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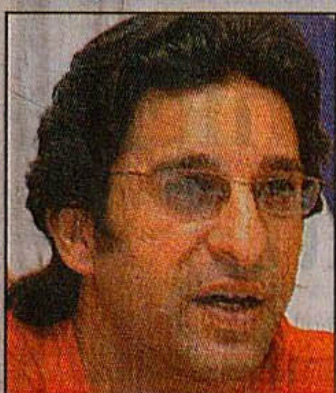
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Did U Know?

Maureen Connolly won her only Australian Open singles title in 1953, the year she completed the Grand Slam.



Wasim Akram
 (Pakistan bowling legend)
 "Shoaib just comes and talks and plays one game, and then gets injured. He just thinks he is too good. He's the only one who praises himself all the time, which means there is something seriously wrong with him."
 On Shoaib Akhtar.



ESPN
 Fifth Test
 South Africa v England
 Day Five, live at 2.30 pm
 Sportscentre
 Live at 9.30 pm
STAR Sports
 Australian Open
 Men's/Women's singles quarterfinals
 Live at 6 am (Tuesday)
 Australian Open
 Men's/Women's singles quarterfinals
 Live at 2.30 pm
 Sportsline
 Live 8 pm
 Australian Open
 Men's/Women's singles quarterfinals
 Live at 6 am (Wednesday)

Hefty fine on Gibbs

REUTERS, Centurion
 South African batsman Herschelle Gibbs was fined his entire match fee for staying out late during the third Test against England in Cape Town in the first week of the year, it was revealed on Sunday.
 Gibbs was docked the 25,000 rand (4,129 dollars) in a disciplinary process conducted internally by the South African team management.
 "The chief executive of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, Gerald Majola, was informed of the matter immediately and has sanctioned the imposition of a one-match fee penalty," South African media manager Gerald de Kock told this news agency.
 "He complimented team management on the manner in which they dealt with the matter."
 Gibbs was fined during the fourth Test against England, which took place in Johannesburg last week. He scored 161 and 98 in that defeat after a four and a 24 in South Africa.

Lehmann urges Lee to hurry up

AFP, Sydney
 Australia's slowest cricketer called on one of their fastest to get a move on here Monday, complaining pace bowler Brett Lee's long run-up was costing the team money.
 Veteran Darren Lehmann, one of the slowest movers in international cricket, said Lee's run-up had forced captain Ricky Ponting to resort to part-time spinners, including himself, so Australia could bowl their allotted 50 overs in time during one-day matches.
 "There are a range of penalties in place for teams not bowling out their overs quickly enough, including fines."
 Lehmann said the team was working on the problem before Wednesday's tri-series match against the West Indies in Adelaide.

Bashar vows to fight on

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Cg



His team is one loss away from conceding the series but Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar said there was still everything to play for in the three remaining matches against Zimbabwe.

"It is a very difficult situation for us but I'm not ready to throw in the towel. I think the series is still wide open. Yes, we have to do something special to win it from here on but I believe we have the ability to do that. I am hopeful because in the last two games we could not play our real game," said Bashar after the 31-run defeat against the tourists here yesterday.

"Maybe we were a bit edgy after the loss in Dhaka and I think the boys took unnecessary pressure on themselves. We were very much in the match today while chasing but then came the dramatic collapse. I believe the turning point of the game was my dismissal but the other batsmen should not have panicked," added Bashar.

Bashar said that conceding too many runs in the latter part of the innings had become a worrying sign recently and is hurting them.

"We could have restricted them

below 200 but in the last ten overs we gave away 93 runs including 70 in the last six overs. We had a long discussion about the problem but unfortunately we could not manage to address it in the middle," said Bashar.

The country's premier batsman emphasised on building partnerships in order to bounce back in the series.

"Only one or two good scores are not good enough to win a match. We have to have some good partnerships in the middle order."
 Zimbabwean skipper Taibu thought his team handled pressure better than Bangladesh which made the difference in the end.

"We enjoy batting under pressure. The Bangladesh bowlers were not consistent in the slog overs and that's why we got all those runs," said Taibu adding that they also bowled to the weaknesses of the opposition and were not troubled by the absence of paceman Elton Chigumbura who could not field after getting injured while batting.

"We had a bowling plan for their batsmen and our bowlers executed that plan very well by taking wickets at regular intervals."

"I thought the wicket would suit spin and towards the end it did take some turn. I did not worry much for

Chigumbura as there was Rogers, Matsikenyeri and Taylor."

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the second CityCell one-day international between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong on Monday:

ZIMBABWE

Matsikenyeri run out	0
Rogers c and b Enamul	66
Ebrahim c Enamul b Mahmud	26
Masakadza st Mashud b Enamul	3
Taylor c Mashrafe b Saleh	30
Taibu not out	64
Chigumbura not out	32
Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-8, nb-3)	16
Total: (For 50 wks in 50 overs)	237
Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-86, 3-90, 4-99, 5-153	

Did not bat:

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mashrafe	9	1	42	0
Balsya	6	0	33	0
Mahmud	8	0	35	1
Manzarul	9	0	46	0
Enamul	10	0	37	2
Saleh	8	0	39	1

BANGLADESH

Saleh c sub (Sibanda) b Mpfu	6
Iqbal lbw b Hondo	58
Aftab c Taibu b Panyangara	15
Bashar run out	44
Ashraf c Taylor b Utseya	13
Manzarul c Masakadza b Rogers	16

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FEELING OVER THE MOON: Zimbabwe captain Tatenda Taibu (C) celebrates with teammate Christopher Mpfu after they had beaten Bangladesh in the second one-day international at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

Sachin in doubt for Pak series

REUTERS, Mumbai
 Leading batsman Sachin Tendulkar may miss India's home Test series against Pakistan starting next month because of an elbow injury.

The 31-year-old, out of action for almost three months last year because of tennis elbow, returned to action in October. However, he said on Monday he was still unsure if he would be fit enough to play against Pakistan.

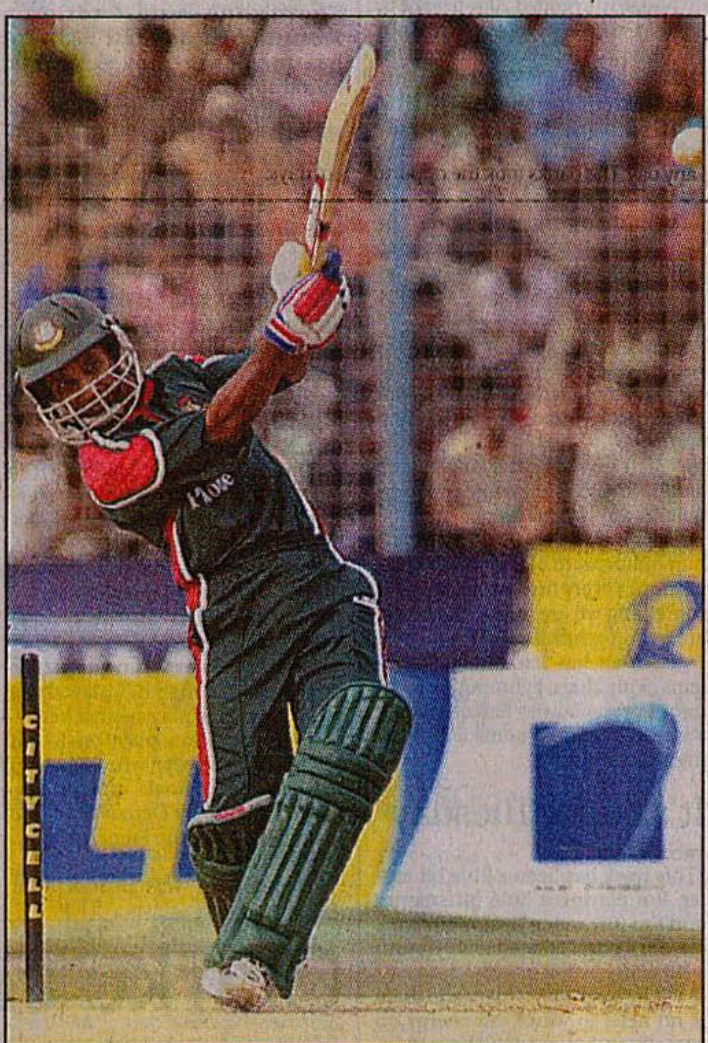
"As of now I've been advised (to take) five to six weeks' rest by the doctors," Tendulkar told reporters. "We'll have to wait and see. After the rest period is over, I'll meet the doctors again and we'll take a decision. But I'll definitely try to play."

Tendulkar has not batted in the nets since a one-day international against Bangladesh in Dhaka on December 27.

"There is no use in hurrying my return. When I come back, I should be fully fit so that I can do well for the team," he said.

The Mumbai batsman said he did not believe his injury was caused by a heavy bat.

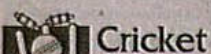
"I want to say again that the weight of my bat has nothing to do with the injury. A lot of people have been saying that but they don't know much about the game," Tendulkar said.



Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar hoists one over mid-on for four on way to scoring 44 in the second one-day international against Zimbabwe yesterday.

Clarke crushes Pakistan

Aus-WI tie abandoned by rain



AFP, Sydney
 Michael Clarke steered Australia to the finals of the tri-series cricket competition with an unbeaten 103 as his team cruised to a nine-wicket win over Pakistan on Sunday.

Pakistan, sent in to bat after rain had delayed the start, suffered overcast and damp conditions on a wicket offering plenty to spinners and seamers alike.

They were bowled out in the 40th over -- 10 short of their full allocation -- for just 163, a score which never seemed likely to trouble the world champions.

In reply Australia reached 167 for one off 36.2 overs.

Clarke, 23, who has now filled in as an opener in three of Australia's four tri-series matches, has made scores of 66, 97 and 103 not out -- with Sunday's century coming off 107 balls with 14 fours and a six.

Playing on his home wicket, Clarke kept the big crowd enthralled as he survived first a strong shout for lbw and then what looked like a catch to Shoaib Malik.

As Australia neared victory captain Ricky Ponting farmed out the strike to Clarke to help the younger player reach his ton.



MICHAEL CLARKE

Clarke also survived a dropped catch while on 97, smashing a ball in the air through extra cover to Mohammad Hafeez who split a straightforward catch.

"I was praying it didn't carry," Clarke said.

"I had said to Ricky I have to hit a six and he told me I only needed a four, so what I was thinking I don't

know."
 Opening partner Matthew Hayden, whose position may be under threat when Adam Gilchrist returns from a rest break, made a laborious 27 off 65 balls and never looked comfortable, despite the lack of any serious pressure from Pakistan.

With the start of play delayed 45 minutes because of rain, Ponting had elected to bowl first, noting that there was likely to be plenty of movement in the moist wicket.

His judgement proved spot on and opening bowler Glenn McGrath wasted no time proving so. In just the third over McGrath had the consistent Salman Butt trapped lbw for a duck with the total on one.

Wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal, the hero of Pakistan's win over the West Indies in Brisbane last week, fared only fractionally better -- making two before speedster Brett Lee bowled him in the next over.

At two for two Pakistan were in deep trouble and the situation only worsened when new batsman Shoaib Malik also fell foul of McGrath, leaving a big gap between bat and pad to be clean bowled for

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PCB rubishes rape claim

AFP, Karachi
 Pakistan cricket chiefs have closed their investigation into claims that one of their players raped a woman in Australia after finding no proof, an official said on Monday.

"The chapter is closed as far as the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is concerned after we found no evidence of any such incident," PCB spokesman Abbas Zaidi told AFP.

"Some of the international channels sought cheap publicity through this case to demean Pakistani cricket, which was very disappointing and we condemn that," said the spokesman.

Pakistan's team management was left furious on Friday after an unnamed player was accused of raping a woman at a Melbourne hotel in an Australian newspaper report.

"We are here to play cricket and we do not want to do anything inappropriate," Pakistan team manager Haroon Rashid had said, adding that the allegation in the Herald Sun was a massive slur on the players.

The Centre Against Sexual Assault in a Melbourne suburb told the newspaper that the alleged attack took place in a city hotel, but the woman was not yet prepared to make a complaint to police.

The attack was alleged to have taken place while the Pakistan team was in Melbourne for the Boxing Day Test against Australia.

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Moles new Scottish coach

AFP, Glasgow
 Former Kenya coach Andy Moles was named as the new full-time boss of Scotland on Saturday with the task of leading the minnows to the 2007 World Cup.

The 43-year-old, whose coaching career has also included a spell with Orange Free State in South Africa, made his name as a player when he scored over 15,000 first-class runs in 13 seasons for Warwickshire and Orange Free State.

He was also a member of the highly successful Warwickshire teams in the mid-90s. He scored over 4,500 runs in first-class one-day games.

The appointment of Moles comes at the start of Scotland's most important season for many years, centred round the ICC Trophy which takes place in July in Ireland, where five places are at stake for the World Cup in the West Indies in 2007.

There are also 18 games in the English one-day league and a match against Australia, the world champions, in August.

"I saw the squad when they played against Kenya in the Intercontinental Cup in Dubai last November. They looked a well-organised and dedicated bunch, and I'm delighted to have the chance to work with them," said Moles.

"I'm also looking forward to the challenge. The target, quite simply, is to qualify for the World Cup."

Thorpe, Flintoff save Eng



REUTERS, Centurion
 Graham Thorpe and Andrew Flintoff shared a century stand as England took an 82-run first-innings lead on the fourth day of the fifth Test against South Africa on Monday.

England, leading the series 2-1, spent the morning making the game safe before going on the attack as they reached 329 for six at tea in reply to South Africa's 247.

Thorpe scored 86 and all-rounder Flintoff 77, the pair surviving the morning session before hitting out as they put on 141 for the fifth wicket.

Wicketkeeper Geraint Jones followed suit, reaching 44 not out with Ashley Giles on 25 in an unbroken seventh-wicket stand of 72.

England, 29 for three on Sunday,

had resumed on 114 for four and still vulnerable, even though more than half the first three days had been lost to rain and bad light.

Thorpe and Flintoff bided their time through penetrative first spells by fast bowlers Makhaya Ntini and Shaun Pollock.

Aggressive first-change bowler Andre Nel failed to make a significant impression, and left-arm spinner Nicky Boje was brought into the attack in the 12th over of the day.

Soon South African captain Graeme Smith had brought himself on at the other end to bowl his part-time off-spin.

Boje and Smith bowled in tandem for 14 overs, and Smith had several confident leg-before appeals for Thorpe's wicket turned down by umpire Steve Bucknor.

Aided by an increasingly flat pitch, Thorpe and Flintoff were able to keep gathering runs inconspic-

uously and complete a wicketless first session in which they scored 85 runs in 39 overs. Of the 236 balls bowled before lunch, only 26 produced scoring shots.

Thorpe and Flintoff batted with far more aggression after lunch, hammering 56 runs off 59 balls before the stand was ended by an in-swinging yorker from Nel that bowled Thorpe.

Thorpe was at the crease for 341 minutes, facing 269 balls and hitting 11 fours.

Flintoff was out six balls later for his best score of the series when, still pressing, he drove at a wide delivery from medium pacer Andrew Hall and was caught behind. He batted for 204 minutes, faced 144 balls and hit 12 fours and a six, his 50th in Test matches.

Only Ian Botham, who hit 67 sixes, is ahead of Flintoff among

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It's Super Tuesday



REUTERS, Melbourne

Roger Federer faces his first serious test of his Australian Open defence when he locks horns with Andre Agassi in a mouth-watering quarterfinal on Tuesday.

The world number one is a hot favourite to win the tournament and has not dropped a single set all week but Agassi, a four-times champion at Melbourne Park, promises to test him.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge and the opportunity of playing Roger," Agassi said.

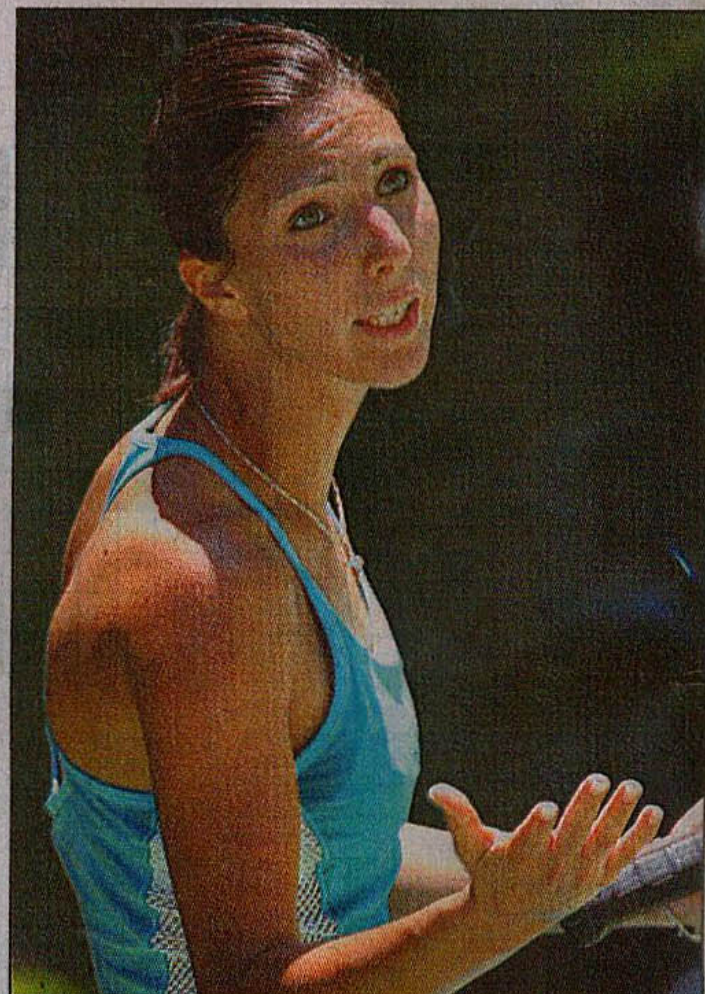
"He's been playing the best tennis in the world for a while now but somebody has to beat him sooner or later, right? I hope it's Tuesday night."

Agassi won his first three matches against Federer but the Swiss master has won the last four, including an epic five-setter in the semifinals of last year's US Open and says he is confident of making it five in a row.

"I know I can beat him. He's not as good as he was when he was at the top of the ranking, otherwise he would be there," Federer said.

"Fortunately, I'm there. I think he has to raise his game, not me."
 The build-up to Tuesday's match has got everyone talking and Andy Roddick, the world number two, said he wouldn't miss it for the world.

"I'm as excited as the next person," Roddick said. "I'm still a big tennis fan so I'm excited to watch it, that's for sure."
 Awaiting the winner is a semifinal against either Marat Safin or Dominik Hrbaty, who meet in the first of Tuesday's two men's quarters. The pair have met 12 times for six wins apiece.



A frustrated looking Anastasia Myskina of Russia gestures after losing to Frenchwoman Nathalie Dechy in the fourth round of the Australian Open yesterday. Myskina, the French Open winner, lost 6-4, 6-2.

PHOTO: AFP