

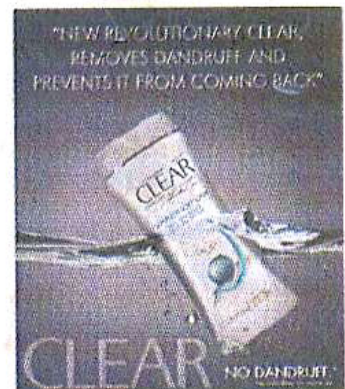
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Did U Know?

Gymnasiums were introduced in 900BC and Greek athletes practised in the nude to the accompaniment of music. They also performed naked at the Olympic Games.



Graeme Swann
(England spinner)
"It's taught me that when I go on tour I have to take two alarm clocks."
Who missed the team bus a couple of times on the tour of South Africa in 2000 and learnt from the experience.



(FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12)
TEN Sports
Pakistan v South Africa
Second Test, Day Five
Live from 11:00 am
ESPN
Sportscenter India
Sports News
Live at 8:30 pm
(SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13)
TEN Sports
Sri Lanka v England
Fifth ODI
Live from 3:00 pm
STAR Sports
England Vs Estonia
Euro Qualifier
Live at 7:50 pm
(SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14)
NEO Sports
India v Australia
Sixth ODI
Live from 9:30 am

Salman fined for slating umpires

AFP, Lahore

Pakistan vice-captain Salman Butt was Thursday fined 50 percent of his match fee for criticising umpiring during the ongoing second Test against South Africa, the ICC said.

"Butt has been charged under level two of the ICC (International Cricket Council) code of conduct for criticising match officials after a hearing with match referee Alan Hurst," said an ICC spokesman.

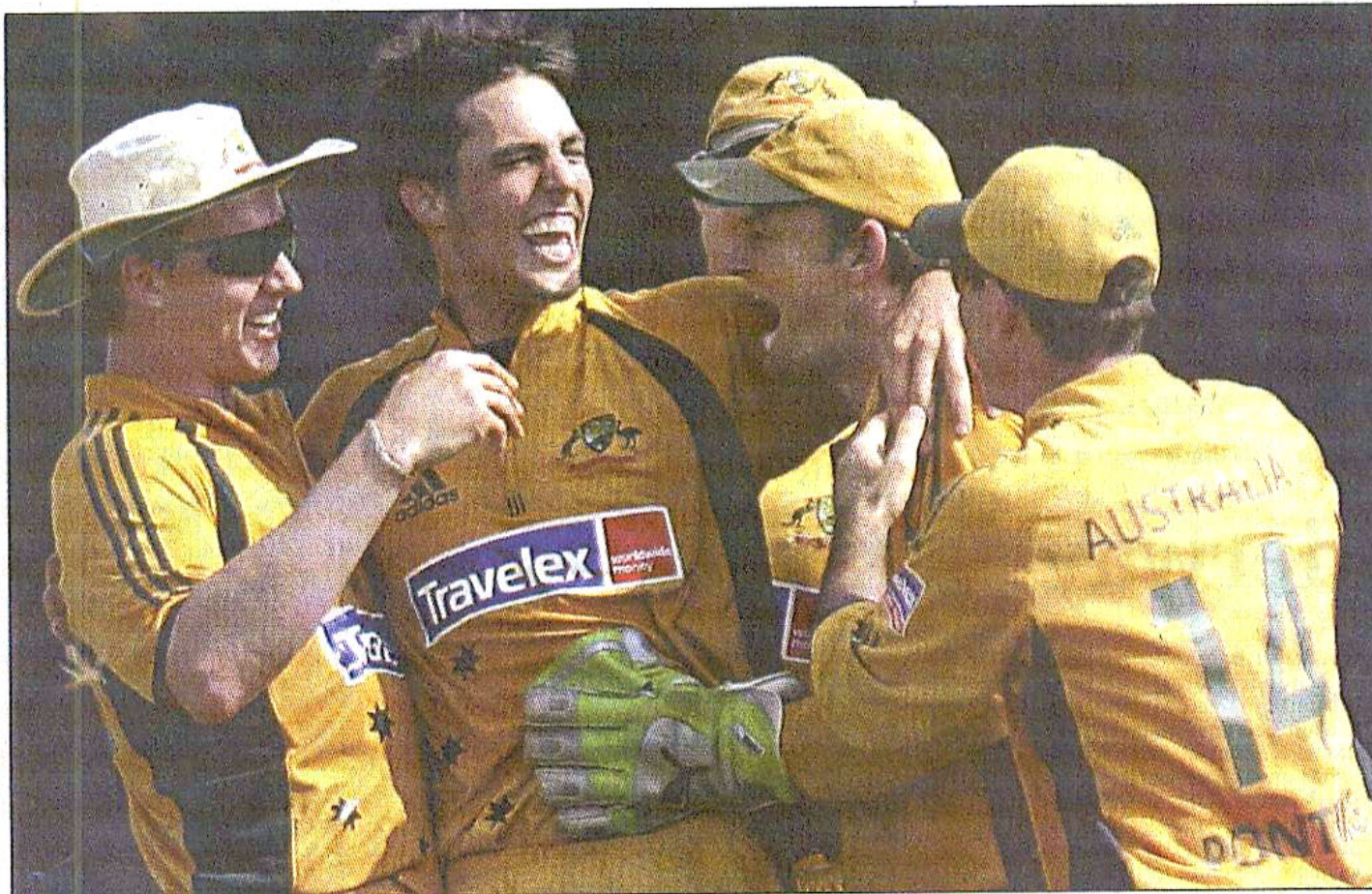
The 23-year-old Butt was summoned for the hearing with Hurst after the fourth day's play on Thursday.

Hurst said: "Butt has been charged under the ICC code of conduct 2.3 which relates to the player publicly criticising or making inappropriate comments on a match related incident or official."

Butt had criticised umpiring in the first and second Test during his post-match comments on Wednesday.

"There have been some decisions where we have been unlucky like, I think, myself in the second innings of the Karachi Test," Butt told reporters on Wednesday of his dismissal three when a bat-pad catch was held at short-leg.

SEE PAGE 22 COL 5



TERMINATORS: Australia fast bowler Mitchell Johnson (2nd from L) celebrates the wicket of India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni with Adam Gilchrist (2nd from R) during the fifth one-day international at the Reliance Cricket Stadium in Vadodara on Thursday.

13-match ban on Akhtar

Cricket

AFP, Lahore

Pakistan banned paceman Shoaib Akhtar on Thursday for 13 international matches and fined him 3.4 million rupees (56,000 dollars) for hitting a teammate with a bat and other offences.

Akhtar faced five discipline charges, including that he struck fellow fast bowler Mohammad Asif on the thigh after team practice in Johannesburg ahead of the inaugural ICC World Twenty20 Championship last month.

The ban, which dates back to matches that the "Rawalpindi Express" missed last month, is the biggest ever imposed on a cricketer at international level, barring previous life bans imposed for match-fixing.

"He has been banned for 13 international matches consecutively -- it will start from the first Twenty20 match in South Africa"

last month, the Pakistan Cricket Board's chief operating officer Shafqat Naghmisaid.

The 32-year-old will be on probation for two years and will face a life ban in case of further disciplinary breaches.

"The incident was very serious and we took the decision after a lengthy debate and hearings," said Naghmi.

The PCB said Akhtar could appeal against both the fine and the ban.

But Akhtar, who was sent home from South Africa after the incident and has missed a string of matches in the past year through injury and indiscipline, said that he would not.

"I want to end this episode here as I am training hard and look forward to playing for Pakistan and helping them win," Akhtar said after the PCB announced the punishment at a press conference in the eastern city of Lahore.

"I have already apologised to Asif, to my team, to my countrymen and to the PCB. It was like a

nightmare and happened in the heat of the moment," he said.

The PCB said Akhtar was charged on three counts relating to the Asif incident: hitting a teammate with a bat, accusing teammate Shahid Afridi of involvement and holding a press conference on the incident.

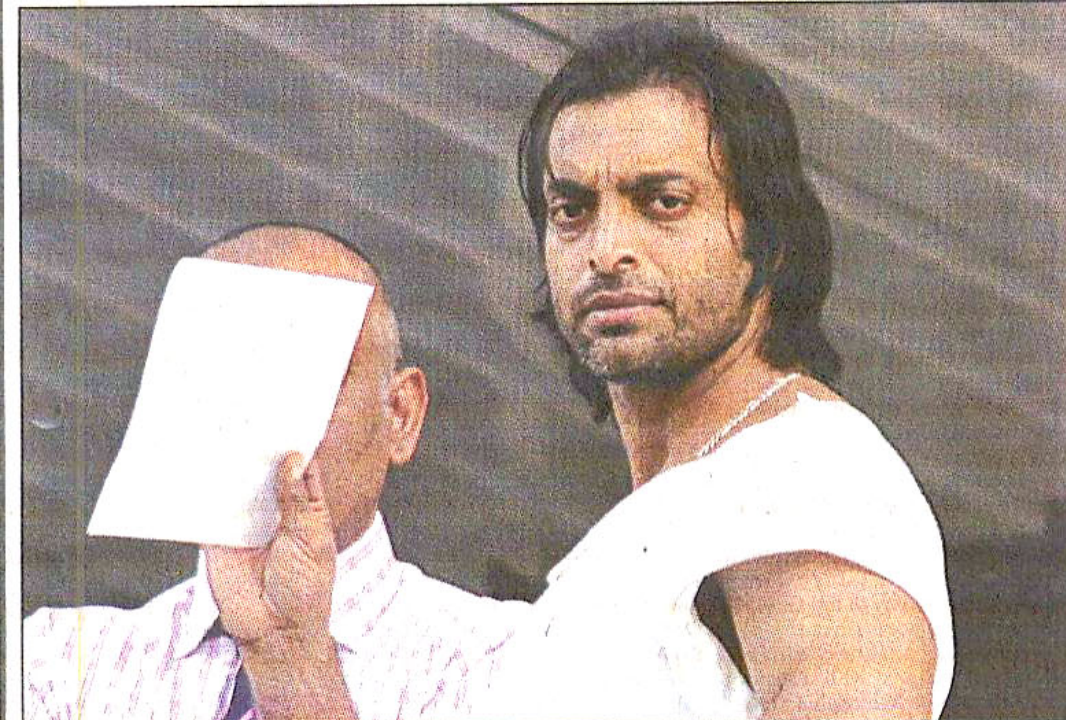
He was also punished for criticising a PCB doping tribunal that banned him last year after a positive test for steroids and for playing a charity match in England without permission in August this year.

The ban includes all seven matches of last month's Twenty20 tournament, the ongoing two-Test series against South Africa and four one-day matches which follow the Tests, Naghmi said.

Akhtar will therefore be available for the last of the five one-dayers against the Proteas to be played on October 29 in Karachi and can be selected for next month's tour of India.

Akhtar earlier blamed teammate

SEE PAGE 22 COL 1



GONE FOR THE YEAR: Shoaib Akhtar gestures after being handed a 13-match ban by Pakistan Cricket Board at the Gaddafi Cricket Stadium in Lahore on Thursday.

'Nothing right for India'

Cricket

PTI, Vadodara

Despite the Indian batting crumbling like a house of cards against Australia in the fifth one-dayer, captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni on Thursday not only refused to blame the batsmen for the defeat but also described them as the best line-up at his disposal.

India were reduced to 43 for five at one stage by the Australian bowlers before the entire team was rolled over for a paltry 148 in 39.4 overs.

"Sachin (Tendulkar), Sourav (Ganguly) and Rahul (Dravid), followed by Yuvraj (Singh), Robin (Uthappa) and me is the best order we have got," Dhoni said after the nine-wicket thrashing.

"If we get good starts then we can accelerate to five or six an over in the last 30 overs," he said.

Dhoni said nothing except toss went right for the Indian team at

the Reliance stadium.

"Apart from the toss, nothing went right for us. We lost early wickets, did not have partnerships as we lost wickets at regular intervals. Sachin (in his 400th ODI outing) was the only one who batted beautifully apart from our last wicket pair (of Zaheer Khan and R P Singh)," he said.

The 25-year-old Ranchi-born wicketkeeper-batsman, however, said the wicket was difficult to bat on and around 220 runs would have been a good total for the team.

Dhoni asked his team to 'forget' the humiliating nine-wicket loss against Australia in the fifth one-dayer and concentrate on the remaining matches of the seven-match cricket series.

"We need to forget this match. We have two more matches to play with our full capacity and for that we have to forget this game," Dhoni said after Indian team was thrumped by the mighty Australians to take 3-1 lead in series.

Dhoni did not give any reasons for the shoddy batting display by the top order batsmen and said 200-220 would have been a good total for the home side.

"Not much went out way other than winning the toss this morning. Only Sachin Tendulkar played there while R P Singh and Zaheer Khan put up a good partnership. I think 200-220 would have been a good total for us," he said.

Dhoni also praised the opposition bowlers' performance as Mitchell Johnson picked 5-26 and Brett Lee returned figures of 2-42.

"They bowled superb under the prevailing conditions. They swung the ball well and bowled in right areas," he said.

Trailing 1-3, India will now travel for the sixth ODI in Nagpur on October 14.

Australian captain Ricky Ponting expressed satisfaction over his team's performance which had come after a defeat in the previous match at Chandigarh.

Tamim called up for U-19s

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh opener Tamim Iqbal was named in the under-19 side that will visit Pakistan on a 20-day tour next month.

The 18-member young Tigers squad, who are set to fly to Pakistan on November 7 and return on November 27, have been requested to join a training camp at BKSP on October 16.

Left-handed opener Tamim is the only international player in the side that also include talented batsman Marshall Ayub and national prospect Dollar Mahmud.

Mahmudul Hasan, who captained the youth side during their Sri Lanka tour this summer, is also included. Batsman Itiikhar Nayeem and bowlers Raihan Anas and Ariful Haq were not included despite travelling to Sri Lanka and Malaysia previously.

SQUAD

Tamim Iqbal, Marshall Ayub, Saikat Ali, Rony Talukdar, Mahmudul Hasan, Ashrafuz Aziz, Nasir Hossain, Nadimuddin, Mithun Ali, Hamidul Islam, Zaid Hossain, Dollar Mahmud, Shuvashish Roy, Gulam Kibriya, Rubel Hossain, Mohammad Shakil, Sohrwardi Shuvo, Taposh Ghosh.

Rezaul cleared, six others illegal

SPORTS REPORTER

The bowlers' review committee of Bangladesh Cricket Academy (BCA) have cleared one bowler but deemed the action of six others as illegal.

Rezaul Karim was the only bowler to be relieved by the advisory group, which met on October 6 to reassess the legality of the bowlers, previously determined as either Grade 1 or 2 in the suspect list from last season, in question.

The group then made recommendations to the board on the status of each bowler deemed to have a suspect action. Penalties for such bowlers will be determined according to the BCA policy on bowlers with suspect action. These Grade 2 bowlers, who were banned from bowling in the 2006-07 season

SEE PAGE 22 COL 1

U-16s eye two wins

SPORTS REPORTER

The national under-16 team are looking forward to win at least two matches in this month's AFC Youth (Under-16) Football Championship qualifiers.

Bangladesh, drawn in Group D, will play five qualifying matches in Abu Dhabi from October 17-30. The 24-member team will fly for the United Arab Emirates on Monday.

"We have trained for over two and a half months for this tournament. The extensive preparation will help us fight against top teams in the group," told coach Jubair Nipu at a press conference at the BFF Bhawan yesterday.

Bangladesh Football Federation president SA Sultan, acting general secretary Manzoor Hossain Malu, team manager Azfaruzzaman

SEE PAGE 22 COL 4

Johnson crushes India

Cricket

AFP, Vadodara

Mitchell Johnson destroyed India with a maiden five-wicket haul as Australia raced to a nine-wicket win in the fifth one-day international here on Thursday.

Australia now have a 3-1 lead overall and need only one more win to clinch the seven-match series, with the remaining two games to be played in Nagpur and Mumbai. The first one-dayer was abandoned because of rain.

India were as good as beaten when they were all out for 148 after electing to bat on a dry pitch, failing to cope with man-of-the-match Johnson (5-26) and paceman Brett Lee (2-42).

Australia finished the match in the 26th over after a brief interruption because of crowd trouble, with some spectators throwing plastic water-bottles onto the pitch.

Wicketkeeper-batsman Adam Gilchrist, who had earlier taken six catches, top-scored for the tourists with a blistering 77-ball 79 not out for his first half-century of the

series.

India skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni made a surprise move to defend his sides' small total when he tossed the new ball to off-spinner Harbhajan Singh and then introduced left-arm spinner Murali Kartik in the eighth over.

But it failed to produce the desired results as Matthew Hayden and Gilchrist put on 54 for the opening wicket to ensure an easy victory. Hayden, batting with a runner because of a strained calf, scored a 39-ball 29.

"It was a very satisfying day for us. All the guys executed their skills very well, especially Mitchell, who is pretty pleased with his first five-wicket haul. He was outstanding with the new ball," said Australian skipper Ricky Ponting.

"We came to India to win all matches, but we have not done that. It will be nice to end the tour by winning the remaining two matches as well."

India earlier found Johnson and Lee too hot to handle as they could not even bat 40 of their allotted 50 overs.

Sachin Tendulkar was the lone specialist batsman to defy the

attack as he top-scored with 47 in his 400th one-day international. But he received support only from Irfan Pathan (26), adding 49 for the sixth wicket.

"We just want to forget this game," said Dhoni.

"Nothing went right for us except winning the toss. I think 230-240 will have been a good score on this wicket but we just did not have enough runs on the board. The start they got with the new ball was a killer for us."

India looked clueless against the quality pace attack and never recovered after losing five wickets for 43 in the opening 10 overs.

Johnson removed three batsmen in quick succession in a sharp opening spell just after India had lost two wickets in Lee's opening over.

India's batting woes began when Sourav Ganguly was run out following a misunderstanding with Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid fell for a first-ball duck in Lee's opening over.

Tendulkar kept the Australian attack at bay before he was caught behind in Lee's second spell. He hit nine fours in his 73-ball knock.

SEE PAGE 22 COL 2

Pakistan fight for safety

Cricket

AFP, Lahore

Pakistan put up a spirited display as they fought to save the second Test against South Africa on the fourth day Thursday.

Kamran Akmal (49) and Younis Khan (48) added 93 runs for the unbroken second wicket to take Pakistan to 108-1 at close, raising the home team's hopes of salvaging the match on the fifth day on a deteriorating Gaddafi Stadium pitch.

Graeme Smith scored 133 for his first hundred in 17 Tests, while Jacques Kallis made an unbeaten 107 to help the tourists declare their second innings at 305-4 -- setting Pakistan a record target of 457 to win and level the series.

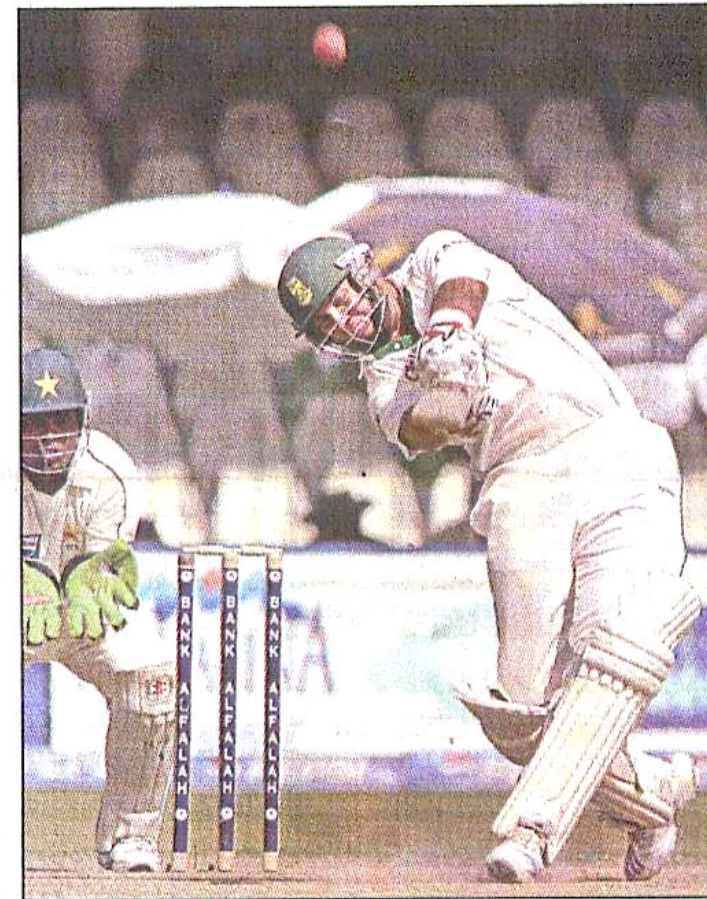
Their efforts put the tourists in complete command to win their first Test series against a major sub-continent team since 2000. South Africa won the first Test in Karachi by 160 runs.

The highest target achieved in a Test is 418-7 made by the West Indies against Australia at Antigua in 2003 -- an indication of the scale of the task the home side face.

Pakistan got off to a bad start, losing Salman Butt (six) in the sixth over of the innings when he edged a Makhaya Ntini delivery to third slip.

But Akmal with seven boundaries and Younis with eight countered the South African attack

SEE PAGE 22 COL 6



OVER THE TOP: South Africa centurion Jacques Kallis lofts the ball as Pakistan wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal looks on during the fourth day of the second Test at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on Thursday.

BNS ROOF COLLAPSE Gen Moeen for tough action

SPORTS REPORTER

Chief of Army Staff and chairman of National Sports Council (NSC) General Moeen U Ahmed has directed the NSC to take the strictest measures against responsible persons and organisations for the press box roof collapse.

The NSC chief visited the site of crash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday afternoon and was shocked at the scene of accident.

He was relieved at the fact that no one was hurt in the disaster.

The roof of the press box collapsed during a rainstorm on Monday night just hours after the end of Bangladesh's 2010 World Cup

pre-qualifier against Tajikistan.

"It would have been a great disaster if it came off in presence of the journalists," he told accompanying officials of NSC and the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA).

"We could have taken immediate action but we want to find exactly what happened and why. This way, the persons responsible for it would be identified," BOA's chief operating officer Col (ret'd) Wali Ullah later told reporters quoting the Army Chief.

The NSC has already submitted the inquiry committee's initial report to Gen Moeen, who has asked for a complete report including the lab test results of materials

of the construction within a week.

It was learned that the report has emphasised on tests of the pipe of the roof and its joints. It also suggested that these tests would confirm the reasons behind the collapse.

The results from BUET, however, would be available after the Eid vacation.

It was also found in the initial investigation that four of the six drainage pipes have been snapped. The design also does not include adequate drainage lines, it added.

Moeen has also asked the NSC to verify whether other sport constructions, hastily made in the past, are dangerous for human life.

SEE PAGE 22 COL 1



NSC chairman and Army Chief Gen Moeen U Ahmed talks with SM Shahidullah Associates, yesterday during a visit to the Bangabandhu National Stadium to see the collapsed roof of the press box.