

Confederations Cup

Brazil blank hosts

RIYADH, Dec 12: Romario scored twice and Cesar Sampaio once in the second half, to give Brazil a 3-0 victory over Asian champions Saudi Arabia on Friday in the opening match of the FIFA Confederations Cup.

Brazil took advantage as the Saudis were a man short for the final 26 minutes. They scored on the ensuring free kick after Abdullah Suleiman was sent off for a second yellow card in the 64th minute when Sampaio headed in a free kick and silenced the crowd of 50,000.

The Brazilian midfield then took command, supplying the attack with numerous balls from which Romario tapped in the second goal in the 73rd minute after receiving a flick on from Cau.

The nine-day, eight-team event pits the champions or runners-up from the six continental federations, World Cup champion Brazil and hosts Saudi Arabia.

Mexico faced Australia later on Friday.

Windies clip Pak wings



West Indies put the Pakistan nightmare behind them when the Caribbeans beat the crowd favourites by 43 runs in the second match of the four-nation Akash Singers' Trophy in Sharjah yesterday.

Set to score 276 runs in 50 overs, the Pakistanis were all out for 232 in 46 overs. Dashing opener Shahid Afridi hit a quickfire 67 and Inzamamul Haq made a patient 33. West Indian batting maestro Brian Lara was adjudged man-of-the-match for his polished 88.

AFP adds: Lara finally showed top form with his brilliant knock to lift his side to 275 for seven in 50 overs. The left-hander, who managed just 129 runs in six Test innings during his team's 3-0 rout in Pakistan earlier this month broke free with a scintillating knock.

He smashed seven boundaries and three sixes before

falling in the 46th over, pulling a short ball from skipper Wasim Akram down Azhar Mahmood's throat on the square leg fence.

Openers Philo Wallace and Stuart Williams gave the Caribbeans a rousing start after skipper Courtney Walsh won the toss and elected to bat.

The pair put on 81 by the 16th over before Wallace was caught by Inzamamul Haq at mid-on off Saqlain Mushtaq for a strokeful 32 off 52 balls.

Williams stayed till the 32nd over, adding 79 for the second wicket with Lara before he fell to Shahid Afridi for 77.

Carl Hooper joined Lara to add momentum to the innings with a brisk stand of 57 in nine overs for the third wicket.

Seamer Mahmood went for 61 in his 10 overs, while leg-spinner Afridi gave 57 in as many overs.

Saqlain was the pick of the bowlers with three for 35 in 10 overs of steady off-spin.

Akram also grabbed three

wickets, including two off successive balls in the final over when he bowled Franklin Rose and took a simple return catch from David Williams.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the first innings in the Champions' Trophy one-day international between Pakistan and the West Indies.

WEST INDIES

Wallace c Inzamam b Saqlain

S Williams c Akram b Afridi

Lara c Mahmood b Akram

Hooper st Moin b Saqlain

Simmons c Sohail b Saqlain

Chanderpal not out

Rose b Akram

D Williams c b Akram

Lewis not out

Extras: (b-1, lb-6, w-12, nb-1)

Total: (for 7 wkt)

275

Fall of wickets: 1-81; 2-160;

3-217; 4-243; 5-266; 6-271; 7-

271.

Bowling: O M R W

Akram 10 0 62 3

Waqr 10 0 53 0

Saqlain 10 0 35 3

Mahmood 10 0 61 0

Afridi 10 0 57 1

(Incomplete)

Ganguly b Ealham

Sidhu c A Holloko b Ealham

Tendulkar st Stewart b Fleming

Azharuddin c Headley b A Holloko

Jadeja c Thorpe b Fleming

Robin Singh lbw b Fleming

Kumble run out

Chauhan b Fleming

Srinath b Headley

Kuruvilla not out

Extras: (b-3, w-3, nb-2)

8

Total: (all out in 49.3 overs)

243

Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-64; 3-

65; 4-74; 5-182; 6-207; 7-221; 8-

232; 9-237.

LARA . . . m-o-m

Indies on Friday:

WEST INDIES

Wallace c Inzamam b Saqlain

S Williams c Akram b Afridi

Lara c Mahmood b Akram

Hooper st Moin b Saqlain

Simmons c Sohail b Saqlain

Chanderpal not out

Rose b Akram

D Williams c b Akram

Lewis not out

Extras: (b-1, lb-6, w-12, nb-1)

Total: (for 7 wkt)

275

Fall of wickets: 1-81; 2-160;

3-217; 4-243; 5-266; 6-271; 7-

271.

Bowling: O M R W

Akram 10 0 62 3

Waqr 10 0 53 0

Saqlain 10 0 35 3

Mahmood 10 0 61 0

Afridi 10 0 57 1

(Incomplete)

Ganguly b Ealham

Sidhu c A Holloko b Ealham

Tendulkar st Stewart b Fleming

Azharuddin c Headley b A Holloko

Jadeja c Thorpe b Fleming

Robin Singh lbw b Fleming

Kumble run out

Chauhan b Fleming

Srinath b Headley

Kuruvilla not out

Extras: (b-3, w-3, nb-2)

8

Total: (all out in 49.3 overs)

243

Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-64; 3-

65; 4-74; 5-182; 6-207; 7-221; 8-

232; 9-237.

INDIA

Karmi c Croft b Headley

Ganguly b Ealham

Sidhu c A Holloko b Ealham

Tendulkar st Stewart b Fleming

Azharuddin c Headley b A Holloko

Jadeja c Thorpe b Fleming

Robin Singh lbw b Fleming

Kumble run out

Chauhan b Fleming

Srinath b Headley

Kuruvilla not out

Extras: (b-3, w-3, nb-2)

8

Total: (all out in 49.3 overs)

243

Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-64; 3-

65; 4-74; 5-182; 6-207; 7-221; 8-

232; 9-237.

INDIA

Karmi c Croft b Headley

Ganguly b Ealham

Sidhu c A Holloko b Ealham

Tendulkar st Stewart b Fleming

Azharuddin c Headley b A Holloko

Jadeja c Thorpe b Fleming

Robin Singh lbw b Fleming

Kumble run out

Chauhan b Fleming

Srinath b Headley

Kuruvilla not out

Extras: (b-3, w-3, nb-2)

8

Total: (all out in 49.3 overs)

243

Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-64; 3-

65; 4-74; 5-182; 6-207; 7-221; 8-

232; 9-237.

INDIA

Karmi c Croft b Headley

Ganguly b Ealham

Sidhu c A Holloko b Ealham

Tendulkar st Stewart b Fleming

Azharuddin c Headley b A Holloko

Jadeja c Thorpe b Fleming

Robin Singh lbw b Fleming

Kumble run out

Chauhan b Fleming

Srinath b Headley

Kuruvilla not out

Extras: (b-3, w-3, nb-2)

8

Total: (all out in 49.3 overs)

243

Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-64; 3-

65; 4-74; 5-182; 6-207; 7-221; 8-

232; 9-237.

INDIA

Karmi c Croft b Headley