

## Smith to have elbow surgery

CRICINFO, undated

South African captain Graeme Smith will finally undergo surgery on his injured tennis elbow, after putting it off for months owing to South Africa's busy schedule. Smith will be out of action for 10 to 12 weeks but fortunately for him, South Africa do not have any international commitments in that period.

"I have left it too long, and it is now time to have the problem solved," Smith told Cricket365 after returning home from the ICC World Twenty20. "I will be out of action for 10 to 12 weeks, and should be fit again in time for the ICC Champions Trophy in South Africa in September."

Smith has had long-standing injury problems over the last 12 months. He first suffered the tennis elbow injury during the Indian Premier League in India last April and that forced him to miss the last three ODIs against England in August. He later broke his hand while facing Australia's Mitchell Johnson in the third Test in Sydney but he bravely batted in the second innings to try and save the game. He missed the subsequent ODI series and decided to delay the surgery till after the return series against Australians at home.

Smith had yet another encounter with Johnson during the Durban Test where he fractured his right hand. He missed the following Test but regained fitness for the one-dayers. South Africa's next assignment is the Champions Trophy at home.

Smith was excited about the upcoming South African Cricket Awards, for which he has been nominated for SA cricketer-of-the-year, Test player-of-the-year, and SA Players' player-of-the-year.

"Well, it feels fantastic. When I first started here, there wasn't a proper rewards system and this is a great way for us to end the season," he said. "It's great to end off our most successful season with the awards. It's been such a great year for us and I'm so privileged to lead such a talented bunch of guys and me, as captain as well as their teammate, I'm honoured to be nominated three times over."

## T20 still young

FROM PAGE 17  
intends to help children suffering from rare diseases.

Talking to the media, Waugh admitted that presently no team was dominating in Test cricket presently and he did not see any side scoring 16 successive victories in another two years.

"It's very hard to dominate whether in sports, business or any endeavour. It takes a lot of skill and innovation to stay ahead. We have done very well and I think Australia are still pretty close to the best Test side in the world, though India and South Africa are there."

## Leave past

FROM PAGE 17  
Super Eight match against Sri Lanka, but made the semifinals after winning the remaining games against New Zealand and Ireland.

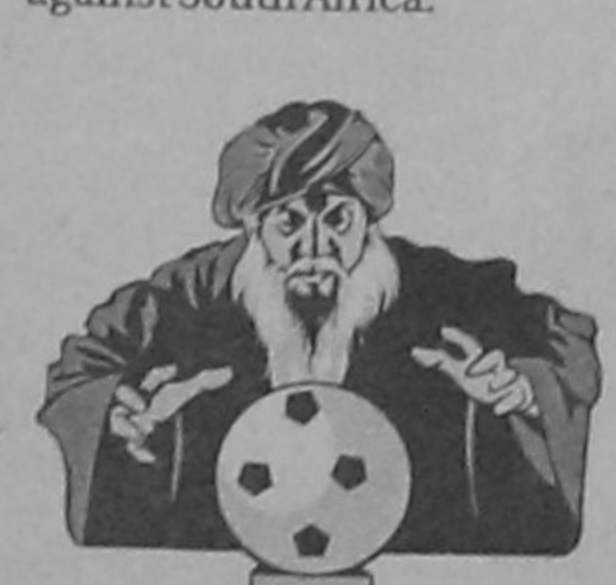
They booked their path to the Lord's final with a seven-run win over favourites South Africa at Trent Bridge in Nottingham on Thursday.

"It has been a team effort all the way," said Alam. "It is important to perform as a team and peak at the right time and we have done both."

Younus Khan has been a very good captain and inspires others by personal example. Some others like Umar Gul and Shahid Afridi have also stood out, but the team has performed as a whole."

Gul, who claimed the first ever five-wicket haul in T20 internationals in the match against New Zealand, and off-spinner Saeed Ajmal are the tournament's joint leaders with 12 wickets each, the same as Sri Lankans Lasith Malinga and Ajantha Mendis.

Afridi powered Pakistan into the final with a half-century and two wickets against South Africa.



## Did U Know?

Welshman Billy Meredith played in an FA Cup semifinal when he was 49 years old.

# Afridi wants to be third time lucky

AFP, London



at Lord's on Sunday.

Afridi still remembers the hurt he felt as a teenager 10 years ago when his team was mauled by Steve Waugh's all-conquering Australia in the World Cup final at the same venue in 1999.

The pain returned two years ago when India won the inaugural World Twenty20 title with a five-run win over Pakistan in the final in Johannesburg, even though Afridi was named the most valuable player of the tournament.

The powerful all-rounder, 29, says he will not tolerate another failure.

"We have to win this one," said Afridi after leading Pakistan into the final with an attacking half-century and two top-order wickets in one over in the semifinal against South Africa at Trent Bridge on Thursday.

"I want to do it on my own if I could. This is our best chance to make up for the disappointment of the past," he said.

Afridi's 34-ball 51 against South Africa was his first half-century in 29 innings for Pakistan in any form of cricket. The one prior to that was 17 innings ago against Sri Lanka in Abu Dhabi in 2007.

## Terrorism will lose

AFP, Karachi



Pakistan and Sri Lanka playing in the World Twenty20 final on Sunday will send a strong message to the world that cricket cannot be brought down by terrorism, former Pakistan captain Ramiz Raja said.

A militant attack on the Sri Lankan cricket team in Lahore on March 3 ended Pakistan's chances of hosting any international matches in the near future following earlier concerns about security.

Seven Sri Lanka players and their assistant coach were injured and eight Pakistanis were killed in the brazen attack. The Pakistan team escaped the incident by a mere five minutes.

"It [Pakistan and Sri Lanka playing in the final] definitely is a message to the world that unfortunate circumstances can't pull them down, cricket will survive and has survived terrorism," Raja told AFP.

Raja, now a television commentator, said cricket was a passion in both countries.

"It is great news for the people of both the countries who have been hit by terrorism and that passion will not dwindle in adversity," said Raja.

"I would also want both the captains Younus [Khan] and [Kumar] Sangakkara to make strong comments before and after the match.

"There should also be a message to the cricket world that don't take Pakistan for granted and help live cricket in this country. Our cricket has suffered because of unfortunate circumstances."

## Bond ready to return

CRICINFO, undated

Shane Bond has made himself available for New Zealand selection after cutting ties with the Indian Cricket League (ICL). Bond has not played for his country in 18 months, since joining the unofficial Twenty20 tournament, but told local media that he was fully fit and raring to go.

"I love Test cricket, it's the pinnacle, and it would be nice to have another chance to play," Bond told NZPA on Friday. "I'm available if they [NZC] want me."

Earlier this month NZC chief executive Justin Vaughan told the Sunday Star-Times he had received documentation from the legal representatives of Bond, Daryl Tuffey and Craig McMillan indicating they had cut ties with the ICL. New Zealand are due to tour Sri Lanka in August-September - the A team is expected to visit India around the same time - and Bond, 34,

has expressed his keenness to tour. "I've spoken to [selection panel manager] Glenn Turner and said I'm available to be picked but I expect to be picked on merit, like everyone else," said Bond. "I hoped that through my domestic cricket [for Canterbury last summer] it perhaps put me into consideration for an A tour. If it didn't then I'd try and do my time in first-class cricket and get back that way. But I've got to get cricket behind me and prove I can still perform."

"He's obviously had a rethink, now we have to see if the body will stand up to it. Time will tell," said Turner. "If he can produce the goods, that's great."

Bond performed strongly in last season's domestic tournaments, taking 19 wickets at 23.5 in the State Shield and 11 at 14.3 in the Twenty20. "I still felt I was the fastest bowler going around, but I wasn't in the best condition and have made a real concerted effort to pick my fitness up," he said. "I wanted to see if I still had it in me to do the training required, and was pleasantly surprised and feel rejuvenated."

## Rising from tragedy

FROM PAGE 17

the West Indies' reply, which saw seam bowler Angelo Mathews take three wickets as Xavier Marshall, Lendl Simmons and Dwayne Bravo all played on for ducks.

Chris Gayle made 63 not out but none of the West Indies captain's colleagues could stay with the left-handed opener long enough to mount a serious chase as Sri Lanka won with 14 balls to spare.

Dilshan decided not to employ the 'Dilscoop' shot where he flicks the ball over the wicketkeeper's head and settled for more orthodox strokes.

"Now we've one more match, hopefully I can stay strong, I think I'll keep the paddle for the final," Dilshan explained.

Sangakkara, who said he expected something special from veteran batsman Sanath Jayasuriya in the final, added: "I have run out of superlatives

for Dilshan. He is a pioneer stroke-maker in Twenty20."

"The best thing is that he understands his role and has become very responsible and mature. He has finally understood how good he is."

And as for Mathews, the captain said: "It's Mathews's first major international tour and you can't ask for much more than three wickets in the first over."

"Now we will take this confidence into the final against Pakistan."

Pakistan, who lost by just five runs to arch-rivals India in the inaugural 2007 World Twenty20 final in Johannesburg, are desperate to go one better this time.

The dark horses of this tournament, they have justified veteran coach Intikhab Alam's belief that they would be at their best when it mattered most.

"We want to make people back home happy," Pakistan

captain Younus Khan said. "Winning the title will mean a lot to them and that will inspire us in the final. One more game and the World Cup will be ours."

West Indies captain Chris Gayle said: "You couldn't ask for a better final, they are two quality teams."

**TEAMS**  
PAKISTAN (probable): Kamran Akmal, Shahzaib Hasan, Shahid Afridi, Shoaib Malik, Younus Khan (captain), Abdul Razzaq, Misbahul Haq, Saeed Ajmal, Fawad Alam, Mohammad Aamir, Umar Gul.

SRI LANKA (probable): Tillekaratne Dilshan, Sanath Jayasuriya, Kumar Sangakkara (captain), Mahela Jayawardene, Chamara Silva, Jehan Mubarak, Angelo Mathews, Lasith Malinga, Muttiah Muralidaran, Isuru Udana, Ajantha Mendis.

Umpires: Simon Taufel and Daryl Harper.

## Lanka fined for over-rate

AFP, London

Sri Lanka have been fined for a slow over-rate during their 57-run win over West Indies in Friday's World Twenty20 semifinal at the Oval, the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced here Saturday.

Australian match referee Alan Hurst acted after Kumar Sangakkara's side was ruled to be one over short of its target at the end of the West Indies innings when time allowances were taken into consideration.

In accordance with the ICC Code of Conduct, players are fined five percent of their match fees for every over their side fails to bowl in the allotted time, with the captain fined double that amount.

As such, Sangakkara was fined 10 percent of his match fee while his players received five percent fines.

Sri Lanka, who have yet to lose a match at this tournament, made 158 for five thanks mainly to Tillekaratne Dilshan's 96 not out, before bowling out the West Indies for 101 with 14 balls to spare.

Pace bowler Angelo Mathews, who took three wickets in the first over of the West Indies innings, finished with three wickets for 16 runs.

## Federer feels disappointed

AFP, London

Roger Federer admits he was disappointed by Rafael Nadal's withdrawal from Wimbledon because he would have relished the chance to take on his great rival in another epic final.

Nadal's decision not to defend his title leaves Federer as firm favourite to win Wimbledon for the sixth time and beat Pete Sampras's record of 14 Grand Slam titles.

But, although he could have been forgiven for letting out a yelp of joy when he heard the news, Federer insists he felt a slight sense of anti-climax as it meant a temporary end to the rivalry.

"It's disappointing for me, of course, because I'd love to play him. He's my main rival," Federer said at a pre-tournament press conference on Saturday.

## WC talks

FROM PAGE 17

"Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka all accepted that if any of those 14 matches were to take place in their countries, then they would not be due any fee for hosting them," the governing body had said.

Pakistan had put legal proceedings on hold till the matter was resolved, but have now decided to go ahead with the cases following disagreement between the co-hosts.

There was no immediate reaction from the ICC or India's Pavar, the chairman of the World Cup organising committee, on the PCB's decision to resume its legal battle.

The contentious issue is expected to be discussed at the ICC's annual meetings at Lord's from June 22-26.

The ICC has ruled out switching the 2011 World Cup to Australia and New Zealand, the designated hosts of the 2015 event.

## THE FINAL: WOMEN'S WORLD TWENTY20

# Eng eye double over NZ

CRICKET

AFP, London

England will look to win their second major trophy against New Zealand in a matter of months when they face the White Ferns in the women's Twenty20 final at Lord's on Sunday.

The match will be a repeat of the 50-over World Cup final which England won by four wickets in Sydney in March.

England won through to Sunday's final by beating old rivals Australia by eight wickets at the Oval on Friday when, after chasing an imposing 164 to win, they finished on 165 for two - the highest total of the tournament.

Claire Taylor (76 not out) and Beth Morgan (46 not out) shared an unbroken stand of 122 that saw the hosts home with three balls to spare.

It was a win made all the sweeter for England captain Charlotte Edwards following suggestions from the New Zealand camp that the hosts had a "fragile" middle-order.

Edwards, looking ahead to her side's latest clash with the White Ferns, said: "We've played them a lot in the last year and we've won a lot of games."

"Seeing the way the girls batted today, I am sure they will be slightly worried now. They

were reported as saying we've got a fragile middle-order but I hope we proved a few people wrong."

"They are going to have a hell of a lot to prove to us after losing out to us in Sydney so we are going to have to be at our very best on Sunday if we want to win that final."

"We're really confident now and we've got a huge incentive to win in a Lord's final," Edwards said.

"For us, the 50-over format was the ultimate prize but to win the Twenty20 now could mean the whole profile goes from strength to strength."

With the women's final taking place hours before the men's showpiece between Pakistan and Sri Lanka, Edwards encouraged ticket-holders to get to Lord's early on Sunday.

"I know we have an early start but I'm hoping people will come out and watch," Edwards said. "You never know if people read their tickets and realise we're on; it's an early start but we're hopeful people will get out of bed."

Defeated Australia skipper Karen Rolton, who is stepping down as captain, added: "To England's credit they batted really well with that partnership and that won them the game."

"I'm very disappointed and I would have loved to finish (as captain) playing in the final at Lord's but today we weren't quite good enough."

## Gayle targets India

CRICKET

AFP, London

West Indian captain Chris Gayle is not losing heart after the semifinal loss in the World Twenty20 and has vowed to bounce back in the upcoming one-day series against India.

The West Indies exited from the tournament on Friday after a stinging 57-run defeat by Sri Lanka at the Oval, but Gayle said he was proud that his team had reached the semifinals.

"Of course we are disappointed because we too wanted to be in the final, but that does not take anything away from the way the team has played through this tournament."

"I am proud of the boys, they put everything into it. We backed ourselves and came this far. It is a great learning experience for the younger players in the team."

"If they learn the lessons quickly we should be able to capitalise in home conditions when the World Twenty20 is held in the Caribbean next year."

Gayle hoped West Indian fans were happy at the team's performance in the tournament after it was routed 2-0 in the preceding bilateral Test series against England.

"Fans are very hard to please," said Gayle. "They only want victory everytime. I just want to say tough luck to the fans. But I hope they will keep supporting us and stop cursing."

"I say to my fans that we will fly like a butterfly and sting like a bee, we'll be back. What can I do about it? Ask Muhammad Ali!"

The West Indies were outplayed on Friday after Tillekaratne Dilshan's unbeaten 96 in Sri Lanka's 158-5 was followed by an astonishing first over from rising fast bowler Angelo Mathews.

Mathews claimed three wickets in five balls as the Windies slipped to 1-3 and were shot out for 101 despite Gayle carrying his bat for an unbeaten 63.

"The three wickets in the first over set us back and we could not overcome that as we kept losing wickets regularly," said Gayle.

"You need partnerships in any form of the game, but this is especially true of Twenty20 cricket."

"All credit to Dilshan for the way he batted. I thought we had a good start to keep them down in the first six overs and Dilshan was their only batsman among the runs."

"He just did not give us a chance and helped set a decent total for Sri Lanka."

Gayle said he looked forward to the four one-day matches against India in the Caribbean starting later this month.

"We will get back home for a few days and start another series soon," the West Indian captain said.

"India may not have made the semifinals here and we did, but we start from scratch and have to do all the hard work again."

"India is always a good one-day team, so it is bound to be a tough series."

## Vettel grabs pole

FROM PAGE 20

conditions that were not warm enough to allow the Brawn GP cars to get their tyres up to a good working temperature.

"It's a typical English early summer's day I suppose," said Brawn's boss Ross Brawn. "We would have liked Bridgestone to have brought the softer tyres with them, but we have to make the best of it."

The first session, Q1, was brought to a premature halt when German Adrian Sutil crashed at Abbey curve in his Force India car, the impact rupturing the right front side of the car and tearing off a wheel.

It was a big impact at 200 kph but the driver was unhurt.

The crash meant that when Sutil climbed from his car and the red flags were shown, his best friend among the drivers, world champion Hamilton, was

condemned to start from the backrow of the grid again.

Hamilton had been on a hot lap in his McLaren when the session was red-flagged and had no time to return to the track and recover with a faster lap.

This meant that the five drivers eliminated at the end of the first mini-session were Sebastian Buemi of Switzerland in his Toro Rosso, Hamilton, Sutil, Frenchman Sebastian Bourdais of Toro Rosso and veteran Italian Giancarlo Fisichella in the second Force India.

Hamilton, victorious in last year's rain-swept British race on the way to winning the world title, was philosophical afterwards.

He said: "That's it for me and my chances of winning are over,

but I gave it my best shot, I pushed the car as hard as I could. But I have had brilliant support here from the fans for the last two days and that has really got me through."

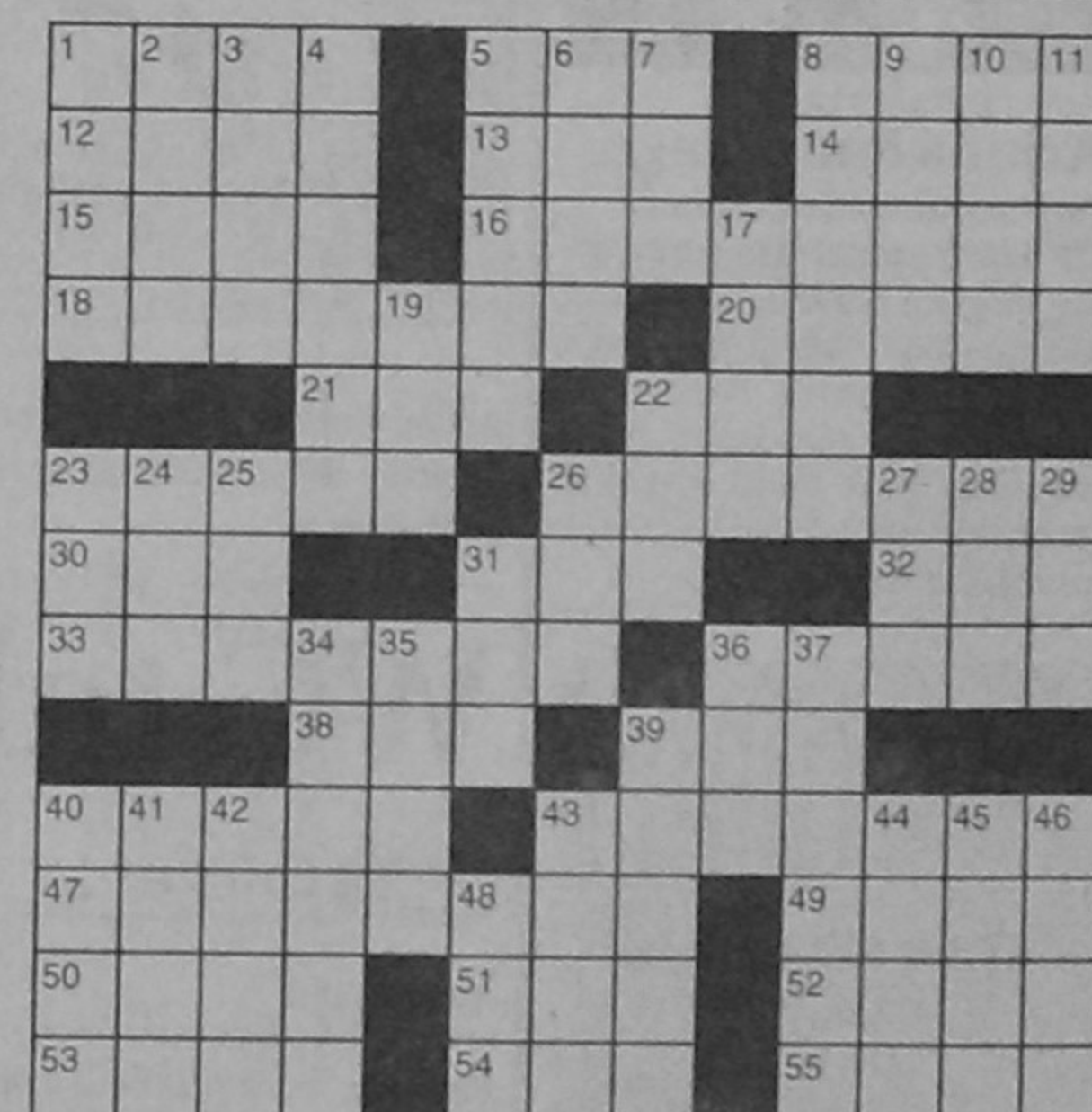
"I will fight as much as I can as always and see what happens. Just push and hope! I hope I can do something for the fans."

Webber had outpaced his Red Bull teammate Vettel at the top of the times in Q1 and he soon went out in Q2 and nailed the top spot again in the early minutes. Clearly intent to rub home his advantage, in pursuit of his maiden pole, Webber was

apparently content to sit on his time of 1:18.209 in readiness for the top-ten shootout. But he was pipped in the final seconds when Vettel went top in 1:18.119.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS		DOWN	
1	Amorphous movie monster	38	Boston team, for short
5	Zero	39	Make marginalia
8	Cold War initials	40	Marble type
12	Philbin's co-host	43	Wacko
13	Raw rock	47	Courtroom
14	Entreaty agenda	50	Duel tool
15	Exam format	51	Bookie's due
16	Michael Jackson step	52	Bookie's due
18	Portable music player	53	Line of fashion?
20	Two under par	54	Hearty brew
21	Help	55	Serves the purpose
22	Supporting		
23	NYC borough		
26	Authoritative command		
30	Okla-homa city		
31	April 15 payment		
32	- de		
33	- bread		
36	Become less intense		
23	Foul	24	Mineral stat
1	Forehead	25	Feedbag tidbit
2	Old Italian money	26	Welcome birthstone
3	October	27	Suitable
4	Romanian, e.g.	28	Greek cross
5	Wanderer	29	Kreskin's claim
6	Press	31	Monkey suit
7	Zodiac cat	34	Honor
8	To the sky	35	Yuletide refrain
9	Refinery waste	36	Parcel of land
10	Hawk	37	Left a good impression?
11	Croupier's tool	39	Arbiter
17	Night light?	40	Exports
19	Blend	41	Stare open-mouthed
22	Send quickly	42	Cruising
		43	Perform perfectly
		44	Re planes
		45	Wise one
		46	Cupid's alias
		48	Eggs



## CRYPTOQUIP

BXGOENCCZEQXG Z BTNZEQSN  
LZLW BKKCY XLONTSN KIXG  
CXXJQGM QGEX ERN GQMRE  
OJW : ERN LQM YQZINT

Yesterday's Cryptquip: WHEN THE ITEM WAS STUDIED EXTREMELY THOROUGHLY BY SINGER DIANA, HAD IT BEEN ROSS-EXAMINED?

Today's Cryptquip Clue: L equals B