

## Utseya pays for slow over-rate

AFP, Dubai

Zimbabwe captain Prosper Utseyo has been fined 40 per cent of his match fee for a slow over rate in the fourth one-day international against Bangladesh in Harare, the International Cricket Council said on Sunday.

Other members of Zimbabwe's team were fined 20 per cent of their fee from Saturday's match following the hearing conducted by match referee Cyril Mitchley.

"This was Prosper's first offence of this nature but he must be careful not to let it happen again. He has received a stern warning," said Mitchley in an ICC statement.

"Slow over rates are not fair to the opposition or the spectators and captains have a responsibility to ensure their players adhere to the regulations in that regard."

## Cruciani coming

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London. Now he will arrive on Wednesday," team manager Satyajit Das Rupu told the Daily Star yesterday.

The Dhanmondi-based club has decided to give Cruciani the job with a hope to make history by clinching the first title of the competition, named B. League, as he has a very good understanding with most of the players because they trained under him in the national team.

## Dilemma

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There was good news though and the most inspiring outcome of the series might be the efforts of young wicketkeeper Mushfiqur Rahim who justified the team decision of promoting him to the top order by making solid scores of 42 and 57 in the last two games.

His success has also put the selectors in a dilemma and the big question is whether they will rely only on the young stumper or go for both him and long-serving Khaled Mashud to avoid controversy.

Faruque denied any comment on the issue but said that they have to extensively discuss with the team physio before deciding on a course of action for seaming all-rounder Mohammad Sharif.

## Peng, Marina

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third set tiebreak to bag the crown. Also, in an incident worth remembering, the final was interrupted in the second set by a swarm of honeybees who had suddenly drifted in from a nearby orchard. The players and umpires all ran for cover but order was restored soon and the play resumed soon after.

The other silverware on offer also went to an all-Indian pairing as the boys' pairing of Sitaram & Wah brushed aside another all-Indian team of Iyer & Marquis 6-3, 6-1.

Anwarul Iqbal, advisor to Caretaker Government, distributed prizes amongst the winners after the day's play. Also present were founder chairman of sponsors Dhaka Bank Abdul Hai Sarker and President of Bangladesh Tennis Federation AMM Nasiruddin.

100 boys and 84 girls from 23 nationalities took part in the eight-day competition of the Dhaka circuit.

## Nightmare

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Athletic last month.

Last March, Mendes scored two superb goals to give Pompey a 2-1 win over City that sparked a revival and helped the south-coast club escape relegation trouble.

## Babayaro shows

FROM PAGE 20

It puts things in perspective.

"Football is the most important thing in your life except for your family. Without your family there is no football."

"We have won and got three points, so Celestine feels very happy and very sad at the same time."

Babayaro travelled to London after the match to be with his family, but will link up with United for Thursday's UEFA Cup tie against Zulte in Belgium.

## Becks back

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Madrid barely threatened in the opening half hour but got a break when Emerson was fouled and Beckham, who last appeared for the club as a substitute in the 2-0 defeat by Deportivo Coruna on January 7, drove in the 37th-minute free-kick.

Van Nistelrooy put Real ahead in the second half but the visitors then had to weather a storm of attacks, with Prieto going close and Casillas making a superb reflex save soon after.

## Violence

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policemen specially deployed for the game, throwing stones and pieces of concrete. The game had been interrupted twice because of trouble in the stands.



GET OFF MY BACK! Mike White attempts a ride during the PBR Amp'd Mobile Invitational in the Professional Bull Riders Built Ford Tough Series at the Honda Center in Anaheim, California on Saturday.

## Afridi not appealing

### Cricket

AFP, Cape Town

Pakistan all-rounder Shahid Afridi has decided not to appeal against a four-match one-day international ban handed down Saturday for pushing his bat at a spectator.

Pakistan coach Bob Woolmer said the player had decided not to exercise his option of lodging a written appeal within 24 hours.

An unsuccessful appeal would have delayed Afridi's ban and he might have missed Pakistan's first four World Cup matches in the four of cricket in dispute.

The charge was laid by International Cricket Council chief executive Malcolm Speed.

The incident happened while Afridi was walking up stairs towards the dressing room. Broad found it

first two World Cup matches, against the West Indies and Ireland.

Match referee Chris Broad banned Afridi after a hearing in Cape Town into the incident in which Afridi pushed his bat at a spectator after being dismissed during the first one-day international against South Africa at Centurion last Sunday.

Broad found Afridi guilty of a Level Three offence for "conduct unbecoming, which could bring (players or officials) or the game of cricket into disrepute."

The charge was laid by International Cricket Council chief executive Malcolm Speed.

The incident happened while Afridi was walking up stairs towards the dressing room. Broad found it

was an extenuating circumstance that the spectator had shouted at Afridi.

"I also spoke to the spectator in question ahead of the hearing to get his version of events. However, I found it impossible to escape the conclusion that Mr Afridi's actions were a clear threat to that spectator, and had that person not taken evasive action then the bat would almost certainly have hit him."

Broad criticised the proximity of players to spectators at the staircase.

"I do not believe spectators should be that close to the players or that they should feel they can shout whatever they like and think that is acceptable," he said.

Broad said he had conveyed his view Cricket South Africa.

## Lanka win a thriller

FROM PAGE 17

Lanka in Rajkot on Sunday: innings in a 108-run stand for the fifth wicket with Tillakaratne Dilshan (56).

He reached his century in style, swinging veteran leg-spinner Kumara for his third six. His 127-ball knock contained four sixes and 11 fours.

The 29-year-old Sangakkara offered a difficult chance on 91, when Patel dropped a return catch but the Sri Lankan smashed the next ball for four.

Patel eventually finished with 4-49, his best in one-day internationals.

The left-handed Sangakkara received support from Dilshan, who batted sensibly for his eighth half-century before being bowled by off-spinner Harbhajan Singh.

But there was no stopping Sangakkara, who continued to dominate the Indian attack with a wide range of shots. He put on 61 for the seventh wicket with Maharoof to help his team pass the 250-mark.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the second one-day international between India and Sri

Lanka in Rajkot on Sunday: Sri Lanka: Karkit lbw b Malinga 31 Harbhajan c Jayawardene b Maharoof 2 Kumble run out 2 Sreesanth not out 0 Patel not out 0 Extras: (b-1, lb-5, nb-7, w-9) 22 Total: (For 9 wkt in 50 overs) 252 Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-29, 3-129, 4-154, 5-169, 6-235, 7-241, 8-248, 9-252

Bowler O M R W Malinga 10 0 75 2 Maharoof 10 0 42 3 Kulasekara 10 0 48 0 Bandara 10 0 36 2 Jayasuriya 9 0 38 1 Dilshan 1 0 7 0 Total: (For 8 wkt in 50 overs) 257 Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-31, 3-53, 4-58, 5-166, 6-188, 7-249, 8-249 Did not bat: Malinga

Bowler O M R W Patel 9 0 49 4 Sreesanth 10 1 39 2 Ganguly 2 0 14 0 Harbhajan 10 0 41 1 Kumble 10 1 59 0 Tendulkar 9 0 41 1

INDIA: Uthappa c Jayawardene b Maharoof 7 Ganguly c Sangakkara b Malinga 62 David b Maharoof 5 Tendulkar st Sangakkara b Bandara 54 Sehwag c Sangakkara b Bandara 19 Dhoni c Maharoof b Jayasuriya 48

Result: Sri Lanka win by five runs and take 1-0 lead in the 4-ODI series.

Man-of-the-match: Kumar Sangakkara.

Toss: India.

Umpires: Simon Taufel and Suresh Shastri.

Third ODI: Goa, Feb 14.

## MU keep Chelsea chasing

FROM PAGE 20

Keep winning and the more we win the more pressure we try to put on Manchester United.

"They're having a great season, but if they make any mistakes - we'll be there."

With 60 points, Chelsea now have a useful lead over Liverpool, who are stuck on 50 after letting slip an early lead at St James' Park from their former Newcastle forward Craig Bellamy, who was booted on his return.

But it did move them on to 18 points - just two behind Charlton and West Ham and seven adrift of Wigan.

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