

**Captain, coach upset over fixing claims**

CRICINFO, undated

The allegations of match-fixing by the head of Pakistan's national parliamentary committee on sports, Jamshed Khan Dasti, has prompted strong reactions from the team's captain Younus Khan and coach Intikhab Alam.

Both have strongly denied that the ICC Champions Trophy matches against Australia and New Zealand were fixed and expressed disappointment that these accusations were made without solid proof.

"It came as a shock to me that such allegations have been made without any evidence or concrete proof to back them up," Younus was quoted as saying in the News. "I have struggled all my life, so I am not bothered about losing the captaincy or not being able to play for the team. I am always prepared to face any situation."

"I don't know how anyone can make such baseless allegations without realising how much it affects the players and their fans."

Pakistan, who had already qualified for the semifinals, lost to Australia off the final ball of the match after setting them a target of 206. They lost a closely-fought semifinal to New Zealand after setting them a target of 234.

Dasti had said that he would summon Younus and the PCB chairman Ijaz Butt before the parliament on October 13. Intikhab said he had not been among those summoned. "So far I have not received the invitation, but I have absolutely no problems in appearing before the committee," Intikhab said.

Despite the semifinal exit, Pakistan have had a successful year at world events, winning the World Twenty20 in England in June.

**Santoro sent packing**

AFP, Tokyo

Fabrice Santoro's first visit to Tokyo ended quickly in a three-set defeat to former world number one Lleyton Hewitt of Australia in the Japan Open on Thursday.

The veteran 36-year-old Frenchman, who is due to retire at the end of the season, watched his one-set advantage tumble into a 6-3, 3-6, 1-6 loss to the eighth-seeded Australian in the second round.

"I've never been in Japan. This year is my last year (on the tour) and I can't end my career without coming to Tokyo," said Santoro, ranked 42nd in the world.

"I wanted to visit this country. Even though I lost today, it was a good stay here in Tokyo. I really enjoyed to come here and I wanted to win the match today and stay here till the weekend."

His younger compatriot Richard Gasquet said earlier that he suggested to Santoro that he play in Tokyo before finishing his career.

"He played on the tour for 20 years. He played against (Andre) Agassi, Sampras, (Mats) Wilander, (Novak) Djokovic and (Roger) Federer. He played so many players in the 1980s and 1990s and 2000s," said Gasquet.

"That's an incredible career, a very long one. And he's a friend of mine. That's great," he added.

On Thursday, Santoro fired four aces and saved all three break points in the first set, while converting both chances he had on the Australian's serve to win the set 6-3.

But he ran out of steam in the last two sets as Hewitt, the 2001 champion here, started to serve better before taking the last five games in a row to finish off the one hour, 51 minute battle.

**CL kicks off**

FROM PAGE 17  
All your boring aunts and uncles, only have non-alcoholic drinks, and have the party on a weekday.

Lalit is more like the cool, slightly dodgy, uncle. He comes in with a DJ, free booze for everyone, invites your friends, and brings over famous people and the party goes crazy.

If Lalit's party works well, no one will care that Warne, SRK and the dudes from Pakistan didn't come, but if it turns lame, people might start wishing they had dropped by.

(The author is an Australian writer based in London and wrote this for Cricinfo)

**Nadal sails, Serena fails**

Tennis

APP, Beijing

Rafael Nadal fended off a tough challenge from James Blake to advance to the quarterfinals of the China Open on Thursday, as Serena Williams stumbled out of the WTA/ATP event in a third set tiebreak.

Nadal, the top seed in Beijing, and Blake thrilled the crowd on centre court at the 2008 Olympic Games tennis venue for nearly two-and-a-half hours before the Spanish world number two notched the win, 7-5, 6-7 (4/7), 6-3.

The pair remained even throughout most of the first set until Nadal broke the 29-year-old American for a second time to go up 6-5 and then served out the set.

In the second, Nadal -- who won Olympic gold on the same court last year -- broke Blake at love to go up 3-2, but the relentless American refused to give up, fighting off a match point and clawing back to 5-5.

Nadal quickly broke him again to go up 6-5, but Blake, the world number 24, again showed his mettle, using nifty net play to break the 23-year-old Spaniard and force a tiebreak, which Blake won in spectacular fashion.

In the third, Blake missed a golden opportunity to break Nadal at 2-2, when he had the Spaniard at love-40, and he paid for it when he double-faulted to fall behind 5-3. Nadal then served out the match.

"It's an important win because James is always a very tough opponent," Nadal said. "He's a really good player. I think he has one of the best returns... very fast. James played unbelievably in the tiebreak."

"When I had the chance, I played aggressive... Winning in three sets always gives you extra confidence," he added.

In the quarterfinals, Nadal -- who won the China Open in 2005 -- will face Russia's Marat Safin, a crowd favourite and 2004 champion here, who upset Chilean seventh seed Fernando Gonzalez

in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4.

World number two Williams battled back several times but was unable to overcome Russian 13th seed Nadia Petrova, who won in three sets, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (7/5).

The 28-year-old Williams looked lethargic in the first set, with her ground strokes sailing long and her serve broken twice to hand the 27-year-old Russian the early lead.

But the American bounced back in the second, putting a bit more pace on her shots and dictating play from the backcourt to gain a break late in the set and even the match.

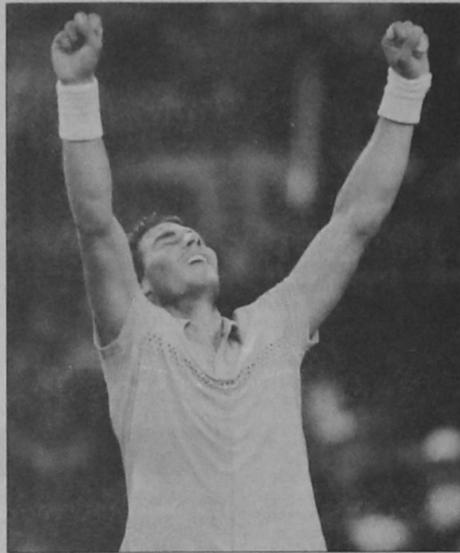
On the deciding third set, Williams missed a golden opportunity to pull ahead at 4-4, blowing three break points on Petrova's serve. But she cranked up her serve to send it to a tiebreak.

Petrova took an early 5-2 lead, but Williams battled back one final time before the Russian could close it out.

Despite the loss, Williams will nevertheless take over the number one ranking from Russia's Dinara Safina when the new WTA list is issued on Monday.

In other third round matches on the women's side of the 6.6-million-dollar event, seventh seed Vera Zvonareva of Russia, Polish 12th seed Agnieszka Radwanska and 14th seed Marion Bartoli of France all advanced.

On the men's side, Croatia's Ivan Ljubicic needed three sets to defeat Polish qualifier Lukasz Kubot, who ousted defending champion Andy Roddick on Tuesday.



World number two Rafael Nadal of Spain jubilates after beating James Blake of the US in second round of the China Open in Beijing yesterday.

**Returns home a confident Watson**

CRICINFO, undated

Shane Watson is pleased to have arrived home in Sydney after five months on tour with far more certainty surrounding his future than when he flew out. Watson starred for Australia during their Champions Trophy triumph and is the incumbent Test opener having performed well during the Ashes and has quickly become a vital cog in Australia's team in all formats.

"When I first went away I wasn't sure if the opportunity would arise to be part of the Ashes, let alone get the chance to bat in the last few Tests and then go on to the one-day series and play in the Champions Trophy," Watson told the Daily Telegraph after touching down in Sydney.

"I knew my game was in a good place, it was just a matter of putting it all together. I had visions of how the five months would turn out on tour, but it's definitely gone beyond my own expectations."

Watson's place as an ODI opener was no surprise but his success -- he scored centuries in the Champions Trophy semifinal and final -- has confirmed he is a long-term prospect in that role. What was not expected prior to the Ashes was that he would leave England as Simon Katich's opening partner in the Tests.

After Phillip Hughes was axed following his struggles in the first two Tests, Watson was installed in his place and made a consistent string of scores -- 62, 53, 51, 34 and 40. Ricky Ponting said he was pleased at Watson's progress over Australia's five months on tour.

"I think he's grown in stature a lot and getting an opportunity in the Test side and opening the batting was something he wasn't accustomed to," Ponting said. "But he showed everybody how adaptable he is and that he can play at the top of the order."

"He bowled well through the one-dayers in England, and then to have his batting blossom at the end of the Champions Trophy when we most needed it, it was something special. He's setting up his career well for the future."

**D/N Tests stand a greater possibility**

Cricket

AFP, Johannesburg

The introduction of day-night Tests edged closer Wednesday when an International Cricket Council (ICC) board meeting here called for further research on the subject.

In the changing landscape of the game, triggered by the rapidly growing popularity of Twenty20 fare, the five-day and oldest version has remained a daytime affair.

A statement released after the two-day board meeting in a north Johannesburg hotel said there will be "further research into various proposals for product development and variation of Test cricket, including day-night Test matches".

ICC chief executive Haroon Lorgat will chair a working group that includes a representative from each of the 10 full members plus council general managers Campbell Jamieson (commercial) and Dave Richardson (cricket).

While Tests are the traditional bedrock of cricket and England and Australia often attract large crowds, embarrassingly small attendances are seen at other worldwide venues.

Multi-award-winning Australia captain Ricky Ponting speaks for many world stars when he says Test cricket is his favourite form of the game ahead of the two shorter varieties.

While a Test delivers cricket in its purest form, it lacks the spectator appeal of the one-day and half-day formats and the ICC statement said product research and analysis of the three disciplines would be done.

The 50-over version, seen by some like former Australia wicket wizard Shane Warne as that in most danger, got a timely boost when ICC president David Morgan lauded the Champions Trophy that ended in South Africa Monday.

Australia became the first country to successfully defend the mini-World Cup with a Shane Watson-inspired six-wicket victory over New Zealand after the event was cut to the top eight ranked teams and staged over two weeks.

"The cricket was enthralling and the feedback on the event from players and followers of the game has been overwhelmingly positive. I believe the cricket world enjoyed this rebranded competition as I did," boasted Morgan.

England captain Andrew Strauss recalling Angelo Mathews and New Zealand captain Daniel Vettori withdrawing the run-out appeal against Paul Collingwood reflect the magnificent spirit in which the matches were played.

The board considered the anti-doping code and said while more debate was needed, the ICC "maintains a zero-tolerance approach to doping in cricket and in-competition and out-of-competition drug testing will continue as usual".

ICC support of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) "anywhere-anytime" test approach conflicts with India, who claim it threatens the security of players, many of whom enjoy celebrity status, and infringes civil liberties.

The board said it would continue work on creating a post-2012 Future Tours Programme (FTP) for the 10 full members and consider ways in which greater context can be given to Test, ODI and T20 fixtures.



WECCA president Waqar Chowdhury (C) speaks at a press briefing in connection with the Grameenphone-WECCA Beach Cricket Tournament at a hotel in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

**KP back for England**

Cricket

AFP, London

Kevin Pietersen was Thursday included in England's one-day and Test squads for the tour of South Africa but warned he must prove his fitness before the one-day series starts on November 20.

The star batsman is still recovering from surgery on his achilles tendon, which he underwent in July. He is joined in both squads by another South African-born player, Jonathan Trott, who made a century on his Test debut in England's Ashes-winning victory over Australia at The Oval in August.

Pietersen has yet to play a Test in his homeland but he made a big impression there in 2004-05, when he started his England career by making three hundreds in five one-day internationals, during which he was repeatedly booed by some of his compatriots.

"Kevin Pietersen is making good progress with his recovery from surgery," England selector Geoff Miller reported. "He will join up with the rest of the squad in South Africa following the first two Twenty20 Internationals and his fitness will be reassessed ahead of the one-day series."

There was no place in either squad for fast bowler Steve Harmison, who had indicated he would quit international cricket if he missed out, or for Ravi Bopara, Owais Shah and Monty Panesar.

Andrew Strauss will skipper both squads but all-rounder Paul Collingwood will be in charge for the two Twenty20 internationals that precede the one-day matches, despite currently being sidelined with a torn buttock muscle.

Miller added: "Stephen Harmison has not been included in the Test squad because we feel his form has not been consistent enough over the past 12 months to justify a regular place in the side and we want to give an opportunity to

other players to make a case for selection. "Liam Plunkett has worked hard to improve all aspects of his game since he last played for England and his selection is reward for consistently putting in strong performances for Durham both with bat and ball. He will provide strong competition for a place in our pace attack this winter."

The Test squad, missing Andrew Flintoff following his retirement, contains three uncapped players: Surrey wicketkeeper Steven Davies, Yorkshire leg-spinner Adil Rashid and the Sussex all-rounder Luke Wright.

Essex opener Alastair Cook has been named as vice-captain of the Test squad and has also been recalled to the one-day squad -- at the expense of Bopara -- together with Lancashire quick bowler Sajid Mahmood.

Miller described Davies, who will act as understudy to Matt Prior, as a player of "great potential" and said Wright had the chance to fill Flintoff's boots.

"The retirement of Andrew Flintoff has created a vacancy for an all-rounder in the squad and while we do not see Luke Wright as a like for like replacement for Andrew, we are excited by the way in which his all-round game continues to develop and believe he can make an impact at Test level," Miller said.

**TEST SQUAD**

Andrew Strauss (captain), Alastair Cook (vice-captain), James Anderson, Ian Bell, Stuart Broad, Paul Collingwood, Steven Davies, Graham Onions, Kevin Pietersen, Liam Plunkett, Matt Prior, Adil Rashid, Ryan Sidebottom, Graeme Swann, Jonathan Trott, Luke Wright.

**ODI SQUAD**

Andrew Strauss (captain), James Anderson, Tim Bresnan, Stuart Broad, Paul Collingwood, Alastair Cook, Joe Denly, Sajid Mahmood, Eoin Morgan, Graham Onions, Kevin Pietersen, Matt Prior, Adil Rashid, Graeme Swann, Jonathan Trott, Luke Wright.

**SA top CT flops**

AFP, Johannesburg

If there is any team that has under-achieved the most in the Champions Trophy it is South Africa, who this time failed to make it to the semifinals despite enjoying the home advantage.

Graeme Smith's South Africans fail to clear the first hurdle after posting just one win in three matches, again sparking debate whether they will ever be able to break the big-event jinx.

They were expected to top the four-team Group A of 2009 event but lost the opening match to Sri Lanka. After beating New Zealand, they faced England in a must-win match. Jayasuriya, the world's second-highest scorer (13,377) in one-dayers after Indian Sachin Tendulkar (16,903), could manage only 34 in three matches.

Two of their big players, batsman Sanath Jayasuriya and off-spinner Muttiah Muralidaran, failed to do justice to their stature. Jayasuriya, the world's second-highest scorer (13,377) in one-dayers after Indian Sachin Tendulkar (16,903), could manage only 34 in three matches.

Muralidaran, the world's leading wicket-taker in Tests (783) and one-day internationals (512), appeared in two matches, conceding 106 runs in 18 overs for just one wicket.

South Africa had entered the tournament as the world's top-ranked team, but paceman Dale Steyn said after his team's exit that trophies were more important than rankings.

"You want to win silverware, you want to be known as a team that walks in to a competition and is able to dominate," said Steyn.

"Being ranked number one in Tests and one-dayers is a fantastic feeling, but every year it changes and it works on points. You won't be able to take home any silverware from that."

It was also an easily forgettable tournament for Sri Lanka and India.

Kumar Sangakkara's Sri Lankans started on an impressive note when they beat the hosts before losing their next two games against England and New Zealand to bow out of the tournament.

India went into the tournament as one of the favourites, having won five successive bilateral one-day series and a tri-series. But they were under pressure after losing their opening match against Pakistan.

**Invitation for Tenders**  
NATP, Supply Chain Development Component, Hortex Foundation

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

1	Ministry/Division	: Ministry of Agriculture
2	Agency	: Hortex Foundation
3	Procuring Entity Name	: Director, PIU-NATP-Hortex
4	Procuring Entity Code	: 43-4305-7300
5	Procuring Entity District	: Dhaka
6	Invitation for	: Tender for "Supply of Two 4WD Vehicles for PIU-NATP-Hortex"
7	Invitation Ref No	: NATP-GD/Hortex(1)Tender/08-09/01
8	Date	: 8/10/2009

**KEY INFORMATION**

9	Procurement Method	: Open Tender Method (OTM) / National Competitive Bid (NCB)
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**FUNDING INFORMATION**

10	Budget and Source of Funds	: IDA/IFAD/GOB
11	Development Partners (if applicable)	: IDA/IFAD

**PARTICULAR INFORMATION**

12	Project / Programme Code (if applicable)	: 5-4305-7300
13	Project / Programme Name (if applicable)	: National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP)
14	Tender Package No.	: GD/Hortex/01/08-09
15	Tender Package Name	: "Supply of two 4WD vehicles"
16	Tender Publication Date	: 9/10/2009
17	Tender Last Selling Date	: 5/11/2009

	Date	Time
18	Tender Submission & Closing Date and Time	8/11/2009 12.00 Noon
19	Tender Opening Date and Time	8/11/2009 12.30 p.m.

20 Name & Address of the office(s)  
- Selling Tender Document (Principal)  
PIU-NATP-Hortex, Sech Bhaban (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), 22, Manik Mia Avenue, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

- Receiving Tender Document  
(i) PIU-NATP-Hortex, Sech Bhaban (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), 22, Manik Mia Avenue, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

- Opening Tender Document  
PIU-NATP-Hortex, Sech Bhaban (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), 22, Manik Mia Avenue, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

21 Place / Date / Time of Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)  
Not Applicable

**INFORMATION FOR TENDERER**

22	Eligibility of Tenderer	Manufacturers/Sole Agents/Sole Distributors of new 4WD vehicles having authorization from the Manufacturer.
23	Brief Description of Goods or Works	: Supply of Two 4WD Vehicles for PIU-NATP-Hortex
24	Brief Description of Related Services	: Two years after sale services
25	Price of Tender Document (Tk.)	: Tk. 700.00 (Taka seven hundred only)

Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Tender Security Amount (Tk.)	Completion Time in Weeks / Months
26	01	GD/Hortex/1/08-09	PIU-NATP-Hortex	2,00,000.00 90 days

**PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS**

27	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Dr. S. M. Monowar Hossain
28	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	: MD/PIU, PIU-NATP-Hortex
29	Address of Official Inviting Tender	: PIU-NATP-Hortex, Sech Bhaban (3 <sup>rd</sup> floor), 22, Manik Mia Avenue, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka

	Tel. No.	Fax No.	e-mail
30	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	880 2 8123433, 880 2 9125181 880 2 9141331	880 2 9125181 hortex@hortex.org

31 The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders

Dr. S. M. Monowar Hossain  
Managing Director  
Hortex Foundation