ASIAD CRICKET

Pakistan humble hosts

Pakistan captain Khalid Latif smashed the first century of the Asian Games cricket tournament on Monday as the favourites crushed China by 128 runs to reach the semifinals.

The 24-year-old opener hit an unbeaten 103 in 69 balls which featured eight fours and five sixes as Pakistan made 183-1 off their 20 overs with Sharieel Khan making 46.

It was China's second successive defeat in the tournament, having lost to Malaysia by 89 runs, and ended their brief, first flirtation with international cricket.

China never recovered from their precarious position of 11-4 when they started their reply while five of their batsmen were bowled as they failed to cope with Pakistan pace and direction.

Only Li Jian reached double figures, making 14 with three confident fours. Raza Hassan took 3-10 while Aizaz Cheema finished

with figures of 3-15 for Pakistan. Latif said he hoped success

at the Games would help resurrect his international career with the 2011 World Cup starting in South Asia in February.

Pakistan will likely to be joined in the semifinals by Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka.

In Monday's three-team qualifying pool, which also includes Hong Kong, Nepal defeated Maldives by 75 runs to keep their last eight hopes

Bangladesh's

FROM PAGE 17 gold was very much possible for his team if they could play

up to their potential in the T20 competition. The Bangladesh team,

which is likely to meet Sri Lanka in the semifinals, got the opportunity to accustom to the condition as they reached the Chinese city five days ago.

SQUAD

Mohammad Ashraful (captain), Shamsur Rahman (vicecaptain), Naeem Islam, Faisal Hossain, Shahadat Hossain, Mahbubul Alam, Nazmul Hossain, Nazimuddin, Sohrawardi Shuvo, Dollar Mahmud, Rony Talukder, Nasir Hossain, Mohammad Mithun, Shabbir Rahman and Shuvagata Hom.

Super Cup

for the February 17 opening ceremony of the ICC World

The season's curtain-raiser tournament, Federation Cup, was also held at the BSMKS in Kamalapur as the BNS will only be available after the ICC World Cup opening ceremony. BFF's initial plan was to

hold the Super Cup in Kamalapur, decreasing the prize money of Tk 1 crore for the champions. However, it has been learnt that the sponsor wants to stage the Super Cup at the BNS and cash in on the maximum exposure as was possible in the inaugural edition, when huge spectators turned up to watch every match of the Super Cup.

To meet the demand of the sponsor, the BFF is likely to begin the professional football league in mid-December and give a break in the middle of the league to hold the Super Cup after the ICC World Cup opening ceremony, said a BFF source, seeking anonymity yesterday.

Much work

FROM PAGE 17 road, has not yet been removed.

At the moment, the Tigers are training on good pitches and practice facilities inside the ground and are enjoying a newly-laid outfield but they are being provided with a canopy for a dressing-room and the bathroom, as pointed out by Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, is outside the ground in the indoor practice area. "Everything is fine, the wicket, the practice facilities, the outfield and I also think it's a good place they have managed for us to rest. The only problem is that the toilet is outside," said

only one to raise concern about the ground. A good number of national players were heard enquiring about the completion of the stands and every question had the standard answer: "The dressing room and press box will be ready for the Zimbabwe series but the rest will be done before the World Cup."

Mashrafe, who was not the

AFP, Guangzhou

India's Rahul Dravid plays an exquisite square drive during his 191-run knock on the third day of the final Test against New Zealand at the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium in Nagpur yesterday.

Dravid drives India

Cricket

AFP, Nagpur

Rahul Dravid struck a superb 191 to put India in a winning position in the series-deciding third and final Test against New Zealand on Monday.

The stylish right-hander smashed 21 fours in his nearly 10-hour innings and shared 193 runs with captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni (98) to help India declare their first innings on 566-8 for a huge lead of 373 runs.

Off-spinner Harbhajan Singh then gave India an early breakthrough by having opener Tim McIntosh trapped leg before wicket for eight.

The visitors trailed India by 349 runs with nine wickets in hand after finishing the third day on 24-1.

Brendon McCullum was unbeaten on 15 and Gareth Hopkins was on one.

The day belonged to Dravid who steadied the innings after India lost three wickets for 32 runs early into the morning session. He looked set for a well-deserved sixth double-century but was caught by Martin

Guptill as he attempted to loft part-timer Kane Williamson (1-45) over long-on. Dhoni narrowly missed out on a century, offering a tame return catch to left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori (3-178) after facing 156 balls and

hitting 12 fours and a six. Dravid completed his second century of the series with a flicked two off Vettori and celebrated it by pumping his fists in the air. He made 104 in the drawn first Test in Ahmedabad. 1-9)

Harbhajan, enjoying a rich run of form with the bat in the series, tried to add some quick runs after the dismissals of Dhoni and Dravid but was bowled for 20 by paceman Chris Martin an hour before the stumps.

Earlier, India slipped to 328-5 inside the first hour of the morning session after resuming at a strong 292-2.

Debutant New Zealand paceman Andy McKay bagged a memorable first Test wicket when Sachin Tendulkar (61) edged him behind the stumps in the second over of the day. The batting superstar added just four runs to his overnight 57.

He hit eight fours in his 129-ball knock.

India suffered another blow with the inform Venkatsai Laxman (12) losing his legstump to an inswinger from Martin (2-82).

Vettori claimed a wicket off his first ball of the day by inducing an inside edge from an offcolour Suresh Raina, who has just 26 runs from four innings in the series.

The series is tied 0-0 after the first two matches ended in draws.

SCORES IN BRIEF

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 193 (Taylor 20, Ryder 59, McCullum 40, Southee 38; Sreesanth 2-28, Sharma 4-43, Ojha 3-57)

INDIA: First innings 566 for 8 declared (Gambhir 78, Sehwag 74, Dravid 191, Tendulkar 61, Dhoni 98, Harbhajan 20; Martin 2-82, Vettori 3-178)

NEW ZEALAND: Second innings 24 for 1 (McIntosh l8, McCullum 15 not out; Harbhajan

ICC for anti-corruption code in all countries

Cricket

AFP, Abu Dhabi

Cricket's governing body Sunday said every member board should introduce an anticorruption code in their domestic cricket to support the fight against corruption.

Corruption has rocked international cricket with three Pakistani players -- Salman Butt, Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Aamer -suspended by the International Cricket Council (ICC) in September this year.

The suspension came following reports in British newspaper News of the World, claiming several Pakistani players, including the suspended trio, took money to obey orders from a bookmaker during the Lord's Test against

England in August. A three-man tribunal is due to hear the case against the Pakistani trio in Qatar next month where if found guilty face severe sanctions, the

maximum being life bans. The ICC also last month warned Pakistan to curb corruption and disciplinary problems in cricket, giving them 30 days to take serious measures and report to ICC Pakistan Task Team

(PTT), failing in which may result in sanctions. The ICC after a teleconference of its Board members on Sunday issued a statement, saying that all member boards have agreed to introduce an Anti-Corruption Code.

"All member boards have agreed unanimously that they should introduce an Anti-Corruption Code for their domestic cricket which mirrors that of the ICC by 1 April 2011,"

said the statement.

The ICC had already asked all the member countries to sign a declaration that they and their players will share any information on corruption with the Anti-Corruption and Security Unit (ACSU).

ICC chief executive Haroon Lorgat stressed the need for protecting the game from the menace.

"We have written to all ICC Members on 20 October 2010, requesting them to review the adequacy of their own processes and procedures to protect against the threat of corruption [domestic and international]," Lorgat was quoted as saying in the release.

"We have also told them that where necessary introduce new measures which would include a domestic anti-corruption code which mirrors the ICC code," said Lorgat about the

code implemented last year. "Where no domestic Anti-Corruption Code exists the Board agreed that the template should be incorporated as soon as possible and where an Anti-Corruption Code does exist that a review of those rules should be carried out to consider their adequacy," said Lorgat.

"ICC has a zero-tolerance towards corruption and we will do everything we can to protect the integrity of our great sport. All Members have a responsibility to demonstrate leadership and good practice in protecting the integrity of the sport at domestic and international level."

Lorgat said the PTT and Board members have appreciated steps taken by Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), and denied that the ICC will force selection matters on them.

Chisato, Lao fastest

FROM PAGE 17

in front of him at a crucial moment and after lengthy deliberations was relegated to 19th.

Japan's Takashi Miyazawa claimed silver and China's Zou Rongxi the bronze.

Meanwhile, China's allconquering divers hit the water with Shi Tingmao and Wang Han taking gold in the women's 3m synchronised springboard and Yang Liguang and Zhou Luxin winning the men's 10m synchronised platform.

Despite winning, Shi munist ally, as well as the wasn't entirely happy.

"We need to work more and China. and I hope we can do better in future events," she said.

On the football field, North Korea face Japan for gold in a repeat of the 2006 women's football final, which the Koreans won on penalties.

The majority of fans at the Tianhe Stadium are likely to get behind North Korea 183-1 off their 20 overs. because of close ties China could only manage between China and its com- 55-9 in reply.

fierce rivalry between Japan South Korea beat China 2-

0 in the bronze medal match. Elsewhere, China's cricket

dreams were shattered with a 128-run thrashing by Pakistan, with captain Khalid Latif smashing the first century of the tournament.

He finished unbeaten on 103 as Pakistan made

Japan's maiden title triumph

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

AFP, Guangzhou

Japan beat two-time defending champions North Korea 1-0 on Monday to avenge their final defeat four years ago and clinch their first gold medal in women's football.

The winners came against the run of play in a tense game of few clear-cut chances, Japan's Azusa Iwashimizu heading in unchallenged from a corner on 74 minutes. "We've never been Asian

champions before and that was our goal when we came here," said Japan coach Norio Sasaki.

North Korean coach Kim Kwang-Min said: "The team is still young and they were tired after the last three games. They didn't display their full abilities tonight."

Cup facts

FROM PAGE 17

between June 16 and 18, it was the first victory by a non-Test playing nation over a Test nation in an international match.

West Indies' total of 293 for six against Pakistan in the semi-final at The Oval on June 20 was the highest for the 1979 World Cup.

Gordon Greenidge was the leading run scorer with 253 runs (one 100, two 50s) from four matches. Viv Richards's 138 not out

in the final against England on June 23 was the highest individual score in the 1979 World Cup. Mike Hendricks of England

with 10 wickets, ended as the highest wicket-taker of the tournament. Australian fast bowler Alan Hurst's figures of 5 for 21 against Canada at Edgbaston

on June 16 was the best bowl-

ing analysis of the tournament. Prize money amounted to £25,900. West Indies, the winners, received the Prudential Cup and £10,000; England, runners-up, £4,000; Pakistan and New Zealand, losing semi-finalists, £2,000

matches £500 each. Man of the Match awards: £300 to Vivian Richards (West Indies) in the final, £200 each in the semi-finals, and £100 for the nominated player in each

each; and winners of group

group match. The total attendance in 1979 was 132,000 compared with 160,000 in the '75 World Cup, the drop being almost entirely due to the bad

A bleak day

FROM PAGE 17 Haque and Sajeeb Sheikh, lost

weather.

in four sets -- 45-57, 52-55, 43-56, 46-53 -- with an aggregate score of 186-221. India later went on to win the bronze while China bagged the gold.

With the bleak ninth day past them, Bangladesh will be hoping for better results today when among other disciplines, men's cricket team take on Malaysia in the quarterfinals while hockey team take on China in a position deciding match.

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Pakistan fight back

Cricket

AFP, Abu Dhabi

Skipper Misbahul Haq and Azhar Ali led Pakistan's fightback with half-centuries apiece to keep South African hopes of enforcing follow-on at bay on the third day of the second Test on Monday.

Misbah finished with 77 not out to guide his team to 317-6 at the close after Ali (90) and Asad Shafiq (61) also contributed in a fight for survival with Pakistan still needing another 68 to avoid following on.

Abdul Rehman was the other unbeaten batsman without scoring.

Pakistan trail South Africa's first innings score of 584-9 declared by 267 runs on an Abu Dhabi Stadium pitch which is still not offering any real help to the bowlers. South Africa pushed hard

to enforce the follow-on and to press their chances of winning the two-match series after the first Test in Dubai ended in a drawlast week. Misbah, who reached his

sixth Test half-century with consecutive boundaries off Dale Stevn, has so far hit nine boundaries and a six during his 150-ball knock and will have to continue on day four to avoid the follow-on. South Africa's bowlers, led

the morning session and two each in the second and third. Misbah added an invaluable 107 for the fifth wicket with Shafiq and then 46 for the sixth with Adnan Akmal, who fell five overs before finish to

by Stevn (3-78) and left-arm

spinner Paul Harris (2-71),

managed just one wicket in

Steyn had removed Younis Khan (14) and Ali in the space of five balls to raise hopes of

Harris after scoring 17.

enforcing the follow-on as Pakistan slumped to 156-4 from 153-2 soon after lunch.

But Misbah and Shafiq defied all such attempts, batting confidently to thwart the South African pace-cum spin attack. Both hit off-spinner Johan Botha for three boundaries each in successive overs to take Pakistan to 220-4 at tea.

South African captain Graeme Smith took the second new ball in an attempt to break the partnership, but it was Harris who brought the breakthrough with the wicket of Shafiq, caught in the slip by Jacques Kallis.

Shafiq hit ten boundaries during his 118-ball stay at the

crease. Resuming at 59-1, Pakistan's batsmen faced no problems as the Umer-Ali duo put on 117 for the second wicket stand before Jacques Kallis provided his team with its only breakthrough by dismissing Umer.

Ali hit paceman Morne Morkel for his eighth boundary to complete his fifth Test half-century -- his third consecutively in the series after

hitting one in each innings of the drawn first Test in Dubai. Ali then had a lucky escape when, on 64, he edged left-arm spinner Paul Harris towards forward short-leg where AB de

Villiers juggled with the ball before dropping it. Ali hit 12 boundaries during his 175-ball knock, falling two runs short of his Test best of 92, made against England at

The Oval three months ago. **SCORES IN BRIEF**

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 584 for 9 declared (Kallis 105,

De Villiers 278 not out, Prince 32, Boucher 45, Steyn 27, Harris 19, Morkel 35 not out; Tanvir 6-120, Rehman 2-150) PAKISTAN: First innings 317 for 6 (Umer 43, Azhar 90, Misbahul 77 not out, Shafiq 61, Akmal 17, Steyn 3-78, Harris 2-71)



Pakistan skipper Misbahul Haq hoists one for six as South Africa wicketkeeper Mark Boucher looks on during the third day of the second Test at the Abu Dhabi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

WI wary of SL backlash

Colombo Test starts today

Cricket

AFP, Colombo

The West Indies are prepared for a Sri Lankan comeback in the second Test in Colombo, skipper Darren Sammy said Monday.

The tourists surprised Sri Lanka in the drawn opening Test in Galle, dominating the match with their solid all-round performance. They enforced the follow-on when they restricted the hosts to 378 after posting 580-9 declared.

"We expect them (Sri Lanka) to come back strongly," in the match, which starts on Tuesday, Sammy told reporters. "We know what Sri Lanka are capable of doing, but we are prepared to face the challenges."

The West Indies captain said his team needed to maintain consistency after an impressive performance in the opening Test of the three-match series. "We did a lot of things well in the last Test. We

came here to compete and look to restore pride and play with passion. And we did that in the last Test," said Sammy. "It's now all about being consistent and improving upon our performances. I am happy

performances." The West Indies are likely to include two spinners, Shane Shllingford and Sulieman

By Eugene Sheffer

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the guys have gained momentum and confi-

dence. I am looking for improvement in our

Benn, in their playing XI. "We have the option of playing two spin-

Off-spinner Shillingford, the most impressive bowler in the previous Test with five wickets, was reported for a suspected illegal bowling action following the match.

He will now have to undergo testing within 21 days, meaning he is available for selection for the Test.

"He (Shillingford) has the support of all of his team-mates. We did a lot of good things in the last Test and Shane was part of good things we did. We will give him our full support," said

Sri Lanka captain Kumar Sangakkara said he expected a better performance from his side.

"I expect a better effort from the team. We have to make sure we are focused on our game

plans," he said. **TEAMS**

SRI LANKA (from): Kumar Sangakkara (captain), Mahela Jayawardene, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Tharanga Paranavitana, Thilan Samaraweera, Angelo Mathews, Prasanna Jayawardene, Suraj Randiv, Nuwan Kulasekara, Ajantha Mendis, Dilhara Fernando, Suranga Lakmal, Rangana Herath, Thilina Kandamby,

Kaushal Silva, Shaminda Eranga. WEST INDIES (from): Darren Sammy (captain), Brendan Nash, Chris Gayle, Adrian Barath, Carlton Baugh, Sulieman Benn, Darren Bravo, Dwayne Bravo, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Nelon Pascal, Kemar Roach, Andre Russell, Shane Shillingford, Devon Smith, Devon Thomas.

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CRYPTOQUIP

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ners," said Sammy.