri Lanka in Mumbai on Friday

to give all three teams two wins

Sri Lankan captain Mahela

Jayawardene said there was noth-

A three-way tie will happen only if

The 21-year-old left-hander

AFP. Ahmedabad

Zimbabwe for 141.

Trophy

Sunday

each

RW

36

27 2 3

14

25

104

52

Spain's world No. 2, with five titles in 2006, has ground to make up in his duel with Roger Federer after the Swiss won his ninth trophy of the season in Tokvo over Tim Henman at the weekend.

Nadal, whose last Tour match was a guarterfinal US Open loss to Mikhail Youzhny, won two Davis Cup matches over Italy last month in a brief return to action.

"I'm happy with my game, but it's been a long time since I played." said the winner. "But I have to concentrate more on my serve indoors. It's much more important."

The 90th-ranked Sluiter was the

Massu. "The last time was maybe when I was 17.

"But I'll go out this evening and have a nice dinner with my coach and some friends from Chile and have a good time.

"Unfortunately I wasn't able to give myself a birthday present today with a win."

Spain's Feliciano Lopez advanced when Argentine Juan Monaco pulled out with a right knee injury after 25 minutes.

compatriot David Ferrer in the second round, with the seed needing to win if he is to make up ground from his provisional 12th in the race for a possible place in next month's masters Cup in Shanghai.

Andreas Vinciguerra joined Bjorkman as a home winner, beating Nicolas Devilder of France 6-4. 6-1 while Frenchman Marc Gicquel defeated Briton Jonathan Marray 6-4.7-6.

second match point. "It's been almost 10 years that I haven't had a birthday at home which is always a bit sad," said

The Daily Star

that was backed by sharp fielding

SCOREBOARD

Tuesday

ZIMBABWE

Rinke b Perera

Taylor b Fernando

Chigumbura run out

Mupariwa b Malinga

Kamungozi not out

Bowler

Malinga

Perera

Fernando

Maharoof

Muralidaran

Javasuriva

Tharanga.

Toss: Sri Lanka

runs.

Extras: (lb-1, nb-7, w-19)

Total: (All out in 42.3 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-7, 3-23, 4-86

ο Μ

6 1 27

9 1

4 0

10

4

Result: Sri Lanka won by 144

Man-of-the-match: Upul

0 9.3

> 2 20 2

2

5-86, 6-88, 7-107, 8-126, 9-134.

The Africans employed eight

Scoreboard of the Champions

Trophy qualifying match between

Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe on

SRI LANKA: 285 for 7 in 50 overs

(Tharanga 110, Sangakkara 80,

Atapattu 33 not out; Kamungozi 2-

Mufambisi c Jayawardene b Malinga

Chibhabha c Dilshan b Malinga

Matsikenveri c Javasuriva b Fernando

Utseya c Jayawardene b Muralidaran

Ireland c Sangakkara b Muralidaran

Masakadza c Sangakkara b Maharoof 30

4

30

2

20

20

0

27

141

RW

25 3

28 2

37

3 0

Lopez next faces fourth-seeded

### Gibbs in India

#### FROM PAGE 17 one-day international on the 2000

tour of India. He subsequently scored 74 runs

in that game and said later he had "forgotten" about the deal.

Čronje, who admitted to receiving money from illegal bookmakers but denied he was involved in match-fixing, was banned for life. He was killed in a plane crash near Cape Town in 2002.

Gibbs declined to travel to India with South African teams for six years fearing his arrest by Indian police, but agreed to play in the Champions Trophy and be questioned

Confusion reigned over the likely venue of the police interrogation.

New Delhi police officials had told AFP on Tuesday that Gibbs will be questioned in the Indian capital on Thursday.

But Cricket South Africa spokes person Tshepo Tsotsotso was quoted as saying in the Indian media from Johannesburg that Gibbs was unlikely to move away from Mumbai

"According to my information, Gibbs will be in Mumbai where he will be interviewed by the Indian police," Tsotsotso was quoted as saying.

their first Champions Trophy match at the Brabourne Stadium here on Monday.

#### FROM PAGE 17

India, we hope there won't be any problems but threats need to be looked into," said Altaf, a former fast bowler for Pakistan.

tours since 2004 and there have been extraordinary arrangements of security, so why not for an event like the Champions Trophy, where nine other teams are also in India?" said Altaf

Reciprocal cricketing ties between the South Asian rivals revived in 2004 after India lifted a four-year ban on bilateral cricket put on hold due to political tensions.

month Gatting drew parallels between

Flintoff and the situation he encountered with his leading allrounder Ian Botham in Australia in 1986-87.

"The management must be very strict with Andrew," the former Middlesex batsman told reporters at Lord's. "One of my worries is that he's a bit like Beefy, he's going

to be playing a lot of cricket so he has to get away and relax at times. "But I hope the likes of Andrew

Strauss, his vice-captain, will take up a lot of the off-the-field media strains along with coach Duncan Fletcher to give Flintoff the time to stay fresh

"They must sit down and look at that because that's one of their biggest problems as far as I'm concerned.

Gatting, who captained England 23 times between 1986 and 1988, said the pressure of having to deliver with bat and ball was difficult enough to cope with. Unlike Botham in 1986-87, all

what he needed to do because there's a lot of pressure on people like that.

Tests at an average of 35.55.

"Everybody wants to talk to him, see him, get a piece of him and sometimes you just have to say to him: 'Go and relax, do what you want to do when you want to do it'.

Gatting, speaking at the launch of the three-month tour of Australia by the original Ashes urn, said Flintoff would have learned a valuable lesson from a marathon bowling stint he took on when leading the team against Sri Lanka

in May "He learned a lot from the first Test at Lord's when he bowled 51 overs in the second innings," said Gatting. "That taught him a very good lesson he won't forget.

"That's the other thing I worry about, that he might overbowl himself or try to take too much on. But I think the lesson has been learned and that the people around him will remind him if he gets too far down that particular

"He can growl at you if he wants to but can also put his arm around you and offer some encouragement."

Gatting is hoping Flintoff will get considerable support on the bowling front from Lancashire paceman Sajid Mahmood.

"Saj is the one I'll be watching for," said Gatting. "Just as Simon Jones was an integral part of our win at home last year, Saj is that back-up who needs to be bowling well and firing.

"He has got the capability of doing well, he's got height and pace. If he can get more consistent, I think we've got someone else who can shine.'

The first Test of the five-match Ashes series will be held in Brisbane starting on November 23.

revelation really for the England

able) conditions for him, it's going

more successful than the off-

spinner who doesn't gain the same

fifth day, he will be very dangerous,

but it's getting to the fifth day that's

the key. You've got to get that far

spinner's spot in the team.

Panesar, who has become a

"If Panesar gets a crack on a

to be a hard slog for him.

amount of bounce.

into the match.'

"But unless we provide (favour-

"Generally, the pitches are

spinners

(Islam 46, Mushfiq 20, Taposh 2-7). MM ISPAHANI: 193-4 in 45 overs (Imrose 73, Riyad 45\*, Sajid 2-38); Asia Pacific: 116-9 in 25 overs (Kalim 38, Datta 4-22).

RAJU FISH: 166-5 in 45 overs

(Rabiul 30, Monirul 39, Mustakim 2-

Aussies cruise

minutes after being put through by

some splendid build-up work by

Palermo's Mark Bresciano and Tim

thrilled the home crowd by crashing

a spectacular first-time volley into

the net from Mile Sterjovski's cross

Bahrain offered some bright

Ismaeel Hasan outpaced the

seventh minute, while Schwarzer

moments early in the first half.

Six minutes later, Bresciano

76, Tariq 44, Sabu 3-43);

FROM PAGE 17

FROM PAGE 17

Cahill of Everton.

from the right

half

21).

Tennis PARTEX: 243-6 in 45 overs (Omar

#### AFP, Moscow

Russia's top seed Nikolay Davydenko barely broke sweat whitewashing Czech Jiri Vanek on his way to the second round of the 2.34-million-dollar ATP Kremlin Cup event here on Tuesday.

Davydenko, 25, who is seeking his career ninth and season's fourth title on home turf, won his first ever head-to head clash with the 28year-old Vanek 6-0, 6-0 in just 37 minutes.

Davydenko, currently fifth in the ATP race, was in command right from the start, taking the opening set at love in just 18 minutes.

Australian defence and forced a save from Mark Schwarzer in the acrobatically palmed Alaa Ayyad's volley clear midway through the the quarter-finals.

"It was too easy today,"

Davydenko said.

beginning," Clement said "Jiri (Vanek) was suffering pain in his back and failed to provide me with serious opposition.

"He was trying to make it more hard for me but failed to move fast enough to challenge."

Elsewhere Frenchman Julien Benneteau, seeded sixth, ousted Sergio Roitman of Argentina in straight sets 6-3, 6-0 in the two men's first ever ATP meeting.

Benneteau broke serve twice to lift himself one set up in 21 minute.

In the second the 24-year-old Frenchman, who is 46th in the ATP race, underlined his domination at Moscow's carpet courts winning the set to love and the match in just 43 minutes.

His compatriot, Arnaud Clement, one place behind Benneteau in the rankings, battled back from a set down to beat Germany's Mischa Zverev 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 in their first ever encounter.

"He (Zverev) served fast and varied well, while I was slow at the

The 2004 champion here continued as he'd started in the second set against Kremlin Cup debutant Vanek to earn a date with compatriot Teimuraz Gabashvili for a place in

## Easy win for Davydenko

"But I kept fighting very hard and that's why I'm so proud of my playing today."

Former world number one Marat Safin, unseeded here, saw off Nocolas Mahut of France 6-3, 6-4 in one hour to meet Daniele Bracciali

> of Italy in the second-round. In the WTA section of the event Safin's younger sister Dinara, seeded seventh, suffered an early exit at the hands of unseeded compatriot Anna Chakvetadze.

The 19-year-old Chakvetadze started lively clinching a comfortable 4-0 lead before Safina chalked up her first point.

In the second Safina, 20, picked up steam to gain a 2-1 advantage with an early break but Chakvetadze moved up a gear to take five consecutive games to win the set and the match 6-1, 6-2 in 56 minutes.

#### Domenech

FROM PAGE 20

attacker.

cult figure in England and taken 32 wickets in his first 10 Tests, is vying with Ashley Giles for the home (3-0 to France).

The Socceroos reasserted their dominance with Sterjovski rattling the crossbar in the 60th minute with would depend on England dragthe 'keeper beaten, but they could not added to their first-half tally. Bresciano received a rapturous

reception when he was replaced with 20 minutes left by home-based Travis Dodd.

Cahill was brought off with nine minutes to go, giving veteran midfielder Josip Skoko possibly his last Socceroos appearance

extremely hard, and the legspinner, who by means of release gets a lot of additional bounce, is

"It's up to us to score early to make it easier for us," said the Arsenal

"What made the difference when we played Georgia (a 3-0 win on September 2) was that we got an early goal.

"We're playing at home, everyone is expecting an easy game with lots of goals, but when we came across them in World Cup qualifying we saw it wasn't that easy over there (a 2-0 win for France) and not extraordinary on the return leg at

PHOTO: AFF Russian pin-up Maria Sharapova plays a backhand against compatriot Ekaterina Bychkova during their Kremlin Cup match in Moscow on Tuedsday.

Warne to see spin doctor Cricket

AFP, Sydney

South Africa face New Zealand in

## PCB puts faith

"We have been having reciprocal

## November 23.

taker is expected to reunite with former Test leg-spinner Jenner for a private nets session in Adelaide later this month, when the Victorian team plays a Sheffield Shield match against South Australia

Warne, 37, might have taken 685 wickets in 14 years' of Test cricket, but he still relies on irregular sessions with the "spin doctor".

Jenner told The Melbourne Age.

Shane Warne is lining up for a pre-Ashes refresher with his spin bowling mentor Terry Jenner ahead of the opening cricket Test against England in Brisbane on Test cricket's leading wicket-

reports said Wednesday.

"He will be here in Adelaide for the (Shield) game and I would be surprised if we didn't catch up,'

batsmen He said left-arm orthodox spin-"It will be the normal, routine ners generally struggled in health and safety check we have. Australia and predicted Panesar We did it before the Lord's Test

ging the Tests into a fifth day. think was of great benefit to him. "He doesn't like me talking "He's a beautiful craftsman about it, so I don't. It's theoretically delightful to watch," Jenner said. two good mates talking things over, "He's very level-headed, and a

(against England) last year, which I

Jenner, who is coming to the

end of a contract with the England

and Wales Cricket Board to work

with the country's young spinners,

said if Warne could reproduce his

figures from last year's Ashes

series, Australia would win the

the five Tests of last year's series in

England at 19.92 runs per wicket.

like "he said. "He would like that."

Warne captured 40 wickets in

'They can attack him all they

Jenner believes England's new

While Jenner is a big fan of

spinning sensation Monty Panesar

will struggle in the Australian condi-

Panesar, he expects him to mes-

merise the crowds more than the

except we do it in the nets."

series 5-0.