

McGrath back, takes wickets

AFP, Melbourne

Australia's premier fast bowler Glenn McGrath claimed two wickets on his comeback trail from injury in a state seconds cricket match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Monday.

The 34-year-old McGrath, who has missed Test series against Zimbabwe, India and Sri Lanka, is playing in his second competitive match after seven months on the sidelines with an ankle injury.

McGrath captured 2-26 off 14 overs for the NSW Second XI against Victoria.

He showed no ill-effects of his ankle injury in three short spells of bowling, helping bowl Victoria's seconds out for 234.

In reply at stumps of day one of the four-day match, NSW are 28 without loss.

Aussie pair

FROM PAGE 13
They were batting together when umpire Peter Manuel ruled Symonds out lbw.

Both players complained and Manuel brought the batsman back after consulting with the second umpire, but Sri Lanka went on to win.

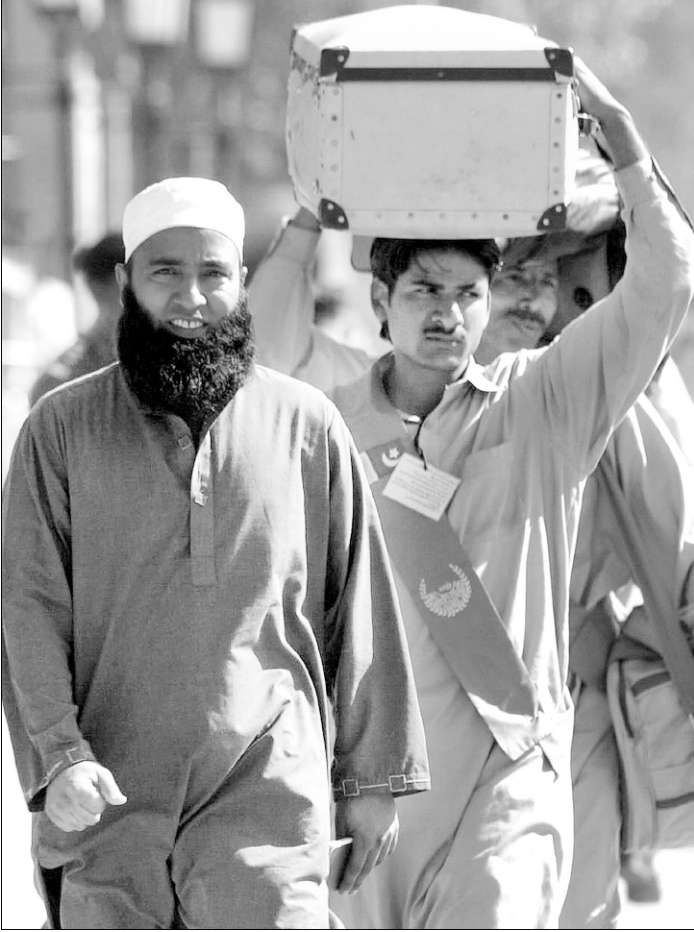


PHOTO: AFP
Former Pakistan cricket star Saeed Anwar crosses the Indo-Pak border at the Wagah Check Post yesterday. Ex-Pakistan cricketers were on a goodwill visit to India ahead of the country's much-awaited full tour of Pakistan.

Indo, Pak golf revival nears

AFP, Karachi

Pakistan has stepped up efforts to revive annual golf competitions with India after New Delhi agreed to resume sporting ties and send its cricket team to Pakistan, an official said on Monday.

"Pakistan and India used to play for the Krilosker Trophy initiated in 1992 but after three tours from Pakistan and two by India the series was halted," said Pakistan Golf Federation (PGF) president Lieutenant General Mohammad Tariq.

"With both countries on the talk tables and cricket about to be revived we hope that golf would once again be on the greens," the general said.

Four Indian golfers participated in Pakistan's national championship held in the port city of Karachi from February 19-22. The visit was the first by Indian golfers for seven years.

"The Indian golfers were here for nearly a week and enjoyed their stay without any security fears so why not make it an annual event," Tariq said.

The PGF chief also hoped that

Pakistan would propose that golf be included in the South Asian Federation Games due to be held in Islamabad from March 29 to April 7 this year.

Indian captain Jaideep Parwardhan called his visit "memorable" and said Indian golfers will do their part to revive the golf series between the two countries.

Amateur golfers from Bangladesh, India, Iran, Sri Lanka and hosts Pakistan competed in the championship, with the individual title won by Sri Lankan Lalith Kumara.

Pakistan won the international team event while Sri Lanka won the Jayawardene Trophy which is awarded for play only between it and Pakistan.

Manikganj cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Nizam Shamsul Smrity Sangha (NSSS) reached the final of the Language Martyr Rafique Memorial Cricket tournament defeating Provat Sangha (PS) by 121 runs at the Shaheed Miraj-Tapan Stadium in Manikganj yesterday.

NSSS batted first and made 213 for eight. Matin topscored with 46, Roki 36 and Firoj 31.

Khoka took three wickets for PS. PS were bundled out for 92 in 26.4 overs with Khoka making 21, Shantonu 16 and Biman 12. Roki took three wickets and Pintu and Farid took two for the winners.

Roki was adjudged man-of-the-match. The final will be held tomorrow.

Ganguly looking

FROM PAGE 13

run-up, will I reach any decision." Zaheer, blighted by hamstring problems, has been advised by Lillee to reduce his delivery stride. He was expected to test himself in a domestic Duleep Trophy tournament match this week but pulled out of the four-day game.

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble, out with a shoulder strain, also faces a fitness test before the one-day team is selected on March 3 in Calcutta. Spin partner Harbhajan Singh is unlikely to be available following finger surgery last year. India will pick the Test squad two weeks later.

Diamond for Clijsters

Tennis

REUTERS, Brussels

Belgium's world number two Kim Clijsters secured her first title on home soil by making short work of defeating Italy's Silvia Farina Elia 6-3 6-0 to win the Antwerp Diamond Games on Sunday.

Clijsters followed up her success in last week's Paris Open to claim her 21st WTA singles title.

"It is great to play on home soil with 15,000 fans rooting for you I must say," said Clijsters, who was beaten by Venus Williams in last year's final and lost to Iroda Tulyaganova in the only other final she has contested in Belgium in 2001.

"Playing Silvia is never easy. I knew from the start that she does not give away many points and I had to think a lot before attacking aggressively.

"The fact that I won in two sets and quite easily proves that I am in a good form." It was Clijsters's sixth successive victory over the Italian.

Clijsters broke Farina Elia's second service game but her opponent broke back immediately and it wasn't until the eighth game that the Belgian broke again to lead 5-3, from which she served out to take the set.

Hitting heavy topspin and long ground strokes Clijsters then romped through the second set as Farina Elia's resistance evaporated.

"Kim is strong all year round and I found she played her best tennis all week long in Antwerp," said the number eight seed.

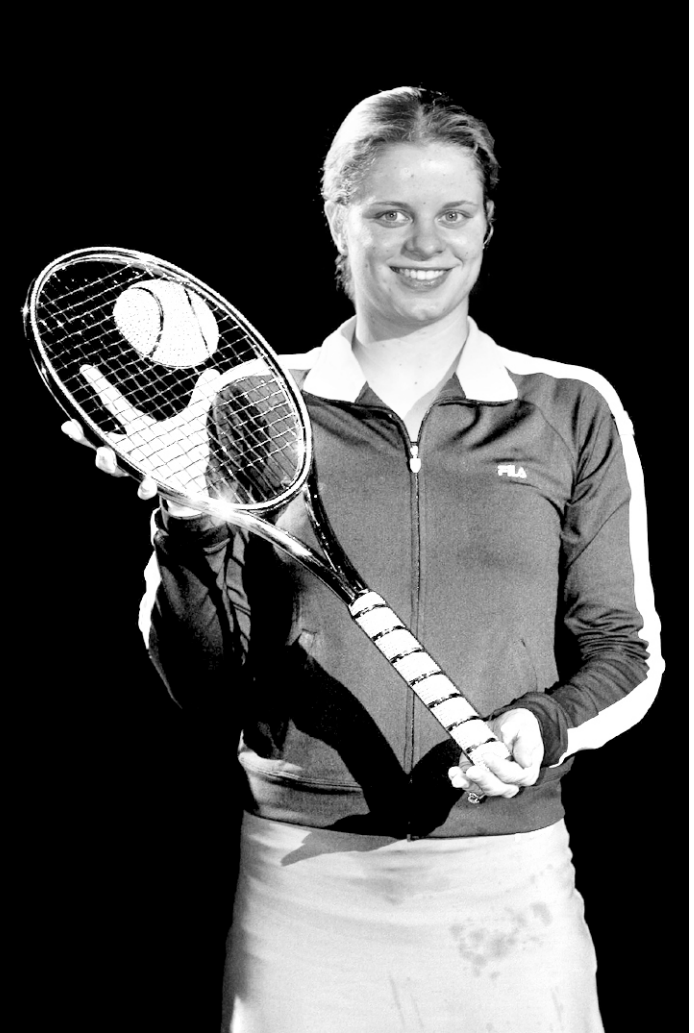


PHOTO: AFP
Belgian Kim Clijsters celebrates with the gold and diamond racket after defeating Italian Silvia Farina-Elia 6-3, 6-0 in the Antwerp Diamond Games on February 22.

Kiwis not complacent

Cricket

AFP, Dunedin

New Zealand go into the crucial fourth one-day cricket match against South Africa here Tuesday riding high after back-to-back wins, but their hopes of taking an unbeatable 3-1 lead in the series have been tempered by injury.

The Black Caps' new-ball pacer Daryl Tuffey has been sidelined with a knee injury, joining South African key all-rounder Shaun Pollock, who is out with a groin strain.

Even with the bowling attacks levelled, New Zealand are still in the rare position of having the upper hand over the world's second-ranked side, but skipper Stephen Fleming said there was no sign of complacency.

"We're realistic, we know each time we beat them they'll come back stronger, so we have to keep improving and looking for holes we can nip through and expose," he

said. New Zealand have never beaten the Proteas in a one-day or Test series, but history favours them at Carisbrook, where they have won three of their last four games, including a seven-wicket win during South Africa's 1999 tour.

"We've had some key victories at key times. Usually they've been at the end of a series, now we're in the middle, but we have a chance of being unbeatable," Fleming said.

New Zealand also led 2-1 in the 1999 series against South Africa only to lose the fourth and fifth matches and go down 3-2 when the sixth game in Wellington was washed out.

South Africa, must now prove that once again they can come out fighting under pressure, and captain Graeme Smith is demanding his bowlers step up.

Pacemen Makhaya Ntini, Andre Nel and Jacques Kallis have been cannon fodder for Fleming in recent matches.

"The last two games we've been outdone in the basics, and that's

something we've been really good at over the last couple of months," Smith said.

"We are tired, we've been playing for a long time but it's not an excuse. We are playing for our country and tomorrow we've got to go out and perform."

Explosive all-rounder Lance Klusener will return to the Proteas from a back injury to replace Pollock, who is hoping to be fit for the fifth game in Auckland on Saturday.

Prolific opening batsman Herschelle Gibbs turned 30 Tuesday, and although he has a reputation for liking a good time and was once caught on a drinking session on the eve of an international, he said he has put birthday celebrations on hold this time.

"I'll have to wait until tomorrow after the game and from what I've seen it's a good place to go out," said Gibbs who showed glimpses of his best form in Wellington on Friday, smashing 69 off 64 balls.

With Tuffey injured, Michael Mason has been brought back into

the New Zealand side for his fourth international and will partner Kyle Mills with the new ball.

Although Mason disappointed playing in Pakistan last December, taking just one for 179 from 29 overs, he has been the pick of the bowlers in the New Zealand domestic season, taking 13 wickets from six matches at 13.84 runs apiece.

The forecast for Tuesday was hardly encouraging with rain set to strike before the day-night game begins.

TEAMS

NEW ZEALAND: Stephen Fleming (captain), Michael Pappas, Hamish Marshall, Scott Styris, Craig McMillan, Chris Cairns, Jacob Oram, Brendon McCullum, Daniel Vettori, Kyle Mills, Michael Mason.

SOUTH AFRICA (from): Graeme Smith (captain), Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Boeta Dippenaar, Jacques Rudolph, Ashwell Prince, Mark Boucher, Lance Klusener, Albie Morkel, Nicky Boje, Makhaya Ntini, Andre Nel, Robin Peterson.

Canada test hosts

FROM PAGE 13

Pakistan captain Khalid Latif was 84 not out at the end. He smote 12 boundaries and a six off 105 balls. The right-hander also shared in a magnificent 142-run second wicket stand with Abid Ali.

The Zimbabweans, put into bat, were always second-best against the lethal Pakistani bowlers led by off-break bowler Tariq Mahmood who took 4-33 and leg-spinner MansoorAmjad with 3-21.

The only resistance was offered by opener James Cameron with a fluent 68.

The left-hander added 68 for the third wicket with his captain Tinotenda Mawoyo but once the pair departed in quick succession the Zimbabwe innings fell away.

In the day's other second-tier game Ireland crushed Uganda with 123 runs at Chittagong's MA Aziz Stadium.

The Irish boys batting first amassed 329-9 with Eoin Morgan hitting 117 off 129 balls and Kevin O'Brien making an 87-ball 70.

They put on 166 runs for the third wicket. Faced by such total Uganda

managed to cross the 200-mark thanks to a 32 runs being added by the tenth-wicket pair of Patrick Ochan (26 not out) and Daniel Ruyange.

SCOREBOARD
Scorecards of the four ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup matches at different venues yesterday:

SUPER LEAGUE
Pakistan vs Zimbabwe
Venue: BKSP

ZIMBABWE
Cameron lbw b Amjad 68
Taylor b Imran 8
Williams c Haider b Afridi 0
Mawoyo st Haider b Mahmood 22
Ervine b Amjad 4
Chigumbura lbw b Amjad 5
De Grandhomme b Afridi 8
Panyangara b Mahmood 2
Utseya b Mahmood 0
Cremer c Qadir b Mahmood 4
Rainsford not out 2
Extras: (lb-7, w-11) 18
Total: (All out in 47.4 overs) 141
Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-24, 3-92, 4-113, 5-117, 6-122, 7-127, 8-127, 9-134, 10-141.

ENGLAND vs New Zealand
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

ENGLAND
Cook not out 108
Bopara lbw b Findlay 40
Davies c & b McKay 21

Imran 9 1 26 1
Qadir 10 0 29 0
Amjad 10 1 21 3
Mahmood 10 0 33 4

PAKISTAN
Latif not out 84
Zaheer b Panyangara 0
Ali not out 43
Extras: (w-15, nb-1) 16
Total: (All out in 30 overs) 143

Did not bat: Jahangir Mirza, Salman Qadir, Fawad Alam, Tariq Mahmood, Zulqarnain Haider, Riaz Afridi, MansoorAmjad, Ali Imran.
Fall of wkt: 1-1.

Bowler O M R W
Rainsford 7 1 30 0
Panyangara 7 1 33 1
Chigumbura 1 0 15 0
Cremer 4 0 29 0
Utseya 6 0 18 0
Williams 5 0 18 0

Result: Pakistan won by 9 wickets.
Man-of-the-match: Khalid Latif.
Toss: Pakistan

Patel not out 102
Extras: (b-7, lb-1, w-18, nb-9) 35
Total: (For 2 wts in 50 overs) 306

Did not bat: L Wright, J Hildreth, T New, T Bresnan, L Plunkett, M Lawson, A Harrison.
Fall of wickets: 1-98, 2-142.

Bowler O M R W
Davis 10 0 66 0
Smith 5 0 44 0
Frauenstein 4 0 25 0
Findlay 9 0 53 1
McKay 10 0 41 1
Devcich 8 0 39 0
Chrisp 4 0 30 0

NEW ZEALAND
Chrisp c Cook b Plunkett 1
Panyangara c Patel b Bresnan 8
Carey b Plunkett 48
Wilson b Patel 32
Flynn c Plunkett b Lawson 18
McKay c New b Wright 8
Devcich c Wright b Lawson 20
Findlay c Plunkett b Bresnan 25
Frauenstein lbw b Patel 20
Smith not out 1
Extras: (b-1, lb-10, w-14, nb-1) 26
Total: (All out in 42.2 overs) 209
Fall of wickets: 1-3, 2-38, 3-91, 4-109, 5-129, 6-141, 7-155, 8-190, 9-19, 10-209.

Bowler O M R W
Bresnan 7.2 0 25 2
Plunkett 10 0 40 2
Harrison 4 0 22 0
Patel 10 0 50 2
Wright 7 0 29 2
Lawson 4 0 32 2

Result: England won by 97 runs.
Man-of-the-match: S Patel
Toss: England

PLATE CHAMPIONSHIP
Bangladesh vs Canada
Venue: Chittagong Divisional Stadium

CANADA
Bastiampillai lbw b Jubair 13
Qazi c Ghosh b Nazmul 2
Keshvani lbw b Jubair 11
Bastiampillai run out (Aftab) 0
Jethi c Nadif b Enamul Jr 42
Keshvani c Nadif b Nazmul 0
Anjaria b Nadif 27
Bhatti c & b Nadif 1
Soraine c Naeem b Enamul Jr 9
Carto run out (Shahadat) 0
Baksh not out 5
Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-21) 26
Total: (All out in 37.2 overs) 136
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-35, 3-35, 4-35, 5-129, 6-106, 7-107, 8-119, 9-123, 10-136.

Bowler O M R W
Nazmul 9 3 15 2
Tjubaib 8 2 50 2
Enamul Jr 10 3 23 2
Nadif 6.2 1 35 2
Shahadat 4 0 8 0

BANGLADESH
Naeem c Carto b Jethi 34
Iqbal c Anjaria b S Keshvani 14
Aftab c Carto b S Keshvani 21
Ashiquar c Carto b S Keshvani 5
Shahadat c A Keshvani b S Keshvani 8
Nazimuddin not out 27
Nadif c & b S Keshvani 3

Ghosh not out 8
Extras: (w-18, nb-1) 19
Total: (For 6 wts in 34.5 overs) 139

Did not bat: Nazmul Hussain, Enamul Haque Jr, Talha Jubair.
Fall of wickets: 1-57, 2-57, 3-79, 4-97, 5-99, 6-103.

Bowler O M R W
Bhatti 3 0 11 0
Baksh 2 0 15 0
Jethi 10 0 35 1
Anjaria 5 1 26 0
S Keshvani 10 3 29 5
Qazi 4.5 1 23 0

Result: Bangladesh won by 4 wickets.
Man-of-the-match: S Keshvani (Canada)
Toss: Canada

Ireland vs Uganda
Venue: MA Aziz Stadium, Chittagong

IRELAND
Porterfield c Musali b Arinaitwe 31
Wilson run out 5
Morgan c Musali b Ruyange 117
O'Brien c Kyobe b Ssemanda 70
Riddles c Almuzahim b Isaneez 23
Wells b Ochan 33
Blakeney run out 1
Pryor run out 0
Rankin c Kyangungu b Isaneez 3
Kidd not out 1
Thompson not out 0
Extras: (lb-12, w-31, nb-2) 45
Total: (For 9 wts in 50 overs) 329
Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-81, 3-247, 4-265, 5-321, 6-324, 7-325, 8-328, 9-328.

Bowler O M R W
Ochan 8 0 74 1
Ruyange 6 0 44 1
Ssemanda 10 0 60 1
Kyangungu 6 0 31 0
Arinaitwe 5 0 30 1
Isaneez 4 0 32 2
Almuzahim 10 0 36 0
Otim 1 0 10 0

UGANDA
Wambudhe run out 18
Musali c O'Brien b Morgan 0
Kyobe c Porterfield b Morgan 0
Almuzahim c Morgan b O'Brien 40
Arinaitwe c Rankin b Kidd 42
Ssemanda c Morgan b Thompson 15
Otim c O'Brien b Rankin 18
Kyangungu c Rankin b Kidd 4
Isaneez c Rankin b Thompson 4
Ochan not out 26
Ruyange b Rankin 10
Extras: (b-5, lb-3, w-12, nb-9) 29
Total: (All out in 45.2 overs) 206
Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-2, 3-61, 4-117, 5-125, 6-139, 7-147, 8-152, 9-174, 10-206.

Bowler O M R W
Riddles 3 0 23 0
Morgan 7 1 26 2
O'Brien 3 0 31 1
Rankin 7.2 1 43 2
Thompson 10 2 22 2
Kidd 5 0 36 0

Result: Ireland won by 123 runs.
Man-of-the-match: E Morgan
Toss: Ireland

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Pinnacle
5 Singer
8 "That's not an idea"
12 Facial feature
13 Way back when
14 Composer
15 What a scratch golfer doesn't have
17 PC symbol
18 Biblical witch city
19 Bulb holder
21 Ban-shee's cry
24 Cyst
25 Gets stuck
28 Tab
30 Turkish mountain
33 Flightless bird
34 Succotash beans
35 Greek consonants
36 Puppeteer

DOWN
1 Liniment
2 Biggers' target
3 Pay field
4 Billie Burke role
5 Water structures
6 Olympic coaster
7 The Bunker
8 Good Earth
9 heroine
10 In favor of
11 Sound quality
12 Admonisher's word
13 Batters' tactic
14 One of the words
15 Unpaid
16 They give a hoot
17 Footnote abbr.
18 Pre-scribed maximum
19 Civil War general
20 Parisian pal
21 Khan title
22 Clears the decks?
23 Tea party guest
24 Holes
25 10-18
26 Lotion
27 Additive
28 Admonisher's word
29 One of the words
30 Amorphous mass
31 Hum-dinger
32 Egyptian writers
33 Boast
34 Welles role
35 Topped
36 Exist
37 Promptly

Solution time: 21 mins.

U T A H E N D C E N T
P O G O L E E A R E A
S I T O P S I G N S M A R P
E I Z G T H E R S
L A T E X S I N E W A V E
L I E A T T A C K T I X
L A N G S Y N E W O V E
R I L E M A M A S
D I K T I N G T E F
E V I L S I G N I F I C A N T
T A L L T W O L E A N
A N T S S E T E L B A

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32
33 34 35
36 37 38
39 40 41 42
43 44 45 46 47 48 49
50 51 52 53
54 55 56
57 58 59

CRYPTOQUIP
U R L M U L H L U G ' W G J T L
G C E G E G J L E W T J L J ' W
I B J X U W U O H B M H L Q I U G C
P C L P X W E O Q R E M E O P L W .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A GUY WHO'S TRULY SKILLED AT TRIMMING TREES COULD BE KNOWN AS THE BRANCH MANAGER.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals T

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.

Jahangir propels

FROM PAGE 13

at the other end. Off-spinner Sabir Ahmed's 24 was the second highest contribution in the port city total.

Leg-spinner Nabil Ahmed was the leading Sylhet wicket-taker with 3-35 while Nayeem and Tazin captured two wickets each.

Sylhet, in reply, were 53-2 after 17 overs at the close of play.

RAJSHAHI V KHULNA

Khulna thrived on two fifties from Shaiful Alam and Salauddin Ahmed to post 277 for five after being put into bat at the Cricket Gardens in Rangpur.

Shaiful made 77 and one-down Jamaluddin, the aggressive of the two batsmen, hit exactly 50 off 82 balls that included eight fours.

Jamaluddin Ahmed was batting on 41 and Asadullah Khan 33 when the balls were drawn after 90 overs.

Slow left-arm Saifullah Khan claimed three wickets conceding 98 runs in 34 overs.

SCORES IN BRIEF

BANGLADESH: Second innings (overnight 25-5)

Hannan lbw b Blignaut	10
Shahriar lbw b Hondo	1
Bashar lbw b Hondo	47
Saleh st Taibu b Price	0
Ashraf ul csub (Friend) b Blignaut	0
Mushfiq c Taibu b Blignaut	0
Manjaraul c Gripper b Price	31
Mashud st Taibu b Price	61
Baysia lbw b Price	3
Rafique c and b Ewing	5
Monjurul not out	11
Extras: (b-5, lb-1, nb-5)	11
Total: (All out in 57.5 overs)	169
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-14, 3-14, 4-14, 5-14, 6-81, 7-110, 8-112, 9-123	

Bowler O M R W
Blignaut 4 1 12 3
Hondo 12 3 24 2
Ervine 12 3 34 0
Price 20.5 2 61 4
Ewing 8 3 27 1
Ervine 1 0 5 0

Result: Zimbabwe won by 183 runs and take a 1-0 lead in the 2-match series.
Toss: Zimbabwe.
Umpires: Dave Orchard (South Africa) and Neil Mallender (England).

Hewitt sinks Ferrero

Tennis

AFP, Rotterdam

Juan Carlos Ferrero felt the effects of a week of tough tennis as he took a 6-7, 7-5, 6-4 defeat at the hands of fresh and eager Lleyton Hewitt in the final of the 842,000-euro (1.06 million dollar) Rotterdam World Tennis event Sunday.

The second-seeded Spaniard had done it tough from the start at the Ahoj stadium, facing three hometown Dutchmen and fighting through four tie-breakers in his first four matches.

By contrast, Hewitt came into his 28th career final on the back of straight-set victories, losing his first set of the week only Sunday as Ferrero dominated in a first-set tie-

breaker. But that effort proved to be his last major impact as Hewitt gradually wore down the 24-year-old Spaniard, the reigning Roland Garros champion. Hewitt fell flat on his back in joy as he took the win from Ferrero's return long.

The Australian will be celebrating a happy 23rd birthday on Tuesday -- surely alongside fiancée Kim Clijsters, who lifted the women's trophy in Antwerp just 100 kilometres to the south in her home country.

Hewitt earned 161,800 euros (