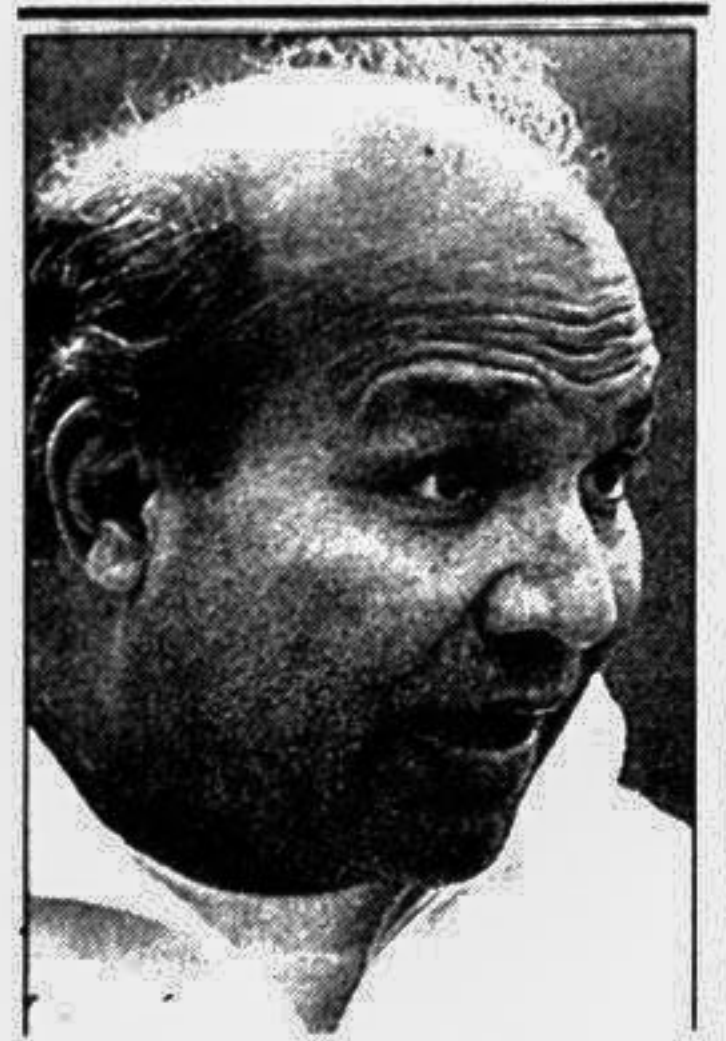


Column One

SPORTS TALK



Intikhab Alam
(Former Pakistan captain and manager)

The batting is very fragile and the conditions in Australia result in injuries to several players. But with such a suspect batting lineup, I don't expect that the team would return winners.

About the Pakistan squad.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-122

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Oct 29, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Which country won the SAFA football gold?

2. Who is the captain of Brazil?

3. How many teams will play in next year's Asia Cup cricket?

4. Who won the men's 100 m in the Summer Athletics?

5. Who lifted the Grand Slam Cup title?

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH

EN-VITS

ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Cute h'ball

Police and Bangladesh Rifles earned comfortable victories in the CUTE Metropolis Premier Division handball league at outdoor stadium handball ground yesterday, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Rifles defeated Dhaka Wanderers Club 22-10 after leading the first half 16-9.

Jahangir scored highest 6 goals while Sanat netted 4 for the winners. Mizan struck 6 for the losers.

Police outplayed Menjis Kira Chakra 37-19 after dominating the first half 22-12.

Nurul Islam was the top scorer for the winners with 10 goals while Alim netted 9.

Kiron scored 4 for the losers.

Bangladesh Rifles will take on Progoti Boys Club at 2:45 pm today while Dhaka Wanderers Club will meet Menjis KC at 4 pm.

Shield cricket

ADELAIDE, Australia, Oct 23 (AFP): South Australia held a 202-run lead and first innings points against Victoria after the third day of their Sheffield Shield cricket match at Adelaide Oval Saturday.

At close, South Australia were 136 for two in their second innings after declaring at 353 for seven and bowling Victoria out for 287 in their first innings.

Opening batsman David Fitzgerald backed up his first innings century with an unbeaten 51.

Jeff Vaughan was 41 not out.

On the second day of action in Perth, Tasmanian batsman Andrew Dykes hit his maiden first-class century against titleholder Western Australia.

Dykes, 27, in only his fifth first-class match, made a six-hour 123 (16 boundaries) as the Islanders piled on a first innings 467-7 declared at the WACA Ground.

He was well supported by Scott Kremerskothen, making his first-class debut, who collected 82 not out in four hours.

Western Australia made a traumatic start, skidding to 5-2 before recovering to 89-3 by stumps when Simon Katich was unbeaten on 27 and Rob Baker had made 10 not out.

BCB XI fare better with bat

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Cricket Board Eleven piled up a commanding 244 for nine in a limited-overs match against England A at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The BCB total was built around two contrasting half-centuries from Harunur Rashid and Habibul Bashar.

Opener Harun celebrated his unlikely recall in the national side with a typically aggressive half-century while Bashar showed the characteristic of a copybook one-downer with a composed 83.

Harun laid the foundation of a fighting total with a power-packed 55 off 79 balls. Standing at the wrong end of his career, the stocky Kalabagan right-hander, who reached his 50 off 83 balls, spiced his 55 with half a dozen fours.

His innings might not be technically sound, but it was more than spectacular as far as the one-day cricket is concerned.

Harun put on 81 runs for the second wicket with Bashar before holing out in the deep, leaving the BCB Eleven at 105 for two in 26.3 overs. The balding stroke maker, bested upon with the most demanding job of leading any national selection, however failed to turn up in the ground later in the night due to injury. He limped off the ground with a bruised finger on his right leg.

Bashar then carried on the good work of his captain with a matured and highly enterprising 83 off 106 balls. The mild-mannered right-hander, who

has been in and out of the national team mainly due to the mindless game of changing and chopping by the national selectors, played some superb shots in his fluid and flawless innings.

Although he started slowly, with his 50 coming off 83 balls, Bashar picked up the tempo once he got his fifty. The stylish batsman clubbed six sweetly



SCHOFIELD ... 5/40

timed hits across the rope, but he missed out the opportunity of getting a well-deserved century while trying to send Schofield over the top of extra-cover in the 42nd over.

By the time Bashar departed the second string national side was delicately placed at 192 for five. He was caught by Aftab Habib at deep extra-cover.

Although the Lancashire leg-spinner Schofield bowled brilliantly to finish with a richly deserved 5/40 in his 10 overs,

the other England bowlers, except for tall right-arm seamer Cris Silverwood failed to make any lasting impression on the home side. Silverwood finished with three for 40 in his ten allotted overs.

Bangladesh clobbered 44 runs in the last five overs that included some lusty blows from Hasibul Hossain. The experienced right-arm seamer, who failed to make a place in the national team for his wayward bowling, however lived up to his reputation as an useful long-handle bat as he went on to smite a quartet of fours in his little cameo of 22 off 11 balls.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Eleven innings in the day-night limited-overs match against England A on Saturday:

BCB XI

H Rashid c Habib b Schofield 55

Mehrab c Ward b Silverwood 6

Habibul c Habib b Schofield 83

Sanwar c Irani b Schofield 5

Nasrul b Schofield 25

Neyamur st Turner b Schofield 3

Hasibul c Solanki b Silverwood 22

Atar run out 14

Aminul Jr c Solanki b Silverwood 11

Sabbir not out 1

Extras: (b-1, lb-2, w-11, nb-5) 19

Total: (for 9 wks in 50 overs) 244

Fall of wks: 1/24; 2/105; 3/117; 4/183; 5/192; 6/193; 7/224; 8/242; 9/244.

Bowler

Silverwood 10 2 40 3

Sheriari 3 0 21 0

Allyeyne 5 0 22 0

Irani 7 0 39 0

Davis 10 0 52 0

Schofield 10 0 40 5

Solanki 5 0 27 0

Hosts toy with tourists



KANPUR, India, Oct 23: Indian batsmen put New Zealand bowlers to the sword today, plundering 212 runs for the loss of one wicket on the second day of the second Test here, reports AFP.

Sadagopan Ramesh, who scored 81 runs and Rahul Dravid on 29 were at the crease at the close of play.

Devang Gandhi, playing in his second Test, notched up 88 and put on an opening partnership stand of 162 which laid the foundation for India.

New Zealand bowlers came in for severe punishment from the 28-year-old Gandhi with off-spinner Paul Wiseman being lifted over his head for a six and later a four in the mid-off area.

Gandhi played an exquisite cover drive on a short-pitched delivery from Chris Cairns and in the same over got another boundary in the point region.

Medium-ace Nathan Astle, who was introduced by New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming after the tea session, made the breakthrough when Gandhi edged him to Fleming in the slips.

Srinath's one fine day

From Our Correspondent

CALCUTTA, Oct 23: It was a very special day on Friday for Jagavall Srinath. The speedster became the first Indian pace bowler after Kapil Dev to take 150 wickets in Test cricket.

The paceman achieved it through the method he admired the most — by clean bowling a batsman.

Immediately after the day's play talking over the phone from Landmark hotel in Kanpur Srinath said "A pace bowler dreams to get out a batsman in that way. I will definitely remember my 150th wicket. I am contented simply because I managed to dismiss Stephen Fleming who saved the first Test."

He also thanked all his colleagues who stood by him during troubled times. "When I came back from the West Indies in 1997, a large number of people had written me off. There were a few people who constantly were at my side. Friends like Rahul Dravid and my bowling partner Venkatesh Prasad. I would have been really very happy had I received Prasad's congratulations today. I'm sad because I miss him at this time of glory."

The Indian team presented a cake Srinath on which was inscribed, "150 in the bag, another 150 to go." The happy bowler said, "I really cannot say about the next 150. I will have to take it at one series at a time."

Good luck to Srinath, he really deserves the best.

Bowlers to take 150 or more wickets:

Kapil Dev (131 Tests-434 wickets).

Bishen Singh Bedi (67-266).

Anil Kumble (till Kanpur Test 54-243).

BS Chandrasekhar (58-242).

E.A.S. Prasanna (49-189).

Vinoo Mankad (44-162).

S Venkateshwar (57-156).

Ravi Shastri (80-151).

Javagal Srinath (40th).

Ramesh, who played a cautious knock after the lunch session, broke loose toward the close of play and thumped two deliveries of Wiseman to the third man and mid-on region for fours.

Poor fielding added to New Zealand's woes.

Right-hand batsman Gandhi was dropped by close-in fielder Craig Spearman when he was on four and Ramesh on 42 was dropped in the slips by Fleming.

Rahul Dravid, who stepped in at the fall of Gandhi's wicket, got off to a flying start when he smashed a Vettori delivery through the mid-wicket for four.

In the very next over Dravid found the ropes again with a leg-glance off Astle.

Earlier, New Zealand were bowled out for 256. Indian leg-spinner Anil Kumble got two early wickets to scuttle any chances of a revival by the visitors.

Cairns, who top-scored with 53, was the first to go before the lunch session, caught by Indian skipper Sachin Tendulkar at third man when he tried to pull a Kumble delivery outside his off stump.

The all-rounder reached his half-century by lofting spinner Sunil Joshi over the long-on boundary for his third six.

Cairns, who also hit five fours, was the bedrock of the New Zealand innings and was involved in two valuable partnerships.

His 83-run stand for the eighth wicket was the highest for New Zealand in their first innings.

Fast bowler Dion Nash chipped in with 41 runs and remained unbeaten. He punished paceman Jagavall Srinath, who failed to get bounce on a dry pitch, by slamming two fours in a single over.

But with the fall of Cairns, the New Zealand tail folded.

Daniel Vettori and Paul Wiseman were both snapped up by short-leg fielder Vijay Bhargava.

Off-spinner Singh got his only wicket of the match when Vettori tried to glance a delivery on his leg stump and was caught superbly by Bhargava.

Wiseman, trying to defend a Kumble delivery, was the last man out as he edged the ball to the close-in fielder.

The leg-spinner finished with four wickets.

SCOREBOARD

Final scorecard on the second day of the second cricket Test between India and New Zealand on Saturday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings (overnight 217 for seven)

Horne c Prasad b Ganguly 5

Bell lbw b Srinath 15

Spearman c Ramesh b Kumble 12

Fleming b Srinath 2

Astle lbw Srinath 39

McMillan c Ramesh b Joshi 34

Parore c David b Kumble 35

Cairns c Tendulkar b Kumble 53

Nash not out 41

Vettori c Bhargava b Singh 0

Wiseman c Bhargava b Kumble 0

Extras: (b-5, lb-13) 20

Total: (All out in 102.5 overs) 256

Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-33; 3-255; 4-255.

Bowler:

Srinath 22 9 62 3

Ganguly 4 0 15 1

Kumble 32.5 12 67 4

Singh 17 6 30 1

Joshi 25 7 63 1

Bhargava 2 0 12 0

INDIA: First innings

Gandhi c Fleming b Astle 88

Ramesh not out 81

Dravid not out 29

Extras: (b-5, lb-11, nb-8) 14

Total: (For one wicket in 75 overs) 112

Fall of wickets: 1-162.

Bowler:

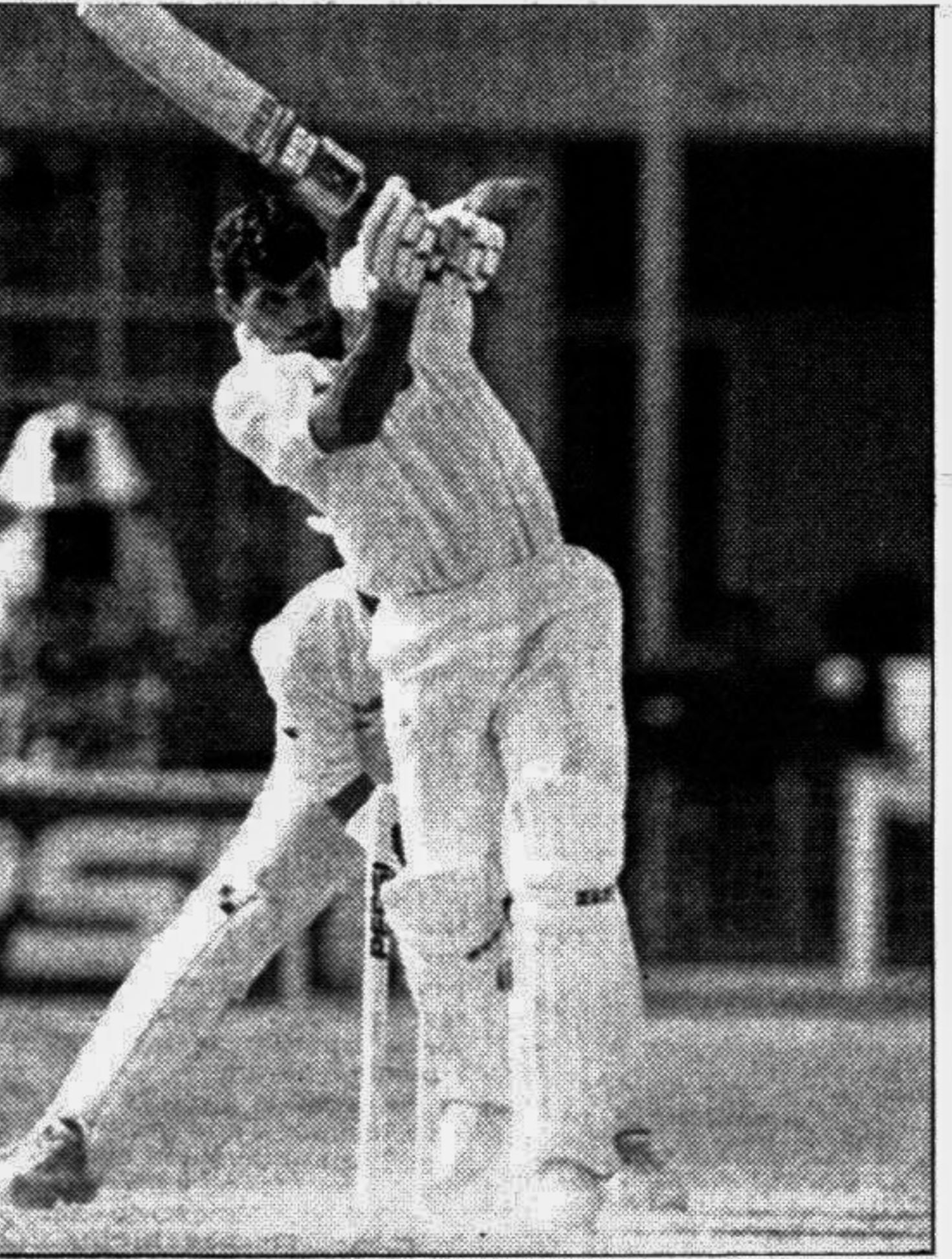
Cairns 8 3 31 0

Nash 13 5 33 0

Vettori 25 2 66 0

Wiseman 19 6 67 0

Astle 10 5 9 1



Indian opener Devang Gandhi cover drives during the second day's play in Kanpur yesterday. — AFP photo

Bangladesh squad named

Akram Khan

back for

Chittagong

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Cricket Board yesterday announced a 14-man Bangladesh team for the three-day match against the visiting England A to be played in the port city of Chittagong from October 25 to 27.

Aminul Islam, as expected, retained his captaincy and his predecessor Chittagonian Akram Khan returned to the national squad after missing out against the West Indies due to injury.

The notable inclusions in the side are Bikash Ranjan Das and Sabbir Khan.

For Bikash, the young right-arm seamer, it was a dream come true as he was picked to the national team for the first time ahead of Hasibul Hossain.

It was also the first call to the senior side for Sabbir, the gangling off-spinner.

Newcomer leggie Mosaddek Hossain also retained his spot.

The notable omissions are opener Mehrib Hossain and all-rounder Naimur Rahman. Both are injured.

The Bangladesh squad: Aminul Islam (captain), Shahriar Hossain, Javed Omar, Habibul Bashar, Akram Khan, Khaled Mahmud, Khaled Masood, Enamul Hoque, Monjurul Islam, Sabbir Khan, Safiuddin Ahmed, Al-Shahriar, Bikash Ranjan Das and Mosaddek Hossain.

Waqr takes Shabbir's place

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct 23: Pakistan axed young fast bowler Shabbir Ahmed after his bowling action came under the scrutiny of the game's governing body, reports AFP.

Chief selector Naushad Ali said on Friday veteran paceman Waqr Younis, who did not play in the Sharjah Cup, will replace Shabbir in the 16-man squad.

The dropping of 17-year-old Shabbir on the advice of the International Cricket Council (ICC) comes less than 48 hours after the squad was picked.

"We have been asked by the ICC not to pick Shabbir for international matches till his action is rectified," Naushad Ali said.

"We have worked on his action, but obviously more needs to be done."

Ali said the ICC faxed him a request to omit Shabbir after the team was announced on Wednesday.

"We would not have considered him if the letter had come earlier," he said.

Shabbir, who made his international debut in September, has not been called in the three one-dayers he has played so far.

Latif out to cash in on 'testimony'

LONDON, Oct 23 (Internet report): Rashid Latif, the former Pakistan wicketkeeper and captain, has contacted England's The Daily Telegraph offering to sell the original testimony given to the Pakistan match-fixing inquiry by former cricketer Latif Rehman.

Latif has offered to sell transcripts of Aatur's testimony to the Lahore High Court and an audiocassette, for which he wants \$50,000, reports the Electronic Telegraph.

Aatur originally alleged that Wasim Akram had asked him to throw matches but later retracted the allegation, an action which has led to a charge of perjury against him. Justice Malik Mohammed Gayyum, the Lahore High Court judge leading the investigation, said: "Aatur has put in a defence saying he was confused when he made the original statement."

"I have spoken to the London lawyer who prepared the affidavit in which Aatur retracted his original evidence and he has assured me that Aatur withdrew his allegations voluntarily, after speaking to his family and friends."

SA ponder on new pair

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 23 (Internet report): With both Gary Kirsten and Herschelle Gibbs now out of the reckoning, South Africa's cricket selectors are going to have to come up with a new opening gambit when they name their side at the Wanderers on Saturday for next weekend's first Test against Zimbabwe in Bloemfontein.

On current form they needn't look further than Gauteng's Adam Bacher and rising Free State star Boeta Dippenaar.

Whether or not they will gamble on the latter opener however is debatable. While Bacher has been there and done it all before - he's played 12 Tests - Dippenaar has yet to be capped and has also garnered most of his runs at No 3.

To step up from provincial to Test level and into a foreign slot to boot would be a big ask of anyone let alone a 22-year-old debutant. So it wouldn't surprise if regular No 3 Jacques Kallis is asked to plug the gap.



CAPTAIN ON SONG: Harun-ur Rashid pulls one off his pads for four. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

DMFLC hides referee's report

Abahani demand 'justice', will not play Mohammedan

Al-Amin

Although the committee branded the second leg 'Super 4' Mohammedan-Arabagh clash as 'fair', many local newspapers termed it a 'pre-arranged' affair.

"Abahani gave us a letter today wherein they said they would not play their next match against Mohammedan. They have again provided paper-cuttings of the Mohammedan-Arabagh match and have appealed for a fair judgement," said the DMFLC chairman, Abdur Rahim.

Football fans, however, were talking of other reasons that prompted Abahani to make an excuse to stay away from tomorrow's Dhaka derby of the archivals.

Abahani, trailing Mohammedan by two points, will miss the services of their two key booters -- Iqbal and Ghansha -- in their match against the black-and-whites.

Iqbal was red carded in the last match against Muktiyoddha and the Ghanaian Ghansha, earned his third yellow card in the same match, which Abahani won 2-0 last Friday.

As insecurity seemed to grip Abahani following the doom of their two key players, rumour loomed large in the sports arena yesterday that a quarter was trying to tamper with the Thai referee's report. The fear of shifting the blame of the yellow card from Ghansha to his compatriot Kennedy seemed to have intimidated the DMFLC office to keep the referee's report in a secret place.

"We have also heard the rumour that some people were trying to tamper with the referee's report. So, we have decided to keep the document in a secret place to avoid any controversy," said Rahim.