

Hall ban stands

AFP, London

South African all-rounder Andrew Hall has lost his appeal against a two match ban and will miss the Tests against Pakistan starting this week.

The International Cricket Council Code of Conduct Commission's Sir Oliver Popplewell, a former English High Court Judge, upheld ICC Referee Clive Lloyd's ruling that Hall brought the game into disrepute.

Hall was banned for inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with Pakistan's Yousuf Youhana during the second one-day match in Lahore on October 5.

He appeared to impede Youhana with an elbow while the batsman was taking a run.

"No one who has seen the video, and I have seen it four or five times, can be in any doubt that there was a very serious confrontation between Mr Hall and Mr Youhana and that a Level 3 charge of breach of C2 was entirely appropriate," said Sir Oliver.

South African captain Graeme Smith was also fined and banned from one one-day match for using abusive language as the players argued over the matter.

The first Test starts in Lahore on Friday. The second Test is at Faisalabad on October 24-28.

Kiwis going to Pakistan on ODI tour

BBC ONLINE, undated

New Zealand on Tuesday have agreed to play five one-day matches in Pakistan next month.

It will be the first time they have visited Pakistan since aborting a tour in July 2002 after a bomb exploded outside the team hotel in Karachi.

The incident traumatised a number of New Zealand's players with skipper Stephen Fleming later saying that it would haunt him for life.

The itinerary for the forthcoming tour will be restricted to the cities of Faisalabad, Rawalpindi and Lahore.

Karachi was the centre of attention again last month when another explosion led to South Africa cancelling a tour.

It was eventually salvaged after the Pakistan Cricket Board agreed to move games away from Karachi and Peshawar.

The New Zealand squad will travel to Pakistan following a tour to India, which could end only four days before their opening game.

SCHEDULE

Nov 22: 1st ODI, Faisalabad
Nov 24: 2nd ODI, Rawalpindi
Nov 25: 3rd ODI, Rawalpindi
Nov 29: 4th ODI, Lahore
Dec 1: 5th ODI, Lahore

Await changed Aussies



REUTERS, Melbourne

Australia's desire to cut out sledging is a separate issue to the art of gamesmanship, World Cup hero Andrew Symonds said on Tuesday.

National ruling body Cricket Australia (CA) issued a statement on October 1 warning players they could face life bans if they breached a new code of conduct outlawing on-field sledging.

"What you won't see is sledging. What you will see is gamesmanship," Symonds, 28, told reporters in Melbourne at the launch of the 2003-04 domestic season.

"At times you will see heated things said but hopefully it will be a bit more controlled," added the Queensland all-rounder, who scored 326 runs in this year's World Cup including 143 not out against Pakistan and 91 not out in the semi-final against Sri Lanka.

"I don't think there is that much that is said, it's just that the cameras are right up close and see all your facial expressions.

"The boys just have to be a little bit more subtle when something is said. No-one is condoning sledging."

Australia Test captain Steve Waugh announced last week the



ANDREW SYMONDS

players had written a new set of conduct guidelines themselves, included in CA's Code of Behaviour, urging each other to cut out personal insults and accept umpiring decisions.

Incidents such as fast bowler Glenn McGrath's angry exchange

with West Indies batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan earlier this year will in future lead to the Australia player explaining his actions to his team mates.

"We'll try and work it out among ourselves to start with," Waugh told reporters in Perth.

But Waugh's vice-captain Ricky Ponting told reporters he would continue to take the verbal fight to opponents.

"What's wrong with saying (to an opponent) that he's suspect against good bouncers or something?" the 70-Test veteran said.

Waugh's top-ranked team have been heavily criticised in recent years for their persistent on-field sledging and CA is determined to clean up their act.

Waugh's side has thrived on gaining a psychological edge over opponents with some on-field chat, which the skipper has described as a policy of "mental disintegration".

"We want emotion, we want passion ... banter is a part of the game. But now we know the standard expected of each other and hopefully (breaches) will be less and less," Waugh said.

AFC U-17 C'ship Training camp granted 20 lakh taka

SPORTS REPORTER

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman yesterday announced a grant of Tk 20 lakh to continue the training camp of the under-17 football team for the AFC Under-17 Championship finals to be held in Japan next September.

The announcement came when the boys of Shahidur Rahman Shantoo met the minister at the National Sports Council (NSC) conference room after their victories over Kyrgyzstan on Monday and Saturday last.

Bangladesh booked the berth in the 12-team finals beating the central Asian nation both at home (2-0) and away match (1-0) at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

World XI play Pak XI today

CRICINFO, undated

The Pakistan Cricket Board has announced a 13-man Pakistan XI to play a World XI in a charity day-night match at Lahore on Wednesday.

The match is being organised by the Zindagi Trust, and all income from the game will go to the Trust.

TEAMS

WORLD XI (from): Sanath Jayasuriya, Romesh Kaluwitharana (Sri Lanka), Venkatesh Prasad, Robin Singh (India), Courtney Walsh, Jimmy Adams, Franklin Rose (West Indies), Steve Tikolo (Kenya), Travis Friend (Zimbabwe), Neil Fairbrother (England), Dean Jones (Australia), plus two South African players to be named.

PAKISTAN XI (from): Imran Farhat, Taufiq Umar, Imran Nazir, Yasir Hameed, Misbahul Haq, Abdul Razzaq, Moin Khan, Shoaib Malik, Wasim Akram, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mushtaq Ahmed, Shoaib Akhtar, Junaid Zia.

India revises pay system

BBC ONLINE, undated

Indian cricket officials have on Tuesday averted a potential dispute with the national team by agreeing a new pay formula.

It will see players taking part in Tests and one-day internationals paid according to seniority.

"The cricket board and the players have agreed on a gradation formula," said Jagmohan Dalmiya, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

"We've reached a final understanding. What remains is to draft a contract incorporating all the details."

Captain Saurav Ganguly, star batsman Sachin Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid and leg-spinner Anil Kumble represented the players during the discussions.

They are currently paid on a match by match basis with fees taken from money paid by team and match sponsors.

But the new agreement will also see the introduction of annual contracts, similar to those in place in Australia and South Africa.

There is, however, no specified time for the new agreement to come into force.

"Neither we nor the players are in a hurry to sign the contract," added Dalmiya.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Players and officials of Bangladesh under-17 football team, who qualified for the final round of the Asian championship, pose with the State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman at the NSE conference room yesterday.

Spin duo again



REUTERS, Mohali

India are likely to rely on their main weapon, the spin duo of Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh, in the second and final Test against New Zealand starting on Thursday, coach John Wright has said.

The Indian spinners were unable to run through New Zealand's second innings in the drawn first Test at Ahmedabad last week but Wright said on Tuesday the fault was not in his bowlers but in the placid track that offered them no assistance.

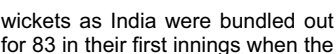
"I think we bowled pretty well in Ahmedabad," Wright told reporters on Tuesday. "The pitch didn't help the bowlers and we hope the wicket in Mohali will be different from the first Test. At least, we should have some bounce."

Wright said the Indians were toying with the idea of including experienced paceman Ajit Agarkar, drafted in place of the injured Aavishkar Salvi, who sat out the first Test.

"Zaheer Khan bowled brilliantly in Ahmedabad and Lakshmi Prasad Balaji made a solid debut but we might give Agarkar a different problem to solve," Wright said.

New Zealand are encouraged by a tinge of green on the wicket and by history.

Dion Nash had grabbed six quick



REUTERS, Mohali

India are likely to rely on their main weapon, the spin duo of Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh, in the second and final Test against New Zealand starting on Thursday, coach John Wright has said.

The Indian spinners were unable to run through New Zealand's second innings in the drawn first Test at Ahmedabad last week but Wright said on Tuesday the fault was not in his bowlers but in the placid track that offered them no assistance.

"I think we bowled pretty well in Ahmedabad," Wright told reporters on Tuesday. "The pitch didn't help the bowlers and we hope the wicket in Mohali will be different from the first Test. At least, we should have some bounce."

Wright said the Indians were toying with the idea of including experienced paceman Ajit Agarkar, drafted in place of the injured Aavishkar Salvi, who sat out the first Test.

"Zaheer Khan bowled brilliantly in Ahmedabad and Lakshmi Prasad Balaji made a solid debut but we might give Agarkar a different problem to solve," Wright said.

New Zealand are encouraged by a tinge of green on the wicket and by history.

Dion Nash had grabbed six quick

will assist our pacemen."

But the Kiwis have a slight batting worry with Nathan Astle, the first Test centurion, suffering from a knee injury that will force him to miss the subsequent one-dayers.

"Astle is due to head back home but the medical staff has ensured us there will be no problems for him getting through this Test," Ross said.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

"These are not normal Indian conditions where you just toss the coin and say you're going to bat first," Ross said. "We'll be looking at the wicket very carefully and see if it

wickets as India were bundled out for 83 in their first innings when the teams last met here in 1999 and coach Ashley Ross is hoping his pacemen, Daryl Tuffey and Jacob Oram, can emulate him.

Div I kabadi

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Bank and Imarat Nirman won their respective matches in the opening day of the First Division Kabadi League at the Outer Stadium yesterday.

Bangladesh Bank earned 75-40 points victory over Srijani Sangsad with four 'lonas'. They dominated the first session by 45-19 points.

In another match, Imarat Nirman beat Milon Smriti 90-41 with four 'lonas' after leading the first half by 49-29 points.

Youngsters

FROM PAGE 13

When he was asked about the first innings collapse, Faruque said that it was an excellent line and length bowled by Matthew Hoggard and Martin Saggars that did the damage.

"They made sure that the batsmen had to play at every delivery and with the balls moving away from the body, it was a bit too much for our inexperienced batters to handle."

Faruque informed that the prolific Moniruzzaman, who couldn't bat in either innings due to a nasty cut suffered above his left eye during fielding, had a good chance to play in the second three-day match for the Bangladesh A team against England starting tomorrow at the BKS.

"His condition is not too bad although his vision is still a bit hazy. If he recovers, we are likely to put him in the A team," said Faruque.

Inzamam out

FROM PAGE 13

opener Taufiq Umar back for the first Test as he made a good recovery from the knee injury that forced him out midway through the series against Bangladesh and to miss the one-dayers against South Africa.

Umar, a left-hander, was Pakistan's top scorer earlier this year in the two Tests in South Africa.

Result makes

FROM PAGE 13

When asked why his middle-order collapse in the first innings, Fletcher said that in a game of cricket anything can happen. Besides, he reminded that his team did not get the chance to bat on grass after arriving in Dhaka on October 8.

"We have been batting indoors because of the bad weather. The last time we batted on grass was in September (in The Oval Test).

"We must also look at some of the wickets that fell. One was really a strange and unlucky decision. But again that's how cricket goes," he said.

"But I'm especially happy with the bowlers. They swung the ball nicely and that's what we need to win Test matches," said the England coach.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Members of the Sales and Marketing Division of GrameenPhone, who became GP inter-division football champions beating the Customer Relations Division by a solitary goal, pose with the Sales and Marketing Director Mehboob Chowdhury recently.

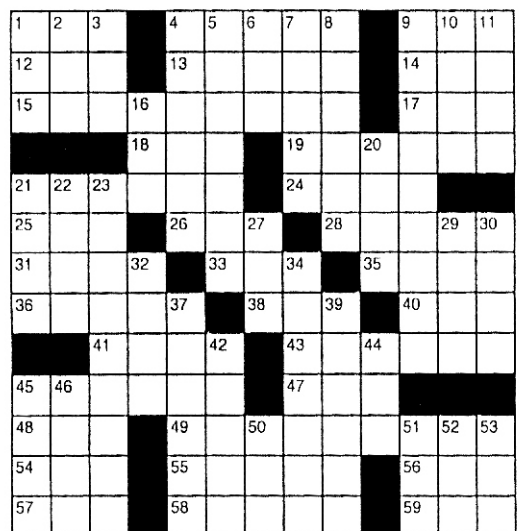
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 "A mouse" 59 Ostrich's kin 11 Coaster 16 Wet 20 "___" 41 Harbor city 43 Holly-wood biz 45 Slowly, in music 47 Kyoto cummerbund 48 Scratch 49 Office group 54 Doggy-bag 55 Nurses 56 Abbott's first baseman 57 Firma-ment 58 Break prop into bits 10 Staffer

DOWN 1 D.C. figure, for short 2 Puzzle-dom cuckoo 3 Gun the engine together 4 Some-thing astonish-ing 5 Spur 6 Bill's partner 7 Got up 8 Spartan serfs 9 "The Color of Money" on (end) 10 Staffer

Solution time: 24 mins.

SPIN WASH RATS FELICIA AVOW ASS DING RIGA LOOK D A G G E R S A T YES LAY WORLD JET FOIG ALICE COO CLIO VEW GAB JAZZ LIT HAM POP CROISSEDS WORDS AURA ROHE OUT REEL OPAL APE PROM NEWS DIEW



CRYPTOQUIP

I X I F N Q K T N V B O S V O F B X V I R B Q K W U U L V O P L I I O I Q W U B P U W B C C N V

U L V H S V U O K X I F R F B U I T S a t u r d a y ' s C r y p t o q u i p : A M O V I E A B O U T A V E R Y U N H E A L T H F U L P I Z Z A P L A C E M I G H T B E D U B B E D " F I V E G R E A S Y P I E C E S " .

Today's Cryptogram Clue: I equals E

The Cryptogram 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.