

Agarkar takes

FROM PAGE 13
months had been against top teams Australia and Sri Lanka.

He said he also hoped for a good performance in the Test series against the world's second-ranked side. "We are out there to play good cricket. They'll be a good side. We have to play well to stand a good chance to win the series," he said.

Ganguly said the return of leading batsmen Sachin Tendulkar and leg-spinner Anil Kumble after injury lay-offs would boost the team.

Tendulkar was sidelined for the Sri Lankan tour because of a hair-line fracture on his right foot while Kumble is back after missing almost a year because of a shoulder injury which required surgery.

Ganguly is also under pressure because of his poor test batting form, having scored only one 50 in his last 16 innings.

But he said: "I thought I played well in patches in Sri Lanka. I have been hitting the ball well, so I hope I score some runs in South Africa."

The left-hander hit 98 not out to lift India to victory in the second Kandy test in Sri Lanka, but has largely struggled and recently asked his bat-makers to prepare lighter bats.

Ganguly's side will have 12 days before the one-day series to get used to the pacy pitches in South Africa. India begin their tour with a game against the Nicky Oppenheimer XI on October 1.

Conditions

FROM PAGE 13
BANGLADESH A: First innings (overnight 23 for 3 in 14 overs)

| | O | M | R | W |
|--|-----|---|---|---|
| Rafiqul Sabir b Sharif | 4 | | | |
| Mehrab c Anwar b Monjuru | 10 | | | |
| Sanwar c Akram b Sharif | 7 | | | |
| Sajjad c Akram b Enamul | 0 | | | |
| Hasanuzzaman not out | 39 | | | |
| Extras: (b-6, lb-1, nb-8) | 15 | | | |
| Total: (For 5 wkts in 38 overs) | 115 | | | |
| Fall of wickets: 1/1, 2/13, 3/20, 4/80, 5/98 | | | | |

Bowler O M R W

| | O | M | R | W |
|----------|----|---|----|---|
| Monjurul | 11 | 2 | 22 | 1 |
| Sharif | 10 | 1 | 10 | 3 |
| Naimur | 5 | 1 | 11 | 0 |
| Enamul | 6 | 1 | 26 | 1 |
| Hasibul | 6 | 0 | 28 | 0 |

Gibbs zaps

FROM PAGE 13

Nkala 10 0 72 0
P Strang 10 0 0 56 1
G Flower 6 0 36 0
Whittall 7 0 43 0

ZIMBABWE

| | c | a | b | Pollock | |
|---|---------|----------|---|-----------|-----|
| Campbell | c | a | b | 81 | |
| Ebrahim | c | Klusener | b | Nel | 0 |
| Masakadza | run out | | | | |
| (sub - Dippenaar) | | | | | 11 |
| A. Flower | run out | | | | |
| (Rhodes) | | | | | 34 |
| Wishart | c | Kallis | b | Henderson | 45 |
| G. Flower | not out | | | | 22 |
| Whittall | not out | | | | 5 |
| Extras: (b4, nb2, w6) | | | | | 12 |
| Total: (For 5 wkts in 50 overs) | | | | | 210 |
| Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-43, 3-97, 4-157, 5-189. | | | | | |

Bowler O M R W

| | O | M | R | W |
|-----------|----|---|----|---|
| Pollock | 9 | 0 | 33 | 1 |
| Nel | 8 | 0 | 27 | 1 |
| Klusener | 5 | 0 | 22 | 0 |
| Ntini | 10 | 0 | 51 | 0 |
| Henderson | 10 | 0 | 44 | 1 |
| Kallis | 5 | 0 | 22 | 0 |
| McKenzie | 2 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Rhodes | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

Did not bat: H. Streak, P. Strang, T. Friend, M. Nkala.

Result: South Africa won by 153 runs.

Man of match: Herschelle Gibbs.

Umpires: Charles Coventry, Jeff Fenwick (both Zimbabwe). TV

umpire: Justice Tapfumayi (Zimbabwe). Match referee: Naushad Ali (Pakistan).

Remaining matches: Harare, Sept 29; Harare, Sept 30.

Shanghai Open Rainer's

Tennis

AFP, Shanghai

the second with hard-hitting displays from the baseline until a tiny chink in Kratochvil's armour gave the second seed the edge.

After saving three break points



PHOTO: AFP

Rainer Schuettler of Germany plays a backhand return against Swiss Michel Kratochvil at the Heineken Open final on Sunday.

It was a great day and an amazing week," said the winner.

"I had a lot of support, especially from some German fans."

Schuettler took advantage of an early break in the first set to grab the early lead against the 22-year-old Kratochvil. The pair stayed level in

the sixth game -- brought on by a double-fault -- Schuettler took a 4-3 lead as Kratochvil double-faulted for a break point and then sent a forehand long to drop to 3-4.

Schuettler served up the next game, but the Swiss answered with a love game, 4-5. Schuettler profited from a pair of long returns from his opponent to seal victory.

Both men move onto Hong Kong where neither will be seeded in a field headed by Spain's Juan Carlos Ferrero and Marat Safin.

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Both winners, however, needed all of their resources to reach the final. In the first match of the day, Majoli downed Slovakian Martina Sucha 6-4, 7-5. But the Croatian often appeared fatigued and admitted she welcomed the chance to rest before Sunday's final.

Schuettler, who beat compatriot Alexandra Stevenson in a marathon quarter-final that needed three sets and three tiebreakers on Friday, rallied in the first-set tie-breaker to defeat third-seeded Anne Kremer of Luxembourg 7-6, 6-2.

Harrison, who won his first professional outing against American Michael Middleton in May with a first-round stoppage, was made to work against English-based Scot McCafferty.

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Britain blank Ecuador

Tennis

AFP, Guayaquil

proved too strong for their hosts as they stormed the net to great effect at the Club Nacional in the port city of Guayaquil.

Nicolas Lapentti was shellshocked after his earlier loss to Rusedski, whom he would expect to beat on clay.

And that showed as the Ecuadorean dropped his opening service game in both of the first two sets.

Although he recovered from that nadir, his 18-year-old brother Giovanni then missed a simple volley as he dropped serve in the first game of the third.

That effectively marked the end of the Ecuadorean challenge -- but it was hard luck on Giovanni, who had been a star in the Wimbledon tie 14 months ago when he secured the final point in a 3-2 win.

In contrast to their opponents, Henman and Rusedski did not have to face a break point against either of their serves.

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