

Ajay Jadeja

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in the division, won both matches against the top two clubs.

His ban, initially imposed by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), extends across the world and the United States Cricket Association comes under the control of the International Cricket Council (ICC).

International PIA protested after its match, prompting the SCCA to seek clarification from the ICC whose spokesman Mark Harrison said Jadeja's ban "is therefore extended to official cricket in the States".

It therefore remains to be seen what further action the ICC will take in the face of this apparent snub.

Jadeja, who is the first person to break an ICC ban and is about to star in a Bollywood movie, was unavailable for comment.

Kowshik right

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did little on his debut. He scored only four. Wicketkeeper Sajjad Kadir was the other casualty in the final session. Sanwar and Hasanuzzaman were batting on 17 and 1 respectively.

SCOREBORD

Scoreboard on the opening day of the four-day match between Bangladesh and A team at the BUET ground on Saturday:

BANGLADESH: First innings
Javed c Ashraf b Bikash 0
Al-Shahri hit wkt Kowshik 35
Bashar run out 36
Akram c Ashraf b Bikash 18
Naimur b K Mahmud 24
Enamul c Sajjad b Kowshik 2
Hasibul c Monir b Fahim 57
Aminul not out 24
Sharif c Kowshik b Ashraf 8
Sabir c Monir b Fahim 4
Anwar c Sajjad b Kowshik 1
Extras: (b-1, lb-3, nb-2) 6
Total: (All out in 73.4 overs) 217
Fall of wickets: 1/0, 2/71, 3/83, 4/97, 5/120, 6/124, 7/191, 8/202, 9/215Bowler O M R W
Bikash 7 0 28 2
Kowshik 17.4 2 40 3
K Mahmud 11 1 32 1
Mushfiqur 8 1 33 1
Rafique 11 3 24 0
Fahim 11 1 38 2
Ashraf 8 2 29 1
BANGLADESH: First innings
Rafiqul c Sabir b Sharif 4
Mehrab Anwar b Monjurul 0
Sanwar not out 17
Sajjad c Akram b Enamul 0
Hasanuzzaman not out 1
Extras: (b-2) 2
Total: (For 3 wkt in 14 overs) 23
Fall of wickets: 1/1, 2/13, 3/20Bowler O M R W
Monjurul 6 2 9 1
Sharif 5 0 10 1
Naimur 2 1 2 0
Enamul 1 0 1 1

ODI series

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Monday for the second and third internationals in Harare on September 29 and 30.

TEAMS

SOUTH AFRICA (from): Shaun Pollock (captain), Mark Boucher (vice-captain), Herschelle Gibbs, Gary Kirsten, Jacques Kallis, Neil McKenzie, Boeta Dippenaar, Jonty Rhodes, Lance Klusener, Claude Henderson, Andre Nel, Makhaya Ntini, Justin Ontong, Justin Kemp, Charl Langeveldt.

ZIMBABWE (from): Heath Streak (captain), Guy Whittall (vice-captain), Gary Brent, Alastair Campbell, Stuart Carlisle, Dion Ebrahim, Andy Flower, Grant Flower, Travis Friend, Douglas Marillier, Hamilton Masakadza, Muleki Nkala, Henry Olonga, Paul Strang, Craig Wishart.

Umpires: Charles Coventry and Jeff Fenwick (Zimbabweans).

Doubles-driven Aussies

Tennis

AFP, Sydney

Todd Woodbridge cajoled and manoeuvred Australia Saturday to a crucial doubles success and a 2-1 rubber lead on the second day of their Davis Cup tennis semifinal against Sweden here.

Woodbridge, who teamed for 11 Grand Slam doubles titles with Mark Woodforde in one of the greatest combinations in tennis, paired with Wayne Arthurs in a titanic four tiebreak sets victory over Swedish duo, Jonas Bjorkman and Magnus Larsson.

Woodbridge and Arthurs overcame a tense beginning and two service breaks to outlast Bjorkman-Larsson, 6-7, 7-6, 7-6, 7-6 in three hours 36 minutes.

Australia now have the edge over Sweden heading into Sunday's two reverse singles matches for a place in the November 30-December 2 final against France or the Netherlands.

Woodbridge rated his performance as the best of his career as he carried Arthurs through long periods of the ebb-and-flow match, before left-handed Arthurs rammed home the winning ace on match point.

Bjorkman, who teamed with 30-year-old Woodbridge to win the Australian Open doubles earlier this year, attributed Australia's success to Woodbridge's tremendous form on the other side of the next Saturday.

"He's differently in the groove of being one of the best in the world and he showed that today," said Bjorkman.

"It was a one-man show on their side today, Todd managed to play extremely well and carried that team to get through."

Woodbridge was more diplomatic about his impact, praising Arthurs' contribution to the victory.

"That's the best we have played together and he gave me the opportunity to fly around the net and intercept a lot. The big key was Wayne and how he made all his big points," said Woodbridge.

The victory gives the 2000 competition winners valuable breathing space as they head into Sunday's reverse singles, with a win to either US Open champion Lleyton Hewitt or world No.4 Pat Rafter clinching the tie and a home final berth in Melbourne.

"You dream of matches like that. It was outstanding," said Australian captain John Fitzgerald. "The level of tennis and commitment of the four

players, the success under pressure that they all had during various times of the match ... it doesn't get much better than that."

Although Bjorkman has toiled away on court here for over seven hours he is keen to play again on Sunday against his nominated opponent Rafter in the fifth rubber.

"That's what I'm here for," said Bjorkman. "I play singles and doubles on the tour for the last eight years and I'm well experienced of



PHOTO: AFP

Australian duo Wayne Arthurs (R) and Todd Woodbridge (L) celebrate their Davis Cup semifinal victory with captain John Fitzgerald on Saturday.

Arthurs staved off two break points in the next game, and games went with service to the third tiebreak.

Both teams had three mini-breaks but Arthurs brought up set point with a winner at the net and followed that up with another put-away for Australia to hit the front for the first time in the match and the tie at 7 points to 5.

Arthurs' serve was again under pressure and he was down two set points at 4-5, 15-40 in the fourth set but he held on after two deuces.

The set again was decided by a tiebreaker, but a couple of Larsson errors contributed to the Australians holding three match points at 6-3.

Arthurs clinched the win with a clean ace down the middle to pandemonium from the 10,000 stadium crowd.

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