



HE DIDN'T LIKE IT: Australia captain Ricky Ponting (C) puts on a stone face as England's 12th man Bilal Shafayat (L) crosses him with a pair of gloves in an apparent attempt to delay things in the middle during the tense final session of the first Ashes Test in Cardiff on Sunday.

Ponting not happy

Cricket

AFP, Cardiff

Australia captain Ricky Ponting slammed England for a lack of sportsmanship after a controversial conclusion to a dramatic drawn first Test here at Sophia Gardens.

Ashes-holders Australia were poised to go 1-0 up in the five-Test series before England's last-wicket duo James Anderson (21 not out) and Monty Panesar (seven not out) held out for the final 40 minutes to salvage an unlikely draw.

But twice during the 10th wicket pair's 69-ball stand, England 12th man Bilal Shafayat ran onto the field to offer Anderson batting gloves while physio Steve McCaig was eventually ordered off by the umpires after making it to the middle on the second occasion.

During the last Ashes series in Britain in 2005, which England won 2-1, Ponting became incensed at the hosts tactic of bringing on a 12th man just to give their fast bowlers a breather.

And he let fly on his way back into the pavilion at then England coach Duncan Fletcher after he was run out by substitute fielder Gary Pratt during Australia's fourth Test loss at Trent Bridge even though, on that occasion, fast bowler Simon Jones was off the field with a genuine injury.

Ponting kept his anger in check this time around but made his feelings plain to reporters after stumps.

"I don't think it was required. He [Anderson] changed [gloves] the over before," Ponting said. "I don't think they'd be too sweaty in one over."

Daily Star

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at the STM Hall failed.

The five minute recession until the lights were back to speed proved to be a vital flaw as the Daily Star lost all momentum and conceded to further goals on the counter attack to effectively bow out from the meet.

In other games, RahimAfroz and Radio Foorti fought their way to a thoroughly entertaining 2-2 draw while Nokia were inspired in their 7-3 hammering of Westin.

However, the biggest winners of the evening were undoubtedly hosts Ascent Group who blanked Securex 10-0.

Brac Dairy upstaged Flora Telecom 5-0 in the day's other game.

Newcastle

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Charlie Chawke, one of the members of the Drumaville consortium which took over at Sunderland three years ago, revealed Sunday that he was trying to put together another group to take over Newcastle.

However, it is understood that consortia from Malaysia and America remain the favourites.

Harper says it is vital to end the uncertainty: "At the moment, the club is not rebuilding - it is in a state of limbo and it is not good for anyone."

"We just want to get this club going back in the right direction and the situation is very, very frustrating for all of us."

Ballack

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behind Liverpool, who had a strong season.

"There are a few moments which decide every champion ship but we are confident it will be different next time. We have a very experienced squad."

Chelsea are expected to further strengthen their squad before the traditional curtain-raiser of the FA Community Shield against United at Wembley on August 9.

The Blues head out to the United States on a four-match tour later this week, by which time they hope the future of skipper John Terry, currently subject of interest from cash-rich Manchester City, will be resolved.

LOCAL SNIPPETS

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A total of 72 children are participating in this event, which will end on July 17th. The event is sponsored by Multi Securities and Services Limited.

DC GOLD CUP

Naogaon Zila Dal thrashed Thakurgaon Zila Dal with a 7-1 victory at the Deputy Commissioner Gold Cup Soccer tournament held in Gaibandha stadium on Monday.

Santo of Naogaon netted four goals while Rana scored two. Arif scored the only goal in favour of Thakurgaon.

Today's first semi-final will

be held between Joypurhat and Dinajpur.

DU CHESS

The Dhaka University Inter-Department Chess Tournament '09 was inaugurated at Munir Chowdhury Conference Center on Monday. A total of 20 teams will be participating in this event. The tournament was inaugurated by Dhaka University Vice Chancellor AASM Arefin Siddique.

Standard Chartered Chess

The games of the 11th Standard Chartered School Chess Tournament will start from today at N.S.C. Tower Auditorium Lounge. A total of 240 students are participating in the event including four players from Nepal and eight players from India. The event will be held in a nine round Swiss-League system.

The Press-briefing ceremony of the event was held yesterday at the N.S.C. Conference-Room.

Tournament Committee Chairman Syed Shujauddin Ahmed, Bitopi Das Chowdhury, Head of Corporate Affairs of Standard Chartered Bank and Mr. Md. Haroon-Ur-Rashid, Chief Arbiter of the event were present in the press briefing.

were 221 for eight and the game seemingly over.

The sight of Australia spearhead and left-arm quick Mitchell Johnson bowling wides with the new ball gave England fans hope that the draw, which had seemed for beyond their side's reach at 70 for five, was coming into view.

England, at lunch, had been 102 for five.

Collingwood's promising stand of 57 with Andrew Flintoff ended when England's 2005 Ashes hero opened the face of his bat against Johnson and was caught low down at second slip by Ponting.

Earlier, star batsman Kevin Pietersen had taken his overnight score from three to eight when, trying to leave a delivery from Hilfenhaus, he got into an awkward position and was bowled off-stump.

Off-spinner Nathan Hauritz, a ball after being cut for four by Strauss, got a delivery to turn and bounce away from the left-hander who edged behind as he attempted another cut and was well caught by wicketkeeper Haddin for 17.

England, already in trouble on their overnight score of 20 for two, were now, at 46 for four in dire straits only for the most unlikely batting heroes to deny Australia victory.

Australia's progress was first checked Sunday by a determined eighth-wicket stand of 62 lasting 81 minutes between Collingwood and Graeme Swann.

But when Swann -- who made 47 not out in the first innings -- was plumb lbw to Ben Hilfenhaus for 31, England

day of the first Ashes Test between England and Australia at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff on Sunday:

ENGLAND: First innings 435 (Pietersen 69, Collingwood 64, Prior 56; Johnson 3-87, Hauritz 3-95)

AUSTRALIA: First innings 674-6 declared (Ponting 150, North 125 not out, Katich 122, Haddin 121, Clarke 83)

ENGLAND: Second innings (overnight 20-2)

Strauss c Haddin b Hauritz 17

Cook lbw b Johnson 6

Bopara lbw b Hilfenhaus 1

Pietersen b Hilfenhaus 8

Collingwood c Hussey b Siddle 74

Prior c Clarke b Hauritz 14

Flintoff Ponting b Johnson 26

Broad lbw b Hauritz 14

Swann lbw b Hilfenhaus 31

Anderson not out 21

Panesar not out 7

Extras: (b-9, lb-9, w-4, nb-11) 33

Total: (For 9 wkt in 105 overs) 252

Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-17, 3-31,

4-46, 5-70, 6-127, 7-159, 8-221,

9-233

Bowler O M R W

Johnson 22 2 44 3

Hilfenhaus 15 3 47 3

Hauritz 37 12 63 3

Clarke 3 0 8 0

North 7 4 14 0

Katich 3 0 7 0

Result: Match drawn.

Man-of-the-match: Ricky Ponting.

Final scoreboard on the fifth

Andrew is experiencing soreness and swelling in the knee which he twisted while in the field and he will be reassessed by the medical staff over the next 48 hours leading up to the Test match on Thursday," he added.

"All the batsmen looked exceptionally good and the bowlers toiled hard on a surface that offered nothing. We've got to realise how well we've played."

Qasim new Pak chief selector

AFP, Lahore

Pakistan on Monday appointed former left-arm spinner Iqbal Qasim to chair its cricket selection committee responsible for both senior and junior affairs.

Pakistan last month disbanded its selection committees following the resignation of senior election committee chairman Abdul Qadir, who cited interference in his work by the national coach, captain and others.

Following that resignation, former captain Wasim Bari was appointed to act as a one-man interim committee to select the 15-man squad to tour Sri Lanka.

Pakistan's team are currently in Sri Lanka, where they are playing the second of three Tests, ahead of five one-day internationals and one Twenty20 international.

"Qasim will be heading a five-man selection committee," the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said in a statement.

The other members were named as Salim Jaffer, Ijaz Ahmed, Mohammad Ilyas and Azhar Khan, with Asif Baloch and Farukh Zaman as co-opted members.

The 55-year-old Qasim, who played 50 Tests for Pakistan in the 1970s and 1980s, served as a member of the selection committee between 2005 and 2007.

The junior selection committee was previously headed by former Test all-rounder Ilyas.

The PCB practice of employing paid selectors since April 2007 has now been rescinded and there are reports in the local media that the new selection committee will be honorary.

This was in stark contrast to what transpired before lunch, when Bangladesh made steady progress to reach 109 for one, after they had continued from their overnight total of 26 without loss.

Tamim and Kayes formally took Bangladesh to the lead -- after they had been 109 for one, after Austin delivered a no-ball in his

Hauritz would do it too

outbowled at Sophia Gardens by the England spin duo of Graeme Swann and Panesar.

But Hauritz was the most successful bowler in the first Test, taking six wickets for 158 runs from his 62.5 overs. By contrast, Panesar and Swann had combined figures of one for 246 from 73 overs.

Hauritz was pleased with his haul although the 27-year-old, who has never taken five-wickets in an innings in his first-class career, was savvy enough to know it was unlikely to silence his detractors.

"I think I'll always be written about to be honest. Every game I play in, I'm always going to be Shane Warne's successor."

Hauritz, one of eight frontline slow bowlers used by Australia since leg-spin legend Warne retired from Test cricket in January 2007, had been widely panned ahead of the Ashes opener.

Former Australia captain Ian Chappell damned Hauritz as a "containing bowler" and said of his selection: "Containers are a blessing in the shipping industry, but not a priority when choosing frontline Test bowlers."

And Hauritz gave his critics in Australia and England plenty of fresh ammunition by taking only two wickets for 260 runs in the two warm-up matches before the first Test.

"I didn't give myself much chance of even playing this game (the first Test) at one stage," reflected Hauritz, who, after making his Test debut in India in 2004, joined state side New South Wales when the Wondai-born bowler found he could no longer secure a place in his native Queensland team.

Cricket

AFP, Cardiff

Australia's Nathan Hauritz said he would have done all he could to count down the clock if he'd been in England's position after a row over time-wasting soured the climax to the drawn first Test.

England's last-wicket pair of James Anderson and Monty Panesar batted out the final 40 minutes here on Sunday in a stand spanning 69 balls as they secured a thrilling draw and kept the five-match Ashes series all square at 0-0 heading into Thursday's second Test at Lord's.

But their efforts were interrupted by the England 12th man twice going out to the middle late on in what seemed a blatant delaying tactic and a ploy labelled "pretty ordinary" by Australia captain Ricky Ponting.

However, Hauritz said: "At the end of the day they had to last and they faced out the overs. It's dead and buried."

"You are playing for your country to win the Ashes. I don't think anyone expects it to be easy and yesterday wasn't easy," he also told reporters at the squad's hotel here Monday.

"If it was me in that situation I wouldn't be facing up as quick every ball. They did their job."

"If I'm in that situation, if I call for gloves they won't care."

The match was something of a personal triumph for off-spinner Hauritz.

It was widely forecast he would be

sixth over.

Tamim then reached his 50 from 72 balls, when he turned a delivery from Sammy into mid-wicket for a single.

But soon after Kayes was caught at extra cover driving at a flighted ball from Austin about an hour before lunch.

After the interval, Tamim and Siddique batted through the entire afternoon session to carry Bangladesh to 200 for one at tea with both reaching their milestones.

After the break, Bangladesh looked to increase the tempo of their scoring, but they lost Tamim caught at mid-on about 20 minutes after the break.

Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day of the opening Test between West Indies and Bangladesh at the Arros Vale Sports Complex in Kingstown

on Sunday:

BANGLADESH: First innings 238 (Mashrafe 39; Roach 3-46)

WEST INDIES: First innings 307 (Phillips 94; Mahmudullah 3-59, Rubel 3-76)

BANGLADESH: Second innings (overnight 26-0)

Tamim c Dowlin b Bernard 128