## The Daily Star

# SPORT

"The victory will always have a

special favour because it was not

achieved by the success of the

seniors," the Hindustan Times said,

NatWest behind

England's one-day internationals

will continue to be sponsored by

NatWest after the England and

Wales Cricket Board (ECB) secured

a new three-year deal with the

bank's owners, the Royal Bank of

2005 seasons, will include the

NatWest triangular series and a new

three-match one-day international

tournament, which will be known as

wickets in the final of the triangular

port of English and Welsh cricket

has been invaluable to the game so

we are delighted at their decision to

continue their sponsorship of inter-

national cricket," said Tim Lamb,

chief executive of the ECB, in a

England to play a guaranteed nine

days of competitive one-day inter-

national cricket each summer,

supporting the England Team

management's desire to gain further

The NatWest Challenge will

introduce an additional three-match

one-day international tournament

each year when England will take on

either a third visiting nation or one of

the two principal touring teams in

three further one-day international

picked for fifth consecutive England

experience in this form of the game '

"This new addition will enable

England lost to India by two

"NatWest's long standing sup-

the Natwest Challenge.

statement on Sunday

he said.

fixtures.

Natwest series on Saturday.

The deal, covering the 2003-

England

REUTERS, London

Scotland.

#### **Div III soccer** SPORTS REPORTER

Little Friends Club and Eskaton Sabuj Sangha won their respective Third Division Football League matches played at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

A 79th minute goal from Aziz guided Little Friends to a solitary goal win over Mirpur Ekadash while Eskaton posted an identical win over Sunrise Sporting Club. Mukul scored the all-important goal on the stroke of the breather.

The day's other match between Spandan Krira Chakra and Kadamtala sangsad ended in a goalless draw.

#### Eastern face UCB wrath

**REUTERS**, Johannesburg

The United Cricket Board (UCB) is considering withdrawing financial support from the Eastern Cricket Union for failing to integrate black South Africans, the Sunday Independent reported. The newspaper said a report

compiled by UCB chief executive Gerald Maiola had raised concerns about the lack of success in transforming the game in several of the 11 provincial unions affiliated to the national body.

The most damning criticism was reserved for Mpumalanga province, home to the Eastern Cricket Union. "Transforming conservative

mindsets among so-called white teachers and administrators remains one of the most challenging transformation issues facing Easterns," the paper quoted the report as saving.

The situation has become so serious that the board is considering withdrawing financial support until they change

The report was tabled at a seminar last weekend, the same meeting at which the UCB decided to abolish selection race quotas at international and senior provincial level.

Affiliates were also given the guideline that teams below those levels should be at least 50 percent black.

The newspaper also quoted the report as saying there was poor integration at club level in Gauteng and that the Natal administration was not representative of the province.

### Warne sheds the pounds

BBC, London

Australian star Shane Warne has launched into a new diet, in which butter and beer are banned, in a bid to ensure he stays at his cricketing peak. The 32-year-old leg-spinner, still

the best in the business, has already lost nearly 12 kilos. Warne, in England to promote

he paperback version of his autobi-

PHOTO: STAR Mohammedan coach Abul (C) explaining something to his charges during a training session at the Police Lines around vesterday.

## **ECB's neutral plan**

supporters living in England.

and the Rest of the World.

joking with each other.

the two teams

the time

Wasim Akram to suggest the idea of

unofficial 'Test' matches between

would see the Pakistani and Indians

waving flags next to each other, and

the relationships going," he said at

ECB's agenda, but officials at Lord's

are well aware that one-day games

could be be a source of extra reve-

for the NatWest Series, and the

crowds have been treated to some

Board, admitted to being taken

aback by the incident, but stressed:

"I would describe it more as a ges-

ture of defiance rather than insult-

that would have been a different

matter, but he was just being defi-

. "If he had waved two fingers then

Almost 200,000 tickets were sold

"We really mixed in well. You

These games will definitely get

Neutral 'Tests' are not on the

we've got.'

## Cricket

#### BBC, London

The prospect of England acting as a neutral venue for one-day games involving India and Pakistan appears to have increased following the success of the NatWest Series. The three games between India

and Sri Lanka at Edgbaston, the Oval and Bristol all attracted big crowds and England and Wales Cricket Board chief executive Tim

Lamb told the BBC: "The atmosphere at the matches has been really colourful and vibrant." He confirmed that the ECB had aiven "serious thought" to staging

neutral games in England. "We nearly persuaded India and Pakistan to play some neutral one-

day internationals a couple of years ago and we did offer to stage some one-day games between Pakistan and Australia a few weeks ago, bearing in mind the cancellation of that tour." said Lamb

"We think we could certainly

**Rally round Hussain** Tim Lamb, the chief executive of Cricket the England and Wales Cricket

#### **INTERNET.** London

England have rallied round in support of captain Nasser Hussain after he marked his maiden one-day international century with a mouthed obscenity towards his critics.

Hussain's 115 in Saturday's dramatic two-wicket defeat by India in the NatWest Series final at Lord's was his first hundred in 72 appearances at that level.

make a success of staging neutral excellent cricket.

one-day internationals in this coun-"Ticket surplus - the revenue try, not least because of the sort of from that comes a poor third in cosmopolitan cricket audience comparison to broadcasting and sponsorship revenue but nonethe-Cricket World Cup games in less we have exceeded budget.

1999 were well supported by Asian The sponsors are pretty happy with what they've seen because And the following year, The Oval we're very close now to renewing attracted a crowd of 18,500 for a the sponsorship for a further three one-off match between an Asian XI years. so that's all very encouraging as well." said Lamb It prompted Pakistani all-rounder

Next year's triangular series featuring South Africa and Zimbabwe will be harder to sell, although England also have three early season one-dayers against Pakistan.

The neutral idea has the support of England's chairman of selectors, David Graveney, who said the passion and noise generated by the crowds for the Sri Lanka v India matches had been a "great advert" for cricket.

"It may be the way to go forward. It's a competitive sporting market - if we can keep cricket on the back pages of the papers, that would be great," he added

one-day play and a lot of it has been

score his first one-day hundred and

he reacted in that way. It was only

aimed at two or three people in the

media all of which are former

England cricketers who have been

on his case and it was a bit of a

number three. He's played excep-

tionally well for Essex at a lower

standard in county cricket, he's

"He's the man for the job at

release of emotions.

"It was a bit of relief for him to

verv harsh.

him to bat

#### Merry media NatWest final scoreboard ENGLAND: 325 for five in 50 overs. Cricket INDIA

45 Sehwaa b Giles 60 9 14 Ganguly b Tudor Mongia c Stewart b Irani Tendulkar b Giles Dravid c Knight b Irani Y Singh c Tudor b Collingwood 69 87 Kaif not out H Singh b Flintoff 15 Kumble c Stewart b Flintoff 0 Z. Khan not out Extras: (b-3, lb-8, w-6, nb-1) 18 Total: (For 8 wkts in 49.3 overs) 326 Fall of wickets: 1-106, 2-114, 3-126, 4-132, 5-146, 6-267, 7-314, 8-314 Did not bat: A. Nehra Bowler 0 М R w

63 Gough 10 1 0 62 Tudor 9 0 55 Flintoff 7.3 10 0 64 Irani Giles 10 0 47 Collingwood 0 24 Result: India won by 2 wkts. Man-of-the-match: Mohammad

Kaif Man-of-series: Marcus Trescothick. Toss: England Umpires: Steve Bucknor (WIs), David Shepherd (Eng) Third umpire: Peter Willey (Eng)

#### Match referee: Mike Procter (Rsa) Chilavert at diet farm!

AFP, Strasbourg

Charismatic Paraguayan goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert has been sent to a health farm by his French club Strasbourg and told to shed "a few

kilograms" before the new season. TO

The 32-year-old left-handed batsman said he wanted to spend more time with his two children and his body could not take playing test cricket as well as one day interna-

His announcement means he will not be a member of England's squad at next year's World Cup in South Africa.

"I have made this decision for two reasons." he said in a statement

"Firstly, in terms of keeping my body fit, it is becoming harder to do so playing both Tests and one-day internationals for England, so I have decided to concentrate on just playing Test matches.

"Secondly I want to have more time to build a relationship with my two children, given my new per-

one day internationals against Australia in 1993 and averaged FACTLINE

MOHAMMAD KAIF

noted that "miracles" did happen,

adding that "Just when everything

seemed lost Yuvrai and Kaif. the

voung Indian brigade of the team

pulled it with a remarkable perfor-

mance not seen for a long, long

Indian Express said in a piece

"Full marks to to Yuvraj and Kaif

time.

Vengsarakar.

The Indian Express in its report

tour and second in the Caribbean. 1998: Made 103 in a sixth-wicket stand of 205 with Mark Ramprakash

at Bridgetown in fifth Test against West Indies. 1999: Played in England's

unsuccessful World Cup campaign and also helped Surrey win their first county championship since 1971, after hitting best individual score of 223 not out against South Australia in Adelaide.

After a moderate series for England against New Zealand, during which he stood in as captain for the second half of the ninewicket defeat at Lord's, he announced he would be unavail-

able to tour South Africa. 2000: Battled his way back into the Test reckoning and secured a central contract after a summer which saw England beat Zimbabwe and the West Indies

Helped Surrey win their second consecutive county championship

2000-01: Became an integral part of England's winter of success in Pakistan and Sri Lanka, where Hussain's tourists came out on top in both Test tours to make it four

noting that India's master batsman Sachin Tendulkar had "failed again India's media on Sunday lavished when it mattered the most " praise on young Indian cricketers "What was refreshing was the Mohammad Kaif, Yuvraj Singh and temperament and the strokeplay Zaheer Khan, whose batting Kaif and Yuvraj displayed," the steered the team to a remarkable report added. two-wicket win over England at

India's win on Saturday followed defeats in nine consecutive one-day finals.

AFP, New Delhi

Lord's

Photographs of man of the match Kaif and reports detailing the nailbiting finish were splashed across the front pages of the main newspapers, with The Times of India titling its piece "India stun England; Hero Kaif scripts historic win, breaks jinx." "An incredible win" said the Hindustan Times, while the Asian

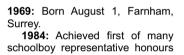
Age headlined its article: "India win Operation Overlord. India's total on Saturday was the

second highest score to win a oneday international following Australia's 330 against South Africa earlier this year

Chasing England's 325 for five, India finished on 326 for eight with three balls remaining. Zaheer Khan, who had earlier been the visitors' most effective bowler with three wickets, was four not out.

India were almost out of the game at 146 for five in the 24th over with 20-year-old Yuvraj Singh on three when 21-year-old Kaif came to for believing in themselves," the the wicket.

Kaif's career-best one-day written by former cricketer Dilip score, an unbeaten 87, came from 75 balls including two sixes and six



when playing for England Under-15s. He was also later to play in the England Under-19s and England Schools football under-18 side.

1988: County debut for Surrey. 1989-90: Toured with England A for first time, in Zimbabwe and



**Thorpe quits ODIs** Cricket AFP, London here Saturdav

The First Division club's

goalkeeping coach Pascal Janin said 36-year-old Chilavert had returned from the World Cup finals overweight and had accepted the club's proposal to spend a week at the centre in

Merano, Italy. said Janin. "Rather than trying to lose it in training over a long period he is going to try to do it quicker.

go to Merano, where experts will help him change his dietary habits.

French midfield star Zinedine Zidane and Laurent Blanc have attended the same centre in the past. Chilavert returned to Strasbourg

"There are a few kilos to lose,"

'So he accepted the club's offer to

JOSE LUIS CHILAVERT

Leading England batsman Graham Thorpe announced his retirement from one day international cricket

tionals.

ography, is slimming down to ensure he stays at the peak of his powers for the upcoming double bill of the Ashes followed by the World Cup in South Africa

In an interview to English newspaper The Independent on Sunday, Warne said: "I looked at the international programme and what lay ahead and it's an unbelievable schedule

"I've been training really hard, dieting, cutting out butter, minimal cheese and pizzas "I still have chips occasionally

but not with every meal - no beer. I'm only drinking wine.

'I'm into fruit. three litres of water a day soups and salads. I'm actually getting some muscles which I'm starting to enjoy Worryingly for England and any

World Cup opponents, he is also keen to talk up his form. "I think I'm finally back now to the

way I used to bowl, which is very very pleasing," he said.

I'm finally beginning to understand my bowling a lot more, how to get batsmen out rather than just bowl big, turning leg-breaks.

His angry gesture on reaching three figures, when he held up three fingers and pointed to the number three on his back, came in response to calls for him to bat further down the order.

In recent weeks several former England players now working in the media, including Ian Botham, Bob Willis and Jonathan Agnew, had suggested other more aggressive players should be used at the fall of

the first wicket. Hussain's uncharacteristic antics could have earned a rebuke from the International Cricket Council under their code of conduct, which states that: "Players shall at no time engage in conduct unbecoming to their status which could bring them or the game of cricket

into disrepute. Fortunately for Hussain, match referee Mike Procter saw the incident and decided against taking any action while England have also defended his response as being nothing more than defiance.



NASSER HUSSAIN

"We need a bit of passion in the game and he's a passionate person and it's his passion that is one of his great strengths and as far as I'm concerned it was nothing more than

Lamb's support was echoed by veteran wicketkeeper Alec Stewart, who has built an international career around a public image of avoiding controversy.

"He's been under a lot of pressure," stressed Stewart. "There's been a lot of criticism of Nasser's

16

44 45 46

18 19

43

48

shown good form in this series and on July 5 having been permitted the way he played yesterday just extra holiday following his participashowed what a quality player he is." tion in the World Cup. He helped Coach Duncan Fletcher was

Paraguay reach the second round equally supportive, claiming; "We're where they were beaten by eventual always looking at the balance to the finalists Germany. side and we believe Nasser's vital to His place in the Strasbourg team that side as captain - we believe that is under threat as the club are on the number three is the best place for

verge of signing former Sochaux keeper Vincent Fernandez. "He's been hearing and reading With Chilavert between the posts, the criticism for a while and it was Strasbourg were promoted to the just a reaction. He went out to prove First Division at the end of the 2001he could bat at number three and 2002 season.

played a great innings.' Hussain added: "It wasn't aimed at the media in general, who've A chess of been very fair to me. I'm sure most people don't give a monkeys but FROM PAGE 13 there have been one or two gentlethe widest participation possible. A men who've been permanently on number of deaf players were allomy case about this batting position cated places in the Class 6-10 putting me under pressure.

"I suppose I'm old enough and ugly enough to take it, but they have laboured it. I was gesturing with my body that I bat at number three and I felt I'd proved a point on the biggest of stages."

The organisers Bangladesh Chess Federation and especially the Standard Chartered Bank deserve a lot of credit for arranging such a noble annual event that brings together so many players

Group.

from various strata of society. One parent hoped that the BCF and sponsors could now explore ways to further develop the potential of the chess children

And despite their handicap this

unfortunate group numbering 7-10

did not forget the joy of victory.

"May be the sponsors can start an initiative to fund the setting up of training schools in and outside the capital.

players can be invited to offer their expertise as salaried teachers," he said

lend its total support to any venture, which raises the profile of chess and is waiting to see the next move.

#### No Shoaib

three occasions. and twice by the Pakistan Cricket

Akhtar's elder brother, Shahid Akhtar, said that his brother needed

"He (Akhtar) felt tiredness so he is resting in England."

original group of 19 selected, is likely to be announced by next week

sonal circumstances at home (Thorpe and his wife are in the process of a divorce)

Thorpe added: "It is an exciting time for the England one-day team with our performances steadily improving over the past 18 months. "I wish them the best of luck in the Champions Trophy, in Australia and of course especially in the World Cup next year.'

England captain Nasser Hussain, a longstanding international team-mate of Thorpe's said: "It's a massive blow. He's the first casualty of the amount of cricket we've been playing."

Meanwhile England coach Duncan Fletcher said: "Graham got an ankle injury halfway through the series which allowed us to play Michael Vaughan.

"Given that he let us know of his decision to retire from the one-day team at the time, we decided it was a good opportunity to continue with Michael in the side and let him gain further valuable experience in oneday cricket."

Former Zimbabwe star Fletcher added: "Graham has been a fantastic one-day player for England and we will miss him, but we look forward to him continuing as a key player in our Test match side."

Thorpe played the first of his 82



Kenva. Subsequent A tours took

him to Pakistan in 1990/91

Bermuda and West Indies in 1991-

1991: Awarded county cap by

1992: Consolidated growing

1993: Made century on Test

reputation in first-class game by

making 216 against Somerset at

match debut for England in home

Ashes series at Trent Bridge.

Recorded best bowling figures

against the Australians, this time for

Surrey at The Oval, where he took

1993-94. First overseas tour

with England took him to West

Indies, and he went on to tour

Australia (1994-95), South Africa

(1995-96). India and Pakistan for

the World Cup in 1996, Zimbabwe

and New Zealand in 1996-97, the

West Indies in 1998 and Australia in

1999, scoring centuries in succes-

double-century stand with Nasser

Hussain in England's surprise first

Registered 222 against Gla-

Ashes Test victory at Edgbaston.

1997: Hit 138 and shared in

sive Tests in New Zealand.

92, and Australia in 1992-93.

Surrey

The Oval

4-40.

consecutive series wins.

Hit the winning runs against Pakistan in Karachi where he made 64 not out and capped his winter with a man-of-the-match performance against Sri Lanka in the deciding Test in Colombo where he hit an unbeaten 113 in the first innings of a low-scoring game. March 19: Chosen as captain for the one-day series in Sri Lanka to replace the injured Hussain.

2001: Calf injury and broken hand ruled him out of all but one matches of the Ashes series. although awarded a central contract and shared in a record partnership for any wicket for England in Tests against Pakistan (267) with Michael Vaughan at Old Trafford. Voted man of the series against Pakistan.

Called up for England one-day tour to Zimbabwe but came home early from Test tour of India for personal reasons, although he went returned for one-day clashes.

2002: Shared in record sixthwicket stand against New Zealand with Andrew Flintoff in first Test - 281 - at Christchurch. His score of 200 not out beat his previous highest Test score, scored against Australia in 1997

July 13: Announced retirement from one-day international cricket.

morgan at The Oval - and was also Gaston faces Alex in final

> The Spaniard, who won here in 1998 and 2000, broke the determined Stepanek in the final game of the first set and kept up the pace with a canter through the second to keep up his record of not dropping a set this week.

Gaudio sat down to talk finalsday strategy Saturday with newly arrived coach Martin Jaite after his three set thriller

The 23-year-old from Buenos Aires barely beat the mountain rain which arrived at this VIP resort village shortly after he completed a semi-final comeback in two hours, 23 minutes over

Jaite, who won the title here a dozen vears ago, flew in from Argentina, originally planning to join Munich earlier this season and the his pupil for next week's Amsterdam third round at Wimbledon, were ATP event.

1.93-centimetre Ljubicic. But his arrival at the conclusion of the match allowed the pair a later chance to leisurely map out their strategy for Sunday in the comfort of

their hotel, while Corretia and Stepanek waited out the weather. "We can talk about what's going on at home," said Gaudio, winner of back-to-back titles in Spain in April. "At the start of this year, I hadn't

won a tournament, now I've won two.'

Gaudio is looking to become the third Argentine to win the Gstaad title after Guillermo Vilas (1974 and 1978) and Jose-Luis Clerc in 1982.

Gaudio lost the first set but wasted no time in rallying from a break down in the second.

Squaring the match under threatening skies, he took the final set into a tie-breaker and collected the win with a fifth ace.

"I started this year 60th or so and now I'm 27th," said Gaudio, at 1.73, small in stature compared to the

"From what I can see, this should be my best year. I'm playing well and have no computer points to defend.

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#### **Perugia's** ultimatum AFP, Seoul talian club Perugia have demanded hat South Korea's World Cup star Ahn Jung-Hwan join them by the end of the month or face punishnent

But the 26-year-old striker is still esisting attempts by the Serie A side to go back after it decided against terminating his contract for coring the winning goal for South Korea against Italy in the World Cup second round

## Ehsan enforces

#### FROM PAGE 13

	TROM FAGE 15	
CRYPTOQUIP	Bashar c Vandort b M Pushpakumara	20
	Ashraful c Polonowita b R P'kumara	11
YRWWMAVXV WCD'X YOGAOTO	Tushar c Polonowita b Mubarak	0
IKAWMANAN WEBA IOONOIC	Fahim not out	5
AD DCTCZNAD. XMOH URVX	Extras: (b-3, lb-4, nb-4)	11
ND Derezinnd: Amon om (	Total: (For 5 wickets in 61 overs)	201
XJH XC XJNDVZODW	Fall of wickets: 1-34, 2-74, 3-10	4, 4-
	176, 5-178	
WODXNG UOWAZNXACD	Bowler O M R	w
Saturday's Cryptoquip: SOMEONE DISCOVERED	KR Pushpakumara 7 1 44	1
THAT LATE IN HIS LIFE, RONALD MCDONALL	de Silva 9 1 42	1
DEVELOPED FALLEN ARCHES.	Gunaratne 4 0 18	0
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals D	Lokuarachchi 20 9 36	0
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for	M Pushpakumara 16 3 49	2
another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the		1
puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.	Result: Match Drawn.	

"Perhaps the country's top

The media will wholeheartedly

FROM PAGE 13 He was cleared once by the

International Cricket Council (ICC)

Board.

a rest.

A final squad of 15, from an

Tennis AFP, Gstaad Spaniard Alex Corretja set up the

chance of securing a third Swiss Open title here after he romped through his semi-final Saturday beating Czech qualifier Radek Stepanek 7-5, 6-1.

The 28-year-old two-time champion will face seventh-seeded Argentine Gaston Gaudio, who earlier beat Croatian Ivan Liubicic 4-6, 6-4, 7-6, in Sunday's final of the

moved to the only lighted court here

to start their match as darkness was

falling after waiting most of the

afternoon to play because of rain.

600,000 dollar ATP tournament. Corretja, seeded eight, and Stepanek, who reached the semis in