

Sport

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 Bupa 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 tallenders 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 Collimore and Hendy Bryan, and from left-arm spinner Winston Reid.

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

Collimore was the most successful bowler, taking the wicket of Bishop among his four for 39 off 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 a surprising, 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 off 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 Bupa 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
Reiter b Bishop	9
Hooper c wk Williams b Simmons	17
Hinds c wk Williams b Black	15
Browne c Ganga b Dillon	17
c wk Williams b Dillon	17
Reid not out	33
Collins c Smith b Dillon	3
Collimore b Black	4
Extras: (lb-7, nb-13)	20
Total: (All out)	289

Fall of wickets: 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	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 Collimore	9
Rampersad c Browne b Reid	9
Rampersad b Collimore	33
Smith c Reiter b Bryan	6
Simmons c Wallace b Collins	13
Williams lbw b Collimore	4
Bishop lbw b Collimore	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 wickets: 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
Collimore	20	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 champions Ian 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, powerful 1:46.99 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 Lambert'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 Lambert'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 Darryl 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 shown 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."

"A tremendous batting effort in the first Test gave us that big

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 shown how mature our batting has become."

South African batsmen have scored 11 centuries in the last

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."

Cronje said Woolmer had helped the batting side of the Proteas game mature.

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 did a tremendous job. 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 learnt 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 Procter in 1994, has turned the Proteas to one of the top two Test teams in world cricket, along with Australia.

BM Rahman Memorial cricket

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

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

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

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

Inter-varsity handball

By JU Correspondent

Rajshahi women and Chittagong men's teams won their respective matches in the inter-university handball tournament at the Jahangirnagar University yesterday.

In the men's semifinals today, Dhaka will take on Chittagong while Rajshahi meet the hosts.

Besides, in the women's section, JU face Rajshahi in their last match also today.

Nielsen wins Cup for 10-man Spurs

LONDON, Mar 22(Reuters/Internet): Danish midfielder Allan Nielsen scored an injury-time goal to give 10-man Tottenham Hotspur a 1-0 win over Leicester City in the English League Cup final at Wembley on Sunday.

Tottenham, who had defender Justin Edinburgh sent off for swinging a punch at Robbie Savage after 63 minutes, had barely threatened Leicester's goal in a scrappy game almost devoid of chances at either end.

But three minutes into injury time Steffen Iversen bore in from the right and when Leicester keeper Kasey Keller parried his shot, Nielsen dived to head in from point-blank range.

It was an unlikely finish to what had been a forgettable match between two teams from the middle of the premier league.

But it gave Tottenham, one of English soccer's big names, their first trophy since the F.A. Cup in 1991 and the chance of a domestic cup double - they play Newcastle United in the F.A. Cup semifinals next month.

In a pedestrian first half Leicester's only scent of goal came after 21 minutes when Emile Hessey pulled back the trigger for a shot only for Swiss centre back Ramon Vega to block.

Tottenham could find no way through the hard-working three-layered Leicester rear-guard and Iversen's mistimed header from a 40th minute free kick was their best first half effort.

Fire still burning in Sampras

KEY BISCAIYNE, Florida, Mar 22 (Reuters/Internet): Pete Sampras says he is in no hurry to reclaim the world's top ranking but that the fire still burns within him to prove he is the best.

Pete Sampras, never too comfortable under the spotlight, went into the round of 16 at the Lipton Championships Sunday night with a routine 7-5, 6-3 victory over ever-dangerous Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden.

"If you keep on winning, get to the weekends and finals, you get the attention," said Sampras. "That's never been my focus. That's why I look a lot different, maybe I got a few tattoos, a few earrings and maybe dye my hair blond."

With Yevgeny Kafelnikov getting bounced out in his opening-round match and Patrick Rafter falling 7-6 (7-5), 6-4 Sunday to Germany's Nicolas Pietrangeli, the chase to unseat Spain's new number one Carlos Moya has narrowed to Sampras and Alex Corretja.

Sampras, who had played only seven matches this season coming in as the champion, said Sunday that "the fire is still there," to be the best.

"I still want to go out and want to win and compete," said Sampras, who next plays Spaniard Albert Costa. "It could be Kafelnikov could touch it (number one), Rafter could touch it."

"It's not the reason I'm playing the game, to be number one in March. It comes down to the end of the year."

If Moya, the top seed who prevailed in a three-set struggle Sunday with Jason Stoltenberg, loses to France's Sebastien Grosjean Monday, and Sampras gets past Costa, then the American would regain the number one ranking, which he has held at the end of the last six successive seasons.

Corretja needs to win the title to have a chance at the top ranking. The fourth-seeded Spaniard advanced Sunday with a three-set win over Ramon Delgado of Paraguay. Next up for him is a stadium court match against Swede Thomas Enqvist.

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 haven't 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?"

Elliott finds his feet

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, Mar 22: Australian opener Matthew Elliott returned to form with an unbeaten 107 against West Indies A on Sunday to ensure he retained his Test place, reports Reuters.

Elliott's highest score of the tour carried the Australian second innings to 223 for three -- an overall lead of 424 -- at the close on the second day of the four-day match at the Antigua Recreation Ground.

Australia had earlier routed the home team for 102 to take a first innings lead of 201 but captain Steve Waugh opted not to enforce the follow-on, allowing his side extra batting practice instead.

Elliott, with three ducks in his previous four innings, came back to form with positive strokeplay as he batted four hours and 15 minutes, faced 203 balls and struck eight fours and two sixes.

Left-hander Elliott cut and pulled the fast bowlers and lofted the spinners down the ground, his first six almost landing in the broadcast box above the sightscreen and his second bringing up his half-century.

Elliott then moved cautiously through the 90s, taking more than an hour to gather his final 10 runs before pulling a short ball from Franklyn Rose to the square leg boundary.

The first Australian wicket to fall was Michael Slater, who made 16 before attempting to hook a bouncer from Nixon McLean and was caught behind off the glove.

Ricky Ponting was also caught by wicketkeeper Matthew Sinclair, for 37, defending left-arm finger spinner Neil McGearell.

Skipper Waugh failed for the second time in the match, pushing a simple catch back to McGearell when he had made 10 to

follow his first innings of seven.

Once again, the lack of depth

ble figure contributor with 18.

Warne took three wickets for 26 runs off 14 overs. MacGill wiped away the lower order to finish with three wickets for three runs in 3.1 overs. Dale captured two for 32 off 16 overs and Colin Miller two for 41 off 16 overs.

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on the second day of the four-day match between West Indies A and Australia at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Sunday:

Scoreboard at the close of play on