

Tsonga withdrew injured from his match

with Guillermo Garcia-Lopez after losing

the first set 6-2, and Spain's Nicolas

Almagro upset fourth-seeded Robin

Soderling of Sweden 6-4, 7-5 to set up a

Ninth-seed David Ferrer beat Marcos

Andy Murray, the 2008 winner, enjoyed

a smooth passage through to the third

round, beating Argentine qualifier Juan

Ignacio Chela 6-3, 6-3. The third-seeded

long time. I felt comfortable on the court,

Murray said. "I didn't serve that well in the

first set, but in the second I started to serve

United States, who plays Nadal in the next

round, and Stanislas Wawrinka of

Venus Williams beat Francesca Schiavone

of Italy 3-6, 6-1, 6-2 to move into the fourth

Jelena Jankovic beat fellow Serb Ana

Jankovic said. "I can't expect myself to play

so great, it's my first match here in Madrid

and it's high altitude and all that but I got

through and that is the most important

Other winners were John Isner of the

In the women's draw, fourth-seeded

In the second round, seventh-seeded

"It wasn't my best tennis today,"

a lot better and started to hit winners."

"It was the best I have hit the ball in a

meeting with Juan Monaco of Argentina.

Baghdatis 1-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Murray hit 32 winners.

Switzerland.

Ivanovic 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

thing. I get to play tomorrow."

round.

World number one American Serena Williams reacts after losing to Russian Nadia Petrova in the third round of the Madrid Masters

# Serena sent packing



Russia in the third round.

AP, Madrid

Top-ranked Serena Williams was knocked out of the Madrid Masters on Wednesday, falling 4-6, 6-2, 6-3 to Nadia Petrova of

Petrova, who has won 19 doubles titles, had 10 aces and frustrated Williams into

making 41 errors. Williams had looked out of form in a

marathon match against Vera Dushevina on Tuesday, which lasted 3 hours, 26 minutes. It was the longest match of her career.

Last year, Williams was beaten in the opening round in her first appearance at the Madrid Masters.

"I wasn't moving my fastest but all I could do was try and do the best I could. I don't know. I definitely wasn't at my best," said Williams, who criticised the tournament for its scheduling. "This isn't a player-favorite tournament, just to be honest. None of the players are really gungho about playing here."

In the men's draw, second-seeded Rafael Nadal advanced to the third round with a 6-4, 6-3 win against Ukrainian qualifierOleksandrDolgopolovJr.

Nadal broke early to take control of the first set, although Dolgopolov pressured the Spaniard's serve in the second with some strong groundstrokes.

Warne backs

Shane Warne has thrown his

support behind Michael Clarke

as captain of Australia's

Twenty20 team despite Clarke's

own struggles with the bat.

Warne believes Clarke's record

as the leader of the side - in 13

games he has never led his side

to defeat - is ample justification

for him being in the starting

battled to adjust to the tempo

of the shortest format and is

averaging 12 at the World

Twenty20. However, he has

captained an unbeaten

Australia into the semi-finals

after they bowed out in the first

round last year, and Warne was

impressed with Clarke's lead-

tain of the Twenty20 side and

he is doing a bloody good job,'

Warne told AAP. "I think they

"At the moment he is cap-

ership.

As a batsman, Clarke has

Clarke

CRICINFO

A superb forehand down the line by Nadal gave him a breakpoint which he converted to go 4-3 up in the second. Dolgopolov saved a match point serving at 5-3 down but Nadal still broke to close out the match.

Nadal was in the Madrid Masters on the back of tournament wins in Monte Carlo and Rome. The 2005 champion and 2009 finalist is hoping to extend the record for ATP World Tour 1000 titles of 17 he shares with Andre Agassi.

At 21, the 62-ranked Dolgopolov is the youngest player in the ATP top 100.

"He's very unusual and very difficult to play against. He's very fast with his shots and he has a fast serve too," Nadal said. "It was an important victory for me because for a moment the match wasn't under control."

Earlier, fifth-seeded Andy Roddick withdrew from the tournament before his second-round match against Feliciano Lopez due to illness. Lopez instead played and beat Spanish countryman Oscar Hernandez, who failed to qualify.

"In the end it's positive not having to play against Roddick, although I was looking forward to playing himit would have been a fun match. But now I just have to be happy to be in the next round," Lopez said.

In the third round, the Spaniard will face Ernests Gulbis of Latvia, who beat

10th-seeded Mikhail Youzhny of Russia. Also, seventh-seeded Jo-Wilfried pub brawl PTI, Gros Islet

Yuvraj denies

Indian cricket team's trouble doesn't end with their ouster from Twenty20 World Cup with reports suggesting that some of the players were involved in a pub brawl here even though Yuvraj Singh dismissed the claim.

According to reports, six Indian players went to a local pub, Tequila Joe's, on Wednesday night where fans started taunting and abusing them for their failure to reach the semifinal of the Twenty20 World Cup.

Pacer Ashish Nehra and Zaheer Khan apparently lost their cool and got into a confrontation with the fans and Yuvraj had to intervene to calm down his teammates, reports claimed.

Yuvraj himself, however, denied the reports.

"There was no fight, not even an argument," Yuvraj wrote on his Twitter page, asking the media not to "make up stories".

#### Bekele still not ready to run

AFP, Doha

Kenenisa Bekele, a triple Olympic gold medalist and five-time world champion, has still not set a date for a comeback from a calf injury that has plagued him since January, his agent Jos Hermens said here on Thursday. "The tear is healed but there

remains some residue," Hermens said ahead of the season-opening IAAF Diamond League meet here on Friday.

"It's too early to talk about a comeback date. You have to go step-by-step."

### Jimmy

**FROM PAGE 17** 

to a mistake by defender Chayan, who cleared the ball by the backside of his stick and the referee awarded Sri Lanka a penalty stroke from which Sri Lanka levelled the margin and snatched a point from the hosts.

It was also learnt that two senior players were involved in a brawl at one stage of altercation.

**FROM PAGE 17** 

Batting first, Dashara Nabajagaran Sangsad were all out for 178 runs in 38.3 overs. Arun scored 51 while Nur Alam picked up four wickets.

33.1 overs.

Aminur scored 60 while Arun took two wickets.

Youth Volleyball competition in Narail yesterday.

3-1 while Comilla crushed Tangail 3-0 in straight sets. Noakhali became the third semifinalist with a 3-0 straight sets win over Patuakhali.

Noakhali will take on Comilla in the first semifinal today while Narail await the winner of the fourth quarterfinal between Dhaka and Jessore for the second semifinal.

**ACROSS** 

1 Cauldron

4 Surprise

cries

7 FDR's

dog

11 Essen's

river

14 PC

15 First

16 Anger

ous

poet

17 Lascivi-

18 Modernist

22 Youngster

cheese

24 Melted-

dish

28 Sleep-

wear

32 Exceed-

34 — Kippur

art gallery

36 London

37 Gold or

silver

orange

magis-

trate

39 Yellow-

41 Roman

ingly

**33** Egg

20 Otherwise 58 Active

13 "Phooey!"

picture

name of

18-Across

# Aus-Eng final will benefit us: Clarke

AFP, Gros Islet

Australia captain Michael Clarke had said meeting England in the final of the World Twenty20 would be an ideal way to set the TWENTY20 stage for their upcoming Ashes series.

England face Sri Lanka in the first semifinal of the World Twenty20 at the Beausejour Stadium here on Thursday, with Australia up against defending champions Pakistan at the same venue on Friday.

Australia beat the West Indies by six wickets Tuesday to maintain their unbeaten record in the tournament. Asked after that match how he would feel

about playing England in the final in Barbados on Sunday, Clarke replied: "I'd look forward to that, yeah.' England hold the Ashes after a 2-1 series win

on home soil last year but in November will travel 'Down Under' where they haven't won a Test series since 1986/87. "If we beat Pakistan and meet England in the

final it would be a good start to what is going to be a very good and interesting summer back in Australia as with the Ashes," Clarke said. "For me right now I've got both eyes on

Pakistan and I'll worry about everything else after that. Australia haven't won either of the two previous World Twenty20s and last year's edition in

England was considered by many of their fans to

be a sideshow to the main business of the Ashes. They were dumped out of that tournament in three days after defeats by the West Indies and Sri Lanka.

But it has been a different story in the West Indies with fast bowling trio Dirk Nannes, Mitchell Johnson and Shaun Tait in the wickets and dynamic opener David Warner leading a powerful batting line-up. "No doubt it has motivated every player, not

just throughout this tournament but throughout

the last 12 months," Clarke said of Australia's Twenty20 record.

"We weren't performing as well as we would have liked in this form of the game. We've cer-

tainly improved over the last 12 months. "We've had to work very hard to get to the position we're in. Even in this tournament there have been no easy games."

England, too, have not won the World Twenty20 title, although they pioneered the format in professional senior cricket.

But with the likes of batsmen Kevin Pietersen, Eoin Morgan and all-rounder Tim Bresnan to the fore, England have emerged as serious contenders to win this edition in the Caribbean.

"They play a lot of Twenty20 cricket in England and they've always had a lot of talent," Clarke said.

"It's great for English cricket to see them come out and gel a few new players into their squad as well."

However, he said he thought the pitch at Beausejour, which has less pace than the one at the Kensington Oval in Barbados, which has also been used for Super Eights matches and the venue for the final, would favour Sri Lanka, last year's losing finalists.

"It's going to be a fantastic game on Thursday. Again I think conditions out here are probably going to suit Sri Lanka more than England.

"Who knows what can happen? Both teams are very strong." Clarke remains wary of a Pakistan side who

seem to be coming into form just at the right time, having been well beaten by 34 runs by Australia in a first round group match at Beausejour. "This game on Friday is a huge game for us. It's

going to be tough. Pakistan have a lot of spinners and they have a lot of class," Clarke said.

"Beating them a week ago is irrelevant. If we beat them, it doesn't bother me who we play in the final."

"We'll keep our fingers crossed. We'd love the

see cricket back at home.

"The situation in India was

not so good four, five, six years

ago when Pakistan visited there

and Sri Lanka as well but

Pakistan was the only team that

visited there and played there.

should (have), cricket relations

should continue."

Enamul

FROM PAGE 17

front.

birth in the finals.

"I think this is the thing we

"I had watched only the last

30 minutes of Hasus's match

against Dordei and that time

their legs were very tired, but

what I had learnt from others

that they dominated the first

half," said Amalesh adding that

they would go with the same

formation of five defenders

keeping either Enamul or

Ghanaian Awudu Ibrahim in

The Abahani coach also

# Afridi wants to win

**FROM PAGE 17** Yet the kind of off-field dramas

that might destabilise rival international sides are regarded as part and parcel of Pakistani cricket life. "It's a normal thing for us,

going through this kind of situation," Afridi told reporters of Pakistan's disciplinary problems at Beausejour Stadium Wednesday. "The only thing is perfor-

mance and if we win the games everything will be fine," Afridi added.

As was the case in England last year, Pakistan have had a less than smooth journey to the semifinals, having been well beaten early on by Australia, losing by six wickets to England in the Super Eights and then going down by one run in the second round to New Zealand.

win to stay in the tournament, Pakistan beat South Africa by 11 runs on Monday.

"We had a very similar

But in a match they had to

are focused on beating Australia," leg-spinning allrounder Afridi said. "I think we are feeling good. "We have played well but

situation in England, but we

just missed some opportunities, against England and then just losing (on the last ball) against New Zealand. "Overall the guys are very

confident after the last game and I think it will be a great game against Australia." Afridi said his team's prog-

ress was vital to the well-being of cricket in Pakistan and urged the rest of the game's leading nations to return to his homeland, saying his side had toured countries where security was an issue. "This competition is very

important," he said. "We are here to play good cricket and win this competition because there is no cricket in Pakistan.

"We tell the people we still love playing cricket away and at

wanted another spirited performance from his midfielders, who virtually controlled the play in the game. However, Abahani will miss the service of midfielder Pranotosh Kumar due to injury and Amalesh will have to

choose from Zahed Parvez, Shahedul Alam or Abul Hossain. Amalesh has also some

worries over Motiur Munna, defender Mohammad Sujan and Mehdi Hasan Ujjal, who were nursing minor injuries but would be fit for today's game. Hasus coach Chao Jung Jui is

only worried about the hot weather as his boys are not used to play in such condition, but he promised to do their best in a relatively better condition underlights.

are playing a good brand of cricket. I think what you are seeing is him maturing - he is becoming a good leader and good player.' Clarke has been praised for his attacking captaincy in the Caribbean, where he has backed his aggressive fast men and the legspinner Steven Smith, giving them fields that target wickets

and not just containment. The

former captain Steve Waugh said

Clarke fully deserved his place in theside. "Form's temporary, class is permanent," Waugh said in the Australian. "He's a good enough player to adapt to that form of the game. I don't see that as a big issue right now. A lot of people are saying he needs to up the ante but if he's encouraging players around him and getting the best out of them that's great for the team. He scores quick enough in my mind to be successful at T20."

#### Shakib hit

FROM PAGE 17 game against England Lions

which will start from May 19. Tamim's condition has

improved and the doctor whom he consulted in London yesterday has given him the green signal.

The dashing left-hander missed the second group match against Australia in the ICC Twenty20 World Cup in West Indies and also missed the tour opener against Surrey a few days ago.

## Gary blasts players in ODIs, and were not com-

and Zaheer.

#### Cricket

CRICINFO

Gary Kirsten, India's coach, has come down hard on some of the Indian players' "fitness and commitment" after his side failed to win a single game in the Super Eights of the World Twenty20, a repeat performance from last year.

Before addressing the team and handing them a dressingdown in the West Indies, Kirsten had a one-on-one interaction with senior players

- MS Dhoni, Yuvraj Singh, Gautam Gambhir, Harbhajan Singh, Zaheer Khan and Ashish Nehra. Team sources said that Kirsten told the group he was angry to see that even he - a 42-year-old - was fitter than some of the players. Yuvraj and Rohit Sharma got special mention with regards to fitness, the sources said. Kirsten demanded better fitness from the players and gave them one month to show results on that front.

Kirsten also said in the meeting that the players seemed content with the No. 1 ranking in Tests and the No. 2

minutes from time and Sri

Lanka leveled the margin

Bangladesh a 10th minute lead

veteran striker drove to collect

a fierce hit from Rasel Mahmud

Jimmy to find the target only to

have the lead cancelled out by

Lankan forward Prabath

Wijeyakoon, who converted a

penalty stroke 10 minutes into

ahead with Chayan converting

a penalty stroke in the 48th

minutes and Sri Lanka bounced

back to level the margin with

Randika Fernando scoring from

made it 3-2 for Bangladesh in

the 58th minute before man-

Pushkor Khisa Mimo then

with a fantastic strike as the

Maksudul Alam Habul gave

**FROM PAGE 17** 

through the stroke.

the second half.

the penalty corner.

Hosts draw again

mitted to the team cause in the World Twenty20. It is worth noting that only four of the 15 players present there are sure starters in Test matches:

Dhoni, Gambhir, Harbhajan

While it is not the first time that a coach has lashed out at a team, the timing and the harshness of this dressingdown suggest the severity of the problem, especially coming from a man usually content with the back seat. India's early exit from the World Twenty20, their third such effort in last three global events, has drawn harsh criticism from various quarters, but this coming from the coach is the most damning of all. After last year's debacle too, Kirsten had raised similar fitness and intensity questions. He had blamed IPL

fatigue then. His plea bore little result this year. After a six-week-long IPL, India got a five-day break before their first match in the world Twenty20. Yuvraj, coming back from a wrist injury, played all 14 of Kings XI Punjab's matches. Zaheer sat out of two of India's five

of-the-match Prabath scored

from the penalty stroke to

snatch a point from

Bangladesh stay jointly at

third position along with Hong

Kong and Oman after Chinese

Taipei and Singapore are in the

first and second position

last few days over how many

teams would qualify for the

finals from this tournament

and tournament director S

confirmed yesterday that six

out of the seven participating

teams would qualify for the

finals to be held in China in

Kong and Chinese Taipei

played out a 1-1 draw while

Oman beat Thailand 4-2.

In the other matches, Hong

There was confusion in the

Bangladesh.

respectively.

November.

Bangladesh again went Yashudhasan from Malaysia

matches in the World Twenty20. Zaheer, Gambhir and Nehra missed matches at various stages of the IPL, and Nehra was picked for India even before he had returned to full fitness for Delhi Daredevils.

#### England **FROM PAGE 17**

Sri Lanka's next best score was 16, achieved by both captain Kumar Sangakkara, who won the toss, and Chamara Kapugedera.

Paceman Stuart Broad led the attack with two wickets for 21 runs off his four permitted overs. Both left-arm quick Ryan Sidebottom and Broad took a wicket first ball as Sri Lanka collapsed to 26 for three.

Spinners Graeme Swann and Michael Yardy then ensured runs remained hard to come by with a combined eight overs that cost just 41 runs.

At the start of their run chase, England were confronted by a trio of spinners as Sri Lanka looked to exploit their supposed vulnerability against slow bowling on a pitch offering some turn.

Michael Lumb settled any lingering nerves with an openingstand of 68. Kieswetter was eventually yorked by Malinga for 39 and Lumb bowled for 33, walking

But Craig Kieswetter, driving

strongly, and left-hander

Thissara Perera. But the damage had already been done.

across his stumps, by seamer

Sri Lanka collapsed to 26 for three against England seamers Tim Bresnan, Sidebottom and Broad. Later, it was the spin duo of

Graeme Swann and Michael

Yardy who choked the Sri

Lankans with some tight

bowling. **SCORES IN BRIEF** 

SRI LANKA: 128-6 in 20 overs (Matthews 58, Kapugedera 16, Sangakkara 16; Broad 2-21, Swann 1-20, Sidebottom 1-24). ENGLAND: 132-3 in 16 overs (Pietersen 42\*, Kieswetter 39, Lumb 33; Perera 2-19).

Result: England won by seven wickets.

### LOCAL SNIPPETS

In reply, Green Valley reached 173 for five wickets in

YOUTHVOLLEYBALL Narail and Comilla reached the semifinals of the Jesco National

The hosts defeated Khulna

43 Sticky

44 Black,

46 Light

50 Options

53 Female

deer

con-

56 Culture

long

time

one

59 Mutts

60 Single

61 Doctor's

due

ACIDIC

57 Very

tendere

medium

55 —

stuff

poetry

carriage



Pakistan skipper Shahid Afridi speaks to the media in St Lucia on Wednesday. They will take on Australia in the World Twenty20

> > **CRYPTOQUIP**

CPW ZGBO INCY UA YNUMN G

TPGSOK YCA DS MKOGLUAZ

LNO DOIL-LGILUAZ TUMQPO:

BGQO WUPP." G Saturday's Cryptoquip: PROMINENT WILD

WEST LAWMAN WHO WAS QUITE FAMOUS FOR HIS SILENT DEMEANOR: QUIET EARP.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals L

S T R I K E R K A P P A T O O T N A E S L A V ULTBUGLEALE B L A Z E R G R A Z E R S E R E N E A G H A S T D Y N E S R O A S T

47 Blunder 48 Merriment 49 Bygone times

50 Crazed terpart

51 ld coun-

54 Compass

52 Old horse

42 Wild West

dir.

maybe "POL'I

28 "- and end to Circumt'other stance" 4 Sapporo 29 State sash 5 Tortoise's with conviction opponent 30 Twine 6 Ledge 7 "HTTP fiber

Error 404" 31 "Help!"

second semifinal today.

21 Junior

23 Rotation

25 Cherish-

27 Paradise

26 "Do -

duration

ed one

others ...'

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

DOWN

1 Get

ready, for

flavored

3 From one

liqueur

short

2 Anise-

35 Periodimessage 8 High card cal, 9 Debriefly 38 High-arc pressed 10 Plus **12** The 40 Watch unskilled chain

show 45 Lunch-Solution time: 24 mins. S T A B S A D A G E A C I D I C R U B A T O time, P A N Z E R G E E Z E R H R S R E B U T I R E I C E D E R E A N N C DELAYORANGES VATSUN

19 Poorly lit