

India meet SA today

Sports Reporter

Finalists South Africa will take on India in double-header day-night match of the three-nation limited-overs cricket tournament in East London today.

Star Sports will cover the game from 6:30 pm (BST) onwards.

SAARC cricket

Srikanth to coach India A

NEW DELHI, Feb 3: Former Indian opening batsman Krish Srikanth was today named the coach of India's cricket second string for the SAARC tournament in Bangladesh later this month, reports AFP.

Srikanth will take charge of India A in the limited-overs tournament against Pakistan A, Sri Lanka A and Bangladesh's national team to be played in Dhaka from February 19-28.

Srikanth is the second highest run-getter for India in one-day cricket behind Mohammad Azharuddin with a tally of 4,092 runs from 146 matches.

He also scored 2,061 runs in 43 Tests and led his country on a tour of Pakistan in 1989.

Indian Cricket Board secretary Jagmohan Dalmiya said the 37-year-old Srikanth was standing in for junior coach Aunshuman Gaekwad who will be accompanying the under-19 team on a tour of Sri Lanka.

SQUAD

Ajay Sharma (capt), Amay Khurasia (vice capt), Wasim Jaffer, Nikhil Haldipur, S Sharanth, Hemang Badani, M S K Prasad (wicket keeper) Noel David, Debasish Mohanty, Sukhbir Singh, Harvinder Singh, Arindam Sarkar, Sairaj Bahutule, Rahul Sanghvi, coach: Krish Srikanth.

SCHEDULE

Feb 19: Pakistan A v Bangladesh

Feb 20: India A v Sri Lanka

Feb 22: Sri Lanka A v Bangladesh

Feb 23: India A v Pakistan A

Feb 25: Pakistan A v Sri Lanka A

Feb 26: India A v Bangladesh

Feb 28: Final

Xia to lead Sino Davis Cuppers

BEIJING, Feb 3: China's top tennis player Xia Jiaoping, ranked 375th in the world, will lead a Chinese Davis Cup team against Uzbekistan this week in a first round tie, the official Xinhua news agency said, reports AFP.

Walsh wrath sizzles Aussies Windies wind up in style



PERTH, Feb 3: The West Indies salvaged some lost pride with a 10-wicket victory in the fifth and final cricket Test at the WACA ground on Monday, but Australia retained the Frank Worrell Trophy with a 3-2 win in the five-match series, report agencies.

Two of West Indies finest fast bowlers — skipper Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose — fashioned the victory for the visitors with match hauls of seven and five wickets respectively.

The duo were playing probably their last Test on Australian soil and systematically dismissed the Australian batsmen in both innings as the West Indies won inside three days.

Australia were faced with a first innings deficit of 141 runs and then collapsed on a pitch providing brutal bounce with widening cracks assisting the West Indies speedsters.

Australia were bowled out for 194 runs in their second innings and the West Indies then quickly reached the victory target by scoring 57 for no wicket.

Walsh bowled 19 overs on the trot to pick up five for 74 in the Australian second innings — his 13th five-wicket haul in 87 Test matches.

The West Indies built their match-winning 384 around a brilliant 132 from Brian Lara and a rollicking 208-run third-wicket stand he shared with opener Robert Samuels, who scored a watchful 76.

Samuels led the run chase in the second innings, belting eight boundaries in his unbeaten 35 of 38 balls while his fellow opener Sherwin Campbell scored 16 not out, all from boundaries.

The West Indies' win was their fifth in a row at the WACA — the last win in 1992-93 finishing inside seven sessions to give them the series 2-1 after having gone into the final two Tests 1-0 down.

Although the series was already decided, the sudden deterioration in relations between the two sides highlighted the intense, and occasionally bitter, rivalry that has been a feature of their meetings over the years.

The situation worsened as the match progressed, prompting umpires Darrell Hair and Peter Willey to speak to captains Mark Taylor and Courtney Walsh during play today.

Later in West Indies' innings, Hair spoke to Taylor and Walsh, who was batting at the time, at some length in the middle, before the two players shook hands and played on.

International Cricket Council match referee Ramar Subba Row said the two captains were told to control the situation.

The umpires said there was a fair bit of niggle from both

successive overs after the break. Australia had crashed to 47



West Indian fast bowler Curtly Ambrose (2nd from left) celebrates after dismissing Australian skipper Mark Taylor on the third day of the Perth Test at the WACA ground yesterday.

— AFP/UNB photo

sides and they told the captains, enough was enough", Subba Row said in a statement released by the Australian Cricket Board.

"They (the umpires) called the two captains together and said, 'it stops now or there will be a report'. It did stop and I am happy with that."

After being summoned by the umpires, Walsh returned later in the day in his role as senior fast bowler to claim five wickets despite a hamstring injury.

Walsh, who batted with Lara as runner during his side's innings, bowled unchanged through the afternoon session off a short run and perfectly exploited the extremely variable bounce to finish with five for 74.

Australia's collapse in the post-lunch session saw the home team lose six wickets for 101 runs.

After Ambrose had produced two brutal deliveries to reduce Australia to 32 for two at lunch, Walsh removed the Waugh twins Mark (9) and Steve (0) in

for four.

Opener Matthew Hayden put behind his third ball first innings duck with a fighting 47 and he and the in-form Michael Bevan then figured in a 37-run fifth wicket stand.

Ambrose, who complained of muscle soreness in his left thigh, didn't bowl again until after tea.

He finished with two for 50 in nine overs, including 19 noballs and nine in one over.

Ambrose was troubled bowling around the wicket, either over stepping or cutting the return crease with his back leg.

Ian Bishop, the leading wicket-taker of the series for the visitors with 20, ended the threatening Hayden-Bevan stand and then mopped up the tail to take 2-44.

Ambrose and Walsh finished the series with 19 wickets apiece.

Ambrose was named man-of-the-match in recognition of his tally of seven wickets on his return from injury.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the fifth and final Test between Australia and West Indies at the WACA ground on Monday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings 243 (Michael Bevan 87 not out, Mark Waugh 79; Curtly Ambrose five for 43)

WEST INDIES: First innings (overnight 353 for seven)

Campbell c Healy b Reiffel 21
Samuels c M Waugh b Warne 76
Chanderpaul c Reiffel b McGrath 3
Lara c Healy b Warne 132
Hooper c Healy b Reiffel 57
Adams c Healy b McGrath 18
Simmons c M Waugh b Reiffel 0
Browne c Warne b Reiffel 0
Bishop c Taylor b Reiffel 13
Ambrose run out 15
Walsh not out 5
Extras: (nb-2, w-1, b-5, b-10) 44
Total: (111 overs) 384

Fall of wickets: 1-30; 2-43; 3-251; 4-275; 5-331; 6-332; 7-332; 8-359; 9-367.

Bowling O M R W

McGrath 30 5 86 2
Bichel 18 1 79 0
Reiffel 26 6 73 5
Warne 19 8 55 2
Hooper 6 2 19 0
Blewett 5 0 31 0

Bevan 7 1 26 0

S Waugh 5 0 31 0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Taylor c Browne b Ambrose 1
Hayden lbw b Hooper 47
Blewett b Ambrose 0

M Waugh c Browne b Walsh 9
S Waugh c Hooper b Walsh 0

Bevan c Simmons b Walsh 15

Healy c Chanderpaul b Walsh 29

Reiffel c Adams b Walsh 5

Warne c Simmons b Bishop 30

Bichel c Simmons b Bishop 18

McGrath not out 2

Adams c Healy b McGrath 18

Simmons c M Waugh b Reiffel 0

Browne c Warne b Reiffel 0

Bishop c Taylor b Reiffel 13

Ambrose run out 15

Walsh not out 5

Extras: (nb-2, lb-8, w-6, nb-2) 38

Total: (47.3 overs) 194

Fall of wickets: 1-7; 2-17; 3-43; 4-48; 5-84; 6-105; 7-110; 8-133; 9-189

Bowling O M R W

Ambrose 9 2 50 2
Walsh 20 4 74 5
Bishop 12.3 1 44 2
Hooper 3 0 7 1
Simmons 3 0 9 0

WEST INDIES: Second innings

Campbell not out 16

Samuels not out 35

Extras: (nb-2, w-1, nb-3) 6

Total: (for no wicket) 57

Bowling O M R W

McGrath 4 1 14 0

Reiffel 5 0 24 0

Bichel 1.2 0 17 0

Result: West Indies won by 10 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Curtly Ambrose (West Indies).

Australia won the five-Test series 3-2.

Martial arts

ceremony

The seventh annual belt grading and certificate awarding ceremony of the Bangladesh Martial Arts Association was held at the National Sports Council auditorium yesterday, reports BSS.

State Minister for Youth Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader was present as the chief guest and distributed belts and certificates.

Executive Engineer
Facilities Department
Savar Zone.

Sport

Lara lambasts Australians

PERTH, Feb 3: West Indies batsman Brian Lara accused Australian players of sledging his teammate Robert Samuels during play on Sunday, second day of the fifth Test at the WACA ground, reports AP.

But Lara said he was angry at the way Australian fielders baited Samuels who batted 5-1/2 hours for his 76.

"The Australians have won the series and I think congratulations to them, but they seem to be rubbing it in," Lara said after play.

They admonished a youngster who's trying his best. His Test future is in a bit of a doubt.

"I was a bit disappointed with the Australians' approach to him."

The umpires did intervene and tried to calm things down but I don't think it was necessary to react in such a way, especially after you win a series.

"They talk a lot about losers and stuff like that. Well, it's not necessary."

Asked if the West Indies indulged in similar tactics, Lara replied: "There's confrontations, but when there's all day sledging and stuff like that on one particular player it's unnecessary."

El Guerrouj shatters Morceli's mark

STUTTGART, Germany, Feb 3: Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj slashed almost three seconds off the 1500m indoor World record here Sunday in setting a new mark of 3 min 31.18 sec — breaking Noureddine Morceli of Algeria's six-year-old record, reports AFP.

Morelli set the old mark of 3 min 34.16 sec in Seville in 1991.

Ethiopian Olympic champion Haile Gebrselassie, second on Sunday, also edged Morelli's time finishing in 3 min 32.9 sec.

However, for El Guerrouj it was overdue compensation for the fall that cost him a medal in the Olympic 1500 metres final last year, and his superior pace and finishing speed say him easy way from the Ethiopian.

Ambrose, who complained of muscle soreness in his left thigh, didn't bowl again until after tea.

He finished with two for 50 in nine overs, including 19 noballs and nine in one over.

Ambrose was troubled bowling around the wicket, either over stepping or cutting the return crease with his back leg.

Ian Bishop, the leading wicket-taker of the series for the visitors with 20, ended the threatening Hayden-Bevan stand and then mopped up the tail to take 2-44.

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