

Gibbs shifts focus to cricket

South Africa batsman Herschelle Gibbs turned his attention to cricket on Friday, a day after being interrogated by Indian police in a six-year-old match-fixing case.

Back then, Indian police charged the then captain Hansie Cronje and team mates Gibbs, Nicky Boje and Pieter Strydom with "cheating, fraud and criminal conspiracy related to match-fixing and betting".

Tigers share

FROM PAGE 17 reporters were so excited and responded after knowing the fact, "Oh, its fantastic for you people."

SKP slams

FROM PAGE 17 one week earlier. But its effort went in vain due to non-cooperation of the federation, the organisation of sportsmen and organisers claimed in a press release issued yesterday.

ICC is neo-colonialist: Modi

Behind the flare-up lies big money and India's refusal to sign a key commercial contract with the ICC despite threats it could lose the right to stage the 2011 cricket World Cup as a result.



South Africa bowler Makhaya Ntini delivers a ball during a practice match against a Mumbai city cricket team in Mumbai on Friday.

Crookes claims innocence

Derek Crookes, the former South African spinner, has expressed his dismay at allegations that he was involved in match-fixing in India in 2000.

Sending Gibbs a mistake: Bacher

Former South African cricket chief Dr Ali Bacher has said it was a big mistake to send Herschelle Gibbs to India for questioning by the Indian Police six years after the scandal broke out in 2000.

Kramnik wins world chess title

Russian Grand Master Viktor Kramnik overpowered Veselin Topalov of Bulgaria in a series of timed tie-break matches to win the World Chess Championship here Friday in a tournament billed as the reunification of long-divided international chess competition.

Prep delights Freddie

Skipper Andrew Flintoff was satisfied with England's 144-run defeat of Rajasthan on Thursday in their warm-up for the ICC Champions Trophy.

Hosts' pride at stake



AFP, Jaipur

India hope to end a recent dismal run in one-day internationals when they open their Champions Trophy campaign against a confident England here on Sunday.

Rudi awakening for Indians



CRICINFO, undated

Rudi Webster, the Grenada-based psychologist, is currently with the Indian team for a short stint and is eager to carry on the interaction that began on India's tour of West Indies earlier this year.

late. "There has been a bit of a dip over the last couple of months because of this," he said ahead of the main competition. "Earlier, we had a slew of match-winners who were performing together. In the last six-seven games, there has been some pressure because everyone has gone through a lean patch."

game worldwide. We will continue to act, as always, in the best interests of the sport.

"The international cricket community has in place processes through which concerns can be raised by any of our Members. If Mr Modi has any genuine issues then he can ask one of his senior colleagues at the BCCI, who will be in attendance, to raise these concerns at the ICC's next Board meeting, set to take place in Mumbai in early November."

SL look

FROM PAGE 17 our best to win," said Jayawardene. "No match will be easy from now on."

The West Indians have so far lived up to their captain Brian Lara's desire to crush the opposition, swamping Zimbabwe by nine wickets before thrashing Bangladesh by 10 wickets.

Nafees silences critics

FROM PAGE 17 Bashar added 80 runs with Nafees for the fourth wicket association that played a vital role taking the Tigers beyond the 200-mark.

Table with cricket scores: Nafees 45, Brent 2, Aftab 28, Chingumbura 5, Hasan 21, Utseya 9, Kamungozi 10, Bashar 36, ZIMBABWE 38, Chibhabha 16, Taylor 52, Masakadza 2, Strydom 4, Matsikenyeri 9, Chingumbura 27, Ireland 10, Extras (lb-8, nb-1, w-8) 17, Total (For six wkts in 50 o v e r s ) 231.

SCOREBOARD

Table with cricket scores: Scoreboard in the Champion Trophy qualifying match between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe at the Sawai Mansingh Stadium on Friday. Bangladesh 103, Zimbabwe 6.

BANGLADESH

Table with cricket scores: Bangladesh 103, Zimbabwe 6. Bowler: Rainsford 10, 3, 41, 2, 9, 1.

FALL OF WICKETS

Table with cricket scores: Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-26, 3-110, 4-190, 5-197, 6-211.

Bowler

Table with cricket scores: Bowler O M R W. Rainsford 10 3 41 2, Ireland 2 9 1.



Russian pin-up Maria Sharapova gestures during a press conference to announce her withdrawal from ATP Kremlin Cup tennis tournament in Moscow on Friday.