



Ireland batsman William Porterfield dejectedly walks back after being dismissed for a duck as West Indies players celebrate during their Group D World Cup match at the Sabina Park Cricket Ground in Kingston on Friday.

LOCAL SNIPPETS

FROM PAGE 20
He made a mockery of the 236-run target set by Batch 04 as his blazing 105 gave his batch the win in only 22 overs. Batch 04, earlier after being put in, notched up a competitive 235-6 in 30 overs.

Shamsher top-scored with 41 while all-rounder Rashed chipped in with 32. Shwapnil and Afwan took two wickets each.

Masud slammed an amazing twelve sixes, most of which landed outside the playing area, and six boundaries. He just took nine singles in his innings that spanned just over an hour.

The previous hundred in the university's in-house cricket competition was scored by Saquib Razzak back in 2002.

NATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP
FIDE Masters Abu Sufian and Taibur Rahman share the top spot with Mohammad Javed in the 33rd National Chess Championship at the federation hall-room.

The trio all have six points each after the end of seven rounds of play with all three men winning their games.

Sonargaon

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Shahriar, who hit a 60-ball 48, smashing seven boundaries after his side lost two wickets on 18.

Hannan Sarker, who played a blazing 64-run knock in the first game, returned for a duck.

In reply, Nazmul Hossain scored 50 off 76 balls while Gazi Salahuddin and Shahnez Kabir chipped in with 42 and 43 respectively but their efforts were not good enough for Victoria to chase down the total as they were bundled out with 19 balls to spare.

BRIEF SCORES
SONARGAON: 248-9 in 50 overs (Al-Shahriar 48, Hannan 0, Arafat 9, Sunny 51, Marshal 67, Nahidul 10, Dhiman 15, Fahim 21, Masudur 10*, Mahbulul 7, extras 10, Kabir 1-48, Palash 1-39, Sabbir 3-54, Sajib 2-36, Kabir 1-46).
VICTORIA: 226 all out in 46.5 overs (Salahuddin 42, Faruque 1, Hasan 14, Mabud 3, Hasanuzzaman 10, Nazmul 50, Sabbir 13, Kabir 43, Palash 10, Humayun 4, Sajib 2*, extras 34, Mahbulul 2-41, Fahim 4-24, Hannan 1-40, Sunny 1-41, Marshal 2-20).
Result: Sonargaon win by 22 runs.



Inzamamul Haq
(Former Pakistan cricket captain)
"It's thanks to Bob Woolmer and we dedicate this win to him. He is not in this world anymore but every Pakistani and every cricket lover is sad about what happened to him."
After beating Zimbabwe in the World Cup.

AFP, Basseterre



Africa chase a world-record target in their last match against Australia in 2006.

"The 438 game was a freak sort of game, and it gave me a little extra motivation, an extra incentive, to maybe explore my talents a little bit further just to see what I could accomplish," Gibbs was quoted by the Sydney Morning Herald in an interview here.

Gibbs hit 175 to help South Africa chase a 435-run target on March 12 last year at The Wanderers in Johannesburg.

Since then South Africa have

Herschelle Gibbs Thursday hoped for an action replay of his monumental knock which helped South Africa chase a world-record target in their last match against Australia in 2006.

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Aus wait on Symonds

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Hussey who has made two and four so far, a run of form which may force Australia to include Symonds.

"There is a possibility that we might name an unchanged team - for Symonds' sake he'd probably hope not," added Ponting.

"It would be nice to welcome him back but we are not going to do that if we don't think he's at the appropriate level to play somewhere near his best, especially when other guys in the team are playing at their peak."

Ponting said his team is looking forward to the highly-charged match.

"It's the number one and number two ranked teams going head to head in the World Cup. It doesn't get much bigger. We've been speaking about this game and waiting for this game to come around for quite a while."

South Africa took the world number one spot last month after Australia lost five of six matches, including 3-0 to New Zealand when Ponting was resting his injured back.

Ponting says he is not concerned if his team was behind in the rankings.

"Now they're the number one ranked team, so they've obviously done a lot of things right in the last two years as well," said Ponting.

"Maybe some of the pressure is on them now, maybe we can go in as the underdogs and let them be the favourites that we've been."

Both teams have been level-pegging in their last ten one-day matches, winning five each. South Africa won the last match by chasing a world record target of 435 runs at Johannesburg twelve months ago.

Asked if world records are at stake again, Ponting replied: "If it's going to happen, it's going to happen on a pitch like this one. I've said that all week, we're going to have to bat well and make a big

score.

"I'm really excited because we're going to see a great game of one-day cricket. Whether it's a 200-(run) game or 400, you're going to see some of the best cricketers in the world.

"I'm very confident that we're going to go out there and play somewhere near our best, and if we do we'll be very competitive."

Ponting agreed injured spearhead Brett Lee will be missed against South Africa.

"Lee is a champion fast bowler and one of the best in one-day cricket around the world, so we know we miss him, he's got a very good record against South Africa, particularly against (South Africa captain) Graeme Smith. But if others bowl well we won't miss him much."

Smith said his team was preparing for a full-strength Australia.

"We've got to plan that he (Symonds) is going to play. It will be interesting to see if they take the gamble on him, that's going to be a risk for them."

"We'll plan that he does play and we'll take it from there," said Smith, whose team also beat Scotland and the Dutch through big margins so far.

"I think both teams are very close. We've come a long way against Australia. I don't think there's that fear factor anymore."

"It's about going out there and performing well. There's a lot of respect on both teams. It's going to be a cracking game and hopefully it lives up to what everybody wants to see."

"We are looking forward to it and I know they are."

SQUAD
Australia (from): Ricky Ponting (capt), Adam Gilchrist, Nathan Bracken, Michael Clarke, Brad Haddin, Michael Hayden, Brad Hodge, Brad Hogg, Michael Hussey, Mitchell Johnson,

on Sunday.

"When we first learnt of Bob's death a wave of sadness washed over the whole of the cricket community," said Speed.

"That sadness has now been replaced with a profound sense of shock at the news that his death is being treated as murder, and everyone connected with this event will assist the police in any way possible to ensure the truth emerges."

World Cup managing director Chris Dehring added: "We have reviewed security arrangements in conjunction with the ICC and local agencies and consulted with all the teams and they have told us they are comfortable with those arrangements."

"On that basis, it is up to the Jamaica Constabulary Force to get on with its job while our focus now is on some great cricket to come."

Brett Lee, Glenn McGrath, Andrew Symonds, Shaun Tait, Shane Watson

South Africa (from): Graeme Smith (capt), Jacques Kallis, Loots Bosman, Mark Boucher, AB de Villiers, Herschelle Gibbs, Andrew Hall, Justin Kemp, Charl Langeveldt, Andre Nel, Makhaya Ntini, Robin Peterson, Shaun Pollock, Ashwell Prince, Roger Umphires.

Umpires: Steve Bucknor (WIS) and Mark Benson (ENG).

Nakib to hang

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club need young blood to rise," he said.

With 107 league goals to his name, Nakib is the third player to have achieved the feat after Kazi Salahuddin and Aslam. He also scored about 40 international goals for Mohammedan, Multijoddha -- the only other club who had his services for five years -- and national team.

The 34-year-old's national career lasted from 1990-99.

"I was a kid when I watched Salahuddin bidh retire from the ground in 1984 during an Abahani-Mohammedan match. He went at the right time. I have been inspired by this."

An avid Abahani fan, Nakib will continue to work with Mohammedan as the club officials announced him as the football team's media manager.

"I will try to serve the club best in my new position," he promised.

Among many rumours being put forward for the killing was that Woolmer was about to reveal all about match-fixing.

But asked if the Pakistan team had discussed the possibility that Woolmer's death might be linked to match-fixing, team spokesman Perviz Mir said: "Absolutely not. The players as far as I know have not spoken about any match-fixing or any match-fixing incident because there is no question of that."

"I think they are more concerned about what has happened to Bob," he told Sky News.

Woolmer was the South Africa coach at the time that former captain Hansie Cronje was bought off by bookmakers in 1996. Woolmer was never alleged to have been involved though.

BCB 'shattered' by Woolmer murder

AFP, Dhaka

Bangladesh's cricket board said Friday it was shocked and distressed after it was announced that Pakistan coach Bob Woolmer had been murdered.

"The news that Bob Woolmer was murdered has shattered us. It is a quite unexpected event which we cannot yet quite believe," board chief executive officer Mahmudur Rahman told AFP.

"Our hearts go out to his family and we hope that the investigation can get to the bottom of his murder so the perpetrators can be punished," he added.

Woolmer, 58, died on Sunday in Kingston, Jamaica, after being found unconscious in his hotel room following Pakistan's surprise World Cup defeat by Ireland.

Jamaican police have said he was strangled, prompting speculation that he might have been killed because he was about to reveal what he knew about alleged match-fixing.

The cricket board earlier this week praised Woolmer, who had coaching stints in Bangladesh in 2003, as a "fine cricketer ... and a top class coach."

'Players are not suspects'

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan's outgoing cricket chief on Friday said the national team are not suspects in the murder of coach Bob Woolmer and suggested the players may themselves be under threat.

Naseem Ashraf, who offered his resignation as Pakistan Cricket Board chairman this week, said there were no restrictions on the players' movements, but that they had been moved to a "secure environment" in Montego Bay "because we were worried about their safety" following Woolmer's death.

"Our main worry and interest at this time is to focus attention on their safety and get them home to their families as soon as possible," he said.

A senior Jamaican police officer

A good week

FROM PAGE 20
Black Caps opener Vincent, who came into Thursday's game on the back of two ducks against England and Kenya, expressed his relief at having finally got off the World Cup mark and avoid any more badgering from his team-mates.

"Three ducks would have been a good start to the tournament," Vincent joked, adding that the 9:30am local starts on moist wickets that offer seam movement made it tricky for the batsmen sent in first.

"Batting in the morning is an important phase to get through," acknowledged Vincent.

"You try to pick the first five or six overs off, you have to keep positive, minimise the damage and score later on."

Canada's Davison, who was eventually dismissed for a sparkling 52, said he was encouraged by his team's performance.

"We went from the word go, it was good," he said. "It was good to actually get a couple to the boundary. It's nice to be able to put the big boys under a bit of pressure."

"Next time hopefully we'll come a bit better prepared. It's just a matter of us getting an infrastructure in place and maybe getting some corporate or government dollars."

Giants out

FROM PAGE 17
prestige is concerned," added the former national footballer.

At the other part of the city, ex-Bangladesh national coach Cruciani was worried about the form of his attack line, who have failed to score so far.

After giving his side a light training at the Abahani's ground in Dhanmondi on the eve of the big match, the Argentine said that he has yet to get his players' full service.

"We have missed a lot of chances. The strikers are not scoring, the midfield is not working, especially at the flanks. But I can ensure that Abul and Ujjal will take the wings today," said Cruciani, who will go with a 4-4-2 formation against the black and whites' difficult five-man midfield which counts on counter attacks.

In spite of his selfishness, Ghanaian attacker Ibrahim will start, meaning the coach will have to drop one of his two holding players in the middle -- skipper Joy or Pranotosh as Abul returns after a one-match suspension.

Still, a lot will depend on the finishing of national striker Emily and his Argentine partner Parodi, who was busy taking freekicks in training.

"From my part, there is no pressure on the players. I have told them to be free and produce their best game. A few good passes and moves, things will start working," said Cruciani adding that he was a bit bothered by the news of a minor injury of defender Caporale, the Argentine who has already proved to be rock solid after his first game.

Colly urges Freddie on

AFP, Gros Islet



winner-takes-all Saturday.

Flintoff was stripped of the vice-captaincy after being one of six England players and two coaches fined for staying out late drinking after the side's six-wicket defeat by New Zealand in their opening group match.

The dynamic all-rounder was also dropped for England's subsequent 51-run win against Canada that got their World Cup campaign back on track.

Now, whoever wins this week-end's match at the Beausejour Cricket Ground, will join New Zealand as one of the two qualifiers out of Group C for the second phase, Super Eights.

"I think Freddie (Flintoff) will respond well, the whole team will," said Collingwood.

"I faced him in the nets the other day and it was proper gas. It was up there. The intensity was there."

"I'm sure when he gets on that park he's going to be desperate to do well on Saturday and that can only be good for the team."

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Paul Collingwood believes Andrew Flintoff will put his off-field problems behind him when England play Kenya in their clash here on Saturday.

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the man in line to captain England should Michael Vaughan, who has suffered with knee and hamstring problems, pull out.

Although Collingwood, who skipped England briefly during some stages of their warm-up fixtures, doesn't have much captaincy experience, he said he would love to lead the team again.

"During 2005, I captained Durham for about five games. Michael is 100 percent fit but if the opportunity came up, I'd love to take it. His cricketing brain is usually a bit better than the rest of ours."

However, Collingwood insisted his focus was firmly on the Kenya match. The shock semi-finalists of four years ago, Kenya know about causing World Cup upsets.

In 2003, they defeated 1996 winners Sri Lanka while, at the 1996 tournament, they beat the West Indies and would love nothing more than to add England to their list of scalps after a 148-run thrashing by New Zealand on Tuesday.

"Our chances are good if we do the basic things right," said Kenya captain Steve Tikolo.

England and Kenya have met just once before, at the 1999 World Cup where England won by nine wickets at Canterbury. Flintoff, the only England survivor from that match, didn't bat or bowl.

Collingwood added: "We know what the Kenya side is all about. From what I've seen, and I've spoken to a couple of Kiwi lads, about them, they've got a few dibbly-

dobblers, not too express.

"They've got basic cricketing talent. They'll put you under pressure, have ring fields against you, and the Kiwi guys said it was very hard to get the pace on the ball."

"We have to overcome that in some way. They do swing the ball a little bit away from the bat, so there's plenty to know before you go into the game."

Collingwood was in superb form with the bat towards the end of England's victorious one-day series in Australia last month, scoring two hundreds and a 70 in three successive matches.

"I just go about my game, I'm never going to smash the ball like Kevin Pietersen or Andrew Flintoff. Once you get ahead of yourself, this game can bite you on the backside," he said.

SQUAD
England (probable): Ed Joyce, Michael Vaughan (capt), Ian Bell, Kevin Pietersen, Pal Collingwood, Andrew Flintoff, Jamie Dailmple, Paul Nixon (wk), Liam Plunkett, James Anderson, Monty Panesar
Kenya (probable): Maurice Ouma (wk), David Obuya, Ravindu Shah, Steve Tikolo (capt), Tanmay Mishra, Collins Obuya, Thomas Odoayo, Jimmy Kamande, Lameck Onyango, Peter Ongondo, Hirin Varaiya
Umpires: Rudi Koertzen (RSA), Peter Parker (AUS).

Wife turned Lou

FROM PAGE 20
fastest-ever World Cup fifty, off 20 balls, from wicket-keeper Brendon McCullum.

"Whenever you've missed out a few times, it's natural to feel that you are not very good but the confidence from the boys around me and the season I've had so far, there's a lot of confidence within my game at the moment so I just knew it would come right if I hung in there and batted some time," explained Vincent, who at the age of 12 moved to Australia before returning to New Zealand.

"When I was about fifty or sixty I felt the pressure release a little bit."

One concern for New Zealand, who rested regular new-ball duo Shane Bond and James Franklin, was the way in which Canada, despite a daunting target to chase, attacked Daryl Tuffey and Michael Mason to the extent that 43 runs came off the first four overs.

The charge was led by Canada captain John Davison, who four years ago scored the fastest World Cup hundred, off 67 balls, against the West Indies.

This time around he made 52 off 31 balls.

Reflecting on another convincing win, after a six-wicket defeat of England was followed by a 148-run success against Kenya, New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming said: "I couldn't really have asked for much more."

"There's no area where we have been found out, no area ticked that hasn't been ticked off. We move away from here pretty comfortable but also pretty confident."

Fleming added Davison was a hard man to contain.

"He's a very good hitter, we've seen

John's talents before. We could have been better, but we weren't as accurate as we could have been.

"The positive out of today is we learned a couple of things, especially about those first two bowlers," he said after Tuffey (none for 40 off six overs) and Mason (one for 49 off six) had born the brunt of Davison's early assault.

Fleming added that Tuffey had sustained an arm injury which prevented him bowling a second spell.

He joined batsman Ross Taylor (capt) and seam bowler Mark Gillespie (shoulder) as fitness concerns for New Zealand heading into the Super Eights.

Khulna Abahani

FROM PAGE 17
the box after Masud Rana's freekick six minutes into the second half but the Khulna outfit took just four minutes to widen the margin when Prashanta scored his second league goal off a pass from Khaled.

It was all over for the Dhaka giants when Abahani attacker Ashiqui drove the ball into the top right corner of goalkeeper Ali from 30 yards in the 71st minute.

Two minutes later, Enock headed in a freekick by Moroccan midfielder Hicham Inani for his second goal, inspiring a late surge by Brothers that bore no fruit.

With their second win in four games, Khulna Abahani climbed to the second place with six points while Brothers stuck to four points after three outings.

NZ coast past Canada

FROM PAGE 20
made in Sunday's 51-run defeat by England and once more they took the game to the last over.

This was a 'dead' match, with New Zealand already through to the Super Eights and Canada unable to qualify for the second phase after losing to Kenya and England.

Vincent, after Davison won the toss, struggled early on against some fine outswinging bowling from former West Indies fast bowler Anderson Cummins.

However, he got off the mark in fine style at the start of the third over when he lofted Cummins for six over extra-cover.

Both Vincent and New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming, who made 66, opened up before a stand worth 142 ended when Fleming chipped left-arm spinner Kevin

Sandher, making his World Cup debut, to Ian Billcliff at mid-wicket Vincent's single off Sunil Dhaniram took him to a hundred off 115 balls with one six and nine fours.

But two balls later Vincent chipped a return catch to off-spinner Davison. McCullum, however, made sure the runs kept coming by lofting Sandher onto the roof of the stand at mid-wicket while Jacob Oram (35 not out) drove Cummins's last ball down the ground for six.

Both batsmen cleared the boundary with ease as 22 runs came off the last over from Sunil Dhaniram, the left-arm spinner conceding an expensive 72 in eight overs.

NEW ZEALAND V CANADA SCOREBOARD

FROM PAGE 20					
CANADA	R	M	B	4s	6s
Davison c & b Mason	52	44	31	9	1
Barnett c McCullum b Vettori	40	93	72	5	0
Bagaib Vettori	37	95	64	3	0
Billcliff b Styris	50	57	56	4	0
Samad run out	9	18	17	1	0
Mulla lbw b Vettori	0	2	2	0	0
Dhaniram retired hurt	17	21	19	1	1
Bhatti b Patel	10	35	28	1	0
Cummins not out	9	20	8	1	0
Sandher b Patel	2	5	6	0	0
Osinde b Patel	0	1	1	0	0
Extras: (b-4, lb-5, w-5, nb-9)	23				
Total: (All out in 49.2 overs)	249				
Fall of wickets: 1-76, 2-110, 3-188, 4-201, 5-206, 6-207, 6-226, 7-245, 8-249, 9-249.					
Bowler	O	M	R	W	Econ
Tuffey	6	0	40	0	6.66
Mason	8	0	60	1	7.50
Oram	7	1	16	0	2.28
Patel	9.2	0	25	3	2.67
Vettori	10	0	57	3	5.70
Styris	6	0	21	1	3.50
McMillan	3	0	21	0	7.00

Result: New Zealand won by 114 runs.
Man-of-the-match: Lou Vincent.
Toss: Canada.
Umpires: Asad Rauf (Pakistan) and B Doctrove.
Match referee: M Procter (South Africa).

It was someone

FROM PAGE 17
murder was carried out by criminals keen to avoid exposure in claims of match-fixing which may have arisen in a book Woolmer was planning to write.

Team spokesman Perviz Mir dismissed such suggestions as "totally baseless and premature" and also stressed that there was no question of the Pakistan team having been detained or prevented from leaving Jamaica.

"It has never been the case that we have been detained or will be detained or anything of that sort," he said.

Woolmer, who played Tests for England, was coach of South Africa when its former captain Hansie Cronje was bought off by bookmakers in 1996.

Asked if the team had discussed such a possibility, Mir said: "Absolutely not. The players, as far as I know, have not spoken about any match-fixing or any match-fixing incident because there is no question of that."

In cricket-obsessed Pakistan, former fast bowler Sarfraz Nawaz said Woolmer had fallen victim to a "gambling mafia."

"Nothing was stolen from Woolmer's (room) except for his diary and papers," he told AFP.

"I am not sure about his laptop. But the diary and the papers could only be of interest to bookie mafia."

Woolmer became coach of Pakistan in 2004 and had talked of the stresses of managing one of the most volatile teams in world cricket.

Last year the team forfeited a Test against England after a ball-tampering row, the first time ever a game had ended such a way, and preparations for the World Cup were badly hit when his two best fast bowlers failed drugs tests.

British police confirmed that they have volunteered to help with the investigation, and retired Metropolitan Police Commissioner Lord Condon is on standby to go to Jamaica.

Lord Condon was commissioned by the ICC to write a report into cricketing corruption in 2001.