Nasser on rebels' side

England captain Nasser Hussain backed India star batsman Sachin Tendulkar and skipper Sourav Ganguly here Wednesday after the pair were axed from their country's squad for next month's International Cricket Council (ICC) Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka.

Madras-born Hussain will lead England against India in the third Test here at Headingley from Thursday and while he will be doing all he can to put his side 2-0 up in the four-match series that has not stopped him supporting his opponents.

"We are showing solidarity with some very fine cricketers around the world who are having problems at the moment," Hussain

"It is very easy just to think of yourself and say 'I am all right, Jack' and just sign your contracts.

"If there are fellow cricketers out there struggling with signing contracts - especially pretty good players - we must not just think of ourselves at the present but of other people and of England cricketers of the future.

"We are the shop floor of international cricket, and those rights must be looked after at all times," Hussain added.

But Hussain insisted the row was not a major problem for his side, as England had "no super-

He added that his team's preparations for the Test had not been affected by the dispute. 5

Hopes for hockey

FROM PAGE 13

When asked why the NSC did not send any rejoinder to all the national dailies who have published on Thursday that it had finalised a 74member Bangladesh contingent without hockey. Rahman said: " If you say that it was a final decision I would not mind. But again, you can always reconsider something."

"We will have another discussion on Saturday evening during the meeting and if everybody agrees, we might make a change to our Wednesday's decision."

When asked why they are sending teams like athletics, boxing, wrestling, weightlifting and swimming where Bangladesh neither have any credibility nor any stake, Rahman said that these were the traditional sports that needed

Rahman also said that he came to know that three athletes have good chances in the Games despite four leading athletes defected to England from the Commonwealth Games in Manchester last month. "That's why I wanted to give them a chance."

If hockey gets green signal, members of Bangladesh contingent would come to ninety, if not hun-

Robin India

FROM PAGE 13 not budge.' Dalmiya, besides rejecting any

mediation by Shastri, said he believed the players were not entirely clear on their stand.

The probables, according to

Robin Singh, Sadagoppan Ramesh, Gautam Gambhir, Gagan Khoda, Daniel Manohar, Connor Williams, Hemang Badani, Rohan Gavaskar, Jacob Martin, Hrishikesh Kanitkar, Reetinder Sodhi, Jai Prakash Yadav, Vijay Bharadwaj, Rakesh Patel, Sarandeep Singh, Murali Karthik, Ramesh Powar, Sairai Bahutule. Javagal Srinath. Venkatesh Prasad, Irfan Pathan, L Balaji, Debashish Mohanty, Deep Dasgupta, MSK Prasad.

CROSSWORD

36 Annov

37 Faction

38 Conven

tion host,

maybe

40 Dorothy's

auntie

41 Put on a

show

48 Garden

State

House

52 Pavarotti

53 Cattle

54 Corral

55 Tailless

tabby

56 Hourglass

Solution time: 25 mins

nickname

rendition

47 Restroom,

43 Fly

ACROSS

1 Skater

9 "Platoon

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15 Where

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18 15-Across

19 Textbook

22 Treasure

inserts

27 Columbo

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Starbuck

Lankans prove stronger

Cricket

AFP, Tangiers

Sri Lanka defeated South Africa by 27 runs in the Morocco Cup final here on Wednesday but paid a heavy price when captain Sanath Jayasuriya was injured. Jayasuriya, whose run-a-ball 71 earned him the man-of-the-match and enabled Sri Lanka to post 235-7 in the morning session, dislocated his right shoulder early in South Africa's eply, which ended at 208 all out.

Sri Lanka, however, bravely regrouped after the loss of their inform captain, who was later named man-of-the-series for scoring 300 runs from five innings and claiming

They reduced South Africa to 91-6 by the 26th over, slicing through the top order with wickets at regular

Boeta Dippenaar and Mark Boucher raised visions of a miraculous South African win by smashing 101 off 112 balls for the seventh

Dippenaar hit 53 before he was out caught in the deep off Pulasthi Gunaratne with 44 still needed off 34

Boucher cracked 70 from 65 balls but failed to secure victory when he was last out, caught behind off Gunaratne in the 49th over.

Gunaratne was well-supported by Chaminda Vaas and Muttiah Muralitharan, all three bowlers claiming two wickets each.

Sri Lanka, who lost both the Test and one-day series on the England tour earlier in the summer, were rewarded for their efforts with the champions' purse of 120,000 dollars.

Shaun Pollock's South Africa received 80,000 dollars, while

Steve sparkles

on debut

Pakistan who were ousted at the league stage, took home 50,000

The Sri Lankans looked set for a massive first innings score when they rode on Jayasuriya's blitz to reach 167-2 in the 33rd over.

But a middle-order collapse. mainly through reckless strokeplay, saw five wickets tumble for 42 runs and allow South Africa to come back Allan Donald Lance Klusener and

Nicky Roje finished with two wickets each as Sri Lanka managed only 43 runs in the last 10 overs. But even the modest target of 4.7

runs an over proved beyond South Africa's reach after Jayasuriya's diving catch off Gibbs at mid-off. Klusener, a surprise opener after

Pollock said on Tuesday he would bat lower in the order, hammered 13 off 11 balls before missing the line of a slow full toss from Dilhara Fernando to be declared leg-before. Graeme Smith played on to Vaas,

before acting captain Marvan Atapattu caught Jacques Kallis and ran out Jonty Rhodes with a direct throw to make it 81-5. Earlier, Sri Lanka began on a

sound note as Jayasuriya and Atapattu belted 78 for the first wicket by the 15th over. The pair were severe on tall

seamer Roger Telemachus, who conceded 36 runs in his first four overs as Sri Lanka raced to 48-0 after just eight overs. But the remaining batsman threw

away their wickets with reckless shots, before Vaas and Muralitharan added a valuable 26 runs for the unbroken eighth wicket to boost the SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Morocco Cup oneday final between South Africa and Sri Lanka on Wednesday:

SRI LANKA: 235 for seven in 50 overs (Jayasuriya 71, Sangakkara

SOUTH AFRICA Gibbs c Jayasuriya b Vaas Klusener Ibw b Fernando

Smith Kallis c Atapattu b Chandana Dippenaar c Jayawardena b Gunaratne

Rhodes run b Muralitharan Boucher c Sangakkara b Gunaratne 70 r u n

Telemachus b Muralitharan Donald n o t Extras: (b-1, lb-7, nb-1, w-6)

Total: (All out in 48.3 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-24, 3-52, 4-71

5-81, 6-91, 7-192, 8-199, 9-208 Bowler: M Gunaratne 38 0 38 Fernando 43 Chandana 35 Muralitharan 0 2 10 De Silva Arnold Result: Sri Lanka won by 27 runs Man-of-the-match: Sanath

Man-of-the-series: Sanath Javasuriya Umpires: Daryl Harper (Aus) and Simon Taufel (Aus)

Third umpire: Srinivas Venkata-

raghvan (Ind) Match referee: Gundappa Viswanath (Ind)

Jayasuriya

Steve Waugh made a dream debut

for Kent as his unbeaten 59 propelled them to a five-wicket victory over Leicestershire in a one-day competition on Wednesday. Waugh came to the crease with

the score at 40-2 and then lost two partners for the addition of just 12 But his gritty innings, which

included a six, took his team to victory with two balls to spare. The Australia captain also helped out in the field, catching a leading

edge from Phil DeFreitas at mid-on

off the bowling of Matthew Saggers. Waugh shared useful partner ships with Mark Ealham and Paul Nixon before fittingly striking the winning boundary with the fourth four of his 86-ball innings.

Waugh's teammate Martin Saggers made a vital contribution with the ball, his 3-22 just reward for a disciplined nine-over spell

Colombo gets the nod

AFP. Karachi

Pakistan cricket officials announced Wednesday the national team would hold the first of its rescheduled Tests with Australia in Sri Lanka.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) director Chishty Mujahid made the announcement after the International Cricket Council (ICC) waived a rule that would have prevented the game from being held there.

"We are thankful to the ICC for their support as they have waived a stipulation enabling us to stage the first of three Tests in Colombo in October this year," Mujahid said.

Australia had pulled out of their Test tour to Pakistan citing safety fears after several acts of terrorism in the volatile country, which followed September's terrorist attacks in New York and Washington.

By Eugene Sheffer

22 "Wheel of

23 Pinnacle

24 Shriver of

tennis

25 Lemieux

of the

seven

46 Kept tabs

49 Mound

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50 Take top

26 Yale's

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DOWN

1 Singer

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11 Flirtatious

10 Wings

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16 Popular

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game

erance

REUTERS, Bombay

Wednesday.

World Cup in South Africa.

Champions Trophy is bound to play... under those terms," Speed told reporters in Bombay during his trip to India on commercial ICC

Top cricketers from many councompanies 30 days either side of a tournament, to protect official spon-

the players, the ICC would not allow any company to cash in on its events secured by other sponsors paying huge sums of money.

Speed said although the ICC could carry out a future review of its contract, there were unlikely to be major alterations.

event we will learn from the experience of running that event. We'll have feedback from players.

squad to Sri Lanka if its top players

Cricket

ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed said the controversial contract drawn up for its events would also remain in place for next year's

"Any player who signs for the

rate agreement. (But) they are substantially the same," he said, adding: "At this stage that (ambush marketing) clause will be included in

"But it'll substantially be the

move.

would send an under-strength

will retain its "ambush marketing" provisions for ICC events for next month's Champions Trophy despite a looming boycott threat by leading players, a senior official said on

tries led by India have refused to sign the ICC contract barring them from endorsing products of rival

Speed said despite opposition by

"There may be some minor changes. As we go through each

The Indian board has said it

The International Cricket Council

"For each event there is a sepathe World Cup terms.

same because, having entered into the agreement for \$550 million (until 2007), having guaranteed the sponsors they will have exclusive rights, there is not much room to

CRYPTOQUIP

DIBS QWMRS BMIWSRS BKWOBQE, AR OWYAD ARTOWD DAR PTIY Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A LOCKSMITH VER WENT ON VACATION, YOU WOULD

ASSUME HE'D LOVE THE FLORIDA KEYS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals M 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 give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

ICC remains rigid

did not sign up, although national boards are obliged to field their best

sides in ICC tournaments. Speed said: "BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India) has said it will not name players who don't agree to sign the contract. If that happens, it becomes a matter for the ICC executive committee."

Dravid, Bangar FROM PAGE 13

over, Virender Sehwag drove loosely at a Hoggard outswinger and Flintoff, at second slip, took a sharp catch going to his left to leave India 15 for one.

Sehwag, who scored a century at Trent Bridge, had managed just seven this time around having faced

England lead the four match series 1-0 and India must win here to keep alive hopes of winning their first Test campaign outside the sub-continent

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the first day of the third Test between England and India at Headingley on Thursday:

INDIA: First innings Bangar not out Sehwag c Flintoff b Hoggard Dravid not out Extras: (b-8. lb-3. nb-11) Total: (For 1wkt in 59 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-15 To bat: S. Tendulkar, S. Ganguly, V. Laxman, A. Agarkar, P. Patel, A.

Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Zaheer **Bowler** 33 Hoggard 38 Flintoff 8 25

ENGLAND: Michael Vaughan, Robert Key, Mark Butcher, Nasser Hussain (capt), John Crawley, Alec Stewart (wkt), Andrew Flintoff, Alex Tudor, Ashley Giles, Andrew Caddick, Matthew Hoggard Toss: India

Umpires: Asoka de Silva (Sri), David Orchard (Rsa) Third umpire: Peter Willey (Eng) Match referee: Clive Lloyd (WIs)

Australians

FROM PAGE 13 world's best players are able to participate in the Champions Trophy," May said in the ACB state-

Australia's captain one-day

captain Ricky Ponting said the promise that the ICC will consult with players over future sponsorship deals was the key to the com-"The players have worked as best they could within the guidelines

and the Australian Cricket Board

are going to use their best endeavours to help the players out," Ponting told reporters in Brisbane. "The players were very disappointed that they weren't consulted at what was in the contracts because they were the ones that

were going to be left in the lurch." "(The ICC) realise now that they've probably done the wrong thing and got themselves into a bit of a muddle and that was the thing we were most disappointed about,' Sutherland said negotiations

with players would continue. "Where there is such a conflict, we need to work through that with the player and their sponsor to see what we can come up with to ensure that they're not disadvantaged," he

Thorpe has a week's time

REUTERS, Leeds

England absentee Graham Thorpe was given a week's deadline on Wednesday to decide whether to put his name forward to play in the Ashes series.

he's available."

regarded as the side's leading batsman, has taken a break from cricket after the collapse of his His mind clearly elsewhere, he

withdrew from the England team of the English season.

he will not have played enough cricket to warrant inclusion in the Ashes party.

made himself available he could not be guaranteed a place for the trip to Australia at the end of the year.

England side with Graham Thorpe not there -- he is one of our best players -- but we can't keep having the Graham Thorpe issue cropping up," Hussain added. "It will be a very difficult decision."

discussing a possible Ashes squad. The announcement of the final list of names is likely to be delayed until after the fourth and final test against India at The Oval early next month. Personal pressures and a back

He scored what was then the second-fastest double century in test history five months ago in New Zealand and scored a century

Procter match ref for Kenya triseries

AFP, Karachi

The International Cricket Council (ICC) Thursday appointed former South African all-rounder Mike Procter as match referee to oversee the uncoming tri-series in Kenya.

September 7.

wouldn't tour Pakistan citing security concerns. The series was plunged into further trouble when New Zealand declined to take part in the event,

Kenya. All three teams will play on a double league basis with the top two

South African Rudi Koertzen and Zimbabwean Russel Tiffin will stand as the ICC neutral umpires while Pakistan's Aleem Dar, Nadeem Ghouri and Asad Rauf will act as

Sept 1: Pakistan Vs Kenya Sept 2: Australia Vs Kenya

Aug 30: Pakistan Vs Australia

Aug 29: Pakistan Vs Kenya

Siraj juvenile

TEAMS Ka Group Madarbari Muktakantha Pahartali Ekadash, Sandhan Sporting Club, Halishar Ekadash,

Monir Chairman Smriti Sangsad. Kha Group Eden Star Club, Kalarpote Krira Sangstha, Amra Tarun, Betari Goli Ekadash,

Nobojagaran, Jornapara Ekadash, Nobotaronga and Satabdhi Ghosthi. Gha Group Hathazari Khelowar Samity, Rasad, Agrabad Pioneers, Ghosaidangha Young Boys Club

Equip 'em first FROM PAGE 13

Why didn't the BOA take the trouble explain why Sabrina and Fauzia failed to impress? In reality then Asif's gold came

With the Asian Games approaching isn't time that the government does everything possible not only for shooting, but also in other events so that our beloved flag is saved

Bangladesh may not find its name on the medals table of the next SAF Games! -- Moin ul Alam, 30 Minto Road, Dhaka

US Open

Skipper Nasser Hussain told a news conference at Headingley on the eve of the third test against India: "It will be up to Graham in the next week to get a phone call in to the England selectors to tell us that

The 33-year-old left-hander,

after the first test against India to negotiate custody of his children and has since opted not to play for his county side Surrey until the end That has led to speculation that

Hussain said that even if Thorpe

"Australia will view it as a weaker

England's selectors are already

injury have blighted Thorpe's England recent career. But he continues to score around 45 an innings, a world-class performance and the best in the side.

English summer

against Sri Lanka at the start of the

Pakistan world champions Australia and Kenva will take part in the series to be held August 29-It was scheduled for Pakistan but was shifted to a neutral venue after

the Australian Cricket Board said it

teams contesting the final.

Sept 4: Pakistan Vs Australia Sept 5: Australia Vs Kenya Sept 7: Final

FROM PAGE 13

SCHEDULE

Principal Abul Kashen Sangsad. Ga Group Blue Star Club.

and Ullash Sporting Club. perspective of life on the high seas. For all involved onboard the 'John Player' meals are a unique opportunity to get together and

to provide the other shooters with proper guns before they flew to Manchester? Perhaps this can

about more as a result of luck having

smiled on him. It is hard to believe that a country can afford to pay eight hundred crore taka for a frigate, but cannot find funds to help their shooters.

from being humiliated? Otherwise, in the future

Tough draw for Lleyton

Tennis

AFP, New York

Top seed Lleyton Hewitt of Australia will open his US Open defence against France's Nicolas Coutelot next week -- with big-serving Briton Greg Rusedski likely waiting for him in the second round according to the draw made here Wednesday.

Rusedski showed strong form in Indianapolis a week ago, where he beat Hewitt en route to the title.

The Australian world No. 1 hasn't won a tournament since his triumph at Wimbledon and will be eager to claim another crown in the final Grand Slam tournament of the Should Hewitt make it to the third

setter that was tainted by a charge of racism from the American, which caused a firestorm in the New York American Andre Agassi, the sixth seed and a two-time champion, opens his campaign against compatriot Robby Ginepri, with a possible quarter-final re-match with

Switzerland's Roger Federer, the

man he beat to win his fifth title at

round, he could face American

James Blake, who was eliminated

by Hewitt last year in a bitter five-

Key Biscavne earlier this year. Agassi could face Hewitt in the

Pete Sampras, runner-up to Hewitt last year and seeded 17th, is in the other half of the draw and couldn't set up a 33rd career confrontation with Agassi before the

The former world No. 1 and 13time Grand Slam champion is still seeking to recover the form that saw



LLEYTON HEWITT

him, win four US Open titles. Sampras, whose last tournament triumph was at Wimbledon 2000 meets Spain's Albert Portas in

the first round.

His further path to the final which he has reached the past two

third-seeded German Tommy Haas in the fourth round and a quarterfinal against perhaps Andy Roddick or Briton Tim Henman.

Russia's Marat Safin, the 2001 champion and second seed also faces a difficult draw, meeting German Nicholas Kiefer before

possible meetings with Brazilian Gustavo Kuerten. Spain's eighth seed Albert Costa, king of Roland Garros, opens against Sweden's Magnus

Norman. On the women's side, the big guns appear to have it easy in the early going, with the Williams sister, top seeded Serena and No. 2 Venus, again in with a chance to make the final a family affair.

Serena Williams, seeking to add the title to her French Open and Wimbledon crowns, faces wildcard Corina Morariu, who just last month returned to the circuit after battling

Elder sister Venus opens her defence of the title against a qualifier, as does third-seeded American Jennifer Capriati.

California's Lindsay Davenport, the fourth seed in search of her first Grand Slam title this season, faces Denmark's Eva Dyrberg in the first round while Switzerland's Martina Hingis, who missed Roland Garros and Wimbledon, opens against American Marissa Irvin.

Hingis stops Stevenson

vears -- is not free of serious obsta-

cles, including a possible clash with

Tennis

AP. New Haven Martina Hingis outlasted hardhitting Alexandra Stevenson 7-5, 6-4 Wednesday to advance to the quarterfinals of the Pilot Pen.

The fifth-seeded Hingis, playing

in her second tournament since

ankle surgery in May, will face

unseeded Anastasia Myskina in the quarterfinals. Myskina advanced with a 7-6, 6-2 second-round upset over fourth-seeded Justine Henin. Amelie Mauresmo, the sixth-

seeded player, also advanced to the

quarterfinals with a 6-4, 4-6, 7-6

victory over Elena Bovina. Mauresmo picked up her eighth singles title last week with win over Jennifer Capriati in Montreal. Martina Sucha, a lucky loser

was rescheduled in her place. But

Sucha wasn't as lucky against

Schnyder, who beat her 2-6, 6-3, 6-3

in the late match. Schnyder will play

Daniela Hantuchova in Thursday's quarterfinal. Hantuchova advanced with a 4-6, 6-4, 6-1 win over Iva Hingis also made it to the quarterfinals in Montreal. The former No. 1 player said she's

there now," Hingis said. "I'm not

converted five of six break points. "When I needed to step it up I gaining confidence with each "I feel more comfortable out



tougher at the right time." she said. 'It was in my hands to make or break it, and I broke it." Mauresmo, who didn't lose a set

the Pilot Pen tennis tournament in New Haven on August 21.

PRESS RELEASE

After her latest stop in Maldives for re-supply, the John Player has taken to the Indian Ocean en route to the Malacca Straits. Having completed over 1,600 nautical miles during their first stretch from Dubai to the Maldives, Captain and his crew experienced a unique

break the length of long shifts spent

at the helm or on the rigging through

passionate conversation over fresh

Travelling long distances means careful preparation especially where provisioning of food is concerned as it is key in maintaining a high morale onboard. Male was a great opportunity to load up with fresh and canned tuna as well as coconut and banana -- the three main indigenous foods of the island.

tant activity in the Maldives for most of its inhabitants and is very much the co-operative effort of everyone living in the islands. Fish has been the only major source of protein in the Maldives and, until tourism

the trip completed so far on her 2002 World Adventure, the John Player and her crew have still much to do together in the weeks to come. The John Player, a 140-foot

afraid. I know what I can play. Right now, I'll just take any match, any challenge. I probably didn't play my

best. but I won.'

Stevenson had seven aces to just one for Hingis. But Hingis waited out Stevenson, pouncing on the few off-speed returns and scoring with well-placed drops and passing shots. Hingis

The taller, stronger Stevenson

backed Hingis off the net for much of

the match with 100 mph-plus serves

and powerful ground strokes.

was able to do so," Hingis said. Despite controlling the match tempo, Stevenson came undone with 45 unforced errors compared to Hingis' 15. "I just got sloppy," said Stevenson, still looking for her first

singles title. "I can play with these

girls and there's no reason she

should walk off the court the winner.

Stevenson is 0-4 against Hingis,

But she did because of my errors."

failing to win a set. She came close Wednesday while serving at 5-4 in the first set. She blew a 109-mph first serve past Hingis and was stunned when it was called out. That was on the line and it was a pretty bad call." Stevenson said.

The next time I need to brush it off

and say 'It happens in tennis,' and

Hingis returned the second serve and Stevenson volleyed back into the net. She made two more unforced errors to lose the set and dropped the next five games.

Stevenson's booming serve.

which kept her in the match, eventu-

ally took her out as she double-

faulted for match point.

"I just need to get my serves in Montreal, will play No. 2-seeded Lindsay Davenport on Thursday. Mauresmo couldn't capitalize on a

3-0 lead in the second set, losing all

but one of the next seven games.

She had her left thigh taped up just

became established, the major

source of employment and income

for the Maldivians. Fishing provides

a sizeable proportion of the gross

domestic product and job opportu-

nities for the vast majority of the

island population. With abundant

sea resources, fish exports con-

year round and pristine beaches,

travelers from the world over con-

verge to these sun-drenched

Capitalizing on warm weather

tinue to grow.

before the third set due to soreness

John Player moves on

Swiss Martina Hingis exults after beating American Alexandra Stevenson at

Fishing remains the most impor-

islands. Tourism in the Maldives is carefully managed, relying on both the underwater environment and 'the Robinson Crusoe factor' as major attractions. Dropping anchor in the Malaysian waters of Port Dickson after crossing the Indian Ocean from East to West will spell out a temporary rest for all onboard the John Player. With only one third of

mahogany and teak brigantine, set sail from Dubai on 23 July, 2002 en route to Hong Kong on her new journey, in search of the Spirit of Enterprise. This year's World Adventure will explore how maritime history has contributed to economic success in each of the destinations along the route

27 Bear lair 30 Spelldown 35 Journal first place 37 Scoffers expres 39 Coffee break 40 Time of anticipa-41 Faux 42 Total receipts 43 Trojan