

India bowled out for 239 on first day at Brisbane

Kapil, Prabhakar stem collapse

BRISBANE, Australia, Nov 29 — Middle-order batsman Manoj Prabhakar hit a gritty unbeaten 54 Friday to help rescue India from a disastrous start on the first day of the first cricket Test against Australia at the Brisbane Cricket Ground, reports AP.

Prabhakar's dogged innings and a lively 44 from experienced allrounder Kapil Dev lifted the Indians to 239 all out after the tourists slumped to 83 for six early in the second session.

The Indian tailenders batted bravely after the top-order meekly surrendered to the Australian pace attack.

Craig McDermott led the Australian attack with five wickets for 54 from 28.1 overs. Merv Hughes took three for 34 and Michael Whitney two for 82.

Prabhakar took 195 minutes to bring up his grinding

batsmen. Srikanth, whose 13 included three boundaries, jabbed at a pacy delivery from McDermott and David Boon took the catch at short leg.

Shastri, who had taken 29 minutes to open his account, was joined at the crease by Sanjay Manjrekar, but soon joined Srikanth back in the pavilion.

He was caught at second slip by Mark Waugh, also off the bowling of McDermott.

Dilip Vengsarkar made only five before being caught by Waugh at second slip off the bowling of Hughes, who then caught and bowled Manjrekar for 17 in unusual circumstances.

The burly paceman attempted a leg break which turned into a full toss.

Manjrekar hit it straight back to the bowler, who caught it one-handed.

Captain Mohammad Azharuddin tried to hook Whitney and was caught by Hughes on the deep fine leg boundary for 10 and Sachin Tendulkar soon followed.

The teenager had been told before the match to curb his attacking instincts but was set a poor example by his captain who top-edged an ill-advised hook off Mike Whitney into Hughes's hands at fine leg.

The teenage prodigy made 18 before being bowled by Whitney beaten between bat and pad. It was the 350th first class wicket of Whitney's career.

Whitney followed up with Tendulkar's scalp but Kapil Dev and Prabhakar, in contrasting fashion, took India into three figures.

Riding his luck, Kapil Dev lifted Peter Taylor for six as he made his runs off 41 balls before McDermott returned to dismiss him.

Prabhakar, surprisingly dropped by Allan Border when 22, was given valuable assistance by the tail during his 195-minute half-century.

It was not the way Border would have liked to celebrate his record 126th Test.

Although Australia still hold the advantage, they are not so well-placed as Border might have expected after witnessing the early fruits of winning the toss on a green pitch.

The Indians looked in dire straits at 83 for six, but Dev and Prabhakar then began their rescue act.

Dev was particularly severe on spinner Peter Taylor and his innings included six fours and a six. His 44 came from only 41 deliveries.

Prabhakar was much more

stubborn, but shared in useful partnerships with Kiran More, who made 19, and test debutant Jawagal Srinath, who made 21, as the Indians moved to a respectable total.

The Indians were all out four minutes before the scheduled close of play and stumps were pulled early.

India omitted pace bowler Subroto Banerjee from its squad of 13 and made Praveen Amre 12th man. Left-arm spinner Venkatpathy Raju was included and made a useful total of 12 late in the day.

Australia predictably left out debutant pace bowler Paul Reiffel from its 12, opting for the wiles of Taylor, who bowled without luck.

The match is scheduled to continue through Tuesday.

An earlier AP reports said, Pace bowlers Craig McDermott and Merv Hughes each struck twice in the opening session Friday as Australia took a firm grip on the first day of the first cricket Test.

Shastri, who had taken 29 minutes to open his account, was joined at the crease by Sanjay Manjrekar, but soon joined Srikanth back in the pavilion.

He was caught at second slip by Mark Waugh, also off the bowling of McDermott, for eight runs as the tourists slumped to 24 for two.

Dilip Vengsarkar was the next batsman to fall. He made only five before being caught by Waugh at the second slip off the bowling of Merv Hughes.

Hughes then caught and bowled Manjrekar for 17 in unusual circumstances.

The burly paceman attempted a leg break which turned into a full toss. Manjrekar hit it straight back to the bowler, who caught it one handed.

McDermott ended the session with two for 11 from 11 overs and Hughes had figures of two for 18 from nine overs.

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SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps Friday, opening day of the first cricket Test between Australia and India at the Brisbane Cricket Ground:

INDIA (1st Innings)	
Shastri c Waugh b McDermott	8
Srikanth c	
Boon b McDermott	13
Manjrekar c and b Hughes	17
Vengsarkar c Waugh b Hughes	5
Azharuddin c	
Hughes b Whitney	10
Tendulkar b Whitney	16
Kapil Dev b McDermott	44
Prabhakar not out	54
More c Whitney b Hughes	19
Raju c Healy b McDermott	12
Srinath c Healy b McDermott	21
Extras (1b 6lb 13nb)	20
Total	239
Fall of wickets: 21, 24, 50, 53, 67, 83, 141, 186, 206, 239.	

Bowling	O	M	R	W
McDermott	28.1	11	54	5(6nb)
Whitney	21	2	82	2(2nb)
Hughes	20	5	34	3(5nb)
Waugh	1	0	6	0
Taylor	18	3	56	0
Batting time	358 mins.			
Overs	88.1.			
Crowd	: 8528.			



PRABHAKAR .54 not out

McDermott dismissed openers Kris Srikanth and Ravi Shastri during an explosive first spell in which he took two wickets for seven.

India struggled to 63 for four at lunch after Hughes had dismissed Dilip Vengsarkar and Sanjay Manjrekar.

Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin was not out seven at lunch with teenage prodigy Sachin Tendulkar unbeaten on two.



McDERMOTT...5 for 54

50, which included six boundaries and was the result of patience and application.

The Australian bowlers repaid the faith of captain Allan Border, who won the toss and elected to bowl.

Border is playing a world record 126th test, but missed a straightforward mid-wicket catch off the bowling of spinner Peter Taylor when Prabhakar had made only 22.

The Indians went to lunch at a dismal 63 for four after fiery early spells from McDermott and Hughes.

McDermott removed openers Kris Srikanth (13) and Ravi Shastri (8) in a destructive opening spell. His outswinger on a reasonably fast wicket constantly troubled the

Richardson says he was worried when accepting captaincy

PERTH, Nov 19 — New skipper Richie Richardson spoke here Thursday about the worries he faced immediately after taking on the job of leading the West Indies cricket team, reports AP.

His concerns stemmed from taking over a team which had lost a few senior players, he told his first full-scale media conference after the side's arrival in Australia to take part in the triangular World Series one-day competition against Australia and India, starting here December 6.

Former superstars Viv Richards — who Richardson has replaced at the helm — Gordon Greenidge and Jeff Dujon are among those not included in the current 15-member squad.

"I worried me a bit at first," said Richardson. "But then I realised that no king reigns for ever. Players have to go and players have to come. I have a lot of confidence in our young guys. They have shown a lot of ability and I think we are going to do very well."

The young players have to

be prepared to work very hard. They realise they have a big reputation to uphold, and to keep up with that they have to put in the effort. They are prepared to do that."

"Richardson said it had not been easy for him to settle into

the captaincy.

"I don't think it is easy at all. But the support from the players and manager Deryck Murray has helped me a lot, and made the job a lot easier for me. But being a captain is never really very easy."

Richardson was asked about relations between himself and the Australian squad in view of the tensions which crept into the West Indies-Australia Test series in the Caribbean earlier this year.

"I never had any problems with the Australians," he said. "We all know the Australians pay very hard. We know what goes on the field. But, after the match, things are back to normal. You can have a drink and all that."

"So I don't see that as a problem. It is just the way they compete, and I don't think it is anything personal."

Richardson was asked whether Richards would be brought out of retirement to play for the West Indies in the nine-national World Cup to take place in Australia and New Zealand next February and March.

"It's up to the selectors," he said. "I think he is available, so it is a possibility."

Asked how he would feel about captaining Richards if he played, he said, "I have played all my life with Viv. I have had a great time with Viv. It would be nice to play with him in his last World Cup appearance."

Greenidge to retire

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Nov 29 — West Indies opening batsman Gordon Greenidge on Thursday indicated his retirement from Test cricket, reports Reuter.

He told the West Indies Cricket Board of Control he no longer wished to take part in first class matches run by them.

The move amounts to retirement from Test cricket since the board is involved in all West Indies Test matches.

Greenidge, 40, expressed disappointment at being dropped for games in Pakistan, Sharjah and Canada and the trip to Australia.

In a statement, he agreed the policy of replacing older players by a limited number of

younger players was in the best interests of West Indies cricket.

But he added: "I regret it (the policy) was not clearly expressed or communicated to me prior to the sudden and disappointing act of exclusion from the team."

The opener was out of action for several weeks.

Greenidge, who made a century on his international debut 17 years ago, scored over 7,000 runs in his Test career.

Greenidge played in 108 Tests, scoring 19 centuries, four double centuries and totalling 7,558 runs.

His future in the domestic red stripe competition has not yet been decided. Greenidge still has to reply to Barbados officials about his availability.



Abahani opener Zahed Razzaq Masoom drives Mohammedan Sporting medium-pace Golam Faruq Suru in yesterday's final of the 13th Damal Summer cricket tournament at the Dhaka Stadium. Abahani won by seven runs. —Star photo by Enamul Haque.

Forget shoulders French hopes

LYON, France, Nov 29 — France are pinning their hopes on an upset victory over the United States in the Davis Cup final fairly and squarely on the shoulders of world number seven Guy Forget, reports Reuter.

On paper, the Americans with on-from Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras in the singles look strong enough to defend their title without too much ado.

But the whole of France is looking to Forget to be lifted by fanatical home crowd at Lyon's Palais Des Sports and lead his team to their first Davis Cup triumph in more than half a century.

Though the Americans are exuding confidence of the victory suggested by the form book, French captain Yannick Noah feels the chances are even.

"No-one believes in us but we believe in ourselves," he said. "That's the way to spring surprises. In my career, I never beat a player ranked

higher than me without going on court believing I could do it."

Noah, refused to be disturbed by the excellent form shown by Sampras, making his Davis Cup debut after an inspired four months in which he has won four tournaments and reached two other finals.

Winner of the Association of Tennis Professionals World Championships in Frankfurt earlier this month, Sampras has lost only six matches in the last year — but two of the defeats were at the hands of Forget.

"Guy is capable of beating both Americans," Noah said. "And in Henri Leconte we have someone who could also win one or two points. We have a chance in the doubles too."

Noah has gambled on the experience and fighting spirit of the swashbuckling Leconte despite his manifest lack of match practice since a back operation, the third of his career, in the summer.

The French captain is also planning to play Leconte with Forget in the doubles against

old campaigners Ken Flach and Robert Seguso though Noah could make a last minute decision to play himself if he feels Leconte is too tired.

The fast indoor surface at the Palais Des sports will certainly favour the big-serving Forget, who believes he could beat both Agassi and Sampras if he can finish points quickly and not get involved in rallies.

Forget, enjoying his best season ever with six titles and two victories over world number one on Swede Stefan Edberg under his belt, is less confident than his captain about the final outcome though he said France were not the underdogs many imagined.

"Our chances are about one in three," he said. That's not bad. And you shouldn't forget that the Americans have taken a big risk by selecting two singles players and a specialist doubles team."

"What if someone gets injured." It's like going on the Paris — Dakar Rally without a spare wheel."

American captain Tom Gorman said he was uncon-

cerned by fears that the 20-year-old Sampras might crack under the pressure of a Davis Cup debut in such an important tie, playing before a hostile crowd.

"Even if there is a lot of pressure, I know it's possible for him to play so well he won't feel it," he said.

"Pete has been playing so well lately that I'm convinced he will go out on court thinking just about hitting the ball. That would make our weekend so much easier."

Agassi has slipped to 10th in the world, mainly because he has played few tournaments, but his Davis Cup form has been impeccable.

The linchpin of the team which won the title last year, he performed heroics to keep the United States in the competition in a tough semifinal against Germany two months ago.

Agassi, brimming over with self-confidence, has to face Forget on the opening day today, a match which could be a pointer to the destiny of the tie.

Latest: US 1-up

LYON, France, Nov 29: Andre Agassi subdued Guy Forget and a partisan crowd with blistering ground strokes Friday, giving the United States a 1-0 lead in the Davis Cup final, reported AP late last night.

Agassi lost the first set in 9-7 tiebreaker, then stormed back for a 6-7, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2 victory. In one decisive stretch spanning parts of the second and third sets, he won 13 of 14 points.

Forget's defeat left the underdog French in an almost desperate position, needing at least one singles victory from Henri Leconte to have a chance for their first Davis Cup triumph since 1932.

Tennis squad off to Pakistan

A three-member Bangladesh tennis squad comprising two players and an official leaves today for Islamabad to take part in the Pakistan international junior championships beginning in the Pakistani capital Sunday, Dec 1.

Faisal Syed Haq, who was the only local boy to have reached the singles quarter-finals of the Group Four ranked sixth Bangladesh junior international championships earlier this month, and Nawaz Amin Khan Rumon are the players while Md Sanaul Haq is the manager.

The Pakistani meet which runs until Dec 7 enjoys a Group Five ranking of the International Tennis Federation.

Indonesians extend lead

MANILA, Nov 29: Thailand on Friday dislodged the Philippines from second place in the gold medal race in the Southeast Asian Games with wins in billiards and shooting, reports AP.

On the fifth day of competitions, Indonesia remained on top with 41 golds followed by Thailand with 34 and the Philippines with 32.

Thailand tied the Philippines' gold medal haul late Thursday with a victory in the billiard's snooker team event. The Philippines took the silver and Malaysia settled for the bronze.

Thailand shot ahead Friday by winning the men's individual and team titles in the 10 meter air pistol event.

Noparat Ghoultool of Thailand shot 573 points to win the individual gold. His score tied the record he set in Kuala Lumpur in 1989. Vietnam's Tran Van Phien took the silver with 570 points in and the bronze went to Malaysia's Sabiamad Abdul Ahad.

Noparat's efforts towed two other teammates in the team gold by submitting a combined score of 1,706 points. Vietnam won the silver and Malaysia had the bronze.

Athletics, considered the centerpiece of the Games, opened with a record-shattering victory by Burma's Tun Tin in the 20 kilometer walk.

Tin walked to the finish line 1 hour, 35 minutes and 30 seconds to break the record of Malaysia's Khoo Chong Beng in 1977. S. Karunanithi (S. is correct) of Malaysia won the silver and Apparo, another Burmese, won the bronze.

In cycling, Kumareshan of Malaysia won the 30 kilometer individual point race with 43 points, followed by Thailand's Sompong Kootaweesub with 40 points and Kenneth TanChen Hock of Singapore with 35 points.

Indonesia's mixed doubles team of Eddy Sutomo and Rossy Pratiwi Dopyanti won a gold in table tennis. Another Indonesian pair, Anto Suseno and Milatish, took the silver and the Singaporean and Malaysian teams shared the bronze.

An earlier Reuter report said, One of the Indonesians golds came through freak victory in swimming where a Philippine medley team that had won the event was disqualified for delaying the race after one of its swimmers accidentally slit his trunks.

The Indonesians swept all four gold medals in boat racing and captured two golds each in cycling, fencing, gymnastics and judo to wind up with 40 golds after four days of competition.

Filipino shooters blasted their way to victories in the individual trap and modified practical pistol events as the Philippines kept its grip on second place with 32 gold medals.

Thailand, sparked by police captain and shooter Wirat Kande and 19-year-old swimming sensation Wong Ratiporn, hung on to third place with 31 golds.

But the Thais have the most number of medals won in four days, capturing a total of 103 including 36 silvers and 36 bronzes. Indonesia has collected 84 and the Philippines 83.

Ratiporn who won the women's 100 metre freestyle on Wednesday, notched her second gold in two days by winning the 50 metre freestyle in a new Games record time of 27.53 seconds. She narrowly beat the Philippines' U.S. trained Akiko Thomson, who clocked 27.55 seconds.

The victory gave Thailand the lead in the swimming competition with a total of 29 medals, eight of them gold.

The Philippines immediately protested the disqualification of its swimmers in the 4 x 100 metre medley relay and the Jurors decision to award the gold in the event to Indonesia.

"Our team won the event fairly and squarely", Philippine Sports Commission chief

Cecilio Ilchanova said in his protest letter to the Games court of appeals.

"It is morally wrong out to be disqualified and robbed of the gold medal", Ilchanova said.

The Philippines had won the event in three minutes, 54.12 seconds but Singapore, who came third, protested saying the Filipinos had delayed the race.

Cause of the delay-a three-inch rip in the back of the swimming trunks of Leo Najera, the Philippines' first swimmer, who had to change.

After the race, Singapore team official Woon Sui Kut protested, citing a similar incident in another international competition which led to the winners' disqualification.

The Jurics upheld the protest and awarded the gold to Indonesia who swam the race in 3:54.06. Singapore, who clocked a time of 3:58.46 moved up to second place for the silver medal.

Jeffersyung gave Malaysia its third gold in the Games by routing the opposition in the 1,500 metre freestyle for men, clocking 15 minutes, 50.39 seconds. But his time was way below his personal best of 15:23.61.

My stroke wasn't feeling good, my pacing was off," Ong told reporters. "I was sick two weeks ago and I could not train as well as I could."

Malaysian athletes shine

MANILA, Nov 29: Malaysia flexed their muscles with a three-gold medal winning streak led by

burly policeman Wong Tee Kui in the hammer throw on the first day of athletics at the 16th South East Asian Games here Friday, reports AP.

Malaysia were boosted by the powerhouse performances by male athletes in the hammer throw, triple jump and 1,500 metre run to take three of the seven golds at stake in athletics Friday.

Burma won two golds in the long and middle-distance events while Indonesia and the Philippines copped one gold medal each.

Wong Tee Kui, and the shoeless clerk from Burma, Tun Tin, each broke the

Obituary
Suraiya Akhter Khanam, mother of former national football star Enayetur Rahman Khan (Enayet) died at her Kaliganj village home under Ghazipur district Thursday, Nov 28 afternoon.

She was 68 and was suffering from high blood pressure. Her qul khwan will be held at her village home tomorrow.

Games records in their respective events.

Tun Tin claimed the first athletics gold when he smashed the Games mark of 1 min 35.33 secs in the 20 kilometer walk by finishing at 1:35.30 while the 27-year-old Wong hurled the hammer for a new meet record of 55.54 meters.

Malaysia's two other gold medals came from R Tangavelu in the 1,500-metre run and Mohd Zaki Sadri in the triple jump for men.

The Malaysian athletics team has prepared very well for the Games," confirmed Mohd, who bagged his third Games gold medal since 1987.

Burma got their second athletics gold for the day from defending women's champion Khin Khin Htwe in the 1,500-metre run while Eduard Nabunome of Indonesia bested six other opponents for the gold in the gruelling men's 10,000 m.

The host country's only athletic gold for the day was bagged by Elma Muros in the long jump. Muros, who has won the women's long jump gold for the past record of 6.52 meters, came up with a lackluster 6.30 meter jump.



Mohammedan skipper Nannoo (L) looks expectantly as his Abahani opposite number Farooque fails to make good his ground in yesterday's Damal final. Also in picture are umpire Manzoor Milki and wicket-keeper Rumesh Kaluwirhana. —Star photo