## The Daily Star

# SPORT

#### **Dillon withdrawn REUTERS.** Colombo

West Indies fast bowler Mervyn Dillon is being sent home from Sri Lanka after refusing to train because of security concerns.

Dillon, a key member of the team's attack. will miss a triangular one-day series also featuring Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka which starts on Saturday.

The 27-year-old Trinidadian player confirmed he was being sent home after opting out of training on Wednesday, the day of Sri Lanka's general elections.

Dillon, who had been apprehensive about touring Sri Lanka following the Afghanistan crisis, said he feared the possibility of election violence.

Skipper Carl Hooper said: "Dillon left the manager no options.

Team manager Ricky Skerritt said he would give more details later but confirmed that the player would be leaving Sri Lanka as soon as possibl

West Indies, thrashed 3-0 in the Test series, are already struggling with their lack of bowling options.

Dillon, who has played 19 Tests and taken 66 wickets, took nine wickets during the three Tests. Only leg-spinner Dinanath Ramnarine took more, with 10.

#### Lancashire won't let Crawley go

#### AFP, London

Lancashire County Cricket Club on Friday turned down former England batsman John Crawley's demand to be released from his contract. The Old Trafford club issued a

brief statement saying that the committee had unanimously rejected Crawley's request.

Lancashire have declined to comment further on the issue but Crawley said: "This has not changed anything as far as I'm concerned -- I am still determined to

go. "I am taking advice from counsel and we will have to wait and see what develops.

Crawley was sacked as Lancashire's captain at the end of the club's disappointing 2001 season and claims that his relationship with the club has broken down. Lancashire, however, believe

that to release him from his contract with three years remaining could set a dangerous precedent and they can ill afford to lose a batsman of his calibre

Crawley has been with Lancashire for 10 years and was appointed captain in 1999 but, since then. Lancashire have won only one trophy and last summer struggled to avoid relegation from the First Division of the county Championship.

## Vaas-t

#### FROM PAGE 13 ZIMBABWE

Ebrahim Ibw b Vaas 0 G Flower b Vaas Carlisle c Perera b Vaas A Flower c Sangakkara b Vaas Wishart Ibw b Vaas

batsman pounded the South African 16 attack here Saturday as the Proteas' 0

Marvin Bam of South Africa (R) blocks India's Prabhjot Singh's hit during their Champions Challenge hockey encounter in Kuala Lumpur vesterday.

## South Africa hold India

10th minute

play open hockey.

## Hockey

AFP, Kuala Lumpur India dropped a point when they

were held to a 2-2 draw by a fighting South African side in the Champions Challenge in Kuala Lumpur.

But it was a lucky draw for India as South Africa missed an excellent opportunity that could have changed the outcome when Craig Fulton's penalty stroke attempt in the 52nd minute was brilliantly saved by Indian goalkeeper Judé Menezes

The Indians did not take too ong to find their first goal with Jugrai Singh converting a penalty corner in the 9th minute. But hardly had the cheers died

down when South Africa struck Marauding Meuleman

Cricket

An almost unknown 21-year-old

AFP, Perth

minute when Deepak Thakur was the first to react off an initial penalty corner attempt by Jugraj Singh to steer the ball past stranded goalkeeper Chris Hibbert.

South Africa was awarded a penalty stroke when Lazarus Barla was adjudged to have made an illegal stop with his foot, but Fulton

nuffed his attempt. Fulton atoned for his earlier miss by deflecting into the roof of the Indian net a cross by Mike Cullen in the 60th minute to put his team level

Play swung from end to end but

bit lucky," he said. "I tried to play my

bowled some really quick balls, and

bowled especially well in his second

ing I have faced, and he might have

"He mixed his pace up. He

"It was up with the fastest bowl-

shots and it came off.

both teams failed to produce a with Justin King sending a powerful flick into the roof off the Indian net winner Indian coach Cedric d'Souza off another penalty corner in the

rued the opportunities his team Play became more exciting missed saying that they should after that with both teams opting to won the game easily. "We were unfortunate today as

India went ahead in the 17th we created enough chances but failed to put them away. "But on the overall we are play-

ing much better then we did in the World Cup Qualifiers last July in Edinburgh, "said Cedric,

His counterpart from South Africa Rob Pullen was happy with

point gained. "It is a good start for us gathering four points from the two favourites Argentina and India.

stroking a succession of fours from

the most successful bowler in South

of them Australian -- but has a

question mark against him as he

strives to prove his form and fitness

after being sidelined with torn stom-

Donald has 325 Test scalps -- 48

African cricket history.

ach muscles

India play hosts Malaysia in their next game on Monday while South Africa play Japan in an earlier match on the same day.

PHOTO: AFP

#### **Anand eases** into semis AFP, Moscow

India's reigning FIDE world chess champion Viswanathan Anand eased into the semifinals of the 2001-02 competition Friday and will face Russia's Peter Svidler for a place in next month's eight-game final

Cricket

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)

Saturday extended the tenures of

captain Wagar Younis and coach

Mudassar Nazar until March next

year, ending speculation that

Englishman Richard Pybus is about

Waqar Younis as captain and Nazar

as coach until the home series

against the West Indies that ends in

"We have decided to retain

AFP, Karachi

to return as coach.

Kallis has said

Australian newspaper.

world championship.

next Friday

The first Test in Adelaide starts

The two teams drew three-Test

series in both countries in 1993-94

before Australia won in South Africa

in 1996-97 and at home in 1997-98.

Jason surprised

by Llevton offer

Anand, a clear favourite to retain his title, drew with Spain's Latvianborn Alexei Shirov, beating him 1.5-0.5 overall in their two games.

Svidler drew both his games with Israel's Boris Gelfand, and was still level-pegging after their two rapidplay games, but edged his opponent out with a win and a draw in the sudden death blitz tie-break.

The other semifinal will pit two Ukrainians against each other, Ruslan Ponomariov who overcame the Russian Yevgeny Bareev with two wins in the rapid-play games after two draws in the full-play games, and Vasily Ivanchuk, who defeated France's Joel Lautier in the blitz tie-break (a win and a draw) after all their full-play and rapid-play games had been drawn.

Lautier narrowly missed becoming the first Frenchman in living memory to advance so far in a world chess championship. The semi-finals, involving four

games instead of two (plus tiebreaks if necessary), begin on Saturday.

The women's world championship final will match Russia's Alexandra Kosteniuk against the Chinese player Chen Zhu.

Kosteniuk defeated Chen's compatriot Yuhua Xu by winning both rapid-play tie-break games after ending with one win each in the full-play games, while Chen saw off Georgia's Maya Chiburnadze with a REUTERS, Perth win and a draw in the rapid-play games after two draws in the full-

#### Pabna soccer **OUR CORRESPONDENT,** Pabna

play games.

Sathia Kelowar Kallyan Samiti defeated Sarkar & Sons Chatmohor 2-1 in the Radhuni Second Division Football League at the local stadium vesterday.

Hedayet and Rana netted one each for the winners while Anwar pulled back one for the losers.

#### John's anxious FROM PAGE 13

Leipus, who took over in late 1999, has also been under pressure following a number of injuries in the last few months. Leading batsman Sachin

Tendulkar missed the Sri Lankan series in August-September because of a toe injury and Vangipurappu Laxman pulled out of the Tests because of a knee injury suffered during the one-day series. Opener Sadagopan Ramesh has only just recovered from a back

AFP, Sydney injury that ruled him out of the South Jason Stoltenberg said Saturday he African series, while left-arm pacemen Ashish Nehra and Zaheer was surprised to receive an offer to Khan have also struggled with their fitness

coach world No.1 player Lleyton Hewitt. Inexperienced as a mentor and

early March next year," PCB chair-man Lieutenant General Tauqir Zia which heightened regional insecu told AFP

Nazar, 45, was appointed to the

hot seat in October after Pybus

refused to join the Pakistan camp in

the wake of the September 11

terrorist attacks on the United

States and the subsequent US

riposte in neighbouring Afghanistan,

Younis, Nazar retained

Nazar is Pakistan's ninth coach When asked about the possible in the last four years. return of Pybus, he said: "Pybus is "The combination of Younis and Nazar has united the team and they esently not in the fray because of the political uncertainty in the region deserve an extension purely on and he is currently low on our priority merit. Zia said.

Whether the tenure of Younis and Nazar would be extended to the World Cup in 2003 would depend on performance, the general said.

"If Younis keeps himself fit, he remains our top priority as captain for the World Cup and as far as Nazar is concerned, we need to finalize certain modalities for his term until the World Cup." he said.

Pakistan tours Bangladesh in early January for two Tests and three one-dayers and then hosts the West Indies for three Tests and as many limited over games.

Younis said that while he had never chased after the captaincy, he considered leading Pakistan a great honour

"I take the extension as an incentive because it keeps me motivated and hungry to do even better. I am training hard and trying to keep myself going," he said.

I am being considered as captain for the World Cup which makes me proud. But I have to spend more time in the field as captain. I need to learn a lot and prove my worth.

### South Africa also failed to seize guys have played Australia here and

at home

"We know what to expect and have a better idea of how to beat them. We're going to go out there and enjoy the series and let our natural game take over."

Kallis, 26, who has played in 54 Tests, has an impressive record of 102 wickets at 28.22 with his fastmedium swing bowling and averages 47.86 with the bat.

He said the team had learnt through experience that it was better to take a slightly more relaxed attitude into a series against Australia

"I think we were a little bit nervous last time but obviously the older you get and the more Tests you get, while Test cricket never gets easier, you learn to handle it a little bit better," he said.

"We play as a team, a unit. We believe in ourselves.

"We've got a few good players who are averaging about 40 (with the bat). Suddenly we're up there with the best in the world."

# Australia as a battle for world cricket supremacy, all-rounder Jacques

JACQUES KALLIS "The tables have to turn," Kallis said. "A few things we feel haven't gone our way. We weren't all that

experienced but now a lot of the

### MUDASSAR NAZAR WAQAR YOUNIS **Bring on the Aussies** Cricket World Cup South Africa are viewing the forthcoming three-Test series against



#### "For us, this is our biggest clash," Kallis was quoted as saying in The "We've certainly worked the whole season towards it." he said in Perth where the South Africans are playing a four-day tour match against Western Australia "We see it as one and two playing each other for the world Test crown. Australia and South Africa are ranked first and second in the Test



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Result: Sri Lanka won by nine									
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Man-of-the-match: Chaminda									
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	Lankans).								

Test against Australia starting in
Adelaide Friday.
Scott Meuleman, a Western
Australian right-hander with a top
score of 46 from four previous first-
class appearances, fashioned a
stylish 109, embellished with a
massive hooked six off Donald and
18 fours, on the second day of the
four-day match at the WACA
Ground.
Western Australia went to
stumps with 303 for three wickets
after dismissing the tourists for 367
Friday.
The not-out batsmen were
Marcus North (49) and Murray
Goodwin (41).
Donald hurled down 20 overs
during the day, finishing with innings
figures of 0-85 from 21 overs as he
strives to prove he is fit after almost
two months on the sidelines with
injury. Meuleman said the Proteas'
welleman said the Proteas

Meuleman said the Proteas bearhead bowled better than the jures suggested

champion pace bowler Allan Donald been bowling a bit within himself." ed to impress ahead of the first South African bowling coach Corrie van Zvl said: "Donald has to take it one step at a time. As far as better."

play

"He is a great bowler, and I was a

the physical side goes, he is okay. "He is not quite where he wants to be, but there are two more days. left in this game and, hopefully, by the end of that he will be much Meuleman, grandson of former Test batsman Ken Meuleman -- who played in the Bradman era -- is not even a regular member of the State side He was included for this game

only after the Australian Test selectors asked that star batsmen Justin Langer, Adam Gilchrist and Damien Martyn be rested so they can prepare for the Adelaide confrontation. But the makeshift opener treated the South African attack, especially Donald, with near contempt during a sterling four-and-a-half-hour dis-

Early in the day he carted a short ball by the big Free State speedster over the fine-leg fence, as well as

Consistently dropping the ball too short and bowling wide of the stumps, the 35-year-old Donald caused few problems to the batsmen Saturday during his first two spells of eight overs for 40 runs and six overs for 22.

In a third assault, with the second new ball in the last hour of the day. Donald sent down another six overs for 21 runs without stressing the batsmen.

Donald had bowled one over for two runs the previous day.

Meuleman had a couple of slices of luck, being missed by wicketkeeper Mark Boucher off mediumpacer Lance Klusener, when he was on 77, and then surviving a missed stumping by the gloveman when he had reached 93.

The unlucky bowler the second time was left-arm spinner Claude Henderson.

Henderson had some consolation when Boucher, acting captain in place of Shaun Pollock, snapped up a catch to remove Meuleman.

The most penetrating bowler in a disappointing South African attack was 24-year-old paceman Makhaya Ntini, who whipped out opener Michael Hussey (21) and captain Simon Katich (66)

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the four-day tour match between South Africa and Western Australia at the WACA Ground on Saturday:

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 367 (M Boucher 134, J Rudolph 59, N McKenzie 35, G Kirsten 31; M Nicholson 5-68, S Karppinen 4-110) WESTERN AUSTRALIA: First innings (overnight 2-0) Hussey c Kirsten b Ntini 21 Meuleman c Boucher b Henderson 109 Katich c Boucher b Ntini 66 Goodwin not out 41 49 North not out Extras: (b-9, lb-8) 17 Total: (For 3 wkts in 91 overs) 303 Fall of wickets: 1-81, 2-202, 3-212, Bowler O M R W Donald 21 1 85 0 Elworthy 18 5 54 0 Ntini 16 4 36 2 Kallis 9 3 26 0

> 20 1 55 1

7 1 30 0

#### Akhtar cleared FROM PAGE 13

abnormal flexibility of his shoulder and elbow joints. Rana said they had now con-

firmed their initial findings after studying a video of Shoaib's bowling during the Sharjah tournament.

Respected Australian fast bowling coach Daryl Foster, who works the University of Western Australia and who has also help coach Pakistan's bowlers, met Shoaib recently in Sydney, Pakistani cricket sources said.

They said Foster also watched him bowl in the nets and provided feedback to the university. Shoaib is currently playing club

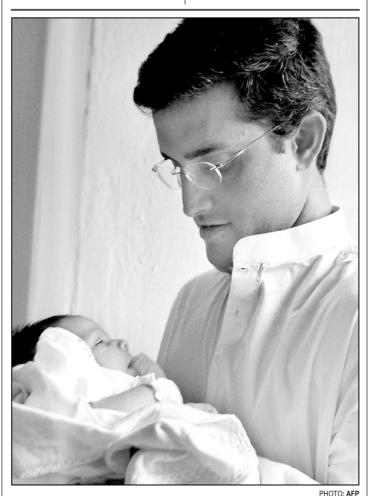
cricket in Sydney alongside Australia's Brett Lee, his leading rival for the title of the world's quickest bowler.

unaware of disharmony between Darren Cahill and Hewitt's family. the 31-year-old former Wimbledon semi-finalist said he knew nothing of his impending tennis career change last week.

"It came as a surprise not only that I was asked to do the job but also that these guys weren't working together any more." Stoltenberg told ABC radio from his Florida home.

"I guess they were having their differences. The way things have worked out, they parted on good (terms) and they've had an incredible few years.

"Darren's done a great job with Lleyton, the team have reached the top ... I'm just very fortunate to have the opportunity."



PAPA GANGULY: India skipper Sourav Ganguly adores his baby daughter at his home in Calcutta on December 7. The baby was born on November 2 when Ganguly and his team were on the tour of South Africa.

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Today's Cryptoquip clue: I equals H The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe Henderson Klusener give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.