

Fleming named captain Hameed, Farhat among the runs

Cricket

AFP, undated

New Zealand cricket coach John Bracewell stayed with the established order in naming the squad for the first Test against Pakistan...

Bracewell said Sunday that the 13-member squad for the Test in Hamilton starting on Friday was not difficult to select following performances on the recently drawn series against India.

Richard Jones has been included as cover for Fleming who continues to be troubled by a suspected abdominal hernia.

"Stephen has been playing cricket for Wellington over the last couple of

days and the signs have been encouraging," Bracewell said. "However, if he is unavailable, Richard Jones will get his chance at the top of the order and we are confident in his ability."

Injury has already robbed New Zealand of front-line bowler Shane Bond and top order batsman Nathan Astle.

Bracewell, a notable spin bowler in his Test-playing days, included two spinners in the squad Daniel Vettori and Paul Wiseman as well as two all-rounders Chris Cairns and Jacob Oram.

"Although I might not necessarily take it, I want the option of being able to have two spinners playing at once. I think both Daniel and Paul have wicket-taking ability, even in New Zealand conditions, if they are utilised correctly."

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of a three-day practice match between Auckland and Pakistan at Eden Park in Auckland on Sunday:

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes innings for Pakistan and Auckland.

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Warne back in the nets

AFP, Adelaide

Shane Warne bowled an early morning stint in the Adelaide Oval nets here on Sunday as preparations for his return to cricket next February gained pace.

The disgraced champion leg-spinner had his first training session under bowling coach Terry Jenner ahead of the third day's play in the second Test between Australia and India.

Warne, who has taken 491 Test wickets second only to West Indian Courtney Walsh, was banned for 12 months by Cricket Australia for taking a diuretic pill, detected in a doping test prior to the World Cup in South Africa. He is eligible to play again on February 10.

Time to forget

FROM PAGE 13

players. Besides, we have a strong reserve bench. Hopefully, the inclusion of Nikolai and Maxim will mend the loopholes in defence and scoring," Anatoly on Saturday.

Talking to The Daily Star Sport at the club tent, the 54-year-old Moscow-based Anatoly also said that he was aware of the expectations of the loyal Abahani fans, who have been starved of success for too long.

"I think we have a good chance of winning the Premier League this time because everybody is determined to win at any cost," he said.

When asked who would step into the shoes of Nazrul as the last defender, Anatoly said that he was the choice was between Nikolai and Osamanu because they looked good in the training.

Abahani manager Monem Munna, who achieved everything as a player of the club but failed to deliver success in a different capacity, was hopeful that the luck would favour him in the days to come.

The former national defender said that all the weak links have been fixed and his team was ready to take up the challenge.

Munna however was unhappy with the behaviour of the establishment towards the club.

"We have been denied visas for foreign players many times. I don't know why it's happening to Abahani. But this practice should be stopped. There shouldn't be any politics in football," he said.

Captain Rakib playing probably his last season said that he wants make it a memorable season by winning the championship for the fans.

"This is a must win situation for us," I think we can go all the way," said a confident Rakib.

Rakib felt that the League this year would be very exciting with the emergence of Brothers Union as a force.

"We have to work harder and there are no short cuts to success," observed Rakib.

ABAHANI SQUAD

Goalkeepers: Nizam, Munna and Aman.

Defenders: Masood Rana, Nikolai, Osamanu, Scylla, Mahmudul Hasan, Kingshuk, Siraj, Aminul and Shawkat.

Midfielders: Arif Khan Joy, Sandro, Rakib Hossain, Abdullah Parvez, Pranotosh, Nayan and Zakir.

Forwards: Khokon, Uzzal, Maxim, Donald and Kennedy.

Officials: Monem Munna (manager) and Anatoly Olkhovici (coach)

Lara slips prove costly

Cricket

AFP, Johannesburg

West Indian captain Brian Lara took advantage of two dropped catches as he hit his first Test century against South Africa on the third day of the first Test at the Wanderers Stadium here on Sunday.

The West Indies were 239 for three at tea in reply to South Africa's first innings total of 561, with Lara unbeaten on 100.

Lara had to work hard at the start of his innings, particularly against fast bowler Makhaya Ntini, but scored briskly after he had played himself in.

He was dropped twice, a straightforward chance to Shaun Pollock at first slip off Ntini and a difficult one when he slashed Jacques Kallis wide of Robin Peterson at gully when he had scored 62.

Peterson dived to his right but could only get his fingertips to the ball.

It was Lara's 23rd Test century but his first in 12 matches against South Africa.

He hugged batting partner Shivnarine Chanderpaul and kissed his helmet after he reached his hundred off Pollock in the last over before tea. He made his runs off 142 balls and hit 16 fours.

After a slow start to the day when they were pinned down by hostile, accurate bowling, the West Indians started to get on top against tiring bowlers on a third successive day of searing heat.

Chanderpaul (23 not out) helped Lara put on an unbeaten 98 for the fourth wicket in 116 minutes.

The tourists scored only 51 runs in 28 overs before lunch, with Daren Ganga adding just 11 runs off 72 balls to his overnight score of 49.

Ganga was finally out for 60, made off 202 balls with ten fours, when he top-edged a hook against Ntini in the first over after lunch.

Lara then took command with a flurry of scoring, racing from his lunch score of 30 to 53 off just 12 balls, with Ntini taking the major punishment, conceding 26 runs in four overs.

Before lunch, Lara had edged

Ntini short of gully, fended off a lifting delivery and was struck on the body when he missed a pull. Then he went back to a full length delivery and the ball went off an edge low on his bat.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the third day of the first Test between South Africa and West Indies on Sunday:

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 561 (Kallis 158, Smith 132, Van Jaarsveld 73, Gibbs 60; Hinds 3-79, Dillon 2-96, Edwards 2-102, Collymore 2-



LARA...100 n o

WEST INDIES: First innings (overnight 87-1)

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes innings for South Africa and West Indies.

To bat: Gayle, Jacobs, Drakes, Dillon, Collymore, Edwards

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes innings for South Africa and West Indies.

Total: (For 3 wickets in 87 overs) 239

Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-94, 3-141

Total: (All out in 49.4 overs) 182

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes innings for South Africa and West Indies.

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Ctg's 'double' delight

FROM PAGE 13

a high at the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium.

The home side was bundled out for 140 in 43 overs after being put in to bat by Barisal skipper Anisur Rahman.

Dhaka fought tooth and nail in defence of the less than impressive score until the penultimate over when Tariqul Islam decisively swung the game Barisal's way.

Needing 12 runs from the last two overs Tariqul scored 10 out of the 11 runs conceded by off-spinner Fahim Muntasir in the 49th over.

The right-hander struck two magnificent boundaries to tie the scores before Mustadir Litu, who made a valuable 26 batting at number seven, finished the chase in style hitting a boundary through point region with the second ball of the last over bowled by Sanwar Hossain.

One-down Faruque Kamal top-scored for Barisal with 34 off 69 balls while opener Ershadur Rahman made 28.

Earlier, Barisal captain Anisur Rahman made the most of his decision to bowl first.

The former national left-arm paceman did the early damage sending back three top Dhaka batsmen to leave the hosts tottering at 22-4.

Dhaka made a brief comeback through Naimur Rahman's fighting 43 before being tragically run out following a misunderstanding with his former BKSP mate Neeyamur Rashid.

At the Sylhet Stadium, it was the turn of Khulna to eat humble pie after being knocked out for 88 while chasing Sylhet's total of 189.

The chief wrecker was Sanjid

Sami who claimed four for 22. Besides, Mohammad Rana took three for 36 to help blow Khulna away.

Earlier Sylhet batting first rode on a half-century by Nasirul Alam Nahid.

In the longer-version affair Khulna had the satisfaction of dismissing their opponents for just 80 runs in the first innings.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecards of the three one-day matches in the Mirzapore Tea Fifth National Cricket League at different venues yesterday:

Table with columns: Venue, Dhaka v Barisal, Dhaka, Barisal, Sylhet v Khulna, Khulna, Sylhet.

Arman run out 3, Ishraq c Rahul b Sanwar 1, Tariqul not out 10, Extras: (lb-2, w-16) 18, Total: (For 9 wickets in 49.2 overs) 144, Fall of wickets: 1-21, 2-56, 3-72, 4-97, 5-100, 6-110, 7-119, 8-127, 9-130

Bowler O M R W, Mahmud 10 3 15 2, Saiful 3 0 18 0, Saifque 10 4 9 1, Niyamur 4 0 21 0, Muntasir 9 2 36 1, Niamur 10 1 26 2, Sanwar 3.2 0 17 2

Result: Barisal won by one wicket, Chittagong v Rajshahi

Table with columns: Venue, Dhaka v Barisal, Dhaka, Barisal, Sylhet v Khulna, Khulna, Sylhet.

Mustafa c and b Humayun 3, Arafat not out 1, Extras: (b-1, lb-8, w-17) 26, Total: (For 8 wickets in 49.3 overs) 219, Fall of wickets: 1-16, 2-55, 3-155, 4-182, 5-183, 6-196, 7-207, 8-215.

Bowler O M R W, Aminul Jr 9.3 0 42 0, Shahjada 9 2 36 1, Nuruzzaman 4 0 23 0, Saifullah 10 1 29 2, Rezwannul 10 0 57 1, Humayun 7 1 23 1

Result: Chittagong won by two wickets, Sylhet v Khulna

Table with columns: Venue, Dhaka v Barisal, Dhaka, Barisal, Sylhet v Khulna, Khulna, Sylhet.

Shibir b Shafuil 16, Imtiaz lbw Razzak 36, Parvez b Monjurul 20, Nasirul not out 50, Taqrimul st Nuruzzaman b Bashir 7, Rana run out 10, Tapash c Shafuil b Monjurul 24, Ejaz run out 0, Nayeem not out 0, Extras: (b-1, lb-3, nb-7, w-15) 26, Total: (For 7 wickets in 50 overs) 189, Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-79, 3-103, 4-120, 5-133, 6-176, 7-180

Bowler O M R W, Russel 10 1 46 0, Monjurul 10 0 42 2, Shafuil 10 1 37 1, Razzak 10 0 36 1, Bashir 10 0 24 1

Result: Sylhet won by 101 runs

Table with columns: Venue, Dhaka v Barisal, Dhaka, Barisal, Sylhet v Khulna, Khulna, Sylhet.

Boca best

FROM PAGE 13

Pedro Iarley Lima Dantas nodded it on for Donnet, whose header landed on top of the Milan net.

Tevez went wide soon after the start of extra-time while a shot from Iarley went over the bar in the 93rd as Boca seemed to snatch the momentum in the first half of extra-time.

Milan had a big chance one minute into the second half, only to see a shot from Shevchenko hit a teammate.

In the 115th minute, substitute Filippo Inzaghi scored from a freekick played in Pirlo but it was ruled out for offside.

The win is the third for the Argentinians after triumphs in 1977 and 2000. They booked a berth in the Intercontinental Cup by winning the Libertadores Cup for the fifth time.



National Sports Award winning former hockey players arranged a media conference at the National Press Club yesterday to protest the overall failure of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.



CRYPTOQUIP GBVK INHKM, E VBD VNIL WZTV WN VEK JNDH ZHJLQ BH NBR KQLL BHJ IBRL B VMBJT JLBG. Yesterday's Cryptogram: IF A PLUMBER HAPPENS TO BE A REALLY BORING GUY, HE MIGHT BE REFERRED TO AS A DRIP. Today's Cryptogram Clue: V equals S

Vaughan ensures draw

FROM PAGE 13

Batty finished with 25 not out and Read, previously having a wretched series with the bat, scored the most valuable 18 runs of his career.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fifth day of the second Test between Sri Lanka and England at the Asgiriya Stadium in Kandy on Sunday:

SRI LANKA: First innings 382 (Dilshan 63, Fernando 51 not out, Jayawardene 45, Tillakaratne 45, Sangakkara 34, Jayasuriya 32, Vaas 32; Giles 5-116)

ENGLAND: First innings 294 (Thorpe 57, Vaughan 52, Batty 38, Trescothick 36; Muralitharan 4-60, Vaas 4-77)

SRI LANKA: Second innings 279-7 declared (Dilshan 100, Jayawardene 52; Giles 3-101)

ENGLAND: Second innings (overnight 89-2)

Trescothick c J'wardene b Vaas 14, Vaughan c Dilshan b M'tharan 105, Butcher st S'kara b M'tharan 6, Hussain c S'kara b Vaas 17, Thorpe c S'kara b M'tharan 41, C'wood c J'wardene b D'sena 24, Flintoff lbw b M'tharan 19, Read not out 18, Batty not out 25, Extras: (b-3, lb-8, nb-5) 16

Total: (For 7 wickets in 140 overs) 285

Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-50, 3-90, 4-167, 5-208, 6-233, 7-239

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes innings for Sri Lanka and England.

Result: Match drawn.

Man-of-the-match: Michael Vaughan.

Umpires: Aleem Dar (Pakistan) and Daryl Harper (Australia)

Next match: Colombo, Dec 18-22.

Naimuddin

FROM PAGE 13

City Corporation Sadeq Hossain at his office yesterday. Brothers Union manager Amer Khan and other high officials were present at that time. He later left for Kolkata.

Club vice-president Anwar Hossain Uzzal the Daily Star Sport said last night that the coach would return here in the last week of this month.



CAPTAIN'S KNOCK: England captain Michael Vaughan sweeps during his match-saving century at Kandy yesterday.

Hossain stars

FROM PAGE 13

When they bowled, off-spinner Jamal Babu and his fellow part-time spinner Saleh equally shared six wickets as the A team bundled out the home team for 182.

Jamal finished his ten-over quota for 3-33 and Rajin conceded 23 runs in 5 overs.

Fast bowler Anwar Hossain Mumin took two for 31 from 8 overs.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the limited-overs match between Bangladesh A and Defence Housing Authority (DHA) at Karachi National Stadium yesterday:

BANGLADESH A

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes innings for Bangladesh A and DHA.

Total: (All out in 49.4 overs) 182

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