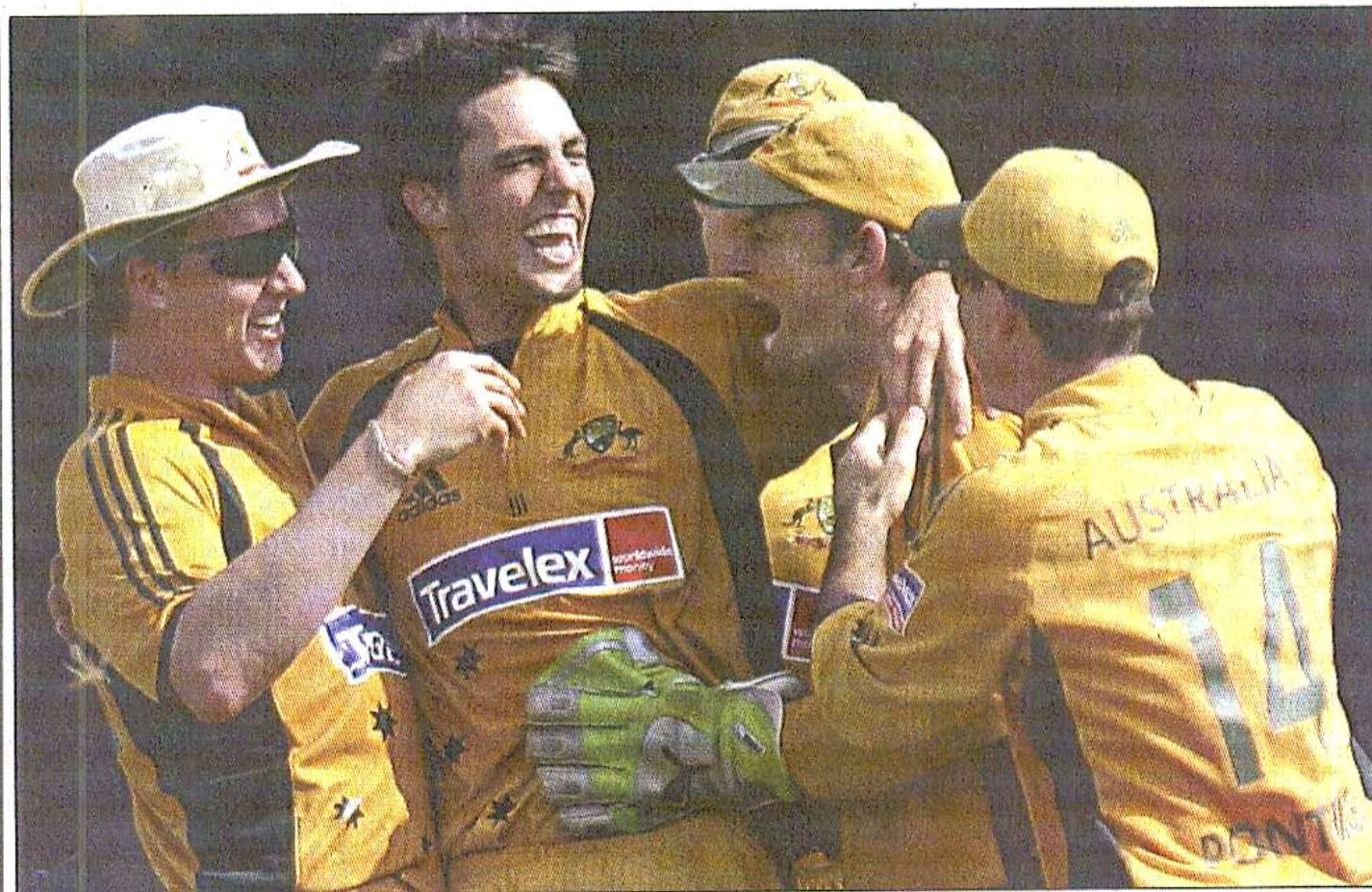
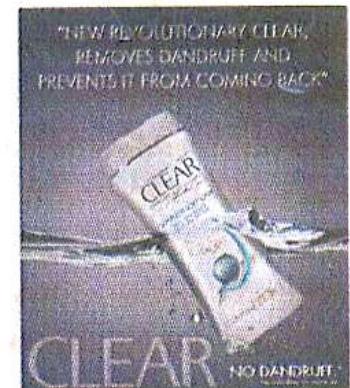




Did U Know?

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.



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, 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.

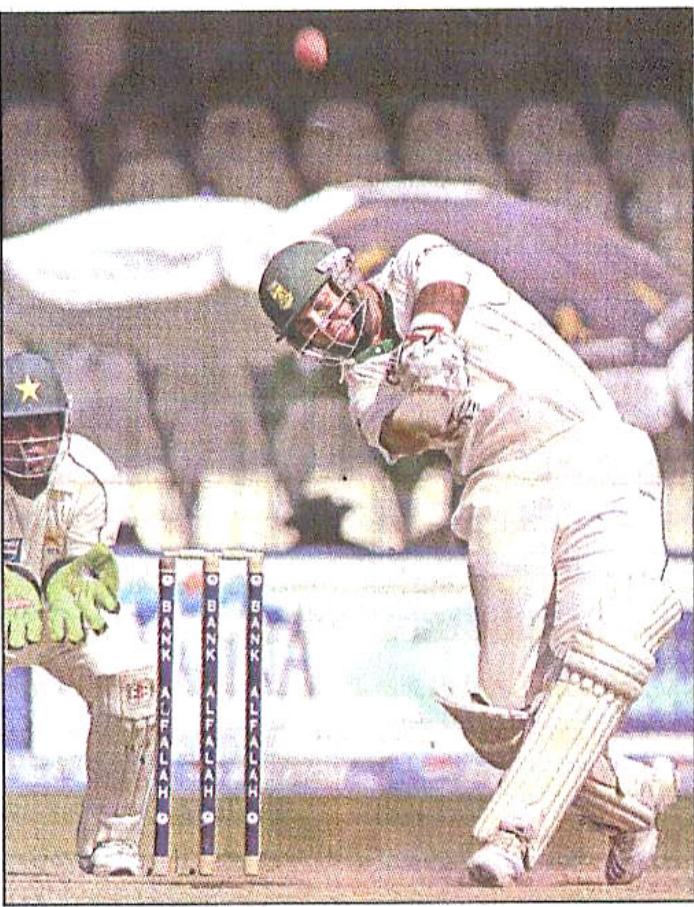
Their efforts put the tourists in complete command to win their first Test series against a major sub-continent team since 2000. South Africa won the first Test in Karachi by 160 runs.

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.

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 indiscipline 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 other offences.

"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 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 Naghmisa.

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.

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SEE PAGE 22 COL 1

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 26.

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 Iftikhar Nayem 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, Roni Talukdar, Mahmudul Hasan, Ashraful Aziz, Nasir Hossain, Nadimuddin, Mithun Ali, Hamidul Islam, Zabid Hossain, Dollar Mahmud, Shuvashish Roy, Gulam Kibriya, Rubel Hossain, Mohammad Shakil, Sohrabwardi Shuvo, Taposh Ghosh.

Rezaul cleared, six others illegal

SPORTS REPORTER

The bowlers' review committee of Bangladesh Cricket Academy (BCB) have cleared one bowler but declared 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 BCB 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

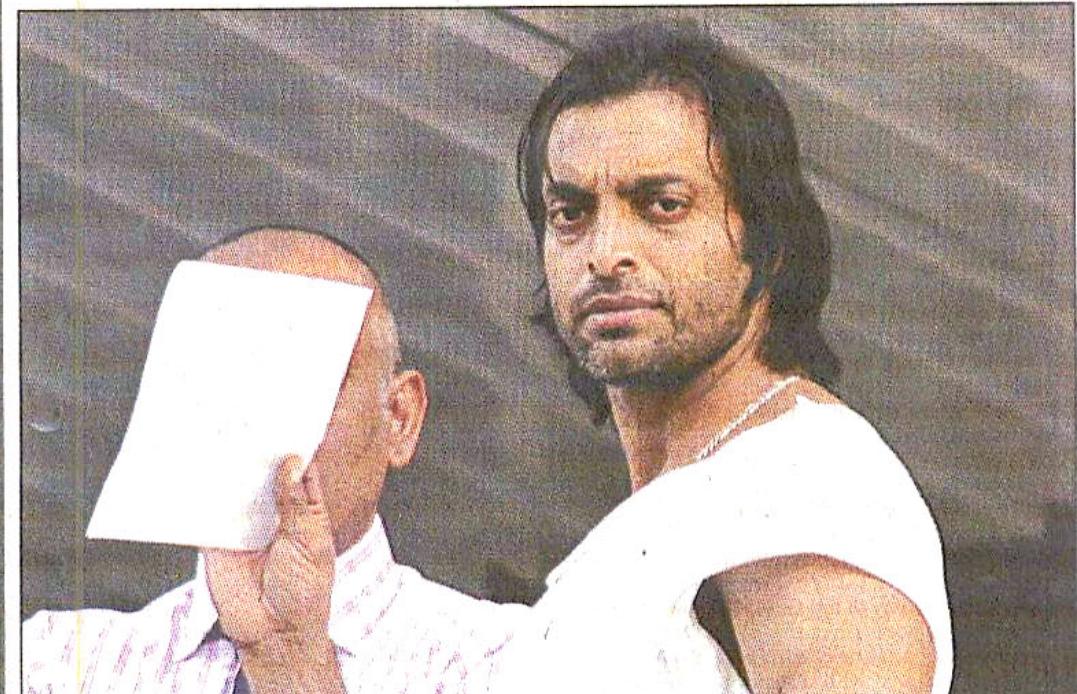


PHOTO: AFP

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.

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 a 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

Nothing right for India'

Cricket

PTI, Vadodara

Despite the Indian batting crumblng like a house of cards against Australia in the fifth one-day, 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 5 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 ninth-wicket thrashing.

"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 thumped by the mighty Australians to take 3-1 lead in series.

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 wicket-keeper-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-day and concentrate on the remaining matches of the seven-match cricket series.

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the Reliance stadium.

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.

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 to 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 Bhaban yesterday.

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

SEE PAGE 22 COL 4

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 the 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

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