## Aussies' consolation win

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Australia dismissed South Africa for 272 with only 10 balls remaining to win an entertaining third and final Test and avoid a series whitewash.

Graeme Smith, returning to bat with a broken finger, fell to Mitchell Johnson to hand the hosts victory on the fifth and final day of the match at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Wednesday, although the tourists won the series 2-1.

The tourists started the day needing 314 to pull off an unlikely result but lost quick wickets.

Peter Siddle was man-ofthe-match with Smith named man-of-the-series.

Australia's victory meant that they retained their position at the top of the International Cricket Council's official Test rankings.

The South Africans had already clinched the threematch series after winning the first two Tests in Perth and Melbourne and began the fifth day on 62 having lost Morne Morkel on Tuesday.

The first session did not go as planned for the tourists with Neil McKenzie falling with the total only moving forward by six runs. Jacques Kallis then fell for just four and Hashim Amla went for 59.

AB de Villiers showed some resistance with a solid 56 but was eventually bowled by Extras: (b-8, lb-9, nb-1) Siddle, leaving his side on a Total: (For 4 wkts dec in precarious 193-7 at the tea 67.3 overs)

over 17 overs, adding a fabulous 50 runs for the ninth Fall of wickets: 1-62, 2-134, 3wicket, before Dale Steyn was removed lbw by Andrew McDonald for 28.

This set up a dramatic Ntini finale as South Africa tried to cling on for the draw with Smith, not having played since retiring hurt with a broken finger and troublesome left elbow in the first innings, deciding to bat.

Smith entered the arena with 7.2 overs left to a standing ovation from the SCG crowd and survived for 17 balls before falling for three to Mitchell.

Man-of-the-match paceman Siddle ended with match

#### figures of 8-113. SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the third and and South Africa at Sydney Cricket Ground on Wednesday: AUSTRALIA: First innings 445 SOUTH AFRICA: First innings

AUSTRALIA: Second innings 257 for 4 decl.

SOUTH AFRICA: Se	cond
innings (overnight 62 for	1)
Hayden b Morkel	39
Katich lbw b Steyn	61
Ponting b Morkel	53
Husseynotout	45
Clarke c Amla b Harris	41

Did not bat: Haddin Makhaya Ntini held out for McDonald, Hauritz, Johnson, Siddle, Bollinger.

181, 4-257. Bowler Steyn

66 Morkel 10 5 13 Kallis 20.3 1 63 Harris SOUTH AFRICA: Second

innings McKenzie c Hussey b Bollinger 27 Morkel c Johnson b Bollinger 0 Amlac Katich b Hauritz Kallis c & b McDonald DeVilliers b Siddle Duminy lbw b Johnson Boucher lbw b Siddle

Harris lbw b Siddle Steyn lbw b McDonald Ntini not out Smith b Johnson Extras: (b-12, lb-18, w-4, nb-2, pen-5)

Total: (All out in 114.2 overs) Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-68, 3-91, final Test between Australia 4-110, 5-166, 6-172, 7-190, 8-202, 9-257, 10-272. Bowler OMRW Siddle 27 12 54 Bollinger 21 5 53 Johnson 23.2 7 49

> Result: Australia won by 103 runs. Man-of-the-match: Peter Siddle.

McDonald 13

Hauritz

Clarke

Man-of-the-series: Graeme Smith.

6 32

28 10 47

# Captain courageous

### Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

South Africa skipper Graeme Smith revealed why he changed his mind and decided to bat with a broken hand in the final Test defeat against Australia Wednesday.

The tourists came within 10 balls of drawing the third Test in Sydney but Smith's wicket sealed Australia's win.

"I decided I was going to give it a go and give it my best shot and if I got a first-baller or whatever at least I tried," the captain said.

"It was about getting out there and doing the best you can." Smith, who broke his left hand in the first

innings and was also nursing an injured right elbow, batted at number 11 as the Proteas went close to achieving a memorable result. South Africa had already won the series and

the captain, along with tail-ender Makhaya Ntini (28 not out), held Australia at bay for 29 minutes in Sydney before being bowled by Mitchell Johnson.

The wicket gave Australia the 103-run win and Smith added: "I didn't really expect to go out.

Deep inside I didn't really want to get out there. I probably decided 25 overs out, 26 overs out I was going to bat. I arrived here without any kit and had some pants I'd shoved into my

cricket bag to protect my bats. "I stole a shirt off Jacques (Kallis) and a around in Melbourne as well.

pullover off Harry (Paul Harris) that still had his hamburger stain on the front left side of it. I had Morne (Morkel) dressing me and putting my shoes on and pads.

"Obviously there's a lot of pain. Once one ball hit the bat I thought 'OK, that's one out the way'. I told myself 'just keep watching the ball

and hoping that it hits the bat the whole time'." Following their wins in Perth and Melbourne, South Africa took the series 2-1 and Smith admitted they could have sealed the clean sweep.

"We had our opportunities in the game early on," he said. "We dropped our catches for the first time in a long time and it probably cost us the game.

"It was part of a great series, this finish, and it sets up a terrific home series in South Africa." Australia captain Ricky Ponting believed his team deserved the victory and reflected on the positives despite the series defeat.

"It's been a really rewarding period for the young guys in particular," said Ponting. "I'm very proud of the way we bounced back.

"It's always hard coming back in a series when you're 2-0 down and have probably been in positions in the first two games that you could have won Test matches as well.

"It says a lot about the character of the side to get back up off the canvas and put up a performance like we have this week.

"But you've got to give South Africa some credit for the way they did it in Perth with the run chase and the way they turned things

## Nadal thrashes Santoro



AFP, Doha

Rafael Nadal needed little more than three-quarters of an hour to score his first victory on the 2009 ATP World Tour, his crushing success appearing like an omen of yet further triumphs to come.

The Wimbledon, French Open and Olympic champion won 6-0, 6-1 against Fabrice Santoro in the first round of the Qatar Open, overwhelming the oldest man on the tour with his heavy hitting and relentless energy.

Santoro, a 36-year-old former Davis Cup hero who is playing his last, and a reduced, season, made his first appearance on Wimbledon's centre court only six months ago, and was now playing his first match against the mighty

He may have wished he

It was not till the ninth game that the clever Frenchman won one, and all his slices, variations of pace and tactical subtleties created little distraction for the muscular Spaniard. Fully 51 of the 66 points in the match were won by Nadal.

being on the other side of the net against Nadal," said Santoro generously.

Roger Federer missed volleys advanced.

Malinga. He was picked up

from nowhere after topping

the speed gun in a pacer hunt

programme and quickly

under-19 World Cup team and

climbed through the ranks.

FROM PAGE 17

playing against him, something I previously couldn't understand," he added, referring to the deceptive weight of shot which Nadal creates, rather than the speed of hitting.

Nadal was pleased to win so quickly. "I hope to do that," he said, unconcerned at the brevity of the match practice.

"With my topspin, his ball is not the worst one for me. When he plays slice, that's a good ball for me."

Nadal felt pleased to have played such a close match in the exhibition final against "It was really impressive Andy Murray in Abu Dhabi on Sunday, even though he lost it, believing that his preparation for the Australian Open in 12 "Now I understand why days time is now further

### AFC to help

FROM PAGE 17 the activities of the BFF's 8month old new executive committee.

"So far we are satisfied with the BFF activities. I have come to see their 2009 planning and what we can do to help them achieve their goal. That is the purpose of my visit.

"We are intending helping Bangladesh little more than we have done before. We'll discuss about further help to BFF, and it depends on what they want. Definitely we like to see Bangladesh succeed and we will help them achieve it."

Manilal will visit BKSP tomorrow to see how the youth training is going on and also take ideas as Sri Lanka is likely to build a sports institution following this model.

With the prospect of a third 'Goal project' coming to Bangladesh in the future, BFF president Kazi Salahuddin said he was interested in increasing facilities, not buildings.

"Basically all we need is academy, institution or school type training grounds. We don't need buildings, we need grounds and proper training facilities," he said.

"We have discussed about the next project but the problem is the FIFA will give one by one. So, I have placed a request for the third goal project after the Barisal centre is done. They have made commitment -- direct or indirectly -- that we will get it. They are happy that football has started in Bangladesh and appreciate that.

"The cost to build the turf has increased by 90,000 to 1 lakh dollars and now we have to find our sources."

### **NSC** receives

FROM PAGE 17

coaches will arrive soon. Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) president Kazi Salahuddin and other

officials were also present. "I believe that giving these footballs to the NSC will serve the purpose of the game. If the BFF had these, we would have done the same to spread the game into the far corners of the country," said Salahuddin.

### Emily on fire

FROM PAGE 17

Emeka was unfortunate, once again failing to get a touch to Ibrahim's pass from the left, but Emily provided a chance for the Nigerian who weaved through the left side and drilled in a low drive to stun Nahid at his near post in the 48th minute.

Five minutes later, Emeka snatched possession from an opponent, exchanged a pass with Ibrahim, dribbled past a defender and the outrushing goalkeeper to make it 6-0.

Waly Faisal rattled the sidebar in the very next minute but the hosts lost their appetite. Emeka was substituted on the hour and the others did not press for any more.

Run ragged by their mighty opponents, Khulna Abahani came close to a consolation goal midway through the second half but their promising striker Pashbon, who raced past two defenders to get inside the Abahani area, saw his placing shot blocked by Biplab.

Abahani had won their first-leg match 3-0 in Dhaka. Although that match was supposed be held in Khulna, the venue was shifted due to the interest of the national team for their Merdeka Cup preparation.

### **TEAMS**

ABAHANI: Biplab, Siraji Nazrul, Samad, Waly, Abul, Joy (Pranotosh), Mamun, Emeka (Tipu), Ibrahim (Pradip) and

KHULNA ABAHANI: Nahid, Hamid, Hadiuzzaman Shahin, Milon, Shahidul Ashigul, Selim, Saifullah (Ranjit), Manjurul (Tariqul) and Pashbon.

# Kiwis level with Windies

Cricket

AFP, Wellington

Skipper Daniel Vettori took four cheap scalps as New Zealand crushed the West Indies by seven wickets to Wednesday.

Vettori finished with 4-20 from 10 overs in the third of the five-match series after the hosts skittled the West Indies for 128 in 41.4 overs at Westpac Stadium here.

"It was set up by the bowlers first and foremost and the wicket obviously had a little bit in it but in the end it was a very comfortable victory and a very happy dressing room," Vettori

New Zealand initially stuttered in the run-chase, losing the wickets of Brendon McCullum, Jesse Ryder and Jamie How in the space of six runs to be 40 for three after 7.2

But Ross Taylor made an unbeaten 51 off 50 balls including five fours and three sixes, supported by Daniel Flynn's 23 not out in an 89-run partnership that propelled New Zealand to 129 in just 20.3

The pair started shakily with two difficult catching chances missed and an unsuccessful caught-behind appeal off Taylor, where replays suggested the ball may have brushed his glove on the way through to wicketkeeper Denesh Ramdin.

But they settled into a solid partnership which stood in contrast to the rash shotmaking of the first three batsmen and most of the West Indies lineup.

Only batting star Shivnarine Chanderpaul showed any serious resistance with 45 in the West Indies innings.

At one stage the visitors looked unlikely even to break 100 when they collapsed to 74 for eight but number 10 Nikita Miller, unbeaten on 25, combined with Chanderpaul and Fidel Edwards to avoid total humiliation. Vettori did the damage to

the lower half of the West

removed the openers and dressing room by Ramnaresh from match officials. finished with two for 31 from Sarwan, who edged Southee to his 10 overs.

Fellow opening bowler Tim Southee also chipped in with two for 36 from his 10 overs.

level the one-day series 1-1 on bowl to the middle order as became Mills's second victim, me to attack a bit more and take struggling at 35 for three. those wickets," Vettori said, praising Mills and Southee.

> departure of the top of the the ball onto his pads. West Indies order.

How for five.

Chris Gayle looked to be the best hope of getting the tour-"It always helps when you ists back on track but Gayle opposed to the top and the edging a slower ball onto the

Vettori claimed two wickets to finish with three for 25 off in his first two overs, although Vettori won the toss and the second, an lbw decision chose to bowl first in overcast against Kieron Pollard, conditions, and his decision appeared lucky with replays was vindicated by the speedy showing the batsman nicked

An angry Pollard broke a Opener Xavier Marshall window pane and dented a departed for a duck in the first door in the players' tunnel over, edging Mills to Jamie with his bat as he returned to

Indies order and he was com- How at second slip. He was the dressing room, but plemented by Kyle Mills, who soon followed back to the escaped any punishment

Jerome Taylor and Daren Powell also fell quickly to Chanderpaul and captain Vettori, who dismissively pointed to his head after Powell was bowled taking a wild swing at a ball which kept

low and straight. Powell later made some platform they set up allowed stumps on 18 to leave his team amends with the ball, taking all three New Zealand wickets

#### SCOREBOARD

his seven overs.

Scoreboard in the third oneday international between New Zealand and the West Indies at Westpac Stadium on

Wednesday: WESTINDIES Gayle b Mills Marshall c How b Mills Sarwan c How b Southee Chanderpaul lbw Ryder Findlay b Southee Ramdin Ibw Vettori Pollard lbw Vettori Taylor c Taylor b Vettori Powell b Vettori Miller not out Edwards c How b Patel Extras: (lb-3, w-3, nb-1)

Total: (All out in 41.4 overs) 128 Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-15, 3-35, 4-55, 5-56, 6-58, 7-70, 8-74, 9-101, 10-128. Bowler Mills Southee Oram Elliott

Vettori Patel Ryder **NEW ZEALAND** Ryder c Miller b Powell McCullum c Sarwan b Powell How c Taylor b Powell Taylor not out Flynn not out Extras: (b-4, lb-4, w-14, nb-1) Total: (For 3 wkts in 20.3 overs) 129 Did not bat: Oram, Elliott,

Vettori, Mills, Southee, Patel. Fall of wickets: 1-34, 2-34, 3-40. Bowler Edwards 0 53 Powell Taylor Miller Gayle 0.3 0 11 0 Result: New Zealand won by 7 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Daniel Vettori.

Toss: New Zealand

CRICINFO, undated

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) was expected to clarify later Wednesday the happened but it's obviously situations of both their captain, Kevin Pietersen, and the coach Peter Moores, after a dramatic day in which both men are believed to have tendered their resignation.

The morning's revelations left the ECB in complete turmoil, following the emergency board meeting that took place on Tuesday evening to discuss the rift in the leadership of the team.

In a brief statement, however, the ECB insisted they have "no knowledge" of the dual departures, although they have admitted that Pietersen was unhappy to tour West Indies under the current management structure. A full statement is expected later on Wednesday afternoon.

The 12-man board met by teleconference on Tuesday night, raising the possibility that Pietersen would pay the price for his outspoken views on the future direction of the England team.

### Rajshahi atop FROM PAGE 17

CHITTAGONG-SYLHET

Left-armer Kamrul took out the Sylhet top three before adding three tail-ender wickets to finish with the best one-day bowling figures of the season. Chittagong batted first and

made 207-6 from 30 overs after the match started more than three hours late due to a wet pitch at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. Ashraful Hossain blasted 66 off 68-balls with eight boundaries. Sylhet had little chance in

the face of Kamrul's spell and

(Nasir 73\*, Shahin 65; Azim 2-Result: Barisal won by four wickets. CHITTAGONG: 207-6 in 30

overs (Ashraful 66, Sajjadul

SYLHET: 180 all out in 26.5 overs (Rezaul 32, Saikat 33; Kamrul 6-47). Result: Barisal won by four wickets.

37\*: Monir 1-28)

# ECB to clarify KP resigns

international in Wellington yesterday.

"I don't know what has something Kevin feels very England are due to stage an

Ashes series against Australia later in 2009 and Middlesex captain Udal added: "It's a huge year and to have such turmoil just a few weeks away from going to the West Indies is far from ideal." Pietersen was handed the

forms of cricket, in August after 2005 Ashes-winning skipper Michael Vaughan's emotional departure as Test captain and the announcement that Paul Collingwood would not continue to lead the one-day team Pietersen's first match in full

Africa in the final, 'dead rubber Test at The Oval before overwhelming the Proteas 4-0 in the ensuing limited-overs series. However, it was a different story during a controversial

week in Antigua which culminated with England being thrashed in the climax of the 20 million dollars Stanford Super Series Twenty20 event. Pietersen, who had minimal captaincy experience at senior

tour of India after the Mumbai terror attacks.

But on the field, England failed to defend a 387-run target during the first Test against India in Chennai.

Reports then emerged that Pietersen, whose field placements were criticised, had been unhappy with the quality of the tactical input he had received from Moores, who himself never played international cricket.

Many pundits said that in a head-to-head power struggle between the duo, only Pietersen had a chance of coming out on top.

"If you are asking me who is more important, Kevin Pietersen or Peter Moores, then there is only one winner and that's Kevin Pietersen," former England captain Nasser Hussain told Sky last week.

## Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 17 third tier teams of the continent are due for 2010 but the qualifiers are expected to start in March-April this year.

Bangladesh were ousted from the quarterfinals in 2006, did not make the finals last year and playing the qualifiers England job, won widespread at home would give the praise for his off-field work national team a good chance when the squad resumed their to be in the real show.

# Visitors in full

FROM PAGE 17

60-run stand he had with Taibu. The diminutive righthander made 70 off 90 balls laced with seven boundaries, a perfect practice ahead of the more demanding one-day internationals.

Taibu praised his side's bowlers and said that the batsmen have improved. "The wicket was difficult in the first innings but we have improved in the second. Hamilton Masakadza batted well and so

"But the bowlers have done well, particularly (Ray) Price and (Tawanda) Mupariwa," said Taibu.

Nazmul picked up four wickets while left-armer Saglain Sajib had two.

BRIEFSCORES ZIMBABWEANS: First innings 89 all out and second innings 273 all out in 65.2 overs (Masakadza 66, Sibanda 5,

Matsikenyeri 42, Taibu 70,

Williams 6, Chigumbura 8, Dabengwa 6, Cremer 0, Price 27\*, Mupariwa 11, Rainsford 7; Sajid 1-60, Nazmul 4-49, Saglain 3-62, Raihan 2-44). GP-BCB ACADEMY: First innings 59 all out and second innings 107-8 in 41 overs (Jahurul 1, Faruque 4, Kamrul

31, Nayeem 36, Marshall 8,

Saqlain 0, Mithun 5\*, Sajidul 6,

Nazmul 0, Rubel 0\*; Rainsford 1-

27, Mupariwa 3-21, Price 4-21).

### Akhtar awarded Pak contract

AFP, Lahore

Pakistani fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar won back his central after a bitter row threatened to end his troubled career.

Akhtar, 33, who played just three Twenty20 internationals last year, was among 26 players awarded annual contracts and will receive 250,000 rupees (3,500 dollars) a month plus match fees.

Danish Kaneria, Shahid Afridi, Kamran Akmal, Shoaib Malik, Misbahul Haq, Salman Butt, Umar Gul. CATEGORYB

Yasir Hameed, Faisal Iqbal,

Mohammad Hafeez, Sohail

Tanvir. CATEGORYC Rao Iftikhar Anjum, Abdur Rehman, Yasir Arafat, Fawad Alam, Khurram Manzoor, Saeed Ajmal, Sohail Khan, Wahab Riaz, Samiullah Khan Niazi, Sarfraz Ahmad, Nasir Jamshed, Umar Amin, Azhar Ali.

# Riyad, Enamul recalled

the Bangladesh A sides mainly

who has recovered from a due to the surprise factor and finger injury. While Shakib will his raw pace. be a regular feature, the other "Rubel has performed well contract on Tuesday, returning all-rounders' slot will be for the under-19, Academy to the international fold a year | fought between Mehrab, and Bangladesh A side and

> ing action, much like Sri the steady paceman takes the the highest wicket-taker in this Lanka's sensation Lasith place of the fiery Shahadat year's National Cricket League, Hossain.

> played last year. The coaching staff wanted a steady and Suhrawardi Shuvo but could-After playing a season of accurate bowler and Nazmul n't find a spot for him as in club cricket, he was in the fitted the bill. also made it into the GP-BCB means out of our plans and we skilled players," added the

domestic cricket will be beneficial for him at this stage and I am sure he will be back in the national side soon," Rafiq added. The decision to take

Suharwardi Shuvo, who was was also in consideration but "Shahadat had been rather missed out on experience at expensive in the ODIs he theinternational level.

"We also thought about Rivad, Mehrab and Nayeem "He (Shahadat) is by no we already have three multi-National Cricket Academy and believe that returning to former national batsman.

New Zealand skipper Daniel Vettori celebrates after dismissing

West Indies' Denesh Ramdin (not in picture) in the third one-day

FROM PAGE 17

shocked. It's all very, very sad. strong about."

England captaincy, for all

charge saw England beat South

level before being handed the

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MY UGLY BOOKCASE. MY NEIGHBOR CRIED "YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOUR SHELF!" Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AFTER LOOKING AT

#### of hatred only Saikat Ali made a Nayeem and Riyad. one's 52 Shrewd quickfire 33 off 22 balls as they 14 Pay Enamul, who played all three been impressive in the domes-31 Mel of 15 Majority 54 Opulence own "Nayeem is fit as he is ticfirst-class level also. of his career ODIs against folded for 180 in 26.5 overs. Coopers-8 Pack sentiment 55 Orna-BRIEF SCORES playing in Bogra and Mehrab "He has extra pace and a Zimbabwe, was a relatively town quantity 16 Initial has been doing well. He has deceptive slingshot action. He KHULNA: 161 all out in 43.3 easier call for the selectors 9 Metropolis 33 Commonstake flower since the left-armer will take scored against New Zealand is an attacking bowler and overs (Tushar 51, Sahagir 29; VIP 56 Washing-17 Memo and South Africa. He didn't get Sanjamul 3-15, Alamgir 2-37). comes in for Sajidul Islam who the place of the suspended English 10 Andy's ton city acronym RAJSHAHI: 165-7 in 38.3 overs buddy word a fifty here (against Sri Lanka) was in the Test squad and is Abdur Razzak. 57 Sabers' 19 Curvy 34 Chart (Hamidul 47, Farhad 22; 11 Ltr. cousins character but he looked good," added more of a longer version "We don't have (Abdur) format deliverers Murad 4-38). 20 Grand the former national cricketer. Razzak at the moment so we bowler," said Rafig. 12 Hot tub 39 Autom-DOWN CATEGORYA Result: Rajshahi won by three story Among the four fast men, Nazmul did not play any needed a specialist backup. aton 18 Type of 1 Drudge 22 Ander-Shoaib Akhtar, Younis Khan, wickets. Rubel is the new face. The matches in the last one-day Besides Enam's record against 41 Woodtriangle 2 Fails son's DHAKA: 187 all out in 50 overs shop youngster who hails from series played by the Tigers (in Zimbabwe is very good 21 The to be "High -(Shamsur 56, Javed 32; Bashar machine Raven\* 24 Erstwhile 3 Check Bagerhat is renowned in the South Africa last year). indeed," said Rafiq. 5-46). 42 Hunkyversifier recipient acom cricketing circle for his sling- According to the chief selector, BARISAL: 188-6 in 48.4 overs 43 Met 27 Vaccine