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- Who will be the match referee in the Bangladesh's inaugural Test against India next month?
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- Who lifted the Princess Cup tennis title?
Sorena | Hings | Doka
- Who is the new managing director of United Cricket Board of South Africa?
Peter Pollock | Gerald Majola | Duncan Fletcher
- Who won the Shaheed Major Nazimul Haq International rating chess title?
Refaat | Rakib | Rajeb
- Who is new cricket coach of Zimbabwe?
Houghton | Rackemann | Pyroff

Name

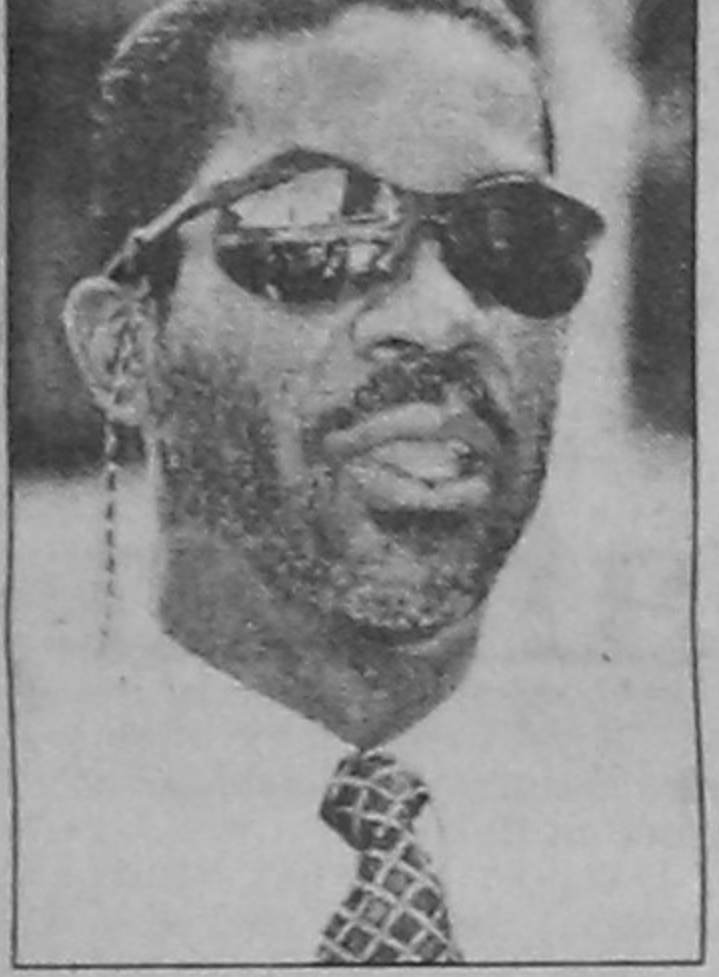
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SPORTS TALK



Michael Holding
(Former West Indies fast bowler)

"Courtney Walsh is capable of taking wickets in every condition imaginable and at 37 years still going as strong as ever."

Campbell holds Zim together

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct 26: Alistair Campbell carried his bat to make an unbeaten 105 as Zimbabwe scored 218-9 from 50 overs against India in the Sharjah tri-series here on Thursday, reports AFP.

But the left-handed opener's fourth one-day century was not backed up by the other batsmen, the next highest score being Guy Whittall's 26.

India's young left-arm seamer Zaheer Khan wrecked Zimbabwe with four for 42 from 10 overs, while new ball partner Venkatesh Prasad finished with two for 38.

A win for India will ensure there is a place in Sunday's final against Sri Lanka.

Zimbabwe, who have a slim chance of qualifying on run-rate even if they beat India, have already booked their flight home before the league ends on Friday.

Heath Streak's men are due to begin a two-Test tour of India on November 5.

Grant Flower, opening the innings for the first time in the series, made just 10 when he holed out to mid-on trying to loft Prasad out of the ground.

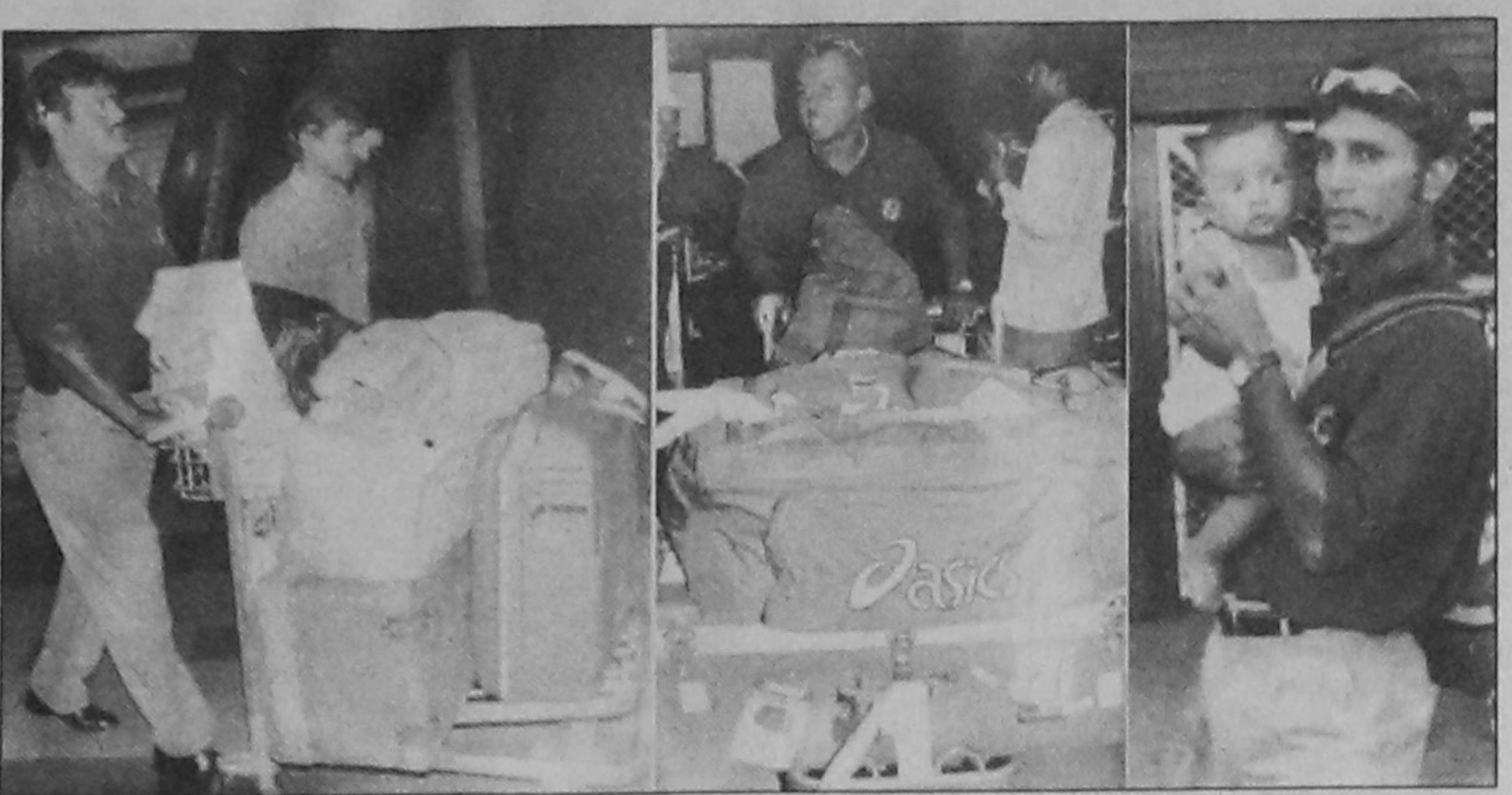
SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of Zimbabwe innings against India in the Sharjah tri-series on Thursday.

ZIMBABWE

Campbell not out	105
G Flower c Robin b Prasad	10
P Strang c Zaheer b Joshi	17
Carlisle run out	20
A Flower c Kambl b Zaheer	7
Whittall run out	26
Viljoen b Prasad	9
Streak b Zaheer	12
Friend b Zaheer	4
B Strang b Zaheer	0
Mbangwa not out	0
Extras (lb-3; w-2; nb-3)	8
Total (For 9 wickets in 50 overs)	218
Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-61, 3-111, 4-124, 5-174, 6-187, 7-207, 8-215, 9-218	

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Zaheer	10	0	42	4
Prasad	10	0	38	2
Azhar	10	0	37	0
Joshi	7	0	35	1
Strang	2	0	9	0
Tendulkar	3	0	16	0
Rohin	8	1	38	0



HOME SWEET HOME: A combo picture shows Bangladesh middle-order batsman Akram Khan (L), captain Naimur Rahman and wicketkeeper Khaled Masood (with his son) on their arrival at the Zia International Airport from South Africa yesterday.

Our batsmen were incapable

Sports Reporter
Pietermaritzburg and Durban which we were not used to," said Naimur while talking to the Daily Star.

Naimur's men were bundled out for 51 in Pietermaritzburg and a day later at Durban, the visitors could manage only 57 against the President's XI.

"It is a very tough task to negotiate both pace and movement for any team. For us it was always a trying situation as we have never played on pitches like those," said Naimur.

He revealed that the pitch at Pietermaritzburg was under cover for four days because of rain making it unusually seam-friendly.

Naimur also pointed at the batsmen, specially the top order for their frustrating performance.

"The top order did not click at all," said Naimur.

When asked whether his team lacked commitment, Naimur disagreed saying that they were technically not up to countering the bowling in South Africa.

Naimur however, hoped that his teammates would forget what has happened in South Africa and concentrate on their forthcoming maiden Test against India next month in a positive frame of mind.

"South Africa is in the past. We will now play on our own

pitches. I don't think the disaster will affect our performance in the Test match," Naimur said.

Coach Sarwar Imran also blamed his players' inability to cope with the bounce and pace.

We played against six fast bowlers in a match and all of them generated extra-ordinary pace which our batsmen found unplayable," Imran said.

Can you believe that their wicketkeeper stands on the 30-yard circle mark? That was some baptism of fire for us," added Imran.

If you look at Akram Khan, he took 60 balls to score ten runs. But it's not surprising because most of the times he couldn't lay bat on ball. Our batsman are not habituated to face good length balls on the back foot," Imran pointed out.

Imran also believed that injury played a part in the dismal showing.

"We took only one opener instead of a possible four for South Africa. And then Javed Omar fell injured along with makeshift opener Al-Shahir.

"That forced the middle order players to face the new ball early in their innings and they failed understandably," said Imran.

Champs claw their way thru'

BEIRUT, Oct 26: Saudi Arabia maintained their extraordinary Asian Cup record here Thursday, reaching their fifth consecutive final with a hard-fought 2-1 win over South Korea, reports AFP.

A devastating late burst from Talal Al-Meshal helped the defending champions into Sunday's final, where they will play the winner of Thursday's late semi between Japan and China.

Midfielder Al-Meshal struck in the 76th and 81st minutes to shatter South Korea's hopes of winning their first Asian crown for 40 years.

Saudi coach Nasser Jaohar - who replaced Czech Milan Macale after the holders were thrashed 4-1 by Japan in their opening match of the tournament - said his team was improving steadily.

"We played very well tonight. We played at the Saudi Arabian rhythm, not at the South Korean rhythm. But we are still only playing at 80 percent of our capability," Jaohar said.

Jaohar singled out English-based skipper Sami Al-Jaber for special praise following the win.

"Sami played very well. I asked him to play an offensive role and a defensive role and he did both very well," Jaohar said of the Wolves striker.

In a disappointing match which saw long passages of dull play, Al-Meshal finally broke the deadlock 14 minutes from time.

The Saudis launched a swift breakout from defence down the right, with Ahmed Dukhi beating two men before whipping in a perfect cross for Al-Meshal who nodded in his first.

That goal suddenly seemed to inspire the Saudis, who created chances in quick succession to nearly kill off the Korean resistance.

First, Abdullah Al-Wakid scooped a shot over the bar

Chess team off to Olympiad

Sports Reporter
A 12-member Bangladesh chess team left for Istanbul last night to take part in the 34th Olympiad.

The 126-nation biggest brain-game carnival will be held from October 27 to November 13.

International Master (IM) Reefat bin-Sattar, the country's highest rated local player (2467), will lead the six-man team. The other players are: IM Zaheer Rahman (2421), IM Abdullah Al-Rakib (2386), national junior champion Enamul Hossain Rajib (2314), Ruhul Kabir Shipu and Saifuddin Lovlu.

Twelve-time national champion International Women's Master (IWM) Rani Hamid is the only experienced player on the women's team. Current national women's champion Nazrana Khan Iva and Zakia Sultana make up the team.

Both teams underwent a six-week training under the supervision of Grand Master Igor Rousis.

Rousis, who is supposed to play in the number one board for Latvia, went on leave from October 13 and is expected to join the contingent in the Turkish capital before Olympiad commences.

Bangladesh Chess Federation general secretary Syed Supaiddin will act as team leader and Harun-ur Rashid, who has been appointed as an arbitrator for the Olympiad by the game's governing body FIDE, is the other member of the team.



Saudi Arabia's Nawaf Al-Temyat (L) and Yang Chul of South Korea are in quest of the ball during their Asian Cup semifinal in Beirut yesterday.

Minhaz's plea to be considered

Sports Reporter
Minhazul Abedin's dream of a return to international cricket got a refreshing twist yesterday when the president of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Sabir Hossain Chowdhury forwarded his plea to the chief selector.

Tanvir Haider, who heads the three-men selection panel, confirmed that he received Minhaz's application from the BCB president but refrained from making any comment on whether he was going to call the veteran allrounder in the selection trail for the historic Test against India.

I have got Minhaz's letter from the president in the afternoon. But we will have sit before making any decision on the matter," said Tanvir.

The former national captain, who announced his retirement immediately after his heroic performance in the 1999 World Cup, has expressed his desire to make an international comeback during recent talks with the BCB president.

BCB changing logo again?
Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is about to redesign its official logo once again before Bangladesh's historic one-off Test match against India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium from November 10-14.

The current logo incorporates a Royal Bengal Tiger's head on a red cricket ball with the words Bangladesh Cricket Board encircling both in English and Bangla.

Until Bangladesh lifted the ACC Trophy in 1996, the logo was a round-shaped national flag with a shapla (water-lily) emblem at the centre. The national flag was surrounded by sheaves of paddy.

The shape of the new logo is almost similar to the West Indies Cricket Board's one.

On the right side of the new logo, the tiger's head will remain as it is. The change is in the shape of the national mausoleum being placed on the left side.

This was observed by two Dutch-Bangla Bank officials who were exhibiting a ticket sample for the inaugural Test match to BCB's ticket committee, secretary Mozammel Haque Manju at the BCB office yesterday afternoon.

Manju said that he did not have any knowledge about any change to the logo.

He said that it was just a sample and they (the bank) inserted a dummy logo.

He also failed to explain why the original round-shaped logo was given on the ticket as it was designed by a computer graphics designer.

Later, a close source to BCB confirmed that the logo would be changed soon.

BD cricket on CricInfo

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Cricket Development Foundation (BCDF) yesterday signed an agreement with CricInfo, the world's leading cricket website, to host and manage the official site of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB).

Although the role of the BCDF in the agreement was not disclosed, but it was reported that BCB president Sabir Hossain Chowdhury is also the chairman of the foundation.

In a statement, BCB president Sabir Chowdhury said: "These are very exciting times for supporters of Bangladesh cricket. Interest is going to be higher than ever in our cricket as well as our national side and hence our desire to reach more people globally than ever before. It is important too that in

CricInfo can be found at www.cricinfo.org

an increasingly digital age, followers all over the world of Bangladesh cricket have the best and most accessible Internet service available. With CricInfo's established focus on cricket, we believe they can deliver this."

CricInfo's chief executive Simon King said that his organisation and BCB were looking forward to

build an instant site for Bangladesh cricket, worthy of its newly-elevated status and worldwide attention.

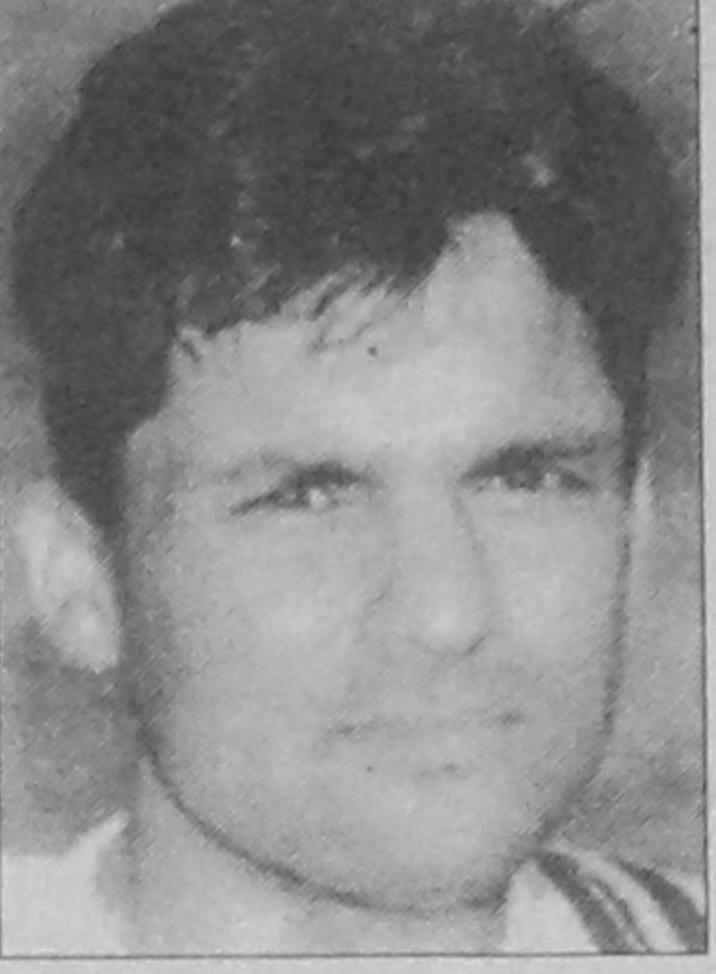
Bangladesh cricket fans will be able to enjoy unprecedented coverage of their team, including audio highlights, audio and video commentary from domestic matches, live scoreboards, statistics and photographs. Other features will include interactive content and material such as games, fantasy cricket competitions, others contents, quizzes, polls forum, live chat and articles.

Second one-dayer today

LAHORE, Oct 26: England captain Nasser Hussain warned against complacency Thursday ahead of the second one-day clash with Pakistan and urged supporters not over-react to his team's winning form, reports AFP.

"The win against Pakistan was satisfying but we must not get complacent as Pakistan is a phenomenal side and can always bounce back," he said.

England enter the second one-dayer here Friday with a 1-



MOIN KHAN

0 lead in the three-match series by virtue of their gritty five-wicket win in Karachi on Tuesday.

"We may be winning but it's a gradual process and we must not take Pakistan easily," Hussain said.

England supporters have reason to expect miracles from the team after they overcame sizzling conditions and the

home advantage in Karachi to easily reach Pakistan's daunting target of 305, helped by a swashbuckling 84 from Andrew Flintoff.

The visitors have won six of their last eight limited-overs games with a tripartite tournament victory back home against the West Indies and Zimbabwe in July.

"It was just one game against Pakistan and there are still two to be played," Hussain said.

The match will be shown live on ESPN from 1pm (BST).

England kept pressure on Pakistan's bowling with Hussain, Graham Thorpe and Graeme Hick hitting half-centuries besides Flintoff's career best innings.

Hussain said he was "feeling alright" after twisting his ankle but would have to pass a fitness test before taking to the field Friday.

Pakistan captain Moin Khan said the second match was a do-or-die affair for his team, which has lost two of their last three one-day series at home.

"We will have to go all-out in the match. We must not let go of this chance," Khan said.

Pakistan's bowling, always their strong point, received some stick in the first match with fast bowlers Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis and medium-paceer Abdur Razzak conceding 196 in 28 overs.

Spinners Saqlain Mushtaq and Mushtaq Ahmed also failed to exploit the English batsmen's weaknesses, taking just one wicket between them.

"We can't blame the bowlers for the loss. They have won us several matches. I think conditions were wet and that made the ball heavy," Khan said.

Pakistan may squeeze in all-rounders Azhar Mahmood and Shahid Afridi for Friday's match, which is another sell-out.

Mahmood missed the first match because of wrist injury.

TEAMS
ENGLAND (from): Nasser Hussain (captain), Marcus Trescothick, Alec Stewart, Graeme Hick, Graham Thorpe, Mark Alleyne, Andrew Caddick, Mark Ealham, Andrew Flintoff, Craig White, Ashley Giles, Darren Gough, Paul Grayson.



NASSER HUSSAIN

Matthew Hoggard and Vikram Solanki.

PAKISTAN (from): Moin Khan (captain), Inzamam-ul-Haq, Saad Anwar, Imran Nazir, Shahid Afridi, Younis Youhana, Salim Elahi, Faissal Iqbal, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Abdur Razzak, Azhar Mahmood, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mushtaq Ahmed, Shoaib Malik.

Umpires: Nazir Junior and Azeem Dar.

Lanka waltz into final

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct 26 (AFP/Internet): Sri Lanka crushed Zimbabwe by 123 runs on Wednesday to storm into the final of the Champions' Trophy triangular-series with their third consecutive win.

Sent to bat in the day-night international, the Sri Lankans piled up 276-9 from their 50 overs and then shot Zimbabwe out for 153 with nine balls to spare.

Sanath Jayasuriya's men will play in Sunday's final even if they lose their last league match against India on Friday.

Zimbabwe, with three defeats in a row, can now qualify only on run-rate, provided they defeat India on Thursday and Sri Lanka thrash India by a big margin.

Chasing a stiff target under lights at the Sharjah cricket stadium, Zimbabwe went out of the picture by the 18th over when the top six batsmen were back in the pavilion for 46 runs.

Left-arm seamer Chaminda Vaas began the destruction by removing Douglas Marillier and Stuart Carlisle off successive balls in his fifth over.

New ball partner Nuwan Zoysa dismissed Zimbabwe's most dangerous batsmen, Andy Flower and Alistair Campbell, to make it 35-4 in the 14th over.

Off-spinner Muthiah Muralitharan bowled Guy Whittall first ball, then removed Grant Flower in his next over to capture his 199th one-day wicket.

Dirk Viljoen played a lone hand for Zimbabwe with 60 as

Muralitharan ended the night with remarkable figures of two for 19 from 10 overs.

Sri Lanka's total revolved around a blazing start from skipper Sanath Jayasuriya and a late burst which produced 48 runs in the last five overs.

Jayasuriya, the aggressive left-handed opener, smashed 87 off 66 balls before being bowled by seamer Travis Friend 13 short of his first century at this desert venue.

Jayasuriya contributed 74 in an opening stand of 110 off just 15 overs with Romesh Kaluwitharana.

But Kaluwitharana's run out in the 16th over triggered a middle-order collapse as Sri Lanka lost four wickets for 45 to slip to 155-4 in the 28th.

Marvan Atapattu shored up the innings with 58 while Vaas provided the final punch with three sixes in 23 off 16 balls.

For Zimbabwe, Grant Flower, Viljoen and Friend finished with two wickets each.

"It was a great all-round performance," Jayasuriya said. "We are peaking at the right time and look forward to playing the final."

Zimbabwe captain Heath Streak rued the flurry of runs by the Sri Lankan tail and his own team's batting collapse.

"We seemed to have made it a habit of gifting runs at the end," said Streak whose bowlers conceded 35 runs in the last five overs against India on Sunday.

"It was not a total that could not be achieved, but we did not have any substantial partnership going.

"We are in a difficult position, but not out of it yet. If we can come back on Thursday and beat India, anything is possible," Streak said.

Kaluwitharana, reverted back to his opening slot in place of Avishka Gunawardene, made 25 when he found himself at the same end as Jayasuriya after charging down the wicket for a second run.

Jayasuriya went four overs later as wickets continued to tumble.

Mahela Jayawardene was stumped by wicketkeeper Andy Flower, while Kumar Sangakkara was bowled by Viljoen.

Atapattu and Russel Arnold added 40 for the fifth wicket to make it 195-4 in the 38th when Arnold swept Grant Flower into the safe hands of Carlisle at square-leg.

Atapattu, who made 90 in the previous match against Zimbabwe, was run out for the second time in two matches soon after reaching his half-century.

SCOREBOARD
Full scoreboard of the Sharjah tri-series one-day international between Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe here on Wednesday:

SRI LANKA: 276 for 9 in 50 overs (Jayasuriya 87, Atapattu 58, Kaluwitharana 25, Vaas 23; G Flower 2/29, Viljoen 2/38, Friend 2/52)

ZIMBABWE:
Campbell c J Wardena b Zoysa 20
Marillier c J Wardena b Vaas 11
Carlisle lbw b Vaas 0
A Flower c Kwitharana b Zoysa 0
G Flower lbw b M'tharan 10
Whittall b M'tharan 1
Viljoen c J Wardena b Zoysa 60
Streak run out 25

See page 15

Finger puts Shane in spin

MELBOURNE, Oct 26: Shane Warne is in danger of missing the Test cricket series against the West Indies this summer after breaking a finger playing for Victoria in the Sheffield Shield here Thursday, reports AFP.

Australia's all-time leading wicket-taker suffered a fractured dislocation of the ring finger on his right hand, his bowling hand, taking a catch at first slip to dismiss New South Wales Test batsman Mark Waugh.

After being taken to hospital for an X-ray and then being assessed by the Australian team surgeon Greg Hoy, it was announced Warne would be sidelined for between six to eight weeks.

That means he will certainly miss the first two Tests against the touring West Indians in late November and early December in Brisbane and Perth.

An eight-week absence would take him up to Christmas week with the final three Tests to be played in late December and early January.

Warne would not speak late Thursday about his latest injury blow but is expected to hold a media conference on Friday.

"He's pretty disappointed as you could imagine," Victorian chairman of selectors Shaun Grant said.

Warne's setback is likely to open the door for a Test return for NSW wrist-spinner Stuart MacGill.

So far, MacGill's international career has been based around Warne's fitness, with MacGill making his Test and one-day debuts only because of past injuries to Warne.

Warne's latest injury continued a sorry run for the champion leg-spinner, who has not only endured previous shoulder and finger operations but missed the recent ICC Cup in Kenya to undergo knee surgery following an English county season.

When Waugh, who top scored for the Blues with 53 in their day two session score of 180 for six, top-edged an attempted swipe off Colin Miller and the ball ballooned to Warne at first slip.

Warne surprisingly juggled the catch but did not appear to be hurt as he immediately joked with keeper Darren Berry about how close he had come to dropping such an easy chance.

But Warne soon realised all was not right with his finger and left the field to go to hospital for an X-ray, which revealed the damage.



SHANE WARNE