

The final scoreboard that shows points of the last shot and total scores of eight competitors in the 10m air rifle event of the 11th South Asian Games at the National Shooting Range yesterday.

### Tigers open

of pace could set up an intriguing duel against McCullum and co.

**SQUADS** BANGLADESH: Tamim Iqbal, Mohammad Ashraful, Aftab Ahmed, Shakib Al Hasan (captain), Rokibul Hassan, Mahmudullah Riyad, Nayeem Islam, Mushfigur Rahim, Shahadat Hossain, Shafiul Islam and Nazmul Hossain NEW ZEALAND (probable): Brendon McCullum, Peter

Ingram, Martin Guptill, Ross Taylor, Jacob Oram, Daniel Vettori (captain), Nathan McCullum, James Franklin, Ian Butler, Daryl Tuffey, Tim Southee.

#### Booters eye

FROM PAGE 17 "We are taking the matches on by one. We have done well so far, made improvements in the second match from the first. But there is still a long way to go and are rooms for improvement. We know the strength of the opponents, but

come the challenge." Bangladesh's Serbian coach Zoran Djordjevic signalled that they might rest a few of the players for this match as there are injury worries to some of them.

we are confident we will over-



National Cricket League (Four-Day Match, Day 2) Rajshahi v Khulna Venue: Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium, Chittagong Chittagong v Dhaka Venue: Shahid Chandu Stadium

Barisal v Sylhet Venue: Sheikh Abu Naser Stadium Khulna

**SOUTH ASIAN GAMES** FOOTBALL (MEN) Nepal v Bhutan Time: 3:30pm Bangladesh v Maldives Time: 6:15pm Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium CRICKET Maldives v Sri Lanka

Time: 2:00pm Venue: Shahid Kamruzzaman Stadium, Rajshahi Pakistan v Afghanistan Time: 10:00am India v Nepal Time: 2:00pm Venue: Sher-e-Bangla Cricket

Stadium, Mirpur BASKETBALL Semifinals Time: 4:00pm & 6:00pm Venue: Basketball Indoor Stadium

BADMINTON Semifinals Time: 2:00pm

Venue: Wooden Floor Gymnasium HOCKEY Bangladesh v Nepal

Time: 1:00pm India v Pakistan Time: 3:00pm Venue: Maulana Bhasani Hockey SHOOTING (MEN) Time: 9:00am

SHOOTING (WOMEN) Time: 10:00am Venue: National Shooting Complex KABADDI (MEN) Bangladesh v India Time: 9:30am Pakistan v Nepal

Time: 10:30am Venue: Kabaddi Stadium HANDBALL Bangladesh v Afghanistan Time: 10:00am India v Pakistan Time: 11:30am Venue: Handball Stadium

# Golden girls shoot to glory

**FROM PAGE 17** strongly in the last two shots to win by a small margin.

"I'm really happy with the outcome because it's my best effort. It's really great that we won the team and individual gold medal in the event. My father inspired me to take up this sport when I was only 10 years old and you know it's my first big event and I got the silver," said a delighted Sadia, who hails from Chittagong.

"I think the most important thing in shooting is how much you concentrate on your game. I always do meditation and you may be surprised to learn that I don't even use mobile phone," she added.

singh, Tripti, however was in a gloomy mood as she could not accept the fact that she lost the individual bronze to the Indian shooter.

"It's not because I lost the bronze rather I'm disappointed as I could not show my best in the shoot-off which is my favourite. Still, I am delighted with our team and individual efforts," said Tripti.

When the women's team were over the moon, the men's team members were nowhere in the 25m Standard Pistol event at the same venue where India stole the show, led by Vivek Singh, who also won the doubles in the event.

Vivek (570), along with The lady from Mymen Harpreet Singh (550), Chandra

shekhar Kumar Chowdhury (555), first led India to aggregate a grand total of 1675 to clinch the gold where Maqbool Hussain Tabbasum (538), Muhammad Younas (547), Mustaqeem Shah (556) aggregated 1641 to secure the silver for Pakistan and Sri Lanka's NGN Pedige (524), TDS Femando (551) and SE Mudiyanselage (511) finished with 1586 to bag the bronze.

Vivek clinched the individual gold with 570 while Mustageem (556) won the silver for Pakistan and Chandrashekhar finished with 555 to confirm the bronze also for India.

### Lack of quality spinners worries Laxman

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

VVS Laxman, the Indian batsman, has expressed concern over the lack of quality spinners on India's domestic circuit, a problem he feels will be a 'worrying factor' for the Indian team. Speaking on Cricinfo's latest video show Opening Up, Laxman was more optimistic about India's batting reserves and was bullish the game. on the survival of Test cricket.

However, his comments on India's spin talent pool will cause concern, given how large spinners loom in India's Test legend. Speaking on the gap between international and domestic cricket in India, Laxman said: "The Indian cricket team is struggling to find some quality spinners, apart from the guys who are playing. You will find that there is no bench strength as far as spinners are concerned. So definitely the quality of domestic cricket has come down in terms of the bowling department."

Later, speaking about young talent, Laxman repeated his concern. "I am really not happy with the bowlers I am seeing. I think the quality of bowlers, especially the spinners will definitely be a worrying factor for the Indian team."

Laxman was optimistic, however, about India's talent in batting, the likes of Suresh Raina and Rohit Sharma, who've had international experience, and Ambati Rayudu of Hyderabad. But he emphasised the key to success lay in the ability to play long innings. "I think Rohit and Raina are very good. Ambati Rayadu from Hyderabad has got very good potential," he said. "It's good that he has come back now, after playing in the ICL. It's just a matter of time; if he plays to his potential then he will make it to the higher grade. Rahul Dravid keeps mentioning about some players from Bangalore who are very talented. So it is a good future for India, as far as batting is concerned.

**FROM PAGE 20** 

Pakistan's third one minute

from the end from an identi-

cal situation and completed

a very comfortable after-

day, Sri Lanka thrashed

Nepal by 15-1 at the same

venue. The winning side led

the first half 9-0. Sri Lanka

skipper Abeyarathne started

the Nepalese demolition on

the third minute and

emerged as the highest

scorer with six goals. Nepal

found a consolation goal

through Dipendra, their only

goal so far in the competition,

one minute from the final

whistle. This was the first

victory for Sri Lanka after

going down 3-1 against

Bangladesh and 7-1 against

India. On the other hand,

Nepal had lost their first

match against India 21-0

Pakistan 19-0.

and then lost against

In the earlier match of the

noon job for Pakistan.

"I think for any youngster, you have to practice right from the younger days to [play a] long innings. And that's something that I don't see nowadays in the Ranji Trophy. I don't see too many double-hundreds, too many big hundreds. When we started off, there were lot of double-hundreds, not only from the Test cricketers but also domestic cricketers. I would definitely advice them to play long innings in the four-day format. And once they have the temperament, they can adapt to any form of

Amid the growing popularity of the Twenty20 format, Laxman said Test cricket still remained the most sought-after version in the eyes of the players and dismissed any threats over its future. He added that the current generation of cricketers still rated Tests as the best determinant of one's quality. Instead, he expressed doubt over the survival of the 50-over version with the advent of Twenty20 cricket.

"Test cricket is still a very important form of cricket for all cricketers," Laxman said. "Even though Tests are becoming fewer, all cricketers, even the present generation, want to play more Tests. Everyone knows Test cricket remains the real test of a player's character, skill and temperament.

"Irrespective of how many runs they get in Twenty20 or one-day cricket, everyone feels that only when they do well in Tests will they have a stature in the game. Everyone knows that their ultimate reputation is in Test cricket."

The dwindling interest in 50-over cricket among fans and players alike, Laxman said, was an issue of concern. "I think one-day cricket will be under threat, because people want to watch good quality of cricket," he said. "Over five days they will watch some quality players playing against each other, so definitely Test cricket will stay. But one-day cricket will be under pressure, especially after the advent of Twenty20. I am sure ICC will take necessary steps to make it more interesting."

#### Girls edge Pakistan Hosts fall

**FROM PAGE 17** the 15th minute when

Farhana Khatun's dipping shot from 25 yards out beat the desperate attempt of Pakistan keeper Mahapara. Couple of minutes later, a long range effort from Maynu Marma just eluded the upright while Sabina Khatun failed to make decent contact when she was provided with a very good ball just in front of goal. The easiest chance fell to Rowshonara in the 40th minute when she sped past a couple of defenders, but her shot had neither power nor accuracy to trouble Pakistan keeper.

Maksuda Khandakar came off the bench in the second half and should have doubled the lead in the 46th minute, but her feeble effort in front of goal with only the keeper to

beat ballooned over the bar. Pakistan keeper Mahapara made a valiant save from the goalline to deny Bangladesh doubling their lead on the 68th

minute.

attacks in the second half as the Bangladeshi legs wearied, but neither team could find the target.

In the earlier match of the day, Nepal thrashed Sri Lanka 8-0 to keep their winning streak on thanks to a second half hattrick from captain Jumanu Gurung. Anu Lama scored twice, while Laxmik Paudel, Sajana Rana and Sanjana Darji bagged the one goal apiece.

#### Cabanas shows

**FROM PAGE 20** 

Dr Martinez said however it was too early to know if Cabanas would be ready to play in the 2010World Cup finals.

Paraguay will face defending champions Italy, Slovakia and New Zealand in the opening round of the World Cup, which begins on June 11 in South Africa.

The two suspects in the attack have not yet been Pakistan did manage a few detained.

#### 'Butt too old to be PCB chairman'

CRICINFO, undated

Javed Miandad, a former Pakistan captain, has written a letter to the country's president, Asif Ali Zardari, in which he has criticised Ijaz Butt, the Pakistan board chairman, for being 'too old' to hold a position of such importance. Zardari, who is also the patron of the PCB, had appointed 71year-old Butt as chairman in 2008 in place of Nasim Ashraf.

"The chairman has become too old for the position he is holding as he seldom remembers his own important official commitments and agreements," Miandad, who is currently a PCB director general, wrote in a letter seen by Cricinfo. "Most of the staff working under the chairman, including many directors, are fed up with his style of working; evidence of which is that many directors have left their jobs during his tenure."

Aamer Sohail, the PCB's director of academies, Salim Altaf, the chief operating officer, and Abdul Qadir, the chief selector, all resigned in 2009 because of differences with Butt. Miandad also quit in January 2009 before accepting the post of director general and returning, though his relationship with Butt has been frosty since; the pair recently exchanged bitter words publicly over Miandad's salary. Incidentally, Miandad was also appointed to the board by Zardari, as the former captain acknowledges in the letter.

#### Bowlers call

**FROM PAGE 17** Khulna were bundled out for

184 runs in their first innings. Amit Majumder top scored with 57 off 121 balls that con-

tained eight boundaries. Khulna's Ziaur Rahman made sure that the bowlers dictate the terms on the day as the right-arm paceman picked up two wickets to deal Rajshahi some blow in the end at the Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chittagong. Rajshahi finished

Bowlers also had the say a the Khulna Divisional Stadium as Barisal took control of the match on the first day against Sylhet.

the day on 41 for two.

Shafaq Al Jabir ripped through the Sylhet batting with a five-wicket haul. Sylhet were bundled out for only 65 runs.

Another new ball bowler Kamrul Islam claimed three wickets for 22 runs. Barisal scored 170 for four

before stumps were drawn for the day. Hannan Sarker was batting

on 59.

#### **BRIEF SCORES** KHULNAvRAJSHAHI

KHULNA: First innings- 184 all out in 69 overs (Amit 57, Nizam 32, Sahagir 36; Saqlain 6-53, Shuvo 3-92).

RAJSHAHI: First innings-41-2 in 19 overs (Zahurul 16 not out, Mashud 21 not out; Zia 2-11).

**CHITTAGONG v DHAKA** 

CHITTAGONG: First innings-342-9 in 88 overs (Salahuddin 26, Faisal 154, Arman 48, Kamrul 43 not out; Sharif 5-98, Mahbubul 2-45). SYLHETVBARISAL

SYLHET: First innings- 65 al out in 40 overs (Golam Rahman 14; Kamrul 3-22, Shafaq 5-30).

BARISAL: First innings-170 for four in 48 overs (Nafees 49, Hannan 59 not out, Kamrul 21)

#### BCB to have

FROM PAGE 17 Regional Security Manager of

ICC's Anti-Corruption and Safety Unit (ACSU).

Uddin (retd) has been appointed the security manager of the BCB in line with the requirements of the ICC.

The revised ticket pricing for England's Tour to Bangladesh in February-March this year has been also approved which are as follows, VIP Grand Stand: Tk 1,000 (for ODI) and Tk 500 (for Tests), Club House: Tk 200 (for ODI) and Tk 100 (for Tests), Special Enclosure: Tk 100 (for ODI) and Tk 50 (for Tests) and Gallery: Tk 50 (for ODI) and Tk 20 (for Tests).

#### NOTICE

Due to unavoidable circumstances, our regular item CROSSWORD has not been appearing for the last few days. It will resume in a day or two. We regret any inconvenience.

Sports Editor

# Gibson named WI coach

Cricket

AFP, Bridgetown

Former England bowling coach Ottis Gibson will take over as head coach of the West Indies in time for the home series against Zimbabwe later this month, a cricket official said here.

"Ottis will begin his appointment from the start of the home series against Zimbabwe," Ernest Hilaire, chief executive of the West Indies Cricket Board, told CBC Radio in an interview on Tuesday. Hilaire added that interim coach David

Williams would remain in charge for the oneday tour of Australia before being appointed Gibson's assistant for the home series that starts with a Twenty20 international in Trinidad on February 28. "I think we need to take Ottis's appointment

in stride. He will be the head coach of the WICB, and not just head coach of the senior team," Hilaire said. "He will have responsibility for coaching

right across all of our representative cricket

"This will give him an opportunity to stamp a particular style of coaching, a West Indies way, across all the teams. "This is really important because by the time

our players reach the senior team, they should be the finished article, and they really ought to be focusing mainly on their strategy, tactics, how they win games, and being able to exe-

Hilaire added that Gibson's appointment "has to be a long-term project. This is not a short-term project. We are not asking Ottis to turn around the West Indies fortunes and make them a winning team overnight. There has to be

a gradual chain of development."

Former all-rounder Gibson represented West Indies in two Tests and 15 one-day internationals, and enjoyed a long first-class career in the Caribbean, South Africa and England.

He was named England's bowling coach in 2007, gaining experience Hilaire said had marked him out as the best candidate for the Windies job.

"We hope that with him responsible for all coaching, he can start outlining to the coaches of all our teams the kind of players and approaches he wants from the players to ensure there is a clear career pathway as they move from the junior ranks to the senior team, Hilaire said.

"He is a new era coach, and someone who has been exposed to all of the technologies and new approaches to coaching.

"We are hoping that he will bring to this task an understanding of West Indies cricket. He will have all requisite knowledge and skills." Hugh Morris, managing director of the

England and Wales Cricket Board, poured lavish praise on the outgoing Gibson. "We are extremely grateful to Ottis for his hard work as England fast bowling coach,"

Morris said. "Since becoming the full-time England fast bowling coach in 2007 he has contributed so much to the success of the team and was an integral part of the Ashes-winning backroom

stafflast summer." England coach Andy Flower added: "Ottis has been a valuable member of my management team and we will all be sorry to see him

"However we recognise that being offered the chance to be head coach of your country was an offer that would be hard for Ottis to resist. We wish him well in the future."

# Nayar shines on Day One

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

South African bowlers started their first day of cricket on the tour with a sharp delivery that hurried a batsman, and ended it with one that lifted sharply and took the edge through to the second slip. In between they saw the whole spectrum that India could present them in this series, at least as much as is possible in one day of practice.

There was lovely bounce and carry in the morning, seam movement on occasion, an edge that fell short in the first over - as if to remind them of where they were. And then there was some reverse-swing, and a lot of punishment for their spinners, from Abhishek Nayar, Manish Pandey and Shikhar Dhawan. If there was confidence to be drawn from the efforts of Dale Steyn, Morne Morkel and Wayne Parnell, who took seven wickets in 29.4 overs between them, there would be fair amount of concern over the ease with which Paul Harris and Johan Botha were taken started off by working him loss. for 115 in 24 overs between them for just one wicket.

It has become a bit of a tradition for the Indian A sides to go after the opposition lead spinners, somewhat like the Aussies used to go about trying to "mentally disintegrate" opposition captains. Famously in 1997-98, Amit Pagnis, a Mumbai batsman, during his 60-ball 50, started inflicting on Shane Warne, punishment that would end with nightmares of Sachin Tendulkar coming down the track and hitting him for straight sixes. On Australia's last tour to India, Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli hit Jason Krejza so bad Australia didn't select him until the last Test of the series - where he incidentally took eight wickets in an innings.

One day into the tour, and the onslaughts from Pandey and Nayar might have already lost Harris the mantle as the lead spinner, and Botha couldn't manage much better

either. Harris was introduced in the 18th over, and in the next over Ajinkya Rahane would become the fourth wicket to fall, with the score at 56. Cheteshwar Pujara started off with a square-cut boundary in Harris' second over, and Pandey then absolutely got stuck into him. In his next four overs, Harris went for five boundaries and two sixes, all thanks to Pandey's unorthodox hitting.

That Harris didn't enjoy a lot of Graeme Smith's confidence showed in how mid-on and midwicket went back after the first two hits. Pandey still managed to flick-sweep him through the gap, and also hit a straight six and a slog-swept one. Harris' figures read 6-0-43-0 going into lunch, and it was time for Botha straight after lunch. With his first ball, a quick delivery, Botha took out Pujara's middle stump, but that was to be the most joyous moment of his day.

Nayar, not the most aesthetically pleasing or the most talented batsman going around, played him with typical grit and sensibility, along with Dhawan. They

around for ones and twos, but Botha never looked like getting a wicket in his seven-over first spell that went for 23. After a short breather, Botha was asked to come back, with Smith relatively assured about his pace trio by then. With the spinners bowling

in tandem, Nayar and Dhawan were at their most fluent. In his second over back, Harris was hit for three back-to-back boundaries by Nayar, a straight loft, a paddle sweep, and an orthodox one. With the 3-6 field not working, Harris went back to attacking outside off, and was immediately cut and driven inside-out by Dhawan for boundaries. An over later, it was Botha's turn to be swept for consecutive fours by Nayar. By the end of 64 overs of the innings, Smith had seen enough of the spinners, who had gone for 71 and 44 in their 12 overs each. By then Dhawan had crossed fifty and Nayar was nearing a

century. **BRIEF SCORES** 

**BOARD PRESIDENT'S XI: 318** (Navar 100, Dhwan 70; Morkel 3-24, Parnell 3-66)

SOUTH AFRICANS: 44 for no



India Board President XI's Abhishek Nayar plays a cover drive on the first day of the two-day warm-up match against South Africa in Nagpur yesterday.

### Capello to decide Meanwhile, col Mezbah ddin (retd) has been prointed the security man-

Football

AFP, London

England manager Fabio Capello alone will make a decision on John Terry's future as England captain, the Football Association (FA) said on Monday. The 29-year-old Chelsea defender's posi-

tion has been called into question following reports the married father of twins had an affair with the ex-girlfriend of former team-mate Wayne Bridge. There are now concerns the issue could have

a damaging effect on England's bid to win the World Cup in South Africa later this year but the FA were adamant they would leave the matter to Capello. "Fabio Capello alone will make the decision

about John Terry's position," said an FA spokes-"Fabio is fully up to speed with develop-

ments regarding John Terry.

"He spoke with our chairman Lord (David) Triesman and chief executive Ian Watmore

today (Monday), who both backed him to make the best decision for England on footballing "Fabio is dealing with the matter in his own way using his extensive experience as a football

manager.' Capello is due to return to England later this week from Switzerland, where he has been undergoing knee surgery, and will travel to Warsaw for the Euro 2012 qualifying competi-

Bridge, presently injured, was shown support from several of his current team-mates at Manchester City on Sunday.

tion draw this weekend.

They wore T-shirts bearing the words "Team Bridge", revealed after their 2-0 Premier League win over Portsmouth.

Terry is at the centre of a media storm after reports he cheated on his wife Toni with Bridge's former girlfriend, French lingerie modelVanessa Perroncel.

City players' support for Bridge, England's second choice left-back, is unlikely to sway Capello either way but the Italian will be mindful of the effect any scandal could have on

dressing room unity.