SPÖRT

Academy rally round Jahirul

SPORTS REPORTER

Jahirul Islam was just four runs short of a well-deserved hundred as the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) National Academy scored 230 for six in the first innings on the opening day of the first fourday match against Pakistan Cricket Academy at the TMC ground in Karachi yesterday.

The game began 30 minutes late due to wet outfield because of

The young right-hander also known as Omi, was not out on 96 when the umpires pulled the stumps for the day at the end of the 85th over. He was partnered by Mosharraf Rubel, who was unbeaten on six.

Apart from Jahirul, Nadif Chowdhury scored 55.

The National Academy team, led by batsman Mehrab Hossain, is on their first tour to Pakistan and will play one more four-day match and three one-day matches against their Pakistani counter-

ICC may fine SA

PTI, Colombo

International Cricket Council (ICC) on Thursday said that a failure to replay the abandoned tri-series matches between South Africa and Sri Lanka could lead to the African team being penalised.

The ICC said the tri-series matches fell under the Future Tours Programme and as per its regulations they have to be replayed if called off.

"If they (South Africa and Sri Lanka) don't reach an agreement on the dates, it could go to the ICC Disputes Resolution Committee where there is a potential of a decision of fines going against South Africa," ICC Media Manager Brian Murgatroyd told

Murgatroyd, however, said the ICC would step in if the two boards could not arrive at a consensus on their own.

"For now, it is between the CSA and the SLC. It is upto them to make arrangement for the matches to be replayed. These matches are part of the FTP," he

South Africa pulled out of a triseries that was to be played from August 14 to 29 against Sri Lanka and India following a fatal bomb explosion on the opening day of

India were to stay back and play a three-match series against the hosts.

CHAMPS TROPHY

Random dope testing on

CRICINFO, undated

In order to implement strict antidoping measures for the ICC Champions Trophy in India, the International Cricket Council has requested for an isolated room at each of the four venues --Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Jaipur and Mohali. The ICC is expected to conduct tests on random urine samples of the players participating in the tournament in October and November.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) confirmed this request, and stated that the dope testing will come under the responsibility of the ICC. "The ICC has asked us to keep one isolated room at all four venues for collecting samples", Ratnakar Shetty the BCCI executive secretary told Indo Asian News Service.

"But dope testing will not be the BCCI's responsibility. The ICC has a contract with the WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency) and they will take care of this."

According to the rules of the anti-doping programme in ICCorganised tournaments, the host country is expected to have a WADA accredited laboratory for testing the samples. However, India does not have such a facility and a similar lab, at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi, is reportedly not adequately equipped. Therefore, the samples will be tested outside

"We are thinking on those lines", Niranjan Shah, the BCCI secretary, told PTI. "We will take the samples of all those chosen for the tournament and send them to Malaysia or Bangkok (Thailand) for dope testing. Why take

any chances." Shah added that the Indian squad for the Champions Trophy and the tri-series in Malaysia scheduled for mid-September, will be picked on the same day. "We have to submit the Champions Trophy squad of 14 to the ICC by September 7 and it makes sense in selecting both the squads on the same day. It will be done either on September 5 or 6."



Ayesha Rahman Rima (R) receives the first prize of the 'Kool-Shaptahik 2000 World Cup Quiz 2006' from Managing Director of Square Toiletries Anjan Chowdhury (L), former footballer Sheikh Mohammad Aslam (C) and the Acting Editor of Shaptahik 2000 Golam Mortuza at the Bishwa Sahitya Kendro auditorium yesterday.

Stars pop out of Toronto

Tennis

INTERNET, undated

On Saturday, the Rogers Cup lost the chance to have fourth-ranked Maria Sharapova on display. Less than two sets into her first match of the tournament, another topive player bowed out.

Top seed and second-ranked Kim Clijsters retired in the second set of her match with Canadian Stephanie Dubois on Wednesday n the featured night match at the \$1.34 million event The reigning US Open cham-

oion began the defence of her title here with a 6-1 win in the first set. However, while trailing 3-2 in the second set, Clijsters fell while chasing a passing shot and njured her left wrist, forcing her to

"I'm really sorry about her injury," Dubois said. "It's not the same winning a match like this (without) earning the last point. It was a privilege to be on the same court as her -- she's a real champion. In the first set, I discovered that Clijsters hits harder and more precisely than anyone I've ever

Earlier in the match, the Belgian needed a trainer to put a wrap around the wrist.

"I hope it's not that type of aggravation," Clijsters said, referring to a previous wrist injury. "I'll have some tests done here to see if it's a tear, which would be the worst-case scenario. I don't usually retire, but the pain was too

A wild card, Dubois beat Italian Tathiana Garbin, 6-4, 6-4, on Tuesday to set up the meeting with Clijsters, who was one of eight seeds to receive a firstround bye. The 19-year-old becomes the first Quebec native to advance to the third round of the Rogers Cup, where she will face 14th-seeded Katarina Srebotnik. The Slovenian topped Italian qualifier Alberta Brianti, 6-

Following a straight-sets loss to fellow Russian Elena Dementieva in the semifinals of the JPMorgan Chase Open on Saturday, Sharapova announced she was suffering from fatigue and would not participate here.

Meanwhile, Nadia Petrova still has not won a match since May after the third-seeded Russian lost to countrywoman Anna



Slovak tennis star Daniela Hantuchova gestures towards the chair umpire for an out call not made by a linesman while playing American Jamea

Jackson during the Rogers Cup at Stade Uniprix in Montreal on Wednesday.

Chakvetadze, 6-1, 6-4, in the second round

Petrova had won three consecutive tournaments entering the French Open in late May before being stunned by Akiko Morigami, 6-2, 6-2, in the first round.

Petrova missed the next two months with a groin injury, then lost in the second round -- her first match -- to Chakvetadze at San Diego two weeks ago and was stunned by Spanish doubles specialist Virginia Ruano Pascual, 6-3, 6-2, in a secondround match last week in Los

"I'm not in pain anymore, but I think I need some more matches to get myself back into game shape," Petrova said.

Chakvetadze will play Nathalie Dechy in the third round Thursday after the Frenchwoman upset 15th-seeded Russian Maria Kirilenko, 6-4, 6-4.

"(Chakvetadze) just beat her two weeks ago and Petrova still hasn't regained her form after injuries," Dechy said.

In the same quarter Frenchwoman Marion Bartoli held a 7-5, 2-1 lead over Flavia Pennetta when the 12th-seeded Italian retired with left wrist inflammation. Bartoli next will face Israeli Shahar Peer, who stunned sixth-seeded Russian and 2004 French Open champion Anastasia Myskina 7-6 5-7 6-4 Also in the bottom half of the

draw, fourth seed and 2004 US Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia routed Polish qualifier Marta Domachowska, 6-1, 6-3. She awaits Ai Sugiyama of Japan, who beat No. 17 Anabel Medina Garrigues of Spain, 6-4, 6-2.

Daniela Hantuchova, the 11th seed from Slovakia, defeated American qualifier Jamea Jackson, 7-6, 6-2, to establish a third-round meeting with No. 7

In the same quarter, Jelena Jankovic of Serbia and Montenegro bounced No. 8 Francesca Schiavone of Italy, 6-1, 6-4. She awaits 13th-seeded compatriot Ana Ivanovic, who defeated Jie Zheng of China, 6-4,

Also in the top half, No. 9 Dinara Safina of Russia routed qualifier Cara Black of Zimbabwe, 6-2, 6-2. Her next opponent will be American qualifier Shenay Perry, who upset No. 10 Anna-Lena Groenefeld of Germany, 7-6, 6-2.

Australian qualifier Nicole Pratt set up a third-round meeting with No. 5 Nicole Vaidisova by rallying past Canadian wild card Marie-Eve Pelletier, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4. Pelletier had upset No. 16 Na Li on Tuesday.

Asif brings Pak luck back

FROM PAGE 21 having laboured nearly an hour for six, saw an edged drive off Umar Gul caught in the gully by Mohammad

England had the comfort of being an unbeatable 2-0 up in the series -their first Test campaign win anywhere since the Ashes and their first at home against Pakistan since

They were unchanged from the

team that won by 167 runs at

Headingley but Pakistan, as well as bringing in Asif, went in with their fourth opening batting partnership in Hafeez, playing his first Test since September 2003 when he made the last of three appearances

against Bangladesh, and Imran

Farhat, fit again after a finger injury, replaced the dropped Salman Butt and Taufeeg Umar.

Pakistan, as they had been all series, were once again without spearhead fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar who was continuing his recovery from a stress fracture of the left ankle.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard at tea on the opening day of the fourth and final Test between England and Pakistan at The Oval on Thursday: **ENGLAND:** First innings

Trescothick c Hafeez b Gul Strauss c Akmal b Asif Cook Ibw b Nazir Pietersen cAkmal b Asif Collingwood lbw b Asif

Bell c Iqbal b Kaneria Read not out 26 Extras: (b-4, lb-1, nb-4) Total: (For 6 wkts in 42 overs) 134 Fall of wickets: 1-36, 2-54, 3-54, 4-64, 5-91, 6-112 To bat: Hoggard, Harmison,

Panesar R **Bowler** 13 39 5 39 12 2 Gul 11 44 Nazir Kaneria PAKISTAN: Hafeez. Farhat. Younis, Yousuf, Inzamam, Igbal, Akmal, Nazir, Asif, Gul, Kaneria.

Umpires: Billy Doctrove and Darrell

Toss: Pakistan.

40

Aussies above **Eng: Troy**

AFP, Sydney

Australia fast bowling coach Troy Cooley predicts his side's pacemen will be stronger than England's in the upcoming Ashes series, with reverse swing added to their

Cooley mentored the attack of Andrew Flintoff, Steve Harmison, Simon Jones and Matthew Hoggard that last year helped England claim its first Ashes victory in 18 years but returned to his homeland last year to work with the Australian bowlers.

Asked who he thought had the stronger attack, Cooley told Australian Associated Press: "I think we have."

Cooley trained England's quicks in the art of reverse swing to devastating effect in the last Ashes series and said he was now teaching the Australians the same skills.

"You want to try and have all the deliveries underneath your belt. Reverse swing is one of them, and if the conditions suit, you really want the bowler to be able to use that ball.

"We'll be trying those sort of things. If conditions suit, we'll definitely try to take advantage of it."

But Cooley said England would still have a strong attack, even if injury keeps leading reverse-swing exponent Jones from making the

"They have a very good, formidable attack, and on our day when they're all firing, it'll be a good shoot-

"I'm sure they'll be getting themselves organised. They're very good at looking after themselves, and it will be good to see them over here firing, ready to go."

Shooting

arrived here. There is a nice beach where the squad ran and stretched. We also did some training in the rooms. I think two day's practice at the range will be enough to cope up with the conditions," said Foyaz.

Bangladesh's best bet in the discipline would be the men's and women's 10m air rifle teams. The men's team features 2002 Common-wealth Games gold medalist Asif Hossain Khan and his partner Anjan Kumar Singh, who paired to win the 2006 Commonwealth Games silver medal in the team event while Suraiva Akhter and Sharmin Akhter make the women's team.

Meanwhile, the boxing, kabaddi, swimming, table tennis and weight lifting teams have arrived in Colombo in the early hours of ves-

Loew starts

along with captain Michael Ballack, who missed the game through an injury he sustained for Chelsea in Sunday's 2-1 Community Shield

defeat to Liverpool.

stars such as Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Freddie Ljungberg and it showed. With a 3-0 half-time lead Germany chief Loew handed international

Sweden were also missing key

debuts to Hertha Berlin left back Malik Fathi, the son of a German mother and Turkish father, and Mainz 05 defender Manuel Friedrich. As was to be expected the second

half tailed off with Germany reducing the pace of their game and Sweden going through the motions. A male pitch invader then livened

the fans up in the 80th minute as Germany coasted to victory.

McClaren

FROM PAGE 24

half we had a little look at 4-5-1 and then went back to 4-4-2 towards the end and the players adapted to different systems. Not always will we come across a system like the Greeks. There might be another system that we need to nullify in another way, so flexibility is the key." McClaren was clear that many of

England's matches under his management would be won and lost not on the pitch but on the training ground. "You have to make sure that in

the dressing room, you've been through it and you've worked hard --

Faubert saves

FROM PAGE 24

Wack waved away claims for what looked like a genuine claim for a penalty after Zlatan Muslimovic had weaved his merry way through the French defence only for Jean-Alain Boumsong to appear to trip him.

That was the let-off that the French needed as they went down the other end and Gallas was on hand to seize on a knockdown from Henry at the far post and slot it into the net. The second-half was a scrappier

affair but Saha was once again thwarted by the admirable Hasagic when in another one on one situation with him but his effort went wide. However Faubert was to show no

such profligacy and give the France

Andy stops Roger run

Tennis

Scottish teenager Andy Murray stunned Swiss powerhouse Roger Federer 7-5, 6-4 here Wednesday in the second round of the Cincinnati Masters Series.

Murray, 19, joined Spain's world No. 2 Rafael Nadal as the only men to get past the Swiss master this year, with Nadal beating his rival four times in finals during 2006. World No. 1 Federer saw his run

of consecutive finals ended at 17, one short of the record set by Ivan Lendlin 1981-82. The Swiss, winner of his last 55

North American hardcourt events dating to a first-round loss to Dominik Hrbaty here two years ago, lost his serve seven times, a personal low point in a three-set "That is what I regret, I couldn't

on serve. "It's disturbing and disappointing. I'm sorry the match didn't end the way I wanted "He played pretty well, and I

have to give him credit." Federer added. "He was able to close it out when he had to.' Murray held his nerve to serve

out the stunning triumph on his first opportunity, nailing a backhand pass down the line to finish it off in just over 90 minutes But the optimistic Swiss with

eight Grand Slam titles is considering the big picture. And his US Open defence starting a week from Monday now

looms large in his mind. "We'll see what I've got to do now the next few days, I'm really excited about the Open now," he said. "I want to try and defend my

Federer rushed to Cincinnati on

trophy at the weekend over Richard

He said that putting big events so close was a huge drain on players and confessed that he had toyed with the idea of skipping Cincinnati.

"I'm already very happy that I could win one of the two Masters Series and that I actually was able to play here," he said.

"I considered from the start if I did well in Toronto, I might not play here. But I still came, I feel like it stil was the right decision." Murray, coached for just weeks

by US guru Brad Gilbert, felt that his tennis stars were lined up on the momentous day. "I just felt today it was my time to win against him," said the 19-yearold who is set to advance past his

current 21st ranking. "I hadn't

served out a match in five, six matches. "I didn't feel nervous, I didn't get nervous at all, I just kind of went hit one," he said of his performance with it. That's what happens when

it's meant to be. Murray broke Federer four times in the first set, earning the decisive break in the 11th game.

Murray, who will now gain a foothold inside the top 20, held his head in his hands in disbelief in victory.

He had come into the contest saying that he had no chance against the current king of the

"I don't think Roger played his best, but I give myself credit also," Murray said. "It's not enough just to play against Roger. You have to

remain solid."

Murray, who won the title in San Jose in February, had reached the final in Washington earlier this month and the semifinals of the Toronto Masters Series last week. his first two tournaments under

Against Federer, the Scot lost

short notice. However, the ICC

his own serve five times, but stayed calm under the biggest pressure situation of his career outside of the

grounds of the All England club. Federer, 25, suffered his first defeat since losing in the final of the French Open to Nadal. Since then, he had captured titles at Halle,

Wimbledon and Toronto. The last time Federer failed to reach a final was at Roland Garros in 2005, when he lost to Nadal in

World No. 2 Nadal advanced with relative ease, posting a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Hyung-taik Lee a week after ousting the South Korean by the same score in the second round in Toronto. "I didn't play a bad match today.

"My goal is to improve on every surface, my goal is to improve my game. Not only on hard court, but on every surface.

After I got used to conditions,

improved my return," Nadal said.

Nadal next faces Germany's Tommy Haas.

Haas, seeded 14th and winner of the title in Los Angeles in July, defeated Gilles Simon of France 6-3.4-6.6-4. Another Frenchman was bun-

dled out as Australian Open finalist Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus beat Gael Monfils 7-6, 2-6, 6-1. Former world No. 1 Juan Carlos

Ferrero of Spain found some life in his game with an upset of sixth seed James Blake 6-2 6-4

Blake, the highest-ranked American, went down in 64 minutes without even obtaining a break point against the 31st-ranked Spaniard, whom he also lost to here four years ago.

Ninth-seeded American Andy Roddick, a 2005 finalist here. dispatched Belgian Kristof Vliegen 6-4, 6-4 to set up a clash with Argentina's Juan Ignacio Chela.

Rahul admits

satisfaction

Indo-Lankan ODI

FROM PAGE 21

slated to open. The pace bowlers on both sides will also appreciate the extra bounce, and we could witness a truly unusual sight, two teams having four-man pace attacks in a game played on the subcontinent. In such cloudy conditions, Sri Lanka are bound to risk both Dilhara Fernando and Lasith Malinga an outing, with Chaminda Vaas and Farveez Maharoof providing the medium-pace option. With both batting line-ups having

last few months, with the exception of India's blip in the Caribbean, it might well boil down to which pace attack makes best use of the condi-Meanwhile, keeping with the general chaos surrounding this tour. Ten Sports, who have the exclusive

shown outstanding form over the

telecast rights of the series. informed the ICC that they will not be able to install their third umpire cameras for the first match at such

confirmed that the match will proceed on schedule. "The ICC is definitely aware of this", Brian Murgatroyd, the ICC media manager, told CricInfo. "The broadcasters informed us that they will not be able to set up the run-out cameras for the first match. The ICC does allow for international matches to proceed without the aid of the third umpire, which has been the case in international matches involving associate countries. One such example is the one-day international between Pakistan and Scotland recently. Therefore, the first match will be played, irrespective of whether the run-out cameras are in place or not."

Hopefully, the conditions on Friday will allow for some play. The cricket fans of Colombo, not to mention those in India, who have waited so patiently for the best part of a week, and seen one team pack their bags, deserve nothing less.

.ankans blast

"South Africa have gone by the recommendations of their people," he said. "We have spoken to everyone concerned and we have full confidence and faith in what they

"It is sad, and it was unfortunate that the tri-series had to be called off. We don't live in a perfect world." Dravid hoped the three onedayers to follow will bring cricket

back to the forefront in the troubled island nation. "We have come here to play cricket and everyone in our team is conscious of the importance that

India." he said. "Hopefully we can bring some joy to the people here and they will have

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something to cheer about." Mendis said Sri Lanka had

The International Cricket Council (ICC), which is headed by Percy Sonn of South Africa, said it would not act immediately on the Proteas

Africa," ICC media manager Brian Murgatroyd told AFP from his office in Dubai. "They made what they felt was the correct decision.

not worried, rather we want to play. proposed five matches but India wanted to play only three.

"It's not for the ICC to judge South

"It's now up to South Africa and Sri Lanka to come to an agreement as to when they can play these matches. The ICC will be involved in resolving the dispute only if the two

cricket boards can't do so."

By Eugene Sheffer

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BBC ONLINE, undated India captain Rahul Dravid says his team has no problem about staying in Sri Lanka and playing a one-day series. A fatal bomb blast in the capi-

tal Colombo on Monday resulted in South Africa pulling out of the triangular series because of security concerns. India have stayed and Dravid said: "We are totally satisfied

The Indian High Commission is in constant touch. "The intelligence branch is also giving us full support."

with the security arrangements.

Following the cancellation of the tri-series, India will now play three one-day internationals against Sri Lanka on Friday, Sunday and Tuesday. Dravid dismissed claims

"Nobody has come to me to voice their concerns on the "We have no problem. We are

team-mates were uneasy about

staying in Sri Lanka adding:

South Africa withdrew after an independent security review said the risk to the team was at

'an unacceptable level". Sri Lanka Cricket has criticised South Africa's decision.

Chief executive Duleep Mendis said: "South Africa are pulling out of the tournament on the basis of a security company

based in Dubai. "How can a Dubai-based company assess the situation in Colombo when they had not sent anyone to the island to get firsthand information on the current situation?"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals I

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 error.

EQKMX VMCHVS

35 Saraievo **37** Marg Helgen berger 38 Oodles OHVPCA V E additive 40 Arduous

IMVMEDVPVMB, AKI JVBGQ EHA Q G H Q 'E H D P K E H V Z J K E H V Z .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE I MISPLACED
MY ONLY STEAM IRON THE OTHER DAY, I SEEM TO BE A BIT DE-PRESSED.

Thompson