

Warne sends Windies on a spin

MELBOURNE, Dec 30: Shane Warne spun Australia to victory by taking seven West Indies wickets in a remarkable spell on the final day of the second cricket Test, reports Reuters.

Warne's spin, biting into a crumbling wicket, gave Australia a 139-run victory and put them 1-0 ahead in the five Test series after the drawn first Test in Brisbane.

His main victim was Phil Simmons, whose maiden Test century of 110 was the bedrock of the West Indies innings which fell apart after Wednesday's lunch break and ended a minute before tea, de-lighting the 15,000 Melbourne Cricket Ground crowd.

The slight blond-haired Warne, a 23-year-old whose hobby is surfing, totally be-guiled the West Indies with his flight and turn, forcing the West Indies from the attack to defence.

He finished with figures of seven wickets for 52 runs off 23.2 overs.

The West Indies began on 32 for one, having lost opener Desmond Haynes (5) just before Tuesday's close, but Simmons and captain Richie Richardson set off in hot pur-suit of the 357 they had been set for victory in their second innings.

The pair put on 134 runs in their second wicket partner-ship. But Richardson was clean bowled by Warne for 52 just before lunch and after that wickets fell regularly.

The West Indies were all out for 219 after a first innings of 233.

Australia scored 395 in their first innings and 196 in their second.

Warne, playing in only his fifth test, became the first leg-spinner to take six wickets in a Test in Melbourne.

Bill O'Reilly had held the record by taking five Test



Aussie leg-spinner Shane Warne (hatless) is being congratulated by teammates after taking the wicket of West Indian Ian Bishop on the last day of the second Test at the MCG yesterday. Warne engineered an Aussie victory with a haul of seven for 52. He is the first Aussie leggie to take five wickets in an innings at the MCG in 56 years.

wickets for Australia against South Africa in 1936. Richardson had no excuses for the West Indies' defeat.



P. SIMMONS... 110 "I think that generally we were outplayed," he told re-

Aussie fans find a new idol

MELBOURNE, Dec 30: Shane Warne bows un-fashionable leg-spinners. He's played only five Test matches in his life, but he's the new idol of Australian cricket fans, reports AP.

Warne finished with a ca-reer-best seven wickets for 52 Wednesday to lift Australia to a 139-run victory over the West Indies at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Warne, a 23-year-old who grew up at nearby St Kilda, wrecked the West Indies' bat-ting lineup in just 23.2 overs of poise and persistence.

He became the first Australian leg-spinner since Bill O'Reilly against South Africa in 1936-37 to claim five wickets in an innings at the MCG.

The last nine West Indies' wickets fell for 76 in just over two hours.

Warne snared seven for 21 from his final 14.4 overs and justified the faith invested in him by the Australian selec-tors.

He was named man-of-the-match and given a standing ovation by the Aussie fans.



S. WARNE... 7 for 52

"There's a lot of satisfaction for me after all the pressure of people saying I had to get wickets, but I never really thought I could get seven," Warne said.

"I feel pretty relieved to contribute to a win and hopefully we can go to Sydney now and go 2-0 up."

Victoria's AGM tomorrow

The Annual General Meeting of Victoria Sporting Club will be held on January 1 at 6.00 p.m. at the club pavilion, reports BSS.

Christie to quit after C'wealth Games

SYDNEY, Dec 30: Olympic 100 metres gold medalist Linford Christie said here Wednesday that he would retire from running after the 1994 Commonwealth Games, reports AFP.

The 32-year-old Jamaican-born British sprinter became the oldest man ever to win a 100 metre Olympic gold in Barcelona earlier this year.

"I've given myself two more years, to include next year's

World Championships and the defence of my title at the Commonwealth Games," Christie said.

"I think the Games will be my last competition, regardless of how well or badly I'm running," Christie originally announ-



LINFORD CHRISTIE

ced his retirement in August last year, two days after running fourth in the 100 metres at the Tokyo World Championships.

But with some persuasion from coach Ron Roddan, Christie changed his mind last February and came back for a magnificent win in Barcelona.

Christie attributed his successful comeback to attitude and many sacrifices, but said his next decision would stand for good.

"I don't drink, I don't go out

Not so happy New Year for Van Basten

GENEVA, Dec 30: European footballer-of-the-year Marco van Basten's ankle has not re-covered sufficiently from surgery for him to return home for the New Year, his surgeon said on Tuesday, reports Reuters.

Surgeon Rene Marty, who operated on the AC Milan striker's right ankle on December 21, said the scar was not healing as quickly as expected and Van Basten would have to remain in his St Moritz clinic, the Swiss news agency reported.

Van Basten, who had hoped to see in the new year at home in the Netherlands, is expected to be out of action for three months. He was out for five months after an operation on the same ankle for ligament damage in 1987.

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End of a long wait for South Africa

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Dec 30: South Africa overcame a brilliant century from Indian all-rounder Kapil Dev to claim their first Test victory in 22 years here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Skipper Kepler Wessels slammed an unbeaten 95 as the home team, chasing a victory target of 153, rolled home six minutes before stumps on the fourth day of the third Test at St George's Park.

South Africa, who returned to international cricket last year after two decades of apartheid-induced isolation, last won a Test in 1970 when they beat Bill Lawry's Australians by 323 runs at the same venue.

After draws in the first two Tests, the South Africans now travel to Cape Town for the final match from Saturday as firm favourites to win the historic series.

Wessels and Andrew Hudson prevented any last-minute hiccup in their hour of triumph by putting on 98 for the first wicket before Hudson was out for a chancy 33.

Hudson survived two confident appeals for catches at the wicket before he had reached nine and was missed in the slips on 17 before falling to part-time spinner Sachin Tendulkar an hour before the close.

Eager to avoid a fifth day, Wessels and Hansie Cronje (16 not out) hit out after tea and Wessels drove the winning shot off his Indian counterpart Mohammad Azharuddin just before close.

The match, which appeared all over on Monday with India eight ahead with only four wickets in hand, exploded into life on the fourth day thanks to Kapil's swashbuckling 129.

His attacking innings helped India from an overnight 71 for six to 215 all out 40 minutes after lunch, giving the

tourists a lead of 152 runs and a fighting chance of victory. Kapil, who came in on Monday afternoon with India



KEPER WESSELS... 95 no

reduced to 27 for five; hit 14 boundaries and a six during his four-hour stay before he was last out.

It was the eighth century for the 33-year-old veteran of 119 Tests who batted with a swollen knuckle in his right hand after being struck by a rising ball from Brett Schultz on Monday.

Donald claimed all the four wickets to fall on the fourth day to finish with seven for 84 and match figures of 12-139. Dave Richardson followed his four catches in the first innings by grabbing five in the second to become the first South African wicket-keeper to have nine victims in a match.

The previous best was eight by Dennis Lindsay against Australia at the Wanderers Ground in Johannesburg during the 1966-67 season.

Kapil was well-served by useful contributions from the tailenders who helped him add

184 for the last four wickets after the first six had fallen for 31.

The seventh-wicket pair of Kapil and Manoj Prabhakar, who put on 40 runs on Monday, stayed together for 30 minutes to add a further 17 runs.

Prabhakar, on 10 overnight, carried his score to 17 before he was caught behind off Donald in controversial fashion.

Prabhakar indicated the ball went off his pads and not his bat. Television replays appeared to confirm that but South African umpire Wilf Diedericks stood by his decision.

It was the second disputed decision in the innings following Sachin Tendulkar's dismissal in similar fashion on Monday.

While new batsman Kiran More struggled to settle in, Kapil reached his half century 50 minutes after the start, driving seamer Craig Matthews through the covers for his fifth boundary.

More was lucky to see Peter Kirsten spill an easy catch at third slip when on 17, but the error did not prove costly as Donald bowled him in his next over before More had scored another run.

India were 120 for eight before lunch, a lead of only 57, but Anil Kumble (17) stayed for 82 minutes to help Kapil add 77 for the ninth-wicket.

In Kumble's company, Kapil launched a blistering counter attack, taking 10 off one Donald over and then slamming Matthews for 15 runs including a glorious straight six.

Kapil was last out when he edged Donald to Brian McMillan at second slip, leaving number 11 Venkatapathy Raju unbeaten on two.

Donald's display earned him the man-of-the-match award and lavish praise from South Africa's cricket coach Mike

Procter.

"He is easily one of the best fast bowlers in the world, Procter said of the 25-year-old. "It takes guts and efforts to take 12 wickets. Allan is a great physical specimen and a top quality bowler," he said.

Donald, who hails from Orange Free State and plays for Warwickshire on the English county circuit, was equally delighted at his performance.

"I have taken a lot of wickets in a match before, but to do it in a Test is the ultimate," said Donald. "It is definitely something to be proud of."

"When this Test began, the wicket looked on the slower side to me and I did not think I would be able to do so well on it," he said.

Donald added the Indian batsman played into his hands by not staying at the wicket. "They tend to play their shots too early which obviously gives the bowler more chance," said Donald.

Skipper Wessels attributed the win to "a tremendous team effort."

"Allan (Donald) was superb, Hansie Cronje batted very well, but in the end it was a great effort by the whole team," he said.

"We lost the Test in the West Indies after being so near to victory, it is great we did not mess it up this time."

"I am delighted at the result and look forward to playing the last Test in Cape Town from Saturday."

Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin blamed his batsmen's "poor effort" for the team's defeat, but conceded that South Africa outplayed them.

"They were superior in all departments and deserved to win. But I must add that a team that bats so badly cannot hope to do well."

"We will have to do a lot of thinking and planning if we are to perform better in future."

Azhar blames poor umpiring

NEW DELHI, Dec 30: Indian cricket captain Mohammed Azharuddin said on Wednesday bad umpiring and bad batting took the Indian tourists to defeat in the third Test against South Africa, reports Reuters.

"Everybody without exception is batting badly," he said of the Indian top order in his column for the Indian Express newspaper.

"We all know that it is not a question of lack of ability or even an inability to understand the needs of a situation. Clearly the problem is much deeper and there isn't too much time left to find a solution," he wrote.

Azharuddin said he was not making excuses for the nine-wicket defeat held off so long only by an imperious second innings 129 from all-rounder Kapil Dev, whose performance had Indian newspapers in raptures on Wednesday.

But the Indian captain said: "I am afraid the umpiring mistakes have concentrated around us and they have all come at key moments."

Azharuddin said he was happy with the way he was batting in the first innings, but just when it seemed there might be a big score, "I got a bad decision. So too did Manoj (Prabhakar) and on the third day Sachin (Tendulkar) got

one too." "We were also a bit disappointed that (Hansie) Cronje

men," he wrote of men who played shots as if they were at a gunfight in the old days of the wild West.

"If this is what is to be expected, then one may as well go into the England series with a fresh team, for at least they will have the incentive to do well and also the excuse of inexperience, if they do fail," Gavaskar said.

The exception to the criticism of the Indian team was Kapil Dev, widely suspected to be past his best before his stunning century in the Port Elizabeth Test.

"With one truly memorable century, the Indian all-rounder has put all obit writers out of business," said the Times of India. His place in the gallery of Indian greats is assured.

Ayaz Memon, writing in the Pioneer, compared Kapil's innings to that of Stan McCabe which prompted Sir Donald Bradman to urge Australian teammates to the balcony at Trent Bridge during the 1938 Ashes series against England saying — "You may never see the like of it again."

"It was an innings marked by discipline and finesse, of cultured defence and robust, scintillating shots. It was an innings that was a tremendous riposte to the growing criticism about his inability to apply himself. It was, verily, the innings of a lifetime," wrote Memon.

Former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar agreed Azharuddin was the victim of a debatable decision, but used his column in the Times of India to lambast the top Indian batsmen and suggest wholesale changes for the series against England; whose team arrived in India on Tuesday.

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M AZHARUDDIN

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SCORE BOARD

Scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the second cricket Test between Australia and the West Indies on Wednesday.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 395 (M Waugh 112, C Ambrose 3-70)

WEST INDIES: First innings 233 (B Lara 52, C McDermott 4-66)

AUSTRALIA: Second innings 196 (D Martyn 67, I Bishop 3-45)

WEST INDIES: Second innings (overnight 32 for one wicket)

Haynes c Healy b Hughes 5
Simmons c Boon b Warne 110
Richardson b Warne 52
Lara c Boon b Whitney 4
Arthurton at Healy b Warne 13
Hooper c Whitney b Warne 0
Adams c Taylor b McDermott 16
Williams c M Waugh b Warne 0
Bishop c Taylor b Warne 7
Ambrose not out 6
Walsh c Hughes b Warne 0
Extras: (3b, 2lb, 1nb) 6
Total: 219

Fall of wicket: 1-0; 2-144; 3-148; 4-165; 5-177; 6-198; 7-206; 8-206; 9-219.

Bowling: O M R W
McDermott 17 6 66 1
Hughes 18 7 41 1
Whitney 10 2 32 1
Warne 23.2 8 52 7
M Waugh 3 0 23 0

Result: Australia won by 139 runs.

Australia lead five match series 1-0

First Test: Brisbane-match drawn

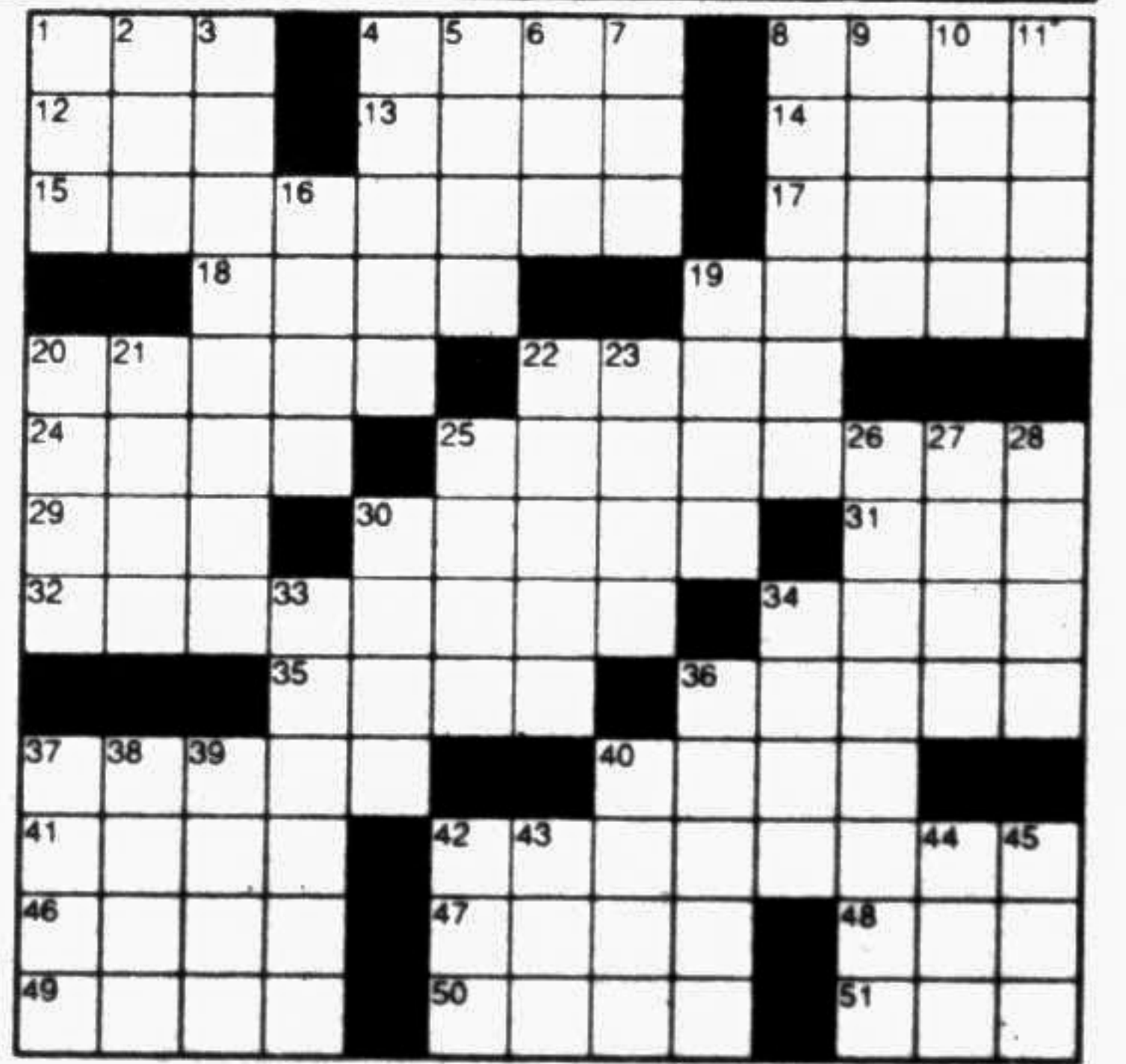
Third Test: Sydney, Jan 2 to 6

Fourth Test: Adelaide, Jan 23 to 27

Fifth Test: Perth Jan 30 to Feb 3.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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1 Dracula's alter ego? 35 Indulges in mimicry 3 IRS's prey 21 Turner or Cantrell
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19 Catalogues 1 Kramden's concern 19 Pinocchio, e.g. 34 "One life to lose..." man
20 Base-runner's goal 2 "— was 20 Senior event 36 Croc's cousin
22 Result of over-exertion Solution time: 26 mins. 37 "Star Trek" villain
24 Sun-beams 25 At ease 29 Inseparable 30 On top of the world? 31 Mem. of the brass 32 Some believers in socialism 34 Biped: pref.



CRYPTOQUIP

K S Y U A U V D F V X J S X J
D X I A N N S Y P H B O F - C B P U
H A P U I Y Y U Y P, K X K S Y ' K
J A V Z A V Z A D
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE
BABYSITTER HANDLES HER CHARGES WITH KID GLOVES.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: K equals S
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.