

Kambli hits first overseas ton as

Batsmen dominate Day One

COLOMBO, July 27: Run-machine Vinod Kambli scored a century in his first Test innings on foreign soil as India moved to a formidable total on the opening day of the second Test against Sri Lanka here Tuesday, reports AFP.

The left-handed Kambli hit an unbeaten 119 to help India reach 300 for four at the close. Pravin Amre was six not out having survived a chance in the slips at the same score.

Kambli, who came to the wicket after opener Manoj Prabhakar (4) had departed with the total on 25, reached his third three-figures mark in his third consecutive Test innings.

The 334-minute knock followed his achievement of becoming only the third batsman in history to score successive double centuries in matches against England and Zimbabwe earlier in the year.

Assuming complete control of the day's play after joining opener Navjot Sidhu (82) in the morning session, Kambli brought his inherent batting talent to the fore once more with some marvellous shots to all parts of the field.

When bad light halted play six overs short of the stipulated 90 overs, Kambli had garnered 13 boundaries and a six.

The 21-year-old batsman made 224 against England in only his third Test and followed it up with an equally fine knock of 227 against Test minnows Zimbabwe.

He did not have an opportunity to bat in the first Test against Sri Lanka which was abandoned as a draw due to rain in central Kandy last week.

Playing in his sixth Test and only his first Test innings away from home, the left-hander was not perturbed by a chance he gave to wicket-keeper Ashley de Silva when on 41 off-spinner

Ruwana Kalpage and steadfastly set about compiling the 100. He reached his century in exquisite fashion by driving medium-paced off-cutter Jayananda Warnawera to the long-off boundary, his tenth for the day.



KAMBLI ... 119 n.o

The patient stroke-maker had earlier clobbered Kalpage, who was making his Test debut, for a long-off six.

Sri Lanka brought in Kalpage for off-spinner Muttiah Muralidharan while India fielded the first Test side.

Kambli handled unimpressive seam attack with consummate ease, perhaps making Sri Lanka regret its surprising decision to drop the seasoned pace bowler Champaka Ramanayake for seamer Pramodya Wickramasinghe.

The stoic left-hander from Bombay established a century stand and two half-century partnerships as he treated the local bowlers with sheer disdain.

He joined opener Navjot Sidhu for a 126-run second-wicket stand before Sidhu was superbly caught at forward

short-leg by Hashan Tillekeratne off Warnawera for 82. Sidhu's innings, his seventh Test half-century, contained a six and 12 boundaries.

Vice-captain Tendulkar (28) and Kambli then produced 68 runs for the third wicket before Kalpage got his first Test victim by having Tendulkar caught by Tillekeratne in his pet forward short-leg position.

Kambli then shared a further 63-run fourth-wicket partnership with his skipper Mohammad Azharuddin, who seemed to have made the correct decision in winning the toss and electing to bat on a perfect batting track.

Azharuddin made 26 with three fours before being ruled out leg-before to Wickramasinghe.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the first day of the second cricket Test between Sri Lanka and India on Tuesday.

INDIA: First Innings	
M Prabhakar lbw	
b Gurusinha	4
N Sidhu c Tillekeratne	
b Warnawera	82
V Kambli not out	119
S Tendulkar c Tillekeratne	
b Kalpage	28
M Azharuddin lbw	
b Wickramasinghe	26
P Amre not out	6
Extras: (b-9, lb-3, nb-15, w-8)	35
Total: (for four wickets)	300
Fall of wickets: 1-25; 2-150; 3-219; 4-282	

To bat: Kapil Dev, K More, A Kumble, R Chauhan, J Srinath
Bowling: O M R W
Lyanage 15 2 53 0
Wickramasinghe 19 1 51 1
Hathurusinghe 12 1 36 0
Gurusinha 11 2 29 1
Warnawera 19 1 75 1
Kalpage 8 1 34 1

SRI LANKA: A Ranatunga, R Mahanama, C Hathurusinghe, A Gurusinha, Aravinda de Silva, H Tillekeratne, Ashley de Silva, D Lyanage, J Warnawera, P Wickramasinghe, R Kalpage.

Cummins makes it for Durham

LONDON, July 27: West Indies fast bowler Anderson Cummins fired Durham to their first County Championship victory in 26 matches when he captured five for 32 against title holders Essex on Monday, reports Reuters.

Cummins' best championship figures in his first season of county cricket sent Essex tumbling to 154 all out after they faced a victory target of 301 on the final day at Chelmsford.

Durham's win by 146 runs was their first in the competition since they beat Somerset in June last year.

Essex, struggling in their title defence with only two wins from 10 matches, looked set to save the match by reaching the final 20 overs on 131 for four.

But they lost their remaining wickets in 13.4 overs, Cummins spearheading the collapse by removing Mike Garnham (42) and Nick Knight (36) after they had shared in a fifth-wicket partnership of 70.

Glamorgan, enjoying their most successful season for

many years, moved up to second place behind Middlesex when they beat Worcestershire by one wicket with three balls to spare.



CUMMINS... 5 for 32

at Worcester. The Welsh County, chasing

331, were indebted to stand-in opener Adrian Dale, who hammered a superb 124 after four wickets - including Viv Richards for nought - fell for 96.

Dale, who batted 338 minutes and hit 16 fours, found staunch allies in David Hemp (52) and Robert Croft (43).

Glamorgan have 154 points behind Middlesex (190) while Surrey (142) slipped into third place, but have a game in hand, after being trounced by Northamptonshire.

Paceman Paul Taylor (5-45) and all-rounder Kevin Curran (4-11) ripped through Surrey's batting to earn Northants a crushing 304-run victory.

Surrey were dismissed for 108, their last eight wickets tumbling for just 48 runs.

Left-arm Taylor, who went on England's tour of India and Sri Lanka earlier this year, finished with match figures of nine for 96, helping Northants into fourth place on 132 points.

New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns completed match figures of nine for 88 as Nottinghamshire beat Lancashire by an innings and three runs at Old Trafford.

Ctg soccer

CHITTAGONG, July 27: Last year's champions Alosiri Club earned full points with a resounding 6-1 win over newcomers Nabatarunya in the opening match of the Siraj Metropolitan juvenile football league at the Dampara Police Lines ground this afternoon, reports BNA.

The winners the first half led 3-0 through goals from Pinu Sikdar, Sohel Rana and Narayan. In the second half Narayan scored another one while Saon Barua and Jahid scored once each.

Mintu returned one for vanquished.

Sixteen clubs are participating in (four) groups in the preliminary phase.

ITF reduces Games tennis to best of three sets

LONDON, July 27: Except for the finals, men's tennis matches will be reduced from best-of-five sets to best-of-three for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, reports AP.

The International Tennis Federation said Tuesday it approved the change in cooperation with the International Olympic Committee.

Initially, the ITF planned to reduce matches to best-of-three sets for all but the semifinals, final and play-off for third place. But after IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch indicated that shorter matches were preferable, the ITF decided that only the finals of the singles and doubles will be contested over five sets.

"Traditionalists may not like it but the realities of modern life, including the way sport is presented as entertainment, mean that we must constantly monitor the way we package our product," ITF president Brian Tobin wrote in the ITF newsletter.

McCallum feels upto it

LONDON, July 27: Mike McCallum hopes to warm up for a shot at a third world title with a fight against American Glen Thomas in London on Aug 14, reports AP.

McCallum, who has held the World Boxing Association light-middleweight and middleweight crowns, could face either Australian Jeff Harding or the winner of the Chris Eubank-Nigel Benn fight this fall if he defeats Thomas.

McCallum, 43-2-1, was scheduled to fight World Boxing Council light-heavyweight champion Harding in France last month, but the promoters cancelled the bout after running into financial difficulties.

Announcing the McCallum-Thomas fight Tuesday, promoter Anthony Gee said the 36-year-old Jamaican could get his shot against Harding in London later this year.

"McCallum's best weight is at super-middleweight," Gee said.

"But we can't find a super-middleweight who is prepared to get in the ring with him."

Gee said he had also made a 500,000-pound (dls 750,000) offer for McCallum to face either Benn or Eubank, who will fight in a super-middleweight unification contest Oct 9.

Thomas, from Wilmington, Del, has won 24 bouts with two losses.

Baird believes Beijing's bid has lost momentum

SYDNEY, July 27: The New South Wales State Minister responsible for Sydney's bid for the 2000 Olympics addressed the state of Beijing's bid during a ceremony Tuesday to unveil and "Australia for Sydney 2000" postmark, reports AP.

"From our point of view, the bid from China seems to have lost some of its momentum," Bruce Baird said. "They remain a formidable competitor and we should not lull ourselves into a false sense of security."

Baird said there had been talk in China about using the bid for the 2000 Summer Games as a practice run for the 2004 Games.

On Monday, the US House of Representatives urged the International Olympic Committee to reject Beijing's bid because of China's "massive violations of human rights."

In a resolution passed by a 287-99 vote, the House said it "strongly opposes" allowing Beijing to stage the Games, and asked the IOC "to find another, more suitable venue."

"It is interesting to note it, and move on," Baird said.

Baird said two million letters would be postmarked with the message every day until Sept 23, meaning that nearly 90 million reminders of Sydney's bid will be sent out by the time the site is selected in Monte Carlo.

He said the first letter with the new logo would be sent to International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch.

Manchester, England, Berlin, Istanbul, Turkey, and Brasilia, Brazil, are also in the running for the Games.

A happy birthday for Border



LONDON, July 27: Allan Border celebrated his 38th birthday on Tuesday with the most Ashes victories ever, more Test runs than any batsman in history and the satisfaction of a job well done, reports Reuters.

"It pretty much tops my career," the Australian skipper reflected shortly after his team retained the Ashes with a crushing innings victory over England on Monday in the fourth Test.

"The Ashes contest is the ultimate for any Australian cricketer and to win the Ashes, especially away from home, is the pinnacle."

"It is a surprise to be up 3-0 after four Tests, particularly the way the last Test went."

Border is now the most successful Ashes captain of all time with 12 victories, one more than Sir Donald Bradman and England's Mike Brearley.

He has also led Australia to three consecutive series victories over England, a record matched only his compatriot Joe Darling at the turn of the century.

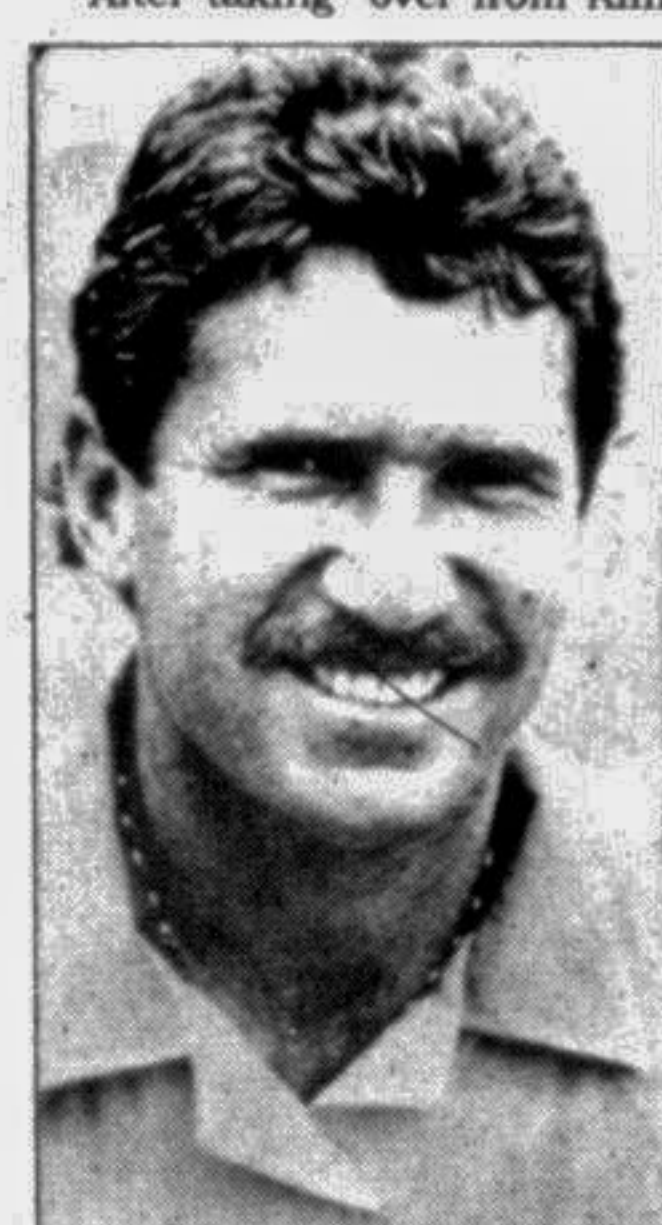
Since his debut against England in 1978, Border has accumulated more than 10,000 runs against the world's best bowlers in all conditions.

His essentially pragmatic

method has varied little over the years and, as his unbeaten double century at Headingley showed, his appetite for runs remains undiminished.

But if Border has been consistently successful as a batsman, his early experience as a captain was little short of traumatic.

After taking over from Kim



ALLAN BORDER

Hughes in 1985, his side was well beaten in the 1985 Ashes

Series in England.

Worse was to follow when their Trans-Tasman neighbours New Zealand won consecutive series and Border, disgusted with the Australian performance, threatened to resign.

Instead he soldiered on through another losing Ashes Series, this time at the hands of Mike Gatting's team in 1986-87.

In the same year the Australian renaissance started when they won the World Cup and Border's insistence of picking players of character as well as talent began to pay off.

Border had now developed into a shrewd captain, fiercely determined to take revenge over the old enemy for earlier humiliations, and the revamped Australians stormed to a 4-0 win over England in 1989.

They held the Ashes at home and have been equally dominant this year.

"There was a question mark over our policy because we left a lot of experience and big-name players at home in Australia," Border said.

"There's that unknown quality about the young fellows but they have proved over the four Tests to date that Australian cricket is very much alive and kicking."

"We are going to be a good team for a few years yet."

Evans still has lot in store



AUSTIN, Texas, July 27: Janet Evans won the 800-metre freestyle at the US national swimming championships on Monday in a faster time than her gold medal performance at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, reports Reuters.

Evans, 22, a four-time Olympic gold medalist, won her 34th consecutive US national title in 8:23.61, nearly two seconds faster than her Olympic time of 8:25.52.

It was also her 167th consecutive 800 free-style title, a streak started at the 1987 Pan Pacific Championships in Japan.

"If I had swum slow at this meet I probably would have quit, but this is really encouraging," Evans said. "I'm in great shape and there is a lot less pressure on me because people expect less of me now that I'm older."

Evans, world record-holder in the 800 with a time of 8:16.22, is third on the US all-time list for national titles. She is two away from tying second-placed Johnny Weissmuller and

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Evans won the 800 free-style gold medal at the 1992 Olympics and gold medals in the 400-metres individual medley and the 400 and 800 free-style at the 1988 Games in Seoul.

In Monday night's race, Evans led by a full body length after the first 100 metres. No one in the field pushed her.

"I know she can swim faster and she does, too," said her coach Mark Schubert, coach of the 1992 US women's Olympic team.

Evans has been training with men at the University of Southern California. She said she is more relaxed than she has ever been and may compete in the World Aquatic Championships in Rome in September 1994.

American Peter Wright, 20, won the men's 800-metres freestyle in 17:58.90.

The top two finishers in each event during the five-day meet qualify for the Pan Pacific Championships August 12-15 in Kobe, Japan.

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IBF rankings

LONDON, July 27: Leading world rankings issued by the International Badminton Federation on Monday, reports Reuters.

MEN
1. Heryanto Arbi (Indonesia) 1,380 points
2. Ardy B Wiranata (Indonesia) 1,080

3. Thomas Stuur-Lauridsen (Denmark) 980
4. Poul-Erik Hoyer-Larsen (Denmark) 900
5. Joko Suprianto (Indonesia) 880

6. Allan Budi Kusuma (Indonesia) 865
7. Fung Permadi (Indonesia) 635
8. Kim Hak-Kyun (South Korea) 540

9. Park Sung-Woo (South Korea) 445
10. Hermawan Susanto (Indonesia) 410

WOMEN
1. Susi Susanti (Indonesia) 1,360
2. Lim Xiaoping (Sweden) 1,120
3. Ye Zhaoying (China) 990

4. Bang Soo-Hyun (South Korea) 860
5. Yuliani Santoso (Indonesia) 810
6. Christine Magnusson (Sweden) 640

7. Somharuthal Jaroensiri (Thailand) 615
8. Minarti Timur (Indonesia) 590
9. Zarinah Abdullah (Singapore) 485

10. Sarwendah Kusumawardhani (Indonesia) 415

In addition to his three Barcelona events, Sadovyi chases a fourth gold in Sheffield in the 1,500 metres, throwing down a daunting challenge to German defending champion Joerg Hoffmann who was trounced by Australians Kieren Perkins and Glen Houseman at the Olympics.

Darnyi, who skipped the 1991 European Championships to concentrate on his Olympic preparations, has won the 200 and 400 individual medley at two Olympics, two World Championships and three European Championships — an astonishing record.

They made an even bigger splash in Barcelona last year when Popov deposed American Kingpin Matt Biondi as Olympic 50 and 100 metres champion. The Shaven-headed Sadovyi charged off with the 200 and 400 free-style titles

and anchored the victorious 4x200 metres free-style relay under the passing colours of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The precocious former East German could romp away with four individual titles at 50, 100 and 200 metres free-style and 100 butterfly in the 11-day championships which start on Thursday.

Popov and Sadovyi made their first mark in major senior championships with respective gold medals in the 100 and 400 metre free-style at the 1991 Europeans in Athens in the days of the old Soviet Union.

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House of Reps opposes Beijing's bid

USOC immensely delighted

WASHINGTON, July 27: The US Olympic Committee said it was pleased by the way the US House of Representatives directed its protest when it voted on Monday to oppose the holding of the 2000 Olympics in China because of its poor human rights record, reports Reuters.

The House approved by a 287-99 vote a resolution urging the US representative to the International Olympic Committee to vote in September against Beijing's bid to host the Games.

Spokesman Mike Moran said USOC officials had asked sponsors of the resolution that it be addressed to Anita DeFrantz, a US member of the IOC executive board, rather than to the entire IOC, which frowns on government intrusion.

"This is a sensitive issue for the Olympic movement in the United States because we of course fear any negative repercussions that could affect the Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996 or the candidacy of Salt Lake City for the 2002 Winter Games," Moran said.

"We are pleased that [the resolution] will be directed to her," said Moran, who added that the USOC was in agreement with the issues expressed in the resolution. "We are pleased that the sponsors took the time to listen to us."

During a brief debate house members accused the Chinese government of widespread hu-

man rights abuses that they said should disqualify it from

China decries US stance

BEIJING, July 27: China on Tuesday assailed the US House of Representatives for opposing Beijing's bid to host the 2000 Olympics, calling the vote a "gross interference" in Chinese and Olympic affairs, reports Reuters.

"We are very unhappy," a Chinese Olympic committee spokesman said by telephone. "This high-handed behaviour by some people in the United States will never win public support."

Citing what legislators called widespread human rights abuses in China, the House on Monday approved by a 287-99 vote a non-binding resolution urging the US representative to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to vote against Beijing's bid for the Games.

The Chinese spokesman said the United States and other governments had no right to direct the IOC members how to vote when they consider the bids of Beijing, Sydney, Manchester, Berlin, Istanbul and Brasilia on September 23.

"This is a gross interference in the affairs of both the Chinese Olympic Committee and the IOC," he said. "Site selection is a matter for IOC members to decide. No one else has the right to demand they select this site or that."

He noted that US lawmakers had passed the bill despite the objections of the US Olympic Committee.

Representative Tom Lantos, a sponsor of the resolution, said China should be given the chance to earn the right to host the Olympics in the year 2004.