

## Fraser's desire

LONDON, Mar 4: Middlesex and England seamer Angus Fraser still wants to play international cricket and intends to meet the selectors to discuss his future, reports Reuters.

Fraser, 34, has not represented his country since December 1998 despite taking more than 50 wickets for England in that year.

"I want to play international cricket again and I still believe that I can compete at the top level," said Fraser on Friday.

"I have not played for England since Australia even though I finished that year as the fourth highest wicket taker in world cricket."

For some strange reason they decided not to pick me for the following test matches but I have not given up hope of playing at test level again.

Fraser will shortly seek a meeting with the English Cricket Board to establish whether he has a Test future.

## Rain scare

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former captain Arjuna Ranatunga from their line-up after fracturing his left thumb.

Ranatunga helped his team scrap through to win on the final day of the first Test, scoring a painstaking 29 not out and partnering Ramesh Kaluwitharana in a valiant 43-run ninth wicket stand.

His place is likely to go to right handed batsman Tillekeratne Dilshan who hit a mature 163 in only his second Test against Zimbabwe last year.

Sri Lanka coach Dav Whatmore said his team was determined to capitalise on Pakistan's problems and wanted to seal the series in this frontier town.

"Bad weather is not good for anyone but it happens, we will still try our best to do one better than what we have done till now," said Sri Lankan coach Dav Whatmore, whose team beat Pakistan 3-0 in a one-day series before the Test series.

"We will decide about the combination once things improve," he said.

The pitch at the ground here traditionally helps fast bowlers and with Akram and Akhtar back, Pakistan is likely to play with four seamers.

Off-spinner Arshad Khan and leg-spinning all-rounder Shahid Afridi will vie for the last spot.

John Hampshire of England and Mohammad Nazir will supervise the match as umpires.

## TEAMS

**PAKISTAN** (from): Saeed Anwar (captain), Amir Sohail, Wajahatullah Wasti, Shahid Afridi, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Younis Khan, Yousuf Youhana, Moiz Khan, Wasim Akram, Arshad Khan, Saqlain Mushtaq, Shoaib Akhtar, Mohammad Akram, Atiqur Zaman, Mohammad Naveed, Shahid Nazir, Waqar Younis and Abdur Razzaq.

**SRI LANKA** (from): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Mahela Jayawardene, Aravinda de Silva, Tillekeratne Dilshan, Chaminda Vaas, Ramesh Kaluwitharana, Muttiah Muralitharan, Idika de Saram, Nuwan Zoysa, Upul Chandana, Ravindra Pushpakumara, Rangana Herath, Pramodya Wickremasinghe and Indika Gallage.

**Umpires:** John Hampshire (England) and Mohammad Nazir (Pakistan).



Sri Lanka cricket team members during a visit to Machni Post along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border on March 3. —AFP photo

## Jimmy ready for work



KINGSTON, Mar 4: Jimmy Adams is under no illusions about the enormity of the task that lies ahead of him after he was Friday named the new West Indies captain, reports AFP.

The 32-year-old left-hander, who captained Jamaica to the 2000 Busta Cup, West Indies first-class championship last month, was predictably named Brian Lara's successor for the forthcoming home series against Zimbabwe and Pakistan.

"Captaincy carries a lot of pressure and I think it would be a little unwise to think that it wouldn't add a little bit of pressure," Adams said.

"Over the years, pressure has not been one of the things that has bothered me. I have come through some pretty tight situations in the past and overcome quite a few pressure situations, so I am actually looking forward to the challenge."

The post of West Indies captain had become vacant after Lara's resignation last week -- and his subsequent withdrawal on Thursday from the home series against Zimbabwe and Pakistan has left a huge void in the West Indies batting.

"I think (his withdrawal) was a little unfortunate, but I am always one who believes in looking forward," Adams said. "With Brian having made his decision, we will all have to accept it, wish him well and get on with the job at hand. We have a pretty big job coming up in the next few months. We have to focus on what is ahead of us and get to it."

"When I heard that I was the person (to be captain), I immediately told myself I must get the guys to play their full potential and that will bring about good results."

He, however, says his players must not be distracted by Lara's decision.

Adams, a left-arm spin bowler and occasional wicket-keeper, was always the front-runner for the Lara's job. He

was vice-captain to Lara for last year's home series against Australia, last year's World Cup and the ill-starred 1999-2000 tour to New Zealand.

"Being captain was not something I really thought about over the years -- my ambition was to play well," he said.

"It is one of the biggest honours anybody in this part of the world can have and I am pretty honoured being asked to do it."

Adams started his senior

the Busta Cup and that's been a little disappointing," he said. "I feel a lot fresher mentally than when I returned from New Zealand because it was a pretty hectic tour. Coming off a few days of rest, I hope everything will start flowing again in the international matches."

Adams has scored 2,326 Test runs, including five centuries, at an average of 45.60, and 1,797 runs at an average of 30.45 in limited-over internationals.

He will lead West Indies against Zimbabwe for two Tests, the first at Queen's Park Oval in Trinidad from March 16 to 20, as part of a home series that includes three Tests against Pakistan and a triangular limited-over series.

"There is so much at stake both for Zimbabwe and for West Indies," Adams said. "I just anticipate that every international we play in the next few months will be very, very important for both teams. I do not believe there will be a lifting of pressure because we are playing Zimbabwe."

Glad to have veterans Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh in his side, Adams wants to see his younger players mature during the series at home.

"It's nice to have Curtly and Courtney around because they have been around so long and have been top performers for so many years that it's a bonus to have both of them still bowling well, fit and ready to go," he said.

"The existence of young talent has never been a worry for me though, because I do not feel that we are short of talent. I think it is going to be a series where quite a bit of this talent is going to be exposed and I am quite confident that a lot of these young players will start maturing and get on the road to turning themselves into top-class international cricketers."

The basic thing for me is that I am hitting the ball well, but I have not carried on from a few starts that I have gotten in



West Indies career eight years ago in the Test at Kensington Oval in Barbados that marked South Africa's return to international cricket.

A veteran of 39 Tests and 104 limited-over internationals, his batting has come under the microscope of late with some observers arguing it could be difficult for him to find a place in the current side.

"The basic thing for me is that I am hitting the ball well, but I have not carried on from a few starts that I have gotten in

Friday and the club said Radomir Antic would take over for his third spell in charge, reports Reuters.

Officials said Antic would start work today and be on the bench for Sunday's league match at home to Real Betis.

Ranieri's resignation came as a shock to the club. "I have lost the motivation to coach this club," the Italian said.

Ranieri said his resignation had been accepted by the club's government-appointed administrator Miguel Jaume.

On Tuesday, Jaume had told the Spanish media that Ranieri was secure until the end of the season.

His prepared statement suggested he would leave the country.

"I have had a wonderful two years here and I want to thank the Spanish very much," he told a media conference before making an abrupt exit.

Ranieri came to Atletico after success at his previous club Valencia.

He reached Valencia for almost two seasons after taking over in September 1997 and led the club to last season's Spanish Cup.

They also qualified for the current Champions League after finishing fourth in the Spanish first division last season.

But he struggled to make an impact at Atletico after his summer move, beset by off-pitch problems over Gil's financial dealings and series of injuries to key players.

Atletico, 17th in the 20-team Spanish first division, were held 2-2 at home by Lens in a UEFA Cup fourth-round, first-leg match on Thursday.

**Parreira linked with Vasco**

RIO DE JANEIRO, Mar 4: Carlos Alberto Parreira is rumoured to be the coach Rio club Vasco Da Gama want to take over from axed coach Antonio Lopes, according to a reliable source here, reports AFP.

The 57-year-old Brazilian is one of the most experienced coaches in the game having led Brazil to the 1994 World Cup title, plus coaching Ghana, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Vasco Da Gama president Eurico Miranda has also on many occasions shown his admiration for Parreira, who has been out of work since Flamengo, whom he coached to promotion from the second division last season, sacked him a month ago.

On paper, the job would seem attractive to Parreira who has a good relationship with Vasco forward Romario and who wants to continue living in Rio. Palmeiras coach Luiz Felipe Scolari and Oswaldo Oliveira, coach of Corinthians, are other names on Vasco's wanted list. Lopes was dismissed on Thursday after the 4-0 defeat by Palmeiras in the final of the Rio-Sao Paulo tournament.

## US-Russia soccer friendly April 26

CHICAGO, Mar 4: A United States football squad will travel to Russia for the first time for an April 26 friendly in Moscow between former Cold War rivals, reports AFP.

The Americans have won only once in nine matches against Russian talent. That triumph came in Detroit in 1992 when Eric Wynalda and Marcelo Balboa scored in a 2-1 US win over the Commonwealth of Independent States.

## Ramzan hits

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Ziaul Haq 10 0 5 2

**VICTORIA SC**

Sajjad b Suja 16

Moni lbw b Ramzan 0

Nuruzzaman lbw b Enamul 37

Iqbal c Parvez b Anis 62

Rashed lbw b Anis 18

Samin lbw b Minhazul 9

Zahid b Minhazul 3

Ziaul b Enamul 25

Biplob c Imran b Enamul 12

Shahnewaz run out 6

Kamu not out 1

Extras: (b-1, lb-4, nb-1, w-13) 19

Total: (All out in 47 overs) 208

Fall of wickets: 1/10; 2/29; 3/105; 4/150; 5/151; 6/166; 8/195; 9/203

**Bowler**

Anis 8 0 36 2

Ramzan 8 1 27 1

Suja Erfan 10 1 40 1

Minhazul 10 0 44 2

Enamul 9 0 43 3

Rafique 2 0 13 0

**Result: Surjo Tarun won by 56 runs.**

## Klusener

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caught by Indian skipper Sachin Tendulkar at mid-off for one.

South African captain Hansie Cronje (12) was bowled by a Sri Lankan inswinger, leaving Boucher and Donald to see through the last few overs before stumps.

South Africa won the first of the two-Test series in Bombay in just three days.

India has not lost a Test series at home since 1987.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the second Test between India and South Africa on Saturday:

**INDIA:** First innings 158 all out

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings (overnight 254-3)

Kirsten c Jaffer b Kumble 79

Gibbs lbw b Kumble 4

Boje b Kumble 85

Kallis c Jaffer b Kumble 95

Cullinan c Jaffer b Kumble 53

Klusener c Tendulkar b Karthik 97

Cronje b Smith 12

Pollock c Tendulkar b Karthik 1

Boucher not out 14

Donald not out 31

Extras: (nb-4, b-24, lb-3) 31

Total: (For eight wickets) 472

To bat: M Hayward

Fall of wickets: 1-10; 2-171; 3-186; 4-271; 5-435; 6-441; 7-449; 8-468.

**Bowler:**

Srinath 30 6 53 1

Kumble 67 15 136 5

Chopra 24 3 78 0

Karthik 49 10 123 2

Sachin 10 2 33 0

Ganguly 6 1 18 0

Kaif 3 0 4 0



Manchester United's Ryan Giggs (L) tries to hold back Liverpool's Rigobert Song (C) during their Premiership clash at Old Trafford yesterday. —AFP photo

## Old Trafford classic ends all-square

LONDON, Mar 4: English Premiership leaders Manchester United were held to a 1-1 draw

against fourth-placed Liverpool at Old Trafford on Saturday but still moved seven points clear at the top of the table, reports AFP.

United's lead, however, could be reduced by second-placed Leeds, who play Coventry City at Elland Road on Sunday.

Norwegian international Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, replacing Andy Cole up front, equalised on the stroke of half-time after Patrik Berger had given the visitors the lead.

The game brought together the Premiership's most potent attack -- with United having scored 59 goals, 13 more than any other side before kick-off -- against the meanest defence, with Liverpool having conceded 21 goals, three less than any other club.

Czech Republic international Berger put Liverpool ahead on 28 minutes with a superb 30-yard free-kick which United's Dutch goalkeeper Raimond van der Gouw -- again preferred to Australian Mark Bosnich -- got his fingers to but the league leaders showed why they won three trophies last season by fighting back just before the break.

Liverpool were attempting to reach half-time with 10 men as Sami Hyypia received treatment following an unpunished foul by Solskjaer and the Norwegian duly struck from close range after good work from Denis Irwin and Ryan Giggs for his first goal in almost three months.

Michael Owen came on from the bench with 13 minutes to go and almost gave Liverpool the lead but his shot flashed past the post and Teddy Sheringham -- a second-half substitute for Dwight Yorke -- missed an open goal in injury time.

Old Trafford has proved a bit of a bogey ground for Liverpool and they have won only once since 1990, achieving victory just five times in their last 31 visits.

Liverpool boss Gerard Houllier was happy with a point despite looking good for the victory after taking the lead.

"I am very pleased with a point. If someone says you are going to get a draw at Old Trafford you have to be happy with that," he said.

"We had some clear cut chances but I am very, very proud and delighted with the way my team played."

He regretted the fact that he

did not replace Hyypia before Solskjaer equalised, saying: "I was misled about how much time was left (until half-time). I thought there was two or three minutes to go. I assume the responsibility."

Having started with Cole and Sheringham against Bordeaux in midweek, Ferguson turned to Trinidad and Tobago international Yorke and Solskjaer in attack.

Paul Scholes was not fit with a hip injury, but Keane was available to skipper the side after a hamstring problem.

Liverpool had not beaten United at Old Trafford since 1990 and while Owen was back in the squad after six weeks out with another hamstring injury, he was kept on the bench at the start.

The opening stages were characterised by some committed tackling in midfield but there were brief glimpses of goal for both sides.

After David Beckham had flicked the ball onto Keane, the midfielder went round Berger but his shot blocked by Stephane Henchoz.

United were unconvincing in defence, however, with Michael Silvestre's attempts to dribble the ball out of his own penalty area resulting in a half-chance for Berger.

However, Keane, slid in with a perfectly timed tackle to deny the Czech international.

United were a different proposition going forward and Solskjaer was unlucky not to find the target when he rose unchallenged in the penalty area to meet Gary Neville's cross.

Liverpool soon had to reorganise in defence as Vegard Heggem went off injured to be replaced by Cameroon international Rigobert Song.

## Three female booters test positive

LONDON, Mar 4: Three players from the Women's Premier League have been charged with misconduct after failing random drugs tests, England's Football Association (FA) said on Friday, reports AFP.

They are the first players to test positive since random drug testing was introduced into the women's game in 1995.

The players were among four selected for post-match testing at a Premier League Southern Division match between Wembley Mill Hill and Langford on January 22.

Beckham hit a free-kick just over the bar as the home side pushed for winner and Giggs' cross-shot was unlucky not to find a United boot as the ball flashed across the six-yard box.

Owen came with 13 minutes to go and almost gave Liverpool the lead.

Danny Murphy outpaced Irwin and put Owen through with only van der Gouw to beat but his chipped shot spun agonisingly past the upright.

But United also had an excellent opportunity to grab all three points in injury time when Giggs' low cross found Sheringham unmarked in the area and with an open goal to aim at but his shot was miraculously blocked on the line.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Public Works E/M Division-7, Dhaka.

Memo No E/M-7-126/3465

Dated, Dhaka-22-2000/10-11-1406 Bangla.

## Tender Invitation Notice

No 107/1999-2000

Tenders in sealed envelopes on percentage basis in Bangladesh form No-2908 are hereby invited from special class enlisted for mechanical/electrical work/first class and second class contractors of Public Works Department who have valid ABC/BC classes of contractorship and supervisory licences from Bangladesh Electrical Licensing Board and registration certificates from the Value Added Tax Department and TIN certificate and their bonafide manufacturers/suppliers for the undermentioned work. Tenders will be received in the tender box kept at the offices of the Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division-1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8, Dhaka, Public Works E/M Workshop Division, Dhaka, Public Works E/M Timber Workshop Division, Dhaka, Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka till 12-00 Noon on 15-3-2000/1-12-1406 Bangla and will be opened the same day at 12-30 PM in presence of the tenderers (if anyone remains present).

Tender form, schedule of item, terms and conditions and rules and regulations etc. can be purchased from the office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works E/M Division, 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8, Dhaka, Public Works E/M Workshop and Timber Workshop Division, Dhaka, Public Works Eden Building Division, Dhaka till 31-11-1406 Bangla, 14-3-2000 during office hours on payment of Taka 410/- only in cash (non-refundable). Contractor himself or his nominated representative authorised by him can purchase tender form by producing all necessary papers including registration book. Security money at the rate of 2 per cent of the total quoted cost in the forms of Bank Draft/Pay Order/Treasury Chalan/Call Deposits from any scheduled bank in favour of the undersigned will have to be deposited along with each tender.

Serial Number	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time allowed
1	Supply of high-pressure sodium lamp and ballast for replacement on 'B' Road, 'C' Road of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in Manik Mia Avenue	Taka 2,61,220/-	At the rate of 2% of the total quoted cost	20 (twenty) days

**Md Aminul Haque**

Executive Engineer

Public Works E/M Division-7

Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

Phone: 326314.

DFP-4418-272  
G-410

## Road Division, Gaibandha Notice Inviting Tender of RHD

- Tender Notice No : 11-EE/GRD/1999-2000
- Name of work : Construction of semi-pucca Work-Shed at RHD, Shaplapara Stackyard Gaibandha Town area under Road Division, Gaibandha during the year 1999-2000.
- Estimated cost : Tk. 1,91,868/=
- Earnest money : Tk. 3,838/=
- Time allowed for completion of work : 45 (forty-five) days.
- Eligibility of contractor : "A" to "E" class contractor under general category of RHD.
- Name of offices where tender documents will be available for sale : 1. Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Division, Rangpur/Bogra/Kurigram/Joypurhat/Lalmoinirhat/Gaibandha.  
2. Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Road Sub-Division, Gaibandha/Palashbari.
- Name of office where tender will be received : 1. Superintending Engineer (RHD), Rangpur Road Circle, Rangpur.  
2. Executive Engineer (RHD), Road Divn, Rangpur/Bogra/Kurigram/Joypurhat/Lalmoinirhat/Gaibandha.
- Last date of selling tender : Up to 13-03-2000 during office hours.
- Last date & time for receiving tender : On 14-03-2000 at 12:30 PM.
- Date & time for opening of tender box : On 14-03-2000 at 12:45 PM.
- Date & time of opening of all tender by this office : On 21-03-2000 at 11:30 AM.
- Date & time for : At 11:30 AM on 23-03-2000. (If required)
- Head of A/C : 168 RBF

DFP-4826-29/2  
G-399  
Executive Engineer (RHD)  
Road Division, Gaibandha.

Atletico Madrid coach Claudio Ranieri during a press conference in the Spanish capital on March 3. He held the briefing to announce his resignation. —AFP photo