



PHOTO: AFP

Angry Indian cricket fans in Ahmedabad burn posters of their cricketing heroes the day after their team's defeat against Bangladesh.

This win

**FROM PAGE 17**  
It was their third victory in the tournament since making their Cup debut in 1999 and only the second against a Test-playing nation after beating Pakistan in England. They failed to win a match in the next edition in South Africa.  
The Bangladeshi captain said coming early to the West Indies helped the team get used to the conditions.  
"Coming early here had a huge impact. It helped us know the conditions, including pitches. The win against New Zealand gave us a lot of confidence. We realised if we do the job properly, we can beat the big guns," he said.  
The Bangladeshi skipper was referring to his team's two-wicket victory over Stephen Fleming's New Zealanders in a warm-up game at Bridgetown in Barbados.  
Bashar said the victory over India had boosted the team's confidence, but they would have to play good, competitive cricket in the remaining two games against Sri Lanka and debutants Bermuda to book a berth in the next round.  
"As a team, we have put up a good show. This means a lot and now we can hope to go into the second round. We have a young team and we fielded well. I hope they continue," he said.  
"Beating India is not an easy thing. It is a very important group and we have got to play hard in every game."  
It was Bangladesh's second win over India in 15 one-day internationals.  
Bashar was all praise for his bowlers, saying paceman Mashrafe Bin Mortaza and left-arm spinners Abdur Razzak and Mohammad Rafique did extremely well to contain the famed Indian batting line-up on a good wicket.  
"Mortaza was terrific. If your opening bowler takes wickets in his first spell, then you can hope to bowl the opposition out for less than 200," said the Bangladeshi captain.  
The fast bowler did even better damage when he jolted India with two early wickets and went on to finish with 4-38. He was named man of the match. Razzak and Rafique then grabbed three wickets apiece.  
"It is not easy bowling against this Indian batting line-up in middle overs, but the spinners did very well," said Bashar.  
The Bangladeshi skipper dedicated the win to compatriot Manjural Islam, who died in a road accident near Dhaka on the eve of the match.  
"We dedicate this victory to Manzarul Islam," Bashar said of his teammate who played six Tests and 25 one-day internationals.  
Mortaza also dedicated his man-of-the-match award to "my best friend".

Gilly predicts six show

**AFP, Basseterre**  
Adam Gilchrist believes the World Cup six-hitting show, so spectacularly headlined by record-breaking Herschelle Gibbs, will reach even greater heights as the tournament progresses.  
The Australian vice-captain says that a combination of small grounds, short boundaries and the power game of the world's leading teams, will see totals get bigger and bigger.  
"Most of the top teams have got power hitters in one-day cricket," said Gilchrist.  
"Most of the grounds in this region are pretty small. Such is the way that batsmen approach the closing overs in one-day cricket, there are going to be a lot of sixes hit."  
Gilchrist, one of the game's most destructive batsmen and who was relishing taking on the hapless Dutch attack on the compact Warner Park ground here on Sunday, insists that he and those like him still have to adapt to conditions.  
"We've got to be able to hit a good yorker, try not to be predictable in what we're delivering. I guess that's what all teams are doing."  
"Batsmen are being innovative. Try not to be predictable and then whatever it is you are trying to do, do it well."  
Gilchrist admitted that the slow

Kapali slams

**FROM PAGE 17**  
8th National Cricket League match against Barisal at the Fatullah Stadium yesterday.  
After Kapali won the toss and elected to bat first, Sylhet reached 288 for 5 when the stumps were drawn.  
But it was not all plain-sailing for Sylhet as they lost their top three batsmen with the score only on 70 runs. Barisal seamer Arafat Salahuddin took the wicket of Golam Rahman while spinner Monir Hossain removed Imtiaz Hossain cheaply.  
But when Kapali came to the crease, he forged a lone battle as he stroked the ball beautifully to score 141 off 273 balls. He struck 20 boundaries and a six in his brilliant knock which came to an end when he was caught behind off Salahuddin late in the day.  
Saif Mahmud was unbeaten on 51 along with Rezaul Haque who is yet to open his account.  
**BRIEF SCORES**  
**SYLHET:** 288-5 in 90 overs (Imtiaz 29, Rahman 4, Mabud 22, Kapali 141, Mowla 22, Saif 51\*, Rezaul 0\*, extras 19, Arafat 2-47, Tariqul 1-89, Monir 1-50, Arman 1-46).

AFP, Islamabad



The Pakistan cricket team's dismal performance and ouster from the World Cup at the hands of Ireland has shocked the nation and drawn criticism at home.  
Ireland clinched a sensational three-wicket victory over Pakistan to send the former champions crashing out of the World Cup at Sabina Park, Jamaica, on Saturday.  
Pakistan Cricket Board chief Nasim Ashraf will likely be the first head to roll when he faces a senate standing committee next week.  
"We will ask for his (Ashraf's) resignation in the meeting which is due to take place before March 28," Senator Mohammad Enver Baig, a member of the senate standing committee on culture, sports, youth affairs and tourism told AFP.  
"You lost miserably to a country

Pakistan in pain

like Ireland. There is nothing to compensate and the chairman must resign and go back to the United States," Baig said.  
"The way the team has lost is the most disgraceful performance since the World Cup started. The entire nation is shocked."  
Baig said Ashraf had no experience to head the Board and his "one man show" type of management had resulted in the "shameful defeat."  
"He is a crony of (President) Pervez Musharraf and the way he (Musharraf) is running the country, the cricket board is also being run in same manner. It is a one-man rule everywhere," Baig said.  
Former cricketing great, pacesman Sarfraz Nawaz, said the shock was "unbearable" for him.  
"I am speaking with deep pain and this shock is becoming unbearable for me," Nawaz said.  
"The captain, coach and the entire team should be held accountable," he said.  
Nawaz demanded that those responsible for defeat must be "fired".

Try not to be predictable and then whatever it is you are trying to do, do it well."

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# INDIA V BANGLADESH SCOREBOARD

**FROM PAGE 17**

Shahriar Nafees lbw b Zaheer Khan	2	16	8	0	0
Mushfiqur Rahim not out	56	185	107	3	2
Aftab Ahmed lbw b Patel	8	10	10	1	0
Shakib Al Hasan st Dhoni b Sehwa	53	94	86	5	1
Habibul Bashar st Dhoni b Sehwa	1	12	8	0	0
Mohammad Ashrafu'l not out	8	22	23	1	0
Extras: (lb-1, w-4, nb-8)	13				
Total: (For 5 wickets in 48.3 overs)	192				

Did not bat: Mohammad Rafique, Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Abdur Razzak, Syed Rasel.

Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-69, 3-79, 4-163, 5-175.

Bowler	O	M	R	W	Econ
Zaheer Khan	9	2	41	1	4.55
Agarkar	10	0	41	0	4.10
Patel	8.3	1	39	2	4.58
Harbhajan Singh	10	1	30	0	3.00
Tendulkar	3	0	8	0	2.66
Yuvraj Singh	3	0	15	0	5.00
Sehwa	5	0	17	2	3.40

**Result: Bangladesh won by five wickets.**

**Man-of-the-match: Mashrafe Bin Mortaza.**

**Toss: India**

**Umpires: Aleem Dar (Pakistan) and SJ Davis (Australia)**

**Match referee: AG Hurst (Australia)**

He said that during the match with Ireland "it seemed that the umpires also wanted that Pakistan should win, but the body language of the team reflected that they wanted to lose."  
In the central Pakistani city of Multan -- skipper Inzamamul Haq's home town -- angry youths held a protest rally, chanted slogans against the Pakistan squad and demanded that police arrest them.  
"Death to Bob Woolmer (the coach), death to Inzamam, death to Nasim Ashraf -- police should arrest them", the mob shouted.  
The Irish victory handed Pakistan their second straight defeat in the competition, following their 54-run loss to hosts West Indies last Tuesday.  
The win also provisionally puts Ireland in the lead of Group D, with three points -- one more than West Indies and two ahead of Zimbabwe (both have a match in hand) -- leaving Pakistan at the bottom of the table with no points.

The breeding

**FROM PAGE 17**  
immense," he added.  
Many was surprised how it was possible for a 18-year old wicketkeeper-cum-batsman, Mushfiqur Rahim, to keep cool in the middle not only behind the stumps but also with the bat during his 56-run unbeaten knock. It was not only his first World Cup match but also only the 12th one-day appearance.  
Playing only his fifth one-day international how a 17-year old batsman, Tamim Iqbal, shattered one of big giants' attack in the competition remains a big surprise for many outside the world while Shakib, an example of coolness only at the age of 19, holds a stunned average of 55.07 after 21 ODIs.  
They are of a generation groomed under different circumstances by getting more opportunities than their predecessors but also have gone through a disciplined programme which made them mentally tough.  
"I must thank Richard McInness because he did a tremendous job with these boys to make them not only physically, but also mentally, prepared to compete in the highest level. He actually modelled this programme," Mahbub praised the Australian coach.  
But unfortunately, it seemed that the programme has got stagnant in recent times although the BCB general secretary demanded that they have expanded it after the making of the BCB National Cricket Academy.

Ireland KO

FROM PAGE 20

IRELAND

Bray lbw b Sami	3
Porterfield b Hafeez	13
Morgan lbw b Sami	2
N O'Brien st Akmal b Malik	72
Botha c Hafeez b Sami	0
KO'Brien not out	16
White c Hafeez b Iftikhar	4
McCallan c Younis Khan b Iftikhar	0
Johnston not out	9
Extras: (lb-2, w-11, nb-1)	14
Total: (For 7 wts in 41.4 overs)	133
Did not bat: Langford-Smith, Rankin	
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-15, 3-62, 4-70, 5-108, 6-113, 7-113.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Gul	9	0	24	0
Sami	10	0	29	3
Anjum	10	0	29	2
Mahmood	7.4	1	25	0
Hafeez	4	0	15	1
Malik	1	0	9	1

Result: Ireland won by three wickets (D/L Method).

Man-of-the-match: Niall O'Brien.

Toss: Ireland.

Umpires: Billy Bowden (NZL) and Brian Jerling (RSA)

Match referee: Chris Broad (ENG).

LOCAL SNIPPETS

SPORTS REPORTER

Twenty-two players were on maximum two points after the end of two rounds of games at the 33rd National Chess Championship in the federation hallroom yesterday.  
Top performers Shakil, Nasir, Ami and Parag are among the early leaders.  
**BD TOUR OF SL**  
Bangladesh A take on hosts Sri Lanka A in their opening four-day match at the Colts Cricket Club ground today.  
The second-string side arrived in the Sri Lankan capital on Friday to play two four-dayers and three one-day matches. The next four-day match will be played at the same venue as well.  
**DIV 1 CRICKET**  
BKSP maintained their hundred per cent record in the Kai-Altech First Division Cricket League with a crushing 140-run victory over Dhanmondi Club at the Dhaka University ground yesterday.  
Mithun Ali slammed 119 off 108 balls to bolster BKSP to 278-8 in 50 overs and then followed that show by bowling out their opponents for 138 runs in 31.1 overs.  
Forkan took three wickets while Mominul snapped two scalps.  
Agrani Bank (252-6 in 50 overs) beat Eskaton (180 all out in 45 overs) by 72 runs at the BKSP ground while Gazi Tank kept the lead in Group B with a 88-run win over Prantik Kira Chakra.  
**SCHOOL CRICKET**  
Matuail Multilateral High School edged Lalmatia Housing Society School by a single wicket in the third zonal final of the Standard Chartered Young Tigers School Cricket competition at the Gulshan Youth Club ground yesterday.  
Batting first, Lalmatia were bowled out for 171 runs in 45.5 overs and then saw Matuail sneak home with just a wicket to spare in 36.3 overs.

England drop Flintoff for Canada

AFP, Gros Islet

Andrew Flintoff was dropped because of his off-field behaviour for England's World Cup Group C match against Canada here Sunday.  
All-rounder Flintoff, who was not at the ground, was omitted after reports he'd been one of a number of players who'd stayed out drinking until the early hours of Saturday morning following England's six-wicket defeat by New Zealand in their opening game here Friday.  
His place in the side was taken by Essex all-rounder Ravi Bopara, making his World Cup debut.  
In a statement, the England and Wales Cricket Board said: "Andrew Flintoff has been left out of the team for a breach of team discipline. A further statement will be issued in due course."  
England captain Michael Vaughan said of Flintoff's situation: "We'll talk about it later today with the team management group."  
"He (Flintoff) is not here today, he's back at the team hotel," Vaughan also told Sky Sports.  
The News of the World, Britain's biggest-selling Sunday newspaper, reported that Flintoff had to be rescued at 4am local time after capsizing a pedalo following the loss to New Zealand.  
Former, England skipper Nasser Hussain, who captained Flintoff, said the Lancashire star had been given "three or four warnings about his drinking" prior to being dropped for the Canada match.  
Hussain, England captain from 1999 to 2003 and now a Sky commentator, said: "There is a history to this story. It is not the first time. In Australia he had three or four warnings about his drinking."  
"The management felt enough is enough. At some stage you have to have some strong management, even with your best cricketer."  
"Well done England for finally having some strong management."  
But Ian Botham, the former England all-rounder and a man Flintoff is often compared to as a cricketer, insisted there had been an over-reaction.  
Botham, also working for Sky, said no-one had complained about Flintoff's behaviour when, the day after England had won an Ashes series against Australia for the first time in 19 years in 2005, he was seen to be hung over when the team enjoyed a victory parade through the streets of London and met with British Prime Minister Tony Blair.  
"I think it's an over-reaction," said former England skipper Botham. "Did people complain in 2005 when we won the Ashes? Some people go to bed at 10.30pm tired, other people like to go for a drink."  
However, Hussain said Flintoff's behaviour during the course of a tournament was inexcusable. "This is not the way to behave as an England cricketer."  
Flintoff, 29, captained England to victory in their triangular series final win against hosts Australia last month after Vaughan played just three matches in a tournament also featuring New Zealand because of a hamstringing problem.

Windies talk Super 8

AFP, Kingston



Hosts West Indies could become the first side to confirm a place in the Super Eights at the World Cup, when they face Zimbabwe at Sabina Park here on Monday.  
West Indies had the perfect start to the first World Cup ever staged on Caribbean soil, when they prevailed over Pakistan by 54 runs in the opening match of the competition last Tuesday.  
Events over the last few days, however, will make West Indies aware that they cannot take the Zimbabweans too lightly, or else they may be embarrassed in much the same way Ireland shamed Pakistan on Saturday.  
"Everyone is trying to make a name for themselves so we cannot underestimate anyone," opener and former captain Shivnarine Chanderpaul said.  
"We have to go out and play it hard and take it to the end. We've been doing a lot of work, we're well prepared. We don't know what is going to happen in that game, but hopefully we can go out and get the win."  
The Irish victory on Saturday handed Pakistan their second straight defeat in the competition, following their downfall to West Indies.  
Ireland's win also provisionally puts them in the lead of Group D with three points -- one more than West Indies and two ahead of Zimbabwe (both with a match in hand) -- leaving Pakistan at the bottom of the table with no points.

Pakistan contest their final match on Wednesday against Zimbabwe hoping to finish on a winning note, and the Irish and West Indies close off the group matches on Friday.  
"I haven't seen much of the other matches due to practice and other team matters," Chanderpaul said.  
"You get a chance to watch bits and pieces and there are some good players. We've been hearing a lot of things about some of the guys from the other teams, such as the opener from Ireland (Jeremy Bray) and the areas we need to bowl, and things such as that."  
"We don't know the other players too well, so we have to look at the cricket, even though we do not always have much time to do that, but we are planning and preparing for every game."  
The Sabina Park pitch has been the topic of much consideration, following Saturday's match, but Chanderpaul believes batsmen have to be more patient to score runs.  
"It's not like the Sabina Park pitches in the past," he said.  
"It's not a bad surface. It's a decent track, but you need to work hard on it."  
"It's a bit slow, and the ball stands up a little more. It does a bit but because it doesn't have the pace on it, you can't really go through with the shot, and you have to play a bit more patiently."  
To this end, Chanderpaul feels it will be a little difficult for him to play the kind of dashing innings that he has recently.  
"Sabina is not one of those pitches you can go out and start flinging your bat from ball one," he said.

"Maybe you could go out, and fling from ball one, and get away with it, but it is one of the pitches you need to work on. It's going to take some hard work, and if you get in, you need to stay in, and see the innings all the way through."  
Zimbabwe will have to defy history to overcome West Indies.  
They have never beaten the hosts in a World Cup match in four attempts, and they have also lost the two one-dayers they have contested against them at Sabina Park.  
They should have won their match against Ireland comfortably, but almost lost the match, and had to settle for a tie which may prompt them to make some changes to their line-up.  
**TEAMS**  
**WEST INDIES** (from): Brian Lara (captain), Ian Bradshaw, Dwayne Bravo, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Corey Collymore, Chris Gayle, Kieron Pollard, Daren Powell, Denesh Ramdin, Marlon Samuels, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Lendl Simmons, Devon Smith, Dwayne Smith, Jerome Taylor.  
**ZIMBABWE** (from): Prosper Utseya (captain), Gary Brent, Justice Chibhabha, Elton Chigumbura, Keith Dabengwa, Terry Duffin, Anthony Ireland, Friday Kasten, Stuart Matsikenyer, Christopher Mpofu, Tawanda Mupariwa, Edward Rainsford, Vusumuzi Sibanda, Brendon Taylor, Sean Williams.  
**Umpires:** Brian Jerling and Billy Bowden.

Destination unknown

FROM PAGE 20

here), when they should have beaten us was a fantastic effort, but the way we played in this match was phenomenal.  
"We wanted to bring our A-game to the party and we did that. The fielding was superb. We held every catch."  
"The batting was awesome against a first-class attack on a pitch that was doing stuff. It was a great victory."  
Johnston felt his side's victory would give the game a boost in Ireland.  
"We came here to show people that there is good cricket being played in Ireland and some of the ICC Associate nations," he said.  
"We are just going there to put in a good old fight. I'm sure it's going to life the profile of the game in the country."  
The win over Pakistan put Ireland in the lead of Group D with three points -- one more than West Indies and two ahead of Zimbabwe (both with a match in hand) -- leaving Pakistan at the bottom of the table with no points.  
It also means they are on the verge of qualifying for the Super Eights.

performed in the way that we have. We didn't mean to do it, but all credit to Ireland and good luck to them."  
Woolmer admitted the Sabina Park pitch was difficult, but Ireland bowled well, and Pakistan batted poorly.  
"I thought it was a pitch that evened out the sides, and winning the toss was an important factor," he said after seeing his team dismissed for a meagre 132.  
"I still think we should have scored between 190 and 200 runs against Ireland's attack, we worked really hard in the field -- and nobody can say anything differently -- and had hoped to bowl them out for 90, but Niall O'Brien (72) batted well for Ireland and they reached the target."  
Pakistan face Zimbabwe on Wednesday in their final group match before a long plane ride home.

Joyous Johnston

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India in uncharted area

FROM PAGE 20

team lacked conviction, saying they really worked hard.  
"Maybe, it looked like that from outside. I know we can look back and be very critical. When you lose, you have got to take the criticism," he said.  
"Defending 191 was never going to be easy. We needed wickets at regular intervals and we tried to get those, but we couldn't. The guys tried really hard. It's just that we probably needed 30-40 runs more."  
David also defended his decision to bat first after winning the toss on a pitch which had both bounce and movement for seamers early in the morning.  
"I don't know if we can regret it (the decision). We could have just batted a lot better. The ball did seam around a lot more and for a

bit longer period than we had expected," he said.  
"The wicket had a pretty dry look about it. It looked a good wicket to play on. We should have put runs on the board and make it difficult for them in the afternoon, but it didn't work that way because we lost early wickets."  
The Indian captain conceded that Bangladesh played better cricket on the day, while his team failed to perform up to their potential.  
"They (Bangladesh) are really playing some good cricket. Their bowling was quite outstanding. They bowled really well, especially Mashrafe Mortaza who bowled in good areas with the new ball in good conditions for him," he said.  
"Their spinners then kept it tight and didn't give anything away. They have really improved and are

playing some really good cricket at the moment. We didn't play anywhere near our potential, and we paid the price for it."  
**TEAMS**  
**BERMUDA** (from): Irving Romaine (captain), Dean Minors, Delyone Borden, Lionel Cann, David Hemp, Kevin Hurdle, Malachi Jones, Stefan Kelly, Dwayne Leverock, Saleem Mukkudem, Stephen Outerbridge, Oliver Pitcher, Clay Smith, Janeiro Tucker, Kwame Tucker.  
**INDIA** (from): Rahul Dravid (captain), Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, Robin Uthappa, Yuvraj Singh, Virender Sehwag, Dinesh Karthik, Mahendra Singh Dhoni, Irfan Pathan, Ajit Agarkar, Anil Kumble, Harbhajan Singh, Zaheer Khan, Shanthakumaran Sreesanth, Munaf Patel.

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