



The picture shows a section of fans that turned up the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra to watch the first day's proceedings of the three-day match between visiting Zimbabwe and GP BCB XI. They were however disappointed by both the visitors and the home side with 22 wickets falling for just 281 runs.

PHOTO: HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU

'No signs of Matty going'

CRICINFO, undated

Michael Hussey has seen no signs from Matthew Hayden that he is about to retire and would be stunned if the opener was not part of next month's tour to South Africa.

Hussey was in the dressing room when Hayden returned from his final five-day innings in Australia -- he has talked about bowing out in England next year -- after being bowled trying to heave Morne Morkel over midwicket.

Ctg MSC

FROM PAGE 17 league goal that put the Ugandan beside Russel's Alfaz Ahmed and Mohammedan striker Alamu Bukola as the top scorer.

Mohammedan, however, took the match beyond their rivals as Raphael and Daulat scored in the 43 and 45 minutes. Raphael finished a solo run with a powerful angled drive for his fifth league goal while Daulat headed in a centre by Jitu to make it 3-1 on stroke of half-time.

Six minutes after resumption, Jitu drove in a left-footed shot after Ridon cut the ball back from the flank.

Rahmatganj struck again in the 63rd minute when Zakir stunned the opposition goalkeeper with a dipping volley from 40 yards but they conceded another ten minutes from time when Doe completed the rout.

Siddons gives no excuses

FROM PAGE 17 when they needed to build up the innings at least to take the match into the fifth day and Bangladesh captain Mohammad Ashraf said that it was not possible for them to survive against this attack without playing shots.

"Obviously there was a pressure with the huge target and the spinners also got assistance from the pitch. Our plan was to play session by session but we failed to do that. It was actually difficult to survive especially against (Ajantha) Mendis without playing shots."

Despite the most terrible 465-run defeat, Bangladesh skipper saw improvement in his side's performance.

"Congratulations to Sri Lanka. We missed too many chances after the first session on the first day. The wicket was a little slow and it suited them and they have two world-class spinners. We played good cricket in the last Test and are improving. Our main target is to play good cricket and hope we can continue it," said Ashraf.

Army calls for calm

CRICINFO, undated

Steve Harmison has become the first England squad player to speak out on the rift between Peter Moores and Kevin Pietersen, urging the pair to sort out their differences for the good of the team.

Often happier to stay away from media attention, Harmison said the issue is not about individuals and any split in the camp will tear the team apart.

"They have got to get their heads together and have a chat and sort out the issues," he told BBC Sport. "It's about the England cricket team -- not Peter Moores or Kevin Pietersen."

"It's not ideal at this moment in time because we are at the start of an Ashes summer and we don't want it to go on and on with what we've got coming over the next nine months. They will come and go like all other players, but they have got to be in harmony because otherwise they will drift the team further apart."

Djokovic sent crashing

AFP, Brisbane

Little-known Latvian Ernests Gulbis sent top seed and world number three Novak Djokovic crashing out of the first round of the Brisbane International here Tuesday.

Gulbis outplayed the inconsistent Djokovic to notch up a 6-4, 6-4 win in 90 minutes and open up the top half of the draw.

Djokovic's woes were in stark contrast to the performance of second-seeded Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who cruised to a 6-2, 7-5 win over Agustin Calleri of Argentina.

Djokovic, who defeated Tsonga in the final of last year's

teams. Support for Pietersen has come from Mick Newell, the Nottinghamshire coach, who was involved when Pietersen fell out with the county in 2004 and moved to Hampshire.

Newell said that the divide between captain and coach will be hard to mend now that the row has become so public. "You want to be backing the captain but you set a very dangerous precedent if you over-rule the coach to give the captain what he wants," he told the Press Association. "It would be better to get an agreement between them and get on with it but it being in the public domain now makes that more difficult."

"It's Hugh Morris' job to mediate in all this but, with the stage at which this is at, there does not appear much way back," he said. "Kevin is our best player by a long way, not only the captain, so it's a very difficult situation."

"We have had things like this at county level several times in the last few years but never at the very top."

Australian Open, never looked comfortable at the centre court of the new Queensland Tennis Centre. He only arrived in Australia on Saturday and said his lack of practice along with a change of rackets had contributed to the loss.

Manilal

FROM PAGE 17

world football governing body will give financial assistance to build the Bangladesh Football Federation an artificial football pitch.

They are also expected to discuss about the Football Academy to be built in Barisal under FIFA's tsunami fund.

Nat'l tennis

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Pimon, who represented the Bangladesh national tennis team twice in the Davis Cup, emerged champion in the Agartola Open in 2007 and 2008. The national age group champion was also an ITF junior world ranking player.

The youngest was the eldest son of businessman Selim Tarafder and Papi Selim, president of Tangail Theatre and member of Central Committee of Bangladesh Group Theatre.

The executive committee of Bangladesh Tennis Federation and players expressed their deep sympathy to the members of the bereaved family and prayed for the peace of the departed soul.

Dilshan

FROM PAGE 17

when we were 4 for 75 and that is something we encourage the boys to do, to be the best they can. I am very proud of the players. We are a good unit and we have very good standards. We just need to continue working hard and improving. At the moment we are 4th in the rankings and we should try and push ourselves further up," Jayawardene hoped.

The captain also had a word of support for the fans who had turned up to watch them play.

"The people here have been brilliant, and the support we've got from the Sri Lankan students here in Chittagong has been really good."

He also pointed out the reasons behind the Bangladesh batsmen's failure in this surface after their good show in Dhaka.

"This is a tougher wicket. It's slower and has less pace and bounce than Dhaka. The game plan has to be different here because playing shots is not so easy. Our guys adjusted to according to the game plan. They could not," he observed.

He was also not concerned about his poor showing in his 100th Test match, instead saying that the team outcome made him happier.

"I am not concerned as long as we win matches," he concluded.

Twenty-two

FROM PAGE 17

Dabengwa 2, Cremer 6*, Price 0, Mupariwa 0, Rainsford 0; Sajidul 5-14, Rubel 1-46, Nazmul 4-28) and second innings 133-2 in 33 overs (Masakadza 55*, Sibanda 5*, Matsikenyeri 42, Taibu 19*, Nazmul 1-18, Saqlain 1-35).

GP-BCB ACADEMY: First innings 59 all out in 23.4 overs (Jahurul 0, Faruque 6, Mithun 3, Nayeem 8, Marshall 18, Kamrul 12, Saqlain 0, Sajidul 5, Nazmul 2, Rubel 0, Raihan 0*; Rainsford 3-27, Mupariwa 2-18, Chigumbura 3-7, Masakadza 1-5).

Man-of-the-match: Tillakarathne Dilshan. Man-of-the-series: Tillakarathne Dilshan.

early in the second set it was no surprise when the Latvian broke back immediately and went on to take the match.

"I was thinking throughout the match that I could break him any time because his first serve was a really low percentage age today and I had my chances with his second serve," Gulbis said.

The 53rd-ranked Gulbis said although the result was one of his best, he had played better in the past without success.

"I've had some beautiful losses -- many of them," he said. Tsonga raced through the first set against Calleri, barely breaking a sweat, but went off the boil in the second as the Argentinian came back into the match.

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Just didn't show that today (Tuesday)," he observed.

"There are no excuses for the performance today," he said. He hoped that these guys will do better when they got the experience and that's why everybody should show their patience.

"They are getting there and I would love to do this all over again in two years time with the same guys and I can assure you that we'll be a much better team," he said when asked about recent criticism about the Bangladesh's Test status.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fourth day of the second and final Test between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium on Tuesday: SRI LANKA: First innings 384 (Dilshan 162; Shakib 4-109)

BANGLADESH: First innings 208 (Mashrafe 63; Mendis 4-71) SRI LANKA: Second innings (overnight 296-4) Warnapura lbw b Shahadat 27 P Jayawardene c Shakib b Ashraf 28

Was 8 3 16 1 Fernando 12 4 36 1 Mendis 15 4 57 3 Samaraweera lbw b Shakib 27 Muralidaran 10 0 30 0 Dilshan 4.2 1 10 4 Result: Sri Lanka won by 465 runs and clinched two-Test series 2-0.

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Vettori wants adding third Indian Test

AFP, Wellington

New Zealand cricket captain Daniel Vettori said Tuesday he is excited by the prospect of adding a third Test to India's tour starting in March.

Ratnakar Shetty, chief administrative officer of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), confirmed Monday that India had asked New Zealand to schedule an extra Test to offset losses after the cancellation of India's matches against England and Pakistan.

A spokesman for New Zealand Cricket said Tuesday a decision on India's request was likely to be made this week.

Vettori said a third Test would make a series result more likely.

"I'm pretty excited," he told reporters. "I think most players have been crying out for that third test match style series."

"It gives an opportunity for one team to win the series and probably makes it a little bit more interesting."

"The fact it's India, and the fact they're one of the best teams in the world at the moment... I think everyone would love to make it happen."

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world football governing body will give financial assistance to build the Bangladesh Football Federation an artificial football pitch.

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And Neil McKenzie and Amla saw play through to the close to set up an intriguing final day.

South Africa coach Mickey Arthur said that his team have not given up on the possibility of snatching a dramatic last-day win.

"I think all three results are

still possible and that's got to be good," said Arthur.

"We're still going to play it hour by hour. If we can get ourselves to tea then (we'll) have a look."

"If we are unscathed at tea time then we'll be ready to launch a proper assault."

"There is a dressing room full of guys that don't want to give an inch. The guys have given their all and have been absolutely amazing for 14 days and none of us want to end up losing the last Test match."

Smith is unlikely to bat after breaking his hand in the first innings but he could feature at a later stage in the day if he is required.

"If there is one over or two overs to see out to draw or one or two required to win, I think we're going to need a chain to chain him down in the dressing room," added Arthur.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day of the third and final Test between Australia and South Africa at Sydney Cricket Ground on Tuesday: AUSTRALIA: First innings 445 SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 327 AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Hayden b Morkel 39 Kitchin lbw b Steyn 61 Ponting b Morkel 53 Hussey not out 45 Clarke c Amla b Harris 41 Extras: (b-8, lb-9, nb-1) 18 Total: (For 4 wickets decin 67.3 overs) 257 Did not bat: Haddin, McDonald, Hauritz, Johnson, Siddie, Bollinger. Fall of wickets: 1-62, 2-134, 3-181, 4-257.

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Three Bangladeshi stars on Cricinfo Awards list

Cricket

Graeme Smith, Virender Sehwag, Sachin Tendulkar, Ajantha Mendis and Dale Steyn were the cream of the crop in the nominations for the Cricinfo Awards, which recognise the best performances in Tests and ODIs in 2008.

South Africa were clearly the best Test team of the year with a 11-2 win-loss record, and that dominance is reflected in the nominations, with four out of ten shortlisted batting performances. Their captain leads the way: Smith has been nominated for both his match-winning centuries in fourth-innings run-chases -- an unbeaten 154 against England at Edgbaston and 108 against Australia in the astonishing Perth win. JP Duminy, who showed remarkable skill and poise in scoring 166 in Melbourne, and AB de Villiers are the other two South Africans. Virender Sehwag is the only other batsman with two nominations in this category, for his double-hundred in Galle and the utterly spectacular 83 against England in Chennai, the only non-century in the shortlist.

With 74 wickets in 13 matches Dale Steyn towered over the rest of the bowlers in Tests in 2008, which is reflected in the nominations: he gets two mentions in the shortlist of 11, including one for the fiery burst which destroyed Australia in Melbourne. Bangladesh lost all their Tests except one this year, but they did have individual performances to celebrate, and two of those -- Shahadat Hossain's 6 for 27 against South Africa and Shakib Al Hasan's 7 for 36 against New Zealand -- make the cut.

If South Africa lorded the Tests, then India were arguably the best ODI side of 2008, winning 19 games, including series wins in Australia and Sri Lanka. Four of the 11 batting nominations, and three out of 10 bowling ones, belong to them. Tendulkar's 117 and 91 in back-to-back finals of the CB Series are both in the list, as are Yuvraj Singh's two hundreds in successive games against England. Among the bowlers, Mendis steals the show with two nominations, including one for his extraordinary spell in the Asia Cup final, when his 6 for 13 ripped out a strong Indian batting line-up. Overall, India lead the way with 11 nominations, while South Africa, England and Sri Lanka have six each.

The 11-member jury, which includes Ian Chappell, Tony Greig, Darryll Cullinan, David Lloyd, Ramiz Raja and Sanjay Manjrekar, will vote on these performances to decide the winner from each category. The final results will be declared next week.

The Cricinfo Awards for best performances in a year were introduced in 2007. In its inaugural year, Kumar Sangakkara and Zaheer Khan won the Test awards in batting and bowling, while Adam Gilchrist and Lasith Malinga were the ODI stars.

Test batting: the nominees Kevin Pietersen, Ross Taylor, Virender Sehwag, Graeme Smith, Simon Katich, Sachin Tendulkar, AB de Villiers, JP Duminy.

Test bowling: the nominees Dale Steyn, Shahadat Hossain, James Anderson, Ryan Sidebottom, Monty Panesar, Stuart Clark, Ajantha Mendis, Andrew Flintoff, Harbhajan Singh, Shakib Al Hasan.

ODI batting: the nominees Jamie How, Yuvraj Singh, Salman Butt, Sanath Jayasuriya, Yuvraj Singh, Sachin Tendulkar, Shivnarine Chandernagout, Shakib Al Hasan, Chamara Kapugedera, Jacob Oram.

ODI bowling: the nominees Ajantha Mendis, Stuart Broad, Brett Lee, Zaheer Khan, Ishant Sharma, Tim Southee, Nuwan Kulasekara, Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Praveen Kumar.

Tricky final day at SCG

FROM PAGE 17 Clarke was nonchalantly caught in the deep by Amla of the bowling of Paul Harris -- and his dismissal brought about the declaration, leaving South Africa with their target of 376 from a minimum of 116 overs.

The Proteas sprung a surprise by opening with Morkel, who lamely chipped a delivery to Mitchell Johnson at mid-on to hand Doug Bollinger his first wicket at Test level.

Amla survived a scare when wicketkeeper Brad Haddin was unable to take a difficult chance wide to his right.

And Amla had to take evasive action when a delivery from medium pacer Andrew McDonald hit a crack and climbed alarmingly.

The batsman showed superb nerve and composure to drive the next delivery to the boundary.

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Bangladesh Olympic Association secretary general Kutubuddin Ahmed releases balloons to mark the inauguration of the Metropolitan Table Tennis League at the Woodenfloor Gymnasium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Rotation 37 White who played 55 Nevertheless 24 Hang 11 stat Steve 25 Oxen's burden 4 Squabbles 39 Historical 1 Malay prince 27 Gumbo 8 Head 40 Period 2 Blueprint 28 Trans- 12 Foreman 41 Those with no 4 Drives away 29 "Are You 13 Talk in verse chance 4 way Smarter Than a 14 Small for 5 Over- weight 5th 15 Hot parole 6 Triumphed 7 Spidee 43 Ceremony 17 November 48 Window- blind 8 Hut 32 Glass network 18 Tall 50 Contem- porary 10 Sodom- evacuee 36 Melodic 19 Infinitesimal 51 Iowa city 11 Raw rock vacuum 21 -- de- France 52 Sch. 16 Wanted- poster 33 Glich 22 Math shop 53 Moggin orders 54 Mysteri- 20 Listener 38 Incite 29 Favoring our 23 Hodge- 39 Actress 30 Toltstoy or character 31 String in- struments 32 Go up and down 33 Founder 34 Shape 35 Driver's license 36 Battery terminal Solution time: 25 mins.

Cryptogram puzzle: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55