

Barbados gain 70-run lead

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Mar 22: Barbados secured a first innings lead of 70 over Trinidad and Tobago despite a half century by the visitors' captain, Ian Bishop, on the second day of the regional Busta Cup cricket final, reports AP.

Barbados, resuming on 258 for eight, were bowled out for 289 at Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, the Trinidadians, at one stage 125 for eight, recovered to make 219 before they were dismissed on the stroke of the close.

Bishop made 52 as he and tailenders Mukesh Persad and Marlon Black put on 94 runs for the last two wickets. Persad made 20 and Black 21 not out, his highest first-class score.

Trinidad and Tobago's top order had earlier crumbled under the pressure sustained by fast bowlers Corey Collymore and Hendy Bryan, and from left-arm spinner Winston Reid.

Only recent Test players Suraj Ragoonath (30) and Lincoln Roberts (33) made any impression before the late order spared their blushes.

Collymore was the most successful bowler, taking the wicket of Bishop among his four for 39 of 16 overs, his best first-class figures. Reid took three for 64 off 22 overs and Bryan two for 37 off 20 overs.

Earlier Reid had contributed an enterprising, undefeated 33 as the home team stretched its first innings to 289.

Mervyn Dillon added the wicket of Collins to end with four for 57 off 22 overs. Fellow fast bowler Marlon Black took two for 59 of 13.4 overs and off-spinner Mukesh Persad captured two for 70 off 28 overs.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day in the four-day Busta Cup cricket final between Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago at Kensington Oval in Barbados Sunday:

BARBADOS: First innings
Campbell c Smith b Persad 62
Wallace b Dillon 16
Griffith c wk Williams b Persad 58
Reifer b Bishop 9
Hoyle c wk Williams b Simmons 17
Hinds c wk Williams b Black 7
Browne c Ganga b Dillon 15
... c wk Williams b Dillon 15
Reid not out 33
Collins c Smith b Dillon 3
Collymore b Black 4
Extras: (lb-7, nb-13) 20
Total: (All out) 289
Fall c/wkts: 1-23; 2-134; 3-153; 4-153; 5-180; 6-180; 7-238; 8-255; 9-263.

Bowler O M R W

Dillon 22 7 57 4
Black 13.4 2 59 2
Bishop 20 4 47 1
Simmons 14 2 48 1
Persad 28 8 70 2

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: first innings

Ragoonath c Wallace b Reid 30
Ganga b Collymore 9
Rampersad c Browne b Reid 9
Roberts b Collymore 33
Smith c Reifer b Bryan 6
Simmons c Wallace b Collins 13
Williams lbw b Collymore 4
Bishop lbw b Collymore 52
Dillon lbw b Bryan 0
Persad c Collins b Reid 20
Black not out 21
Extras: (lb-13, nb-9) 22
Total: (All out) 219
Fall of wkts: 1-31; 2-46; 3-67; 4-74; 5-101; 6-114; 7-124; 8-125; 9-162.

Bowler O M R W

Collins 13 0 56 1
Collymore 16.4 4 39 4
Bryan 20 9 37 2
Reid 22 2 64 3
Hinds 2 0 10 0

Hackett upsets Thorpe, Klim

BRISBANE, Mar 22 (Reuters/Internet): Grant Hackett upstaged fellow world champion Thorpe and Michael Klim to score a surprise win in the men's 200 metres freestyle at the Australian swimming championships on Monday.

The 18-year-old Hackett, who won the 1,500 metres at last year's world championships in Perth, powered home in a rapid one minute 16.99 seconds to claim the title ahead of Thorpe and Klim, both more fancied at the shorter distance.

"To be honest, my main goal tonight was just to get into the top four and achieve that and then see what I could do from there," Hackett said.

"To see a 1:46 next to my name, that's a time that very rarely gets on the clock. To do it tonight was unbelievable."

Hackett's time was the fifth-fastest in history and just 0.30 seconds outside Italian Giorgio Lamberti's world record of 1:46.69 set in Bonn in 1989.

Hackett was under Lamberti's world record schedule at the halfway mark of Monday's race but was unable to maintain his frantic pace over the final 100 metres.

Thorpe and Klim were also on world record pace at the halfway stage but faded in the last 75m with Thorpe finishing second in 1:47.08 and Klim third in 1:47.97.

Regarded primarily as a distance swimmer, Hackett was not expected to challenge either Klim or Thorpe over 200 metres.

Klim won the 200 metres at last year's world championships while Thorpe, who won the 400 in Perth, has since established himself as the dominant force in middle-distance swimming.

Thorpe came within 0.01 seconds of Lamberti's mark -- the oldest world record in men's swimming -- in Kuala Lumpur and expectations were high that he could break it on Monday after he swam the second-fastest time in history for the 400 metres on Saturday.

He qualified fastest for Monday's final but was always a stroke behind Hackett in the main event.

"There was a lot of pressure on me tonight but I didn't feel it," Thorpe said. "It didn't have an effect on me. I just didn't feel comfortable in the water."



SHARING THE JOY: South African fast bowler Allan Donald (R) congratulates teammate Darryll Cullinan after the eight-wicket victory over New Zealand in the third and final Test in Wellington yesterday. Donald, an almost regular member of the Proteas at Test and one-day international level, missed this Test due to injury.

—AFP photo

Hansie pays his tribute



WELLINGTON, Mar 22 (AP/Reuters): South African captain Hansie Cronje Monday dedicated the win to outgoing convenor of selectors Peter Pollock and coach Bob Woolmer, who will both be quitting after the World Cup.

"It has been a great 15 days of cricket and it was a very important series for us especially because it will be the end of an era," Cronje said.

The South African skipper believed the back-to-back Test series wins over the West Indies and New Zealand were built on last year's devastating loss to England.

Cronje's team led 1-0 on the five-Test series against England last year before falling 2-1.

After that disaster the South Africans set goals for each of their team members and Cronje said the players had responded brilliantly with a 5-0 win over the Windies and 1-0 win over New Zealand.

"Our batting let us down in the last two Tests in England. We set goals to get our batting going and the last two series will be dedicated to our batsmen," Cronje said Monday.

"In the last two Tests, when it mattered our batting let us down. It hurt us all. We worked on it and we show how mature our batting has become."

South African batsmen have scored 11 centuries in the last

eight Tests against none by West Indies or New Zealand.

"We've set players target to achieve year by year. I think we've come a long way since," Cronje said. "It was a problem in England and before in Australia. It let us down in the last two tests."

Cronje said Woolmer had helped the batting side of the Proteas gain confidence.

"Bob took over when it was a youngish side. It was important for me for someone to help me as a captain," Cronje said. "He helped me find my own feet. Sometimes your confidence goes as a captain when your form is not right. He has been tremendous in that."

Woolmer, who emigrated to South Africa in 1982, said he thoroughly enjoyed his time with the team.

"The players have finished it with a 6-0 record," Woolmer said of the wins over the West Indies and New Zealand.

"I've learned a lot. Hopefully I've managed to pass on some of my knowledge to them."

Woolmer ended his five-year reign as coach but believes the country is in good hands.

Woolmer, the former England Test batsman who took over the South African job after a player rebellion against Mike Proctor in 1994, has turned the Proteas to one of the top two Test teams in world cricket, along with Australia.

BOB WOOLMER

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The first two Tests in the three-match series ended in frustrating draws.

South Africa failed to force a win in Auckland on a controversially sticky wicket while rain cut short the second Test in

Christchurch.

"As much as it was frustrating, it was also very rewarding," Cronje said of the win.

"You don't win a Test series in just the first or the second Test... you've got to do it over 15 days. The first 10 days was very much the case of setting up the Test series."

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A re-bout on the cards?



UNDATED (AP/Internet): Evander Holyfield and Lennox Lewis have agreed on terms to fight again for the undisputed heavyweight championship. Now promoter Don King must set a date and find a site willing to fork out millions for a tarnished rematch.

King said Sunday that both fighters want the bout in September, and that both would be guaranteed 15 million US dollars for the rematch. Possible sites include New York, Las Vegas, London and South Africa.

The fight is far from a done deal, however. Among the issues remaining are terms of a pay-per-view deal with HBO, and whether the network and promoters for Lewis will agree to a fight in which King retains a major role.

Additionally, HBO has already reserved a September pay-per-view date for its other star fighter, Oscar De La Hoya.

"We don't have a deal struck for a rematch," said HBO senior vice president Lou DiBella, whose network has a long-term contract with Lewis. "We haven't sat down yet and spoken to Lewis and his people."

The payday would represent a \$5 million cut for Holyfield and a \$5 million increase for Lewis from their March 13 fight that ended in a controversial draw.

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Holyfield kept his WBA and IBF titles while Lewis retained his WBC title when three ringside judges decided the 12-round bout that Lewis appeared to dominate was actually a draw.

The decision sparked three different investigations, with a particular focus on the scoring of Judge Eugenia Williams of Atlantic City, who scored the fight for Holyfield 115-113.

Larry O'Connell of England scored it 115-115, while South African judge Stan Christodoulou favoured Lewis, 116-113.

The fighters hadn't even left the ring and King was already trying to promote a rematch.

"This is the only fight that boxing needs at the moment. Nothing else matters," Maloney said from London. "The only thing Lennox says is why has it taken so long to get it on again?"

Though the first fight was a financial success, selling out Madison Square Garden at prices ranging from \$100 to \$1,500 a seat and drawing 1.1 million pay-per-view buys, selling the rematch may be more difficult.

"It's parity and that's important," Lewis' manager, Frank Maloney, said.

King said he received Holyfield's signature for a rematch Saturday.

Lewis had a clause in his

contract for the first fight calling for him to get \$15 million for any rematch.

"This is the only corrective we have in boxing... when we have a dispute is to have a rematch," King told Fox News Channel from his Florida home.

The result was a fight that settled into a predictable pattern after the fifth round, with neither fighter seemingly willing to risk what was necessary to take the decision out of the judge's hands.

Madison Square Garden paid \$8.5 million to stage the fight, and sold some \$11 million in tickets. But it's doubtful the same kind of money would be paid for the rematch, and Las Vegas casinos are also leery of paying big money for the fight.

That leaves open the possibility of King shopping the fight overseas, with England and South Africa mentioned as possible sites. Lewis fights out of England.

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"It's the draw was justified because that's what the judges rendered."

It's a shock to the national team in the right direction," he added. "Daum, like Hitzfeld, knows how to handle so-called stars."

Hitzfeld, not likely to leave a highly successful Bayern Munich team this season, and Daum are acknowledged as belonging to a select handful of top German coaches.

Germany hired a new coach, Erich Ribbeck, in October, following Berti Vogts' resignation after the shock quarterfinal ousting by Croatia at the France World Cup.

Sampras was his usual cool self when discussing the chase for number one, but he showed some uncharacteristic fire when he ripped into tournament organisers for exiling him to the Grandstand Court for his match on Monday.

"It's an absolute shock to me," Sampras said. "I didn't have played on the Grandstand in years. How many Slams or how many tournaments do I have to win to get on stadium court at this tournament."

"Daum would be the right person -- I'm convinced of that," said Kohler, now a Borussia Dortmund player.

"But he has to have the time,

Sport

BM Rahaman Memorial cricket

The final of the BM Rahaman memorial Gold Cup cricket tournament was held on Sunday at Kusumpur Jagoroni Sangsads playground at Sirajdikhan in Munshiganj district, reports APB.

Eight teams from Dhaka and other places took part in the tournament, sponsored by the BM Rahaman Trust and organised by the Jagoroni Sangsads.

Pallabi Cricket Club of Dhaka became champions with Kathaliball Club runners-up.

Director of Beximco Group Mrs S M Kamal was the chief guest in the concluding function and Khaleda Manian, eldest daughter of late BM Rahaman, gave away the trophies.

Inter-varsity handball