

Agile Taylor inspires Aussies



SYDNEY, Dec 8: Stand-in skipper Mark Taylor inspired Australia to an extraordinary 14-run victory over the West Indies in a weather-reduced World Series Cup (WSC) one-day cricket match here Tuesday night, reports AFP.

Taylor, substituting for hamstring victim Allan Border, held four consecutive catches as Australia sent the West Indies reeling to their lowest one-day innings of 87 off 29.3 overs.

Australia, sent into bat after Richie Richardson won the toss, appeared in trouble when they laboured to 101 for nine in their 30 overs after the match had been almost halved by a 195-minute delay to allow the saturated pitch to become playable.

Runs were precious on a difficult pitch, Dean Jones top-scoring with 21 off 53 balls and only Mark Waugh (17) and Greg Matthews (11) breaking into double figures, but the rest of the Aussies struggled with the bat.

Openers Taylor and David Boon gave Australia a great start by racing to 31 after seven overs before part-time medium pacer Phil Simmons ripped through the top order with three for two off 12 balls.

Jones and Mark Waugh consolidated with a fourth-wicket stand off 27 before Waugh was stumped.

One-day debutant Damine Martyn lasted just three balls before being bowled for a duck and it was left to Greg Matthews (11) to add some respectability to the Australian score.

Simmons, surprisingly used as an opening bowler, finished with the excellent figures of three for 11 off six overs while the redoubtable Curtly Ambrose was immaculate with his line and length to finish with three for 18 from his six overs.

With memories of last Sunday's brutal nine wicket loss to Richardson's men in Perth last Sunday, Australia's task looked daunting with the tourists requiring a run rate of 3.4 an over for victory.

Yet like on the final day of the Brisbane Test, Australia exposed the upper batting order, with Mike Whitney bowling Brian Lara for four in the fourth over and Craig

McDermott striking in the next to remove the free-scoring Simmons for a duck.

But Australia were well on



P. REIFFEL ... 3 for 14

the way to victory when he ousted their Brisbane nemesis Richardson, when left-armers Whitney had him caught behind for six with the West Indies floundering at 18 for three.

The impressive seamer Paul Reiffel maintained the pressure, capturing the prized wicket of Desmond Haynes for five, caught by Steve Waugh in the covers.

Taylor came to the fore with four super catches in the slips to dismiss Keith Arthurton (3), Carl Hooper (6), topscoring Gus Logie (20) and wicketkeeper Junior Murray (2) in succession.

It was the most catches by a non-wicketkeeping Australian in a one-day international.

Steadily, the West Indies' task became insurmountable as the tailenders battled to come to grips with the moving balls.

Ian Bishop and Ambrose offered some late hope, Bishop getting nine and Ambrose a cavalier 13, but the end came with three balls left as Anderson Cummins was run out.

Reiffel finished with 3-14 and home town favourite Whitney 2-11.

—Australia now join world

champions Pakistan and the West Indies on a win each after the first three matches of the triangular WSC series.

Australia, still without Border, tackle Javed Miandad's Pakistan in Hobart on Thursday with renewed spirit after humbling the West Indian batting, which had Hopper coming in at number seven Tuesday night.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the World Series day-night match between Australia and the West Indies at the Sydney Cricket Ground today:

AUSTRALIA:				
M Taylor	b Simmons	9		
D Boon	c Lara b Simmons	8		
D Jones	c Murray b Ambrose	21		
S Waugh	c Murray b Simmons	1		
M Waugh	st Murray	17		
D Martyn	b Ambrose	0		
G Matthews	c Ambrose b Cummins	11		
I Healy	c Cummins	3		
P Reiffel	not out	9		
C McDermott	lbw b Hooper	2		
M Whitney	not out	1		
Extras: (lb-11, w-8)		19		
Total (nine wickets, 30 overs)		101		

Fall of wickets: 1-31, 2-32, 3-34; 4-61; 5-62; 6-79; 7-85; 8-90; 9-98.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Bishop	6	0	20	0
Simmons	6	2	11	3
Ambrose	6	0	18	3
Cummins	6	1	16	1
Hooper	6	0	25	2

WEST INDIES:

D Haynes	c S Waugh b Reiffel	5
B Lara	b Whitney	4
P Simmons	lbw b McDermott	0
R Richardson	c Healy b Whitney	6
G Logie	c Taylor b Reiffel	20
K Arthurton	c Taylor b S Waugh	3
C Hooper	c Taylor b Reiffel	6
J Murray	c Taylor b S Waugh	2
I Bishop	c Healy b M Waugh	11
C Ambrose	not out	13
A Cummins	run out	2
Extras: (lb-13, w-2)		15
Total: (all out 29.3 overs)		87

Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-7; 3-18; 4-22; 5-31; 6-49; 7-55; 8-65; 9-75.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
McDermott	6	1	11	1
Whitney	6	1	11	2
Reiffel	6	1	14	3
S Waugh	5.3	0	25	2
M Waugh	6	0	13	1

Attendance: 32,184.

Result: Australia won by 14 runs.

Tragic mistake

PEREIRA, Colombia, Dec 8: Edwin Aguina, promising midfielder player with Colombian First Division side Deportivo Pereira, was shot dead here on Monday — by mistake, reports AFP.

The 21-year-old Aguina, returning home with a friend, was mistaken by a neighbour as being one of three men mugging a 61-year-old woman.

The neighbour ran towards Aguina brandishing a knife and when the footballer tried to escape he pulled out a revolver and gunned him down.

Maradona misses court date

BUENOS AIRES, Dec 8: Diego Maradona failed to appear for a progress report on his fight against drug use here on Monday. His lawyer told the court a knee injury had prevented him from flying from Spain, reports AFP.

The former Argentina World Cup captain is now playing for Sevilla following his 15-month suspension for using cocaine.

Gullit's change of heart

ROTTERDAM, Dec 8: Former Netherlands captain Ruud Gullit has reversed his decision to quit international soccer, national team coach Dick Advocaat told the Dutch news agency ANP today, reports Reuter.

But Advocaat did not say whether he would include Gullit in the squad he is due to name on Thursday for the World Cup qualifier against Turkey in Istanbul on December 16.

Gullit, capped 62 times, said in October he would no longer be available for selection "for personal reasons" after missing the Netherlands' 2-1 defeat to Norway in a World Cup qualifier the previous month.

The 30-year-old Gullit was at the time struggling to find a first team place at AC Milan, for whom he is due to turn out in a European Cup match against his former club PSV Eindhoven on Wednesday.

Advocaat, however, always said he expected Gullit to make himself available again in time for the Turkey match.

Martyn, Marsh earn WA a draw

MELBOURNE, Dec 8: Test newcomer Damien Martyn and skipper Geoff Marsh scored centuries and steered Western Australia to a draw with Victoria in the Sheffield Shield cricket match on Monday, reports Reuter.

Starting the day 140 runs behind one first innings, Western Australia reached 337 for three at the close on the final day with Martyn unbeaten on 116 and Tom Moody on 35.

Former Test vice-captain Marsh provided the backbone of Western Australia's second innings with 101. His 66-run opening stand with Mike Veletta helped dash Victoria's hopes of early wickets and a possible win in a match shortened by almost a day because of rain.

Martyn, who makes his one-day international debut against the West Indies in Sydney today, figured in an unbeaten 85-run partnership with Moody. His third Sheffield Shield century of the season included 15 boundaries.

Victorian captain Simon O'Donnell said: "We thought 140 runs in front would be difficult for them to get but their batting today was superb."

Marsh said his side had regrouped well after a weekend meeting to discuss how they had collapsed and lost six wickets for 15 runs off 29 deliveries in the first innings.

Victoria's Shane Warne captured seven wickets for the match, while his innings of 69 was his best Sheffield Shield score.

McColgan's 3-yr marathon plans

LONDON, Dec 8: Britain's world 10,000 metres champion Liz McColgan will run in the 1993 London Marathon and also in 1994 and 1995, it was announced on Monday, reports Reuter.

McColgan, who has already set her sights on running the marathon at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, has won the only two marathons she has run, in New York last year and Tokyo just three weeks ago.

Among her targets in next year's race on April 18 will be Norwegian Ingrid Kristiansen's seven-year-old course and world record of 2:21.06.

London Marathon coordinator David Bedford said no other athlete has ever contracted to run in the race for three years.

"Her talent over 26.2 miles has hardly ever been tapped," Bedford said. "Her winning time in New York was the fastest ever for a woman's debut marathon and showed something of what she is capable of."



David Calaghan of South Africa drives Indian Kapil Dev square of the wicket during the first of the seven one-dayers between the two countries at the Newlands ground in Cape Town on Monday. South Africa won the match by six wickets with only three balls to spare.

—Star TV photo

Dream Team's Davis Cup dreams



FORT WORTH, Texas, Dec 8: The US tennis Dream Team erased the nightmare of Lyon by recapturing the Davis Cup with a 3-1 victory over Switzerland on Sunday and vowed to keep the trophy in the United States for many years, reports Reuter.

"Everyone got their point and each point was huge. Hopefully we'll win this thing for the next eight or nine years," said world number one Jim Courier, who clinched the triumph by beating Jakob Hlasek 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 on Sunday.

"This is my first one and it certainly feels good," said Courier, who had played far short of his best form in his previous Cup performances.

"There's nothing like winning for a team and whenever I'm needed to play I'll be there."

The victory certainly helped

Pete Sampras put last year's devastating loss to France behind him.

The former US Open champion made his Davis Cup debut in last year's final in Lyon and lost both his singles matches, an experience he said plagued him for months.

But the 21-year-old Sampras played brilliantly with doubles partner John McEnroe to stage a remarkable victory after losing the first two sets in time-breaks to Hlasek and Marc Rosset on Saturday.

"It was a sweet victory for me personally after last year, Sampras said. "I wanted to get the Davis Cup back in the United States where it should be."

"It feels great," he added of the win that helped the United States to their record 30th cup.

McEnroe didn't attend the final press conference to avoid questions about his troubled marriage to Tatum O'Neal. This

was the fifth time he has been on a winning US team.

Switzerland entered their first final as decided underdogs but made the heavily favoured Americans battle hard for every point.

"What we did was fantastic and I'm so proud of this team," Hlasek said.

Rosset served spectacularly to beat Courier in five sets on Friday, and he and Hlasek came tantalisingly close in the doubles.

"The (Swiss) did themselves proud," said Tom Gorman after winning his second Davis Cup in the past three years as US captain.

"Having a two-man team finally caught up with them," added Gorman, noting that the Swiss duo appeared to tire in the doubles. Playing three days in a row also took its toll on Hlasek on Sunday.

But they certainly earned the respect of the Americans. "I have the utmost respect

Beardsley's revenge against Liverpool

LONDON, Dec 8: Peter Beardsley fired an 84th minute winner against his former club Liverpool as Everton hit back to beat their arch-rivals 2-1 in Monday's English Premier League clash, reports Reuter.

Beardsley, sold by Grame Souness after he took over as Liverpool manager last year, produced a perfectly-placed strike for his first home goal for seven months.

In completed a thrilling recovery by Everton, who trailed to a 62nd minute headed goal by Liverpool defender Mark Wright, returning after a month out through injury.

Scot Mo Johnston equalised barely a minute later when he received the ball with his back to goal just outside the penalty area and hit a low, curling shot on the turn to beat goalkeeper Mike Hooper's despairing dive.

John Barnes struck the foot of a post in the 71st minute before his former clubmate dealt the telling blow to ease Everton's plight near the foot of the table.

They are now 17th in the 22-team league with Liverpool 10th.

For both those guys," said Courier. "They're both class acts."

The Swiss fans also won respect.

Their flag-waving, cowbell-clanging enthusiasm electrified the arena, creating an atmosphere never seen in tennis in the United States. The usually reserved US tennis fans rose to the occasion, creating competition in the stands and a fervor usually seen only at European and South American sporting events.

But after paying homage to the fans, what the US players insisted was most special was the camaraderie and team spirit.

Agassi said that, more than anything, would bring the players back to try and keep the Cup in the United States.

"It was a great experience for all of us to be part of such a strong team. There's a lot of support for each other."

McEnroe feels there's too much money



MUNICH, Dec 8: John McEnroe was never the type of tennis player to go gently into his final goodnight from the game.

The 33-year-old American, rarely out of the limelight in 15 years at the top, is raging at the center of controversy again as the light dies on his singles career at this week's Grand Slam Cup, reports Reuter.

McEnroe's marital problems with his actress wife Tatum O'Neal have made headlines worldwide in the past week. The American spend much of the weekend's Davis Cup final running from reporters' questions about his private life.

The New Yorker caused another stir on Monday when he described the six-million-dollar prize money at the Grand Slam Cup, which starts today, as "obscene."

McEnroe refused to play in the inaugural Munich event two years ago because he said the tournament was trying to turn players into "money whores". He also stayed away last year when the winner, American David Wheaton,

earned 56 dollars per second in his four matches.

While he agreed to use tennis' most lucrative tournament as his last major event before he quits the tour,



JOHN MCENROE

McEnroe told the German magazine Spiegel: "I think the sums are obscene."

"For that reason I'm going to donate my money to a charitable organisation that does some good. I haven't decided yet who will get the money. But one thing is certain — it won't be John McEnroe."

McEnroe's multi-millionaire from his success, said he was determined not to be tempted out of retirement by

money.

"The word retirement isn't taken seriously by some sportsmen. They retire and then suddenly make a comeback," he said. "Should I play again for any reason, I don't want people saying 'Aha, you can twist McEnroe with money too.'"

The people in the tennis business throw piles of money at you and see what price you can be bought at. I don't want my life to be dictated by money," he added.

Even those who have criticised McEnroe over the years for his tantrums on court, one of which led to him being defaulted at the 1990 Australian Open, would not begrudge the gifted lefthander a final triumph in Munich against a top-class field.

The best performers at the year's four Grand Slam events — Wimbledon and the Australian, US Open and French Open — qualify for the event. Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi, German Michael Stich and Swede Stefan Edberg are among the stars.

But Australian and French Open champion Jim Courier, the world number one who

clinched the American Davis Cup victory over Switzerland on Sunday, is missing.

Serve-and-volley specialists Guy Forget of France and Croatian Goran Ivanisevic clash in the first round today.

Edberg faces a fascinating battle with Stich while Agassi meets compatriot Michael Chang in their opening matches on Wednesday.

McEnroe begins his campaign to win the two-million-dollar prize on Wednesday against Sweden's Nicklas Pietrangeli.

McEnroe, who plans to work as a television commentator next season, admitted in the Spiegel interview that he was afraid of a void in his future life without the buzz of playing tennis.

"There is a feeling of standing in front of emptiness," he said. "People will say 'the poor guy won't have any sleepless nights with his money and fame'. But do they understand what a change like that means?"

"I'm seriously worried about it because it's going to be a major change for me...I'm coming out of the dream world of tennis and back into reality."

Only rain or miracle can save NZ



COLOMBO, Dec 8: Sri Lanka were in sight of a historic win despite a brilliant 107 by New Zealand skipper Martin Crowe as the tourists ended the third day of their second Test here Tuesday struggling to save the match, reports AFP.

Chasing a deficit of 292, New Zealand were 277 for 6 in their second innings at the close with the cream of their batting back in the pavilion.

Wicket-keeper Adam Parore (17) and Grant Bradburn (5) hung on grimly with an unfinished 16-run 7th wicket stand that staved off a New Zealand defeat on the third day itself.

There is no rest day in the second Test and with two days remaining it all points to Sri Lanka's third Test win unless the Kiwis perform a miracle or are rescued by the weather-gods.

Sri Lanka were placed in the driving seat by the nagging spin bowling of off-spinners Jayananda Warnawera and Muttiah Muralidharan and left-armers Don Anurastril although they came in for harsh treatment from Crowe.

Warnawera who took a career-best 4 for 25 in the New Zealand first innings of 102, took two more in the second innings. Muralidharan finished with 2 for 101 and Anurastril had 1 for 43.

The umpires revised New Zealand's first innings score-board after correcting the total to 102. They decided that Wright had not been given a particular boundary after the ball had hit the fence and the batsman had taken three runs.

Subsequently, the New Zealand team had informed the umpires who clarified with fielder Chandika Hathursinghe who had chased the ball to the boundary. As a result the umpires decided that it was a 4 and corrected the relevant scores. After ending

IOC defers decision on golf

LAUSANNE, Dec 8: The International Olympic Committee's executive board postponed until March a decision on admitting golf to the 1996 Games at Atlanta, reports AFP.

"No official request has yet been received," a spokesman said.

However, an Atlanta delegation will submit golf's case at an IOC programme commission on Dec 15.

A resolution would go to the IOC meeting at Atlanta next month.

New Zealand's first innings in the fourth over of the day, Sri Lanka shocked the tourists by snapping up the wickets of

boundaries on another hot day which was marked by a rare incident. On 39, Crowe was given out by head umpire Ignatius Anandappa to what seemed to be a low catch at silly point by Asanka Gurusinha.

But the New Zealand captain refused to leave the crease resulting in Anandappa consulting leg-umpire TM Samarasinghe and then reversing his decision. Television replays showed Gurusinha taking the ball on the first bounce.

Scoreboard at close of the third day of the second Test between New Zealand and Sri Lanka today:

SHRI LANKA: First innings

394

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

B Hartland c Gurusinha

b Warnawera

J Wright c Wickremasinghe

b Warnawera

A Jones c Tilakaratne

b Warnawera

M Crowe b Muralidharan

K Rutherford c Tilakaratne

b Warnawera

C Harris run out

A Parore lbw b Muralidharan

G Bradburn c Tilakaratne

b Lyanage

M Su'a not out

C Pringle b Lyanage

M Owens c Anurastril

b Muralidharan

Extras: (lb-4, nb-9, w-1)

Total (all out)

101

Fall of wickets: 1-57; 2-60; 3-63; 4-64; 5-88; 6-97; 7-99; 8-100; 9-101.

Bowling:

Lyanage

Gurusinha

Anurastril

Hathursinghe

Warnawera