

Sport

Hart returns to cricket

CHRISTCHURCH, Feb 17: All-rounder Matthew Hart was recalled from international cricket wilderness Wednesday when he was named in the New Zealand team for Saturday's third limited-over match against South Africa, reports AP.

The 26-year-old left-arm spinner replaces Wellington batsman Matthew Bell in the New Zealand side. Hart last played for New Zealand in Pakistan in late 1996.

Since then he has been overtaken as the country's premier spinner by provincial teammate Daniel Vettori.

As well as 14 Tests, Hart has played 11 one-day internationals, taking 13 wickets, with best figures of 5-22 against the West Indies at Goa in 1994.

New Zealand lost Wednesday's second match by seven wickets, enabling South Africa to level the six-match series 1-1.

TEAM

Dion Nash (capt), Nathan Astle, Matt Horne, Craig McMillan, Roger Twose, Adam Parore, Chris Harris, Matthew Hart, Daniel Vettori, Gavin Larsen, Simon Doull, Geoff Allott.

Heynckes rejects Borussia's offer

BERLIN, Feb 17: Jupp Heynckes has refused to become the saviour of his troubled former club, Borussia Moenchengladbach, who have fallen into the cellar of the Bundesliga, reports AP.

Heynckes, who coached Real Madrid to the Champions Cup triumph last season and is now between jobs, said in the latest issue of Sport Bild magazine published Tuesday that he had been offered every management position at the club.

"I was even offered the job of president. I refused. I'm a trainer and not a manager," Heynckes said.

Moenchengladbach was one of Europe's top clubs in the 1970s, sweeping to five Bundesliga titles and two UEFA Cup. But this season, the once-proud club is in disarray and fighting desperately to avoid relegation.

Heynckes is not the only former star of the team that has refused to help save the club they once made famous. Guenter Netzer, now a television commentator, and former German national team coach Berti Vogts have also stayed away.

Another player on the famous 70s team, Rainer Bonhoff, took over as coach in mid-season as Moenchengladbach went through a shakeup.

But Bonhoff is not as respected in Germany as his three former teammates.

Heynckes has also been mentioned as a possible coach for another troubled team, the German national team. He had been offered the position when Vogts resigned after the World Cup, but refused because his wife was ill.

Heynckes's wife has since made a recovery, while Germany's new coach, Erich Ribbeck, is under fire after a humiliating 3-0 loss last week to the United States.

Papadaki advances

BOGOTA, Feb 17: Little-known Greek Christina Papadaki upset second-seeded Florencia Labat of Argentina 6-2, 6-2 on Monday and advanced to the second round of the VII Copa Colanitas, reports AP.

Papadaki, the 25-year-old Athens native who was bounced in the first round of the Australian Open and failed to get through the qualifying rounds at the US Open, had little trouble with her 75th-ranked opponent.

The two other seeds in action Monday easily advanced.

No. 5 Fabiola Zuluaga of Colombia, eliminated Cristina Torrens Valero of Spain 6-2, 6-3 and third-seeded American Meghan Shaughnessy ousted compatriot Samantha Reeves 6-4, 6-2.

Top-seeded Li Fang of China was to make her debut in Tuesday's play, facing Luciana Masante of Argentina.

Sino gymnast robbed

NEW YORK, Feb 17: Paralyzed Chinese gymnast Sang Lan and her aide have been robbed by man who was helping them change a car tire, reports AP.

The Chinese gymnast, paralyzed last summer at the Goodwill Games, and her guardian, Gina Liu, had pulled their car over to the edge of a Manhattan service road so Ms. Liu could repair a flat tire at about 1:30 pm. Tuesday when a man walking by stopped to help them, said police.

The man and Ms. Liu, 45, changed the tire while the gymnast, 17, sat in the back seat of the car.

The man then stood up, stretched, dusted off his hands and snatched Ms. Liu's pocketbook, which had \$1,400 in it, from the car's front seat before running away, said police, who had no suspects.

Sang, a member of the Chinese national gymnastics team, severely injured her neck doing warm-up exercises during the Goodwill Games at the Nassau Coliseum in Long Island on July 21.

She was paralyzed from the neck down but has regained some strength in her shoulders, elbows and wrists and can raise her arms.

Vice President Al Gore's wife, Tipper, earlier this month presented Sang with an award for courage from Women's Sport and Fitness magazine.

Kirsten pilots S Africa



CHRISTCHURCH, Feb 17: Two century partnerships involving Gary Kirsten took South Africa to a resounding seven-wicket victory over New Zealand in the second one-day international at Lancaster Park today, reports Reuters.

Chasing a modest 221 to win, South Africa were reduced to 12 for two before Kirsten added 103 with Jacques Kallis to rebuild the innings and then an unbroken 109 with captain Hansie Cronje to win the match.

Apart from the win, which levelled the six-match series at one-all, Kirsten's innings signalled a return to form for the once prolific opener after enduring a wretched run that produced just 80 runs in his last 10 matches.

Kallis, who scored 100 in the first match in Dunedin, continued his brilliant form in reaching 50 from 60 balls before falling lbw to Gavin Larsen while Cronje was brutal in his treatment of spinner Daniel Vettori, helping himself to 17 — including two sixes — of one over.

Cronje reached his 34th limited-over half-century from 45 balls with three sixes and six fours but the day belonged to Kirsten who also reached 50 from 60 balls before hitting the winning runs with his 10th boundary to finish unbeaten on 81 from 109 deliveries.

Cronje was 74 not out when the match was won with seven overs to spare.

Earlier Dion Nash's decision to bat first backfired when his side slipped to 29 for three inside 10 overs before the innings was neld together by a stubborn innings of 78 from Roger Twose who batted for 42 overs and faced 123 balls.

Jacques Kallis had Nathan

Astle (1) caught by Shaun Pollock in the gully before Pollock produced two immaculate off cutters to have both Matt Horne (5) and Craig McMillan (6) caught by Daryll Cullinan at slip.

Twose and Adam Parore then repaired much of the early damage with a stand of 102 from 147 balls for the fourth.



G KIRSTEN .. m-o-m wicket before Parore cut Pollock straight to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher.

His 47 came from 78 balls and contained two fours and two sixes, one each off South Africa's two spinners, Pat Symcox and Nicky Boje.

Twose, concerned at the length of New Zealand's tail, became increasingly tied down after the departure of Nash (6) but New Zealand were carried to a potentially competitive total by Chris Harris who delighted his home crowd with an audacious 45 not out, including three sixes and two fours from just 46 balls.

The third one-day international is at Eden Gardens, Auckland, on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the second

one-day international match between New Zealand and South Africa at Lancaster Park on Wednesday.

NEW ZEALAND				
Horne c Cullinan b Pollock	5			
Astle c Pollock b Kallis	1			
McMillan c Cullinan b Pollock	6			
Twose c Symcox b Klusener	78			
Parore c Boucher b Pollock	47			
Nash c Cullinan b Donald	6			
Harris not out	45			
Vettori b Donald	9			
Larsen b Donald	0			
Doull c b Pollock	6			
Extras: (lb-7, nb-3, w-7)	17			
Total: (For nine wkts in 50 overs) 220				
Fall of wkts: 1-7; 2-11; 3-29; 4-131; 5-143; 6-188; 7-213; 8-213; 9-220				
Bowler				
Pollock	10	1	45	4
Kallis	6	0	28	1
Donald	10	0	34	3
Klusener	6	0	25	1
Symcox	8	1	38	0
Boje	10	0	43	0
Did not bat: Geoff Allott				

SOUTH AFRICA				
Kirsten not out	81			
Klusener c Twose b Allott	7			
Cullinan c Parore b Allott	7			
Kallis lbw b Larsen	53			
Cronje not out	74			
Extras: (lb-4, lb-1, w-3, nb-1)	9			
Total: (For 3 wkts in 43 overs) 224				
Did not bat: Jonty Rhodes, Mark Boucher, Shaun Pollock, Nicky Boje, Pat Symcox, Allan Donald.				
Fall of wkts: 1-4; 2-12; 3-115				
Bowler				
Doull	4	1	24	0
Allott	10	1	42	2
Nash	5	0	25	0
Vettori	5	0	41	0
Harris	6	0	23	0
Larsen	7	1	32	1
Astle	3	0	12	0
McMillan	3	0	20	0
Result: South Africa won by seven wickets.				
First match: New Zealand won by three wickets.				
Man-of-the-match: Gary Kirsten.				

England A go one-up

BULAWAYO, Feb 17: England A earned victory by one wicket in the first of three one-day internationals against Zimbabwe A here Tuesday with just three balls to spare, reports AFP.

The home side reached 262 all out in 49.4 overs and England A scrambled to the required target at 263 to win in 49.3 overs with the last pair at the wicket.

Zimbabwe A were strengthened by the inclusion of Test fast bowler Everton Matambanadzwa and the one-day specialist all-rounder Craig Evans. But it was the regular Zimbabwe A captain Drik Viljoen and middle order batsman Stuart Carlisle who continued their successful run of good scores against the tourists.

They put on a breezy 112 for the fourth wicket, Carlisle making 80 runs in only 67 balls and Viljoen 73 in 99 balls.

Andrew Flintoff from Lancashire with 57 and Worcestershire's Vikram Solanki, who made 71 runs in just 70 balls, were the best of the English batsmen.

The remaining two one-day matches will be played in Harare on Thursday and Saturday after which England A, who have already been in Africa for five weeks, move to South Africa for another tour.

Barisal cricket

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Feb 17: Iqbal Smriti Sangha defeated Fakirbari Club by 10 runs in the First Division cricket league here at the local stadium today.

Batting first Fakirbari scored 186 losing all the wickets in 36.3 overs.

In reply, Iqbal Smriti Sangha managed 196 runs in the stipulated 40 overs losing 9 wickets.

Gopal adjudged man-of-the-match getting five wickets giving only 42 runs.

Tomorrow Brothers Union Club will face Rupatali Housing Estate at the same venue.

M'singh cricket

MYMENSINGH, Feb 17: Siraj Memorial Club defeated Mohammedan Sporting Club by five wickets in the First Division cricket league at the Circuit House ground here today, reports UNB.

Mohammedan's scored 181 for eight in the stipulated 40 overs.

Dulal top scored with 40 while hit Tanu 30.

Tapan captured three for 34 and Mithu for 42.

Siraj MC made 185 for five in 34.3 overs.

Lincon slammed 70 runs while Mithu and Raj were unbeaten on 35 and 29 respectively.

Mukul captured two wickets giving away 44 runs.

Spanish pole vaulter tests positive

MADRID, Feb 17 (Reuters/Internet): Spanish pole vaulter Dana Cervantes has tested positive for the banned steroid nandrolone, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) said on Wednesday.

Cervantes tested positive at the European Championships in Budapest last August.

The Spanish athletics federation would not comment on the matter but an IAAF spokesman said, "It's true that there is a case but all the business is currently in the hands of the Spanish federation."

A source close to the Spanish federation said that there were a number of discrepancies surrounding Cervantes' positive sample which were being investigated.

Cervantes took the test at her own request because she had not been randomly selected after the European Championship women's pole vault qualifying rounds on August 18, in which she set a Spanish national record, the source added.

She asked to take the test so that the record could be ratified. Cervantes finished 11th in the final three days later.

"They (the Spanish federation) asked us to respect the athlete's confidentiality in this case, which would have been broken if we published her name, although we have been assured by the Spanish federation that she will not compete until the case is clarified," the IAAF spokesman added.

If Cervantes' positive test is confirmed she could be banned from the sport for two years.

Double delight for Kelly

MALMO, Sweden, Feb 17: Kelly Stefanyshyn won the 50 and 200 metres backstroke at a World Cup short course meeting on Tuesday in a Canadian haul of four of the eighth women's golds decided on the first day, reports Reuters.

She clocked 28.94 seconds over the shorter distance, edging out Denmark's Louise Ornsted by 0.04 of a second.

Stefanyshyn completed the double by touching first in the 200 in two minutes 9.37 with Cathleen Rund of Germany second in 2:09.72.

Joanne Malar headed a Canadian sweep in the women's 200 individual medley. She clocked 2:12.94 and was followed home by Marianne Limepr (2:13.07) and Carrie Bragoyne (2:14.49).

Their compatriot Laura Nicholls took the 200 freestyle, storming home in 1:58.10 ahead of Sweden's Josefin Lillhage, who clocked 1:58.62.

The two-day event ends today.

Confident Aussies off to Caribbean



SYDNEY, Feb 17 (Reuters): The Australian cricket team left Sydney for the Caribbean on Wednesday, cautiously optimistic of beating the once mighty West Indians on home soil for the second time in succession.

New captain Steve Waugh is confident his side can topple the Calypso Kings but has warned his players not to allow West Indies' poor recent form to make them over-confident.

It's the first time I can remember that an Australian team has gone to the West Indies as favourites," Waugh said before the team's departure.

"We've had plenty of beatings

from West Indies over the years but we don't want to go over there thinking we're going to give these blokes a hiding.

"We want to go over there thinking we're going to play good cricket and if we do that we're going to beat them. If it's 1-0, that's fine. 2-1 is okay to me. 4-0 would be great, but that's probably hoping for a bit too much."

The only time West Indies have lost a series at home in the last 26 years was in 1995 when Mark Taylor's men beat them to regain the Frank Worrell Trophy.

Their previous defeat at home, against any nation, was also against Australia, in 1973. The 1995 series signalled a remarkable change in the fortunes of both teams. As Australia went on to establish themselves as the best side in the world, West Indies slumped to rock bottom.

They have won each of their series at home since losing to Australia four years ago, but have a dreadful record away from their own shores, underlined by their recent 5-0 drubbing in South Africa.

Australia, by contrast, have gone from strength to strength since then, beating West Indies at home in 1997 and scoring a historic win in Pakistan last year.

They warmed up for this series with a 3-1 win over England but Waugh says he expects a much tougher time against West Indies.

"Whilst they didn't have a good tour of South Africa, they will certainly be a lot tougher at home," Waugh said.

West Indies pride themselves on playing well in front of a home crowd, so they will be wanting to put up a good show."

Waugh, whose double century on the last tour turned the series Australia's way, said he expected veteran pacemen Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh would be fired up to have one last series against Australia.

"We are the team that started their decline when we beat them in West Indies for years ago," Waugh said.

"They've got long memories about that and they want to have one final breakthrough before they retire and this may be their last opportunity to play against us."

The Australians will play four Tests and seven limited-overs internationals during their two-month tour.

The first Test starts in Trinidad on March 5.

—Internet photo



GOODLUCK, YOU'LL NEED IT: Australian fast bowler Jason Gillespie gets a goodbye hug from a family member while skipper Steve Waugh looks on at the Sydney Airport yesterday from where the Aussies departed for a testing Test series against the West Indies.

McGrath sets eyes on Lara

Warne has no MacGill worry



SYDNEY, Feb 17 (AFP/Internet): Despite Stuart MacGill being Australia's leading wicket taker in their two most recent series triumphs, Shane Warne is not about to let his rival's success cut short his own Test career.

As the 15-man Australian squad left Wednesday for their tour of the Caribbean, the champion leg-spinner took the opportunity to tell reporters he was back to his best.



S WARNE

"My bowling at the moment has been really, really good," he said after playing just one Test in almost a year because of shoulder surgery.

"I've taken more than 300 Test wickets and played almost 70 Tests, with a few good series along the way."

Warne and speedster Glenn McGrath have been the major influences on Australia's domination of world cricket for the past four years.

But since Warne's injury McGrath has exploded onto the scene, taking 47 wickets in his first eight Tests — Warne had just 14 at the same stage.

But MacGill is not guaranteed a single Test against the Windies because of Warne's gradual improvement.

He has two warm-up matches, against a West Indies Board XI in Antigua and a President's XI in Trinidad, to push his claims for the first game, starting on March 5 in Port of Spain.

In his new role as vice-captain to Steve Waugh, Warne will be a member of the three-man tour selection panel and will

almost certainly face a situation where he has to pick either himself or MacGill.

"Contrary to what people are saying about me having to drop myself, we'll worry about that at the time — if it has to happen," Warne said.

People are building it up. I don't see it to be a drama."

MacGill is realistic enough to know that topping the world's most successful spin bowler will be far from easy and playing in any of the four Tests is contingent on pitch conditions requiring two spinners.

"I've packed my golf clubs in case I don't get a run," he said, adding that he suspected the Windies' wickets might be too green to warrant the selection of two specialist spinners.

"From what I've heard they can be a bit underprepared so there could be some green seamer ... but I've got a couple of games to see what it's really like."

Meanwhile, McGrath plans to target captain Brian Lara as a

Lotus-Kamal cricket

Young Friends Club trounced Progati Sangha by 168 runs in the Lotus-Kamal Third Division cricket league at the Mirpur Outer Stadium yesterday, reports AP.

Young Friends, sent in to bat first, piled up 241 runs for four wickets in stipulated 35 overs.

Opener Jewel scored 84 off 96 balls while Khokon was the other notable scorer with 53 runs.

In reply, Progati Sangha were all out for 73 in 23.4 overs with Pintu scoring the highest 22.

For Young Friends, Fuzael and Gul Mohammad captured two wickets each for 11 and 13.

Satkthira cricket

SATKHIRA, Feb 17: Ariance Club clinched the title of Shiraj Memorial First Division cricket league defeating Town Sporting Club by ten wickets at Satkthira Stadium yesterday, reports BSS.

Batting first, Town Sporting scored 44 all out in 20 overs. In reply Ariance scored 49 runs in three overs without any loss.

means of further destabilising the troubled West Indians.

Lara is under fire as captain of the West Indian team which was routed 5-0 in a Test series in South Africa earlier this year and Australia want to take full benefit of their fall from international grace in four Tests in the Caribbean over the next few months.

"I try to target the best batsman in the team and the captain," McGrath said as the 15-man Australian squad left here Wednesday for the



STUART MACGILL

Caribbean with the goal of retaining the Frank Worrell Trophy.

If you can knock the captain over cheaply then it puts a few negative thoughts into his head as well, and it can have an affect on the rest of the team."

"Brian Lara is still a key to their batting, so I'll be trying to knock him over."

McGrath has claimed the wicket of Lara seven times in nine Tests and is looking to increase his Test tally of 202 wickets at an average of 23.44.

McGrath successfully employed the same strategy in the recent 3-1 Ashes home series win when he demoralised England's key batsman and former captain Mike Atherton.

He said the last Windies tour in 1995 — when Australia won in the Caribbean for the first time since 1973 — was a turning point in his career.

McGrath's efforts with the ball will again be crucial if Australia are to record successive series wins in the Caribbean and their third straight series win over the once invincible West Indies.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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4 Hasty	50 Urban	3 With 21	23 Run up the
escape	transport	Down,	phone bill
7 Burg	53 Back talk	sandwich	25 Pit
11 Touch	55 "Peter Pan"	type	26 "Dinka
13 "What's —	pooch	4 Actress	Doo"
name?"	56 Saharan	5 From	27 Witnessed
14 Netman	57 Expert	Tyler	28 Autumnal
Nastase	58 Goblet	square one	blooms
15 Carle	feature	6 Saw	29 In due time
17 Advantage	59 Macadam-	7 Bound	30 Lest's
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Clinton's	successor	with string?	31 Once
side	61 Prior to	8 Familiar	around
20 Orchestra	DOWN	9 False hood?	33 Anger
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22 Aye	canceler	12 Makes	Things
24 "Misty"	2 Drive the	13 "Go, team,	You —"
singer		42 Set 3 Down	40 Eggs
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Solution time: 24 min.

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Yesterday's answer