

Pakistanis win by 8 wkts

LEICESTER, May 25: Leicestershire captain Nigel Briers scored 123 to delay an inevitable eight-wicket Pakistan victory for more than five hours Monday on the final day of a three-day match, reports AP.

Briers began play Monday on 47, sharing tail-end stands with wicket-keeper Paul Nixon (29) and Robert Goflon (not out 42) before falling leg before to Aamir Sohail for 123.

Pakistan quickly wrapped up Leicester's second inning for 269 following Briers' dismissal, after wrapping up the host county's first inning for 256 Saturday. Pakistan declared their first inning at 393 for eight, for a first inning lead of 137.

Aamir Sohail took three wickets for 31 from 19 overs, and Naved Anjum three for 73 from 17 in Leicestershire's second inning.

Set a target of 133 with two hours' play remaining, Pakistan's Inzamam-ul-Haq and Asif Mujtaba guided the sub-continent to an eight-wicket win.

Inzamam scored 61 not out, and Asif 27 not out as Pakistan reached the target with the loss of the wickets of Rameez Raja, out for 29 and fellow-opener Shoaib Mohammad for 13.

Pakistan play a two-day game against an England Amateur XI at Luton north of London Wednesday. They start a three-day game against Middlesex county Saturday before the first Test against England starting June 4 at

Edgbaston. An earlier report said: Asif Mujtaba and Naved Anjum staked claims for places in Pakistan's Test team with fine performances on the second day of their three-day cricket match against Leicestershire on Sunday.

Left-hander Mujtaba hit a



ASIF MUJTABA ... 95

sparkling 95 with 15 fours while all-rounder Naved followed up an excellent half-century by taking three for 37 in the home side's second innings.

The tourists declared at 393 for eight by tea with a lead of 137 and then had Leicestershire struggling at 84 for four by the close.

Asif led the way in exhilarating fashion, sharing a sixth-wicket partnership of 90 in 24 overs with Naved (56), who reached his half century off 59 balls in 62 minutes.

Asif fell five short of his century, brilliantly caught in the deep by David Millns who had been removed from the home side's attack after a third official warning for running on the wicket.

Rameez Raja (65) and Inzamam-ul-Haq (57) also hit half centuries before Naved got to work when Leicestershire batted a second time.

With key strike bowlers Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis both injured, Naved has a great chance of winning a place for the first Test at Edgbaston starting on June 4.

However, team manager Intikhab Alam has refused to rule out either Akram or Waqar for Edgbaston.

Intikhab said: "We'll have a look at both of them later this week. I am still hopeful that one if not both could play."

Wasim is in plaster for eight days with a stress fracture of his lower left leg while Waqar is recovering from a stress fracture in his back.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard after final day's play Monday in three-day cricket match between Pakistan and English county Leicestershire:

LEICESTERSHIRE: First innings 256 (Mushtaq Ahmed five for 49)

PAKISTAN: First innings (overnight 87 for one) Rameez Raja c Briers b Goflon 65

Aamir Sohail c Benson b Millns 24
Shoaib Mohammad c Potter b Mullally 25
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Boon b Hephworth 57
Zahid Fazal c Boon b Millns 26
Asif Mujtaba c Millns b Mullally 95
Naved Anjum c and b Benson 56
Rashid Latif c Goflon b Benson 16
Mushtaq Ahmed not out 8
Extras: (b-6, lb-13, w-2) 21
Total: (for eight wickets, declared) 393
Fall of wickets: 1-38; 2-121; 3-123; 4-200; 5-227; 6-317; 7-372; 8-393

Did not bat: Tanvir Mehdi, Saleem Jaffer

Bowling: O M R W
Millns 17.2 0 66 2
Mullally 23.2 4 80 2
Goflon 27 4 107 1
Potter 9 1 33 0
Hephworth 17 2 55 1
Benson 8.4 2 33 2

LEICESTERSHIRE: Second innings
Tim Boon lbw Anjum 1
N Briers lbw b Sohail 123
J Whitaker c Inzamam b Anjum 21
A Roseberry c Latif b Anjum 0
J Benson c Inzamam b Mujtaba 7
L Potter lbw b Mushtaq 11
P Hephworth run out 4
P Nixon lbw b Sohail 29
R Goflon not out 42
D Millns c Mehdi b Sohail 1
A Mullally b Mujtaba 1
Extras 29 (9 byes, 17 leg byes, 3 no balls)
Total: 269
Fall: 1-8; 2-46; 3-46; 4-68; 5-113; 6-130; 7-173; 8-259; 9-261; 10-269.

Bowling: O M R W
Anjum 17 3 73 3
Mehdi 10 4 31 0
Mushtaq 43 20 72 1
Mujtaba 22.5 8 36 2
Sohail 19 6 31 3

PAKISTAN: Second Inning
Rameez c Whitaker b Mullally 29
Shoaib b Millns 13
Inzamam not out 61
Mujtaba not out 27
Extras 3 (3 leg byes)
Total: 133 for two
Fall: 1-25; 2-53

Did not bat: Aamir Sohail, Zahid Fazal, Naved Anjum, Rashid Latif, Mushtaq Ahmed, Tanvir Mehdi, Selim Jaffer.

Bowling: O M R W
Millns 7 0 32 1
Mullally 11 3 29 1
Goflon 8.4 1 38 0
Hephworth 5 0 31 0

Pakistan win by eight wickets



Pakistani fast bowler Aamir Sohail (17) waves passport at Karachi airport on May 24 before leaving for London to enforce the Pakistani cricket team to replace fast bowler Wasim Akram who is suffering an injury. —AFP photo

Rain affects results

Sport Reporter

Although the afternoon shower came as a relief to the sweating and suffering city dwellers it did cause the abandonment of one of yesterday's Second Division cricket qualifying round matches.

Lalkuthi Eleven recorded a four-wicket win against Duranta Durbar Club at the Mahakhali T&T ground. Chasing Duranta Durbar's 94 from 29 overs including 45 extras, Lalkuthi ambled past the Durbar total in 28.1 overs for six wickets.

Earlier Robin scored 19 to become the only Durbar batsman to reach double figures. Ujjal with two for 19, Selim with two for nine and Khokan with two for 13 destroyed Durbar with consummate ease.

Lalkuthi skipper Khokan made 32 to guide his side to victory, along with Mona who scored 11.

Ishtiaq of Duranta captured three for 22.

At the eastern half of the Dhanmondi cricket Stadium, Khatpata chalked up an effortless seven-wicket victory against Badda Jagaran.

Put in, Badda were bowled out for a paltry 84 in 22.3 overs with Zillu making 16. Farhad took three for 20. Babu with two for 21, Farid two for 16 and Sayedur with two for 14 were the other wicket-takers.

Wicketkeeper Zahid made 23 as Kalpataru collected 88 for three in 23.1 overs. Swapan bagged two wickets for 16.

At the western portion of the same ground Crescent won against Avengers Club in a truncated match on better run rate.

Crescent batted first to make 193 for six with Shato topscoring with 39. Milu made an unbeaten 32; Sohel 27, Israt 23 were the other notable scorers.

Zia with two for 46 and Ejaz with two for 34 were the successful Avengers bowlers.

Avengers were 169 for five from 24.2 overs when rain stopped play. Ejaz made 45 and Zia 36.

Milon claimed two for 41 and Sohel two for one for Crescent.

Crescent were declared the winners for being ahead of their opponents on the run-rate after twenty overs.

The match between Malibagh Bright and Holiday's SCC at the Osmani Stadium Narayanganj was abandoned because of inclement weather. The match will be played on May 27, Wednesday.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Nayapaltn vs Dhanya (DCS West)
Mirpur Nabin Kriya Chakra vs Rupali KC (Mahakhali T&T)
Reliance Club vs Jupiter KC (Mirpur)
Khalaghar Samaj Kalyan vs DOHS Junior (DCS East).

Gooch steers Essex home

LONDON, May 25: England skipper Graham Gooch hammered 75 from 69 balls to steer Essex to an eight-wicket win over Glamorgan at Chelmsford and ensure they retained joint leadership of the Sunday League with Middlesex, reports AFP.

John Stephenson helped his captain in the chase for 195 with a sparkling 59 as Essex maintained their 100 per cent record.

Middlesex have also won all five of their games. West Indies opener Desmond Haynes hitting an unbeaten 95 on Sunday to guide them to a seven-wicket triumph over Kent at Canterbury.

He was assisted by England hopeful Mark Ramprakash, who followed his unbeaten 193 against Surrey in the County Championship on Saturday with 57 as Middlesex reached their target of 20 with eight balls to spare.

Nottinghamshire's hopes of retaining the title were dealt another blow when they slumped to a 16-run defeat at Derby, their fourth loss of the season.

Ex-England batsmen Tim Robinson and Derek Randall looked to be leading the champions to victory, but they crashed to 186 all out chasing Derbyshire's 202 for seven.

In-form Peter Bowler provided the lion's share of the Derbyshire tally, following his championship 155 on Saturday with 63.

Hampshire duo Tony Middleton and Robin Smith also continued their rich vein of form with 66 and 77 respectively in their 59-run

They put on 126 in 25 overs for the first wicket to provide the foundation for Hampshire's score of 211 for five.

A century stand between Jack Russell and Mark Alleyne



GRAHAM GOOCH

drubbing of Yorkshire at Headingley.

Warwickshire looked on course for victory when bad light and then a thunder storm halted play at Edgbaston as Lancashire battled for survival.

They secured their first league win of the season with 15 balls to spare thanks to Russell (56) and Alleyne (58), who put on an unbroken 116.

Meanwhile, Sussex kept their purple patch going with their third league victory in four matches with a ball to spare despite a burst of three wickets in seven deliveries by Surrey seamer Mark Butcher at the Oval.

Replying to Surrey's total of 196, Sussex were steered home by Neil Lenham and Peter Moores after Butcher skittled out Alan Wells, Martin Speight and Franklyn Stephenson in rapid succession.

Durham's unbeaten run came to an end, though, Northamptonshire's former England all-rounder David Capel bagging four wickets to mastermind a six-wicket success at Stockton after the home country had managed only 124.

Warwickshire looked on course for victory when bad light and then a thunder storm halted play at Edgbaston as Lancashire battled for survival.

Replying to a formidable home score of 251 for four, Lancashire were in trouble at 61 for three after 14 overs when the weather broke.

Graf shrugs off shaky start

PARIS, May 25: Steffi Graf looked far from happy when she returned to the scene of one of her worst-ever defeats at the French Open tennis championships here on Monday but after a shaky start against Canada's Rene Simpson-Alter the second-seed took charge, reports AFP.

The 22-year-old German, who won here in 1987 and 1988, eventually scored a 6-3, 6-1 victory to reach a second round berth against either Shih-Ting Wang of Taiwan or French wild card entry Nathalie Housset.

But for the first half an hour of the 63-minute clash, Graf looked as though she was suffering from the hangover of her 0-6, 2-6 loss to Spain's Arantxa Sanchez in last year's semifinal.

A series of backhand errors into the net and booming forehands landing well wide of their targets were not helped by a wayward service and double faults in her opening service games.

And as the left-handed Simpson-Alter's double-fisted backhands probed for weaknesses and two crafty drop shots caught Graf out the score moved to 3-3.

Graf suddenly exploded into form in the seventh game, rising high to punch winners with the most feared forehand in women's tennis off Simpson-Alter's high top-spin returns.

The world's number-two won eight points in a row and didn't drop another game to win the set.

The second-set was a formality. With her confidence fully returned, Graf never looked in any danger.

Graf admitted: "I think I was trying to hard at the start of the match today but believe me I am more eager than ever to do well here."

Other early winners included Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia. The 23-year-old tenth-seed, who is scheduled to play Graf for a place in the quarter-finals brushed aside Debbie Graham of the United States 6-3, 6-2.

Nantes, France, May 25: Tatiana Gutsu of Ukraine dominated the women's European gymnastics championships by taking the all-around title and two of the four individual apparatus crowns, reports AP.

Gutsu, a 16-year-old from Odessa, was competing for the native republic in the championships as Ukraine, Belarus and Russia were admitted as members of the European Gymnastics Union. In last month's World Championships in Paris she competed for the Commonwealth of Independent States and will compete for the Unified Team at the Olympic.

Svetlana Bouginskaya, the 1989 and 1990 champion, faltered to fifth in the all-around and took just the balance beam competition competing for Belarus. In 1990 she took all five gold medals.

Members of the three ex-Soviet republics took the majority of the medals in the four individual events which concluded the two-day competition.

Gutsu won the uneven parallel bars and the vault events and was runnerup to Bouginskaya in the beam and third in the floor exercise.

Romania's Gina Gogan won the floor event to upset the ex-Soviet superiority.

Novotna, playing in the event for a seventh time, has twice reached the quarter-finals and was a semi-finalist in 1990.

Natalia Medvedeva of the Ukraine defeated Meike Babel of Germany 6-4, 6-4 and Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands beat Eugenia Manikova of the CIS 6-2, 6-2.

COURIER WINS

Defending men's champion Jim Courier needed all his experience to snatch a first set after a tie break against stubborn Swede Niclas Kroon on the number-one show

CRYPTOQUIP

F Q Q - N F M M F J B , M F B W M

K W E D K T G D V C N E E M ' K

T G H W D J D V C .

Today's Cryptoquip clue: M equals T

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

IOC invites Mandela to Olympics

LAUSANNE, Switzerland, May 25: Nelson Mandela was invited today to witness personally South Africa's long-awaited return to Olympic competition at the Barcelona Games, reports Reuter.

Mandela received the invitation, to the Games' opening ceremony on July 25, at a meeting with Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

"It's an honour I'll look forward to," the African National Congress leader, an amateur boxer and keen distance runner in his youth, told a news conference after the meeting.

But the two men failed to settle a more contentious issue — just how many athletes will represent the republic as it enters an Olympic arena for the first time since 1960.

With a record 172 teams due to participate in Barcelona, space in the Olympic Village is at a premium. Organisers say some 19,000 athletes and officials will be accommodated.

Samaranch said one firm decision had been taken during his meeting with Mandela — that the South African team should be multiracial.

Olympic officials are keen to avoid the embarrassment of South Africa's white sportsmen, who have long had privileged training facilities, monopolising the Olympic qualification.

South Africa was re-admitted to the IOC last July after the dismantling of the main apartheid laws.

The IOC has already given its broad approval to the flag, anthem and emblem under which its squad will compete in Barcelona.

The 74-year-old former political prisoner paid homage to the 71-year-old former Spanish diplomat for the role he played in South Africa's rehabilitation.

"He has been regarded as the 'Samaranch of Africa' for his support for sport in Africa", he said.

And he refuted a suggestion that the ANC was being inconsistent by supporting the end of the sporting boycott against South Africa while it was still calling for economic sanctions.

"We do not see any contradiction at all... the two questions are totally separate," he said.

Dutch men down Canadian spikers



NELSON MANDELA

tes and officials have been registered, but the Village can only cope with a maximum 15,200.

South Africa's National Olympic Committee (NOCSA) with more than 125,000 sold already in the United States.

Vila said COOB has collected 75 per cent of the 113 million it expects from ticket sales, since most of the highest-priced seats already have been sold. The men's basketball final, at up to 150, is the most expensive sports ticket.

The tickets to be distributed beginning Monday are made of a special paper to prevent counterfeiting, and have watermarks that can only be seen when held up to the light.

Each ticket also has a three-dimensional hologram of Olympic mascot Cobi and the Olympic rings, and has been specially made to prevent accurate photocopying.

This batch of tickets also will have the buyer's name, but tickets to be sold later at venues will not include a name.

Monday also is supposed to be the day on which COOB announces how many athletes and officials are accredited for the Games, but COOB officials have hinted they may have to push back that announcement.

Next week-end in Calgary we will find out how we respond.

Olympics tickets sell well

BARCELONA, May 25: Two months before the Summer Games, Olympic officials say they've sold 43 per cent of their tickets and that many top events are completely booked, reports AP.

All swimming and judo events are sold out, while there are no tickets left for the championship game in men's basketball and some track and field finals.

The opening and closing ceremonies, the most expensive tickets at the Barcelona Olympics with prices ranging from dollars 90 to dollars 460, also are sold out.

But there still are 2.4 million tickets left, including more than a million for soccer. Seats remain for early-round basketball games, as well as for most track and field events.

Tickets ordered between February 1991 and March 1992 are being distributed in Barcelona beginning Monday, exactly two months before the Games open on July 25.

Of the total of 4.2 million tickets, more than 1.8 million have been sold, said Josep Maria Vila of the Barcelona Olympic Organizing Committee (COOB). "Sixty per cent of all finals and 14 per cent of the preliminaries are sold out."

Swimming and judo are the only sold-out sports, while 91 per cent of the tickets are gone for tennis, gymnastics, boxing, fencing, diving, shooting, wrestling and canoeing have sold 80 per cent of their tickets.

The only sold-out session of the track and field competition is on the evening of Aug 8, when nine finals are scheduled.

Other sports have more seats left, with soccer having sold only about 9 per cent of its 1.3 million tickets. The soccer draw that determined where each team will play was held last week.

Of the 4.2 million tickets overall, about 80 per cent are expected to be sold in Barcelona and the surrounding region. Some 700,000 were reserved for overseas markets.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Rudiments of theater
4 Propeller noise
8 Mast prefix
12 Bill's partner
13 "— but known..."
14 Luce publication
15 Roof
17 Translucent mineral
18 "The — Strikes Back" player
19 Paid
21 Took first place
22 Compact computer
26 Athletes: slang
29 Vital
30 Sapporo sash
31 Andy's pal
32 Scoundrel
33 Soft cheese
34 Extinct bird of New Zealand
35 Johnny's successor
36 Gretchen

DOWN
1 Longing
2 Prosperous time
3 Winning stroke
4 1952 movie, "— Charley?"
5 Couldn't stand
6 Bachelor's last words?
7 Made wavelets
8 Porch
9 Brooch
10 Gaffer
11 Kingly address
16 Jockey's uniform
20 Singer
23 Conservative
24 Theater award
25 Harbor structure
26 Door-frame part
27 Melville work
28 Wheedle
29 Band-leader
32 Competent
33 Invigorating
35 Garfield's owner
36 Plaster flaws
38 Poisonous substance
39 Show gratitude
42 Mulligan, for one
43 Lyricist's topic
44 Fencing weapon
45 Winter woe
46 Prune
47 Important numero
49 Abner's adjective

Solution time: 28 mins.

DANA GOAL BAD
ELAN IDLE ACE
BACKDRAFT CRY
TILLED HIKES
EL LEERY
JOBS VEX KARL
IRA AMI REO
MADE DOT CDXX
KAREN GA
ZEBRA SUNDAY
EGO BACKSTAGE
TAN BNAI OREL
ADE ITAN REEL