

Sachin needs week long treatment

CHENNAI, Sept 12: Indian skipper Sachin Tendulkar, who left for Australia yesterday to consult a specialist for his troublesome back will be treated at Adelaide for a week, reports PTL.

Tendulkar, who left Mumbai for Australia with sports medicine expert Dr Anant Joshi, would be video analysed for all 'movements of his body' by specialists attached to the Australian Cricket Academy.

The batting maestro would be put on rehabilitation at the famous South Australian Sports Medicine Centre, he said.

Dr Peter Barnes, an orthopaedic and a specialist for injuries sustained by sports persons, would treat Tendulkar after video analysis and tests are over, he said.

Dr Barnes was reputed for treating injuries like the back spasms suffered by Tendulkar. Barnes has been for years the head of the panel of doctors for the Australian rules Football Commission, the game being more physically exacting than rugby.

Tendulkar would remain in Adelaide and the doctors and physical experts from the capital Canberra would travel there to treat him, Sekar said.

Australia's top physio Max Pospizner would be present along with Dr Barnes. Pospizner had also treated Aussie leg-spinner Shane Warne after his shoulder surgery late last year, he added.

Dogged by

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running at full speed. "When the ball first went up I thought it was going straight up in the air so I'm sort of like hanging back thinking 'okay, this is just going to be a catch for the keeper or someone in close,'" he said.

Then, just out of the corner of my eye, I saw Stephen starting to run so I thought it might be coming down my way. "I looked up again and to me it felt like it was coming straight for me so I'm just coming in ready to take the catch."

The last thing I knew we collided and went down, that's all I can remember."

His skipper is however has extended his heart-felt sympathy for the lanky tearaway.

"Dizzy" (Gillespie) had worked so hard to get back in there (the Australian side), has just come back to his peak so I feel really sorry for him."

Queensland pace bowler Scott Muller was Saturday named as Gillespie's replacement on the remainder of the Australian cricket tour of Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

Muller was expected to arrive in Sri Lanka early this week.

Saurav's India

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Griffith b Mohanty
Chanderpaul st M Prasad b Chopra 16
Gayle b Singh 37
Lara c Kanitkar b Singh 32
Powell c Martin b Singh 19
Jacobs lbw b Chopra 19
Bryan lbw b Joshi 19
Collymore not out 13
King c Martin b Mohanty 10
Walsh c Martin b B. Prasad 1
Extras: (b-2, lb-2, w-4, nb-2) 10
Total: (All out in 46.2 overs) 163

Fall of wicket: 1-8: 2-43; 3-48; 4-57; 5-121; 6-135; 7-141; 8-155; 9-160; 10-163.

Bowler O M R W
Mohanty 8 2 38 1
Singh 10 2 31 2
Chopra 10 1 43 3
Joshi 8 0 30 2

INDIA
Prasad c Griffith b Collymore 24
Ramesh not out 55
Dravid c Jacobs b Walsh 5
Ganguly not out 54
Extras: (lb-11, w-14, nb-2) 27
Total: (For 2 wickets in 37.3 overs) 165

Fall of wicket: 1-54; 2-59.
Bowler O M R W
Collymore 8 1 23 1
Bryan 8 0 22 0
Walsh 7 2 20 1
King 8 0 39 0
Gayle 6 0 37 0
Powell 0.3 0 7 0

Result: India won by eight wickets.

Man-of-the-match: S Ganguly.

Series: India lead best of three series 1-0.

Serena opens

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most to her knees as she saw Hingis lob land just long for 6-4, then Hingis floated a backhand long.

The defeat left Hingis with just one Grand Slam title this year, from the Australian Open in January. Her record of never getting past both Williams sisters in one tournament stood.

ROLE OF HONOUR

1975: Chris Evert
1976: Chris Evert
1977: Chris Evert
1978: Chris Evert
1979: Tracy Austin
1980: Chris Evert Lloyd
1981: Tracy Austin
1982: Chris Evert Lloyd
1983: Martina Navratilova
1984: Martina Navratilova
1985: Hana Mandlikova
1986: Martina Navratilova
1987: Martina Navratilova
1988: Steffi Graf
1989: Steffi Graf
1990: Gabriela Sabatini
1991: Monica Seles
1992: Monica Seles
1993: Steffi Graf
1994: Arantxa Sanchez Vicario
1995: Steffi Graf
1996: Steffi Graf
1997: Martina Hingis
1998: Lindsay Verwoert
1999: Serena Williams

Prior to 1969, the United States National Championships was an amateur event. It became the US Open in 1968 when the tournament was open to professionals.



TOO HOT TO HANDLE: Barcelona superstar Rivaldo (R) powers past Espanyol defender Cristobal Parralo during their Primera Liga game at Barcelona on September 11. —AFP photo

Primera Liga

Rivaldo magic sinks Espanyol



MADRID, Sept 12: Rivaldo continued the glittering form that could earn him the FIFA World Player of the Year award in January when his two goals inspired defending champions Barcelona to a 3-0 win over city rivals Espanyol and to the top of the Primera Liga, reports AFP.

The midfielder scored a hat-trick for Brazil against Argentina in midweek and, with Manchester United and England star David Beckham, is one of two frontrunners to succeed French World Cup winning star Zinedine Zidane as the planet's top footballer.

It took Barca all of 74 minutes to break the deadlock in the Catalan derby and it was Dutch striker Patrick Kluivert's precise through ball that allowed Rivaldo to score with an angled finish.

Kluivert made it 2-0 10 minutes later with a magnificent volley after a pass from his compatriot Phillip Cocu.

Just two minutes later Rivaldo wrapped up the scoring with another clinical strike, again set up by the outstanding Kluivert.

With most of the Spanish league programme to take place Sunday Barca will probably be displaced at the summit by Real Madrid Sunday with both the traditional giants of the Primera Liga still boasting 100 percent records.

But while Barca are coasting Valencia are still pointless after three games. Their 2-0 home reverse at the hands of unfashionable Alaves - both goals came in the last six minutes - has increased the pressure on Argentinian boss Hector Cuper, who arrived at the club in the summer with a glittering reputation having transformed Real Mallorca from a second division club to a Champions League outfit.

The two other clubs yet to register a point - Mallorca and Atletico Madrid - both play Sunday and, like Valencia, were also expected to be at the end of the table.

In Saturday's third match Deportivo La Coruna went second behind Barca after a home 2-0 win over Valladolid with the goals from Makaay and Brazilian Djalminha.

Spanish Primera Liga table after matches played Saturday (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Barcelona	3	3	0	0	7	1	9
Deportivo La Coruna	3	2	1	0	6	1	7
Real Madrid	2	2	0	0	6	2	6
Rayo Vallecano	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Alaves	3	2	0	1	5	5	6
Real Sociedad	2	1	1	0	6	3	4
Real Zaragoza	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
Racing Santander	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Malaga	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Celta Vigo	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Atletico Bilbao	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Numancia	2	1	0	1	2	4	3
Valladolid	3	1	0	2	1	3	3
Espanyol	3	1	0	2	3	6	3
Oviedo	2	1	0	1	1	4	3
Sevilla	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Real Betis	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Real Mallorca	2	0	0	2	2	4	0
Valencia	3	0	0	3	3	7	0
Atletico Madrid	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

French First Division

Montpellier stun Marseille



PARIS, Sept 12: Marseille's mediocre start to this season deteriorated further on Saturday, while Lyon won top of the French First Division on goal difference from Auxerre with whom they shared a 0-0 draw, reports AFP.

With PSG due to host champions Bordeaux and Monaco visiting Rennes on Sunday Lyon's stay at the summit is likely to last no more than 24 hours.

But there is no doubt who are the early pacesetters in the crisis stakes after Marseille slumped to 10th in the table after a 3-1 defeat at the hands of local rivals Montpellier.

The notoriously volatile fans of France's best supported club called on coach Roland Courbis to quit after another poor performance from a team that has not won since the opening day of the season, although to be fair this was their first defeat.

The team that was pipped to the title by Bordeaux on the last day of last season do not look like even mustering a challenge this term, which is not wholly unexpected as they sold several key players including French World Cup winner Laurent Blanc in the close season.

The defeat at Montpellier was all the more disappointing as they took a first minute lead. It was Marseille's two other World Cup winners Robert Pires and Christophe Dugarry who conjured up the goal with Pires setting up Dugarry, who fired home.

But Montpellier produced a stirring revival in the second period.

Philippe Delave turned the game on its head with two superb goals in the 55th and 62nd minutes.

The first came from a fearless shot after good work from Patrice Loko and the second was a magnificent volley.

After 77 minutes Nicolas Ouedec made it 3-1 after a Loko backheel and that pushed the patience of the Marseille fans too far and they started calling on Courbis to resign.

In the other big match of the day Lyon and Auxerre, third and fourth respectively before kick-off, went first and second in the table after a dire goalless draw.

Lyon had an early half chance, but Brazilian striker Sonny Anderson scuffed his shot with only Auxerre goalkeeper Fabien Couet to beat.

But after 13 minutes Auxerre's Stephane Guivarch almost put his side ahead. The striker's fearsome freekick was fumbled by Lyon keeper Gregory Coupet, who just managed to fall on the ball before it spun over the line.

Ten minutes later French World Cup winning striker Guivarch, who this week was told by national team boss Roger Lemerre that he is in line for an international recall, tried his luck again from an-

other freekick but this time Coupet successfully gathered the ball. Lyon were hardly able to muster a worthwhile attack despite having their fair share of possession and their Auxerre nearly punished them on the break.

A three-man move between Guivarch, Stephane Carnot and Alexandre Comisetti - probably the best of the night - ended with Comisetti shooting just wide.

That at last prompted Lyon to create a half-chance for another French international fringe player Tony Vairelles whose header was easily dealt with by Couet.

In first-half stoppage time the chance of the match fell to Lyon when Vairelles' flick header wrongfooted Couet but

fired just wide. Metz's home game with Strasbourg also ended goalless while Bastia and Nancy shared a 1-1 draw.

Two of the three newly-promoted teams pulled off superb results with Troyes defeating Nantes 1-0 thanks to a Rafik Saifi goal and Sedan humiliating Lens 3-0 in front of their own supporters.

But the other of the promoted trio St Etienne will be kicking themselves after throwing away a 2-0 lead to draw 3-3 at home to Le Havre, who replace Troyes at the foot of the table.

Bastia shared a 1-1 draw with Nancy in Saturday's other match.

French First Division table after Saturday's matches (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lyon	6	3	2	1	7	5	11
Auxerre	6	3	2	1	8	7	11
Monaco	5	3	1	1	12	5	10
Paris SG	5	3	1	1	7	4	10
Strasbourg	6	3	0	3	7	4	9
Nantes	6	3	0	3	11	9	9
Sedan	6	3	0	3	11	9	9
Bordeaux	5	2	2	1	10	6	8
Bastia	6	2	2	2	9	7	8
Marseille	6	1	4	1	8	7	7
Nancy	6	2	1	3	9	9	7
Montpellier	6	2	1	3	9	12	7
Lens	6	2	1	3	3	6	7
Metz	6	1	3	2	4	3	6
St Etienne	6	1	3	2	14	6	6
Troyes	6	2	0	4	11	6	6
Rennes	5	1	2	2	6	8	5
Le Havre	6	1	2	3	6	10	5



Sonny Anderson (C), Lyon's Brazilian international striker, trying to get the better of Auxerre defender Laurent Ciechelski (L) during their French First Division fixture at Lyon on September 11. —AFP photo

Steve lucky to be alive

SYDNEY, Sept 12 (AFP): Australian captain Steve Waugh says he is lucky to be alive after a sickening on-field collision with teammate Jason Gillespie during the first cricket Test against Sri Lanka in Kandy.

Waugh suffered a broken nose and Gillespie a fractured leg when they thudded into each other when running full pace to attempt a catch last Friday.

Both players were released from a Colombo hospital Sunday. Waugh is unlikely to be declared fit to play in the second Test against Sri Lanka starting on September 22 in Galle.

The Australian captain suffered four fractures to his nose, which was forced under his left eye socket in the collision with Gillespie.

Wearing a protective face mask for at least the next week, Waugh was Sunday relieved to escape the incident with just a broken nose.

"I'm just lucky I'm alive really," Waugh told Australian Associated Press from the team's hotel in Colombo.

"I could have broken my neck or the nose could have gone through my brain or anything so in a way I'm quite happy with the way it turned out."

"It could have been a lot worse." Medical staff said Waugh underwent two hours of surgery under general anaesthetic to reset his nose and he will continue taking pain-killing medication for at least another 10 days.

"My face is not looking real flash but I can overcome that, hopefully it's going to be okay when they fix it up," he said.

Pearce worry for West Ham

LONDON, Sept 12: West Ham United manager Harry Redknapp spoke of his concern for veteran defender Stuart Pearce on Saturday after the 37-year-old England left-back broke his leg in the 1-0 win over Watford, reports AFP.

Pearce, one of the hardest tacklers in the game, was hurt in a challenge with Watford's Micah Hyde and the fracture could keep him out for around four months.

"I knew he'd broken his leg as soon as he had it done, I thought I heard it go," said Redknapp, whose side face Croatian club NK Osijek in the UEFA Cup first round on Thursday.

"I'm not worried about the UEFA Cup game on Thursday. I'm worried about him," Redknapp added.

"He tried to come back on at half time; he kept his boot on and said he'd try to give it a go. He tried to walk on it but there was no way."

"We've got loads of injuries but that's a massive blow. He's given us something on the left side of the defence since he came here; he's been so good he's irreplaceable."

Judo boss puts

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and wrestling teams will leave on September 24, one day prior to the official start of the regional meet.

Although the Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) last week announced a 170-member Bangladesh contingent, the number increased to 172 following the inclusion of two more booters.

Talking to The Daily Star last evening, Zafar Imam said that another woman swimmer will be included in the contingent but that would not increase the number as she will go in place of the Ministry/NSC representative.

The women's swimming team consists of only three swimmers, which will not make it possible for us to take part in the relays. That's why we will take an additional swimmer," said Zafar.

Zafar, however, said that the three-day martial called by the opposition parties will cause a big problem in our preparations.

"We have received the fund from NSC last Thursday. We have a lot of things to purchase for the athletes, who will start leaving from the 17th. Now, the martial will jeopardise everything," revealed Zafar.

The seven-nation regional meet will conclude on October 4.

Of historic win

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sniff of a miracle upset turned into a foul odour when what appeared to be a brilliant caught and bowled by Colin Miller was adjudged not out.

Melbourne's Sunday Herald praised Warne's captaincy. "Bold Shane spins out Test to tense climax," Melbourne's Sunday Herald Sun newspaper said.

Shane Warne's "aggressive captaincy nearly brought off a remarkable victory" for the injury-hit Australians at Kandy, the paper said.

It said the defeat would "dent the confidence of the Aussies greatly and the experienced players must lift the team for the second Test starting at Galle on Wednesday week."

Serie A Fiorentina, Lazio drop points



MILAN, Sept 12: A blunder by Francesco Toldo may have cost Fiorentina two points at the weekend, but the Italian goalkeeper has promised there will be no more mistakes against Arsenal on Tuesday, reports AFP.

On a day which saw their fellow European Champions League hopefuls Lazio held 0-0 at Bari, Fiorentina rounded off a disappointing Saturday afternoon with a 2-2 draw at Reggina after Toldo's late howler.

The stalemates benefited Udinese who blanked Piacenza 3-0 to go atop the table on goal difference.

Poggi gave Udinese the lead after converting a penalty in the 10th minute. Locatelli doubled the margin in the 70th minute and Muzzi completed the riot seconds later.

Fiorentina's away tie produced the most eventful clash of

partner Davide Possanzini had been sandwiched by defenders Joerg Hartrich and Thomas Repka.

Giovanni Trapattoni's side pulled level after 33 minutes when Aldo Friscano stuck out his right leg and directed a Rui Costa free kick past goalkeeper Paolo Orlandino.

Seven minutes later Hartrich blasted Fiorentina into the lead from a tight angle and the visitors appeared destined to maintain their winning start to the season.

But with five minutes to play, Toldo failed to collect a long ball and the ball fell straight to the feet of Reggina striker Gustavo Reggi, who lashed it into an early net.

A reserve in Italy's national squad, Toldo was devastated by the blunder and promised there would be no repeat when Fiorentina open their European campaign against the Gunners in Florence on Tuesday night.

"It was a long ball and I

things. "I haven't made such a bad mistake in two and a half years."

But he added: "Now I've just got to put it behind me quickly and I'm sure I'll manage it. You'll see. Against Arsenal I'll be perfectly calm."

Toldo's teammates put on a fairly lacklustre performance on Saturday, with skipper and centre-forward Gabriel Batistuta looking well short of form after a month out through injury.

But Trapattoni dismissed any Euro nerves, saying: "We knew this would be a tricky match - and apart from the final result, there were some promising signs."

"We were under pressure at the beginning and conceded a penalty. But we reacted well and could have finished it there and then, if we hadn't allowed them quite so much space."

"I don't think the players were thinking about Arsenal, the result was the result of an individual error."

Fiorentina were not the only team to miss their chance of a morale-boosting victory before the midweek action.

Lazio coach Sven Goran Eriksson, whose men face Germany's Bayer Leverkusen, said: "We played well and came close to scoring on a number of occasions. But we didn't manage it and I'm not happy about that."

The result was all grist to the mill for those who warned that selling goal-machine Christian Vieri two months ago to Inter Milan - even for a world record 50 million dollars - was a bad move.

Skipper Alessandro Nesta pre-empted the critics, saying: "Now everybody is going to say that we didn't score because Vieri isn't there any more."

"But the truth is that we had a great game and that the goals will come."

Eriksson, who failed to land Frenchman Nicolas Anelka from Arsenal, also sought to pacify the fans, saying: "We're going to score a lot of goals this year, just like did last time."

Italian Serie A table after Saturday's match (played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Udinese	2	1	1	0	4	1	4
Fiorentina	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Lazio	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Inter Milan	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Reggina	2	0	2	0	3	2	2
Leeds	1	0	1	0	2	1	1
AC Milan	1	0	1	0	2	1	1
Parma	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Perugia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Juventus	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
AS Roma	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Venezia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Bologna	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
Torino	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
Bari	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Piacenza	2	0	1	1	4	1	1
Cagliari	1	0	0	1	2	0	0
Verona	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

Marcelo Salas (R), Lazio's Chilean superstar, locked in an aerial tussle with a Bari defender during their Serie A clash at Bari on September 11. The match ended 0-0. —AFP photo

the day. Reggina's Sylvre Leone, perhaps it