

New Zealand opener Tim McIntosh lines up a sweep shot on the first day of the second Test against India at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Hyderabad yesterday. The left-hander struck his second Test hundred.

### PCB not to pick 5 for WC 2011

ANI, London

Pakistan have provisionally agreed not to select five players for next year's World Cup on the subcontinent as they seek to come clean on matchfixing charges against some of their stars.

Former Test captain Salman Butt, fast bowlers Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Aamer, wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal and leg-spinner Danish Kaneria have been blacklisted in response to last month's ultimatum by the ICC, who gave the Pakistan Cricket Board 30 days to take a firm stance against corruption.

According to the Daily Star, Akmal has been under investigation for his role in Pakistan's controversial defeat by Australia in January's Sydney Test.

On the other hand, Kaneria was recently cleared by police over allegations of spot fixing, but has not been offered a new

contract by Essex. The other three are also accused of spot-fixing during the recent series in England.

### Warne to get his own stadium

PTI, Melbourne

Australian legendary spinner Shane Warne will now have a stadium named after him under a proposed multi-million dollar

renovation. According to the Australian Associated Press, Melbourne's heritage-listed Junction Oval would be renamed the Shane

Warne Oval after being refur-Almost USD 20 million would be spent in re-developing the Oval into a 5000-seat boutique stadium and indoor sports and

training centre if a Labor government was re-elected, Victorian Premier John Brumby said on Friday.

#### World Cup FROM PAGE 17

And a miracle it was. Danger man Sarfraz was bowled out by captain Majid Khan in a bid to skittle the opposition out, but although he did claim Holder, the plan eventually was fruitless. Murray and Roberts, learning a lesson from their top order colleagues who were guilty of unnecessary haste, patiently made their way to 267. Roberts, who hit three fours in only his second one-day match, got the winning run with a tap to midwicket off the fourth ball of the last over. Deryck Murray, who

shepherded the partnership, ended on 61 off 76 balls. The two teams thereafter tread contrasting paths in the tournament. Pakistan lost their next match against Australia, and had to go home in the knowledge that only one wicket separated them from a semi-

final spot. An interesting anecdote serves as a refreshing reminder of the relaxed atmosphere of cricket administration in those days. According to Murray in an article for Cricinfo about the match, the Man of the Match adjudicator Tom Graveney, having watched Sarfraz pick up his fourth wicket and reducing West Indies to 203 for 9, left for the bar. He came back in time for the presentation, and gave the award to Sarfraz Nawaz. When asked why, he replied, "Sarfraz has taken four wickets and it is normal for a player from the winning team to get the award." Someone then pointed out that

West Indies were the winners.

That was the first he got to know

of the result of the game!

# McIntosh inspires NZ

Cricket

AFP, Hyderabad

Opener Tim McIntosh struck a fine 102 to steer New Zealand to 258-4 on the first day of the second Test against India on Friday.

The left-hander hit 10 fours and a six during his nearly seven-hour innings before being bowled by Zaheer Khan in the penultimate over of the day at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium, hosting its first Test.

McIntosh added 147 runs with Martin Guptill (85) for the second wicket and 55 for the third with Ross Taylor (24) to steady the New Zealand boat after the early dismissal of opener Brendon McCullum.

Jesse Ryder was on 22 and Gareth Hopkins was yet to open his account when stumps were called for the day.

Zaheer Khan was the most successful bowler, ending the day with 2-41 from 18 overs. McIntosh, who turns 31 next month, reached his second Test century in his 15th Test

with a single off Harbhajan Singh. He became the first Kiwi opener to score a century outside New Zealand in six years after Stephen Fleming's ton against England in 2004.

McIntosh, who bagged a pair in the drawn first Test in Ahmedabad, overcame a tentative start to play some handsome shots on either

side of the wicket. He offered a half-chance off Harbhajan when on 81 but Rahul Dravid, running from

mid-on, failed to get to the ball in time. Guptill provided the early momentum to the innings with his aggressive shots and brought

up his fourth Test half-century with a nicely cut four off left-arm spinner Pragyan Ojha.

He looked set for a bigger score but fell leg before wicket to Ojha shortly before tea while trying to work the ball towards the square-leg region.

He cracked nine fours and a six in his 160ball knock.

Taylor gifted away his wicket by prodding at an away-going delivery from Zaheer early in the final session. The tourists got off to a shaky start after

electing to bat, losing McCullum (four) in the fourth over of the morning when he edged Shanthakumaran Sreesanth to wicketkeeper Mahendra Singh Dhoni. Guptill, ignored for the Ahmedabad Test,

was given out by on-field Sri Lankan umpire Kumar Dharmasena after he was caught behind the stumps in Sreesanth's fourth over. But Dharmasena consulted with TV umpire

Amiesh Saheba, who ruled the delivery to be a no-ball, and Guptill was called back. Lucky Guptill grew in confidence and twice

drove Sreesanth for fours in the same over before lofting Harbhajan over the long-on boundary for a six.

The third and the final Test will be played in Nagpur from Nov 20-24.

#### **SCORES IN BRIEF**

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 258 for 4 (McIntosh102, Guptill 85, Taylor 24, Ryder 22 not out; Zaheer 2-41)

INDIA: Mahendra Singh Dhoni (captain), Virender Sehwag, Gautam Gambhir, Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Venkatsai Laxman, Suresh Raina, Harbhajan Singh, Pragyan Ojha, Zaheer Khan, Shanthakumaran Sreesanth.

### Asian Games open

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari attending.

In a change to standard procedure the ceremony, beamed to a television of audience of billions, was held on an island in the Pearl River rather than a stadium, with the giant Guangzhou Tower as a background.

Backed by a stunning light show, it was themed around the local Lingnan culture, incorporating folk dance, drum music as well as water skiing and jet skiing and a giant ship called "Harmony".

Film starlet Zhang Ziyi and worldrenowned pianist Lang Lang performed together in one of the highlights of a show that celebrated Guangzhou's history as China's gateway to the ancient Maritime Silk Road.

The scale of the preparations for the ceremony drew parallels with the Beijing Olympics opener in 2008, which was highly acclaimed, but Guangzhou officials were eager to set the two apart.

"It's like one is coffee and the other is tea,"

ceremony director Chen Weiya, the assistant chief for the Beijing curtain raiser, said. Just as Beijing did before the 2008

Olympics, Guangzhou has poured billions of dollars into getting this sprawling southern metropolis ready.

While the city does not have the glamour of Beijing and Shanghai, officials here are hoping the Games will help transform it into one of Asia's top destinations.

In preparation, it has embarked on several huge infrastructure projects -- a new rail station, a gleaming trade centre, subway lines, housing projects, highways and bridges.

It has also constructed or renovated 70

sporting facilities. Security is a major focus, with more than

100,000 police officers on duty to keep it safe, along with hundreds of thousands of security guards and volunteers.8

"As the Guangzhou Asian Games will have the most ever athletes, officials and reporters in the history of the Asian Games, the security work has been a great challenge," a statement from the Games security panel said.

"The security panel has adopted effective and necessary measures to ensure a safe Games. We have done our best to provide a safe and favorable environment for athletes, coaches, officials and audiences."

While the two Koreas marched together at the 2000 Sydney Olympics, 2004 Athens Olympics and 2006 Doha Asian Games in a sign of reconciliation, they failed to repeat the

feat here. Relations between the two neighbours remain tense after the sinking of South Korean warship, the Cheonan, in March that claimed

All the athletes arrive by a convoy of pleasure boats, including those from war-torn Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as Iran and the Palestinian territories.

The competition proper kicks off on

Saturday when 28 gold medals will be won.

Naeem 4-32).

wickets.

Ratul 3-25).

Shahadat 3-23).

RAJSHAHI: 124-4 in 28 overs

Result: Rajshahi won by six

DHAKA: 242 all out in 49 overs

BARISAL: 163 all out in 40.1

overs (Ratul 44, Rabbi 37;

Result: Dhaka won by 79 runs.

(Junaed 47; Imrul 2-18).

### Dhaka thru', Barisal only just overs (Mithun 54; Shuvo 4-28,

FROM PAGE 17

played as if he was batting on a different wicket. He slammed 54 off 64 balls with six boundaries and two sixes.

Shuvo confirmed the manof-the-match award after his 34 off 46 balls during Rajshahi's chase. Junaed Siddiqui also made runs, compiling 47 off 70 balls.

#### DHAKA-BARISAL

Shamsur Rahman and Shuvogoto Hom struck 54 each, but in different styles, as Dhaka posted 242 runs before being bowled out in 49 overs.

Shuvogoto, who again earned a call-up to the provisional squad for the Zimbabwe series, struck four boundaries and a six in his 47-ball knock but played a horrendous shot when Dhaka were poised to expand their score during the batting Powerplay.

Earlier, Shamsur held the innings together after Rony Talukder (37) and Mohammad Asharful (36) threw away their starts. The right-hander batted for more than two hours to make 54 off 112 balls.

Kamrul Islam, Asif Ahmed (Shamsur 54, Shuvogoto 54; and Sohag Gazi took three wickets each.

Barisal made a rapid start through Fazle Rabbi's blade. All seven boundaries in the lefthander's 30-ball 37 were worth watching. Mahmudullah Riyad however ended his innings with a clever delivery in the seventh over. Nasiruddin Faruque and Shahriar Nafees also fell cheaply and that all but ended

Barisal's hope. For Dhaka, Riyad and Shahadat took three wickets each.

**BRIEF SCORES** KHULNA: 118 all out in 31.2

**FROM PAGE 17** In reply, CAB Under-17 made 206 for nine in their share of 50

BCB U-17s

overs. Koushik was the top scorer with 65.

Mehedi captured three wickets conceding 23 runs and Taskin took two wickets for 51 runs.

### Yousuf out of SA Test series

AFP, Dubai

Pakistan suffered a major blow in their Test series against South Africa when their most experienced batsman, Mohammad Yousuf, was ruled out and was due to fly back home, team manager said Friday.

The 36-year-old had to pull out of the ongoing first Test, which started here on Friday, just minutes before the toss after the recurrence of a groin during practice. "Its an old injury Yousuf

sustained before the one-day

series last month and since it will take two weeks to heal we are sending him back and there will be no replacement," team manager Intikhab Alam told AFP. Yousuf was originally

named in the five-match oneday squad but stayed at home after he suffered the groin injury last month. He returned to play the fifth

one-day match in the series which South Africa won in Dubai last week. "It is indeed disappointing because Yousuf has been

Pakistan's most reliable batsman and we needed him for this series," said Alam. Yousuf has so far played 90 Tests, 288 one-day internationals and three Twenty20

matches during an illustrious

career which began in 1998. The second Test between Pakistan and South Africa starts in Abu Dhabi from November 20.

#### Athletes take

**FROM PAGE 17** 

Commonwealth gold medallist Asif Hossain Khan and Commonwealth Shooting gold medallist Sharimin Akther Ratna will compete in their respective pet event of individual 10m air rifle at the Aoti Shooting Range.

Apart from these two famed shooters, SA Games gold medallist Sharmin Akhter will also be at the center of attention as to she does after returning to the national fold after a long time. Tripti Datta is the third shooter from Bangladesh to compete in the same event. Apart from Asif, Abdullah

Hel Baki and Taufiq Shahriar Khan will also compete in the event while Nadimul Islam plays in the 50m pistol event.

Weightlifter Mollah Sabira, who finished second from the bottom in the 19th Commonwealth Games in India, will compete in 48kg category while Mohammad Abu Bakkar will participate in wushu.

Tayef Quader and Aga Navil Ibna Ekram will participate in the preliminary round of billiard's 8-ball pool singles while GM Niaz Murshed, Minhazuddin Ahmed, Sharmin Akter, Sharmin Sultana Shirin will vie in individual chess event.

#### Media cricket

**FROM PAGE 17** But he did not stop there.

Azad put in the consummate captain's performance, doing his best Shaun Pollock impression as his seam bowling also wrecked havoc with the Destiny batting.

Bowling the last over in a six over encounter is never easy, except perhaps yesterday when Destiny would have required six sixes and a few noballs to reach the target.

In such a situation, Azad took the responsibility of the whole team on his shoulders and promptly picked up three wickets as Destiny went for broke. His partner Shamim Ashraf

was Khaled Mahmud Sujon in disguise as he made the initial breakthrough and finished with superb figures of 1/4 in his sole over. Destiny captain Asif Iqbal

was the only batsman to get to double figures scoring 14 in his side's meek chase. The win marks another Tk

50,000 haul for The Daily Star (after the football final) and with both football and cricket trophies firmly in the bag, the onus is on the competitors to step up or risk getting left behind. Till the filing of this report,

celebrations were continuing into the night.

#### Siddikur

**FROM PAGE 17** few days," said the 26-year-

The six-million-dollar event is joint-sanctioned by the European Tour and Asian Tour with a first prize winner's cheque of one million dollars.

# SA dominate Day One

### Cricket

AFP, Dubai

Graeme Smith struck a fighting century to put South Africa on track for a big total against a hapless Pakistan attack on the opening day of the first Test here on Friday.

Smith hit eight boundaries in his 152-ball 100 and shared a 153-run opening stand with Alviro Petersen (67) before Hashim Amla (80) built on the good work to help South Africa, who won the toss and batted, reached 311-3 at close.

Jacques Kallis, who shared a 117-run third wicket stand with Amla, was unbeaten on a wellplayed 53 with nighwatchman Paul Harris unbeaten on nought as South Africa piled on the runs at will on a flat Dubai Stadium pitch. The Dubai Stadium became

failed to attract more than 1,000 people in a ground where people have mostly watched one-day cricket since it was built last year. Kallis has so far hit five

boundaries during his 106-

Test cricket's 102nd venue, but

ball patient knock. South Africa's batsmen feasted on a slow, flat and grass-less pitch as none of the Pakistani bowlers could stop the run-flow as Smith and Petersen gave their team a solid start.

three boundaries off paceman Umar Gul after lunch, the first of which brought up his 29th Test half-century. He continued in the same vein, pushing left-arm spinner Abdul Rehman for a single to

Smith, initially a little shaky

as he survived close shouts, hit

minutes of batting, inclusive of eight boundaries. But Smith fell on the very next delivery, hooking paceman Wahab Riaz straight into the hands of Taufiq Umer

bring up his century after 215

Smith and Petersen took South Africa to 101 without loss by lunch, before Pakistan struck twice in the second session.

Australian umpire Daryl

Petersen, ruled not out by

standing at deep square-leg.

television replays showed he had edged paceman Umar Gul to debutant wicketkeeper Adnan Akmal, hit eight boundaries.

He was the first to go when Younis Khan leapt high to take a brilliant catch at short midwicket.

Amla and Kallis punished the bowlers without any trouble, before Amla fell caught behind to Adnan with just three overs to finish. Amla hit seven boundaries during his 152-ball innings. Pakistan, seeking their first series win in four years,

started the match on the wrong note when their most experienced batsman, Mohammad Yousuf, was ruled out of the match with a recurring groin injury minutes before the toss.

Yousuf was later ruled out of the second Test and will return home.

That forced Pakistan to include Umar Akmal in the squad as they went in with two

Harper when on nine after spinners, Rehman and Saeed Ajmal, and two seamers, Gul

and Riaz. South Africa, who won the preceding Twenty20 series 2-0 and one-dayers 3-2, also included both their spinners

Johan Botha and Harris, with

Kallis giving them an additional option in fast bowling. Pakistan handed a Test cap to wicketkeeper Adnan after Zulgarnain Haider fled to

London on Monday, saying he had received death threats. The second Test starts in Abu Dhabi from November 20. The series was shifted to United Arab Emirates after South

#### over security fears. **SCORES IN BRIEF**

**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 311 for 3 (Smith 100, Petersen 67, Amla 80, Kallis 53 not out; Riaz 2-61)

Africa refused to tour Pakistan

PAKISTAN: Taufiq Umer, Mohammad Hafeez, Younis



South Africa captain Graeme Smith is delighted after scoring his

22nd century on the first day of the first Test against Pakistan at the Dubai Cricket Stadium yesterday.

## Nielsen still hopeful

Cricket

REUTERS, Sydney

There has been no panic or infighting in the Australia camp during the run-up to the Ashes series despite a particularly poor run of form,

according to coach Tim Nielsen. Seven straight defeats over four months in all forms of cricket until the final one-dayer against Sri Lanka last Sunday caused consternation in Australia with the first Ashes Test against England starting on November 25.

Criticism of players, selection and tactics along with reports of dissatisfaction in the camp have filled hundreds of column inches in the local media. "As is often the case as soon as we lose a

couple of games there is all sorts of talk about disharmony and infighting within the team," Nielsen wrote in his blog on the Cricket Australia website (www.cricket.com.au)

a standard barb thrown by those outside the group searching for a reason why we are losing. "Ultimately, we lost because we didn't bat,

"This couldn't be further from the truth and

bowl or field well enough ... ' The reports of infighting -- all vehemently denied by the players in public -- have centred succeed Ricky Ponting as skipper. "While it has been tough, the leadership

was there any panic," Nielsen added. "We talked about how we could improve and then went about doing it ... there was no panic

"This team is tough enough not to allow uneducated opinion upset it. I can guarantee that every time we turn out for Australia the

Nielsen said there were many positives to come out of the one-day series defeat to Sri Lanka, including returns to international cricket for experienced players like wicketkeeper Brad Haddin and bowler Peter

"Most important for us as a team is to ensure that we don't panic and keep our eye firmly on the targets we have set for this summer," he



AFP, Paris

Roger Federer continued his current hot streak as the Swiss claimed a place in the quarterfinals of the Paris Masters as the final lineup for the eightman year-end championships in London was settledThursday.

The top seed, who is bidding for a third con-

secutive trophy after winning Stockholm and Basel, dispatched Radek Stepanek 6-4, 6-3, firing 11 aces, saving two break points and winning his tenth match from 12 against the Czech. The win was a re-run of a victory last week in

Federer has never been past the quarterfinals at the event but is feeling particularly at home on the ultra-fast court.

pion Novak Djokovic 7-6 (8/6), 6-2. Llorda, a member of the French team that visits Belgrade on December 3-5, roared into the quarterfinals after winning 13 of the last 16 points

83-minute defeat just over a week before play begins in London at the eight-man ATP World Tour Finals.

3-6, 6-4 in a battle of 25 aces lasting over more

than two hours. Earlier, the last three pieces of the qualifying jigsaw puzzle for the World Tour Finals fell into place as a victory for Gael Monfils determined the

on the leadership of Australia vice captain Michael Clarke, who is ultimately expected to

inside the group shown by Ricky and Michael has been calm and measured and at no stage

or in fighting I can promise you.

team wants to win and win well." Siddle after lavoffs.

"We now have a couple of weeks to prepare for the Ashes series, and I think all involved are

looking forward to using this time to... be 100 percent right come the first test in Brisbane." The Australia team for the first Test at the

Gabba will be announced in Sydney on Monday.

## Roger sails, Novak fails

Switzerland and marked the 11th straight post-US Open success for the world number two.

rehearsal for next month's Davis Cup final as the sold-out 14,000 capacity Bercy arena, as the Frenchman shocked Serbian defending cham-

against Djokovic, who came onto court wearing a nose-and-glasses joke disguise. But the joke was on Djokovic, who sank to an

Andy Murray needed a recovery in the first set from deficits both in the set and the tiebreak to subdue Croatian 13th seed Marin Cilic 7-6 98/6),

The 12th-seeded Monfils, a losing finalist to Djokovic here a year ago, produced a spectacular 6-7 (4/7), 7-6 (7/2), 7-5 win over Fernando Verdasco that ended the Spaniard's hopes of

making the eight-man roster.

David Ferrer and American Andy Roddick will complete the field for the season-ending event that starts a week on Sunday. Rafael Nadal, Roger Federer, Djokovic, Andy

Wimbledon finalist Tomas Berdych, Spain's

The third-round victory by Monfils means

Murray and Robin Soderling had already secured their places at the event at London's O2 Arena. Eighth seed Roddick defeated Ernests Gulbis

of Latvia 6-3, 7-6 (10/8) to knock Jurgen Melzer out of the race for the season finale. Fourth seed Soderling beat Swiss Stanislas

Wawrinka 7-6 (7/3), 6-3. Russian Nikolay Davydenko sent out Berdych 4-6, 7-6 (7/5), 6-0. It fell to Monfils to play the qualifying puppe-Michael Llodra won a potential dress teer for the London season finale in front of a

> against Verdasco. Twice the Spaniard failed to convert match points, allowing Monfils to secure a key break to put him 6-5 up in the final set.

popular home player rode a roller-coaster

Monfils secured the decisive break when Verdasco produced his ninth double-fault of the afternoon and then ploughed a forehand volley into the net to hand the Frenchman the momentum.

A game later, Monfils was celebrating along with the fans as he moved into the quarter-finals.

"Tennis-wise it wasn't perfect, but I found the mental energy to stay in that match," said Monfils.

"I started believing that I could do something and win. I played a really good tie-breaker (in the second set). He came up with some really great shots in the breaker and almost snatched it.'

### Khan, Umar Akmal, Azhar Ali, Misbahul Haq, Adnan Akmal, Umar Gul, Wahab Riaz, Abdul Rehman, Saeed Ajmal.