



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 SNIPS

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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. Shwani 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 Saqib 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 Shahnewaz 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, Dhami 15, Fahim 21, Masudur 10\*, Mahbubul 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, Mahbubul 2-41, Fahim 4-24, Hannan 1-40, Sunny 1-41, Marshal 2-20).

**Result:** Sonargaon win by 22 runs.



## Big chase in Gibbs's mind

AFP, Basseterre



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.

"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

displaced Australia from their world number one spot for the first time since rankings was introduced in 2002.

South Africa, however, face an uphill task to live up to their top ranking when they face Australia in an explosive contest Saturday, a match which decides who tops World Cup Group A and carry crucial two points into the Super Eights.

Gibbs, who averages a dismal 27 in one-day internationals against Australia and 31 in Tests, admitted he had to overcome the Australian bowlers' stranglehold over him.

"Maybe the mental side of it has got something to do with it," said Gibbs, who has been dismissed 11 times by Glenn McGrath.

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and that is something you can't put a price on.

"There is always a bit of banter that goes on. It is something we have come to expect of Australia but when you have played against them for long enough that's just the way it is."

Gibbs has been in fine form at the World Cup hitting a record six successive sixes in one over against the Dutch last week.

However, the Australians are a different matter.

In 1999, he dropped captain Steve Waugh in a World Cup group match.

"You need a bit of luck to win a World Cup. It's my third World Cup now, and the last two we have been very unlucky. We've got the squad now, and with a bit of luck, who knows what can happen."

## 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."

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, Matthew Hayden, Brad Hodge, Brad Hogg, Michael Hussey, Mitchell Johnson,

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."

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club need young blood to rise," he said.

With 10 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, Muktijoddha—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 bhai retire from the ground in 1984 during an Abahani-Mohammedan match. He went at the right time. I have been inspired by them."

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

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**Nakib to hang**

FROM PAGE 17

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## Cup to go on

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South African bowling great Allan Donald criticised the ICC decision however. "I just don't know how this World Cup can continue under the shadow of what's happened. World Cup 2007 will be forever remembered for this."

Donald, who was a friend of Woolmer and played under him at county level and for South Africa, told BBC radio: "My personal opinion would have been to stop, but knowing Bob he would have wanted to go ahead."

"I think everyone will continue this World Cup but, at the back of their minds, know that a tragedy took place."

The ICC chief executive said the entire cricket world was shocked by the killing of Woolmer, a former England international, who was found unconscious in his hotel room

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."

## 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."

"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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## Colly urges Freddie on

AFP, Gros Islet

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

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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 skippered 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, that got their World Cup campaign back on track.

"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. 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 dubbler, not too express.

"They've got great cricket 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."

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