

ZC fined 50 grand

AFP, Harare
Zimbabwe's cricket body was on Friday fined 12.6 million dollars (50,400 US dollars) by a Harare court for breaching the country's stiff foreign exchange laws.

Magistrate Sandra Nhau said although Zimbabwe Cricket (ZC) committed the offence "not for the personal gain of individuals but to further the interests of the sport in the country" it was in breach of the law.

The body pleaded guilty to making unauthorised payments to a foreign television company without the go-ahead from the central bank. The southern African country, reeling under record inflation and a serious shortage of essential goods, fuel and foreign currency, has introduced strict laws on foreign payments which need central bank approval.

State prosecutor Obi Mabahwana told the court at the beginning of the trial on Monday that between November 2004 and September last year, Zimbabwe Cricket had paid Britain-based television production company Octagon CSI 1.3 million dollars (976,629 euros) for advertising and marketing services.

NSU SOCCER Minhaj slams hat-trick

SPORTS REPORTER
Striker Minhaj slammed a hat-trick to steer Batch 06 into the semifinals as they thrashed MBA 4-1 in the North South University Intra-Batch football tournament at the WAPDA ground yesterday.

Apart from Minhaj's triple strike, Babu scored one for the newcomers. MBA scored a consolation goal through Mushfiq, ending their participation in the tournament.

Batch 02 also advanced to the semifinals on the back of a goalless draw with Batch 03 later on the day that secured second spot in the group for them. Batch 02 dominated the encounter but their profligacy in front of goal saw them failing to hit the mark from numerous presentable opportunities.

Fitting arena

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and if that was not enough, the press box impressed journalists aplenty. But some have also said that the board must have been proactive when it comes to acquiring the ownership of the ground as a venue exclusively for cricket, owned by the National Sports Council (NSC) or the government itself.

Keeping in mind that only forty per cent of the renovation has been completed to what was a football ground with an athletics track around it, the development has been massive.

All this would not go down well if the team does not win. So as the Tigers go out today in a bid to make a clean sweep of the tourists, it is fitting that it will be done, if it is done, at the new home of Bangladesh cricket.

Germany ponder

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studs.
"It's a highly interesting offer from the business point of view," said Werner Hackmann, president of the German football league (DFL) that represents professional clubs in the DFB who would also get a share.

DFB president Theo Zwanziger presented the Nike offer to the association's executive board last week.

"Theo Zwanziger informed the DFB executive that the association has received a very interesting offer from Nike," DFB spokesman Harald Stenger said in a statement.

Bayern, G-14

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bly."
Bayern were among the founder members of the G14 in 2000 with the aim of protecting the interests of Europe's top clubs, including Real Madrid, AC Milan and Manchester United, over issues such as television money.

In the November interview with Kicker magazine, Rummenigge hit out at the group, saying clubs from Spain, Italy and England were looking out only for themselves in a sport ruled by selfishness.

The Eternal

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have to do without in-form midfielder Patrick Vieira.

The Frenchman, who scored the winner against title rivals Palermo two weeks ago and grabbed a last-minute equaliser against Champions League rivals Bayern Munich in midweek, is suspended and is expected to be replaced by Esteban Cambiasso.

Palermo, third on 28 points, will try to put a run of three games without a win behind them by beating Livorno on Saturday, while at the San Siro stadium AC Milan host Torino on Sunday.



Man-of-the-match Aftab Ahmed receives his award from AKTEL's head of marketing Asif Iqbal (R) at the end of the fourth one-day international at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

Voges fills Martyn void

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Australia have made two changes to their squad for the third Ashes Test in Perth starting on 14 December.

Damien Martyn retired from all forms of cricket on Friday and was replaced by another Western Australian batsman, uncapped 27-year-old Adam Voges.

Combative all-rounder Andrew Symonds, who played the last of his 10 Tests in April, came in for pace-man Shaun Tait.

Batsman Phil Jaques has been overlooked despite superb form this year both for New South Wales and Worcestershire.

Shane Watson remains sidelined by a hamstring injury but is expected to return for the Boxing Day Test.

Chairman of selectors Andrew Hilditch said there were a number of players vying to fill the void created

by Martyn's retirement.

"It's given us an opportunity to look at some of the fantastic young players who are emerging in Australia at the present time," he said.

"We are excited to give Adam this opportunity to join the squad."

"He is an outstanding young player who performed exceptionally well at the Commonwealth Bank Centre of Excellence and has had a fantastic start to the domestic season."

Voges has scored more than 1,400 runs at an average of 44 since making his first-class debut in 2002-03.

He has made scores of 152 not out and 144 not out against Tasmania and New South Wales this season but his selection ahead of the likes of Jaques, Chris Rogers and Marcus North is a surprise.

Voges was playing in the match between a Cricket Australia Chairman's XI and ECB XI at Lilac Hill when he heard of his call-up from Western Australian Cricket Association chief executive Tony

Dodemaide.

He will face competition from Symonds, however, for a place in the final XI in Perth.

Symonds has a modest Test record despite five centuries and 20 fifties, plus 118 wickets, in 154 one-day internationals, but he would fill the all-rounder role which the selectors earmarked for Shane Watson prior to the series.

Watson has been unable to play because of a hamstring problem but is hoping to return to action in time for the fourth Test in Melbourne.

The Australians hold a commanding 2-0 lead in the five-match series, having won both opening Tests comprehensively in their quest to regain the Ashes at the first time of asking.

SQUAD
Ricky Ponting (capt), Justin Langer, Matthew Hayden, Michael Hussey, Michael Clarke, Adam Voges, Andrew Symonds, Adam Gilchrist (wkt), Shane Warne, Brett Lee, Stuart Clark, Glenn McGrath, Mitchell Johnson.

'Sheva not untouchable'

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statement from him in which he stressed his commitment to staying in London and winning trophies with his new employers.

What is clear that Shevchenko has yet to display the sharpness in a Chelsea shirt that made him Europe's deadliest finisher during his time at Milan, although a superbly-taken goal against Levski Sofia in midweek may be a sign that his predatory edge is returning.

Mourinho puts the striker's mixed form down to problems adapting to English football.

"It's much easier for a defender to adapt than a striker," he argued. "The way football is played in Italy and England is completely differ-

ent.
"We have in Thierry Henry the best example of that. I was not here but I know he's the best goalscorer in the last years in this country, amazing player, but he scored one goal in 12 Premiership matches when he first changed Juventus for Arsenal.

"We need to give him (Shevchenko) time. I am giving him time. The good thing is that he is not happy with the way he is performing."

"He's working very hard. After every game we now have feedback meetings where I can explain to him what I think we have to change. He is going in the right direction."

Mourinho admitted in the inter-

view that his relationship with Arsene Wenger, who brings Arsenal to Stamford Bridge on Sunday, has been frosty but underlined his respect for the Frenchman's achievements in north London.

"I don't think we are best of friends. Not even friends. But I have 200 per cent respect for the work he's done over the years."

Mourinho also called for reserve-team football to be scrapped and Chelsea to be allowed to field a B team in one of the lower divisions, as Real Madrid do in Spain.

"This country has to think about a different way to give competition to young players," he said.

NZ stay on course

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the second attempt to remove Tharanga.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the first Test between New Zealand and Sri Lanka in Christchurch on Friday:
SRI LANKA: First innings 154
NEW ZEALAND: First innings (overnight 85-2)

Cumming b Muralidaran	43
How lbw b Malinga	0
Sinclair c Jayawardene b Vaas	36
Fleming c Kapugedera b Maharoo	48
Astle lbw b Muralidaran	2
Oram c Silva b Vaas	1
McCullum b Vaas	0
Vettori c Jayawardene b Malinga	63
Franklin lbw b Muralidaran	0
Bond lbw b Muralidaran	1
Martin not out	0
Extras: (lb-5, nb-7)	12
Total: (All out in 85.4 overs)	206
Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-73, 3-106, 4-108, 5-113, 6-113, 7-188, 8-190, 9-206, 10-206.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Vaas	18	4	49	3
Malinga	19.4	2	43	2
Maharoo	14	3	44	1
Muralidaran	34	7	65	4

SRI LANKA: Second innings				
Tharanga c Fleming b Bond	24			
Jayasuriya run out	10			
Sangakkara not out	63			
M Jayawardene c Fleming b Franklin	0			
Kapugedera c Oram b Bond	1			
Silva c Vettori b Bond	0			
P Jayawardene run out	11			
Vaas c McCullum b Oram	0			
Maharoo c McCullum b Bond	7			
Malinga not out	0			
Extras: (lb-5 nb-4)	9			
Total: (For 8 wickets in 37 overs)	125			
Fall of wickets: 1-18 2-44 3-45 4-46 5-46 6-74 7-80 8-99				
To bat: Muralidaran				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Bond	12	3	38	4
Martin	9	2	36	0
Franklin	7	1	17	1
Oram	7	1	19	1
Vettori	2	0	10	0

UEFA admits

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structure which recognises CAS as the Supreme Court in sporting matters then it would have been strange to recognise the court but not follow its decision."

Olsson said it would now be up to UEFA's Congress to have the final say, adding that Gibraltar would be given a chance to present its case to the organisation's members.

He warned though that any decision to admit Gibraltar could have ramifications far beyond the disputed territory.

UEFA changed its rules accordingly in 2001 but the ruling from CAS noted that Gibraltar's original application had been made two years earlier.

The court stopped short of ordering automatic full membership for the territory but said that the Congress should make its final decision "on the basis of the rules applicable at the time of the initial request - and excluding the application of the rules introduced subsequently."

Aftab getting better

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row, it seems that only miracle can save Zimbabwe from a whitewash.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the fourth one-day international between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe on Friday:

ZIMBABWE	
Mawoyo b Mortuza	14
Chibhabha c Rahim b Mortuza	4
Masakadza c Bashir b Razzak	13
Taylor st Rahim b Razzak	4
Williams lbw b Shahadat	0
Chigumbura b Saqibul	32
Dabengwa b Shahadat	32
Nkala c Ashraf b Rafique	0
Brent c Ashraf b Saqibul	5
Utseya c Mehrab b Mortuza	21
Mpofu not out	0

Extras: (lb-3, nb-6, w-12)	21			
Total: (All out in 47.2 overs)	146			
Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-40, 3-40, 4-40, 5-63, 6-96, 7-97, 8-111, 9-134.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mortuza	6.2	2	14	3
Shahadat	10	3	36	2
Razzak	9	2	27	2
Rafique	10	0	28	1
Saqibul	10	1	32	2
Mehrab	2	0	6	0

BANGLADESH				
Nafees c Dabengwa b Brent	34			
Mehrab c Taylor b Brent	13			
Aftab not out	58			
Saqibul not out	31			
Extras: (nb-1, w-10)	11			
Total: (For two wickets in 32.2 overs)	147			
Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-62.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mpofu	6	0	31	0
Chigumbura	3	1	22	0
Brent	8	0	25	2
Nkala	3	0	11	0
Utseya	7.2	0	28	0
Williams	4	0	19	0
Dabengwa	1	0	11	0

Indonesia blank Bangladesh

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh chess team crashed to their first defeat in the mixed team classical event's third round at the 15th Asian Games in Doha yesterday.

After a win over Bahrain and a draw with Iran, Bangladesh lost 3-0 to Indonesia to stick to four points.

Indonesia's GM Utut Adianto Wahjuwidajat beat IM Enamul Hossain Rajib, GM Susanto Megaranto defeated Reefat Bin Sattar while WFM Irine Kharisma Sukandar handed Shamima Akhter Liza her first loss in the 9-round Swiss League.

Bowlers call

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off the glove behind the stumps. On a day when the bowlers had excelled themselves, it was threatening to be another woeful batting display, and that too in far better conditions - the sun was beating down by mid-afternoon - than the Rest of South Africa had enjoyed.

Wasim Jaffer, who came out to bat with Harbhajan Singh as runner after he was struck on the toe yesterday, once again failed to score, given out caught behind. It was hard to tell whether there was a thin edge, or whether it was bat hitting pad, but even though Morne van Wyk, the wicketkeeper, didn't appeal, the umpire lifted the index finger.

Virender Sehwag cut Thomas for one four through the covers, but was then caught on the crease by a straight one. His form, or lack of it, is a major concern heading into the Tests. There will be few such worries over the bowling though, after a superb allround performance in helpful over-cast conditions.

India declared on their overnight total, and Sreesanth started the slide in the second over of the day, getting one to swing away from Jacques Rudolph's bat. The edge was comfortably taken by Mahendra Singh Dhoni. And it was soon twice as nice for the Indians, with the other opener, Alviro Peterson, edging Zaheer to third slip, where Gautam Gambhir - on the field for Jaffer - pouched the chance.

Jean Paul Duminy struck a couple of gorgeous drives off an erratic Sreesanth, but it could have been much worse for Rest of South Africa if Harbhajan Singh hadn't spilt a chance at point after Van Jaarsveld, then on 1, had watted at a Zaheer delivery. Zaheer, however, didn't allow that to dampen his spirits, trapping Duminy in front with a full-length delivery that the batsman missed completely.

Van Jaarsveld kept the scoreboard moving with some superb shots, taking Irfan Pathan for four fours in an over that included some wonderfully timed drives through midwicket. But there was little support from the other end. Morne van Wyk made just six before Pathan trapped him leg before, and when the big-hitting Justin Kemp was sent back in similar fashion by VRV Singh, Rest of South Africa had slumped to 90 for 5.

Manchester

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England, reportedly claimed his style "doesn't suit Mourinho" and said he would be happy to go back to AC Milan on loan in January if he was not wanted at Stamford Bridge.

Mourinho has, in the past, come down hard on players who go public with their grievances but Shevchenko's close relationship with the club's owner, Roman Abramovich, makes this a tricky one for him to handle.

Ashley Cole will feature against his old club Arsenal for the first time since his acrimonious departure for Chelsea in the summer, but William Gallas, who moved in the opposite direction as part of that deal, has only a slim chance of making his comeback from a thigh injury.

Arsenal, who will again be without injured skipper Thierry Henry, have serious problems at centre-back with Kolo Toure suspended and back-up defender Johan Djourou doubtful with a hamstring strain.

Elsewhere on Saturday, Liverpool and Portsmouth, who entertain Fulham and Everton respectively, both have a chance to move up to third in the table.

UEFA mulls

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Executive Committee have already spoken positively about the idea itself," Olsson added.

The idea of an expanded European Championships was put to UEFA by the Scottish football association with support from the Republic of Ireland, Latvia and Sweden.

One drawback to a 24-team tournament is that it does not easily lend itself to a natural elimination progression as a 16-team or 32-team tournament does.

The World Cups from 1982-1994 consisted of 24 teams with awkward elimination processes involved in the middle of those tournaments.

The European Championship was comprised a mini-final tournament of four teams from 1960-1976 and was expanded to eight teams in 1980 then 16 teams in 1996.

Rana does it again

AGENCIES, Doha



Typical -- you don't win a gold medal for 12 years then three come along in successive days. Not only that, but a world record too.

India's Jaspal Rana battled illness and bitterness back in India to shoot an equal world record to win the men's 25m centre fire pistol on Friday and clinch his second individual gold medal in consecutive days as well as team gold.

The 30-year-old Rana, an Asian gold medalist at Hiroshima in 1994, shot a total score of 590 to match the world record set by Russia's Afanasij Kuzamins in Zagreb in 1989.

However, the score has been previously levelled by four other shooters including Korea's Park Byung Taek and Jon Yonghe of China.

Weak and dizzy with viral fever, Rana -- Thursday's winner in 25m standard pistol final -- soon sped into the lead with three equal series shots of 98 for a total of 294 in the precision round.

Although he was outscored by China's rapid fire pistol silver medalist Liu Gouhui, who scored 298 in second round, the rapid fire, Rana's 296 at an overall average of 9.833 was enough to secure gold.

Liu ended three points behind to take his second silver of the Games, and Thailand's Jakkrit Panaichapitkum, who scored two equal rounds of 293, added a bronze to the one he collected in the 25m standard team event.

Defending champion, Kim Jong Su of DPR Korea finished sixth.

Rana was also on the gold medal rostrum as India won the team event. Korea claimed silver and China bronze.

Rana lambasted the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) and the sports ministry for treating

him like an outsider in the build-up to the Games.

"I know the NRAI and the government will try and take the credit for my success but they have been of no help to me at all," Rana said at the Lusail ranges.

"The sports ministry does little to help the shooters and the NRAI did not even provide me ammunition for the last three months.

"I could not attend the Asian Games training camp in Bangalore because I did not have cartridges to practice with.

"My father had to borrow ammunition so that I could train at our private shooting academy in Dehra Dun.

"But I had a lot of support from teammates in Doha for the last 10 days and that helped me to focus better."

Rana, who was overshadowed by compatriot Samaresh Jung's five gold medals at the Commonwealth Games in March, said he was determined to prove himself at the Asiad.

"These Asian Games were big for me and the country, my goal was to do well here," he said.

"This win is not a comeback for me. I was always there, the only thing is that I was lying low.

"I have been running a fever for some days and was lucky to have my brother Subhash around who gave me medicines and took care of me."

Rana said he was unlikely to continue competitive shooting for long.

"I will be there for two or three years at the most," he said. "The people who matter in Indian sport know nothing about the sport of shooting."

"They don't have proper camps, no ammunition, no guns, still shooting is bringing home medals.

A team source, who did not want to be identified, blamed the Indian team's Hungarian coach Csaba Gyorki, for Rana's troubles with the NRAI.

"Many times it appeared that Gyorki did not want Jaspal in the team," the source said. "It seems that when Jaspal trained in Hungary in the 1990s he always beat Gyorki."



Ace Indian shooter Jaspal Rana shows his gold medal on the podium of the men's 25m standard pistol during the 15th Asian Games in Doha on Friday.

England lose again

Cricket

AFP, Perth

Much-hyped England spinner Monty Panesar enjoyed a day of mixed fortunes at the Lilac Hill festival match here Friday.

With widespread calls for his inclusion in England's team for the third Ashes Test, starting on December 14 at the WACA Ground, in Perth, Panesar had a timely chance to showcase his talents in the limited-overs match.

The Cricket Australia Chairman's XI beat the England and Wales Cricket Board Chairman's XI comfortably by seven wickets, making 260 in 40.1 overs for the loss of just three wickets, in reply to the English team's 259 for eight, but most of the

interest centered on the performance of England Test hopefuls, and Panesar in particular.

Panesar was expensive at times in the face of a batting onslaught by the home side, and Western Australia (WA) opener Luke Ronchi in particular. But he also claimed two wickets.

Brought on to warm applause in the 12th over, with the home side scoring at almost eight runs an over, Panesar struck immediately, bowling WA opener Chris Rogers for 32 with his second ball.

Rogers attempted a reverse sweep and failed to make contact. It was a fine start for Panesar but he was about to be fully tested by the aggressive batting of Ronchi, who smashed 89 in just 49 balls, with three sixes and 15 fours, for the home side.

On the smallish ground, Panesar's second and third overs went for 16 and 11 runs respectively, and included three sixes.

Ronchi lofled the finger spinner for another six in his fourth over, but Panesar had the last laugh when he slipped in a quicker ball and had the batsman neatly stumped by wicketkeeper Chris Read, another Test aspirant.

Panesar finished his first spell with 2-51 from seven overs, eventually claiming 2-63 from 10 overs.

Former Test star Alec Stewart, who captained the England and Wales side, said Panesar was pleased with the outing.