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Star Sport

DHAKA, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

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SPORTS TALK



Shamila Batohi
(Chief prosecutor of the King Commission of Inquiry)
"I think he was a good captain and a wonderful player for South Africa over the years."
On Hansie Cronje.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 137
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Nov 3 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who will be the match referee in the Bangladesh's inaugural Test against India next month?
Shepherd/ Subba Row/ Bucknor
- Who lifted the Princess Cup tennis title?
Serena/ Hingis/ Doki
- Who is the new managing director of United Cricket Board of South Africa?
Peter Pollock/ Gerald Duncan/ Majola/ Fletcher
- Who won the Shaheed Major Nazmul Haq International rating chess title?
Refaat/ Rakib/ Rajeeb
- Who is new cricket coach of Zimbabwe?
Houghton/ Rackemann/ Pyrott

Name.....
Class..... Roll No.....
School Address.....
Phone: (If any).....

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ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Due to some technicalities, draw of the Boost WHIZZ KID Competition-137 could not be held last night. It will now be held on November 3. -Sports Editor

Ks settle for quick draw

LONDON, Oct 27: The Brain Games World Chess Championship's eleventh game ended in a draw after 41 moves and three and a half hours of play, reports AFP.

Vladimir Kramnik is leading by 6.5 to 4.5 out of the scheduled 16 games, which means Gary Kasparov is in a real danger.

Kramnik won the second one, that was the first Kasparov defeat since January 1999, and the tenth one as well, after a poor play of his opponent. The other nine were drawn. The prize fund is two million dollars (two-thirds of which goes to the winner).

Kramnik will play with the white pieces the next game, on Saturday.

In 1993, Kasparov left the International Chess Federation (FIDE), which has its own World Chess Championship.

Kramnik won by starting out with the first 14 moves had been already played by Kasparov against the Spanish (former Latvian) player Alexei Shirov in Linares 1998. But then Kramnik introduced a new idea, which he had thoroughly prepared at home with his assistants and computers.

Kasparov, who looked quite disappointed again, got an advantage, but too small to win the game.

In the press conference following the game, Kasparov answered a journalist wanting to know if Kramnik was the next world champion by saying "not yet".

Kasparov's one hope now is to equalise with Kramnik, ending with eight games each. If that happens, he will keep his title as the world's number one chess player.

Not this time, Minhaz

Sports Reporter

The chances for Minhazul Abedin making a comeback into the national fold for the inaugural Test next month appears slim. At least that's how chief selector Tanvir Haider foresees it.

"It is too late for us to consider him (Minhaz) for this particular Test which is only 13 days away. We have to name the 14-member squad on October 30 and it's not possible for us to make him go through the selection procedure within this short time," said Tanvir while talking to The Daily Star Sport at the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday.

The 35-year-old former captain, who retired from international cricket after the World Cup last year, formally applied to the BCB a few days ago to consider the experienced all-rounder for the historic match against India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on November 10.

"There is a procedure for selection. A player must attend a camp for a certain period of time to prove the required level of fitness."

"Moreover, this is going to be Bangladesh's maiden five-day match. So I can't take a chance on his fitness (both physical and mental)," he said adding it would have been wiser had Minhaz applied two months beforehand when the national camp for ICC Knockout and South Africa tour got underway at the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Pratisthan (BKSP).

"Look at Mohammad Rafique. He applied much earlier and therefore had the opportunity to attend the conditioning camp. That's why he is now in the team."

"If Minhaz was selected it would have been indeed unfair and unethical, in a sense that a player who had been attending the camp for the last two months would have been deprived," said Tanvir, who is also vice-president of the Board.

"However, I would like to point out that he will be considered for future Test matches provided he meets certain fitness levels after attending such camps," stated the head of the three-member selection committee.

Minhaz's application reached him yesterday (Thursday).

Termining Minhaz's decision to call it a day after the World Cup as too premature, Tanvir believed had he continued playing for the national team then may be he would have been involved in the country's first-ever Test match.

He should have appeared in all of the three- and four-day matches against different touring teams last season to keep in shape for selection.

"Besides, abstaining from international scene for 17 months. I think it's not fair for a player to stake a claim for a recall. Test matches are very demanding on both body and mind," commented Tanvir.

Finally, when asked whether he had received any specific instructions from the BCB president to consider Minhaz back on the squad, Tanvir said: "The president has given me the right to select the best eleven and I shall do that to the best of my ability."

Mahela, Marvan hit tons

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct 27: A monumental 226-run partnership between Marvan Atapattu and Mahela Jayawardena lifted Sri Lanka to 294-5 from 50 overs against India in the Sharjah tri-series on Friday, reports AFP.

Atapattu made an unbeaten 102 and Jayawardena hit 128 off 122 balls after Sri Lanka were sent to bat in the last match of the preliminary league.

The match is a warm-up for Sunday's final as Zimbabwe, the third team in the series, were knocked out with four successive defeats.

The third-wicket pair came together in the eighth over after seamer Ajit Agarkar had removed openers Sanath Jayasuriya and Ramesh Kaluwitharana to make it 25-2.

The in-form Jayasuriya failed for the first time in the series when he slashed Agarkar's short ball to third man where Zaheer Khan was perfectly placed to take the catch.

In his next over, Agarkar trapped Kaluwitharana leg-before for eight, but the Indians had to wait till the 44th over for their next success.

Jayawardena reached his third one-day century in the 39th over, flicking Sunil Joshi for two runs.

He became Agarkar's third victim when he was caught on the long-off fence by Zaheer attempting his 16th boundary.

Atapattu, who made 90 and 58 against Zimbabwe, cruised to the three-figure mark in the 49th over. He finished with five boundaries.

Sri Lanka scored 82 runs in the last 10 overs as Russell Arnold hit 28 off 21 balls before Chaminda Vaas was run out off the last ball of the innings.

India used eight bowlers in the absence of seamer Venkatesh Prasad and spinner Anil Kumble, who were rested ahead of the final to recover from minor injuries.



GOODBYE CHINA: Chinese custodian Ou Chuilang (L) lying helpless as Japan's Tomokazu Myojin's (not in picture) strike finds the net for his team's winner in the Asian Cup semis in Beirut on October 26.

Myojin makes Japan's day

BEIRUT, Oct 27: A delightful goal from Tomokazu Myojin crowned a brave comeback by Japan in their Asian Cup semi-final here on Thursday as they beat China 3-2 to qualify for Sunday's final against Saudi Arabia, reports AFP.

Saudi Arabia will be out for revenge as the Japanese beat them in the 1992 final and were thrashed 4-1 in their opening match here.

"I said after the first match we would meet the Saudis in the final," Japan's French coach Philippe Troussier said.

"I am not known for being the white witch doctor for nothing, though you have probably heard that before!" the 45-year-old added.

China will once again have to look at themselves as the renowned chokers in Asian football as they let a 2-1 second-half lead slip when they were in apparent total control.

However, their Yugoslav coach Bora Milutinovic said there were many positives to be taken from the defeat.

"I was proud of the way my players performed and the manner in which we led a very good team," he said.

"However, if we are to have any chance of making the 2002 World Cup we must continue to play the Japan's and the Koreans of this world so we gain the experience of playing the big teams," he added.

"Japan had taken the lead through an own-goal by Chinese captain Fan Zhiyi only for China to roar back with goals from Qi Hong - his second in successive matches - and Eintracht Frankfurt marksman Yang Chen."

However, the Japanese who were coming back from behind for the third successive match replied through a header by Akitori Nishizawa, his fifth of the campaign, and Myojin.

China had looked the business right from the start of the second-half and merited taking the lead when Yang accepted Myojin's careless pass in the centre circle, went on a 25-yard run and his deflected shot flew in past keeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi.

However, the game turned when Shunsuke Nakamura's 25-yard freekick came back off the crossbar and the ever-alert Akitori Nishizawa stooped to head it home from eight yards out.

The rejuvenated Japanese controlled the game from then on, Nakamura almost restoring their earlier lead when his 30-yard freekick shaved the post with Jiang well beaten.

However, they deservedly retook the lead for the second time with the goal of the match as Nishizawa fed his strike partner Naohiro Takahara wide out on the right and he slipped it inside for Myojin to rifle it home from the edge of the area.

"This was really important psychologically for us and the players kept their cool but it would not have happened if they had not been able to hold on to the ball for more than five seconds," Troussier said.

The first half had been mostly China's property though it was the Japanese who took the lead in the 21st minute when Takahara's cross was volleyed in by China's Fan.

The Chinese, though, refused to be rattled and instead it was their opponents who were affected by the occasion and were soon picking the ball out of their net.

The magnificent Su rose in the 31st minute to head down playmaker Li Tie's cross and Qi nipped in to slide it past Kawaguchi.

They should have been ahead six minutes later when Su again caused havoc with his knock back, but Yang hit the crossbar from just five yards out.

Yang had also produced the first worthwhile effort of the match when his fierce 25-yard shot had produced a wonderful tip over the bar from Kawaguchi in the 15th minute and two minutes later Shen Si curled one narrowly wide of the post with the keeper beaten.

The only sour note of the night for the Japanese was the booking of Junichi Inamoto which rules him out of Sunday's showpiece.

BCB plans festival

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will organise a painting competition for different age-groups and a photo exhibition on November 7 ahead of Bangladesh's maiden Test against India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on November 10, reports UNB.

The painting competition - Group A: Under 10, Group B: U-15, Group C: Open - will start at 9 am while the photo exhibition at 3.30pm at the National Sports Council gymnasium.

Collectors of cricket photographs have been requested to contact the BCB by November 5. BCB is also willing to buy important and rare photographs.

Div I soccer

Youngmen's Fakirerpool Club finished top in the 'Super-Four' of the NBL First Division football league beating Agrani Bank Club 2-1 at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Three teams - Youngmen's Fakirerpool, Agrani Bank and BRTC SC - will play in the single round 'super-three' beginning Monday.

With the day's outcome, Fakirerpool took two points lead against their nearest rival Agrani Bank securing 32 points from 15 matches.

BRTC lost of the Muslim Institute 3-1 in tiebreaker in the day's other match but they reached the 'super-three' bagging 25 points while Muslim Institute finished with 20 points.

Trailing 0-1 in the first half Fakirerpool beat bankers 2-1.

The match between BRTC and the Muslim Institute rolled into tiebreaker after 1-1 draw in the stipulated time at the same venue.

Purabi b'ball

Sports Reporter

Mariner Young's Club and the Gregg Club won their respective Purabi General Insurance First Division Basketball League matches held at the Dharmadip Basketball Gymnasium yesterday.

In the first match, Mariner trounced Shaons Club by 149-31.

The winners led the first session 78-17.

The Gregg had to erase a 32-28 first period deficit before recording a 77-52 win over Shaon Sangha.

Rajshahi hockey

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Oct 27: Baikali Sangha defeated Friends Sporting Club 2-0 in the Rajshahi First Division hockey super league match at the Rajshahi Stadium.

Mamun opened the account in the second minute of the second half. Raju added another goal three minutes later.

In the second match of the day, Kazihata Sporting Club and Jagrata Sangha split points after the match ended in a 1-1 draw.

Bipal led Jagrata Sangha scoring a goal in the 61st minute. Rashu draw level in the 68th minute.

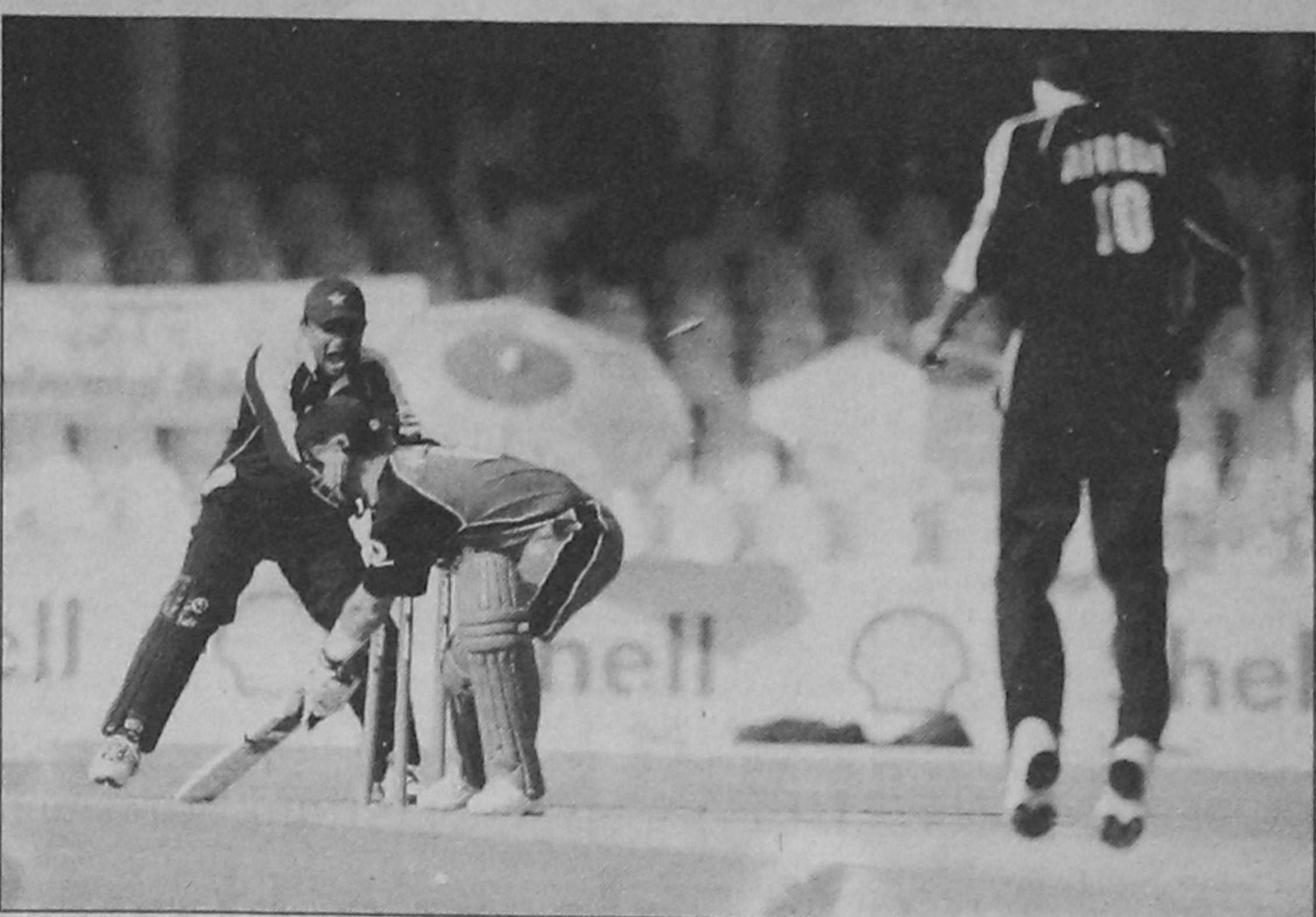
CRICKET

The first Shaheed A H M Qamruzzaman Hena Smriti Cricket tournament organised by Katakhal Cricket Training Academy began today at the Katakhal Adrasha Degree College playground in the city.

Gir Shreshtha Captain Mohuddin Jahangir Smriti Sporting Club defeated Firoj Smriti Sangha by three wickets in the inaugural match.

Firoj Smriti won the toss and scored 117 runs for nine in the stipulated 25 overs.

In reply, Jahangir Smriti reached the target of 118 runs for seven wickets in 23.4 overs.



Pakistan captain and wicketkeeper Moin Khan stumps Craig White of England off the bowling of Shahid Afridi (R), who later was adjudged man-of-the-match, during the second one-day international in Lahore yesterday.

Afridi abases England

LAHORE, Oct 27: All-rounder Shahid Afridi's double blows fashioned Pakistan's comprehensive eight wicket win over England in the second one-day international at the Gaddafi Stadium here Friday, reports AFP.

The popular all-rounder took five wickets and sparked in batting with 61 to help Pakistan level the one-day series.

The series is level at one match all with the decider scheduled for Monday at Rawalpindi.

20-year-old Afridi finished with 5-40, to cause a slump in England batting which finished at 211-9 in 50 overs.

Cherub-faced Afridi then helped Pakistan achieve the target in 44.2 overs with a swashbuckling innings of 61 off 69 balls to a standing ovation from a 28,000-strong crowd.

Pakistani spinners gave England a warning what is in store for them in the remaining match.

In company with Saeed Anwar, Afridi put Pakistan in the driving seat, posting 76 by the 13th over.

Afridi hit left-arm spinner Ashley Giles for 14 with two fours and a six but Giles returned in the next over to claim Anwar for 41.

Anwar hit four boundaries in his 59 ball innings and was caught by leaping Graham Thorpe at square-leg.

"It's always fantastic to figure in Pakistan's win and I had that in mind before the match to have my contribution," said Afridi, who two months back was fined and suspended in a girl-in-hotel-room scandal.

Afridi partnered Salim Elahi in a second wicket stand of 46 off 53 balls before falling to Giles, mistiming a cover drive to be caught by Thorpe.

"I am delighted the way the boys have performed and it's nice to stage a comeback," Pakistan captain Moin Khan said.

Elahi's 58 not out and a unbroken stand of 91 with Yousuf Youhana for the third wicket was overshadowed by Afridi's stunts.

Youhana made 39 not out.

England's first match hero Andrew Flintoff missed a straighter one from off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq Ahmed after making 17.

Afridi accounted for Craig White and Mark Ealham in his sixth over to record his career best figures in 119 matches. His previous best of 3-16 was against the West Indies last April.

England lost their last six wickets for 27 runs, slumping from 171-3 to 198-9.

NZ's time to get back

KIMBERLEY, South Africa, Oct 27: New Zealand arrived in South Africa as the newly-crowned International Cricket Council (ICC) Knockout champions, having come out on top in a contest of the best teams in the world.

Less than two weeks later, they are running out of options as they seek to avoid humiliation in a series in South Africa.

"We may be a bit flat," admitted key batsman Roger Twose as he looked ahead to the fourth match of a six-match series in Kimberley Saturday.

South Africa lead 2-0 and could well have been 3-0 up if rain had not washed out the first match in Potchefstroom after a dominating performance by the South African batsmen.

Twose pointed out that the Black Caps have been touring since August, when they played in a tournament in Singapore. Since then they have been to Zimbabwe for a Test and one-day series followed by the ICC tournament in Kenya.

They still have a three-match Test series against South Africa to come.

Twose said: "It's hard with the South Africans playing so well but someone's got to do it for us. We'll dig deep. We've got to be as brilliant as we can be."

South Africa, beaten in the ICC knockout semi-finals in Kenya, have come out firing in the first three games and have scarcely had to call on some of their big guns like Lance Klusener and Jonty Rhodes.

The stars of the series so far have been left-handed all-rounder Nicky Boje, who has hammered 105 not out, 64 and 129 in his three innings in the number three batting position, and opening bowler Roger Telemachus, who conceded only 16 runs in ten overs in Benoni, then took three for 45 in Centurion.



STEPHEN FLEMING



SHAUN POLLOCK

The match will be live on Star Sports from 1:55pm Bangladesh Standard Time.

SQUADS

SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Gary Kirsten, Boeta Dippenaar, Jacques Kallis, Daryll Cullinan, Jonty Rhodes, Lance Klusener, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Allan Donald, Roger Telemachus, Andrew Hall, Shafiek Abraham, Makaya Ntini.

NEW ZEALAND: Stephen Fleming (captain), Nathan Astle, Chris Nevin, Roger Twose, Chris Cairns, Craig McMillan, Chris Harris, Adam Parore, Scott Styris, Shayne O'Connor, Geoff Allott, Brooke Walker, Paul Wiseman, Craig Spearman, Daryl Tuffey.