

World champions stumble again

ADELAIDE, Australia, Dec 13: Australia moved to the top of the World Series cricket points table after scoring an eight-wicket victory over Pakistan at the Adelaide Oval today, reports Reuter.

The Australians needed 196 from 47 overs to win the rain-hit match, a target they achieved for the loss of only David Boon and Mark Taylor.

Man-of-the-match Taylor contributed a patient 78 off 109 balls, including just one boundary.

The stand-in Australian captain kept his unbeaten record intact with two wins and a tie since taking over the leadership from the injured Allan Border last week.

Boon helped set the foundation for the innings with a solid 40 and Dean Jones finished unbeaten on 48.

The loss ended a dismal weekend for the Pakistanis, who succumbed in spectacular fashion to the West Indies on Saturday, losing by four runs after looking almost certain to win.

The World Cup holders started in a slow pace with Asif Mujtaba's 45 coming off 98 balls.

Only a late flurry from Inzamam-ul-Haq and all-rounder Wasim Akram lifted the run rate.

Inzamam scored an unbeaten 60 from 70 balls, while Wasim added 35 off 16 balls including a towering six.

The game ended in a peculiar fashion, giving record-keepers a poser to ponder.

Australia needed one run to win at the start of the penultimate over and the game finished when Pakistan left-arm spinner Aamir Sohail sent down a wide down the leg side.

The game was over, but the debate had just begun, with scorers and reporters arguing over whether, and how, the wide, which does not count as a legal delivery, should appear on the official scoresheet.

One school of thought maintained it should not count because a wide has to be re-bowled and, therefore, two full overs remained.

The other argued it must

count as a ball, because if it didn't, where did the winning run come from if scores were level after 45 overs?

Australia now have five points from four games, ahead of the West Indies (four points from four games) and Pakistan (three from four).

Australia next faces the West Indies in a day-night match in Melbourne on Tuesday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Series Cup one-day cricket match between Australia and Pakistan played here today (overs reduced to 47 a side due to rain).

Pakistan: Aamir Sohail run out 8; Rameez Raja b May 28; Asif Mujtaba b S Waugh 45; Mianad b May 6.



MARK TAYLOR ... 78

Table with 3 columns: Player Name, Runs, Wickets. Includes Inzamamul Haq, Saeed Anwar, Wasim Akram, Rashid Latif, and others.

May 10 0 27 2

Australia: M A Taylor run out 78; D C Boon b Aamir 40; D M Jones not out 48; S R Waugh not out 15; Extras: (lb 6, w 5, nb 4) 15; Total: (2 wkts) 196.

Fall of wickets: 1-70; 2-171. Did not bat: ME Waugh, DR Martyn, IA Healy, PR Reiffel, CJ McDermott, MR Whitney, TJ May.

Bowling table with columns: O, M, R, W. Includes Akram, Waqar, Aaqib, Aamir, Mushtaq, Mujtaba.

Overs: 45

Australia won by eight wickets

STANDINGS

World Series Cup standings after today's Australia-Pakistan match.

Table with 3 columns: Team, Games played, Won, Lost, Tie, Points, Net run rate. Includes Australia, West Indies, Pakistan.

Sevilla beaten

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, Dec 13: Victor Alquiza scored late in the first half to lead Real Sociedad to a 1-0 victory Saturday over Sevilla in a Spanish First Division league match, reports AP.

Alquiza scored from 12 metres (yards) in injury time in the first half in a match that was played in a constant downpour.

Croat Davor Suker had Sevilla's best scoring chance in the lackluster game when his blistering shot following a corner ricocheted off the crossbar in the 57th minute.

Diego Maradona, playing on a tender right knee, had few scoring chances in the rain-soaked match for Sevilla.

Eight remaining 14th-round games are to be played Sunday. A game scheduled between Barcelona and Oviedo has been postponed until January to allow European Cup champion Barcelona to play Sunday in Tokyo against Sao Paulo in the Toyota Cup.

Lewis heads list of nominees for Owens trophy

NEW YORK, Dec 13: Eight-time Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis heads a list of 11 finalists for the 1993 Jesse Owens International Trophy Award, reports AP.

The award, presented annually to the athlete who best personifies and promotes sincere cooperation among people of all nations, will be presented Feb 9.

Among the finalists are American Bonnie Blair, three-time Olympic women's speed-skating champion; Algerian Hassiba Boulmerka, Olympic and world champion in the women's 1,500-metre run; Hungarian Tamas Darnyi, four-time Olympic gold medalist in swimming; Hungarian Kristina Egerszegi, triple Olympic gold medalist in swimming and American Jackie Joyner-Kersey, two-time Olympic heptathlon champion.

Also, Gao Min of China, world and Olympic women's diving champion; Australian Kieren Perkins, world and Olympic swimming champion; Vitaly Scherbo of Belarus, six-time Olympic gold medalist in gymnastics; American Kristi Yamaguchi, Olympic and world champion in women's figure skating, and American Kevin Young, Olympic hurdling champion.

Narrow escape for Bayern Munich

BONN, Dec 13: An own goal by Schalke's Thomas Linke saved Bundesliga leaders Bayern Munich from an embarrassing home defeat on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Steffen Freund stunned the 35,000 crowd with a 53rd minute strike for mid-table Schalke but nine minutes later Linke put the ball past his own goalkeeper after losing an aerial clash with Bayern's Bruno Labbadia.

Second-placed Eintracht Frankfurt squandered a two-goal lead against Hamburg and drew 3-3.

Leading marksmen Anthony Yeboah and Uwe Rahn were on target in the ninth and 12th minutes respectively before Frank Rohde replied for the visitors.

Rai asserts Sao Paulo supremacy

TOKYO, Dec 13: Two goals by Rai led Sao Paulo to a 2-1 victory over FC Barcelona in the Toyota European-South American Cup final Sunday, giving the Brazilians bragging rights as the world's top club soccer team, reports AP.

The victory snapped a three-year losing streak by South American teams in the Cup, which matches the club champions from Europe and South America.

Rai, a 27-year-old midfielder, scored off a free-kick in the 34th minute of the second half, breaking a 1-1 tie before a sellout crowd of 60,000 at Tokyo's National Stadium.

Bulgarian star Hristo Stoichkov gave Barcelona a 1-0 lead 12 minutes into the match with a sharp left-footed shot just under the top bar of the net.

But 16 minutes later midfielder Muller of Brazil broke near the goal with some fancy footwork and passed the ball to Rai, who fired it in to even the score.

"In the end Sao Paulo's rhythm was better than ours," said Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff. He said the dry ground and wind disturbed his team's rhythm.

"Compared with other teams we're not as used to big matches, so we may have been nervous," Cruyff said.

The match was played under sunny skies in 10-degree (50-degree Fahrenheit) weather. While the crowd was mainly Japanese, the most vigorous cheering came from a sizable contingent of Brazilians in Tokyo to support their team.

On the free kick, Rai first passed the ball to midfielder Pintado, then received it back and fired it into the corner. Barcelona goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta appeared to believe that the ball would sail high and stood motionless as it flew by.

"We were moving better than them in the second half," said Sao Paulo coach Tele Santana. "Our play was worthy of the World Cup."

Rai, who scored three goals in Sao Paulo's 4-2 victory over



Barcelona medio Jose Maria Bakero (L-6) attempts a volley as his Sao Paulo counterpart tries to stop him during the Inter-Continental Cup tie in Tokyo yesterday. Sao Paulo edged Barcelona 2-1 to become the first Latin club side to win the Cup since Montevideo of Uruguay won it in 1988.

SE Palmeiras last month in Brazil's domestic championship series, said before the match that he studied videotapes of Barcelona's play.

The loss puts new pressure on Cruyff and an imported trio of stars that includes Stoichkov.

Barcelona have already been eliminated from this season's European Champion's Cup and Cruyff could find himself out of a job if he fails to bring home the Spanish league champi-

onship. Barcelona earned a trip to Tokyo by defeating Sampdoria of Italy in the last European Champion's Cup. Sao Paulo qualified in a penalty shootout against Newell's Old Boys of Argentina.

The Brazilians arrived in Tokyo last Monday, three days before Barcelona, and brought along a Brazilian cook to prepare special meals for the players.

European teams had won the championship in Tokyo for three straight years, but the South Americans now hold an 18-13 overall lead. Red Star of Yugoslavia defeated Chile's Colo Colo for last year's title.

First held in 1960, the championship was called the Intercontinental Cup until it was moved to Tokyo and simplified to a one-game contest in 1980. It was not held in 1975 and 1978.

It's magnificent Mahanama again

COLOMBO, Dec 13: Opener Roshan Mahanama clinched his second man-of-the-match award in two days with a superb 107 that helped Sri Lanka beat New Zealand by 31 runs and clinch the one-day series, 2-0 here today, reports AFP.

Mahanama, who piloted Sri Lanka to an eight-wicket win on Saturday, propelled Sri Lanka to 262 for 6 in 49 overs — their highest limited-overs score against New Zealand — in the third one-day international here.

New Zealand, in reply, took up the chase for a 263-run target but were bowled out for 231 in the penultimate ball of their innings in spite of a great fightback by all-rounder Chris Harris who made 68 not out with a six and four boundaries.

The first match was abandoned due to rain. New Zealand return home Tuesday empty-handed, having lost the two-Test series 1-0.

With half the side out for 165, Harris joined Justin Vaughan (33) for a 57-run fifth wicket stand in eight overs before off-spinner Ruwan Kalpage had Vaughan stumped by Gamage Wickramasinghe who had a fine day in the field.

But thereafter, Harris ran out of partners as he staged a lone battle in the last ten overs against tight bowling and smart fielding with Sri Lankan skipper Arjuna Ranatunga using nine bowlers including himself to contain the Kiwis.

At the beginning of the 40th over, New Zealand were 186 for 5 but despite Harris'

determination to continue the chase the remaining five batsmen lost their way in the day-night clash, managing just 22 runs between them.

The Kiwis, who bowled one over less within the stipulated time limit, seemed to have begun the day well when they won the toss for the first time in the two-Test and three-match one-day series.



R MAHANAMA ... 107

But Mahanama, who has been in brilliant form throughout the Test and one-day series against New Zealand, turned the spotlight on himself once more with his maiden one-day century which beat his previous highest of 89 against India.

His 132-ball innings which contained seven boundaries, followed his unbeaten 84 in the second one-day international and his centuries in the first and second Tests.

Mahanama received great support from left-hander Asanka Gurusinha (76) as they set up a 166-run second wicket stand in 34 overs be-

fore Gurusinha, making his 13th one-day half-century, was bowled by left-arm spinner Mark Haslam playing in his first one-day match. Gurusinha has played 75 matches.

After losing opener Chandika Hathurusinghe in the fourth over after being put into bat, Mahanama and Gurusinha help the side post their highest one-day total against New Zealand.

Mahanama, reaching his hundred with Sri Lanka on 194, was caught at mid-wicket by captain Andrew Jones for 107 trying to force the pace.

After Arvinde de Silva (20) and skipper Arjuna Ranatunga (16) left in quick succession going for runs, left-handed all-rounder Sanath Jayasuriya chipped in with a quick 26 off 19 balls to top 262.

Medium-pace Chris Pringle bowled well to pick up three for 59 in eight overs.

The Kiwis suffered a shock start when they lost openers Blair Hartland and Adam Parore to medium-pace Gurusinha within the space of six runs before skipper Andrew Jones (32) and Ken Rutherford (30) stemmed the rot.

However, Kalpage ended their 53-run third wicket stand when he scooped up a return catch from Rutherford to tilt the game in Sri Lanka's favour. Kalpage finished with best figures of three for 46.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the third and final one-day international between New Zealand and Sri Lanka at the Khetarama

Stadium here today:

SRI LANKA

Table with 3 columns: Player Name, Runs, Wickets. Includes RS Mahanama, Harris, UC Hathurusinghe, Pringle, AP Gurusinha, PA de Silva, A Ranatunga, ST Jayasuriya, RS Kalpage, Extras, Total, Fall of wickets, Bowling table.

NEW ZEALAND

Table with 3 columns: Player Name, Runs, Wickets. Includes B Hartland, Gurusinha, A Parore, A Jones, K Rutherford, K Kalpage, J Vaughan, Wickremasinghe, C Harris, D Nash, C Pringle, G Anurasiri, G Bradburn, M Owens, M Haslam, M Tilakaratne, Extras, Total, Fall, Bowling table.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the third and final one-day international between New Zealand and Sri Lanka at the Khetarama



Action from yesterday's 15th national hockey championship match at the Hockey Stadium between Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and Pirojpur DSA. BUET routed Pirojpur 6-0.

Martin's second HK Open crown

HONG KONG, Dec 13: Australian Rodney Martin won his second Hong Kong Open squash title with a 12-15, 15-13, 15-14, 15-9 victory over top-seeded compatriot Chris Dittmar on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Number two seed Martin, champion in 1986 before Pakistan's Junshar Khan began a run of five successive triumphs, brushed aside the disappointment of losing the first game to win impressively.

Dittmar, in his fourth Hong Kong Open final, was always under pressure from the former world champion who displayed tremendous touch at the front of the court.

Hughes steals the show from Cantona

LONDON, Dec 13: Mark Hughes upstaged fellow striker Eric Cantona on the French international's full league debut for Manchester United by firing the winner against English Premier League leaders Norwich on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Wales international Hughes punished defensive lapse and drove home a 58th minute goal to give United a 1-0 victory at Old Trafford.

Cantona, their recent 1.2 million pounds sterling (1.82 million dollar) signing from champions Leeds, missed two chances, while Norwich striker Mark Robins failed to make a significant impact on his return to the club who sold him four months ago.

United's fourth consecutive league win ended a five-game unbeaten run by Norwich whose lead at the top was cut to five points.

Aston Villa, illuminating their title challenge with positive soccer, moved into second place after they overturned an

early deficit at home to beat bottom club Nottingham Forest 2-1.

Leaders Norwich have 39 points followed by Villa (34) and third-placed Manchester United (33).

United squandered several chances in the first half, with Cantona guilty on two occasions, and an error by Norwich midfielder Daryl Such allowed the predatory Hughes to score the decisive goal.

Such was under no pressure when he attempted to clear on the edge of his penalty area but the ball came off his shins, leaving Hughes outside and with a simple task to score.

Norwich, whose four league defeats have all been away, rarely showed the brand of attacking football that has taken them to the top, and a dominant United frequently benefited from skilful prompting by Cantona.

Forest, underlining manager Brian Clough's refusal to compromise his soccer principles despite the team's plight, played the ball around with characteristic fluency and

were lifted by a ninth minute lead.

Ireland midfielder Roy Keane, a gifted player growing in stature, raced clear on to a superb crossfield pass from Nigel Clough and coolly chipped the ball over stranded goalkeeper Nigel Spink.

Cyrille Regis, drafted in after a groin injury ruled out fellow marksman Dalian Atkinson, put Villa on terms after 34 minutes and defender Paul McGrath headed the winner — his first league goal for the club — two minutes after halftime.

Leeds have mainly struggled in their title defence but gave their confidence a boost with a 3-1 home success over Sheffield Wednesday. Even so, it left them 14th in the 22-team league.

Gary Speed put them ahead after 32 minutes but Swedish defender Roland Nilsson equalised soon afterwards. Second half strikes by Lee Chapman and Imre Varadi killed off Wednesday's challenge.

A 21st minute goal by midfielder Paul Allen gave Totte-

nam victory in the London Derby against Arsenal, who have now lost their last four league games.

Ipswich, who had drawn 11 of their 18 previous league matches, showed another dimension to their game by staging a three-goal comeback to beat Manchester City 3-1.

Defender Garry Flitcroft put City ahead with his first goal for the club but Mike Stockwell and Gavin Johnson each scored in a four-minute burst to turn the tables.

A goal by Paul Goodard two minutes from time completed Ipswich's recovery which lifted them two places to sixth.

Chelsea, who drew 0-0 with Middlesbrough on Friday, are fourth with Blackburn, who travel to Anfield to face Liverpool today, fifth.

Highest Premier scorers of the day were Wimbledon who thrashed fellow strugglers Oldham 5-2 with strike pair Neal Ardley and Dean Holdsworth each getting two goals.

Scottish champions Glasgow Rangers, fired by Ally McCoist's 33rd of the season, beat Falkirk 2-1 away to stay top.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes words like Strawberry, metric unit, Less, Battery terminals, Enigma, Albania's capital, Lennon's lady, Ritz, vessel, Navigator's aid, Teen woe, Place-kicker's pride, Moore of movies, Runs into, Reviewed with four stars, Fellows, Bottom line, Super-market section, Meal on a stick, Win after win, serves, Destroyed, Succor, Depend (on), Actor Williams, Foams, What's for — for me?, D.C. group, Mexican lunch, Brick-layer's tool, More silly, Kilmer classic, Insertion mark, Fruit used in pre-, Palatable, Cagney or Lacey, Lucy's pal, Small change, "— who?" (in slang), Diving bird, Many are designated "II", American poet: last name..., and first name, Donahue of "Father Knows Best", Stocking mishap, Fuel, Charm, Buster Douglas, e.g., Tall story?, Done to —, Yemeni city, Reverence, Ruin the veneer.

Cryptogram puzzle grid with numbers 1-38 indicating letter positions.

CRYPTOQUIP

M X F U T S V T R X K T S F K F
I Q Q U Z F Y F Z Z F A M P A Z T S V
I M Q L S H X K I R A F Q T H T P L R
I M Y T Z R M O Q L R X
Yesterday's Cryptogram: UNDULY MODEST TRUMPET PLAYER HATES TO BLOW HIS OWN HORN.
Today's Cryptogram clue: K equals W

The Cryptogram 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