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Epoch-marking win in Bridgetown

England see light at last

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Apr 15: Andrew Caddick grabbed five wickets to lead England to one of their greatest ever victories when they toppled West Indies by 208 runs in their fourth Test on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

It was a remarkable result for England at the Kensington Oval where West Indies had not been beaten since 1935, had won their last 12 Tests there in succession, and had already tied up this series with crushing wins in the first three Tests.

But faced with an impossible victory target of 446, West Indies fell to the seam of Caddick and the left-arm spin of Phil Tufnell to be all out for 237.

Caddick finished with five for 63 and Tufnell three for 100.

Alec Stewart, who laid the foundations of victory, was named man-of-the-match after becoming the first England player to score centuries in both innings of a Test against West Indies.

Several thousand jubilant England supporters swarmed across the ground after the final wicket fell, celebrating one of the most remarkable turnaround of fortunes the game has seen.

England, dismissed for a paltry 46 in the second innings of the previous Test, had been given no chance against the accepted world champions in their traditional stronghold.

But with that marvellous perversity that speckles cricket history, England dominated the match throughout, largely thanks to Stewart but also owing much to paceman Angus Fraser's eight-wicket first innings haul.

Beginning the final day on 48 for two, West Indies looked far from in trouble early on.

Overnight batsmen Brain Lara and Keith Arthurton gave the initial impression they were aiming for what would have been a world record victory total as the first 60 minutes produced almost as many runs, but that was mainly due to Lara, who cracked nine boundaries in reaching his half century.

Richardson returned after retiring hurt with a pulled thigh muscle the previous night while Haynes was dropped down the order after his finger was split in the first innings.

But any hopes West Indies had of a heroic stand quickly disappeared.

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A STEWART ... m-o-m

fielders, took a superb running catch over his shoulder.

Arthurton defended stubbornly after Lara's departure but England made a second important breakthrough with the final ball before lunch when teenager Shivnarine Chanderpaul, scorer of three half-centuries in his first four Test innings, edged Graeme Hick to first slip.

Arthurton's defiance finally ended in mid-afternoon when Tufnell's left-arm spin turned sharply out of the rough and squeezed between bat and pad to hit the stumps.

Junior Murray rapidly became Caddick's fourth victim, caught at first slip, and much depended on West Indies two injured openers, captain Richie Richardson and Desmond Haynes.

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straight to Ramprakash at extra cover.

With more than two hours playing time remaining, West Indies hopes of saving the match and their proud Bridgetown record had all but disappeared.

Tufnell dispatched Winston Benjamin and Haynes in quick succession and although Courtney Walsh blasted the spinner for three huge sixes in one over in a final act of defiance, Chris Lewis wrapped up the proceedings by shattering the stumps of Curly Ambrose.

Although West Indies had already won the series, at least a large dollop of pride had returned to the England squad.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the final day of the fourth Test against the West Indies at the Kensington Oval here on Wednesday.

ENGLAND: First innings: 355 (A Stewart 118, M Atherton 85, C Ambrose 4-86)

WEST INDIES: First innings: 304 (S Chanderpaul 77; A Fraser 8-65)

ENGLAND: Second innings: 394-7 declared (A Stewart 143, G Thorpe 84, G Hick 59; C Walsh 5-94)

WEST INDIES: Second innings (requiring 444, overnight 47-2):

Richardson c Ramprakash b Caddick 33

Adams c Russell b Caddick 12

Lara c Tufnell b Caddick 64

K Benjamin c Hick 0

b Caddick 0

Arthurton b Tufnell 52

Chanderpaul c sub 5

M Murray c Thorpe b Caddick 5

Haynes c Thorpe b Tufnell 15

W Benjamin c Stewart 1

b Tufnell 3

Ambrose b Lewis 12

Walsh not out 18

Extras: (b-1, lb-7, nb-10) 18

Total: 237

Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-43;

3-128; 4-150; 5-164; 6-179;

7-195; 8-199; 9-216

Bowling: O M R W

Fraser 17 7 40 0

Caddick 17 6 63 5

Tufnell 36.1 2 100 3

Lewis 8.2 1 23 1

Hick 4 2 3 1

Man-of-the-match: A Stewart

(Adjudicator: M Marshall)

Umpires: L H Barker, D B Hair

Match referee: J R Reid (New Zealand)

Biman fly high

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Biman finished top in Group A when they posted a facile eight-wicket win over BCS (audit and accounts) in the first office cricket league at the Mirpur Pallabi ground yesterday.

The strong airline team, which bundled out the BCS team for a meagre 75 in 26.4 overs, reached 77 for the loss of two wickets in 11.5 overs to record their second straight win.

Opener Jahangir, who remained not out on 37, powered Biman to an easy win. Enamul Haq Moni (11) and Jahangir (14), who made 14, were the two batsmen out in the Biman innings. BCS new ball bowler Masum captured both the wickets finishing with figures of two for 25.

Spinner Azhar Hossain with a five-wicket haul was the most successful Biman bowler. He finished with an excellent analysis of five for 19 in his eight-over spell.

Sujon took three wickets for only 16 runs while Moni claimed two for eight runs.

WC officials in a row with press

NEW YORK, Apr 15: Major US newspapers, incensed by what they see as a gross invasion of privacy, have slammed World Cup soccer officials for trying to obtain details about their reporters' backgrounds, reports Reuter.

The New York Times, in a letter to World Cup USA 1994 chairman Alah Rothenberg, called such investigations "outrageous" and declared it was "against at the inappropriateness of your request."

The letter was made available on Thursday.

In it, the newspaper's assistant general counsel George Freeman urged Rothenberg: himself a lawyer, to rescind security waivers sent to all media seeking accreditation to the World Cup, which starts in Chicago on June 17.

The forms authorise the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and all state and local law enforcement agencies to release criminal histories and records to World Cup officials "to establish security and accreditation eligibility."

"It strikes us as the grossest invasion of the personal privacy of the journalists," said The Times' letter, written on Monday and copied to other major newspapers.

"To carry on their livelihood, members of the media should not be required to yield their civil rights."

"Moreover, the information is entirely unnecessary and irrelevant. Reporters for the New York Times... are not hooligans and need not be the subject of such outrageous investigations by your organisation," it said.

"Indeed, these measures are unprecedented to my knowledge: our journalists have never been asked to agree to such a request as a condition upon covering any prior World Cup, any Olympic Games, any World Series, any Super Bowl, etc."

Freeman told Reuters on Thursday he had still to receive a reply from Rothenberg or anyone at the World Cup. He added that, in his view, "It would seem more appropriate to ask for the criminal records of players, rather than reporters, given the shenanigans of some of them."

The Boston Globe newspaper said on Thursday it had instructed reporters and photographers not to sign the forms and was planning a similar letter of protest.

The mass circulation daily USA Today said on Wednesday it had also advised its reporters not to comply.

Barbara Wall, vice president and senior legal counsel to Gannett which publishes USA Today and other daily newspapers, was quoted by the paper as saying the forms were "offensive" to personal privacy concerns.

Above all, Sobers was a player of style and generosity, before the gruelling grind of year-round cricket finally took its toll.

Twenty-one seasons with Barbados, eight in the English leagues, two for South Australia and seven for Nottinghamshire in addition to the demands of Test cricket affected both body and mind and it was a weary man who limped out of the game in 1974.

Although he still looks an athlete, Sobers is affected by knee problems and despite his unquestioned status as the greatest player of his time never reaped the material rewards his prowess deserved.

"When I was playing the money wasn't there," Sobers said in a radio interview. "When you look at the cricketers around then, a lot of them came out in their early 30s."

"Now fellow are going on in their late 30s and even 40s because the financial aspects are there."

Sobers, son of a merchant seaman who was killed during the second World War, lived and breathed that tradition, developing eventually into the most versatile cricketer of all



SIR GARY SOBERS

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Apr 15: Life in the fast and continues for Sir Garfield Sobers, the first jet age cricketer, reports Reuter.

In a unique tribute to the man dubbed Trinidadian calypso singer Mighty Sparrow as the greatest cricketer "on earth or mars," the tiny island of Barbados celebrated the 40th anniversary of Sobers' Test debut during the fourth Test between West Indies and England.

The pace has been exhausting even for a man who followed the sun for 20 years in a career of non-stop travel and achievement.

In a rare break from his various official and social duties during the Test, Sobers was asked if he was having a good time.

"Well," he replied, "I'm having a time. But man, I've just signed 900 autographs."

The carnival, inspired by the great West Indian fast bowler and former Barbadian Minister of Sport Wesley Hall, got into full swing on eastern Monday with a special race meeting at the Garrison Savannah, where Sobers was knighted in 1975.

Further events included a calypso evening — with a taped tribute from Mighty Sparrow — and a golf tournament on the Test rest day.

And in the pavilion named in his honour Sobers was constantly surrounded by old Test companions, friends and well-wishers, who seem to include the island's entire population of around 260,000.

"He's a real nice guy," said one enthusiast. "And he knows everybody on the island. If he doesn't know their name he knows what job they do or what kind of car they drive."

Cricket has been the one constant unifying factor in the West Indian islands and Sobers' significance extends far beyond his brilliance on the

John Curry dead

LONDON, Apr 15: Former Olympic and world champion figure skater John Curry died from an AIDS-related illness early on Friday at his home in Stratford-upon-Avon, his agent said, reports Reuter.

Curry, 44, was diagnosed as having the HIV virus that causes AIDS in 1987. He returned home in 1991 from the United States.

Germany — ready to roll

BONN, Apr 15:

Veteran captain Lothar Matthaeus summed up Germany's chances of successfully defending their title at this year's World Cup in a few dynamic seconds last month, reports Reuter.

After losing the ball on the halfway line during Germany's 2-1 victory over Italy in a friendly, the 33-year-old libero turned quickly, made up two metres on a younger striker and outstripped him over 20 metres to coolly clear the ball.

The impressive piece of defending said a great deal about the world champions. Many of the key players are on the wrong side of 30. But any suggestion that they are past their best in terms of pace and composure is misguided.

Coach Berti Vogts still has many of the players who contested the 1990 final against Argentina in his first-choice line-up: goalkeeper Bodo Illgner, defenders Matthaeus, Guido Buchwald and Juergen Kohler, midfielders Thomas Haessler and Andreas Breitner and striker Juergen Klinsmann.

But, since taking over from Franz Beckenbauer after the 1990 finals, Vogts has added the talents of midfielders Andy Moeller from Juventus, Steffen Effenberg and former East German Matthias Sammer from Borussia Dortmund.

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