

Warne winds England a bonny pirn

MANCHESTER, June 4: Shane Warne produced a mesmerising spell of leg-spin bowling on Friday to dismiss three key England players and put Australia in charge of the first Test match, reports Reuters.

At the close of the second day England were struggling at 202 for eight after dominating the first part of the day. Off-spinner Peter Such, making his Test debut, took six for 67 as Australia tumbled from 242 for five overnight to 289 all out.

England, with skipper Graham Gooch back at his best, had reached 80 for the loss of only one wicket when Allan Border introduced Warne into the attack.

He responded by producing the perfect leg-spin with his first delivery to bowl Mike Gatting for four. The former England captain was left prodding hopefully at thin air after the ball pitched outside the leg-stump and spun across to his

off-stump.

In his next over Warne had Robin Smith caught at slip for four then bowled a series of unplayable deliveries to Gooch.

He then lobbed a full toss at the England captain who might the ball to Brendon Julian at mid-on. Gooch had scored 65 from 137 deliveries with eight boundaries in his first half-century for 18 internationals.

Earlier, an AFP report said: England, inspired by new spinner Peter Such, staged a gritty revival on the opening day of the six-Test Ashes series here on Thursday after Mark Taylor had put Australia in complete command.

The tourists vice-captain, a massive success on his last tour to England four years ago, haunted England again with an accomplished 124 to guide the Aussies to 183 for one.

But then Such, winning his first cap at the late age of 28, snatched three wickets in 10 overs to leave the game evenly poised at 242 for five by the close.

England skipper Graham Gooch had set the stage for Taylor by winning the toss and inserting Australia. Just as David Gower had done across the pennines at Headingley in 1989.

Four years ago, Taylor made a mockery of Gower's decision by scoring 136.

Australia duly cantered to victory in the first Test and never looked back as they took the series 4-0.

On Thursday, for nearly five-and-a-half hours, it looked as though an identical script was being followed.

Gooch could only fret in the field while Australia's vice-captain batted steadily against an England seam attack which gained surprisingly little assistance from a damp pitch and sticky atmosphere.

With newcomer Andrew Caddick, the recalled Phillip DeFreitas and Chris Lewis holding no terrors, Taylor and debutante Michael Slater put on 128 for the first wicket.

Slater batted like a dream

for 165 minutes after overnight rain had delayed play for an hour, so it was a real shock when the 23-year-old wrecked all his fine works on 58 with an ugly pull at DeFreitas which gave keeper Alec Stewart a straight-forward catch.

But when Taylor gave a chance on 64, snicking a DeFreitas away swinger, Graeme Hick dropped the sort of slip catch he normally takes without batting an eyelid.

However, off-spinner Such, extracting increasing turn, then hit a purple patch which left him with figures of 24-5, 54-3 and guaranteed his under-pressure captain at more peaceful night's sleep than had looked remotely possible.

Such began by clipping the edge of Boon's bat for Chris Lewis to take a juggling catch at slip which cut short the Tasmanian's innings on 21.

After Mark Waugh had spooned a return chance to Phil Tufnell on six, the studious-looking Such deceived Taylor in the flight to earn a clever caught and bowled dismissal.

Taylor, having faced 234 balls and stuck a dozen fours as well as two sixes, departed to a standing ovation in recognition of his third Test century against England.

But Such was soon earning his own warm round of applause, spinning a delivery between Steve Waugh's bat and pad to bowl the dangerous all-rounder for just three.

It all added up to a magnificent fightback from a team desperate to prevent five consecutive Test defeats turning into six.

Whatever it was too little or too late, only time will tell, for Gooch had said on the eve of this match that runs would be at a premium and 242 for five is hardly catastrophic for Australia.

Much will depend on skipper Allan Border, Test cricket's top run-getter, who was still there on nine at stumps.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the first Test between England and Australia at Old Trafford on Friday:

AUSTRALIA: First Innings (overnight 242-5)
 M Taylor c and b Such 124
 M Slater c Stewart 124
 b DeFreitas 58
 D Boon c Lewis b Such 21
 M Waugh c and b Tufnell 6
 A Border st Stewart b Such 17
 S Waugh b Such 3
 I Healy c Such b Tufnell 12
 B Julian c Gatting b Such 0
 M Hughes c DeFreitas b Such 2
 S Warne not out 15
 C McDermott run out 8
 Extras: (b-8, lb-8, nb-7) 23
 Total: 289

Fall of wickets: 1-128; 2-183; 3-221; 4-225; 5-232; 6-260; 7-264; 8-266; 9-267;

Bowling: O M R W
 Caddick 15 4 38 0
 DeFreitas 23 8 46 1
 Lewis 13 2 44 0
 Such 33.3 9 67 6
 Tufnell 28 5 78 2

ENGLAND: First Innings
 G Gooch c Julian b Warne 65
 M Atherton c Healy 19
 b Hughes 4
 R Smith c Taylor b Warne 4
 G Hick c Border b Hughes 34
 A Stewart b Julian 27
 C Lewis c Boon b Hughes 9
 P DeFreitas lbw b Julian 5
 A Caddick not out 6
 P Such not out 9
 Extras: (b-5, lb-10, nb-5) 20
 Total: (for eight wickets) 202

Fall of wickets: 1-71; 2-80; 3-84; 4-123; 5-148; 6-168; 7-178; 8-183.

To bat: P Tufnell

BOWLING: O M R W
 McDermott 18 2 50 0
 Hughes 17 5 52 4
 Julian 11 2 30 2
 Warne 21 7 51 3
 Border 1 0 4 0



Mark Taylor, the top scorer in Australia's first innings, cuts Peter Such on the first day of the first Test between England and Australia at Old Trafford, Manchester on June 3. The southpaw topscorer scored with 124. — AFP photo

FIFA's ambitious project

ZURICH, June 4: FIFA are proposing to force all nations to play their international matches on a set number of fixed dates each year in a bid to end a growing conflict between club and country over the release of star players, reports Reuters.

FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter said on Thursday world soccer's governing body were preparing a draft plan to set aside between six and nine days each year for World Cup or continental elimination fixtures and force countries to suspend their league programmes for those dates.

"This is a very ambitious project and can only be carried through with the understanding of all those involved and with a lot of discipline, or we will not be able to make this work," Blatter said.

"I believe it will work, though."

A FIFA working committee will prepare a draft plan for the next executive committee meeting in Las Vegas in December.

Blatter said the most difficult problem to overcome would be what days to nominate for games, with most in favour of Wednesday, but some countries preferring Saturday or Sunday, and how many days either side of fixtures leagues would have to be suspended.

FIFA also decided that individual bucket-style seating would be mandatory at all World Cup qualifying matches from 1996 as part of their drive for improved safety at grounds. The finals became all-seater from 1990 in Italy.

Blatter said the decision had been made after inspections of Switzerland's Wankdorf Stadium and another in Krakow, Poland had revealed inadequate seating.

FIFA banned all temporary, tubular scaffolding stands at all international and inter-club matches and said spectators could only be allowed to watch matches from individual seats with proper backs, and outlawed wooden benches and concrete seating.

They have ordered the American World Cup organisers to put in new seating at Stanford University Stadium in California for next year's finals after expressing concern about the current wooden benches.



DREAM DEBUT SUCH AS SUCH: Peter Such, England's debutant off-spinner, marked his entry into the Test arena with a white stone claiming six wickets for 67 runs in Australia's first innings total of 289 in the first Test between Australia and England at Old Trafford Friday. — Star TV photo

FIFA give a respite to Iraq

ZURICH, June 4: World soccer's governing body FIFA partially lifted their ban on Iraq playing internationals at home on Thursday, reports Reuters.

FIFA said they had decided Iraq should be allowed to stage matches at home provided they were only friendlies, that they be played in the capital Baghdad, and that visiting teams were aware they travelled there at their own risk.

Iraq recently played in the first round of the Asian qualifying competition for next year's World Cup finals. They head their group after the first set of matches in neighbouring Jordan and travel to China for the returns later this year.

FIFA are also setting up a committee with their European counterpart UEFA to visit the former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia to determine criteria for them joining both bodies. UEFA president Lennart Johansson said the first condition would be for them to change their name from Macedonia, which the Greek government objects to for fear of future claims by the republic on Greece's northern Macedonia region.

They have also set up a special account to help the families of the Zambian footballers killed in an air crash in April, and plan a fund-raising match between African and world selections.

The match will be played before the end of this year in a country which would guarantee to generate substantial revenue, with either England or France as FIFA's choice.

Other decisions by FIFA's executive committee included: Oceania teams, which include Australia and New Zealand, will join Asia in qualifying tournaments for future World Cups,

rather than having to play off against a South American or European team for a place in the finals.

Olympic finalists will be allowed to field three over-age players in the under-23 age group tournament at the Atlanta Games in 1996.

FIFA expect women's soccer to be part of the Atlanta Games. "Although we have not signed any contracts yet, we are confident that there will be eight women's teams at the Olympic Games in Atlanta," FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter said.

The women's 1995 World Championship will be staged in Sweden in June.

The Belgian Football Association was awarded the 1992 FIFA Fair Play Prize of 50,000 Swiss francs (35,000 dollars) for its "Football in Peace" campaign and international aid work for children in Mexico.

Antlers manage it sans Zico

TOKYO, June 4: The team built around Brazilian superstar Zico has bounced its way to the top of Japan's new professional soccer league even without him, reports Reuters.

Fellow Brazilian Carlos Soares Garrit, wearing the injured Zico's number 10 shirt, soared above the defence in the first minute of sudden-death extra time on Wednesday to give Kashima Antlers a 2-1 victory over leaders Ichihara JEF United.

It was Antlers' fourth successive win at their spanking new 8.2 billion yen (76.6 million) stadium, before a fourth straight 15,000 sell-out crowd. They have now scored 15 goals in six outings, the highest of the 10 clubs in the J-League.

"This shirt doesn't belong to me," said a delighted Carlos after the game. "I feel very honoured. I'm proud I didn't shame the shirt."

Zico scored a hat-trick in Antlers' first game but then, early in the second match, the 40-year-old had to limp off with a leg injury that has kept him sidelined since.

He nevertheless remains a commanding presence, directing the team from the stand by radio telephone.

Carlos, 21, played in the reserve team before Zico's injury. "We've planned to win even without Zico," said a delighted coach Masakatsu Miyamoto.

Antlers' other goal was scored by yet another Brazilian, Sartori Alcindo, who is now joint top scorer in the league with five. JEF's goal came in the 87th minute from Keishuke Makino.

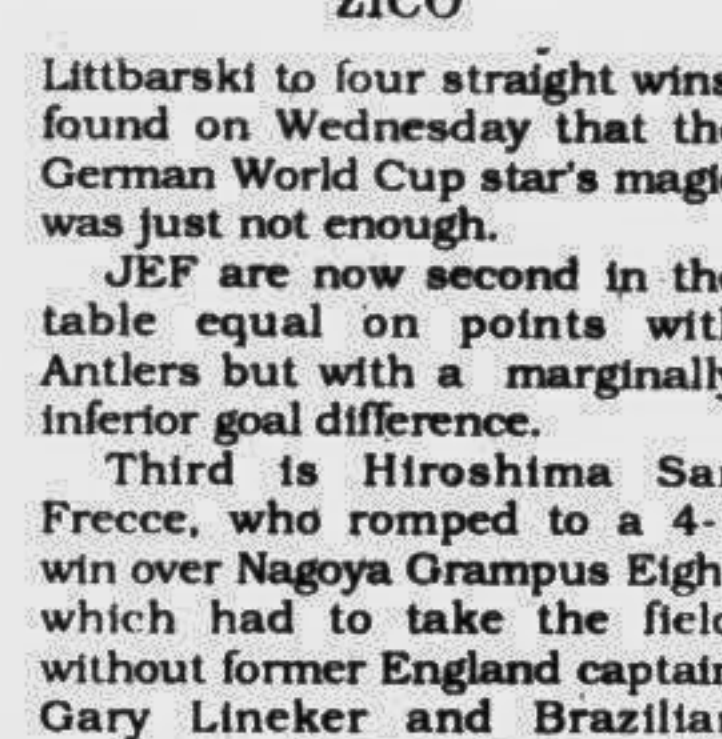
JEF, inspired by Pierre playmaker Jorge Antonio Putinatti.

Lineker, watching from the grandstand, acknowledged his team had problems. "But everyone recognises that, and we must work hard to solve them," he said.

STANDINGS

J-League standings after sixth round of championships (Tabulate under club, played, won, lost points, goals for, goals against):

Kashima Antlers	6	4	2	8	15	6
Ichihara JEF Utd	6	4	2	8	13	5
Hiroshima San F	6	4	2	8	10	6
Kawasaki Verdy	6	3	3	6	10	8
Yokohama Flügels	6	3	3	6	11	10
Shimizu S-Pulse	6	3	3	6	8	9
Yokohama Marinos	6	3	3	6	5	8
Nagoya Grampus	6	3	3	6	12	12
Osaka Gamba	6	2	4	4	3	9
Urawa Reds	6	1	5	2	2	10



ZICO

Brehme back to Kaiserslautern

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany, June 4: Andreas Brehme, whose penalty gave Germany the 1990 World Cup title over Argentina, has returned to his professional origins, signing two-year contract with Kaiserslautern, team officials said Friday, reports AP.

The 32-year-old defender ended his stay with the Spanish club Real Zaragoza earlier this season by mutual consent, and were free to seek a new club.

Unseeded Swede fells Arbi

BIRMINGHAM, England, June 4: Indonesian Heriyanto Arbi, the favourite after his triumph in the All-England Championships was bundled out of the World badminton championships here on Thursday, reports AFP.

The 21-year-old Arbi went out at the last 16 stages, beaten 9-15, 15-12, 15-3, by unseeded Swede Jens Olsson, seven years his senior.

Olsson said it was the most important win of his career, although he has beaten two other All-England champions, Morten Frost and Ardy Wiranata.

"Ah," said Olsson, "but those wins were not in the World Championships."

In Friday's quarter-finals, Olsson plays another Indonesian Hermawan Susanto.

Arbi, who survived a match point to win in the previous round against unknown Malaysian Ong Ewe Hook, had his chance to see off Olsson in the straight games.

He romped through the first game and though he was never in front in the second, he was level with the Swede at 12 all and had several chances with the serve.

But Arbi could not kill off an inspired opponent. Olsson was not only more consistent, but tactically astute.

"I did not let him play his

favourite jump smash too many times and did not get involved in quick rallies with flat shots," said a triumphant Olsson.

Indonesian manager Leo Cup.

Sidek, so strong at home, saw his poor away record continue as he was beaten in three games by Fung Permadi of Indonesia.

The Malaysian failed to take heart from winning the second game and was totally out-classed in the decider.

Indonesian Hermawan Susanto has the opportunity of avenging compatriot Arbi's defeat by Olsson on Friday.

Olympic champion Allan Budi Kusuma meets the leading European contender, Denmark's Thomas Stuer-Lauridsen, who made short work of China's Lil Jun, last year's All-England Champion.

Second-seeded Joko Suprianto meets the only surviving Chinese player, Wo Wenkat and the remaining quarter-final is an All-Indonesian clash between Fung Permadi and Ardy Wiranata.

The women's singles was turned into an Asian affair, Indonesia and South Korea each filling two quarter-finals places, China three and Indonesia one.

Looking very sharp, Susi Susanti, the favourite from Indonesia, won 11-2, 11-5 against China's Hu Ning. Her main rival Korean Bang Soo-Hyun had to work much harder to subdue the Ugandan-born Swede Christine Magnusson.

Wiranata said: "I think Heriyanto is feeling the pressure of high expectations after winning the All-England."

"It is proving too much for a youngster. It was the same with Ardy," he said, referring to his own son, who had a great year in 1991, winning the All-England and the World

Chinese girls spike on

KUALA LUMPUR, June 4: China overcame a stiff challenge in the first two sets to defeat Germany 3-0 in the second leg of the Women's World Volleyball Grand Prix championship Friday, reports AP.

China, who made a major reshuffle to their team after a poor seventh placing in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, won 16-14, 17-15 and 15-5 in the 70-minute battle.

Barcelona Olympics bronze medalist the United States chalked up an easy 3-0 victory over Japan. They won 15-7, 15-6 and 15-13, increasing their chances of qualifying for the final round in Hong Kong.

In a closely fought match, China, who won only one match in the first leg in Seoul, kept up their composure.

Chinese coach Li Xiaofeng said the Germans were much superior and switched tactics very often, but his team won because they managed to read their opponents' game.

"We had some problems coping with the German strategy of changing players as they made full use of all their sub-

stitutions, whereas we made only few," he said.

But he added, "I am very satisfied with the performances of my players."

German coach Kohler Siegfried said he thought his team could have won the match, but heat and the crowd of 4,000 cheering for China made their task difficult.

"We should have beaten them... especially in the first two sets," he said.

The Germans lost all their matches in the first leg in Tokyo.

Cruzeiro through

BELO HORIZONTE, June 4: Roberto Gaucho and Cleison both scored to give Cruzeiro a 2-1 victory and the Brazilian Cup title, qualifying it for the 1994 Libertadores of America Cup tournament, reports AP.

Thursday night's second leg victory comes a week after the two teams drew 0-0 in Porto Alegre. The tournament pits the top finishers in the state championships.

Pingo accounted for Gremio's score.



Svelte Sabatini stoops to serve against Mary Joe Fernandez in one of the women's quarter-final of the French Open on Thursday at Roland Garros. — Star TV photo

Shells spoil soccer

SARAJEVO, June 4: Two shells exploded among players at a football game in the Serb-occupied Bosnian capital of Sarajevo on Tuesday, killing at least 11 people and wounding about 99, City Hospitals said, reports Reuters.

"Two shells landed right on the football pitch," said Adnan Suljagic, 19, one of the players who was wounded.

"It was horrible. Everything was covered with blood. The game was being played on a pitch made out of an asphalt car park in the western suburb of Dobrinja, held by Muslim-led government forces.

Doctors gave the latest death toll as 11. In the main Kosevo and French-run hospitals there were 59 wounded.

A clinic in Dobrinja said some 40 casualties had arrived for treatment.

"Today is a very, very difficult job what can the world do for us?" said Kosevo hospital doctor Mufid Lazovic.

Suljagic was lying across chairs in awaiting area at Kosevo with a gaping hole punched through his right thigh by shrapnel from one of the shells.

His football shirt and body

were spattered with blood.

The asphalt pitch was stained with blood after the explosion and clothing was strewn across the car park. A single football lay in the middle.

Bloody stretchers were piled up outside the Kosevo clinic and there were at least five wounded in the clinic from other incidents on Tuesday.

Suljagic said the players had thought the pitch was safe from attack as it surrounded by run-down apartment buildings.

He said he was convinced the shell was deliberately aimed at the players.

The casual toll makes it the worst single incident of its kind since a mortar shell exploded in a bread queue on May 26 last year, killing 20 people and wounding 70.

Dobrinja, a district of 35,000, was built for the 1984 Olympic Games held around Sarajevo. It is the scene of regular shelling and gunfights.

Close to the airport, it is linked to the city by single road lined with bomb-blasted buildings and burned out vehicles. The road is known as "The highway of death" because many people are killed along the route.

Zambia to play against top Danish clubs

COPENHAGEN, May 30: Zambia's quest to rebuild their soccer squad after 18 players died in a plane crash last month gathers momentum with several games against top Danish clubs in the next few weeks, reports Reuters.

The Zambians are developing a 21-member squad, including 16 newcomers, who have been given facilities and accommodation to train in Denmark while they recover from the April 28 tragedy.

Coach Fred Mwila said: "They are young players but they played with the ones that have perished. So we hope to mould our team together as quickly as possible."

Zambia's team were travelling to a World Cup qualifier in Senegal when they were among 30 killed when their military aircraft crashed into the sea off Gabon.

Mwila, whose squad are preparing for games against Morocco, Senegal and South Africa, said: "We hope we can train, lift the youngsters' spirits.