

## Mashud given 1-game ban

SPORTS REPORTER

Rajshahi captain and Bangladesh wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud has been slapped with a one-match ban yesterday for showing dissent to an umpire during a third round National Cricket League match against Sylhet.

Match referee Murshed Chowdhury found the national stumper guilty of misbehaving with the official, who ruled him out just two runs short of his hundred on the second day of the four-day match at the Rajshahi Divisional Stadium on Saturday.

Mashud will miss his side's next four-day game against Dhaka starting at Bogra on March 3.

FED CUP

## Army, R'ganj enter semis

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Army and Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society were set to battle in the Group C semifinal of the Tibet 20th Federation Cup Football Tournament yesterday.

Ripon scored a hatrick as Army inflicted a massive 6-1 defeat on Bangladesh Police in the first match at the Birshreshtha Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur. Anwar, Mizan and Shahin scored one each for the winners while Kamruzzaman scored one for the losers.

In the day's second match, Rahmatganj managed 3-1 victory over Mohakhali XI in tiebreaker at the same venue after the match locked 1-1 in the regulation time.

Mizanur Rahman Don put Rahmatganj ahead while Kabir equalised for Mohakhali.

The winners will meet in the semifinals on March 3.

# SA seal ODI series



AFP, Durban

Captain Graeme Smith hit his third century in seven matches as South Africa crushed Zimbabwe by 131 runs at Kingsmead on Sunday to register their second successive win in the series.

Smith made a career-best 117 as South Africa clinched the three-match series with a game to spare against a Zimbabwe team, which was hopelessly outclassed.

The home side hammered 329 for six against a depleted Zimbabwe bowling attack and despite being without most of their own front-line bowlers, South Africa restricted Zimbabwe to 198 for seven.

It was the second successive time the hosts topped 300 after being sent in by Zimbabwe captain Tatenda Taibu -- they made 301 for seven when they won the first match by 165 runs in Johannesburg

Friday.

Smith and Herschelle Gibbs (75) shared a fourth wicket stand of 134 off 137 balls as South Africa recovered from a shaky start.

They were 67 for three when the pair came together in the 15th over. Smith made his runs off 129 balls with five fours and four sixes, while Gibbs faced 73 balls and hit eight fours and a six.

Justin Kemp smashed a 19-ball half-century in the closing overs, finishing with 53 not out off 21 balls with two fours and five sixes.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the second one-day international between South Africa and Zimbabwe at Kingsmead on Sunday:

**SOUTH AFRICA:** 329 for 6 (Smith 117, Gibbs 75, Kemp 53; Mpofo 3-59)

### ZIMBABWE

Matsikenyeri c Kemp b Morkel	16
Rogers c Boje b Morkel	47
Masakadza c Bacher b Boje	20
Maregwede b Bacher	13

Taylor c Morkel b Boje	23
Taibu c Hall b Bacher	16
Williams not out	33
Ewing c Boje b Hall	12
Utseya not out	4
Extras: (lb-4, w-10)	14
Total: (For 7 wkts in 50 overs)	198
Fall of wkts: 1-71, 2-80, 3-103, 4-117, 5-133, 6-164, 7-188.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hall	9	2	27	1
Langeveldt	8	0	41	0
Morkel	7	0	27	2
Kemp	6	1	20	0
Boje	10	0	46	2
Bacher	10	0	36	2

Did not bat: Panyangara, Mpofo.

**Result: South Africa won by 131 runs.**

**Man-of-the-match: Graeme Smith (RSA).**

**Series: South Africa lead 2-0.**

**Umpires: W. Doctrove (WIS), B. Jerling (RSA).**

**TV umpire: R. Koertzen (RSA).**

**Match referee: A Hurst (Aus).**

**Remaining match: March 2, Port Elizabeth.**

# Inzamam's men cross

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day series on the pathbreaking tour.

Prior to the team's departure Inzamam said his team wanted to avenge their first series loss at home to India.

Inzamam was captain when India beat Pakistan 2-1 in the tests and 3-2 in the one-day internationals.

"The Australian tour has been a big learning experience for all of us and I think we are in a position to reap the benefits in India," The Pakistan captain said on Sunday.

"We definitely want to make amends for last year's defeats."

Coach Javed Miandad was sacked after the series and replaced by Bob Woolmer, which had improved the side said Inzamam.

"A lot has changed since that series.

"Woolmer has helped change the attitude of the boys which is more positive and professional and I think they can take the pressure of playing in India."

Pakistan will be without strike bowler Shoaib Akhtar in the Test series after he ruled himself out with a hamstring injury, though recalled off spinner Arshad Khan and leg spinner Danish Kaneria are expected to do the majority of the bowling on the turning wickets.

"Shoaib's absence will be felt. But our strength is playing as a unit.

"These two (Khan and Kaneria) have a big role to play in India. They

are the ones on whom we will be depending a lot in the Test matches.

"We are expecting slow turning tracks and we have been practicing for such conditions."

### SQUAD

Inzamamul Haq (captain), Younis Khan (vice-captain), Salman Butt, Yasir Hameed, Taufeeq Umar, Yousuf Youhana, Asim Kamal, Kamran Akmal (wicketkeeper), Abdul Razzaq, Shoaib Malik, Shahid Afridi, Arshad Khan, Danish Kaneria, Mohammad Sami, Rana Navedul Hasan, Mohammad Khalil.

Manager: Salim Altaf. Coach: Bob Woolmer

## Second tsunami match cancelled

AFP, New Delhi

The second tsunami appeal cricket match, scheduled to be held in Kolkata in April, has been cancelled due to the expected hot weather in the eastern Indian metropolis, Asian cricket officials said.

The limited-overs match between a select Asian team and the Rest of the World had been originally due to be held in February, but was put off till April due to the unavailability of top players.

Asian Cricket Council (ACC) president Jagmohan Dalmiya said he will leave it to the International Cricket Council (ICC) to decide the fate of the match.

"We cannot hold the game in April because it will be very hot in Kolkata," Dalmiya said on Monday.

The first tsunami appeal match between Asia and the rest of the world was held in Melbourne on January 10 and raised over 11 million dollars for relief efforts.

## 'A' whitewash

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series which commences on the 3rd March in Kwekwe. Bangladesh will be without the services of Nafees Ahmed and Saqib who will both return to Dhaka to undertake important exams.

## SCORES IN BRIEF

**ZIMBABWE A:** First innings 269 all out (Duffin 24, Ebrahim 33, Ervine 69, Dabengwa 52, Mahwire 29; Russel 1-41, Shafaq 2-17, Saqib 3-49, Enamul 1-62, Sanwar 2-30, Tushar 1-24) and **second innings** 217 all out (Duffin 19, Siziba 21, Sibanda 59, Chibhabha 37; Enamul 3-59)

**BANGLADESH A:** First innings 251 all out (Nafees 6, Raqibul 5, Tushar 58, Saqib 47, Riyad 23, Mushfiqur 20, Dhiman 33, Russel 22; Macmillan 3-61, Mahwire 4-43) and **second innings** 236 for 5 (Nafees 86, Raqibul 8, Tushar 81, Sanwar 27, Dhiman 14, Riyad 11 not out, Saqib 5 not out).

**Result: Bangladesh A won by five wickets and wrapped up the series 3-0.**

# Ponting to miss 4th ODI today



REUTERS, Wellington

A niggling leg injury has forced Australia captain Ricky Ponting out of Tuesday's fourth one-day international against New Zealand in Wellington.

Ponting has been ordered to rest because of a slight thigh strain but is expected to be fit for the final match of the series in Napier on Saturday.

Opening batsman Matthew Hayden was also ruled out of the match because of a shoulder problem.

## Zia defeats Reefat

SPORTS REPORTER

Reigning champion Grand Master Ziaur Rahman won his fourth round board against International Master Reefat Bin Sattar in the Mercantile Bank 31st National Chess Championship at the federation hallroom yesterday.

Zia was sharing the lead along with fellow GM Niaz Murshed and International Master Abdullah Al Rakib securing 3.5 points each.

Niaz beat Uten and Rakib defeated junior champion Mehdi Hasan Parag.

International Master Enamul Hossain Rajib beat FIDE Master Rezaul Haque in the fourth round to follow the leader with 2.5 points.

In the day's other matches, Mainuddin Ahmed beat Hasan Imam, Khondokar Aminul Islam drew with FM Abu Sufian Shakil and Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Emon shared points with Aminul Islam Palash.

With Ponting unavailable, Adam Gilchrist will captain the team while Queensland all-rounder James Hopes will make his international debut at the expense of spinner Brad Hogg.

Glenn McGrath was also recalled to the side after missing Saturday's match in Auckland, joining Jason Gillespie, Brett Lee and Michael Kasprovicz in a four-prong pace attack.

Australia have an unbeatable 3-0 lead in the five-match series.

### TEAMS

**AUSTRALIA:** Adam Gilchrist (captain), Damien Martyn, Andrew Symonds, Michael Clarke, Simon Katich, Mike Hussey, James Hopes, Brett Lee, Jason Gillespie, Michael Kasprovicz, Glenn McGrath.

**NEW ZEALAND:** Stephen Fleming (captain), Nathan Astle, Craig Cumming, Hamish Marshall, James Marshall, Craig McMillan, Chris Cairns, Brendon McCullum, Jeff Wilson, Kyle Mills, Lance Hamilton.

## Surrey name stand after Saqlain

CRICINFO, London

Surrey have named a seating stand at The Oval after Pakistani off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq.

Saqlain, who has represented Surrey for several seasons, is the second overseas player after Sylvester Clarke to have a block named after him this season.

"It's a great honour for me to have my name somewhere in the stands at The Oval," Saqlain said to The News on Monday.

But affected by a knee injury which forced him out of international cricket, Saqlain missed the tour to India.

"It has been the most frustrating time for me -- especially to miss the tour of India. But I'm getting treatment and hopefully I should make myself available for the tour of the West Indies in May-June."

Saqlain last appeared in April 2004 against India in Multan. He has taken 208 Test wickets and 288 one-day wickets.

# Federer hattrick



AFP, Dubai

Top seed Roger Federer of Switzerland bagged his third consecutive title at the one-million-dollar Dubai Open on Sunday when he beat Croatia's Ivan Ljubicic 6-1, 6-7, 6-3.

The world number one now has a 20-1 record for 2005 after claiming his third title of the year, all at the expense of the eighth-seeded Ljubicic, whom he also beat in Doha and Rotterdam.

But Federer, who had looked to be on course for an easy win when he took the first set 6-1, was pushed hard by the 25-year-old Croat who dug deep to secure the second set after a tense tiebreak.

"I almost ran away with it. But it's not always easy to close a match out," admitted Federer.

"I had a fright but I'm very, very happy. Having a match point like that reminded me of the (Marat) Safin match," he added, referring to the loss of his Australian Open title after holding six match points in Melbourne in January.