

## Waqar joining Warwickshire

AFP, London

Former Pakistan captain Waqar Younis is set to sign for English county Warwickshire as a replacement for injured New Zealand paceman Shane Bond.

A source close to the Pakistani fast bowler told AFP on Monday: "Waqar said the deal would be announced tomorrow (Tuesday)."

Waqar, 31, is already in England, where he has done commentary work for satellite broadcaster Sky, and is due to take part in a celebrity cricket match on behalf of London-based charity Cancer Research UK next month.

Bond returned home last week from New Zealand's tour of Sri Lanka with a back injury. If he is out of action for more than four weeks, England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) regulations allow a county to sign a replacement.

On Monday, a Warwickshire spokeswoman refused to confirm or deny if Waqar was on the brink of arriving at Edgbaston but told AFP a statement would be issued Tuesday in the light of more information about Bond's injury.

Waqar has plenty of county experience, having previously played for both Surrey and Glamorgan.

He is available for another spell in county cricket after being sacked as Pakistan captain following the team's first round exit at the World Cup.

Waqar was one of eight players left out of the squad for the subsequent Sharjah tournament.

And a withering report by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) released last month said Waqar's "stubborn" style of captaincy had played a major part in the team's failure to live up to expectations in South Africa.

## SA taking

FROM PAGE 13

Ntini, Shaun Pollock, Dewald Pretorius, Jacques Rudolph, Martin van Jaarsveld, Morne van Wyk

## TEST SQUAD

Smith (captain), Boucher (vice-captain), Adams, Boeta Dippenaar, Gibbs, Kallis, Gary Kirsten, McKenzie, Ntini, Robin Peterson,

and a replacement to be named

on May 26.

Waqar will be named on May 27.

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