

Two Pakistani cricketers for Mohammedans

Sports Reporter

Two more Pakistani cricketers arrived in the city yesterday to play for Mohammedan Sporting Club.

Left-arm paceman Naveed Bhatti and batsman Nadim Yunus, who play for Railway in domestic cricket, are expected to feature in the Mohammedan line up for today's Darnal Summer match against War Club.

While Yunus will be making his debut in Bangladesh cricket arena, Naveed will only relive the memories of his last visit with a Pakistani youth team that came here to take part in a competition way back in 1988.

Although the reinforcements are likely to whet a rusty Mohammedans, who registered an unconvincing victory in the opener of this year's curtain-raising competition, the former champions are actually looking forward to the arrival of Pakistani Test cricketer Aamer Malik expected to be here shortly.

Narrow squeak for Munna

Sports Reporter

Ace national footballer Mo-nem Munna escaped unhurt when the car he was in skidded off the road near Gazipur on Monday.

Munna, currently undergoing training at the BKSP residential football camp, was on his way to his father-in-law's at Gazipur to see his ailing daughter when the mishap occurred.

Div I chess

Sports Reporter

Grandmaster Niaz Murshid was back on board and Brothers Union were on the winning track again in the First Division chess league with a comfortable 4-0 victory over Noor-e-Alam Khan Daba Sangsad in the 14th round at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

After Tuesday's stunning defeat at the hands of the Dhaka University chess team, their second in the league so far, incidentally the second time without Murshid, yesterday's outcome refuelled Brothers' campaign for title defence as the Gopibagh outfit consolidated the lead at the top of the points table with 43.5 points — five ahead of their nearest rivals Bangladesh Biman.

The regular four of Brothers — Murshid, Pakistani International Master Mahmood Ahmed Khan Lodhi, Indian V Sharavan and local Abdullah al-Raqib — faced little or no resistance at all from Noor-e-Alam Daba Sangsad's Zahid Chowdhury, Shafiqul Islam, Mansur Helal and M R Milky respectively.

Biman, bolstered by the consistent performance of newly-crowned 11th Dr Qazi Motaahar Hossain IMs meet king Reefat bin Sattar and his archrival Ziaur Rahman, etched an impressive 3.5-0.5 win over Parijat Chess Club.

National women's champion Taneema Parvin joined Reefat and Zia in the victory march while the fourth Biman campaigner veteran Rezaul Haq drew with Masud Kamal.

The two top places apart, the competition in this year's league is really mounting with Bangladesh Ansars and Bangladesh Textile Mills Corporation (BTMC) really fighting hard for the third slot. Both teams now have 34 points each.

Yesterday, Ansars ended at the wrong end of the table for the second consecutive day when Leoline Chess Club inflicted on the services team a 2.5-1.5 defeat. The loss let BTMC, who trailed Ansars by one and a half points, back to the third position. BTMC beat Farashganj Sporting Club 3-1 in their outing.

In the fourth place were Narayanganj Mashguli Mehfil, winners over Sonali Bank by 3.5-0.5 points, half a point ahead of the DU team who have 31.

Incontrad v'ball results

Khulna DSA emerged zonal champions to reach the final round of the Incontrad inter-district volleyball championship yesterday, reports UNB.

In a Sundarban zone match at Khulna, the host team overpowered Sathkira DSA 15-7, 15-7, 15-9.

Earlier, on Monday, Tangail DSA qualified for the final phase as the champions of Madhupur zone eliminating Narshingdi DSA 15-3, 15-3, 15-5.

The ten team final round will begin at the Volleyball court from November 26.

Seven teams — defending champions Dhaka, Chittagong, Comilla, Rajshahi, Kushtia, Rangpur and Rajbari DSAs booked their final round berth.

Rokon powers Brothers

Sports Reporter

Al Shahriar conjured statistically the most memorable performance of his burgeoning career as Brothers Union handed Eskaton Sabuj Sangha their maiden defeat in the 15th Darnal Summer cricket journey yesterday.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, powered by their young skipper's five-wicket haul and a blazing unbeaten half century, the Gopibagh side crushed Eskaton by eight wickets.

While Eskaton came down to earth rather crashingly after two creditable wins, Brothers, who had posted resounding victories in their previous matches, brace for the second round showdown as the Group B champions.

Sent into bat first in the morning, Eskaton after a fairly sound start — 58 coming from 14.2 overs — lost their way against some tenacious spin bowling, amply put on display by messers Rokon, Pakistani Aabed Hafiz and Saifullah Gem.

Aabed, younger of the two Hanifs recruited by Brothers, started the rot by dealing a double blow once the openers, Rownak Islam — the seasoned campaigner who in fact ended up with a topscore of 24 and Mozilul Islam, who made 19, departed.

To compound Eskaton batsmen's problems with Aabed's off-spin and Saifullah's slow left arm, lanky Al Shahriar brought his leg breaks into operation, and from then on the result of the match was never in doubt.

Al Shahriar finished with a flattering analysis of five for 31 from 8.5 overs as the last Eskaton wicket fell in 44.5 overs for 158.

Aabed Hanif provided excellent support with figures of three for 39.

For sheer economy Saifullah and Sohail outshone the wicket-takers with the former conceding just 15 for one wicket from his nine overs while Sohail, who took picked up a wicket from his quota, spent 26.

In comparison, Brothers were off to a shaky start losing opener Sajid, one of the youngest members of the national squad, cheaply.

But his partner Aabed Hanif and skipper Al Shahriar put on 154 runs for the second wicket to make the whole thing look a no-contest.

Hanif did get out but not before accumulating 59 including nine boundaries.

Rokon was obviously the more dominating batsman on the wicket and he deservedly stayed until the finish with a belligerent 69 off 66 balls embellished with seven fours and two sixes.

The ease and elan with which Brothers accomplished the task could be gauged from the tenure of the innings — 29 overs and Brothers were home and dry putting 160 for two.

In a battle of no-hopers Dhanmondi Club bowed out of the meet with a win when they beat Lalmatia Club by four wickets at the Mirpur Pallabi ground.

Nehal had the job half done for Dhanmondi in the morning as he ran through Lalmatia's batting with a haul of five wickets for 28 runs.

Here also an excellent opening partnership of 64 runs dwindled into an eventual total of 146 for eight only.

Mohammad topscored with 52 before becoming one of Nehal's five victims.

Aabed Hanif ... 59

Hughes eager for a recall

Sports Reporter

HUGHES, Nov 22: Pace bowler Merv Hughes has vowed to regain his place in the Australian cricket team despite missing out on the first Ashes Test against England, reports AP.

The Australian selectors Monday named Hughes' Victorian state teammate Damien Fleming as the third fast bowler to support new ball pair Craig McDermott and Glenn McGrath for the first Test, which begins on Friday at the Gabba Ground in Brisbane.

Hughes, who will be 33 on Wednesday, boasts a 212-wicket career haul, placing him seventh on the all-time Australian list, but he has struggled with his weight over the past couple of seasons.

"It's very disappointing to miss out, but you certainly never throw in the towel," Hughes said Tuesday.

"I have to perform and make sure there's no way I can be left out of a team. I've been set a goal to reach with my weight, and I want to put the work in to get there."

Hughes girth has been closely monitored by team physiotherapist Errol Alcott and it is understood the question of his weight was a deciding factor in the final decision on who would play in Brisbane.

England will doubtless be relieved not to be facing Hughes, who is at his most devastating in Ashes series.

In 20 Tests against England, he has taken 75 wickets — with 31 of those secured during the 1993 Ashes series.

Fleming made his debut on Australia's recent tour of Pakistan and bowled superbly in his only Test at Rawalpindi, taking seven wickets.

When you are a kid growing up, it's a dream to play a Test against England, and especially the first of the series," Fleming said.

England captain Mike Atherton, meanwhile, has said that his team will take a positive approach into the first of the five Tests.

He said a poor start to the series could cost his men any chance of regaining the Ashes. Australia have won the opening Test of the last three series and have gone on to record emphatic 4-1, 3-0 and 4-0 victories.

"I think the first Test sets the tone for the series ahead," Atherton said. "It's a crucial game."

"It is pointless saying to yourself: 'It is a five Test series and we can get back.' You have to play as if your lives depend on those five days."

MERV HUGHES

Dutch accent on attack

Sports Reporter

SYDNEY, Nov 22: Dutch coach Roelant Oltmans Tuesday promised more field goals and less traditional reliance on penalty corners when the Netherlands begin defending their World Cup hockey crown here this week, reports AFP.

The Dutch, whose fierce-hitting short-corer specialist Floris Boelander denied Pakistan the last World Cup in Lahore, are favourites to retain the title from host nation Australia, Olympic champions' Germany and this year's Champions' Trophy winners Pakistan in the 12-team tournament.

Oltmans has five members of his 1990 World Cup-winning team to buttress a well-organised Dutch lineup, but he says there's more to the Netherlands' game than just teeing up short corners for Boelander and Taco van den Honert to slam at opposing goals.

"We have shown enough in the past that we can do a lot more than just hitting penalty corners," Oltmans said Tuesday.

"Penalty corners are, of course, one of the things that can happen in a game, and we also try to score penalty corners, but really it's not the only thing we try to do."

"Usually we have a lot of opportunities during a game, but we don't score enough, we have to improve that during this tournament to have a really good chance of winning."

"I assure you we will make more goals from open play, and not just from penalty corners."

The Dutch are grouped with Germany, Asian champions South Korea, India, Belgium and South Africa, and hit off against the Belgians on Thursday.

The tournament gets under way Wednesday with Australia taking on minnows Belarus.

"I consider Germany as a very strong team, also South Korea and India showed us during the Asian Games in Hiroshima that they are playing well at the moment," said Oltmans.

The Dutch spent six days in Malaysia on the way to Australia with the purpose of acclimatising to warm, humid conditions they might encounter here over the next 10 days.

Oltmans believes Australia, the Olympic silver medalists at Barcelona, are the team to beat.

"To me they are the great favourites for this tournament," Oltmans said.

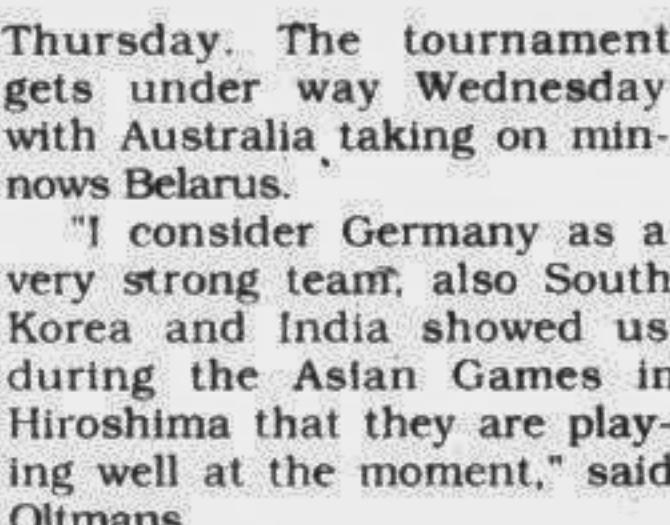
"They're a very strong side, an experienced side and they're playing in front of a home crowd, so to me they're the number one."

"But there are many strong sides and I think it's the strongest World Championships ever held."

"It's not only the top four any more, but Korea, Spain and England have performed very well in the last few months."

The second-seeded Germans have drawn four times with the Dutch this year and beaten South Africa once, but have not played Korea, India or Belgium.

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MERV HUGHES

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Liverpool striker John Barnes volleys the ball home during an English Premier league match against Mersyside rivals Everton in Liverpool on Nov 21. — AFP photo

Snell, Eksteen to make home Test debut

Sports Reporter

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 22: Seam bowler Richard Snell and left-arm spinner Clive Eksteen will make their home Test debuts for South Africa in the first Test against New Zealand starting on Friday, reports Reuter.

South Africa named a 12-man squad for the Test at the Wanderers, with Border wicketkeeper Steve Palfraam on standby or Dave Richardson who has a damaged finger.

The final batting place is likely to be between Jonty Rhodes, yet to reach double figures in first class cricket this season, and 29-year-old newcomer John Commins who has been scoring consistently for Boland.

Snell played in South Africa's first Test back from isolation against the West Indies in Barbados and has since played two Tests in Sri Lanka and another in Australia.

Eksteen has played just one Test, also in Sri Lanka, and his selection means South Africa will play a specialist spinner for the first time since Sydney at the start of the year — a gap of eight Tests.

Less fortunate was border captain Peter Kirsten, dropped after playing in South Africa's last seven Tests and making a maiden Test century against England three months ago.

"It is always hard to leave someone out," said convenor of selectors Peter Pollock. "Especially when you have players like Peter Kirsten and Jimmy Cook who have put in years of service and shown great guts and application over the years. But we have to consider the position now and consider the future."

Pollock said the withdrawal of former captain Kepler Wessels on Sunday night with a knee problem had increased pressure to retain the 39-year-old Kirsten.

South Africa (from): Andrew Hudson, Gary Kirsten, Hansie Cronje (captain), Darryl Cullinan, Jonty Rhodes, John Commins, Dave Richardson or Steve Palfraam, Brian McMillan, Richard Snell, Clive Eksteen, Craig Matthews, Fanie de Villiers.

Good day for tennis players in Islamabad

Sports Reporter

ISLAMABAD, Nov 22: Bangladesh's Shameem Ahasan Ronny and Thailand's Tep-kasikul Akkasit moved into the quarter-finals of the boys' doubles in the Pakistan international junior tennis championships beating a Pakistani pair here today, reports BSS.

Rony-Akkasit pair took just one hour to beat Pakistan's Alsi Reza and Asim Abrar 6-4, 6-2 in the second round. They will face Cedric Babu of Uganda and Gautam Mehra of India in the quarters.

In the girls' doubles, Bangladesh's Shathy Sarkar and Yasmin Ahmed Urmi qualified for the second round defeating Farah Nasir and Saima Anwar of Pakistan 6-0, 6-1.

Shathy and Urmi will play Thailand's Toutsitthi Pornsarn and Anuchan Nontika in the pre-quarters.

Reigning champions Department of Finance easily got rid of Department of Philosophy by six wickets in the Dhaka University inter-department cricket championship at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday.

After restricting Philosophy to a modest 108 in 29.3 overs, Finance lost only four wickets on their way to reaching the victory target in 18 overs.

In the inter-department soccer championship Department of Political Science beat Department of Economics by a solitary goal at the university ground adjacent to the central gymnasium.



Liverpool striker John Barnes volleys the ball home during an English Premier league match against Mersyside rivals Everton in Liverpool on Nov 21. — AFP photo

Windies lose first Test by 96 runs India on wave of success

Sports Reporter

BOMBAY, Nov 22: A determined India defeated the West Indies by 96 runs on the fifth and final day of their first Test today to go 1-0 up in a three-Test series, reports Reuter.

Riding a wave of success after hammering the tourists 4-1 in a recent one-day series, India wrapped up only their seventh victory over the West Indies in 63 Tests in just 22 minutes and 37 balls in the morning session.

The West Indies appeared resigned to their fate when they resumed on 252 for eight wickets, seeking a formidable 110 runs for victory.

one. One or two partnerships could have changed the match."

A 162-run sixth wicket partnership between Jimmy Adams and Junior Murray on the fourth day raised visions of victory for the West Indies but both were dismissed in their 80s, leaving the unfinished task to tailenders.

Walsh said the late start of play on the third day had affected the West Indies chances of grabbing quick Indian wickets after Kenneth Benjamin wrecked the Indian batting the previous evening in a deadly spell of three wickets for nine runs.

Play was delayed after the umpires found a wet spot at a bowlers' end and insisted on it being dried up.

"Our batting was inconsistent in the first innings. I'm disappointed with the youngsters. I expected them to do well," Walsh said.

He said the absence of senior players like Curtly Ambrose was felt. Four senior players — Ambrose, Ian Bishop, Richie Richardson and Desmond Haynes — dropped out of the team for different reasons.

"But we hope to come back into the series," Walsh said. The West Indies have not lost a Test series since 1979/80.

The West Indies have so far won 26 Test matches against India, for whom the latest victory is the fifth against the visitors at home in 35 outings.

India, who won the five-match one-day series against the West Indies last month and a triangular one-day cup involving both the West Indies and New Zealand, confidently go to the central Indian city of Nagpur for the second Test beginning December 1.

India have not lost a Test match at home in the last five years.

The latest victory, the 10th for Azharuddin as skipper, makes him the most successful of all Indian captains, ahead of Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi and Sunil Gavaskar, with nine wins.

With no recognised batsmen left to take the fight to the Indian camp, the tailenders added only 14 runs to finish on 266 all out.

West Indies skipper Courtney Walsh offered a glimmer of hope when he lifted spinner Venkatapathy Raju for six but soon after meekly surrendered, giving a return catch to Javagal Srinath, whose brilliance with both ball and bat earned him the man-of-the-match award.

"It's an interesting game with a lot of ups and downs," said Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin. It was a defendable total but not a very big

Malcolm to miss first Test

Sports Reporter

BRISBANE, Nov 22: England suffered a major blow in their Ashes campaign on Tuesday when fast bowler Devon Malcolm was ruled out of this week's first Test against Australia because of chickenpox, reports Reuter.

Malcolm, 31, who had been expected to take the new ball for England at the Gabba ground, was examined on his arrival in Brisbane by a doctor who confirmed the diagnosis.

The Derbyshire paceman was immediately isolated from the rest of the tourists as they prepared for the first Test, starting on Friday.

Devon has rashes over his body, is feeling itchy, and in a degree of discomfort. He can't perform for a week maybe two. He's out of the Test match," England physiotherapist Dave Roberts told Reuters.

England tour manager Mike Smith said: "This is a major disappointment for Devon and a major loss for the side." Malcolm was chiefly responsible for England's victory against South Africa at the Oval earlier this year when he took nine for 57.

He also played a key role in England's win over Australia, also at the Oval, in 1993, when he took six for 170.

Malcolm sat apart from his teammates on the flight from Hobart, where England drew their tour match against an Australian XI over the weekend.

He first noticed spots on his arm when boarding the team bus on Tuesday morning, Roberts said.

England captain, Michael Atherton said Malcolm's loss was a bitter blow.

"It's not the news we wanted to hear as we arrived in Brisbane for the Test," he said.

"Devon's one of our proven match winners, a strike bowler and someone we have come to depend on. We look to him for a match-winning performance through the wickets he might take so it is a big blow."

Atherton said the tour management were monitoring the situation to decide if a replacement was required.

"Angus Fraser is the standby seam bowler and he's only two hours away, playing club cricket in Sydney," he said.

"We must decide if there's any chance of anyone else coming down with it, and it there is the remotest chance of that happening, we'd be foolish not to back ourselves up."

Atherton was keen to remain positive despite the setback with the Test only three days away.

"It's the last thing we need but hopefully it will give an opportunity to someone who hasn't played," he said.

"Sometimes these things bind a team together and I'm looking for the kind of spirit where everybody holds together and gives a little bit extra in the absence of one of our players."

DEVON MALCOLM

Roberts said he would check the medical records of the rest of the team to find out which players have not had the

Matthaeus gets into trouble

Sports Reporter

KARLSRUHE. That was a swindle, cheating. And he's supposed to be the best referee in Germany ... Krug did us down for 90 minutes."

Burglars, bad news for Gazza

ROME, Nov 22: England midfielder Paul Gascoigne ran into more bad luck on Monday when burglars ransacked his house outside Rome and stole valuables worth 50 million lire (30,000 dollars), Italian police said, reports Reuter.

Burglars overturned tables and chairs and stole items including a television, video recorder, compact disc player and clothes.

A Lazio spokesman said Gascoigne, sidelined since April when he broke his leg during training for the Rome club, was currently in England.

It was the second time Gascoigne's house in Rome has been broken into.

Gascoigne, plagued by injuries since his high-profile move from Tottenham in 1992, said on Sunday he had plans to return to English soccer although he still had more than two years left on his Lazio contract.

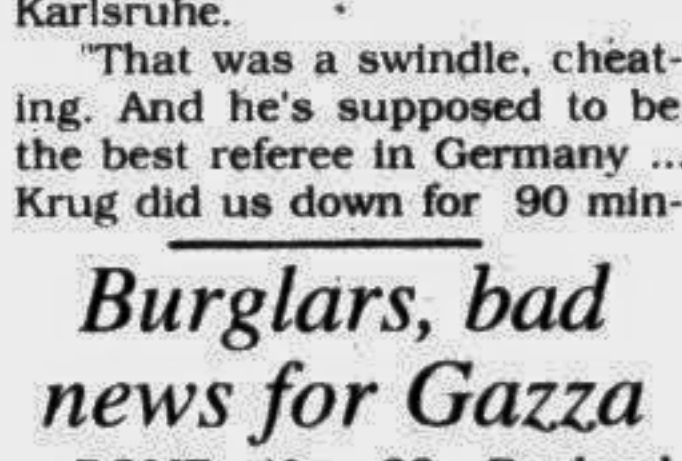
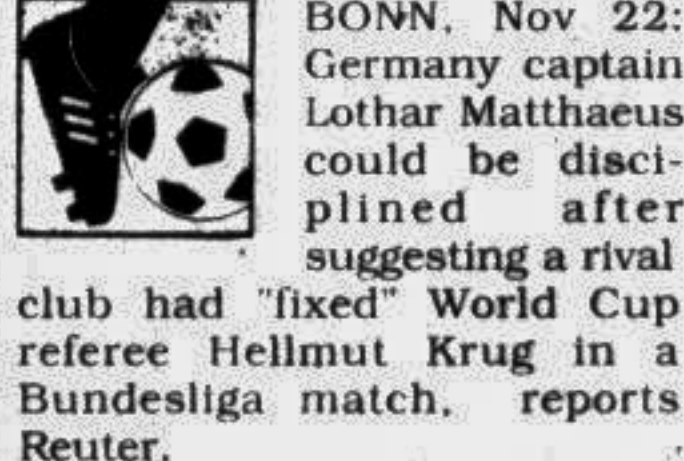
Matthaeus has been given until Thursday to produce a written statement explaining comments he made after Saturday's match," German Football Federation (DFB) spokesman Wolfgang Niersbach said on Monday.

The result could be a full disciplinary hearing with a possible fine or ban if Matthaeus is found guilty.

Matthaeus, the most capped player in German soccer history, was incensed as Bayern Munich were held to a 2-2 draw at Karlsruhe after a controversial sending-off and equaliser two minutes from time.

After the match he stormed at Karlsruhe vice-president Ulrich Heyning, saying: "So you bought off the referee?"

Matthaeus told reporters: "That's the biggest cheek I've seen in 15 years. The ref must be getting hefty bonus from



DEVON MALCOLM

utes."

Bayern's Italian trainer Giovanni Trapattoni revealed his feelings with one brief comment on Krug's handling of the game. "If I said anything I'd be risking a 100-year ban from the DFB."

Matthaeus's outburst followed Krug's decision to give Karlsruhe a free kick just outside their opponents' penalty box.

Bayern's 18-year-old defender Samuel Kuffour ran on to the pitch after being treated for an injury to stand in the defensive wall.

As he did not have the referee's permission to return to the action, he was sent off. Karlsruhe scored from the free kick.

Matthaeus appeared to have calmed down on Monday.

"I said the referee blew for Karlsruhe and against us and I stand by that," he said, but added that he had not meant to accuse Krug of taking a bribe.

"I only said Karlsruhe ought to pay the referee a bonus. It was just a suggestion they could make him a little present, not an accusation of bribery."

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the first Test between India and West Indies today

INDIA: First innings 272 (N. Mongia 80, S. Manjrekar 51; C. Walsh 6-79).

WEST INDIES: First innings 243 (V. Raju 5-60).

INDIA: Second innings 333 (S. Tendulkar 85, S. Manjrekar 66, J. Srinath 60; K. Benjamin 4-82).

WEST INDIES: Second innings (overnight 252-8) Simmons c Mongia b Prabhakar 0 Williams lbw b Srinath 11 Lara b Prabhakar 0 Hooper c Mongia b Srinath 23 Arthurton c Azharuddin b Raju 20 Adams lbw b Srinath 81

SRINATH ... m-o-m

Murray b Chauhan	85
Dhanraj c Tendulkar b Raju	4
Prabhakar c Azharuddin b Raju	2
Walsh c and b Srinath	11
Cuffy not out	0
Extras: (b-13, lb-10, nb-6)	29
Total: (81.4 overs)	266
Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-2; 3-26; 4-48; 5-82; 6-244; 7-246; 8-252; 9-266.	
Bowling:	O M R W
Prabhakar	3 0 17 2
Srinath	20 8 48 4
Raju	28.4 6 85 3
Kumble	12 1 39 0
Chauhan	15 3 45 1
Tendulkar	3 0 9 0

Result: India beat West Indies by 96 runs and lead 1-0 in the three-Test series.