

Spanish Cup quarter-final draw

MADRID, Jan 19: Barcelona club Espanyol have been drawn to play their more illustrious neighbours Barcelona in the two-leg quarter-final of the Spanish Cup on January 31 and February 7, according to Friday's draw, reports AFP.

Liverpool visit Thailand in July

BANGKOK, Jan 19: English side Liverpool have postponed their planned match against Thailand's national team from May to July, the Bangkok Post said Friday, reports AFP.

The Premier League club reportedly cited a clash with a scheduled match between England and Mexico in which a number of Liverpool players were expected to be called up for duty.

Football Association of Thailand secretary general Worawi Makudi told the daily the team's visit had now been set for July 18-22.

Other stops on Liverpool's planned swing through Asia are not yet known, but Singapore and Hong Kong are also believed to be on the cards.

The four plans sparked controversy in Singapore, where the football association initially said the Carlsberg-backed team was not welcome in the nation-state, whose national side is sponsored by local brewer Tiger Beer.

Amid an outcry from fans and the press, they were forced to back down and Tiger Beer publicly declared it had no objections to a Liverpool appearance.

Efforts are now being made to see if a Singapore appearance can be resurrected.

English Premiership leaders Manchester United have announced a three-city Asian tour for July, playing in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand.

Weekend's English Premiership schedule

LONDON, Jan 19 (AFP): Following matches will be played in the English Premiership this weekend:

FIXTURES (1500GMT unless stated): Saturday: Chelsea v Ipswich, Coventry v Everton, Derby v Manchester City, Leeds v Newcastle, Leicester v Arsenal, Liverpool v Middlesbrough, Manchester United v Aston Villa, Tottenham v Southampton.

Sunday: Sunderland v Bradford (1600GMT), Monday: Charlton v West Ham (2000GMT)

Sahara Millennium Cup Bosnia in last four

NEW DELHI, Jan 19 (AFP): Result from the Sahara Millennium Cup football tournament on Thursday:

QUARTER-FINAL - AT COCHIN: Bosnia 3 (Zehrudin Kavazovic 40, Zelaudin Mularovic 83, Mirsad Beslicija 97) Uruguay 2 (Daniel Pereira 12, Juan Segales 59) H-2 1-1

Full-time 2-2: Bosnia win with golden goal in 97th minute. *Bosnia meet winner of Chile/Iceland in semi-final

Holders From page 13

CHITTAGONG: First innings 290 all out in 97.5 overs (Enamul 75, Ehsanul 49, Al-Amin 34, Haidul 3/51)

KHULNA: Second innings (overnight 40 for no loss) Nahidul c Suja b S Mehmod 55 Sajjadul c & b Enamul 11 Raju c & b S Mehmod 35 Rana run out 11 Uzzal c sub b S Mehmod 10 Asadullah s Mortuza b Enamul 2 Selim lbw b Enamul 6 Imran c sub b Enamul 7 Jamaluddin c Anis b Sija 50 A Kamal c Anis b Enamul 16 Al-Amin not out 10 Extras: (b-2, lb-11, nb-7) 20 Total: (All out in 84 overs) 223 Fall of wickets: 1/55, 2/113, 3/126, 4/137, 5/138, 6/138, 7/152, 8/155, 8/223

Bowlers O M R W Anis 2 0 12 0 Sajjadul 14 8 24 0 Enamul 36 9 74 5 Suja 5 1 6 1 S Mehmod 23 3 79 3 Minbazul 3 0 10 0 CHITTAGONG: Second innings S Mehmod c sub b Uzzal 55 Nafees lbw b Al-Amin 6 Ehsanul not out 35 Mortuza not out 5 Extras: (b-4, w-1) 5 Total: (For 2 wts in 21 overs) 106 Fall of wickets: 1/21, 2/98

Bowler O M R E A Kamal 2 0 12 0 Al-Amin 6 2 25 1 Jamaluddin 5 1 26 0 Nahidul 1 0 9 0 Rana 3 0 16 0 Uzzal 2 0 9 1 Tushar 2 0 5 0



Argentine international striker Martin Palermo (R) and Villarreal president Fernando Roig holding the jersey of the player during a press conference at the club on January 18. —AFP photo

Primera Liga preview Villareal may unveil Palermo

MADRID, Jan 19: Mid-table side Villarreal take the spotlight on a Spanish League weekend which nevertheless hosts a number of crucial top-of-the-table encounters, reports AFP.

The eastern coast side completed the signing of talented Argentine striker Martin Palermo from world club champions Boca Juniors midweek in a bid to narrow the 12-point gap which separates them from leaders Real Madrid.

Villarreal take the short trip north to lowly Barcelona side Espanyol and even if Palermo is unable to make his debut Sunday, the man whose talents spread to scoring braces of decisive goals, as well as missing tries of penalties, will be an attractive addition to the galaxy of foreign stars in the Spanish league.

Espanyol forward Akinori Nishizawa last week became only the second Japanese player ever to play in the Primera Liga.

In the race for league supremacy, which has been taken over by Real Madrid after their inspired 4-0 win over Oviedo last week, second place Barcelona host Catalan giants Barce-

lona. Only two points separate the two sides and Barcelona, who sit fourth, will be keen to reduce Valencia's grip on the title race.

Valencia coach Hector Cuper has ridden recent criticism to come up smelling of roses, although Norwegian international forward John Carew, who has continued his recent scoring feats, has certainly helped Cuper's cause.

Champions Deportivo La Coruna, lying in third place, have it all to do as they travel south to Malaga.

The northwest outfit, however, have some tactical rearranging to do after star Brazilian Djalminha was handed a two-match suspension, and fined a token 700 dollars, following incidents during and after last Saturday's 2-0 league win over Valencia.

Djalminha was alleged to have elbowed Valencia's Abelda, and after the match a fracas between Djalminha and Victor erupted in the tunnel.

A win at Malaga is not a formality - the south coast side sit a respectable seventh in the league, and although 12 points off the pace are capable of holding their own.

Real Madrid travel to lowly Valladolid, lying in 14th place.

The capital giants were linked midweek with France international and two-time FIFA player of the year Zinedine Zidane, who was reported to have signed a pre-contract agreement to leave Italian giants Juventus.

But ignoring whatever Zidane has planned for the future, Luis Figo and his talented teammates continue their present bid to retain top spot.

As anyone who witnessed their 4-0 drubbing of Oviedo, complete with Steve McManaman's potential goal of the season, will agree Real are fair personified - a three-point lead and a game in hand has merely given them an edge over the rest of the title contenders and a further win this weekend - coupled with dropped points for Deportivo and Valencia - could produce a welcome points gap.

Meanwhile, on the opening day of the ladies' event, there was a three-way tie for the LEADERBOARD (Third round)

Sadiq Qudus 229 (+13) Siddikur Rahman 229 (+13) Mohd Hossain 231 (+15) Shawkat Uz Zaman 235 (+19) Mohd Milon 236 (+20) Chudha B Bhandary 236 (+20) Raiyan Rab 237 (+21) Yelamber C Adhikari 241 (+25) Arshi Halder 243 (+27) Rahib Bashtar 244 (+28)

Meanwhile, on the opening day of the ladies' event, there was a three-way tie for the LEADERBOARD (Third round)

GP U-17 cricket

Sports Reporter Metro Greens registered a six-wicket victory over Sylhet Surma in one of the three GrameenPhone under-17 cricket tournament first round matches at the Dharmond Cricket Stadium yesterday.

In the other two matches held in Mymensingh, Rajshahi Tista beat Dhaka Rangers by one-wicket at the Circuit House ground while Khulna Rupsha won against Barisal Maroons by 14 runs at the local stadium.

SCORES IN BRIEF Metro Greens v Sylhet Surma Sylhet Surma: 204 for seven in 45 overs (Alok Kapall 82; Tawhid 2/25)

Metro Greens: 205 for four in 45 overs (Riad 82 not out) Result: Metro Greens won by six wickets.

Dhaka Rangers v Rajshahi Tista Dhaka Rangers: 226 all out in 44.5 overs (Rahman 52; Mamtaz 3/55; Tawhid 5/25)

Rajshahi Tista: 230 for nine in 44.5 overs (Synol 70; Bibul 3/55) Result: Rajshahi Tista won by 1 wicket.

Barisal Maroons v Khulna Rupsha Khulna Rupsha: 154 all out in 44.5 overs (Shahriar 50; Liton 3/25)

Barisal Maroons: 140 for eight in 45 overs (Riou 28, Prosenjit 42; Rahman 3/25) Result: Khulna Rupsha won by 14 runs.

Yet Siddik atop

Sports Reporter Although Shawkat-uz-Zaman fired an excellent third round 75, it still wasn't good enough to dislodge Mohammad Siddikur Rahman from the top spot in the Partex 16th Bangladesh Amateur Golf Championship at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

Siddikur shares the lead on 229 (13 over par) with Sadiq Qudus.

On the third day of the four-day prestigious competition, Siddikur shot 81.

Meanwhile, on the opening day of the ladies' event, there was a three-way tie for the LEADERBOARD (Third round)

Sadiq Qudus 229 (+13) Siddikur Rahman 229 (+13) Mohd Hossain 231 (+15) Shawkat Uz Zaman 235 (+19) Mohd Milon 236 (+20) Chudha B Bhandary 236 (+20) Raiyan Rab 237 (+21) Yelamber C Adhikari 241 (+25) Arshi Halder 243 (+27) Rahib Bashtar 244 (+28)

Metro

From page 13 A Wasim c K Mahmud b 22 Mokler b Ashrafur 36 Sharif not out 19 Shariful not out 19 Extras: (b-5, lb-10, nb-2, w-1) 18 Total: (For 9 wts in 210 overs) 518 Fall of wickets: 1/133, 2/139, 3/222, 4/332, 5/358, 6/382, 7/480, 8/518, 9/531

Bowler O M R W K Mahmud 50 13 132 3 Mehrah 10 1 32 0 Naimur 44 4 139 3 Ashrafur 13 3 36 1 Saikat 46 14 78 1 Mukul 36 10 88 0 Biplob 4 1 3 0 T Mehmod 4 0 9 0 Sajjad 1 0 13 0

DHAKA METROPOLIS: First innings Ashrafur c Shariful b Ziaur 7 Mehrah b A Wasim 25 Sajjad b Ziaur 2 T Mehmod c Sanwar b A Wasim 18 Halim b Shariful 20 Naimur c Ziaur b Shariful 19 K Mahmud b A Wasim 32 Mozul not out 44 Mukul b Ziaur 29 Anwar c & b A Wasim 4 Saikat not out 16 Extras: (b-10, lb-5, w-1) 16 Total: (For 9 wts in 84 overs) 216 Fall of wickets: 1/32, 2/34, 3/45, 4/60, 5/98, 6/109, 7/137, 8/148, 9/214

Bowler O M R W Sharif 23 8 58 0 Ziaur 23 6 53 3 A Wasim 30 11 49 4 Shariful 7 2 35 2 Bashar 1 0 6 0

Nat'l Jr chess

Sports Reporter Syed Ejaz Hossain and Mohammad Javed of Kamalapur Samaj Kalyan Sangha were jointly leading the 22nd National Junior Championship points table after winning their respective sixth round matches at the NSC Chess Room yesterday.

being given some wrapped in a towel. Italian umpire Laura Ceccarelli was also on the receiving end of a few Siberian blasts as Kourukova pulled back from the abyss of yet another premature exit from a Grand Slam tournament.

There was no such drama for love-struck 15th seed Kim Clijsters who demolished Spain's Nuria Llagostera 6-0, 6-1.

Anything like last ODI?



SANATH JAYASURIYA

The Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

the Wanderers in Johannesburg on Wednesday. Key off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was also hobbling at the Wanderers but skipper Sanath Jayasuriya said Vaas was the only worry - and that it was too early to tell whether

injury and has been unimpressive in two one-day games. "He's a little bit rusty," said Pollock. "It doesn't matter how hard you work in the nets, there's no substitute for bowling in the middle. There will be a little less pressure on him in a Test when there isn't an umpire waiting to wide him."

Donald bowled five wickets at the Wanderers when he conceded 31 runs in six overs

TEAM SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Darrell Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini, Andrew Hald (12th man)

SRI LANKA (probable squad): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Til-

South African captain Shaun Pollock said the one-day defeat, which prevented South Africa from equalling the world record of 11 successive wins, left "a sour taste" but he was confident his team would be able to come out firing in the Test.

Pollock admitted that the form of strike bowler Allan Donald was a worry. Donald missed South Africa's most recent three Test matches because of a stomach muscle

injury and has been unimpressive in two one-day games. "He's a little bit rusty," said Pollock. "It doesn't matter how hard you work in the nets, there's no substitute for bowling in the middle. There will be a little less pressure on him in a Test when there isn't an umpire waiting to wide him."

Donald bowled five wickets at the Wanderers when he conceded 31 runs in six overs

TEAM SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Darrell Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini, Andrew Hald (12th man)

SRI LANKA (probable squad): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Til-

South African captain Shaun Pollock said the one-day defeat, which prevented South Africa from equalling the world record of 11 successive wins, left "a sour taste" but he was confident his team would be able to come out firing in the Test.

Pollock admitted that the form of strike bowler Allan Donald was a worry. Donald missed South Africa's most recent three Test matches because of a stomach muscle

injury and has been unimpressive in two one-day games. "He's a little bit rusty," said Pollock. "It doesn't matter how hard you work in the nets, there's no substitute for bowling in the middle. There will be a little less pressure on him in a Test when there isn't an umpire waiting to wide him."

Donald bowled five wickets at the Wanderers when he conceded 31 runs in six overs

TEAM SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Darrell Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini, Andrew Hald (12th man)

SRI LANKA (probable squad): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Til-

South African captain Shaun Pollock said the one-day defeat, which prevented South Africa from equalling the world record of 11 successive wins, left "a sour taste" but he was confident his team would be able to come out firing in the Test.

Pollock admitted that the form of strike bowler Allan Donald was a worry. Donald missed South Africa's most recent three Test matches because of a stomach muscle

injury and has been unimpressive in two one-day games. "He's a little bit rusty," said Pollock. "It doesn't matter how hard you work in the nets, there's no substitute for bowling in the middle. There will be a little less pressure on him in a Test when there isn't an umpire waiting to wide him."

Donald bowled five wickets at the Wanderers when he conceded 31 runs in six overs

TEAM SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Darrell Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini, Andrew Hald (12th man)

SRI LANKA (probable squad): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Til-

South African captain Shaun Pollock said the one-day defeat, which prevented South Africa from equalling the world record of 11 successive wins, left "a sour taste" but he was confident his team would be able to come out firing in the Test.

injury and has been unimpressive in two one-day games. "He's a little bit rusty," said Pollock. "It doesn't matter how hard you work in the nets, there's no substitute for bowling in the middle. There will be a little less pressure on him in a Test when there isn't an umpire waiting to wide him."

Donald bowled five wickets at the Wanderers when he conceded 31 runs in six overs

TEAM SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Darrell Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini, Andrew Hald (12th man)

SRI LANKA (probable squad): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Til-

South African captain Shaun Pollock said the one-day defeat, which prevented South Africa from equalling the world record of 11 successive wins, left "a sour taste" but he was confident his team would be able to come out firing in the Test.

Pollock admitted that the form of strike bowler Allan Donald was a worry. Donald missed South Africa's most recent three Test matches because of a stomach muscle

injury and has been unimpressive in two one-day games. "He's a little bit rusty," said Pollock. "It doesn't matter how hard you work in the nets, there's no substitute for bowling in the middle. There will be a little less pressure on him in a Test when there isn't an umpire waiting to wide him."

Donald bowled five wickets at the Wanderers when he conceded 31 runs in six overs

TEAM SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Darrell Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini, Andrew Hald (12th man)

SRI LANKA (probable squad): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Til-

South African captain Shaun Pollock said the one-day defeat, which prevented South Africa from equalling the world record of 11 successive wins, left "a sour taste" but he was confident his team would be able to come out firing in the Test.

Pollock admitted that the form of strike bowler Allan Donald was a worry. Donald missed South Africa's most recent three Test matches because of a stomach muscle

injury and has been unimpressive in two one-day games. "He's a little bit rusty," said Pollock. "It doesn't matter how hard you work in the nets, there's no substitute for bowling in the middle. There will be a little less pressure on him in a Test when there isn't an umpire waiting to wide him."

Donald bowled five wickets at the Wanderers when he conceded 31 runs in six overs

TEAM SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Darrell Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini, Andrew Hald (12th man)

SRI LANKA (probable squad): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Til-

South African captain Shaun Pollock said the one-day defeat, which prevented South Africa from equalling the world record of 11 successive wins, left "a sour taste" but he was confident his team would be able to come out firing in the Test.

Pollock admitted that the form of strike bowler Allan Donald was a worry. Donald missed South Africa's most recent three Test matches because of a stomach muscle

injury and has been unimpressive in two one-day games. "He's a little bit rusty," said Pollock. "It doesn't matter how hard you work in the nets, there's no substitute for bowling in the middle. There will be a little less pressure on him in a Test when there isn't an umpire waiting to wide him."

Donald bowled five wickets at the Wanderers when he conceded 31 runs in six overs

TEAM SOUTH AFRICA: Shaun Pollock (captain), Boeta Dippenaar, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Darrell Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini, Andrew Hald (12th man)

SRI LANKA (probable squad): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Til-

South African captain Shaun Pollock said the one-day defeat, which prevented South Africa from equalling the world record of 11 successive wins, left "a sour taste" but he was confident his team would be able to come out firing in the Test.

Aussie side humble Zim



SHAUN POLLOCK

lekerate Dilshan, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Chaminda Vaas, Nuwan Zoysa, Muttiah Muralitharan, Dilhara Fernando

Umpires: Rudi Koertzen (South Africa) and Peter Willey (England).

The quality of the cricket we were up against was certainly not international standard, and we should have been able to show our skills.

"I must say it was all very disappointing."

Only a slogging last-wicket partnership of 35 by Streak (15 not out) and Gus Mackay (21) gave some respectability to the total.

The tourists' innings was wrecked by medium-pace Andrew Starr, from the New South Wales town of Armidale, who captured 5-37.

Starr, well though, he bowled, does not compare with Glenn McGrath, Brett Lee and Shane Warne, who will all line up against Zimbabwe at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Guy Whittall (37), Grant Flower (23) and Andy Flower (13) made starts but the rest of the top order failed to reach double figures.

"It was terrific fun for me," said an elated Starr, who has not played even grade (club) cricket in Sydney - let alone in first-class ranks.

"You've got to say they are really going to struggle against Australia, especially their bowling attack," Starr said.

"I can see Adam Gilchrist, Mark Waugh and Ricky Ponting really shining here."

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard of the exhibition one-day cricket match between Australian Country XI and Zimbabwe at Bradman Oval on Friday:

AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY XI: H May c A Flower b Streak 2 C Brown c Friend b Mackay 54 A McGuire c Mariller b Nkala 42 D Todd c A Flower b Viljeon 53 C Hawthorn c A Flower b Mackay 7 B Campbell lbw b Viljeon 6 G Smith c Carlisle b Viljeon