Rain can't rob India again

The Indians, who lost by one run to Australia in another rain hit game last weekend, enjoyed better fortune this time, climbing from sixth to

When rain, which delayed the start by three hours, ended the match, too, Zimbabwe were 104 for one from 19.1 overs in reply to India's 203

India won by 55 runs, the

and Zimbabwe 104. finished their challenge, India after 19.1 overs, had been 106

ter and two wickets worse off. Man-of-the-match was

past 1000 runs. Zimbabwe's reply was led by left hander Andy Flower, who was sitting comfortably on 43 off 56 balls, having just been

who was bowled by Tendulkar

for 31, each hit three fours, while Waller struck two. Zimbabwe, with a little help from sloppy Indian fielding,

win in five games when run cut short the spirited attempt. Zimbabwe captain David Houghton said: "We had wick-

ets in hand, we were looking pretty comfortable." "It was a bit a tough for us.

fortunately we got done again," Zealand in Napier on Tuesday in another rain-hit match. India's captain Mohammad

Azharuddin agreed the Cup rules for games affected by rain were far from perfect. "We lost against Australia in

have those three overs. It's a strange rule. india's innings against

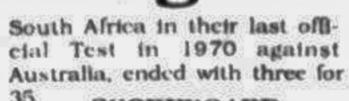
Australia was reduced from 50 to 47 overs after a shower but the target went down by only one run. Under the rules relating to

interruptions for bad weather, the totals are revised on the basis of the highest scoring overs of the side batting first.

starting to play well and he their remaining three games. "I think we are playing to our potential right now. I'm sure we will be able to do well on the slow pitches because we get the same thing back

home in India," India play their next two games on the slower surfaces in New Zealand against West Indies in Wellington on Tuesday and against leaders New Zealand in Dunedin on

Thursday. Despite overcast skies and the three hours delay, it looked as if the reduced 32 over game would be completed. However, conditions began to deteriorate at the



SCOREBOARD Scoreboard in the rain reduced World Cup criekct match between India and Zimbabwe today:

INDIA Srikkanth b Burmester Kapil Dev lbw b Brandes Azharuddin c Flower Burmester Tendulkar e Campbell b Burmester Manirekar e Duers b Traicos



Man-of-the- match TENDULKAR... 1000 runs start of Zimbabwe's innings and the nervous Indians hurried to ensure 15 overs were

bowled the minimum to get a In the process, they yielded 17 extras including five wides and one bye. Several missields in the slippery conditions gave the Zimbabweans boundaries

when they should have been singles. The sides actually started to make for the shelter of the pavilion after 11 overs the fielders reluctantly and the batsmen with gusto before the rain stopped and allowed play

Zimbabwe resumed with a new lease on life and hit India all around the field as well as running singles deftly.

to continue.

India's innings had an unruffled feel to it with Tendulkar, Sanjay Manjrekar and Kris Srikkanth making up for the loss of two early wickets Kapil Dev for 10 when the total was 23 and Azharuddin for 12 when they were 43 in the ninth over.

The helmetless opener Srikkanth, sometimes threatening to blast Zimbabwe out of the park, fell to Mark Burmester for 32 off 32 balls which included five fours.

This brought in Manirekar, who put on 99 in 90 balls with Tendulkar before being caught at long off by Kevin Duers off the off-spin of John Traicos.

Kambli b Traicos Jadeja c Shah b Traicos More not out Srinath not out Extras : (lb-3, w-3)

Total: (seven wickets Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-43, 3-69, 4-168, 5-170, 6-82, 7-

Did not bat: M. Prabhakar V. Bowling: 43 Brandes 48 Duers 36 Burmester 35 Traicos ZIMBABWE Flower not out

Shah b Tendulkar Waller not out Extras: (b-1, lb-11, w-5) Total: (one wicket -19.1 overs) Fall of wicket: 1-79.

Did not bat: A. Pyeroft, D. Houghton, A. Campbell, E. Brandes, I. Butchart, M Burmester J. Traicos, K. Duers. Bowling: Prabhakar 14 Kapil Dev 0 6 20 Srinath Tendulkar 35 17

Result: India won by 55 runs (winning margin determined after rain by revised totals from highest scoring 19 overs - India 158 for four, Zimbabwe 104 for one). Man-of-the-match: Sachin

Traicos who represented Tendulkar.

CUP STANDINGS

World Cup cricket stand ings after Saturday's matches (Tabulate under played, won. lost, no result, points, net run

5 2 3 0 4 -0.26

5 0 5 0 0 -1.26 (Note: Net run-rate is difference between batting and bowling rates. Under competition rules, runs scored in no result matches are not included in run-rate).

Lamb is still

unfit to play MELBOURNE, Mar 7: England batsman Allan Lamb still is troubled by a niggling hamstring injury and will miss Monday's World Cup match against Sri Lanka at the

Eastern Oval in Ballarat, team officials said Saturday. England coach Micky Stewart said Lamb would have further treatment on his right thigh throughout the weekend, but would not predict when the dashing middle-order right-hander would be ready to

resume playing. Lamb has been unable to take the field since injuring his hamstring three weeks ago in a one-day match against

New Zealand in Christehurch. He was expected to resume playing against Pakistan in Adelaide on March 1, but suffered a recurrence of the injury before the match.

"He's going to have a manipulation on his leg today,' Stewart said. But it's still too early to say

when he would be ready to

play. We have to wait and sec." "He was close to playing in Adelaide, he had two testing days beforehand and just before the game he felt a twinge in his thigh from the last ball

Stewart said before the start of the nine-nation tournament that his team had a goal of winning six of its eight first round matches, but said Saturday that five victories should be enough.

he fielded.

"Although you would like to win all of your games, we had a target of winning six of eight matches but, as it is, five may be enough to get through," Stewart said.

Following Monday's match against Sri Lanka, England will take on South Africa on March 12 at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, New Zealand on March 15 in Wellington and Zimbabwe in Albury on March

England have seven points from their four matches to

Graf's nude photo published

FRANKFURT, Mar 7: A photograph of Steff Graf sunbathing in the nude at her Florida home, a snapshot that drew a verbal blasting by the 1988 Grand Slam winner, has been published by a German magazine, reports

The Munich-based Bunte, news and lifestyle magazine, printed what it said was a photo of Graf lounging by a swimming pool at her private Polo Club home in Boca Raton.

Graf is playing in the Virginia Slims of Florida women's tournament being held at the Polo Club.

The hazy picture shows two unidentifiable women, one sitting in a lounge chair and another on a lawn cot looking skyward and holding what appears to be a red towel in an attempt to cover

Bunte said the scated person in the picture was Grafs 47-year-old mother, Heidi. photos were

published late Thursday, a day after Graf blasted what she said was a photo taken of her from a helicopter 10 days "He only got my back,

thank God," Graf said. Graf, a frequent target of the lurid German popular press, denounced what she

said was an invasion of her The people doing that, I think they should be really punished," she said Thursday. "They have no right to do those kind of things. ... you're not able to do whatever you want at your

home, I think that's pretty

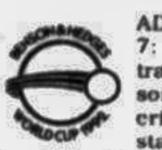
In the photo, the pool is surrounded by palm trees and a blue and pink inflated boat is floating on the water. Bunte described the photograph as a Tele-glance

"Only the sun kisses Steffi Graf, 22, under the palms at pool side," the magazine said. The photos had little effect on the player's game-Graf, top-seeded in the tourney, routed Japan's

Maoko Sawamatsu 6-0, 6-1,

Wednesday in the third

Aussies beat Lanka to sustain hopes



ADELAIDE, Mar 7: Holders Ausfor 40 runs. tralia at last found some World Cup cricket form to

stay in contention for a semifinal berth with an emphatie seven-wicket victory over Sri Lanka today, reports

The Australians, who had to win after losing three of their first four round-robin matches, were never troubled in their chase after Sri Lanka's modest 189 for nine and made it with six overs to spare on an easy- paced Adelaide Oval

The victory was particularly sweet for opener Geoff Marsh, who scored a solid 60 to justify his recall after his poor form in the tournament saw him dropped for last Thursday's humiliating eight- wicket defeat by England.

Marsh figured in an opening stand of 120 with fellow Western Australian Tom Moody, who hit 57 to add to the half-century he scored

against England. All-rounder Mark Waugh, who struck two huge sixes in a swashbuckling 26 in a promotion to number three, and the relentless David Boon, on 27 not out, finished off the open-

Captain Allan Border, who had gambled by putting Sri Lanka in to bat after winning the toss, got the best possible start when in-form batsman Roshan Mahanama was run out in a mix-up for a quick single when the score was only eight.

ers' good work.

Vice- captain Asanka Gurusinha went soon afterwards and though captain Aravinda De Silva propped up the innings with a solid 62, it was Border, with one wicket, and off-spinner Peter Taylor, with two for 24, who put a clamp on Sri Lanka's innings.

Border, who had said that a defeat would be the end of the world decided the Australians needed to try something out of the ordinary to get their confidence back. He used medium-pacer

Steve Waugh to open the attack with Craig McDermott and made the rare move of bowling 10 overs of his left-

arm spin, snaring one wicket

De Silva's 51-fourth-wicket stand with in-form Ariuna Ranatunga took the score to 123 but when he went to Taylor, after never looking comfortable, the innings stalled and then wickets fell as

up the run-rate. Border said the Australians had to win the two points but every one of the last three matches would be vital to their survival in the tournament

Sri Lanka tried in vain to pick

"I think it's going to be a log



match Border said.

"It's going to be important to have a good run-rate but you can't overlook that you have to win every game as well," he

Border said though he was pleased by the batting, he was worried about the penetration of the bowling, "I am still concerned that the bowling lacked a little bit, I don't know if we should be opening with Steve

four points from five matches travel to Perth for a game against Pakistan on Wednesday while Sri Lanka, with five points, play unbeaten England at Ballarat on Monday. De Stlva said his side had

Australia, who now have

needed at least 240 to have had a reasonable chance of beating the Australians on the casy-paced pitch.

"We weren't looking for runs enough, especially in the

later part when we kept losing wickets at vital stages," De

Silva said. De Silva praised off- spinner Taylor's contribution in the middle of the innings when

he, Samarasekera and Ranatunga had threatened to take charge. "Unfortunately none of our (Three) spinners got turn later

on, probably because the pitch had dried out," De Silva said. Sri Lanka's last three matches -against England, West Indies and Pakistan -



ARAVINDA DE SILVA

necording to De Silva. I think if we play well, we'll always stand a chance

Unfortunately Australia played better than us today," he said. Australia started their run chase slowly and some brilliant Sri Lankan fielding combined with tight bowling by paceman Pramodaya Wickremasinghe

kept the score down to only

16 runs after nine overs. But in the 10th over, Marsh, who had looked anything but comfortable, suddenly cut loose, hitting nine runs of Champaka Ramanayake.

It was the turning point, he and Moody hitting another 25 runs in the next three overs, when both batsmen reached their half-centuries in the 27th over, the score was 110 and the game was virtually Australia's.

Wickremasinghe, who bowled a good line and length throughout, took two late wickets, one to dismiss Moody

years on exile while his native

South Africa was barred from

South African captain said as

he gazed round the attractive

ground after his team's net

for sentimentality when play

begins in a match vital for both

sides seeking to keep alive

their hopes of qualifying for

South Africa have worry

over Peter Kirsten, leading

run-scorer in the tournament

so far who pulled a calf muscle

in their defeat of West Indies

on Thursday and is not certain

therapy during the day and

then we'll make a decision,"

Kirsten said on Saturday.

'I'll have some more physio-

Apart from being a vital part

"It's nice to be back," the

But there will be little room

international sport.

practice.

the semifinals.

of playing.

caught in the deep by Mahanana, and the second, again caught by Mahanama, to end a rampant innings by Mark

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the World Cup cricket match between Australia and Sri Lanka at the Adelaide Oval today:

Ranatunga c Jones b Taylor w-5, nb-1) Total: (nine wickets

Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-28, 3-72, 4-123, 5-151, 6-163, 7-166, 8-182, 9-189, Did not bat: Wickremasinghe

34 34 40 AUSTRALIA

Moody c Mahanama b Wickremastnghe M Waugh c Mahanama b Wickremasinghe Boon not out Jones not out Extras: (lb-2, nb-3, w-3) Total: (three wickets

130, 3-165. Did not bat: A Border, S Waugh, I Healy, P Taylor, C McDermott, M Whitney.

OM RW 10 3 29 2 9 1 44 0 10 0 43 0 6 0 20 0 0 11 0 8 0 41 1 Result: Australia won by

match: Tom Moddy.

Imran may bat at No 3 Bima beat DWC



against South Africa on Sunday, reports Reuter. Imran, envisaging an even

would prefer to open the bowling "to settle things down carly on", and on Saturday he said he might bat at number "When you go in at number

six it's often a bit late to do anything," the Pakistan captain

Imran, who will play against the South Africans despite having to take pain-killers to dull a nagging shoulder injury, feels he needs to open the attack because of Wasim Akram's lack of control and penetration in

Imran bowled for the first India on Wednesday.

"I thought I would have to struggle more than I did. So I won't hesitate to use pain-

ness of top-order batsman Rameez Raja. They will not name the team until Sunday morning.

This will be a crucial match and we must start clickwin," Imran said. match, lost two and drawn one for three points, while South

Africa improved to two wins, two losses with a 64-run win over former champions West Indies in Christchurch, New Zealand, on Thursday.

Sunday's encounter will be

something of a return home for Kepler Wessels when he leads South Africa on to the Gabba Ground.



IMRAN KHAN

venue, Wessels made 162 in

his debut Test for Australia

Ten years ago, at the same

of their batting line-up, Kirsten is also a useful off-spin bowler. Kirsten said although the injury was improving, they doubted he would bowl. Wessels took a different

view. "Kirsten will have to be

100 per cent fit to be able to

play, so if he plays and is called

on to bowl, he will bowl." The loser of the match is almost certain to miss the tournament semifinals.

"If I can get runs at the Gabba tomorrow it will mean a lot to me," South African cap-

Sports Reporter

Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha scored off Wanderers Club by three wickets in the

Batting first, Dhaka Wanderers Club mustered a meagre 101 for nine wickets from their quota of 45 overs with opener Kiron topscoring with 28. Al-Amin and Zakaria with 14 and 12 respectively were the other batsmen two

Litu, Dear and Rizvi claimed two wickets each while David. Babu and Ripon took one

apicce. Bima overtook the Wanderers score in 34.1 overs with Liton guiding his side with an unbeaten 25. Opener Jewel contributed with 22 and Shaheen made 17, as Bima

made 103 for seven wickets. Sohel was the pick of the Wanderers bowlers with figures of three for 28.

Victoria vs Agrani Bank (Mirpur)

backstroke during a Grand Prix swimming meet Saturday in Melbourne, reports AP.

Livingstone, won the race in two minutes 6.78 seconds. New Zealander Anna Simic

Stevenson, formerly Nicole

set the previous mark of

Kiwis anxious to clinch semis berth



7 : New Zealand cricket captain Martin Crowe wants his team to clinch their spot in the semifinals of the World Cup on Sunday to avoid the

New Zealand would be certain of a semifinal place in the nine-nation tournament if it defeats the two-time champion West Indies at Eden Park on

Crowe is anxious to avoid the pressure of going into the final three matches of the first round chasing "just one more The New Zealand captain

team, which has a perfect 4-0 record, to treat the match identically to their previous games. possibility of playing a semifi-"We want to win every game, but we don't want to put nal against co-host Australia in pressure on ourselves by saying

Crowe said Saturday. place," he said.

control over our semifinal Crowe said he disagreed with critics who suggested slow pace.

"I think we are playing well, no doubt about that," he said. "The tracks (pitches)haven't come into it

While the work of his medium-pacers will be crucial Sunday, Crowe wants his bats-

ing a big total. lace, I think it's important to get a partnership early on

when we are batting," he said. West Indics manager

prospect of another slow Eden Park wicket. "We're playing at different venues in the preliminary

days what the wicket will be like. He said he expected opener

times but I don't see why he can't play," he said. New Zealand wicketkeeper lan Smith will play after last

"He got hit on it three

match against Zimbabwe. Opener John Wright, who has missed two games with a shoulder injury, is fit and likely to start the innings with Mark

Greatbatch, which would mean

omitting dashing opener Rod

Latham. The West Indies has a 2-2 record and desperately needs "With the two new balls we a win to stay in contention for the semifinals. The top four teams at the end of the first

round will contest the semis. NEW ZEALAND (from) : Martin Crowe (Captain), John Wright, Rod Latham, Andrew Jones, Ken Rutherford, Chris Harris, Mark Greatbatch, lan Smith, Dipak Patel, Chris Cairns, Gavin Larsen, Willie

Watson, Danny Morrison,

WEST INDIES (from): Richie Richardson (captain), Desmond Haynes, Brian Lara, Carl Hooper, Keith Arthurton, Gus Logie, Malcolm Marshall, David Williams, Curtly Ambrose, Roger Harper, Anderson Cummins, Winston Benjamin, Phil Simmons,

7: India collected two vital points when they beat Zimbabwe by 55 runs in their rain affected World Cup cricket match today, reports Reuter.

third in the table.

for seven from 32 overs. margin being determined by revised totals from the highest scoring 19 overs - India 159

Zimbabwe had been well placed to win when the rain for three - just two runs bet-

India's emerging star Sachin Tendulkar who, just one month short of his 19th birthday, hit a glorious 81 to take his international one day total

joined by the big hitting Andy Flower and opener Alt Shah

were pressing for their first

This was our big chance, un-Zimbabwe lost to New

Brisbane because we didn't

Azharuddin said India were expressed confidence about

Botham turns royal avenger

LONDON, Mar. 7:

An overweight

and over-the-hill

cricketer has

come to the rescue of his country and queen, reports AP. lan Botham, ridiculed by British newspapers a few weeks ago as better suited to performing on a pantomime stage than a playing field, almost single-handedly led

England to victory over host Australia in a World Cup erieket mateh. Lewis to model

for Panasonic TOKYO, Mar 7: US Olympic star Carl Lewis will promote Panasonic video equipment over the next six months.

Matsushita Electric Industries

The winner of six gold

said here Friday, reports AFP.

medals in sprint and long jump events has signed an advertising contract of an undisclosed amount with the world leader in electronic consumer products.

Lewis will feature in television sports and newspaper ad vertisements all over the world from now through September. The Osaka Group, better known by its Panasonic and



ing the move will help promote the video equipment it is providing for September's Barcciona Olympic Games, of which it is an official sponsor. It was at Tokyo's Olympics

technics brand names, is hop-l

stadium that Carl Lewis set the world 100 meters record of 9.86 seconds in August 1991 during the last world athletics championships.

tabloids, it was much more

a royal avenging. The tabloids - have raged in recent weeks against Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating, who broke protocol by putting his arm around Queen Elizabeth II during her February trip to Australia. Keating also has been at-

than a cricket triumph - it was

for saying England descried Australia, a member of the British Commonwealth, during World War II. So when Botham took the wickets of four Australians in just seven balls Thursday, and then scored 53 runs to lead England to an eight-wicket

victory in Sydney, the tabloids

reacted with gice.

tacked by London newspapers

"Royal avenger Botham stuffs the Aussies," the Daily Star screamed in a front-page headline. "It was Rule Britannia all the way as Botham turned royal avenger. The Today newspaper

added, "Cricket hero lan

Botham gave Australia a right

royal thrashing yesterday, shattering the ego of a nation which snubbed his sovereign." Botham's heroics were even more dramatic because he had been written off in recent years as a faded star who relied more on reputation than tal-

Once the heart of the English cricket team, the 36year-old Botham has been struggling to regain his place on the national squad while spending much of his time raising money for charity and performing on the stage. He arrived in Australia late because he was acting in Jack

Bournemouth, England. Overweight and out of shape, he was ridiculed for playing golf instead of taking extra' batting practice. The Sun, another tabloid, warned in late January; "If Botham doesn't knuckle down,

he should be sent home to re-

hearse for the next pantomime

scason."

and the Beanstalk in

But all was forgotten Friday, and The Sun aimed its ire at Keating. It loosely employed the cricket term googly, a deceptive type of toss similar to a breaking pitch in baschall, to ridicule the Australian Prime

"It was a kick in the



IAN BOTHAM Paul Keating," the tabloid said adding that British Prime Minister John Major inter-

rupted a cabinet meeting with

news of the victory.

at cricket." five pages Friday to the exploits of "Beefy" Botham,

penned an editorial to

Australians and the Prime

"We warned you last week that a terrible punishment was coming your way for your pretentious premier's redneck rudeness to the queen and our Far East War dead," said The Star. "We suspect there might have been a few bellows of

Linares chess results

Buckingham Palace yesterday."

Reuter.

The Sun also quoted former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as saying. "The world's a better place when we beat the Australians The Star, which devoted

Minister it dubbed "anti British bigmouth Keating." gratitude for Big Beefy in

LINARES, Spain, Mar 7 British Grandmaster Jonathan Speciman resigned without further play in his adjourned match against Miguel Illescas of Spain at the Linares chess tournament on Friday, reports After analysing the position

for two hours, Speelman realised his cause was lost and conceded victory to Illescas.

World champion Garry

Kasparov of Russia leads the

tournament after eight rounds.

into paradise."

round of play.

Sheffield Shield during his BRISBANE, Mar 7 ing because one-day cricket



: Imran Khan may promote himself to number three in the Pakistan batting order for the World Cup cricket match

more influential role than usual, has already stated he

Cup games. time in the series in Pakistan's fourth-round match against

killers again tomorrow, if neccssary," he said. Pakistan management is also concerned about the fit-



possible onset of nerves. reports AP.

said he had instructed his

"You could end up trying so hard just to win one game." "We are trying to adopt the attitude that whatever the challenge, we're welcoming it

because we'll need all the

needs team combination to Pakistan has won one

This has put us under increased expectations from fans at home. They love to win, Wessels said.



tough experience we can get if

ware going to be there at the end of the tournament." "We're just staying on our toes really, and we can afford



position We're in." Crowe said New Zealand

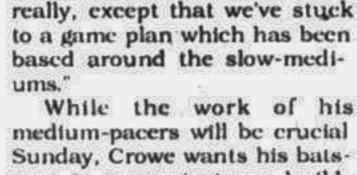
wanted to be in charge of its

won destiny and avoid the slim

MARTIN CROWE

we've got to win one more,"

that have been prepared for a



Deryck Murray said his team was unperturbed at the

rounds so we have to adapt to different conditions," Murray "I'm aware from my playing

Desmond Hayes to play despite a painful bruised finger that forced him to retire briefly while batting against South

SRI LANKA Mahanama run out Samarasekera e Healy b Taylor Gurusinha lbw b Whitney De Silva c Moody b McDerett

Jayasuria lbw b Border Tillekeratne run out Kalpage run out Ramanyake run out Anurasiri not out Extras: (b-3, lb-6,

— 50 overs) Bowling: McDermott S Waugh

Whitney Moody Taylor Border Marsh c Anurasiri Kalpage

— 44 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-120, 2-

Bowling: Wickremasinghe Ramanayake Anurasiri Gurusinha Ranatunga Kalpage seven wickets. Man-of-the-

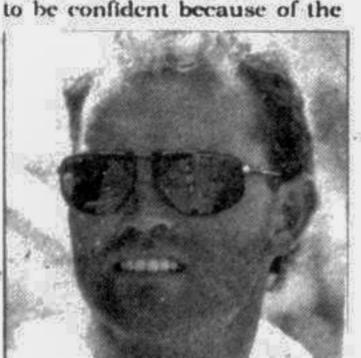
Milnars First Division relegation league at the Mirpur Pallabi ericket ground.

reach the double figures.

TODAY'S MATCH

World record MELBOURNE, Mar 7: Australian Nicole Stevenson set a world short-course record for the women's 200 meters

against England. tain Kepler Wessels said He also played regularly here for Queensland in the Saturday. 2:07.11 last month.



Sydney. "We'd like to qualify up the ladder where we perhaps have

New Zealand was winning because it was playing on wickets men to concentrate on build-

Africa on Thursday.

Murphy Su'a.

Patrick Patterson.

57