

## Hondo, Ervine eye return against WI

AFP, Sydney

Injured Zimbabweans Douglas Hondo and Sean Ervine are working towards being fit to play in the first cricket Test against the West Indies in Harare next month, a team spokesman said here on Saturday.

Paceman Hondo, who has bowled only two overs on Zimbabwe's tour of Australia, has had ultrasound scans here which revealed a mild tear in his left quadriceps muscle, the spokesman said.

Intensive treatment and physiotherapy have failed to improve his condition in time for the two-Test series against Australia.

Hondo will have a program of rest and rehabilitation under team physiotherapist Brad Robinson in a bid to be fit for the home series with the West Indies, which includes two Test matches and five one day internationals.

All-rounder Ervine, who missed the current second Test in Sydney with a twisted knee, will seek further specialist medical opinion on Monday.

## Smith seeks discipline

REUTERS, Lahore

South Africa captain Graeme Smith has called for more discipline from his players in the Test series against Pakistan.

Smith talked to his players after the South Africans reported Pakistan's Shoaib Akhtar for abusing Paul Adams on the first day of the first Test on Friday.

"Smith had a honest talk with the players and he told them what he expected of them after a series of incidents on the field in this series," South African team media manager Gerald de Kock said.

"Smith is concerned with what has happened on field and he has asked the players to be more cautious and mature on the field," de Kock said.

## Ganguly might

FROM PAGE 13

first match and could miss the second match too," a team source told AFP.

Vice-captain Rahul Dravid, who is leading India in the second Test, will also captain the team in the tri-series if Ganguly is not available.

Tamil Nadu left-hander Hemang Badani has been placed on stand-by in case Ganguly cannot take the field in Madras, the source said.

The tri-series, in which each team plays the other three times before the November 18 final in Calcutta, will feature the first clash between India and Australia since their World Cup final in Johannesburg in March.

Australia will be without five frontline bowlers for the series. Pacemen Glenn McGrath, Jason Gillespie and Brett Lee, and spinner Stuart MacGill, are out with injuries.

## Rain denies Eng

FROM PAGE 13

Fall of wickets: 1-40, 2-57, 3-61, 4-67.

Did not bat: Gulam Sagir Hossain, Arafat Sunny, Mosaddeq Hossain, Alamgir Kabir, Tareq Aziz

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hoggard	6	1	15	0
Johnson	7	2	10	0
Collingwood	2	1	6	0
Harmison	4	1	22	1
Giles	7	3	6	0
Batty	7	2	19	3

**Result:** Match drawn.

**Note:** Matthew Hoggard (England) and Talha Jubair (Bangladesh) bowled and fielded as the 12th man of their respective teams.



PHOTO: AFP

Australia's Ricky Ponting works the ball on the on-side on way to scoring an unbeaten 137 during the second day's play of the second Test against Zimbabwe in Sydney yesterday.

# Ponting punishes Zim



AFP, Sydney

Vice-captain Ricky Ponting compiled his 18th Test century as Australia powered to 245 for three before bad light halted play for the day on Saturday, the second day of the second and final cricket Test against Zimbabwe at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The aggressive Ponting was unbeaten on 137, including 19 fours and two sixes, with skipper Steve Waugh on 43 as the Australians scored at an imperious rate in the final two sessions after being 31 for one at lunch in reply to the tourists' first innings total of 308.

The Australians added 131 in the second session and continued in that vein in the third as Ponting punished the Zimbabwe attack before the umpires called the players from the field 36 minutes before the scheduled close of play. Rain then began to fall and play was eventually abandoned.

"I was deliberately going out there to be aggressive today," Ponting said. "Once you get set on that sort of wicket you can score pretty quickly."

Australia trail Zimbabwe by 63 with seven first innings wickets in hand but suffered a blow when pace bowler Brett Lee was sent to hospital after bowling only three overs in the morning.

Australia are already without three key bowlers in injured trio Jason Gillespie, Glenn McGrath and Stuart MacGill as well as suspended spinner Shane Warne.

The Australian innings got off to a sluggish start when all-rounder

Andy Blynaut, who had also starred with the bat, dismissed Justin Langer with his first delivery with the Australians on seven.

Matthew Hayden, who made a world record 380 in the first Test, then fell for 20 soon after lunch, falling victim to Blignaut's pace when he was caught by Stuart Carlisle at cover.

Ponting was in unstoppable form, however. His 50 came up from just 51 balls and was punctuated by nine fours.

Damien Martyn played the anchor role in a 97-run partnership with Ponting before being trapped lbw by spinner Ray Price, the nephew of golfer Nick Price, with Australia on 149.

Ponting completed his century in just 154 minutes from 113 balls. It featured 16 fours and a towering six off the bowling of Price.

He has now scored tons in six of his last 13 Tests and he and Waugh had shared an unbroken 97-run partnership. Ponting passed the 5,000 run mark in Tests.

"Steve and I have a good partnership going and its important we build on that tomorrow," Ponting said.

Zimbabwe were earlier dismissed after 70 minutes of the morning session after resuming at 256 for eight. The tourists added 52 to their overnight score with Blignaut, a 25-year-old former male model, unbeaten with a defiant 38 that included seven fours.

Andy Bichel was the best of the largely ineffective Australian bowlers with figures of 4-66.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the second cricket Test between Australia and Zimbabwe at

the Sydney Cricket Ground on Saturday:

**ZIMBABWE:** First innings (over-

night 256-8)	
Ebrahim b Lee	9
Gripper c Gilchrist b Bichel	15
Vermeulen lbw b Williams	17
Carlisle c Ponting b Bichel	118
Wishart c Gilchrist b Williams	14
Taibu c Gilchrist b Hogg	27
Streak lbw b Hogg	14
Ewing c Martyn b Lee	2
Blignaut not out	38
Price c Williams b Bichel	20
Mahwire c Gilchrist b Bichel	6
Extras: (b-4, lb-12, w-3, nb-9)	28
Total: (All out in 107.2 overs)	308
Fall of wickets: 1-15, 2-45, 3-47, 4-95, 5-151, 6-218, 7-222, 8-243, 9-296	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Lee	23	5	78	2
Williams	23	6	58	2
Bichel	24.2	7	66	4
Hogg	23	8	49	2
Waugh	4	0	7	0
Katich	7	0	25	0
Martyn	3	1	9	0

<b>AUSTRALIA:</b> First innings	
Hayden c Carlisle b Blignaut	20
Langer c Streak b Blignaut	2
Ponting not out	137
Martyn lbw b Price	32
Waugh not out	43
Extras: (lb-1, w-1, nb-9)	11
Total: (For 3 wks in 56.5 overs)	245
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-51, 3-148	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Streak	11	1	58	0
Blignaut	13	2	49	2
Mahwire	6.5	0	47	0
Price	20	3	58	1
Ewing	6	0	32	0

**Umpires:** Sri Venkataraaghavan (India) and Billy Bowden (New Zealand)

## Buchanan stays Aussie coach until 2005

AFP, Sydney

John Buchanan has signed a new two-year contract as coach of the Australian cricket team, Cricket Australia announced on Saturday.

Buchanan, 50, took over the role in October 1999, taking over from Geoff Marsh. He is now contracted until October 2005.

Since taking charge, Buchanan has helped Australia set several international cricketing benchmarks.

He was in charge for 15 of the team's 16 straight Test victories, a world record, and supervised as Australia recorded 21 straight victories in limited-overs games in 2002-2003, including the World Cup triumph in South Africa.

"We are very pleased to have been able to extend John's contract," Cricket Australia chief executive James Sutherland said in a statement.

"Since his appointment John has played a major role in Australia's international success. The Australian Test and one-day sides are now regarded as the best in the world and one of the reasons for that is because we have a world-class support team."

Buchanan said he had not hesitated in signing a new deal.

"The last four years have been a wonderful experience for me and I'm extremely grateful to have the chance to be associated with the Australian team for another two years," he said.

"We have had a great deal of success so far but now the challenge is to raise the bar again."

Before taking over as Australian coach, Buchanan played for the Queensland state side as an opening batsman and spent five seasons with the Queensland side as coach, helping to pilot the Bulls to two domestic first-class titles including the first in the state's history.

## Serena sidelined

AFP, St. Petersburg

Reigning Wimbledon and Australian Open champion Serena Williams, sidelined more than two months with a left knee injury, will not play tennis again until 2004, the WTA Tour announced Friday.

Third-ranked Williams, who spent much of the year ranked number one in the world, withdrew Friday from next month's WTA Tour Championships next month in Los Angeles and a tuneup event in Philadelphia starting in 10 days.

"I really miss playing tennis and I can't wait to come back and compete," Williams said in a statement. "However, I feel that I need more time to prepare and get myself in the best shape possible."

Williams had surgery to repair a partial tear in her left quadriceps tendon on August 1.

Although she has been progressing in rehabilitation, Williams has been advised to stay out of competition and continue her training to ensure she will return in peak form.

## Not afraid

FROM PAGE 13

"It was not an ideal pitch to test up and coming players especially as balls always kept low. Pitches should always be sporting ones good for batting and bowling," he said.

Replying to another question, Saleh also agreed that English spin attack was not up to expectation.

The youngster, who made a dream debut in both forms of the game in Pakistan, was not worried with his poor showing at the lone sports institute where he scored 28 and one.

"I am confident of bouncing back in the Test series," he said.

# Umar gives hosts upperhand



REUTERS, Lahore

Taufeeq Umar's fourth Test hundred and a gritty 49 from debutant Asim Kamal on Saturday put Pakistan in a strong position on the second day of the first Test against South Africa.

Taufeeq's second successive hundred against South Africa and Kamal's innings from 119 balls took Pakistan to 275 for four just 45 runs short of the South African first innings total of 320.

Kamal, the eighth player to make his Test debut for Pakistan this

home season, and Shoaib Malik (27) also saw off the second new ball taken at the total of 223 for four. They had completed an unbeaten stand of 52 runs at the close.

Taufeeq whose previous innings against South Africa was 135 at Cape Town in the second Test last January, was out after facing 247 balls and batting for 322 minutes, hitting 16 fours.

His innings laid the foundation for Pakistan's strong reply.

Taufeeq produced Pakistan's best opening stand of 109 runs against South Africa with Imran Farhat 41 and another 63 from 149 balls with Kamal, who survived a

close leg before appeal on his first ball from Andre Nel.

Taufeeq has now scored 391 runs in five innings against South Africa at an average of 78.

He played with confidence and fluency in his comeback innings after being forced to miss the recent series against Bangladesh and the one-day rubber against South Africa with a knee injury.

When he was out after tea caught and bowled by spinner Paul Adams, skipper Graeme Smith immediately took the second new ball after 80 overs, as he sorely missed a second spinner on a slow pitch.

Although he was very watchful in defence, Kamal played the best shot of the day, a nonchalant pull off Pollock to mid-wicket for a six.

South Africa had just one wicket before lunch when Adams bowled Farhat. After lunch Pollock, the best of the bowlers, had Yasir Hameed caught behind for 16 in his second spell and then stand-in skipper Yousuf Youhana fell in similar fashion off Andre Nel's bowling for eight.

Mark Boucher's two catches gave him 250 catches in his 66 Test matches. He also has nine stumpings.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the first Test between Pakistan and South Africa at Gaddafi Stadium on Saturday:

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 320 (M Boucher 72, G Kirsten 53 retired hurt; S Malik 4-42)

**PAKISTAN:** First innings

Bowler	O	M
Umar c b Adams	111	
Farhat b Adams	41	
Hameed c Boucher b Pollock	16	
Youhana c Boucher b Nel	8	
Kamal not out	49	
Malik not out	27	
Extras: (b-2, lb-16, nb-4, w-1)	23	
Total: (for four wks in 95 o v e r s )	275	

Fall of wickets: 1-109, 2-151, 3-160, 4-223

To bat: Moin, Sami, Akhtar, Mushtaq, Kaneria

Bowler	O	M
R Pollock	17	5 4 2
1 Ntini	19	2
61	0	
Adams	23	3
70	2	
Nel	14	3
40	1	
Kallis	14	2
30	0	
Smith	8	0
14	0	

**Umpires:** Darrell Hair (Australia) and Neil Mallender (England)



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistan opener Taufeeq Umar answers to the crowd's applause after reaching his hundred against South Africa on the second day of the first Test in Lahore yesterday.

# Clijsters fails, Henin sails



REUTERS, Zurich

Yugoslav Jelena Dokic dumped world number one Belgian Kim Clijsters out of the Swisscom Challenge on Saturday to secure her first final appearance of the year and title showdown with Justine Henin-Hardenne.

More than the Swiss title will be on the line on Sunday. If second seed Henin-Hardenne beats Dokic she will replace compatriot Clijsters at the top of the rankings.

Dokic, who had not won consecutive matches for three months coming into the Zurich tournament, was forced to battle back from a set down in the semi-final but withstood the pressure to win 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 in 79 minutes.

"It's not every day you get to serve against the world number one so I just went for it," Dokic said.

Clijsters had beaten Dokic in all of their last four meetings and she started the stronger when she broke serve after a comfortable opener and took the score to 3-0

in just six minutes.

Dokic chalked up a game but Clijsters, in a different class early on, broke to love in the sixth she won another love game with a backhand drive down the line, an un-hittable serve, a forehand crosscourt and an ace to complete the set.

The Yugoslav hit back with a break in the fourth game of the second when Clijsters double faulted. The Belgian got back in her stride with a couple of love games but Dokic served out the set with one of her own.

The crucial third set break point fell to Dokic in the fifth game when Clijsters hit into the net but Dokic had to save a break point with an ace in the eighth game to stay on course for victory.

Dokic was back on form, playing more of what she had earlier described as her "best tennis in 18 months", and she raised her hands in the air in delight after Clijsters hit long to hand her the match.

"Even if I lost I wanted to go off court knowing I had given it everything," she said.

"I haven't had a great time but now I feel I have got my head

together and got my tennis together."

In the earlier semifinal, Henin-Hardenne battled past Nadia Petrova 6-4, 6-4 to reach her 11th final of the year and stretch her unbeaten run over the towering Russian to five matches.

The second seed and world number two, who was nursing a knee injury and admitted she was running on empty after playing her 80th match of the season to reach the semis, was broken four times in the match but used all her gritty qualities to dig out victory.

"For a few days I have felt pain in my knee cap and I have some blisters on my foot as well," Henin-Hardenne complained. "It is okay, I can play, but it is bothering me sometimes and it is tough but I just tried to do my job today."

"It wasn't a great match of tennis for sure but I played well on a few important points and that was the most important thing for me. There wasn't a lot of rhythm but I did what I had to, I won the two sets so, just enough."

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	35 Charged	55 Bottom	10 Notions
1 Bodies of law	37 Iditarod terminus	56 Stannum	11 Podiatry
6 Parent sharer	38 Hanks' award	57 Marsh plant	17 Grave
9 Muscle spasm	41 It usually starts	<b>DOWN</b>	19 Memorize
12 Cook with direct	"http://"	1 Rather's employer	22 Singer
13 Paid player	43 Heart of the matter	2 Scrap	24 A/C
14 Berlin's "What'll —?"	44 Frond	3 They have	26 Lease
15 Market	45 Larry Fine, for one	entry-level jobs	28 Houston
16 Cock	47 "Doonesbury" artist	4 Green land	30 Listening device
18 Ering the fish to the boat	49 Nutria	5 Stream-lined	32 Affluent
20 "The Good Earth" heroine	52 Previous night	6 Coil	33 Flightless bird
21 Scenery chews	53 Get ready to rumble	7 Press	34 CSA
23 Barbie's beau	54 Bend them!	8 "To Kill a Mockingbird"	36 Fall
24 Consecrate		9 Name	38 Frequent
25 Sawbuck change			39 Start a volley
27 Maiblo type			40 Dressing vessel
29 Skiers' favorite			42 Hair
31 Olympic swimmer Sanders			45 Han's wrap-around

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
				35		36			37	
38	39	40			41	42		43		
44					45			46		
47				48				49		50
52					53			54		51
55					56			57		

### CRYPTOQUIP

I L B A L U U D G B L K H C F ' K

Z F X P G U G U L I P G

U D H C S K L Z G U L A H C S L

U X Z C M F Z U D G I G U E F Z

Yesterday's Cryptquip: AFTER A BRAVE ACT TO SAVE A SMALL, ABANDONED CALF, I WAS AWARDED A VEAL MEDALLION.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: I equals B

The Cryptquip 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.

# National cricket

FROM PAGE 13

by 20 runs at the Mymensingh Stadium to move ahead. Meanwhile, the match between Dhaka University and East West University at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium was called off for the day due to rain. East West scored 93 for seven in 30 overs while Dhaka University, in their turn, were 13 without loss when the rain came in. The match resumes today.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**

**Satkira v Meherpur**  
Venue: Chuadanga  
**SATKHIRA:** 211 for all out in 47.3 overs (Sohel 69, Prince 24, Khasru 4-29, Malek 2-19, Jewel 2-25)

**MEHERPUR:** 65 for all out in 20.2 overs (Titoo 16, Riton 12, Akash 4-23, Walid 2-17)

**Result:** Satkira won by 146 runs.

**Comilla v Bandarban**  
Venue: Chandpur

**COMILLA:** 246 for all out in 49.1 overs (Baglu 58, Kamrul 44, Manjit 4-52,