## Azarenka in final

AFP, Moscow

Viktoria Azarenka of Belarus reached her fourth final of the season here on Saturday, defeating Spain's Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez in the semifinals of the WTA Kremlin Cup.

The 21-year-old second seed won comfortably 6-3, 6-3 in one hour 16 minutes to record her first win over Sanchez in what was their third head-to-head meeting.

"You never know what to expect of her," Azarenka said of heropponent.

"I chose the right tactics against Sanchez. I did not allow her to change rhythm as she likes doing and played aggressively on her serve."

"Sanchez served hard and won many points on her serve. But I was battling for every single point and that was the key to my victory."

In a tight opening to the tie, games went with serve until the sixth game, when Azarenka, who was playing her seventh semi-final of the year, broke the Sanchez serve to take the openingset in 37 minutes.



AT HOME IN ABU DHABI: Pakistan cricket captain Shahid Afridi (R) arrives with his teammates at the Abu Dhabi Airport yesterday. Pakistan will play their home series of two Twenty20s, five one-day internationals and two Tests against South Africa in the United Arab Emirates.

# Asif withdraws appeal

Cricket

AFP, Paris

The International Cricket Council (ICC) said Friday that Pakistan's fast bowler Mohammad Asif had withdrawn his challenge to the provisional suspension handed down last month for alleged match-fixing.

Teammates Salman Butt and Mohammad Aamer have appealed against their own provisional suspensions and their hearings are still set for Dubai on October 30 and 31.

"Mohammad Asif confirmed earlier today [Friday] that he has withdrawn his challenge to the provisional suspension imposed on him on 2 September 2010 pending determination of the charges brought against him under the ICC's Anti-Corruption Code," the ICC said.

"Arrangements are now being made for the challenges being made by Salman Butt and Mohammad Aamer against their provisional suspensions," an ICC statement read, the organisation adding it would not make any further comment for the time being.

The trio were charged with offences under

the ICC's anti-corruption code after test captain Butt and fast bowlers Aamer and Asif were all named in a News of the World report alleging they were involved in a "spot-fixing" scam by bowling deliberate no-balls in a summer Test match with England in exchange for cash.

ICC chief executive Haroon Lorgat had warned that the sport had to take a tough stand to preserve cricket's integrity, noting that such offences "carry serious penalties up to a life

The News of the World claimed that Aamer and Asif had bowled no-balls on request during the fourth Test at the Brit Oval, with Butt orchestrating the alleged fix.

Scotland Yard was called in and the trio had their mobile phones confiscated by police investigators.

Further allegations dogged the subsequent one-day series between England and Pakistan. The panel set to hear the remaining appeals

is to be chaired by the head of the ICC's Code of Conduct Commission Michael Beloff QC.

Owing to their suspensions, the trio had been left out of Pakistan's upcoming tour of the United Arab Emirates, where they will meet South Africa.

# Changes not now: NZC

Cricket

CRICINFO

Muktis

past their opponents in the first

two matches of this round.

However, having already con-

firmed a semifinal spot, the

Gopibagh outfit decided to rest

eight of their players from the

earlier match including key

playmakers Brazilian Everton

Santos, Ghanaian Enock Bentil,

Richard and Faisal Mahmood.

And they looked dull through-

out the game and hardly ever

threatened the opposition goal.

Muktijoddha, on the other

hand, played with purpose and

overwhelmed the opposition

Sudanese striker James

Moga looked threatening from

the beginning, and took a cou-

ple of freekicks that tested the

young Brothers goalkeeper

Moga was threatening the

Brothers goal with darting runs,

a Bukola cross just went a little

too far for Moga to pounce on it.

However, the pressure paid off

in the half-hour mark when they

were awarded a penalty, though

a bit controversially, as Titu's

shot came off the arm of

Brothers defender Nahid inside

Moga stepped up and calmly

Five minutes later, Moga

doubled the lead as Brothers

were looking to get back into the

match. It was a fine effort from

midfielder Bukola who

threaded an inch perfect pass

for Moga who saw his first

attempt parried away by the

keeper, but made no mistake

brought off in the second half as

Muktis breathed easy. Their

pressing did not ease though

and they found a third goal on

the 70th minute when national

striker Mithun Chowdhury beat

the Brothers keeper from just

nine yards out having received a

the Finance Committee chief

be placed on the November 30

EGM, if approved, will slash the

found any reason behind the

changes as they believe only a

chief executive officer with an

authority given to him in the

existing constitution can only

ensure the transparency in the

However, many have not

executive power of the CEO.

The amendment, likely to

cross from substitute Nasir.

Power test

FROM PAGE 17

instead of the CEO.

board activities.

Both Moga and Bukola were

with his second attempt.

converted the spot-kick for his

sixth goal of the campaign.

Mitul Hasan.

the penalty box.

with greater skill and panache.

FROM PAGE 17

The New Zealand Cricket (NZC) has put on hold any sweeping changes following the team's disastrous tour of Bangladesh, where they lost all four one-day internationals.

It has instead set up a specialised cricket committee and called on the players to redeem themselves on next month's tour of India.

The board met on Friday with Daniel Vettori, coach Mark Greatbatch and performance director Roger Mortimer, after ninehour long meetings on Thursday with NZC management and Martin Toomey, general manager high performance of SPARC (Sport and Recreation New Zealand), a government sponsored body to promote sports in the country.

Chris Moller, the NZC chairman, called Friday's meeting "comprehensive and robust", and said that the New Zealand team needed to be given an opportunity to redeem themselves, on the tour of India next month.

"We believe that the team needs to be given the chance to demonstrate that they can perform," Moller said, "the players must take innings.

responsibility." The cricket committee comprises Moller, former international cricketers Stephen Boock and Rob Hart, and High Court judge Sir John Hansen.

Its remit will run "from the grassroots right through to the elite level, including the Black Caps." Moller said that while the performance in Bangladesh was "very concerning", they will be no major changes in team composition or in the team management immediately.

Vettori is the team's captain, part of the selection committee, their leading bowler and an important lower-order batsman, but NZC decided he didn't have too much on his plate.

"We asked that question, we had a good debate on the subject," Moller said.

"Dan commented that he feels the level of weight on his shoulders was far less than was the case 12 months ago." Bangladesh's emphatic victory was the first time they had defeated significant opposition in a series.

The tour was marred by poor weather and rain washed out their warm-up games, forcing the visitors to go into the ODI series with no match practice.

Their batsmen struggled to adjust to the pace and turn of the pitches in Mirpur and failed to score more than 200 in three out of four

# Sangakkara hits form

AFP, Brisbane

Skipper Kumar Sangakkara hammered 110 off 95 balls as Sri Lanka blazed to a score of 301 on their way to a 112-run win over Queensland in their opening Australian tour match on Friday.

The Sri Lankans, building up to their three-match one-day international series with Australia next month, were spearheaded by Sangakkara and Chamara Silva (75) at the Gabba.

The tourists then dismissed

Queensland for 189 off 36.1 overs with paceman Dilhara Fernando taking 4-41 off 6.1 overs and fellow fast bowler Dammika Prasad snaring 3-43 off eight overs. Sangakkara was heartened by

the way his team started on one of Australia's bounciest wickets but said they had plenty of important work ahead of them with a one-dayer and T20 against New South Wales before taking on Australia.

"We still have a lot of improvement (left) but I like the way we batted especially getting through the start in the first 12 overs on a wicket that was slightly soft and had a bit in it," he said.

# JP, AB hit hundreds

# Proteas blow Zimbabwe away

# Cricket

AFP, Benoni

JP Duminy and AB de Villiers hit centuries as South Africa's batsmen went on the rampage in the third and final one-day international against Zimbabwe at Willowmoore Park on Friday.

South Africa gained a crushing 272-run win, hammering 399 for six before bowling out Zimbabwe for 127 to seal the series 3-0.

It was the second biggest winning runs margin in one-day international history, exceeded only by New Zealand's 290-run win against Ireland in Aberdeen in 2008.

"We've steadily improved through the series," said South African captain Graeme Smith, who said the performance of the bowlers on Friday was particularly heartening ahead of South Africa's tour to play Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates.

The South African team depart on Sunday and play the first of two Twenty20 internationals in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday. The tour also includes five one-day internationals and two Test matches.

Duminy (129) and De Villiers (109) shared a record South African one-day international third wicket partnership of 219 off 190 balls as the home side again put the Zimbabwe bowlers to the sword.

It was the second successive hundred by man of the series De Villiers and the third time in three matches that two South African batsmen hit centuries in the same innings.

Duminy, who was named man of the match, benefited from a policy of rotating

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50 —

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**DOWN** 

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5 Cure

6 Vicinity

7 Catches

8 Favorite

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17 Stannum

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25 Acquired

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brick

33 "Evita"

western

subject

**28** Try

specialty

member

20 Satch-

18 Color

15 Make

12 Bas-

**13** Sea

tracted

Friday after opening batsmen batsmen in the number three position, joining Colin Ingram and De Villiers in within the first five overs. reaching three figures after coming in at first wicket

For Duminy it continued a promising start to a new campaign after a disappointing 2009/10 season. When he mistimed an attempted big hit to mid-off it was the first time in two Twenty20 internationals and three one-day games against Zimbabwe that he had been dismissed after racking up a total of 281

De Villiers hit his fifth one-day international century in a year in which he has maintained an average

above 100. Although Zimbabwe's bowlers had taken a pasting from the South African batsmen, the visiting team's batsmen performed well in the first two matches. But

they were swept away on

Brendan Taylor and Hamilton Masakadza were dismissed Rusty Theron, the leading

wicket-taker in his first series, finished with three for 18, while Albie Morkel, Wayne Parnell and Johan Botha took two wickets each. "We were outplayed today," said Zimbabwe cap-

tain Elton Chigumbura. "We can take heart from our batting apart from today but we have to work hard on our bowling." **SCORES IN BRIEF** 

SOUTH AFRICA: 399 for 6 in

Villiers 109, Morkel 37, Miller 33 not out; S Masakadza 2-95, H Masakadza 1-4) ZIMBABWE: 127 all out in 29

50 overs (Duminy 129, De

overs (Taibu 28, Utseya 24 not out, Ervine 24; Theron 3-18, Parnell 2-30, Botha 2-32, Morkel 2-35) Result: South Africa won by

272 runs and clinch the 3-ODI series 3-0. Man-of-the-match: JP

Duminy. Man-of-the-series: AB de

Villiers. Toss: South Africa.

Umpires: Enamul Haque and Johan Cloete.

Winner	Margin	Opposition	Ground	Year
New Zealand	290 runs	Ireland	Aberdeen	2008
South Africa	272 runs	Zimbabwe	Benoni	2010
India	257 runs	Bermuda	Port-of-Spain	2007
Australia	256 runs	Namibia	Potchefstroom	2003
India	256 runs	Hong Kong	Karachi	2008

South Africa batsman AB de Villiers executes a cut during his knock of 109 in the third and final oneday international against Zimbabwe at the Willowmoore Park in Benoni on Friday.

### in Bogra where Sabbir Rahman's century powered Rajshahi to a 111-run victory

NCL one-dayers on

over Khulna.

from page 17

DHAKA-CHITTAGONG

The hosts faced a modest run chase after Chittagong stuttered with the bat to reach 215 for 8 in 50 overs. Openers Rony Talukder and

Shamsur Rahman however got out early to give Ashraful the stage along with Mahmudullah Riyad. But the experienced duo did a half-hearted job to cost Dhaka the match ultimately. Ashraful laboured to a 49-ball 40 before slicing an intended cover drive to Mominul Haque at point off Nazmul Islam, ending a 50-run stand with Rivad.

Riyad remained but upon reaching half-century off 90 balls, gave his wicket away, punching one back to Faisal Hossain who took the return catch. He got out in the 41st over with Dhaka needing 55 runs to win and four wickets in hand, but the rest could get only 32, folding for 192 in 47.2 overs.

Chittagong's experienced seamer Tareq Aziz picked up four wickets. With the bat, Faisal made 39 but it was Rezaul Karim's unbeaten 47 that took them past the 200-mark earlier

in the day. RAJSHAHI-KHULNA

Right-hander Sabbir Rahman struck six boundaries and three sixes in his run-a-ball 112 as

seven from 50 overs. Apart from Sabbir's century, skipper Jahurul Islam and Nasir Hossain struck fifties as the experienced Khulna bowlers leaked a lot of runs. Junaed Siddiqui, pointed out by Shakib Al Hasan to score runs in this tournament, made a poor start to his campaign.

Later, Rajshahi's spinners put the skids on Khulna as they shared eight wickets with Sohrawardi Shuvo picking up three and Naeem Islam two. BARISAL-SYLHET

Only Kapali made the real contribution with the bat as his 82-ball 59 became the cornerstone to Sylhet's modest 210 in 49.4 overs. Barisal however made a poor

start but Rokibul straightened out the chase, scoring an unbeaten 90 off 120 balls with seven boundaries and a six. He found some support from Asif Ahmed, who made 39. The pair shared a 91-run fifth wicket stand that took Barisal very close to victory. BRIEFSCORES

CHITTAGONG: 215-8 in 50 overs (Reazul 47 not out; Riyad 2-23)

DHAKA: 192 all out in 47.2 overs (Riyad 52; Tareq 4-45) Result: Chittagong won by 23

RAJSHAHI: 301-7 in 50 overs (Sabbir 112; Dollar 3-53) KHULNA: 190 all out in 42.1 overs (Amit 35; Shuvo 3-35) Result: Rajshahi won by 111

SYLHET: 210 all out in 49.4 overs (Kapali 59; Rabbi 3-33) BARISAL: 211-5 in 47.5 overs

(Rokibul 90 not out; Raju 2-41) Result: Barisal won by five wickets.

## Rain forecast

**FROM PAGE 17** 

Trophy final. He has to do it all over again now, returning after knee reconstruction surgery. Will Australia be tempted to

give David Warner a game? Shaun Marsh was a bit scratchy in the last ODI and his technique was different from the serene version that was on show during the IPL in India. Back then, Marsh chose to remain as still as possible and play beside the line of the delivery, but he was seen shuffling all over in the previous match. Warner gives Australia an aggressive option at the top for barring Cameron White, who too can be a slow starter, the batting line-up is filled with batsmen whose strike-rates hover around the 75 mark. Time will tell whether the plan is to play Marsh along with the powerful Shane Watson during the World Cup. Visakhapatnam marked the promising debut of the 20-year old left-arm seamer Mitchell Starc. With his higharm action he managed to extract some bounce on a lifeless pitch and beat the bat of Yuvraj Singh a few times.

# Rajshahi hammered 301 for HEEN COLLEGE FIELD DATE: 22ND OCTOBER FRIDAY 2010

PHOTO: COURTESY

To mark the 50th anniversary of the BAF Shaheen College on December 25, a friendly football match was organised at the college field between ESAD, the organisation of ex-students of the college, and Sonali Otit Club on Friday. Sonali Otit won the match 2-1. Here the participants are seen with a crest after the match.

#### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 12 13 15 16 plump 20 recorded 24 mobile 30 26 26 Commopresident 27 Unruly 35 group 36 29 Expert 38 37 30 Texter's guffaw 40 41 46 42 44 45 43 31 Conclu-35 Mexican 52 53 entree 55 cedes- - 39 Needing liniment 40 Where

## **CRYPTOQUIP**

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SO AS NOT TO GET A SPEEDING TICKET, I SCRIBBLED ON THE

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DASHBOARD THE LINE "KEEP OFF THE GAS." Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals Y

34 Hearty DOWNCOLD RENO 36 Found yet ASYHERON another R E N T C O L D P L A Y
S A T E O B O E O R E
O D O R B I D S W E T owner 37 Vast expanse

PLAYBACKASAP 45 Entreaty O ITALY SADLYSINE HUNKBACKDOWN

46 Charitable 47 Vien-

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