



PHOTO: CRICINFO

VIDEO VERDICT: South African umpire Rudi Koertzen gives Michael Clarke out caught at short leg after referring to the video umpire Darrell Hair on the opening day of the Super Test between Australia and World XI at the SCG on Friday.



Betty Robinson was the first American woman to capture 100m gold in the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam at the age of 16.



## Sourav Ganguly

(Former India cricket captain)  
"Don't stand under the sun waiting for me. I am not going to say anything."  
Refusing to comment on his exclusion.



### SET Max

Australia vs World XI  
Super Series Test, Day 2  
Live at 6:30 am

### ESPN

English Premier Football League  
Wigan Athletic vs Newcastle United  
Live at 5:40 pm  
Liverpool vs Blackburn Rovers  
Live at 7:55 pm  
Middlesbrough vs Portsmouth  
Live at 10:10 pm  
STAR Sports  
English Premier Football League  
Sunderland vs Man United  
Live at 7:55 pm



GP Corporate Cricket League  
Bangla Cat vs Epyllion  
Venue: BDS  
Beximco vs Orion  
Venue: KDVS  
Ispahani vs Gazi Tank  
Venue: DCS

# Hayden, Gilchrist show the way



REUTERS, Sydney

Matthew Hayden completed a century and Adam Gilchrist was racing towards his own hundred as Australia amassed 331 for six on the opening day of the ICC super test with the Rest of the World on Friday.

Hayden made a determined 111 while Gilchrist finished the day unbeaten on 94 when bad light ended play five overs early at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Hayden and Gilchrist also shared a 97-run partnership for the fifth wicket as the world champions recovered from a mid-order slump to pile on the runs against a World XI still licking their wounds from last week's 3-0 loss in the one-day series.

"I think everyone who had the ball

really worked hard today, I don't think the pitch provided a lot for anyone," World XI captain Graeme Smith said.

"But if we can defend 400 tomorrow and hopefully bat well, then that's a good position in the game and we can really attack in the second innings.

"I think it's going to be slow for three days and then take some turn. The first innings will become crucial."

The world selection had made the perfect start when Steve Harmison clean bowled opener Justin Langer for a duck from the third ball of match and his England team mate Andrew Flintoff captured the prize wicket of Australia captain Ricky Ponting for 46.

Luck also seemed to be going their way as three Australians, Michael Clarke, Simon Katich and Shane Watson, were all given out by the video umpire as part of an experiment into the increased use of technology.

Clarke left the playing arena shaking his head in disbelief after being

adjudged to have been caught bat-pad for 39, Katich was run out for a duck and Watson was trapped leg before wicket to Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan for 24.

Their dismissals threatened to ruin Australia's hopes, on the day John Buchanan was reappointed their coach for another two years, of building a big total on a placid pitch offering little encouragement to either pace or spin.

Muralitharan was the pick of the World XI bowlers, capturing two wickets from 30 overs, while Harmison, Flintoff and New Zealand spinner Daniel Vettori collected one apiece.

Hayden, whose international career was in jeopardy before he scored a century in the last Ashes test, repaid the selectors for their faith with his 22nd Test hundred.

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# The Ganguly puzzle



REUTERS, New Delhi

Cricket-mad Indians were debating Sourav Ganguly's future on Friday, a day after India's most successful Test captain was sacked due to injury and poor batting form.

Indian selectors ended Ganguly's five-year reign and elevated Rahul Dravid, his longtime deputy, for two upcoming home one-day series versus Sri Lanka and South Africa.

The news was splashed on front pages of newspapers and debated on prime time television shows in India.

"The New Boss", declared The Times of India alongside a big picture of Dravid. Ganguly, 33, could struggle to retain his place in the squad even if he was fit, it said.

In Kolkata, Ganguly's hometown, angry fans held a noisy protest in front of the Eden Gardens stadium and burnt the effigy of chief selector Kiran More. The player refused any comment.

New captain Dravid was far away in Sydney, playing for the Rest of the World in the Super Test against champions Australia.

"It is an honour and a privilege to have been named as captain of India for the next two series," Dravid said in a statement there.

Dravid said Indian board officials informed him of his appointment during tea on day one of the test on Friday.

"We will be playing against two great teams and I am very much looking forward to the challenges that both series will present," he added.

Former India captain Ajit Wadekar welcomed the change.

"It is a positive move," he said. "The selectors obviously have an eye on the 2007 World Cup."

"Three things must have gone

against Ganguly. His fitness, batting form and the spat with Chappell," Wadekar said.

However, Ganguly had his supporters.

Former Test opener Arun Lal pointed to Ganguly's record 21 victories in his 49 tests as captain.

"This has more to do with his injury than his form," he told Reuters in Kolkata.

"I see him coming back as a player, if not as captain once he has proved his fitness."

Although many former players had supported his removal, Ganguly's

home fans were dejected.

"Sourav is the victim of an ego clash with Greg Chappell," said Sanjay Das, a newspaper vendor.

He was referring to a recent spat between the skipper and the team's Australian coach Chappell centred around his poor batting.

"The fact that Dravid is happy to be the captain made it more difficult for Sourav, but if he scores then he will definitely come back," added Das as he distributed newspapers in Kolkata carrying banner headlines of Ganguly's ousting.



PHOTO: AFP

Angry Sourav Ganguly fans burn an effigy of chief selector Kiran More in Kolkata on Friday, a day after Ganguly lost the Indian captaincy to Rahul Dravid.

## Clarke video's first Test victim

APP, Sydney

Australian Michael Clarke became the first batsman given out in Test cricket by the third umpire during the opening day of the Super Test against the World XI at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Friday.

Clarke was given out caught bat-pad after South African umpire Rudi Koertzen referred an appeal from spin bowler Daniel Vettori to the video umpire Darrell Hair under the special match conditions.

Television replays showed Clarke stretching forward to the Vettori delivery, and the ball hitting his pad, rolling off his wrist and caught by a diving Virender Sehwag at silly point. But Koertzen signalled the dismissal on Hair's adjudication after several minutes' deliberation.

Clarke left the arena shaking his head in disappointment with the decision.

The young right-hander scored 39 off 68 balls and ended an 81-run third-wicket partnership with Matthew Hayden.

## Tigers captain gets support from fellow skippers

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar said he was heartened by the show of support for Bangladesh from his counterparts during the ICC's (International Cricket Council) captains meeting in Sydney on Wednesday.

"Honestly speaking, I was a little apprehensive because our recent performance in Sri Lanka has not been good. But most of the other captains encouraged me as they believed that Bangladesh were on the right track. They were particularly praiseful of our great victory against Australia in England," said Bashar who returned home on Friday.

The Tigers skipper said that the ICC's chief executive Malcolm Speed also congratulated him for the Cardiff victory.

"I wanted to raise the issue of the smaller nations not getting the benefit of doubt in umpiring decisions. But it was not possible as the focus was more on slow over rates and super-subbs with Australian captain Ricky Pointing and South African captain Graeme Smith very vocal on the issues," said Bashar.

Bashar informed that the ICC had agreed to discuss the slow over rate in its next meeting.

"We requested the ICC to reduce the penalty of captains for slow over rates from a level three offence to level one and they also assured us that it would be one of the points in their next meeting. The ICC also discussed about super-subbs and we proposed the provision to allow

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## Important CCDM meeting today

SPORTS REPORTER

The Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolis (CCDM) meets with club officials today to settle three important issues ahead of the upcoming Premier and First Division cricket leagues.

CCDM chairman Khondokar Jamiluddin said that they would discuss a new pool system besides the foreign players' quota and inter-club players' transfers.

"This time the number of pool players will be increased to 28 from 20 players and a team will be allowed to include four national cricketers instead of the previous provision of three," said Jamil.

### ASIAN CHESS C'SHIP

## Rakib the lone winner

SPORTS REPORTER

International Master Abdullah Al-Rakib, the only Bangladeshi player, won the seventh round game in the 5th Asian Individual Chess Championship in Hyderabad, India on Thursday.

Rakib beat Indian International Master RR Laxman to improve his tally to 4 points while Grand Master Ziaur Rahman lost his board against Chinese counterpart Zhao Jun, IM Reefat Bin Sattar lost to Indian IM Poobesh Anand and Enamul Hossain Rajib lost against Wang Hao of China at the Kotla Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy Indoor Stadium in Hyderabad.

Zia, and Rajib remained on 3.5 points each while Reefat earned three points.

GM Shilong of China is leading the table with six points after the seventh round.

# So unlike Bashar

SPORTS REPORTER



Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar showed no signs of jet-leg as he inspired Acme Laboratories to record a 98-run victory against newcomers Metro Real Estate in the Grameen-Phone Corporate Cricket League at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The 33-year-old batsman had only returned home in the morning after attending the ICC's Test captains' meeting in Sydney, before turning up to play as a 'super-sub'.

Unfortunately, his act of goodwill backfired when he was fined for exhibiting 'unsporting' behaviour. Bashar refused to walk after the umpire adjudged him lbw against slow bowler Sharifullah.

The usually mild-mannered

Bashar, who had made 26, glanced towards the man in the middle in apparent disgust and then threw his gloves to the ground before walking back to the pavilion.

The country's top batsman, however, escaped severe punishment as he later apologised to match referee Rafiqul Alam, who only fined him Tk 2,500.

"I'm really sorry for the incident. As a national captain I can't do that because young players look to us as role models. We should respect all umpiring decisions whether they are right or wrong. Actually, I was exhausted after such a long flight," admitted Bashar.

He might not be contributed with the bat either but at least Acme recovered from their 42-run first round defeat against star-studded BEXIMCO while Araf Apparels also bagged their first points with a comfortable 65-run victory against newcomers Security Air

Express at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium.

On the other hand, Biman recorded their second consecutive win beating another debutant Jamuna Bank at the BKSP.

ACME V METRO REAL

National opener Javed Omar top scored with 62 while young Nasiruddin Faruque added a defiant 41 and Mohammad Rafique 34 as Acme set a challenging total of 216 for all in 49.5 overs after being sent into bat.

While Javed made a typical 100-ball 62 that included only two boundaries his national teammate Rafique blasted four boundaries and two sixes in his 29-ball innings. Faruque's unbeaten 41 came off 47 balls.

In reply Metro Real lost wickets regularly before being bowled out for 118 in 39.4 overs. Pacemen Hasibul Hossain, Alamgir Kabir and Dollar Mahmud took two

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PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh skipper Habibul Bashar, who is appearing for Acme Laboratories in the Corporate Cricket League, about to be given lbw against Metro Real Estate at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on Friday.

# Spain get the toughest draw



AFP, Zurich

Spain, deprived by Serbia Montenegro of an automatic place in the 2006 World Cup finals, must overcome Slovakia to reach the finals in Germany next year.

Switzerland were drawn against Turkey, the 2002 World Cup semi-finalists.

And Norway face the Czech Republic to decide the remaining European qualifiers for Germany 2006.

The first leg games are to be played on Nov 12 with the return matches four

days later.

The two other play-offs to be held on the same dates in November throw Trinidad and Tobago against Bahrain

and Uruguay against Australia.

Once those ties are completed all 32 finalists for the World Cup will be known.

Slovakia finished second in their group behind Portugal to make the play-offs by holding Russia 0-0 in their last qualifying game on Wednesday.

They have improved since losing 4-1 and 2-1 to Spain when they last met in qualifying for the 1998 World Cup finals.

Switzerland, who finished runners-up to 1998 World Cup winners France in their group after being held 0-0 by Ireland in Dublin, take on Turkey who squeezed through behind Ukraine thanks to a 1-0 win in Tirana against Albania.

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