

Sport

Rain rules at Harare

HARARE, Dec 7: The fourth day of the third and final cricket Test between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka was abandoned in mid-afternoon here today following persistent bad light and drizzle, reports AFP.

The umpires, Ian Robinson of Zimbabwe and Srinivas Venkataraghavan of India, called off play for the day when the ground was clearly becoming waterlogged.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the final Test between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka on Monday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings 218 (R. Pushpakumara 5/56)

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 159-7)

Atapattu c Johnson b Olonga 0

Arnold not out 104

Jwadene c Goodwin b Brandes 2

Jayasuria c A Flower b Strang 4

Dilshan c A Flower b Strang 37

Kwiharana c A Flower b G Whittall 7

De Saram c G Flower b G Whittall 38

Vaas c Campbell b Brandes 0

Pukumara lbw b Strang 7

Wsinghe c A Flower b Olonga 18

Mithran b Olonga 5

Extras: (lb-2; nb-5; w-2) 5

Total: (All out in 88.4 overs) 231

Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-4; 3-

29; 4-82; 5-90; 6-158; 7-159; 8-

178; 9-208.

Bowler O M R W

Olonga 22.4 2 54 3

Brandes 17 5 45 3

Strang 24 8 71 2

G Whittall 17 9 37 2

Price 8 3 22 0

ZIMBABWE: Second innings

G Flower c Dilshan b Vaas 13

Wishart b Vaas 9

Goodwin not out 15

Johnson not out 9

Extras: (lb-1; nb-1) 2

Total: (For two wickets in 23.4 overs) 48

Fall of wickets: 1-14; 2-28

Bowler O M R W

Vaas 10.4 3 23 2

Pukumara 7 2 15 0

Wsinghe 6 3 9 0

Las Vegas don't like Tyson!

LAS VEGAS, Dec 7 (AP): Nevada boxing officials aren't the only ones who want Mike Tyson to fight elsewhere. Most residents don't want him here, either.

Six out of 10 Las Vegas residents said in a recent poll that they are opposed to Tyson fighting in their city again. But Tyson's promoter dismissed the poll result.

Certainly, this poll, whether the results came out in Mike's behalf or not, will have no effect on whether or when Mike fights in Nevada again," said Dan Goosden of America Presents.

The survey, conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling on November 22-23 and November 29-December 1, asked 632 registered voters what they thought of Tyson returning to the ring in Las Vegas.

Of those polled, 59 per cent were opposed to his return, while 28 per cent said they would support allowing him to box here. Another 13 per cent were undecided. The survey's margin of error is plus or minus 5.7 per cent.

Tyson was told by the Nevada Athletic Commission that it might be better if he fought elsewhere in the near future after he hit Orlin Norris after the bell rang to end the first round of their fight last October 23 fight at the MGM Grand hotel-casino.

The premature end to the fight followed Tyson's biting of Evander Holyfield's ears in the same ring in 1997, and his admission that he tried to break Francois Botha's arm during their fight last January 16.

Sicily honours Muhammad Ali

COMISO, Sicily, Dec 7: Muhammad Ali was a hit in Sicily.

The former heavyweight champion, now slowed by Parkinson's disease, was awarded honorary citizenship of the southern Sicily town of Comiso on Monday, reports AP.

Ali, who often tours the globe as an envoy for peace, was on the island for a conference on peace talks for the east African nation of Burundi.

He attended a brief town hall ceremony in Comiso, a town of about 25,000 people. A few hundred fans greeted Ali, who responded by throwing phantom punches.

The conference, "Prospects for peace and solidarity in Burundi," brought together representatives of rival forces to sign a document vowing to respect the neutrality of schools and hospitals in Burundi's civil war.

Fighting between government forces and Hutu rebels has killed more than 200,000 people since 1993.

Ali is slated to travel Tuesday to Rome, where he won the light heavyweight gold medal at the 1960 Summer Olympics.

Johnson dead

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, Dec 7: Boxer Stephan Johnson has died after failing to regain consciousness from a brain injury in a November 20 fight, reports AP.

The 31-year-old Johnson died Sunday evening at a hospital, the Atlantic County medical examiner said.

Johnson, of New York, was taken to the hospital on a stretcher after being knocked out by Paul Vaden in the 10th round of a USBA junior middleweight title fight.

He died between his brain and his skull, with swelling on the left side of the brain. Doctors drilled two holes in his skull to drain some fluid, relieving pressure, but he remained in critical condition, hooked up to respirator for weeks.



German tennis legend Steffi Graf speaking during an International Olympic Committee ceremony in Lausanne, Switzerland on December 6. Graf was awarded by the IOC for her outstanding contribution to the world of tennis.

Proteas beef up bowling

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Dec 7: South Africa are expected to strengthen their fast bowling attack for the second Test against England starting at St George's Park Thursday, reports AFP.

Mornatau Hayward, the Eastern Province tearaway, could make his Test debut on his home ground if South Africa opt for pure pace. Hayward, 22, is the leading wicket-taker in South African first-class cricket this season with 36 in six matches, including 22 in two games at St George's Park.

Hayward is an out-and-out fast bowler, who has been timed as being quicker than South African match-winner Allan Donald.

South Africa crushed England by an innings and 21 runs in the first Test at the Wanderers in Johannesburg last month, with fast bowlers Donald and Shaun Pollock doing the damage. Donald had match figures of 11 for 127 while Pollock took eight for 80.

South African captain Hansie Cronje admitted, however, that his new ball pair, ranked second and first among world Test bowlers, had carried too heavy a load. "There were times when Allan or Shaun weren't bowling we didn't create enough pressure," said Cronje.

Although South Africa will be reluctant to change a winning team, the inability of Jacques Kallis to bowl because of knee injury has affected the balance of the side. Kallis, a key batsman, has been ruled out of bowling in Port Elizabeth by a doctor.

Hayward and seamer David Terbrugge were both added to the team that won in Johannesburg, with the side to be finalized on the morning of the match.

St George's Park has favored pace bowling in the past three seasons, with batsmen struggling to post totals of 200, but David Emslie, chief executive of Eastern Province cricket, said he expected a more batsman-friendly pitch this time.

Emslie admitted that his union had lost financially when last season's Test match against the West Indies had finished in three days, which meant no lucrative Sunday gate takings.

AP panel NEW YORK, Dec 7: Members of the panel that selected the top 10 greatest male and female tennis players of the century for the Associated Press:

PAM SHRIVER: In 1978, youngest US Open finalist at 16 years, 2 months, and only amateur female finalist in open era. Won Olympic gold in doubles with Zina Garrison. Joined with Martina Navratilova as all-time doubles team, winning 20 majors, Grand Slam in 1984. and 79 titles altogether.

WENDY TURNBULL: The "Babbit" was noted for speed, exceptional volley. Only Australian other than Margaret Smith Court and Evonne Goolagong to make three major singles finals: the Australian in 1980, the French in 1979, and the US in 1977. Major titles (9): French doubles, 1979; Wimbledon doubles, 1978; US doubles, 1979, 82; plus five mixed doubles.

VIRGINIA WADE: A decade after winning first US Open, won Wimbledon in 1977, nine days shy of 32nd birthday. Won 55 singles titles as a pro. Played Wimbledon a record 26 years.

MAJOR TITLES: Australian singles, 1972; Wimbledon singles, 1977; US singles, 1967; Australian doubles, 1973; French doubles 1973; US doubles, 1973.

TED SCHROEDER: In 1942 won the US intercollegiate and US singles titles in the same year. Major titles (6): Wimbledon singles, 1949; US singles, 1942; US doubles, 1940, 41 '47; US mixed 1942.

FRED STOLLE: Won US singles title unseeded in 1966. Major titles (18): French singles, 1965; US singles, 1966; French doubles, 1965, 68; US doubles, 1965, '66, '69; Australian doubles, 1963, '64, '66; Wimbledon doubles, 1962, '64; Australian mixed, 1961, '64, '69; US mixed, 1962, 1965.

BARRY MACKAY: US Davis Cup player, tournament promoter and television commentator.

Others receiving votes: Jimmy Connors, Fred Perry.

Associated Press opinion poll

Graf, Laver the greatest

1950s who limited their play in majors by turning pro in their prime, each garnered one first-place vote.

In the women's poll, Graf and Navratilova were separated by a point, 52-51, and were followed by Margaret Smith Court, Billie Jean King, Chris Evert, Suzanne Lenglen of France, Helen Wills Moody, Maureen Connolly, Monica Seles of Yugoslavia, and Lew Hoad and Lindsay Davenport.

Laver, an Australian, received three first-place votes and a total of 47 points from a six-member panel of experts assembled by the AP, while Sampras received no first-place votes.

Bill Tilden, who dominated men's play in the 1920s, finished third with the help of one first-place vote.

Dubbed the "Rocket," Laver is the only double Grand Slammer in history. He won the Australian, French, Wimbledon and US titles in 1962 as an amateur, then repeated the feat in 1969 as a pro.

He attacked the net relentlessly, yet possessed a potent all-around game from the baseline.

Laver won the Australian singles title three times, the French twice, Wimbledon four times, and the US twice.

He probably would have won many more majors but was banned from the Grand Slam events in his prime after he turned pro in 1963. He did not return to the majors until the open era in 1968, then he promptly won Wimbledon for the third time.

Ranking players of different eras is completely subjective," said Schroeder, who won the US title in 1942 and Wimbledon in 1949 and has been a keen observer of the sport ever since.

"My selections are based on the varying conditions, equipment and levels of competition in their respective eras."

Among the surprises in the voting were the low regard the panelists had for Ivan Lendl, who dominated the 1980s with eight major singles titles at the Australian, French and US Open, and two runner-up finishes at Wimbledon. One panelist ranked him No seven, another No 9, and the others left him only No 5.

Bjorn Borg of Sweden and winner of five straight Wimbledon titles from 1976 to 1980, finished fourth, followed by Don Budge, the first player to complete a Grand Slam in 1938.

John McEnroe and Lew Hoad of Australia, tied for sixth place, Roy Emerson and Ken Rosewall, both Australians, tied for eighth, and Jack Kramer finished 10th.

Others receiving votes were Jimmy Connors, Fred Perry,

John Newcombe, Jean Borotra, Rene Lacoste and Arthur Ashe.

Other women who received votes were Althea Gibson, Maria Bueno, Alice Marble, Tracy Austin, Doris Hart, Helen Jacobs, and Lindsay Davenport.

Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI: Dec 7: Prottoy Sporting Club defeated Bijoy Ekadash by nine wickets in the fifth Bir Shestra Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir Smriti cricket tournament today at Rajshahi ground.

Put into bat, Bijoy Ekadash made 109 for nine in allotted 25 overs.

Happy, Russel, Upel and Milon contributed 22, 18, 14 and 14.

Sagor was the most successful bowler taking three for 48 for Prottoy while Milon and Chana claimed one wicket each.

In reply, the winners reached the target in 19.4 overs for the loss of one wicket.

Chana with an unbeaten 60 and Bappy 25 were the major scorers.

Premiership

Hammers hold

Spurs

LONDON, Dec 7: An outstanding goalkeeping performance by West Ham's Shaka Hislop after his side were reduced to 10 men before half-time denied Tottenham Hotspur here on Monday as their Premiership match ended 0-0, reports AFP.

Spurs, who have lost four of their last seven matches, stayed in seventh place, while West Ham, who failed to break their away goal drought that has lasted since August 28, moved up to eighth.

Hislop, the former Reading and Newcastle United guardian, came to their rescue after Northern Irish international midfielder Steve Lomas was controversially expelled a minute before the break for his second bookable offence.

Lomas was given his marching orders by referee Peter Jones, who did not have a clear view of the incident, after missing the ball and kicking diminutive Portuguese midfielder Jose Dominguez - minutes after he had been booked for engaging in a war of words with the same player.

Spurs' best effort came on the hour when Tim Sherwood's five metres volley forced Hislop into a brilliant one-handed save.

Minutes later West Ham midfielder Trevor Sinclair saved the Hammers when he nipped in to rob Norwegian international Oyvind Leonhardsen just two metres out.

West Ham's woes continued as their inspirational Chilean central defender Javier Margas was forced to go off with what looked like a hamstring injury.

However, West Ham hit back and Cameroon international Marc-Vivien Foé should have done better as his point blank shot from just two metres out was blocked by keeper Ian Walker, who went down well a minute later to save a fierce long range drive from Frank Lampard.

Hislop was back in action soon afterwards producing another fine save to deny Chris Perry's powerful header and four minutes from time pulled off the save of the night turning Chris Armstrong's bullet-like header onto the post.

MU face unconquered Valencia

PARIS, Dec 7: A week after adding the unofficial world championship to their European Champions League title, Manchester United will face Valencia in the semi-final.

Mornatau Hayward, the Eastern Province tearaway, could make