# SPÖRT

## 7-up Paul's answer to critics

REUTERS, Lahore

South African spinner Paul Adams, who took seven wickets on Sunday against Pakistan, said his performance was a good answer to those questioning his place in the team

"A lot of people back home had written me off as an international player. They also questioned my inclusion in the team for the Pakistan tour. So I feel really good about my performance today," he said.

The left-arm spinner took seven for 128 to help bowl out Pakistan for 401 runs on the third day of the first Test.

"I just stuck to the basics and tried to bowl to one spot and length. It was all a question of patience because the Pakistani batsmen tend to play spinners very well.

"The main thing was I bowled consistently today. I was not very consistent in England in the second innings. Today I was very positive out there." he said.

Adams, who has now taken 129 wickets in 42 Tests, said his captain Graeme Smith and seniors Mark Boucher and Shaun Pollock had encouraged him on

"They said I will get wickets if I keep on going hard after them. They would make mistakes," the 26-year-old said.

Adams said that he had to bowl a faster trajectory because the wicket was slow.

"The wicket has not roughed out much as yet. But I think if we bat out the whole day tomorrow it will give more spin on the last day for the spinners," he said.

Adams, who went with the team at the start of the tour but was not included in the one-day squad, said the practice he had had in the nets during South Africa's one-day series against Pakistan had made him more disciplined as a bowler.

"I learned to pitch in the right areas. I also tried out some variations and it helped me a lot. It helped me get into a groove for this Test match," he said.

### Ion Tuesday!

the practice matches helped us to get an idea of some players that might come into Test side.

"And just like any other team we will have strategies and plans for each of their key players and we will bat and bowl according to our plan." Vaughan however was worried

that his quick bowlers would really need to toil for their wickets on pitches that offer little or no assis-"It will be hard work for the fast

bowlers on these kinds of pitches. noticed that during the practice matches where balls kept low.'

The England captain, on the other hand, was very encouraged by the amount of enthusiasm shown by the local crowds during the warm-up games.

"Judging by the response in last three-day match, the series will be quite appealing. Playing in front of crowds on the sub-continent is always exciting.

### New boys push

"I think realistically what we can expect is a wicket devoid of any

grass. But I would have loved to see

43 Annov

44 Home run

legend

46 Conk out

47 Deliver a

49 Entertain

51 Mountain

chain

sermon

grandly



Bangladesh Cricket Board president Ali Asghar (2nd from L), Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh David Fletcher (L) and members of the Bangladesh national cricket team in a Standard Chartered Cricket Credid Card launching ceremony at Sonargaon Hotel yesterday.

## **Umar idolises Anwar**

Cricket

REUTERS/AFP, Lahore

Pakistan opener Taufeeq Umar, who hit a century against South Africa on Saturday, said he took his inspiration from former captain Saeed Anwar.

"Saeed has always been a big inspiration for me. I started my Pakistan career with him and he helped me a lot. I have modelled myself on him as he was one of the best opener's produced by Pakistan," Taufeeq said after his knock of 111 on the second day of the first Test. Anwar announced his retirement from all cricket in August, disheartened at being ignored by Pakistan's selectors after the World Cup earlier this year.

Umer said that he wanted to emulate the celebrated retired "I have always been inspired by

Anwar and want to emulate the great left-handed opener with whom I have the honour of playing," said the 22-year-old local hero. The veteran of 55 Tests and 247

one-dayers still holds the record for the highest individual score in ODIs, 194 against India in 1997.

"When I started out for Pakistan two years back, Saeed encouraged me a lot telling me I had the ability to make this spot my own. I respect

Australia turn

to Kasprowicz

Australia have turned to paceman

out on their tour of India after their

REUTERS, Sydney

him a lot for that. He had no airs,' added Taufeeq.

The 22-year-old scored his fourth Test hundred and second successive one against South Africa on Saturday to help Pakistan reach 275 for four in reply to the tourists' first innings total of 320

He has now scored 391 runs in five innings against South Africa at



TAUFEEQ UMAR

an average of 78.

'The pitch is good for batting and didn't face any problems throughout the day. I was disappointed to get out the way I did because I had willed myself to play out the day, Taufeed said

The left-hander said he was confident of confirming a spot in the Pakistan team as opener.

have worked out my weak links to be able to stay around for long."

Umar recalled opening the innings with Anwar in his first Test and hitting a century against Bangladesh in Multan two years

"My debut hundred was the most memorable as I was playing alongside Anwar and I learned a number of golden tricks from him," said Umar, who hit 135 against South Africa at cape Town last year. "I was under pressure as I was

staging a comeback after two months but found the going smooth once I played the initial few overs.' said Umar, who missed the last Test against Bangladesh and one-day series against Bangladesh and South Africa due to knee injury. Spotted by Wasim Akram, Umar

represented Pakistan in the Lombard's Under-15 World Cup in England in 1996 and helped Pakistan finish runners-up to India. He also played the Under-19 World Cup in Sri Lanka in 2000

before getting a side game against England at Peshawar. "I spotted him in the Under-19 camp once and now feel he could be a solution to Pakistan's woes in finding the openers," said former

captain Akram last month. Pakistan has tried as many as 15 different set of openers in Tests in the last two and a half years

## WI unleash new pace generation

frontline bowling attack was wiped out by injuries. Kasprowicz, 31, has not played for Australia for four years but was recalled to the side after Glenn

Lee were ruled out. 'With injuries to our senior bowling line-up, we felt that on this occasion it was necessary to look for another quick," Australia's chairman of selectors Trevor Hohns said in a statement.

McGrath, Jason Gillespie and Brett

"Michael also has experience in the challenging conditions of the sub-continent and that will be a real asset to the squad."

### **SQUAD**

Ricky Ponting (captain), Adam Gilchrist, Michael Bevan, Andy Bichel, Nathan Bracken, Michael Clarke, Ian Harvey, Matthew Hayden, Brad Hogg, Michael Kasprowicz, Jimmy Maher, Damien Martyn, Andrew Symonds, Brad

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Bowlers win matches, and in the West Indies they have traditionally had a massive influence.

So it is that, despite Brian Lara's avalanche of Test runs, the absence of a bowling colossus leaves the West Indies languishing eighth in the ICC Test rankings.

South Africa this winter offer a clutch of young quicks the chance to ignite Caribbean cricket and follow the massive footprints of Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose.

The West Indies selectors put faith in raw pace talent for home rubbers against Australia and Sri

Lanka earlier this year.

Well placed to judge their merits is Corey Collymore, a more seasoned campaigner, who has played

alongside or against all of the aspirants in domestic cricket.

African fans will not get to see the best-known of the bunch. Jermain Lawson, however, as he continues work to smooth out his action.

It's difficult and frustrating because you have to go back to basics but he's a tremendous prospect for cricket lovers the world over," says Collymore.

"He's already delivered two great sets of figures; 6-3 against Bangladesh and a 7-78 haul, including a hat-trick, against Australia in Antigua."

One pace prospect who will be making the trip is 21-year old Fidel Edwards, who came from nowhere nto Test cricket and promptly took 5-36 on debut against Sri Lanka. A fiery customer with a slinging

round arm action, Barbadian Edwards had played only one firstclass match before his international

"Fidel's not just one of my teammates, but a friend and neighbour too. He's the half-brother of [fellow Test paceman] Pedro Collins," says

always believed Fidel had the ability "At 5 ft 8 in, he's short for a quick

bowler and he'll need to work on building up his muscles.' It is Jamaican Jerome Taylor who

Collymore cites as the pick of the bunch.

Named most promising fast bowler in last season's first-class competition, Taylor had a memorable domestic campaign, including 8-59 against Trinidad and Tobago.

his peers, but he's explosive and played his first Test in June when still only 18. Add to this list David Bernard

one Test and as yet uncapped vouth sensation Ravi Rampaul and it is clear there is no lack of desire among young West Indies cricketers to extend their fast bowling heritage "These guys can bowl in excess

of 90mph but what really impresses me is their keenness to listen and learn from the older players," Collymore adds.

### **Delta Life** women's h'ball begins today

UNB, Dhaka

The 9th Delta Life Women's Handball Championship begins at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex today.

Twelve teams, splitting into four groups, will take part in the first round matches while the two top teams from each group will qualify for the super round league.

On the opening day, Kuwait Moitri Hall will play against Scholastica, Bangladesh Rifles College will face Ispahani Women's College, Begum Badrunnessa College will play against Eden Women's University College and Rifles Public College will face Holly Cross College.

Youth and Sports Secretary M Solaiman Chowdhury will inaugurate the six-day meet.

**TEAMS** 

GROUP A: Viguarunnissa Noon School and College, Bangladesh Rifles School and College and Maghbazar Ispahani Women's University College.

GROUP B: Mirpur Girls' Ideal

Laboratory Institute, Kuwait Moitri Hall (Dhaka University) and

GROUP C: Home Economics Women's College, Rifles Public School and College and Holly Cross College

GROUP D: Siddeshwari Girls Colle-ge, Eden Women's University Colle-ge and Begum Badrunnessa College (Group D).

### National cricket

FROM PAGE 13 wickets at the Comilla Stadum, Noagaon moved into the group semifinal beating Rangpur by three

wickets at the Natore Stadium. Dhaka University reached the group semifinals smashing East West University by 97 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while Noakhali moved into the semifinals with an exciting one-wicket win against Laxmipur at the Chandpur Stadium

#### **SCORES IN BRIEF** Sirajganj v Bogra

Venue: Rangpur

SIRAJGANJ: 70 for all out in 39.3 overs (Shakil 15. Liton 13. Ferdous 3-11. Milu 3-13. Ashok 2-18) Bogra: 71 for four wickets in 34.4 overs (Rumel 20. Mehedi 16.

Jumman 13, Mamun 4-11) Result: Bogra won by six wick-Pirojpur v Barisal Venue: Patuakhali

PIROJPUR: 146 for all out in 49.5 overs (Mintu 38, Sohag 26, Motaleb 25, Jewel 19, Tariq 3-27, Sumon 2-

BARISAL: 81 for all out in 35.2 overs (Rabi 18, Jewel 3-7) Result: Pirojpur won by 65 runs. Rangpur v Noagaon

RANGPUR: 194 for all out in 31.3 overs (Khaleq 18, Bappi 16, Titoo 3-24, Rana 2-17, Collins 2-34) NOAGAON: 95 for all out in 36.4

Result: Noagaon won by three Dhaka v Tangail

Venue: Mymensingh

TANGAIL: 72 for all out in 30 overs (Arafat 19, Debabrata 4-17) **DHAKA**: 73 for three wickets in 20.1

overs (Salauddin 47) Result: Dhaka won by seven

Dhaka University v East West University Venue: DCS

DHAKA UNIVERSITY: 239 for eight wickets in 40 overs (Debasish 107, Musharaf Hossain 58, Saidul

**EAST WEST UNIVERSITY**: 142 for all out in 38.2 overs (Shahidul 30, Jamil 26, Musaraf 2-4, Sadat 2-45 Result: Dhaka University won by 97 runs.

Laxmipur v Noakhali Venue: Chandpur

LAXMIPUR: 180 for all out in 49 overs (Mithun 35, Zahidul 27, Sahidur 4-36, Rafigul 2-18) NOAKHALI: 181 for nine wickets in

48.4 overs (Z Rahman 50, Rafique 39, Masum 3-30, Emon 2-28) Manikganj v Narayanganj

MANIKGANJ: 126 for eight wickets in 45 overs (Mithun 15, Khokon 14) NARAYANGANJ: 119 for nine wickets in 45 overs (Pappu 25)

## What's your

FROM PAGE 13 defeat's in 24 matches since gaining

Test status three years ago.

He claims that Bangladesh only managed to pull off a spirited performance against Pakistan in the Multan Test last month as the hosts were "off-colour."

As if to please his former colonial masters. Rao employs the schoolbovish lines: "Bangladesh clearly lack players of class with stylish batsman Habibul Bashar being the lone exception, whereas England have players of both class and experience on the sub-continent." It's obvious that the Indian jour-

nalist is prepared to find fault with anything and everything associated with Bangladesh cricket. In contrast, the large group of the travelling English media have shown that they are prepared to call a spade a spade and have written and reported what they have seen since arriving here, and that is a fast-improving and respectable Test nation who are no push-overs.

## Aussies tighten grip

Cricket

Australia were closing in on a series sweep after restricting Zimbabwe to 151 for four in their second innings on the third day of the second and final cricket Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The Zimbabweans held an overall lead of 56 runs at stumps Sunday with just six second innings wickets in hand and two days left to Paceman Brad Williams, playing

in his first Test match, and Simon

Katich, recalled after a two-year absence, took two wickets apiece for the under-strength Australian Opener Dion Ebrahim fell to the fourth ball of Williams' opening over but Trevor Gripper and Mark

before Vermeulen (48) departed, also falling to Williams. Stuart Carlisle, who made a century in the first innings, then fell to part-time spinner Katich's second delivery, caught by Williams at

Vermeulen then steadied the ship

backward square leg for five, and the tourists were reduced to 103-3. Gripper was Katich's second victim, caught at first slip by Matthew Hayden for 47 with the

score on 114.

Craig Wishart was unbeaten on 32 when bad light and rain halted play for the day. Tatenda Taibu was Left-arm spinner Ray Price

121 as the tourists ended Australia's first innings on 403 after they had resumed at 245-3. Price took five wickets Sunday

earlier claimed a career-best six for

first-innings lead of 95. Price's six wickets from 41.3 overs bettered his 5-181 against South Africa in Bulawayo in 2001-2002. They were the best by a Zimbabwean bowler against

The nephew of golfer Nick Price struck the first blow of the day when he dismissed Waugh for 61, including nine fours, caught by Carlisle at short leg. Waugh and Ricky Ponting had put on 135 for the fourth wicket.

Ponting, who began the day on 137, also fell victim to Price when on 169. He faced 249 balls and struck 23 fours and two sixes before falling to the fifth ball of Price's 30th over with the Australians two runs short of taking the lead. Danger man Adam Gilchrist

added a cameo 20 from 25 balls, including a pair of fours and a six, before being beaten for pace and bowled by Zimbabwe skipper Heath Streak, who took his first wicket of the series. Price took his fourth wicket soon

after the interval, dismissing Brad Hogg for 13, caught at point by Dion Ebrahim, and he then bowled Katich for 52. Andy Bichel fell to paceman

Andy Blignaut for five, caught in the slips by Wishart, and Price then wrapped up the innings by having Williams caught and bowled for Brett Lee, who officials had

bowl. Australia won the first Test by an innings and 175 runs in Perth with Matthew Hayden hitting a world record 380

earlier said would take no further

part in the match with an abdominal

strain, was unbeaten on six but will not

**SCOREBOARD** 

day of the second cricket Test between Australia and Zimbabwe at the Sydney Cricket Ground on

ZIMBABWE: First innings 308 (S Carlisle 118, A Blignaut 38; A Bichel

4-66, B Hogg 2-49, B Williams 2-58,

AUSTRALIA: First innings (overnight 245-3) Hayden c Carlisle b Blignaut Langer c Streak b Blignaut Ponting b Price Martyn Ibw b Price Waugh c Carlisle b Price Katich b Price Gilchrist b Streak Hogg c Ebrahim b Price Bichel c Wishart b Blignaut Lee not out Williams c and b Price Extras: (lb-2, w-1, nb-13)

32

Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-51, 3-148, 4-283, 5-306, 6-347, 7-375, 8-384, 9-394 Bowler 0 3 21 83 Streak 20 83 2 1 Blignaut 61 10 Mahwire 41.3 Price 6 121

Total: (All out in 103.3 overs) 403

Ewina 11 53 **ZIMBABWE**: Second innings Ebrahim c Katich b Williams Gripper c Havden b Katich Vermeulen c Waugh b Williams 48 Carlisle c Williams b Katich Wishart not out Taibu not out Extras: (b-2, w-1, nb-3) Total: (For 4 wkts in 44.4 overs)151 Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-93, 3-103

**Bowler** 3 45 3 49 Williams Hogg 14.4 32

## Henin's double delight



REUTERS, Zurich

Belgian Justine Henin-Hardenne overtook compatriot Kim Clijsters as the women's world number one when she thumped Yugoslav Jelena Dokic 6-0, 6-4 in the final of the Swisscom Challenge on Sunday.

Henin-Hardenne was in a class of her own against world number 25 Dokic, winning her eighth tournament in 17 this year.

The US and French Open champion missed out on the number one spot when she lost to Clijsters in the Filderstadt Grand Prix last weekend but made no mistake on Sunday to

become the second Belgian to hold the top spot. "It is just an amazing feeling,"

she said. "Now I am number one in achievement.

the semifinals, lost her opening

service game to 15 and earned just

three more points in the set after

Henin-Hardenne wrapped up the set in 15 minutes, slamming down aces and dominating the net.

She then took Henin-Hardenne to deuce and showed the battling qualities she had displayed in earlier rounds, but squandered three break points and Henin-Hardenne held on to win the game with a crisp volley.

Two games went with serve but

Dokic went 40-0 down in the next

and after saving one break point she hit long to hand her opponent the crucial advantage. Dokic's nerves showed in her eight double faults and first service

success rate of just 54 percent. Henin-Hardenne, with the prospect of the number one spot spurring her on, never looked in trouble and she secured the win when



Winners of the AKTEL annual golf tournament which was held at Savar

Golf Club pose for photographers at a city hotel recently.

## Niaz shares 3rd spot

UNB, Dhaka

Grand Masters Niaz Murshed and Ziaur Rahman secured 6.5 points and 6 points respectively after the ninth round matches on Saturday of the Tata International Open Chess tournament, now being held in

Niaz drew with Srinivasa Rao of India to jointly share the third position with eight other players while Ziaur Rahman beat Rahul Sangma.

Jamshedpur, India.

Two other Bangladeshis -- FM Aminul Islam and Saifuddin Lovlu --

collected 5.5 points each.

## FROM PAGE 13

Mahmud however was hoping against hope that the curator would produce a sporting wicket out of

## "We will decide the playing eleven tomorrow," said the diminutive all-

a one paced true wicket." he said. CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer **ACROSS** DOWN Apply, as Hollywood casino Beginner clone? hotel 2 Cheerful 6 Doughnut Books 21 They're 39 200 at the 3 Not say shape vellow 11 Give Indy 500 -- (be 23 Puts 40 Back talk silent) testimony the 12 Peevish 42 Dick and 14 Croate what --25 Squirrel's Jane's rare as relief

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38 Take the helm 41 Veranda portion 45 Nephew

Caligula

48 Exist

Down's

address

ASKKII XMXDGX?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BACK AT THE CASINO'S ROULETTE TABLE, THINGS ARE TAKING A TURN FOR THE BETTOR. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals D 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 erro

**CRYPTOQUIP** 

But Tests in Zimbabwe and

"International cricket today is relentless, requiring hard work and commitment and as with Pedro, I've to reach the top.

"He's received less publicity than

"At 25 years old, that definitely includes me.'

#### the world it is just amazing because I did everything I could and it is a real Dokic, who had shown much improved form to defeat Clijsters in

Dokic opened the second set by winning her first point in nine and went on to win the game with the Dokic hit long. help of a firm smash and some more confident groundstrokes.

