

Rain rules at Harare

HARARE, Feb 5: Glamorgan seam bowler Darren Thomas just had time to take his fifth wicket for England A before the third day of their match against their Zimbabwean counterparts was washed out again here on Thursday, reports AFP.

Thomas took the only wicket in the 75 minutes of play allowed by the rain as Zimbabwe A moved from 95 for six overnight to 147 for seven.

Thomas figures now stand at 48 for five.

Stuart Carlisle, hoping to get his Test place back — he has played six Tests for Zimbabwe but has not played for two years reached 46 not out.

Less than four of the 18 scheduled hours of play have been possible due to rain.

Scores: Zimbabwe A 147 (S. Carlisle 46 n.o; D. Thomas 5-48).

Div III cricket qualifiers

Young Friends Association outwitted Islampur Cricket Club by six wickets in Lotus Kamal Third Division qualifying cricket tournament at the T&T ground yesterday, reports APB.

Islampur, electing to bat first, scored 193 for eight in allotted 35 overs with opener Asadullah Tanveer scoring the highest 53 of 55 including nine fours followed by Atiq and Faruq who made 29 and 20 runs respectively.

Saiful claimed three wickets conceding 27 runs and Nunu took two for 28.

In reply, Young FA reached the winning target of 194 runs losing four wickets with one over to spare. Opener Nayan topscored with 53 while Rasel and Fuzail both contributed unbeaten 49 and 30 runs.

Asadullah Tanveer of Islampur captured two wickets for 32 runs.

Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Feb 5: Elite Club and Padma Garden won their respective matches of the Shaheed Zia Smriti cricket tournament played today at Rajshahi Government College ground.

Elite Club made 154 for eight in allotted 20 overs.

In reply Shaheed Bachchu Smriti Sangha collected 95 in 16.1 overs.

Padma Garden scored 160 for seven in stipulated 25 overs. In reply, Padma Sporting Club managed 131 conceding 8 wickets.

Tewksbury resigns

TORONTO, Canada, Feb 5: Canadian swimmer Mark Tewksbury, who won Olympic gold in 1992 in the 100 metres backstroke, resigned on Thursday from the Athletes' Commission of the International Olympic Committee because of their support for embattled IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch, reports AFP.

The 30-year-old, who also won Olympic silver and bronze medals in relays, had demanded that Samaranch resign in the wake of the Salt Lake City scandal in which several IOC members were accused of accepting bribes in exchange for voting for the 2002 Winter Games host.

Four IOC members have already stood down and five others face expulsion from the organisation next month following the scandal.

Tewksbury, who described his decision to resign as the saddest day of his life, said that the Athletes' Commission had fallen into line like everybody else at the meeting this week of the IOC-organised world conference on doping in sport in Lausanne, Switzerland, and he could not remain part of a group that showed so little backbone.

"The Athletes' Commission had a great opportunity to speak out on behalf of athletes from all over the world," he said.

The IOC athletes commission bowed under internal pressure and, like everybody else within the organization, had to continue to serve," he added.

Tewksbury, who also resigned from the Canadian Olympic Association, world swimming body FINA and the Toronto Bidding Committee for the 2008 Olympics, went on to say that the fact the IOC could not come to any agreement over the anti-doping commission showed its inability to deal with in-house problems.

"I have dedicated the past 22 years of my life to live, serve and promote the Olympic ideals.

"Those ideals mean taking responsibility for your actions as difficult as that might be," he said.

On Wednesday the Athletes' Commission, an elected body representing Olympic competitors from around the world, said it wanted Samaranch to continue as head of the IOC and backed his recent initiatives against performance-enhancing drugs.

Samaranch, a 78-year-old former Spanish diplomat who has led the IOC for 18 years, has faced calls to stand down but Athletes' Commission members, who held a special session while attending the world conference on doping in sport, said they had voted unanimously to support Samaranch and his recent initiative.

A statement issued by the athletes said: "We support his work and believe it will lead to the re-establishment of the credibility and trust in the IOC and the entire Olympic movement."



Australia's Damien Martyn, who was later adjudged man-of-the-match, sweeps Robert Croft during their Carlton and United World Series clash against England in Sydney yesterday. — AFP photo

Gough gives England a scare

Australia gain an edge



SYDNEY, Feb 5 (Reuters/Internet):

England's premier strike bowler Darren Gough strained a hamstring as Australia cruised to a four-wicket win in their triangular limited overs world series match on Friday.

Gough left the field midway through Australia's innings in the day-night game after bowling five overs for 24 runs without taking a wicket.

Gough and Lehmann added 81 for the third wicket before Brendon Julian, promoted as a pinch-hitter, hammered a quick 25, including a massive six off off-spinner Robert Croft.

He departed with the total on 180, brilliantly caught by Graeme Hick, leaving man-of-the-match Martyn and Shane Lee to steer Australia home at 211 for six.

England's hopes of challenging the Australians, who bowled tidily and fielded tenaciously, were effectively dashed by their failure to post a big enough total on a good batting pitch.

After losing Nick Knight (3) and Hick (4) early in the innings, England recovered to reach 57 for two before losing their way again.

Captain Alec Stewart, who returned to the side after missing Wednesday's 11-run loss to Sri Lanka, was caught in the deep for 25, and Adam Hollioake went for 19 when he completely misjudged an attempted bouncer from spinner Michael Bevan and succeeded in gloving a catch to wicketkeeper Gilchrist.

Vince Wells, England's top scorer with 39, was run out off a no-ball at the non-striker's end when he backed up too far and Ponting hit the stumps with a direct throw.

Mark Ealham (33) and Mark Alleyne (38 not out) added 58 from 60 balls for the seventh wicket in an entertaining stand.

Ealham smashed Warne for six over the mid-wicket fence but went two balls later when tried the same shot and top-

batsmen getting among the runs. Ricky Ponting (43), Damien Martyn (38 not out) and Darren Lehmann (41) led the way.

Adam Gilchrist and Mark Waugh put on exactly 50 for the opening wicket before they fell within the space of four balls to left-arm paceman Alan Muller.

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