

Tendulkar on Lankans

COLOMBO, Aug 21: Indian captain Sachin Tendulkar said it was a difficult task to contain Sri Lanka after the openers Sanath Jayasuriya and Marvan Atapattu gave an explosive start to their run chase, which enabled the home team to win the second one-dayer by seven wickets, report agencies.

"I think it was a difficult task. The start for the opening wicket by Jayasuriya and Atapattu was outstanding," Tendulkar said.

When asked about his team's plan for the final match, Tendulkar said: "We'll have to do our level best to stop them."

The Sri Lankan captain Arjuna Ranatunga said: "I think we played pretty well. We started badly but came back."

When asked by former Australia captain and TV commentator Greg Chappell whether Sri Lanka would go for a clean sweep, the Lankan skipper said: "It depends on what sort of team I get for the last match. The final match will be played on Saturday."

A beaming Jayasuriya, who was adjudged man-of-the-match for his masterly 66, answering to a query by Chappell whether he would need a cupboard to keep his mounting trophies, the master-blaster said he had already purchased one.

He also said that he was enjoying with both willow and leather.

SCOREBOARD

SRI LANKA			
Jayasuriya c Tendulkar b Kumble	1	66	
Atapattu lbw b Kuruvilla	38		
Mahanama run out	66		
A de Silva not out	52		
Chandana not out	4		
Extras: 6-8, lb-2, w-1, nb-4	15		
Total: (for three wickets in 41.5 overs)	241		
Did not bat: A Ranatunga, L de Silva, K Dharmasena, M Muralitharan, C Vaas, S de Silva			
Fall of wickets: 1-79; 2-130; 3-219			
Bowling: O M R W			
Chauhan 9 0 45 0			
Kuruvilla 7 1 35 1			
Prasad 9 0 56 0			
Kumble 6 0 44 1			
Singh 6.5 0 34 0			
Jadeja 4 0 17 0			

Result: Sri Lanka won by seven wickets.

History beckons

Smith

SEVILLE, Spain, Aug 21 (agencies): We can call her Michelle Smith again.

Smith, the three-time Olympic champion from Atlanta who is entered in the European Swimming Championships under the surname of her husband, Eriko de Bruin, said it's okay to keep calling her by her own name.

The name doesn't matter to



India's Rahul Dravid, standing at silly point, skips a powerful Sanath Jayasuriya square-cut during their second one-dayer against Sri Lanka in Colombo on Aug 20. — AFP/UNB photo

Tour of Zimbabwe

Kiwis turn to Spearman



WELLINGTON, Aug 21: New Zealand named an injury depleted squad today for their tour of Zimbabwe which will decide who holds the dubious honour of being cricket's wooden spooners, reports AFP.

Craig Spearman, dropped from the team after the tour of India last summer, has been recalled to the side in the absence of injured opener Bryan Young.

Spearman, from Central Districts, was introduced to Test cricket in 1995 and scored his maiden Test century in the second Test against Zimbabwe.

Injury has also robbed the side which will next month tour Kenya and Zimbabwe of Simon Doull and Geoff Allott. Shayne O'Connor, currently with the Academy team in South Africa has, as expected, gained his chance.

Fellow Academy players Craig McMillan and Paul,

Wiseman have also been named in the team.

O'Connor, a highly promising left-arm fast-medium bowler, played one game for the New Zealand one-day team at the Independence Cup in India earlier this year, while off-spinner Wiseman was sent to the Sharjah tournament at the start of last summer as a replacement for the injured Daniel Patel, but was not required to play.

McMillan has made a significant impact at domestic level and in age-group sides and scored a century in the academy side's first one-day win over the South African Academy team 10 days ago.

Young's absence is a frustration after the outstanding home season he had last year when scoring 504 runs.

Doull's injury robs the side of their most successful bowler, both in terms of international ranking and most wickets this year. Ranked 10th in the world, Doull has taken 21 wickets so

far this year at an average of 23.42, with Daniel Vettori on 18 wickets at 23.83.

Heath Davis will have a key role in the side and good form from him will be vital to New Zealand hopes of success.

Medium-fast bowler Andrew Penn also has the chance to prove his Test worthiness in the face of the challenge from O'Connor among the top flight of opening bowlers.

The team leave on September 1 for Kenya where they will play a three-day game and a one-day international.

Coach Steve Nixon and O'Connor, Vettori, McMillan and Wiseman will join the side in Kenya at the completion of the Academy tour of South Africa.

Team: Stephen Fleming (captain), Craig Spearman, Blair Pocock, Matthew Horne, Nathan Astle, Chris Cairns, Chris Harris, Adam Parore, Daniel Vettori, Heath Davis, Gavin Larsen, Paul Wiseman, Craig McMillan, Shayne O'Connor, Andrew Penn.

Stuart smites Notts



LONDON, Aug 21: Aussie Stuart Law blazed his way to a fourth championship century of the season as Essex built up a commanding position on the first day of their match against Nottinghamshire on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Hard-hitting Law hit 18 fours and two sixes in racing to 155 off 131 deliveries before eventually falling to left-arm spinner Usman Afzaal.

His sparkling innings was the highlight of Essex's steady progress to 319 for four by the close of play.

Skipper Paul Prichard, returning to the side after a hamstring injury, won a crucial toss and then became the first Essex batsman to reach 1,000 first-class runs this season in an opening stand of 94 with Darren Robinson.

Elsewhere, Australian Test star David Boon became the first skipper in Durham's six years of first-class cricket to score a championship century when he made 110 against Middlesex at Chester-le-Sreet.

The Australian's 229-ball innings, which included 14 fours, helped Durham secure their first batting points for two months and they were on 285 for six after 93.3 overs when rain ended play.

Local teenager Mameer Mirza claimed four for 51, the best figures of his debut season in the county championship, as Worcestershire kept alive their title hopes on Wednesday.

The 19-year-old seamer said, "Whatever you like, Smith or De Bruin, or Smith-De Bruin."

By any name, Smith is on course to set an unprecedented record by winning five individual gold medals in these championships.

Former East German Ute Geweniger won four golds in 1981 and Hungary's Krisztina Egerszegi did it in 1993. Counting relays, former West German star Michael Gross and German Franziska van Almsick have won six golds.

Smith, 27, is the defending Olympic champion in the 400 freestyle and the European and Olympic champion in the 200 individual medley and 200 butterfly — the three events she has left to swim.

She's already won her two weakest races — the 400 individual medley and 200

freestyle.

The 19-year-old seamer

helped bowl 1995 champions Warwickshire out for 252 and take maximum points in the field, ably assisted by another local lad Alamgir Sherry who took three for 48.

Leicestershire opener Vince Beard made his third century of the season at Grace Road against Derbyshire.

He was dropped by Dominic Cork on 25 and made the London bowler rue his miss-field with an impressive 190 as Leicestershire closed the day in the powerful position of 373 for seven.

Kent's title hopes suffered a major setback after Martin McCague was ordered out of their attack at Taunton by umpire Alan Whitehead. The England paceman had begun his

Rain plays foul at Hamlet

COMMACK, New York, Aug 21: Rain washed out all but one match Wednesday at the Hamlet Cup men's tennis tournament, postponing top seed Michael Chang's chance to avenge his Wimbledon loss to Australian Todd Woodbridge, reports Reuters.

Frenchman Cedric Pioline beat Spaniard Albert Portas 6-2, 6-4 in the last first-round match of the tournament.

Pioline, runner-up to Pete Sampras at Wimbledon, will next meet Thomas Enqvist of Sweden, who advanced Monday night with a straight-sets win over countryman Thomas Johansson.

But there were more problems for the Welsh county when after only two overs umpires Graham Burgess and Tony Clarkson demanded that the wickets be re-aligned. They were about four of five inches out," said Burgess.

An 11th innings of 50 or more in 19 championship innings from Australian left-hander Darren Lehmann put Yorkshire in command against Sussex at Scarborough.

Lehmann, unbeaten on 63 at the close with his county 17 ahead on 174 for five, built on a remarkable day at Abergavenny against Glamorgan. He entered the fray with his side wobbling on 51 for three just before lunch and was still there at the close with an unbeaten 159 as Northants ended on 302 for eight from 92 overs.

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