Tigers arrive in S Africa unnoticed

TIGERCRICKET.COM, Johannesburg

The Bangladesh cricket team reached South African shores virtually unnoticed yesterday after completing a 16-hour journey for a challenging month-long tour.

Two Bangladesh High Commission officials and a Cricket South Africa staff were present at the Oliver Tambo Airport to receive the Tigers who landed at 8:35am local time (12:35pm BST) and there was no media in attendance. As the players came out of the terminal the odd clap and 'welcome to South Africa' chants from locals in the waiting area was the closest to a sporting reception for the tourists who headed straight for the team hotel, the Palazzo Montecasino. However, the coach ride, which would normally take 40 minutes at most lasted two hours due to a trafficiam.

With no training scheduled for the day the squad completed lunch inside the sprawling Montecasino entertainment complex adjacent to the hotel before settling in. Montecasino is a major recreational centre in Johannesburg and boasts the biggest movie screen in Africa called the "Il Grande". It also has a casino and a

SEE PAGE 18 COL 4



YOU DESERVE A SEAT IN THE UPPER CLASS: Anil Kumble (C) is having a ride on the shoulders of his successor Mahendra Singh Dhoni after the end of the third Test between India and Australia at the Feroz Shah Kotla Stadium in New Delhi on Sunday. The man they call Atlas hung up his boots after 18 years in the international scene.

Kumble takes final bow

The fighter quits Tests

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

Indian skipper Anil Kumble announced Sunday he was retiring from Test cricket with immediate effect, bringing down the curtain

on a glorious international career. "The decision to retire was very tough," Kumble, 38, said at a presentation ceremony after the third let the team down." Test against Australia ended in a

"When you have played the

game for 18 years and so competitively at that, it does become diffi-

The ace leg-spinner said the finger injury that he sustained on the third day of the Test helped him make up his mind.

"This injury helped me take this decision. I had already made the decision Saturday. I knew I would not be 100 per cent fit for the fourth Test in Nagpur and I did not want to

Kumble, who finished with 619 wickets from 132 Tests and had SEE PAGE 18 COL 2

Name: Anil Radhakrishna Kumble Born: October 17, 1970, Bangalore Major teams: India, Asia XI, Bangalore Royal Challengers, Kamataka, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Surrey. Batting style: Right-hand bat Bowling style: Legbreak

BOWLING	3					
M	W	BBI	BBM	Ave	5w	10w
132	619	10/74	14/149	29.6	35	8
BATTING	& FIELDING					
M	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct
132	2506	110*	17.77	1	5	60

India's opening batsman Gautam Gambri scored his maiden double century on the second day of the third Test against Australia on Thursday.





Younis Khan

(Pakistan batman) "In Pakistan there are a lot of very

good people. But because of some mad people, perhaps 5 per cent of the population, we are suffering a the moment." On the volatile political and secu-

rity situation in Pakistan which is robbing the country of international cricket.



ESPN

Sportscentre India Sports News Live from 8:00pm English Premier League Newcastle v Aston Villa Live from 2:00am (Tuesday) **TEN Sports**

ICL Twenty20 Ahmedabad v Dhaka Warriors Live from 8:00pm



Dhaka v Khulna enue: Sher-e-Bangia National Stadium Sylhet v Rajshahi Venue: Sylhet Divisional Stadium Barisal v Chittagong Venue Fatullah Cricket Stadium Citycell B. League Abahani v Arambagh (5:00pm)

inue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

Tame draw at Delhi

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

The third Test between India and Australia ended in a tame draw here on Sunday but not before the host captain Anil Kumble est cricket.

second innings on 208-5 to set the tourists an improbable target of 245 from 23 overs.

The visitors, who made 577 all out in their first innings, were 31-0 when the teams decided to call off play with 15 overs still remaining in the day.

Openers Matthew Hayden (16) and Simon Katich (14) were at the crease when stumps were drawn.

which India lead 1-0 after winning the second game in Mohali, heads to Nagpur for the fourth and final match from November 6-10. The opener in Bangalore ended in a

The Stanford Superstars made the

quickest million dollars of any

group of cricketers in history after

thrashing England by 10 wickets in

the Stanford Twenty20 finale here

Chasing a target of just 100 runs,

the Superstars, a collection of

experienced and promising West

Indian players, pulverised England

with more than seven overs to

Superstars captain Chris Gayle

had the privilege of hitting the

winning runs, when he lofted

Andrew Flintoff for the last of his

balls over long-on to spark tumul-

five sixes in an unbeaten 65 off 45

Stadium in Coolidge, Antigua on Saturday night.

Cricket

AFP, Antigua

Saturday.

With the action on the field being only of academic interest, Kumble, 38, announced he was quitting the Test game with immediate effect. He had already given up one-day cricket.

The leg-spinner, who bowled with 11 stitches in his finger in announced his retirement from Australia's first innings, said he made the decision because he The Indians declared their knew he would not be fully fit for the Nagpur game.

"The injury helped me take this decision," he said after the match.

"I wanted to quit after the series. But after the injury here, I knew I would not be 100 per cent fit for Nagpur and I did not want to let my team down.

"Ideally I would have liked to end with a win here but I am confident of sealing the series in The Border-Gavaskar series, Nagpur," said Kumble, who was given a lap of honour by his teammates at the Feroz Shah Kotla

one final time following his sur-

Superstars make millions

The victory meant that all mem-

Meanwhile a further one million

The remaining prize money in

bers of the Superstars XI became

instant millionaires, pocketing

dollars was split between the

Superstars squad players who

didn't play Saturday and the victo-

the 20 million dollar pot will be

shared between the West Indies

Cricket Board (WICB) and the

England and Wales Cricket Board

But the England team got noth-

ing after losing this winner-takes-

both within and outside the

England camp about the correct-

MONEY FOR YOU: Sir Allen Stanford (R) hands over the Stanford 20-20 for 20 trophy to Superstars captain Chris

Gayle after the Caribbeans crushed England by ten wickets in the winner-take-all match at the Stanford Cricket

exactly one million dollars each.

Stanford Cricket Ground.

rious coaching staff.

(ECB).

tuous celebrations around the ness of a national side taking part in

staggering sum.

weekend.

WINNE

been a distraction.

prise announcement half an hour

after tea. But he could not add to his 619 Test wickets and his last ball in 132 Tests was a full toss that was driven straight down the ground for four by Hayden.

The day had draw written on it after Australia failed to spark the collapse that they had hoped for.

They picked up two wickets in the first session and one in the third but India's talented middle order, led by Venkatsai Laxman and Sachin Tendulkar, batted cautiously on a pitch that remained good for batting on all five days.

Resuming at their overnight score of 43-2, the hosts lost an outof-sorts Rahul Dravid (11) early when he dragged a Brett Lee inswinger onto his stumps for his second failure in the match.

Tendulkar and Gautam Gambhir (36) put 40 runs on for the third wicket before the opener was unlucky to be adjudged leg-before Kumble did get a chance to bowl off paceman Mitchell Johnson as SEE PAGE 18 COL 5

an 'exhibition' match for such a

was forced to apologise after being

pictured with Emily Prior, the

pregnant wife of England

wicketkeeper Matt, sitting on his

knee during a warm-up match last

Pietersen said the "nonsense" had

England captain Kevin

"During the week we haven't

been concentrating on the cricket,

there's been a lot of nonsense

during the week and we haven't

concentrated on the cricket,"

for the team's participation in this

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2

Pietersen told Sky Sports.

And series backer Allen Stanford

BCB POLLS

Three former GSs seek nomination

SPORTS REPORTER

Almost all the known faces have collected nomination papers for this month's Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) election.

According to the temporary office of the election commissioner at the National Sports Council, 57 collected nomination papers yesterday including former board general secretaries Mozaffar Hossain Paltu, Aminul Haq Moni and Mahbubul Anam.

Reazuddin Al Mamun, a former joint-secretary, was the one notable organiser missing in action.

A total of 21 nomination papers were taken for Category 1 (10 directors from divisions and districts), 30 for Category 2 (12 directors for Dhaka clubs) and six for Category 3 (1 director from players, services, education boards etc.).

Paltu, the first general secretary of the board and a Dhaka district councillor, took nomination paper for category 1 besides former board official and ex-national footballer

SEE PAGE 18 COL 1

ICL worries Siddons

CRICINFO, undated

Jamie Siddons, the Bangladesh coach, has said the unauthorised Indian Cricket League could cripple the game in the country if more players follow the exodus. He said the large sums of money being offered by the ICL was a worrying trend as it drew players away from the national set-up before their peak.

Fourteen Bangladesh cricketers, with a mixture of current, former and uncapped players, signed up for the ICL this season Officials at the ECB have signed and were banned by the There had been much talk from a five-year contract with Stanford Bangladesh Cricket Board for ten years. The ICL is yet to get official recognition from the ICC and cricket boards across the world.

"If we were to lose another six players out of our current team it probably would cripple us," Siddons said on the eve of the team's departure for South Africa. "I don't see how we can be competitive if that happens again.

"I don't know how we can stop them either, that's the hard part. There's no way to put an end to it when the ICL keeps throwing that sort of money at the players. Cricket is definitely going to suffer. They are taking young players who are not even at their peak yet and offering them lots of money. The players see the dollar signs and go.'

Siddons said countries like Bangladesh had everything to lose in such a scenario, if the talent pool continued to dwindle. Bangladesh have been a Test nation for eight years but have managed just one victory and their one-day successes against majornations have been rare. "The countries are the ones that | a wretched 117. Barisal, who are

develop the cricketers the ICL takes, so if there's no money coming back from those tournaments and into the infrastructure then eventually it's all going to dry up."

A point for Muktijoddha

SPORTS REPORTER



their first point in the Citycell B. League when the bottom-tale side held

Brothers Union to a 1-1 draw at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. It was a blow for title contenders

Brothers, who stumbled to their third successive draw and overall fourth in six games to stay four points behind leaders Sheikh Russel, who are on 14 points.

lead with Matiur Munna scoring from a rebound but Kanchan cancelled the advantage for the Reds with a spectacular freekick

within five minutes. Abdullah Parvez set the stage for

the opening goal for the Oranges, who drew 1-1 with Mohammedan three days earlier, five minutes after kick-off. Parvez, who also had a hand

behind Brothers' equaliser against Mohammedan, curled in a freekick from the right for Zahid to leap above the rival backline and nod the ball past goalkeeper Mustaq.

Unfortunately the ball came off the inside of the far post but Matiur Munna, the national skipper, was following up and tapped in from one yard out of goal.

Brothers conceded a freekick five Brothers, however, took an early minutes later and Kanchan bent the ball from 20 yards over the wall and into the right hand post of Zia at the Brothers goal to score level.

After five defeats in as many

games, no one gave Muktijoddha much chance to survive but the Reds held on to the scoreline despite their opposition enjoying superior possession.

But Wasim Iqbal's side once again showed accuracy as their lone striker Tapu failed to utilise any of his three chances. The strikertwice headed the ball over while saw his backvolley in the first-half stoppage time go straight to young keeper Mustaq, who returned to the line-up after missing a game

Muktijoddha, who proved good on counter attacks, created better chances but Walid's diving header on a cross by Kanchan sailed over.

due to injury.

Zia then came to action, stopping efforts by Walid and Kanchan before the break. SEE PAGE 18 COL 1



Brothers Union's Matiur Munna kicks the ball as Muktijoddha midfielder Jalal (L) and forward Kanchan (M) watch during their Citycell B. League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Rony's first ton

SPORTS REPORTER



Rony Talukdar's maiden firstclass century dominated the

" National Cricket ! a opening day's play of the fourth round of the Ispahani Mirzapore Tea 10th National Cricket League vesterday. The young right-hander

smashed 176 that helped Barisal rack up 276 for five against Chittagong at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium, while in Sylhet young paceman Shuvashish Roy snapped up five Rajshahi wickets as the visitors were bowled out for

leading the table with 32 points,

At the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur, Dhaka made sure they didn't give Khulna the SEE PAGE 18 COL 1 full bowling points, declaring

ended the day on 97 for three.

their innings at 251 for nine. In reply, the visitors were 18 without loss at close of play.

DHAKAVKHULNA Elias Sunny was an odd choice to

captain Javed Omar but he did the



RONY TALUKDAR ... 176

job, scoring 44 off 110 balls. The left-hander added 88 with

Shamsur Rahman for the second wicket with the latter scoring a half-century off 70 balls and laced with nine boundaries. But the departure of the duo put paid into Dhaka's hopes of posting a big total. Khulna, to their credit, engineered a collapse as Dhaka

went down from 1-115 to 5-126. Forgotten man Nadif Chowdhury came to Dhaka's rescue, hitting four sixes and three boundaries in a blistering display of batting at the home of cricket. Nadif struck 54 off 103 balls and added 89 with Nazmul Hossain Milon, who made 36. Dhaka captain declared the innings with 30 minutes of play remaining, which gave Khulna three bowling points.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 2_