



South Africa spinner Paul Harris (L) celebrates the dismissal of England batsman Matthew Prior (not in picture) during the third day of the first Test at Supersport Park in Centurion yesterday.

## Harris makes Eng struggle

### Cricket

AFP, Centurion

Left-arm spinner Paul Harris took four wickets as South Africa kept the England batsmen under pressure on the third day of the first Test against England at Supersport Park on Friday.

On a pitch of variable bounce, England struggled to 238 for seven at tea, still 180 behind South Africa's first innings total of 418.

Paul Collingwood made 50 for England, falling to Harris one ball after reaching an 87-ball half-century when he edged the slow bowler to Jacques Kallis at slip.

Harris had figures of four for 90. Apart from being his side's main wicket-taker he tied up one end during an unbroken spell of 22 overs, enabling South African captain Graeme Smith to use his fast bowlers in short spells on a hot day.

The fast bowlers operated from the southern Hennops River end where several balls behaved unpredictably, including that by Makhaya Ntini, who bowled England captain Andrew Strauss for 46 in the sixth over of the day with a ball which shot through low and hit the off stump as Strauss played back.

Earlier in the over one ball kept low and shaved the off stump while another lifted sharply.

In contrast to the previous evening, when England hurried to 88 for one at almost four runs an over, the tourists found scoring difficult against disciplined bowling.

Only 55 runs were added in 27 overs during the morning for the loss of Strauss and Jonathan Trott, who was bowled for 28 when he lost patience and charged down the pitch to Harris.

Kevin Pietersen and Collingwood lifted the tempo after lunch during a fourth wicket stand of 49 in 13 overs

before Pietersen was bowled for 40 off an inside edge by Morne Morkel. Television replays suggested Morkel, who was no-balled six times for over-stepping, might have transgressed again with the ball which dismissed Pietersen.

Ian Bell padded up to a ball from Harris which went straight through to hit the stumps and Matt Prior was caught at deep backward square leg when he swept Harris.

Shortly before play, one-time rural herd boy Ntini received a letter from former South African President Nelson Mandela congratulating him on playing in his 100th Test match.

Mandela wrote: "What you have achieved goes beyond the number of matches you played; you have demonstrated, especially to the youth of our country, that everyone can rise above their circumstances and achieve success if they are dedicated to and passionate

about what they do."

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scores at tea on the third day of the first Test between South Africa and England at Supersport Park on Friday:

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 418 (Kallis 120, Duminy 65, Boucher 49; Swann 5-110)

**ENGLAND:** First innings (overnight 88-1)

Strauss b Ntini 46

Cook c Boucher b De Wet 15

Trott b Harris 28

Pietersen b Morkel 40

Collingwood c Kallis b Harris 50

Bell b Harris 5

Prior c De Wet b Harris 4

Broad not out 16

Swann not out 6

Extras: (b-8, lb-3, nb-12, w-5) 28

Total (For 8 wkt in 76 overs) 238

Fall of wickets: 1-25, 2-98, 3-119, 4-168, 5-189, 6-211, 7-221

To bat: J. Anderson, G. Onions.

**Bowler** O M R W

Ntini 16 4 35 1

De Wet 17 2 63 1

Morkel 15 0 36 1

Harris 27 6 90 4

Duminy 1 0 3 0

Phelps has sympathy for Tiger

AFP, Manchester

US Olympic superstar Michael Phelps said Thursday he sympathises with Tiger Woods's spectacular fall from grace.

Phelps, a 14-time Olympic gold medallist, knows what it's like to suffer public shame having been banned for three months after being pictured by a British tabloid holding a pipe used for smoking drugs.

"I'm wishing the best for him (Woods) and his family. At a time like this you see who your actual friends are and who supports you," said the 24-year-old American.

"He is going through a hard time right now I assume, I've no idea what he is going through, but it can't be easy."

Woods's problems have been steadily stacking up with his wife Elin Nordegren reportedly planning to divorce the disgraced billionaire golf star after the sex scandal that has halted his career.

ABC News, NBC News and People magazine said Wednesday the 29-year-old will split with Woods after he admitted infidelity amid reports that he had affairs with at least 14 women.

Abahani

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register an eight-wicket victory at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Young pacer Shafiq Islam captured four wickets for 24 and left-arm spinner Mosharrif Hossain picked up four for 17 to demolish the Victoria innings.

In reply, Biman took only 18.4 overs to reach the target by losing only two wickets.

Gasquet gets all-clear

CRICINFO, undated

The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) on Thursday cleared French tennis player Richard Gasquet of doping and dismissed appeals by sports authorities for a tougher penalty.

International sport's top court acknowledged that the 23-year-old was likely to have been inadvertently contaminated with a minute trace of cocaine when he kissed a woman in a Miami night club in March.

"The player has been exonerated from any fault or negligence and the CAS has dismissed the appeals filed by the ITF (International Tennis Federation) and WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency)," the court said in a statement.

The former world top 10 player tested positive for cocaine during the Miami Masters in March and was provisionally suspended in May before serving a two- and a half month retroactive ban.

Instead, the ITF and WADA wanted him to be hit with a ban of one or two years.

Gasquet, who has dropped to 52nd in the world rankings, said he was delighted to be able

National Cricket Academy, told the News, "Younus has made up his mind to play in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy final as well as the Pentangular Cup and that is a good sign."

Mohammad Younus was appointed captain for the tour of New Zealand, where Pakistan drew the Test series 1-1, and was retained for the Test series in Australia. Misbahul Haq took Younus' place in the XI, but has so far struggled to make an impression. Though Qasim said it could be too late for Younus to be picked for Test series against Australia, the ODI series, it was a realistic possibility.

"I can't say anything about the Test series but it might already be too late," he said. "I mean we already have 16 players in Australia and will be sending another man (Mohammad Sami) there soon."

"But once Younus plays in the domestic matches then he would certainly be considered for the one-day series (against Australia)."

The Pakistan team contacted the selectors regarding Younus' availability upon their arrival in Hobart.

## Younus still in frame

### Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Younus Khan could make his international comeback during the ODI leg of Pakistan's tour of Australia in January. Younus stepped down as captain and opted out of the tour of New Zealand claiming he had "lost command" of the side, and was not picked for the Test series in Australia as he had not played first-class cricket since the start of his temporary break.

But Younus is set to return to the domestic circuit, starting with the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy final on December 21, where he is expected to lead Habib Bank Limited against Karachi Blues at the National Stadium. He also expressed interest in participating in the Pentangular Cup, starting on January 1.

"I had a discussion with him (Younus) recently and believe that he is in a positive frame of mind," Iqbal Qasim, the chief selector at the

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### Tennis

AFP, Geneva

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Gasquet, who has dropped to 52nd in the world rankings, said he was delighted to be able

to move on.

"In my heart I was expecting this outcome because I'm innocent. So justice has been done," the former French number one said.

"I'm very, very happy this is behind me. I've been waiting for this appeal for four months. Even at the US Open this was on my mind and now I can return to training with a clear head."

"I can turn the page towards 2010."

Gasquet's coach Eric Deblicker admitted that the decision was a welcome Christmas present. "It's a huge relief, especially for Richard and his team," said Deblicker.

"He has been cleared, he's been back at work five weeks and everyday was difficult. Mentally it's been tough, but the most important thing has been seeing his joy on the court."

Deblicker added that Gasquet would start his 2010 season in Brisbane and then Sydney before taking part in the Australian Open.

The Lausanne-based CAS said that a doping offence was correctly reported because of the presence of a "minuscule" quantity of cocaine in Gasquet's urine sample.

However, they upheld Gasquet's contention about being contaminated through kissing and concluded that he could not be blamed.

## Aus have slight

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McKay on 1.

The only man to come was Bollinger, who gained his first five-for in his third Test as he stamped himself as a long-term option during an energetic display. He began with the wicket of Rammareesh Sarwan (42) from the day's second ball and came back after lunch to spark a game-changing collapse of 6 for 27. Don't start worrying yet about a relapse in the West Indian batting because the challenging bowling was responsible for the majority of wickets.

Nash and Bravo had fought through most of the first session for a 46-run partnership, but then both pillars fell in three overs and the air was taken from the visitors' pursuit.

Braovo touched a ball angling across him from Bollinger to Haddin while Hauritz had Nash dropped at first slip by Clarke at first slip before the fielder corrected the mistake in the offspinner's following over.

Hauritz (3 for 66), who had been targeted by Gayle on day two, was suddenly a huge threat for the tail and he removed Benn and Ramaul to catches behind in the same over.

Bollinger followed up by bowling Ramdin behind his legs and gained his fifth breakthrough to end the innings. After the third wicket Bollinger kissed the badge on his shirt and when he closed out the innings -- Tonge gave Haddin his fourth catch -- he lifted the ball self-consciously to the crowd.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the third Test between Australia and West Indies at the WACA on Friday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 520-7 dec. (Watson 89, Katich 99, Hussey 82, Haddin 88, North 68; Roach 2-104)

West Indies (Overnight 214-2)

Gayle c Watson b Bollinger 102

Dowlin c Hussey b Johnson 55

Sarwan c Hussey b Bollinger 42

Deonarine c Watson b Johnson 18

Nash c Clarke b Hauritz 44

Bravo c Haddin b Bollinger 26

Ramdin b Bollinger 8

Benn c Haddin b Hauritz 3

Rampaul c Haddin b Hauritz 0

Roach not out 0

Tonge c Haddin b Bollinger 2

Extras: (lb-5, w-1, nb-6) 12

Total (All out in 81 overs) 312

Fall of wickets: 1-136, 2-175, 3-214, 4-239, 5-285, 6-295, 7-310

Bowler O M R W

Bollinger 20 3 70 5

MG Johnson 18 3 92 2

McKay 14 3 45 0

Hauritz 17 1 66 3

Watson 12 3 34 0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Watson lbw Tonge 30

Katich c Ramaul 10

Clarke c Ramdin b Bravo 25

Hussey c Dowlin b Benn 17

North c Ramdin b Bravo 1

Haddin c Bravo b Benn 23

Johnson c Nash b Bravo 5

Hauritz not out 11

Ponting c Dowlin b Roach 2

McKay not out 1

Extras: (lb-7, w-4)