

England players celebrate with the trophy after beating Pakistan in the fifth and final ODI at the Rose Bowl in Southampton on Wednesday. England won the one-day series 3-2.

Eng win series in style

Cricket

AFP, Southampton

sion to bat first.

Eoin Morgan's latest match-winning Rose Bowl century saw England to a crushing 121-run victory against Pakistan as they took the five-match one-day series 3-2 on Wednesday to end a scandalmarred season.

Success meant England had won consecutive Test (3-1), Twenty20 (2-0) and limited-overs series against a Pakistan side whose tour was overshad-

owed by 'spot-fixing' allegations. Man-of-the-match Morgan made 107 not out in a total of 256 for six after England had slumped to 47 for three following captain Andrew Strauss's deci-

Former Ireland left-hander Morgan had previously made an unbeaten 103 as England beat Australia by four wickets in the first one-dayer at the Rose Bowl in June.

Pakistan were eventually dismissed for 135 with 13 overs still left, seamer Stuart Broad taking three for 25 and off-spinner Graeme Swann three for 26. "It was a huge game of cricket really, a

very tough series," Strauss told reporters. Ijaz Butt, the Pakistan Cricket Board

chairman, fuelled the controversy engulfing this tour by accusing England of losing last week's third one-day international at The Oval deliberately.

"It's been a long summer and we've been to some pretty unpleasant places as a team over the last few days and had to show a lot of unity and togetherness," Strauss, the man-of-the-series, added.

OUR CORRESPONDENT,

Nuru Mia Gold Cup Football

Tournament will get under-

way today with hosts Faridpur

taking on Meherpur in the

A total of sixteen teams will

take part in the competition.

The final match will be held on

A press conference was held

yesterday at the Faridpur Krira

Sangstha auditorium in con-

5 lakh while runners up Tk 2

lakh and each participating

Labour and Employment

Minister Engineer Khondoker

Mosharraf Hossain will inau-

Serena out of

World number one Serena

Williams has withdrawn from

next week's Pan Pacific Open in

Japan because of injury, organ-

Williams cut her foot on

Tournament organisers said

the 13-time Grand Slam winner

had not fully recovered after an

operation on the injury, which

also forced her out of the US

Most of world's top 30 play-

ers will take part in the two

million dollar hard court tour-

nament in Tokyo from

September 26 to October 2.

Akbar land

the Bangladesh League.

FROM PAGE 17

broken glass at a restaurant shortly after winning her fourth

isers said on Thursday.

Wimbledon crown in July.

Pan Pacific

team will get Tk 20, 000.

gurate the meet.

Open

AFP, tokyo

Open.

Champions will receive Tk

nection with the tournament.

Faridpur

opening match.

October 15.

us when the last wicket went down. Motivation wasn't a probem." Pakistan captain Shahid Afridi said: "I

was thinking about a happy ending but it hasn't happened.

"There were some controversies on this tour but my team was very united and I think this will give us some good results in the future." Shoaib Akhtar, in what could be the 35-

year-old Pakistan fast bowler's last international in England, gave fans something to remember him by with three wickets for 40 runs, including an impressive opening spell of two for 17 in six blistering overs.

Pakistan, who had been 2-0 down in this series, saw openers Kamran Akmal and Mohammad Hafeez put on fifty in just 47 balls featuring 10 boundaries.

But Broad took two wickets in two balls

to leave Pakistan 63 for two.

Hafeez went for 29, courtesy of the latest brilliant backward point catch by Paul Collingwood and Broad then had Asad Shafiq caught behind by wicketkeeper Steven Davies.

Mohammad Yousuf survived the seamer's hattrick but England had regained control of the match.

England then had a massive slice of luck when Kamran Akmal was given out lbw for 41 to medium pacer Luke Wright by home umpire Ian Gould, despite edging onto his pad.

Swann, whose fifth delivery had seen Fawad Alam bowled in classic style, struck twice in two balls to remove Yousuf and Afridi -- like Asif out for a first ball nought -- to leave the tourists all but beaten at 104

Earlier, Morgan had a reprieve when Man-of-the-match: Eoin Morgan. "You could see how much it meant to on 31 he chipped off-spinner Hafeez Man-of-the-series: Andrew Strauss.

Mike Hussey hit a half-

century and held two crucial

catches as the Chennai Super

Kings reached the Champions

League Twenty20 semifinals

with a 10-run win over the

Eastern Cape Warriors on

But the vanquished Warriors also qualified for

the knock-out stage, scoring enough runs to edge

out the Victorian Bushrangers on net run rate after

Chennai, the Warriors and Victoria all finished

fellow Indian Premier League team Royal

Challengers Bangalore in Durban on Friday while

the Warriors will play the South Australian

expected to do well," said Chennai captain

Mahendra Singh Dhoni, looking forward to what

he expected to be a "fantastic" match against

Warriors captain Davy Jacobs was relieved to

"We were good with the ball but not good with

On a slow pitch which made stroke play diffi-

The Warriors needed to score at least 109 runs

the bat," he said. "Maybe that was the bad game

cult, particularly as the ball lost its shine and

hardness, Chennai struggled to 136 for six.

Warriors could only manage 126 for eight.

"We are the IPL champions and we are

The final is in Johannesburg on Sunday.

Redbacks in Centurion on Saturday.

Chennai, who topped the group, will meet

down the ground and Yousuf held a fine catch over his shoulder.

But Yousuf, realising he could not stop himself from going over the boundary, threw the ball in-field to prevent a four only to turn his ankle as he slipped in the process, an injury that later meant he batted with a runner.

Morgan, on 91 when the last over started, struck off-spinner Saeed Ajmal straight for six and four off successive balls to complete a 97-ball century.

Jonathan Trott, whose pre-match confrontation with Wahab Riaz ahead of the tourists' victory at Lord's on Monday had fanned the flames of the 'fixing' controversy, walked out to a chorus of And it wasn't long before Trott,

cheered by England supporters as much as he was booed all match by Pakistan fans, was out for three after Akhtar's express off-cutter demolished his stumps.

Pakistan's Salman Butt, Mohammad Aamer and Mohammad Asif have all been suspended by the International Cricket Council and questioned by British police over an alleged plot to bowl deliberate noballs during last month's Test at Lord's.

SCORES IN BRIEF

ENGLAND: 256 for 6 in 50 overs (Strauss 25, Bell 28, Collingwood 47, Morgan 107 not out; Akhtar 3-40)

PAKISTAN: 135 all out in 37 overs (K Akmal 41, Hafeez 29, Yousuf 20, U Akmal 19; Broad 3-25, Swann 3-26)

Result: England won by 121 runs and clinched five-match series 3-2.

to go ahead of Victoria on run rate and even that

looked problematical until veteran South African

wicketkeeper Mark Boucher hit two sixes off left-

Hussey and Murali Vijay put on 63 for the first

16 runs were scored off left-armer Nicky Boje's

first over, and skipper Davy Jacobs made what

proved to be an inspired decision when he called

on medium-pacer Justin Kreusch to bowl the

side's previous three matches, taking one wicket

for 35 runs, but he produced an inspired spell,

bowling Vijay with his fourth delivery and follow-

ing up with the wickets of Suresh Raina and

Subramaniam Badrinath to finish with three for

wicket of Hussey, who swung across a full ball

and was bowled, and conceded only 27 runs in

Seamer Rusty Theron was even more economical,

giving up just 16 runs and taking one wicket in his

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS: 136-6 in 20 overs

(M Hussey 50, Vijay 35, Dhoni 31 not out;

CAPE WARRIORS: 126-8 in 20 overs (Jacobs 32,

Kreusch 25, Boucher 25; Ashwin 3-24,..

Result: Chennai Super Kings won by 10 runs.

Off-spinner Johan Botha claimed the key

Kreusch had bowled only four overs in his

Chennai seemed set for a big total when

With slow bowlers expected to play a big role,

arm spinner Shakab Jakati in the 17th over.

wicket.

ninth over.

19 off four overs.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Kreusch 3-19)

Muralidaran 2-19)

four overs.

Nuru Mia Gold CSK, Warriors thru'

SPORTS REPORTER

The Dhaka Metropolis Table Tennis Leagues gets underway on September 28 through the First Division at the newly-build

The First Division League will feature 18 teams while ten teams will take part in the Senior Division League, which will star on September 29, said a press release yesterday.

The Women's League will

Eng demand **Butt apology**

AFP, London

England players demanded a "full and unreserved apology" from Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Ijaz Butt on Thursday and threatened legal action after he alleged they had deliberately lost last week's third one-day international at The Oval.

"There is loud and clear talk in bookie circles that some English players have taken enormous amounts of money to lose the match (the third ODI)," Butt said. "No wonder there was such a collapse."

The fourth and fifth matches of the series then went ahead despite fears England would pull out in protest at Butt's remarks.

But the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and the Professional Cricketers Association (PCA), the players' union, released a statement Thursday saying: "The ECB and the PCA today confirmed that a pre-action letter has been sent on behalf of the England cricket team to Ijaz Butt, chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board, following his allegations that the England cricket team were involved in fixing the outcome of the third NatWest Series oneday international between England and Pakistan, played at The Brit Insurance Oval on September 17th 2010. "The letter seeks a full and

unreserved apology. "Mr Butt has been advised

that if a satisfactory response is not received, legal proceedings will be commenced against him without further notice."

Butt's comments were just one twist in a tale of alleged cricket corruption that overshadowed an English season which ended with England beating Pakistan by 121 runs at the Rose Bowl to wrap up a 3-2 one-day series win on Wednesday.

2nd Councilor Gold Cup

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Ward No. 8 beat Ward No. 3 by 4-3 in tiebreaker in the day's first match of the 2nd Councilor Gold Cup Football tournament at the Rajshahi Stadium vesterday. The match was locked at 1-

1 in the regulation time. Suman was adjudged man of the match. In the second match, Sajid

made a hattrick as Ward No. 23 thrashed Ward No. 10 by 6-0 goals at the same venue.

TT leagues from next week

Wooden Floor Gymnasium.

feature eight teams.

strong in 'fixing' probe

Cricket

AFP, Southampton

England captain Andrew Strauss called on the International Cricket Council (ICC) to leave "no stone unturned" in their probe into cricket corruption after his side ended a scandal-marred season with a one-day series win over Pakistan here on Wednesday.

"This summer has clearly demonstrated when there is a sniff of something in the air it devalues the whole game and nobody wants to play cricket in those circumstances," Strauss told a news conference after the end of a tour mired in 'fixing' allegations. England thrashed Pakistan by 121 runs in the fifth and final one-dayer at the Rose Bowl for a 3-2 series win after Pakistan had fought backto 2-2 from 2-0 down.

Eoin Morgan, Strauss's Middlesex teammate, was named man-of-the-match for his unbeaten 107 in a total of 256 for six.

Pakistan, only briefly in the hunt, were dismissed for 135 with exactly 13 overs to spare as Stuart Broad and Graeme Swann took three wickets apiece.

But those statistics remained overshadowed by the newspaper claims that led to Pakistan's Salman Butt, Mohammad Aamer and Mohammad Asif being suspended by the ICC and questioned by British police over an alleged plot to bowl deliberate no-balls during last month's Test at Lord's.

England then found themselves in the firing line when Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Ijaz Butt accused them of losing last week's third one-day international at The Oval on purpose. "The ICC must leave no stone unturned,"

Strauss said. "We are keen to move on from this series and very keen not to have a repeat of this at any time in the future, which is why it's so important the ICC take a very strong lead from now on and don't take a breather now this series finished." England were struggling at 47 for three until

former Ireland left-hander Morgan revived the innings with an excellently paced hundred that saw him go to three figures in the last over with a six and a four off successive deliveries from offspinnerSaeedAjmal.

Strauss urges ICC to get

"Having been 2-0 up in the series, and cosy about things, it's a bit of a shock to the system to suddenly be 2-2 -- especially given what went on over the last week," man-of-the-series Strauss

"We had to get a competitive total -- and for a while there, it looked like we were going to struggle to do that.

"But Morgs' innings was an outstanding one and put us in a good position to finish them off."

Disappointed Pakistan one-day captain Shahid Afridi said: "I was thinking about a happy endingbutithasn'thappened.

"There were some controversies on this tour but my team was very united and I think this will give us some good results in the future." Pakistan originally arrived in England to play

neutral series against Australia as their homeland has become a no-go area for international cricket since last year's armed attack on Sri Lanka's team bus in Lahore. Afridi said he would love to play in England

again although Butt's recent comments and the general 'fixing' controversy appear to have ended anyhopes of a quick return visit. "We are ready to play anywhere. I would love to

come back here, England is like a second home to me," Afridi said.

This series was England's last before they begin the defence of the Ashes in Australia in November. They will go into that contest on the back of six

straight home series wins against Bangladesh (Test and one-dayers), Australia (one-day internationals) and Pakistan (Tests, Twenty20 and one-dayers). England haven't won a Test series in

Australia since 1986/87 but Strauss said: "The feeling is we are in a very good place. We've won six series out of six this summer, I don't know when the last time England did that was. "Ultimately, going to Australia is a big chal-

lenge and we are going to have to start from square one all over again," added Strauss ahead of Thursday's Ashes squad announcement. "It's one of the biggest (northern) winters any

of us can possibly dream of and it's very hard not to be excited by that."

Sylhet: Underachievers "There is no atmosphere for get back into the national team

be enough," said Kapali, who

added that the local cricketers' association organised a tournament last year but that is not as good as league cricket. The lack of proper matches

has a tremendous effect on the level of interest. According to one former player, boys in Sylhet have lost all interest in playing cricket and the casual yet popular para matches have also faded away. "How did we start playing

cricket? When we were kids, we saw matches in the Osmani Stadium and ran back home to play with our friends. This is not the case anymore. Boys are only interested in computer games and finding ways to go to London," he said. But the blame obviously

doesn't lie with the kids, but with the inactive organisers, who have remained stagnant, and the absolute nonexistence of infrastructure in the city. The former player mentions how Baisya struggles to find a proper practice facility. "Tapash is one guy who is

always looking for practice in the off-season but remains frustrated. There is hardly any cricket facility for even the NCL players," said Kapali, adding that he hadn't seen any new organisers and most of them who have not moved on to other businesses, are more interested in renting shops in the stadium and idling away hours in the clubs.

cricket here," he said. Senior players have also

admitted a general lack of commitment in the last few years but according to Rajin, the players have practised for the last few months preparing for this season's first-class competition. "Some can blame the

organisers but the players have to show enough commitment at this level. "But that is all in the past. We

have worked hard over the last few months and we organised the sessions out of our own pocket and with help from the players' association," said Rajin, who has played 24 Tests and 43 one-dayers for the Kapali also said that some

young players like Rajin's younger brother Rizvi and Shaker Ahmed could give them a chance to do well this season. "Actually our bowling attack is good because we have

Enam, Nabil, Nazmul and

Shaker. We need to click with the bat this year," he said. Shaker, the under-19 leftarm spinner, has progressed over the last two years and Kapali believes he is one for the future. "He has improved a lot. I wanted him to play last year but age was a factor but now he's ready," said Kapali, who

"The selectors said I have to do something extraordinary to

himself is eyeing a lot of runs

this year.

so I think it's best to start with the four-day games," he said. Last year's position: Sixth. Strength: Motivation to win a

Player to watch out for: Shaker Ahmed. Afridi for

match after four years.

UDRS AFP, Karachi

Pakistan one-day captain Shahid Afridi has called for the introduction of a system to review umpire decisions in one-day matches, saying that one wrong decision can decide the outcome.

The International Cricket

Council introduced the Umpire Decision Review System (UDRS) on a trial basis in Tests in June 2008, allowing teams to challenge on-field umpire decisions and refer them to a television umpire.

Teams have two opportunities per innings to contest an on-field decision, but the most contentious issue with the system is that hosts have to pay for the technology costs -- unacceptable to several countries.

But Afridi said UDRS should be implemented in one-day matches to eliminate umpiring errors.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer **ACROSS** 19 Otherwis€ 36 Period DOWN

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8	Wilbur's	47	Gene-	7	Owns		feature
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New name, new goal "We do not have any inten- the area will be given priority **FROM PAGE 17**

forward to include the name

AFP, Port Elizabeth

Airtel

CHAMPIONS

LEAGUE

Wednesday.

Bangalore.

have qualified.

we needed."

Group Aon six points.

TWENTY 20

of Lt. Sheikh Jamal with Dhanmondi Club in an executive committee meeting in April 2009 and in August, the annual general meeting approved renaming of the club," informed Kader, adding that they had also taken the permission from the Bangabandhu Trust to use the name of Sheikh Jamal, son of

Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib. Claiming to take the club on the right way, the club presicompatriot Diego Andres dent also informed they had Cruciani coached the already constructed a wall Dhanmondi-based outfit around the ground, which was during the second edition of once used by drug-addicts and prostitutes during night time.

tion to run the club on cigarette, betel leaf and peanut sellers as big companies like UCBL, Partex, Bashundhara, Rupayan, Summit, Nitol Group are with us," said Kader adding that they had designed the club ground with the help of experts from BUET.

Replying to a query, the committee chairman Liakat club president said that they would not backtrack from forming strong teams every year as long as sponsors supported the club.

"There will be a walkway round the ground so that the veterans of Dhanmondi Club can jog and only the boys of

to use the ground apart from the players," said Kader. man of governing body and

managing director of UCBL, said they want to bring the club as well as its players to a standard level. Apart from them, football

Mahmudul Hasan and cricket committee chairman Zia The club will start its train-

Shawkat Aziz Rasel, chair-

Ali Khan Mukul, football committee adviser Kazi Ahmed were present.

ing camp from September 27 at the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan in Savar.

24 Vanished mates 25 Encroach 51 Stitch 29 Suitable Solution time: 25 mins. 30 Construc-

tion site machine 31 Versatile vehicle 32 Barren 34 "A Death

Family" writer 35 Nitwit

SETOFCHINA HUCK RAVINE in the E M I T P T A I D E S L O N G O A T L E A S S A G O T I E Y A L E

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CLASSIC KIDS' TALE OF A BLOND-HAIRED GIRL AND HER ANCESTORS: "GOLDILOCKS AND THE FOREBEARS."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals P

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