

## Asif, Hafeez boost for Pakistan

REUTERS, Islamabad

Pakistan paceman Mohammad Asif and all-rounder Mohammad Hafeez will reinforce the touring squad in England before the fourth Test at the Oval starting on August 17, a Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) official said on Sunday.

"They will be joining the team in next few days and will be considered for the fourth Test and one-day series," PCB director Abbas Zaidi told Reuters.

Asif, who has taken 25 wickets in five Tests, returned home before the first Test at Lord's with an elbow injury. He has since recovered and passed a fitness Test on Friday.

Hafeez, 25, an opener and off break bowler has been called up after a string of good performances recently for the A side against the hosts, New Zealand and India.

Hafeez last played for the senior team against India in April 2005 while the last of his last three Test appearances was against Bangladesh in 2003.

## Ys take it away

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then gloved England's quickest bowler down the legside to wicketkeeper Chris Read.

Yousuf batted for 344 minutes, facing 261 balls with two sixes and 25 fours.

But Yousif lost little by way of comparison with his fellow right-hander as they elegantly dismantled a listless England attack, lacking inspiration in the absence of injured all-rounder Andrew Flintoff, with a succession of well-struck boundaries albeit on an increasingly flat pitch.

At lunch, Pakistan were 331 for two having saved the follow-on with Yousuf 160 not out and Yousif unbeaten on 122.

Boundaries continued to flow as they'd done before the break, even against the new ball, with Yousif leg-glancing Matthew Hoggard for four and Yousif hooking first-change Mahmood.

Yousif went to 150 with an on-driven four off Harmison.

After Yousif's exit, Inzamam unleashed a scorching cover-drive off Harmison.

Neither Yousif, 64 not out overnight, and Yousif, unbeaten on 91, gave a chance in Sunday's first session after Pakistan resumed on 202 for two.

But things might have been different had Collingwood taken a low slip chance Friday off Harmison when Yousif was on five and Pakistan 42 for two.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard at tea on the third day of the third Test between England and Pakistan at Headingley in Leeds on Sunday:

**ENGLAND:** First innings 515 (Pitersen 135, Bell 119; Gul 5-123)  
**PAKISTAN:** First innings (overnight 202-2)  
Butt run out 20  
Umar c Read b Hoggard 7  
Yousif run out 173  
Yousif c Read b Harmison 192  
Inzamam hit w b Panesar 26  
Iqbal lbw b Collingwood 0  
Akmal not out 4  
Extras: (b-1, lb-18, w-4, nb-6) 29  
Total: (For 6 wks in 113.5 overs) 451  
Fall of wickets: 1-34, 2-36, 3-399, 4-447, 5-447, 6-451  
To bat: Sami, Nazir, Gul, Kaneria

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hoggard	26	4	87	1
Harmison	26	1	121	0
Mahmood	19	3	92	0
Panesar	33.5	9	89	1
Pitersen	1	0	14	0
Collingwood	8	0	29	1

## Rahim replaces

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of selecting no-playing managers for the national teams, the reason behind the mass resignation of the NTMC members including its chairman Salahuddin.

MFLC secretary Mojammet Haque Mukta, who has been named as its new chairman, will be the manager of the national team for its 2007 Asian Cup home and away qualifiers against Qatar. BFF member Shaiful Islam has chosen as the team leader.

The BFF also decided to delay the start of the final round of the Jubok Phone National Football Championship by a week to give the players enough time to return from the SA Games and take part in the competition.

## U-23 team

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against Nepal on August 14, meet Afghanistan on August 16 and play their last group match against archrivals India on August 19.

## TEAM

Atiqul Islam Tareq, MN Shakil, Feroz Mahmud Titu, Faisal Mahmud, Mehdi Hasan Ujjal, Arman Aziz, Zahid Hasan Emily, Abul Kashem, Ariful Islam, Arifat Ali Ronny, Zahid Hossain, Mohammad Robin, Mohiuddin Ibnul Siraj, Zahed Parvez Chowdhury, Mehdi Hasan Topu, Zahurul Islam, Wali Faisal, Shahriar Abdullah Rintu, Enamul Haque Sharif and Abdullah Al Parvez.

# Murray survives a scare

Tennis

AFP, Washington

British teen sensation Andy Murray rallied from a slump to win the final five games and defeat Dmitry Tursunov 6-2, 7-5, Saturday, advancing to the final of the 600,000-dollar ATP Washington Classic.

The 19-year-old Scotsman will try to take his second career ATP title Sunday against France's Arnaud Clement, who defeated former world number one Marat Safin 7-6 (7/5), 7-6 (7/4) in the other semifinal at the US Open warm up event.

"I've played better in all my

matches and I hope to play better again," Murray said. "If I play like I did tonight I have a good chance of winning."

Seventh seed Tursunov, runner-up last week in Los Angeles, broke eighth seed Murray in five points in the sixth game and led 5-2 before the lanky lad answered with breaks in the ninth and 11th games.

"After the first two points at 5-3, I knew I had a chance," Murray said.

Tursunov netted a forehand, the last of 36 unforced errors, to give Murray a match point he converted on a service winner for victory after 84 minutes.

"I felt like I was controlling the match pretty much the whole way through," Murray said. "He played an unbelievable game to break me.

I got a little bit nervous and he managed to get back in."

In his first tournament under new coach Brad Gilbert, Murray has greater confidence than when he beat Australian Lleyton Hewitt 2-6, 6-1, 7-6 (7/3) to win the San Jose title in February. That was his only prior ATP final.

"I'll be a little more relaxed this time. I lost the first set pretty quickly," Murray said. "I've got more experience since then and I know I can win a tournament."

Murray, who will improve on his current career-best 35th in the rankings, is also less nervous than when the week began because he feared a debut flop with Gilbert, who guided Andre Agassi and Andy Roddick to Grand Slam success.

"To get to an ATP final at 19 is huge, and in my first week with him," said Murray. "Now I feel we know each other a bit better. I'm more relaxed than I was at the start of the week."

"My first couple matches I was pretty nervous. Brad Gilbert is my coach. If I had been knocked out in the first round of a small tournament, I'd feel bad."

Murray will have the chance to avenge his five-set ouster from last year's US Open against Clement, who lost the third and fourth sets but won the last at love after nine weeks of play and a five-set first match caught up with Murray.

"I did get tired but it was a little bit understandable. It was still a good match," Murray said. "It's a pretty even matchup. It will come down to who plays the big points better."

Neither man has dropped a set this week.

The 57th-ranked Frenchman won half the points off Safin's second serve and took advantage of 40 unforced errors to reach his ninth ATP final.

Clement, the 2001 Australian Open runner-up, has captured four ATP crowns but none outside his homeland, winning last February at Marseille as well as in 2000 at Lyon and 2003 in Metz. Clement likes his chances this time, however.

"I just want to play a good match. I have a good chance to win if I play good tennis," Clement said. "I feel great about my game."

Safin became the third ATP veteran in a row that Clement defeated for the first time in his 10-year career, having earlier ended hexes by Slovakian Dominik Hrbaty and Australian former world number one Lleyton Hewitt.

"It feels very special. It's a fantastic feeling for me," Clement said.

Clement, 28, lost his only prior match against Safin in 2001 at Wimbledon but rallied from a break down in both sets against the 92nd-ranked Russian.

"It was disappointing," Safin said. "It slipped away from me."

## Tendulkar

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one-day series against England and the entire tour of the West Indies.

Regarding Chappell's comments on Irfan Pathan, Shah said, "he is a little tired. But we need him as a fast bowler." "There are about 10 more days to go (for the triserries in Sri Lanka) and there are two warm-up matches," he said, indicating that there was enough time for both the players to recuperate.

## Simon not likely for Ashes

AFP, London

England paceman Simon Jones' hopes of making the Ashes series in Australia are slim according to an English cricket spokesman.

Jones, who took 20 wickets in the thrilling 2-1 Ashes series win last year, had said following knee surgery in June that he was optimistic of being fit for the start of the first Test in Brisbane on November 23.

However a spokesman for the English Cricket Board told the Mail on Sunday that there was no hope of that happening.

"If everything goes to plan there is a slim chance he could be fit for the final two Tests (held over Christmas and New Year)," he said.

Jones would be desperately short of match practice in any case as he has not played for a year, after suffering bone spurs in his ankle then twisting his left knee in February.

As long ago as March, England team doctor Peter Gregory rated Jones' participation in the Ashes as "extremely unlikely".

England have numerous injury problems with captain Michael Vaughan struggling with a persistent right knee injury but it is in the bowling department that they have been hardest hit.

Aside from Jones, inspirational all-rounder Andrew Flintoff has an ankle problem, while support bowlers James Anderson and Liam Plunkett have back and side injuries respectively.

Leading spinner Ashley Giles -- another player instrumental in the Ashes victory -- has just undergone hip surgery but says he is determined to be fit for the series.

## Waugh's wife under knife

CRICINFO, undated

The wife of Australia's former captain, Steve Waugh, has undergone surgery for a blood clot on her brain, Lynette Waugh, 38, was rushed to Prince of Wales Hospital in Randwick on Thursday and underwent the operation the following morning.

Steve and Lynette have been married for 15 years and have three children, Rosie, 10, Austin, six, and Lily, four. She is "fighting and fighting very well," her father-in-law, Roger Waugh, told the Nine Network, while Steve's twin Mark and his wife Kim have both visited the hospital. "We've seen her," said Mark. "She's going well."

Waugh, 41, was named Australian Father of the Year last year, but lauded Lynette's role during the years he spent away on tour. "While I was away for a lot of years playing cricket, [Lynette] was basically the lone parent," he said.

"So I congratulate Lynette, this award is probably more for you than me."

## Showdown

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one of nine break points. "But by the time I broke her, it was too late.

"I had chances in our long game, but everything went her way."

Clijsters, the reigning US Open champion took her US hardcourt winning streak to 24 matches.

Vaidisoiva, who lost to Clijsters in the semi-finals at Stanford last weekend, reached her fifth semifinal this season but got no further.

However, the 17-year-old will be in the top 10 for the first time when the WTA rankings are released on Monday.

## Zimbabwe loss

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He agreed that it was not good for an injured player to stay with the team but he had to do as the board had told him.

"After a long international experience I have the knowledge that it is not a good for an injured player to stay with the team. I also felt very bad but board requested me to stay there and players also told me that it will help for them," he informed.

Meanwhile, Tusar Imran will fly today to join the team in Kenya in the place of Bashir where the Tigers will play three one-day internationals.

## Jose fears

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"A draw would have been a fair result. We trained twice a day with real intensity in LA and the players haven't recovered from that."

"We knew it was going to be difficult against a fit team."

Andriy Shevchenko had an unproductive debut for the Blues. He said afterwards:

"This is only our first game and we are still getting ready. But we expect to win our league championship this year."

# Carrick injury rocks United

Football

AFP, Amsterdam

Michael Carrick is facing a race against time to be fit for the start of the Premiership season after suffering an ankle injury just 14 minutes into Manchester United's 1-0 victory against Ajax in Amsterdam on Saturday.

Carrick, making only his second appearance for United since completing an 18.6 million pounds (35.5 million dollars) transfer from Tottenham last Monday, limped out of the action after coming off worst in a challenge with Ajax captain Kenneth Perez.

He was later seen hobbling along the touchline on crutches.

United manager Sir Alex Ferguson was forced to field inexperienced youngsters Danny Simpson and Jonathan Evans, as well as fringe players Liam Miller and Kieran Richardson, against the Dutch giants after losing four key players in the opening game against FC Porto on Friday night.

Red cards for Wayne Rooney and Paul Scholes saw the pair ruled out through suspension, while Rio Ferdinand and John O'Shea were left nursing injuries sustained before and during the

game against Porto.

The Amsterdam Tournament had already become a nightmare for United but it only got worse when Carrick was forced out of the game after just 16 minutes.

Carrick, one of the few experienced players in the starting lineup, appeared to suffer the injury to his left ankle after being hit with a crude challenge from behind by Perez.

Although the England midfielder attempted to continue and play through the injury, he was forced to concede defeat just two minutes later when a clearly concerned Ferguson replaced him with youngster Lee Martin.

With United set to start their Premiership campaign against Fulham at Old Trafford on August 20, Carrick is now facing an anxious wait to discover whether he will be fit in time for the big kick-off.

Despite the absence of so many of their star names, United carved out a series of chances to open the scoring against an Ajax team preparing for a crucial Champions League qualifier against FC Copenhagen next week.

Ryan Giggs and Giuseppe Rossi both went agonisingly close to scoring in the first-half, with Giggs hitting the bar and forcing keeper Maarten Stekelenburg to tip

another effort onto the post. Rossi, meanwhile, was denied when Stekelenburg produced a reflex save to keep out the Italian's close range volley.

United keeper Edwin van der Sar, facing his former club, kept the score level when he beat out Thomas Vermaelen's bullet header on 50 minutes.

And the Netherlands number one denied Ajax again nine minutes later when he dived to his right to keep out Klaas Jan Huntelaar's penalty, which had been awarded after Liam Miller had been harshly judged to have fouled Hedwiges Maduro.

United rallied in the latter stages, however, and Scotland international Darren Fletcher should have scored on 72 minutes when substitute keeper Kenneth Vermeer failed to hold on to Rossi's 20-yard strike.

The ball dropped to Fletcher six yards out but he shot wide of goal. Ajax then survived another nervous moment when midfielder Garcia Roger headed Evans's close range volley off the line.

But United made sure of the victory when Giggs's 20-yard free-kick went in off the underside of the crossbar on 77 minutes to claim the Amsterdam Trophy for Ferguson's team.

## Debinash's first death anniversary today

SPORTS REPORTER

Former footballer Debinash Sangma's first anniversary of death will be observed today at his birthplace Dhairpara village, Dhubaura upazila in Mymensingh.

A prayer meeting will held in the honour of Debinash, the only Bangladeshi (then East Pakistan) footballer to play in the Pakistan national team in the 1963 pre-Olympics in Iran.

Debinash, who played for Mohammedan Sporting Club for 12 years and also played for Victoria and Wanderers during a career spanning from 1956 to 1969 died at 75 off bladder cancer.

## Cronje inquiry starts today

PTI, Durban

Investigation on allegations that the aircraft crash in 2002 in which former South African cricket captain Hansie Cronje died may not have been an accident, will be launched when the inquiry into his death starts on Monday.

The inquest will be heard by High Court Judge Siraj Desai and a senior assessor in Cape Town.

The murder allegations are reported to have been made in the British media because at the time of the crash Cronje was about to disclose to the police in India full details of those involved in the match-fixing saga.

But the office of Judge Desai has said that most of the evidence would be obtained from the report by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) investigation into the crash.

"There may be some action in court as interested parties have the right to cross examine witnesses and no doubt the Judge and Captain Hyde will have a few questions of their own," Judge Desai's spokesperson said.

According to reports here, the CAA investigation did not find any evidence of sabotage but found that serious faults were found with the aircraft's navigation system.

The worst of these was that wires had been disconnected from vital navigational equipment on the plane.



PHOTO: AFP

Inter Milan striker Adriano (front) runs with the ball during their match against FC Porto in the Amsterdam Tournament at the Arena on Saturday.

# Martins inspires Inter win

Football

INTERNET, undated

Obafemi Martins was the star in Inter's 3-2 victory over Porto for the Amsterdam Tournament on Saturday.

The Nerazzurri had started fairly well in the friendly competition with Fridays 1-1 draw against hosts Ajax, but really stepped up a gear 24 hours later, even if again they looked short on steam in the closing stages.

It was a bright opening for Roberto Mancini's men, who broke through early on when Adriano's fierce strike was parried into the

path of David Pizarro.

By the time the clock turned to the eighth minute of play, the Italians were 2-0 up thanks to Martins hooking a long ball forward and sliding his left-foot finish past Vitor Baia.

Alan struck the upright for Porto and Inter's midfield seemed to struggle a little with three left-footed players. Cesar, Santiago Solari and Esteban Cambiasso balanced out only by Pizarro on the centre-right.

Nonetheless, Adriano again forced a fine save from the goalkeeper before Martins took advantage of a defensive error to make it 3-0 with a powerful effort.

# Time to search Maradona

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would provide its support to the project of talent hunting.

Emirates' acting area manager Abdullah Bin Shahin and Clifton Group managing director Sirajul Haque mentioned they would extend the help beyond the first year if it became a success.

"It's now time for the Bangladeshi young footballers to aim for the sky. It is a cloudy ambition but not unrealistic. It leaves you with high hopes in all areas. If the Bangladesh cricket team can beat world champions Australia, there is no reason their football team could achieve the same success against football world champions one day," said the British High Commissioner who took it as a personal challenge to bring a top English football club to Bangladesh when he was asked whether he could help bring teams like Liverpool or Manchester United to boost the country's football.

"What we need is suggestions, complete ideas, not just government to government but from people to people. It's better to link people through people. If we get

specific demands from you, we can try to help you," he said in reply to a question whether the English FA could help football in Bangladesh.

The programme is expected to start talent hunting in six divisional headquarters this month, informed Canary Wharf's community and sports development manager Zakir Khan.

"I would thank Kazi Salahuddin, the best ever footballer to be produced in Bangladesh, for being supportive to this project. We need help from all the quarters," Zakir announced while pointing to a host of ex-national booters present at the launching ceremony.

He introduced former national footballer and national coach Golam Sarwar Tipu as the head coach of the project.

Tipu informed that he and his three assistant coaches -- Rezaul Haque Jamal, Mahbubur Rahman Litu and Milon Molla -- will bring a total of 120 14-year-old footballers from all the divisions for a month-long camp in Dhaka.

From this group, 36 players will be selected for the final one-year from long camp where everything including their education, lodging and food

will be taken care of. The ultimate aim of this project is to guide these players into playing at the professional clubs in Bangladesh.

"Two FA qualified UK coaches will assist me and also train the other coaches. We will take the very best, the few exceptional players, among the lot to UK for orientation with the infrastructure and the system of modern football," Tipu told.

Zakir Khan informed that they will rent grounds or buildings for the project and not build any structures.

"If the first year becomes successful, we will continue the project for at least four years. We will not make any financial benefit when we will offer the local clubs to take these players. Already, top clubs like Abahani, Mohammedan and Brothers Union have offered their help. We are interested in quality, not quantity and if one player goes to play professional football in the UK, we will take it as a very big achievement," he added.