

## Cairns, Flemo pardoned

REUTERS, Melbourne

New Zealand pair Chris Cairns and captain Stephen Fleming have been cleared after a hearing with match referee Hanumant Singh after a fiery incident during the limited-overs series first final against South Africa.

Both appeared before Singh at a hearing shortly after the match at Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Cairns beat Boeta Dippenaar (79 not out) outside off-stump when the South Africa batsman was on six, but the confident appeal for caught behind was turned down.

Cairns bowled a rearing short delivery at Dippenaar's throat next ball and followed through well down the wicket where he had words with the batsman.

An Australian Cricket Board spokesman said Cairns was charged under section four of the International Cricket Council's code of conduct, which relates to verbal abuse of opponents.

Fleming was charged under section one, which states that the captains are responsible for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game.

## Proteas burst

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New Zealand final of the tri-nation one-day series at Melbourne Cricket Ground Wednesday:

### NEW ZEALAND

	O	M	R	W
Vincent c Rhodes b Ntini	7			
Astle c Kallis b Ntini	9			
Fleming c Kallis b Klusener	50			
McMillan run out	73			
Cairns c Kirsten b Klusener	0			
Harris c Boucher b Pollock	9			
Nash c Donald b Ntini	9			
Parore c Boucher b Ntini	2			
Adams c Klusener b Ntini	13			
Vettori not out	6			
Bond run out	1			
Extras: (lb-5, w-6)	11			
Total: (All out in 47.5 overs)	190			
Fall of wickets: 1-15, 2-18, 3-127, 4-128, 5-155, 6-158, 7-168, 8-168, 9-187				
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Pollack	9	0	30	1
Ntini	10	0	31	5
Donald	8	0	44	0
Kallis	6.5	0	25	0
Klusener	7	0	27	2
Boje	7	0	28	0
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>				
Gibbs c Parore b Cairns	24			
Kirsten run out	25			
Kallis not out	59			
Dippenaar not out	79			
Extras: (lb-1, w-1, nb-2)	4			
Total: (For 2 wkts in 45.1 overs) 191				
Fall of wickets: 1-51, 2-52				
Did not bat: J Rhodes, M Boucher, L Klusener, N Boje, S Pollock, A Donald, M Ntini				
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>
Bond	8	2	21	0
Nash	1	0	6	0
Adams	8	0	32	0
Vettori	5	0	32	0
Cairns	8	1	27	1
McMillan	3	0	14	0
Harris	9.1	0	44	0
Astle	3	0	14	0
<b>Result:</b> South Africa won by eight wickets.				
<b>Man-of-the-match:</b> Makhaya Ntini.				
<b>Second final:</b> February 8, (D/N).				

## Latif believes Pak clean

### Cricket

AFP, Sharjah

Pakistan's wicketkeeper Rashid Latif, who staked his career to expose corruption in cricket in his country and elsewhere, has begun another crusade.

Having convinced himself that Pakistan cricket is clean, he now wants his team to win next year's World Cup and ensure he is part of that winning squad.

From an outcast to a national hero who played a major role in Pakistan's resounding win in the first Test against the West Indies here on Monday, Latif's career is an extraordinary tale of courage and perseverance in the face of adversity.

The 34-year-old stunned the cricketing world in 1995 when he walked out of Pakistan's twin-tour of South Africa and Zimbabwe, accusing the then captain Salim Malik of being hand-in-glove with bookmakers.

Latif was ridiculed back home and thrown out of the national team, but decided his campaign to cleanse the game had come too far to be called off.

In an interview to Indian magazine "Outlook" in 1997, Latif accused Malik and other colleagues, including Indian stars Mohammad Azharuddin and Ajay Jadeja, of fixing matches at the behest of bookmakers.

As the scandal grew, the Pakistan Cricket Board first instituted an internal inquiry, than a judicial one, leading to life bans being imposed on Malik and another Pakistani cricketer Ataur Rehman.

Latif was suddenly elevated to

Test captain by officials wanting to project a clean image, only to be dumped from the squad a year later and replaced by Moin Khan.

Latif spent three years in the wilderness, during which time two other Test captains, Azharuddin and

team for so long.

Latif, on his part, was determined to continue till the World Cup in South Africa early next year and hoped Pakistan would win.

"I can't afford to be out of the team now," he said on Wednesday.

"I want to be there at the World Cup, God willing, we will win it."

Latif said he was proud to be the first cricketer to take on the menace of match-fixing.

"It may have cost me a few years in the game, but I do not regret what I did. Exposing corruption in the game has given me a lot of satisfaction."

Latif maintained the current Pakistani team was absolutely clean, and qualified that with statistics.

"Look at our record. We have won five out of six Tests since my return and lost only two one-dayers out of 20."

Latif conceded that some players he had accused of corruption were apprehensive when he returned to the team, but stressed there was no personal animosity.

"I have been speaking to Wasim Akram (one of the accused players). We had a difference of opinion, maybe we had a different perspective to the whole issue.

"But there was nothing personal. I do not hold him responsible for removing me from the team. He is a great player."

"Some of us may clash on personal issues, but when we take the field we are Pakistanis playing for Pakistan," he said.

The second and final Test against the West Indies starts here on Thursday.

### Musharraf's call

AFP/AP, Islamabad

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf on Wednesday urged India to stop mixing sport with politics and reopen sporting links between the two South Asian rivals.

"I call on India to revive sports with Pakistan ... We are ready to play against India, even in India,"

Musharraf said at a function to wish the national hockey team well in this month's World Cup.

"Pakistan will be keen to play against Indian teams anywhere, anytime, including in India," he said.

For the past three years, New Delhi has suspended most sporting ties with Islamabad in protest at so-called "cross-border terrorism" from Pakistan-based Muslim militant groups in the disputed Himalayan state of Kashmir.

The decision has been especially hard on cricket -- the most popular sport in South Asia. India called off two planned visits of its team to Pakistan last year. India also refused to participate in two limited-overs cricket tournaments involving Pakistan.

New Delhi accuses Pakistan of sponsoring terrorism in Kashmir. Islamabad denies the allegation, and Musharraf has repeatedly

offered to hold talks with the Indian leadership "anywhere, anytime" to sort out their differences.

But this is for the first time that Pakistan has made the offer to resume sports ties at the highest level. "We are an entertainment-starved nation," Musharraf said, adding, the promotion of sports would help in providing entertainment to the people.

Tensions have mounted between the two neighbours following the December 13 attack on Indian Parliament. India accuses

Pakistan's spy agency and two-Pakistani based groups for sponsoring the attack. Since then the nations have amassed hundreds of thousands of troops at their border, generating fears of a full-fledged conflict.

In January, Musharraf outlawed the two-groups and said Pakistan's territory won't be allowed to be used against any other country, including India.

Musharraf gave 100,000 rupees (1,670 dollars) to the 18 members of the Pakistan hockey team and urged them to bring the World Cup to Pakistan.

He also announced two million rupees for six artificial turf hockey fields across the country.

Pakistan, four time world champions, won the Six-Nation Invitational Hockey tournament in Kuala Lumpur last month. The World Cup starts in Malaysia later this month.

India and Pakistan last played their annual hockey series in 1999, but probably the biggest blow to sports lovers in the subcontinent came in 2000 when India cancelled a planned cricket tour here.

Cricket fanatics have not seen a clash between the South Asian titans since June 2000, when Pakistan beat India in the Asia Cup.

Their Under-19 teams met last month in the Under-19 World Cup in New Zealand, where Pakistan won by two wickets.

In Tuesday's other tie First Division Gillingham edged Second Division Bristol Rovers 1-0 to earn a lucrative fifth round tie away to Arsenal.

A Darren Anderton penalty gave Tottenham a 21st minute lead before Steffen Iversen notched the second for his third goal in four games.

Matthew Etherington scored his first goal for the north London club 10 minutes after the break and Bolton defender Anthony Barnes put through his own net to complete a miserable night for the visitors.

Spurs could have racked up an even bigger score had it not been for Bolton goalkeeper Jussi Jaaskelainen who made a series of outstanding saves.

In reply, CCC reached the target of 108 runs for six in 15.4 overs.

**BRIEF SCORES**

**CHOWKOSH CRICKET CLUB:** 108 runs for six in 15.4 over (Shamim 38, Himon-28; Tushar-4/14, Ullash-2/15)

**TORNADO CLUB:** 107 runs for all in 34.5 overs (Pathik-7, Rajib-12, Ashraful-8, Mizan-2/20, Nazmul-2/32)

**Result:** Chowkosh Cricket Club won by four wickets.

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, NATURE**

Tottenham crushed Premiership rivals Bolton Wanderers 4-0 to book their place in the fifth round of the English FA Cup on Tuesday.

Spurs, who have already

secured a place in the League Cup final where they will meet Blackburn Rovers, swept aside Sam Allardyce's men in a one-sided

match.

In reply, CCC reached the target of 108 runs for six in 15.4 overs.

**BRIEF SCORES**

**ABUL HOSSAIN KHAN SMRITI CLUB:** 227 for three in 35 overs (Pankaj 101, Sumon 42, Shahid 34; Shahid 1/35, Joy 1/31, Tanmoy 1/33)

**DHANMONDI TUTORIAL:** 106 for 1 in 16.2 overs (Moshir 47, Muhammed 40)

**UDAYAN SPORTING CLUB:** 102 all out in 30.3 overs (Tanmoy 28, Sanjib 10, Rubon 10; Firoz 3/7, Gora 2/2-Kazaliabid 2/7)

**Result:** Dhanmondi Tutorial won by nine wickets.

**OUR CORRESPONDENT, MAGURA**

Abul Hossain Khan Smriti Club defeated Udayan Sporting Club by 125 runs in the Econo League at the Magura Stadium on Wednesday.

Winning the toss, the winners batted first and collected 227 runs for three in the stipulated 35 overs.

In reply, Udayan were all out for 102 in 30.3 overs.

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**OUR CORRESPONDENT, KIBRIA**

Kibria in thick

**FROM PAGE 13**

**Result:** Khilgaon High School won by four wickets.

**Dhanmondi Tutorial v Model Academy**

**Venue:** MOS

**MODEL ACADEMY:** 104 all out in 25.3 overs (Omar 55, Amir 32, Fud 4/22)

**DHANMONDI TUTORIAL:** 106 for 1 in 16.2 overs (Moshir 47, Muhammed 40)

**UDAYAN SPORTING CLUB:** 102 all out in 30.3 overs (Tanmoy 28, Sanjib 10, Rubon 10; Firoz