

## Steve foresees Aussie decade

SYDNEY, Jan 5: Fresh from an innings and 141-run defeat of India and a clean sweep of home Tests this summer, Australian skipper Steve Waugh has predicted Australia will dominate world cricket for the next decade, reports AP.

Waugh's Aussiefans completed a 3-0 whitewash of India at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Tuesday, which followed a 3-0 series win over Pakistan late last year for a 6-0 record down under plus a one-off Test win against Zimbabwe.

Waugh said the Australians had set a goal of winning all six home Tests this summer, so it was no surprise to finish with an emphatic win against India with two days to spare.

"I didn't think we should lose a Test," he said. "For me as captain, the highlight was watching the players mature and become battle-hardened, tough Test match cricketers capable of taking Australia over in the next 10 years and remaining the top cricket nation."

"We have got the basis of a great team. Once the older guys depart, whenever that is, it's going to be a team that can take over and continue the mantle of being the No 1 cricket side in the world."

Australia wrapped up the series by ousting India for 150 then scoring 552 for five declared, with Justin Langer notching a record 223 and Ricky Ponting adding 141 not out, for a lead of 402.

Glenn McGrath snared five wickets for 55, returning 10-103 for the match, as India were bowled out for 261 in the chase. Opener Venkat Laxman, who scored 167, provided the only serious resistance to the Australian bowling attack.

Australia, rated the world's No 1 Test team, also won the limited-overs World Cup in England last June by crushing Pakistan in the final at Lord's.

A tri-national limited-overs series involving Australia, Pakistan and India starts January 9 with Australia versus Pakistan in Brisbane.

Pakistan go into the series opener at the Gabba in disarray and without express bowler Shoaib Akhtar, who was set to return Wednesday to Pakistan to sit out an International Cricket Council ban for an alleged illegal bowling action.

The Pakistanis have slumped to successive defeats in Perth and Adelaide at the hands of the Australian second-stringers who make up the national A team.

Meanwhile, Indian skipper Sachin Tendulkar, who was named player-of-the-Test-series after scoring 278 runs at an average of 46.33 under difficult circumstances against Australia, said his team had learned from its recent losses.

"It has been a tough tour for the bowlers, not only the batsmen," said Tendulkar.

"It's altogether a different ball game when you play in Australia compared to India where we rely more on turning tracks."

Tendulkar said the Indian players were looking forward to the limited-overs series. India's first game is against Pakistan in Brisbane on January 10.

## Sino natants dominate Day 1

SHANGHAI, Jan 5: Chinese swimmers dominated the first day of a World Cup short-course event on Tuesday, winning 13 races to leave the United States, Hungary, Mexico and Canada with just one gold each, reports Reuters.

China's medal haul was halted in the men's 400 metre freestyle. American Chad Carvin cruised to victory, beating Hungarian Bela Szabados and Italian Gallina Moreno by at least two lengths.

Szabados, clad in a black full-body swimsuit, powered past China's Deng Qingsong and Brazil's Edvaldo Valerio to win the men's 100 metre freestyle on the fourth leg of the 12-meeting World Cup circuit.

## Sweet win

From page 13

Tuhin not out 27  
Extras: (b-10, lb-4, nb-2, w-1) 17  
Total: (For 5 wkt in 30.2 overs) 100  
Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-11, 3-12, 4-13, 5-49.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Mofizur 6 1 12 2  
Ashfaque 5 1 13 2  
Saleh 8 0 24 0  
Totam 3 0 8 0  
Moin 6 1 16 1  
Rashedul 2 0 11 0  
Faruque 2 0 6 0  
**Result:** Khulna won by 5 wickets.

**Man-of-the-match:** Sajid Hasan (Khulna).

## Racial slur

From page 13

Umpire Hair was again at the centre of a row during the Sydney Test when he refused to heed Tendulkar's request for sawdust to be strewn over a slippery infield.

Hair and his Zimbabwean colleague Ian Robinson also declined to take action when a shoe was thrown at fielder Prasad in the outfield, prompting the Indians to question the attitude of the umpires.

"We feel that umpires should run the game, not try to be policemen," said Kapil Dev, Test cricket's leading wicket-taker and the current Indian coach.

Former Australian Test batsman Dean Jones, whose heroic double century in the tied Test at Madras in 1986 won over Indian fans, fears for the future in the current climate.

"There's a nice synergy between Australia and India, and I just hope it is not wrecked by a few things off the field," he said.

India and Pakistan play Australia in a long-awaited one-day series starting on Sunday.

## Australia-India Test avg

SYDNEY, Jan 5 (Reuters): Australia v India 1999-2000 Test "average":

**BATTING/FIELDING** (Tabulate under matches, innings, not outs, runs, highest score, 50s, 100s, average, catches, stumpings).

### Australia

Ricky Ponting	3	5	2	375	141	1	2	125.00	3
Justin Langer	3	5	-	289	223	-	1	57.80	6
Adam Gilchrist	3	5	1	221	78	2	-	55.25	9
Steve Waugh	3	5	-	276	150	1	1	55.20	4
Mark Waugh	3	5	1	137	51	-	-	34.25	8
Shane Warne	3	3	-	88	86	1	-	29.33	3
Greg Blewett	3	5	-	144	89	1	-	28.80	1
Brett Lee	2	1	-	27	27	-	-	27.00	-
Michael Kasprowicz	1	2	1	25	21	-	-	25.00	1
Michael Slater	3	5	-	123	91	1	-	21.30	3
Glenn McGrath	3	2	-	5	4	-	-	2.50	1
Damien Fleming	3	2	2	43	31	-	-	-	-

### India

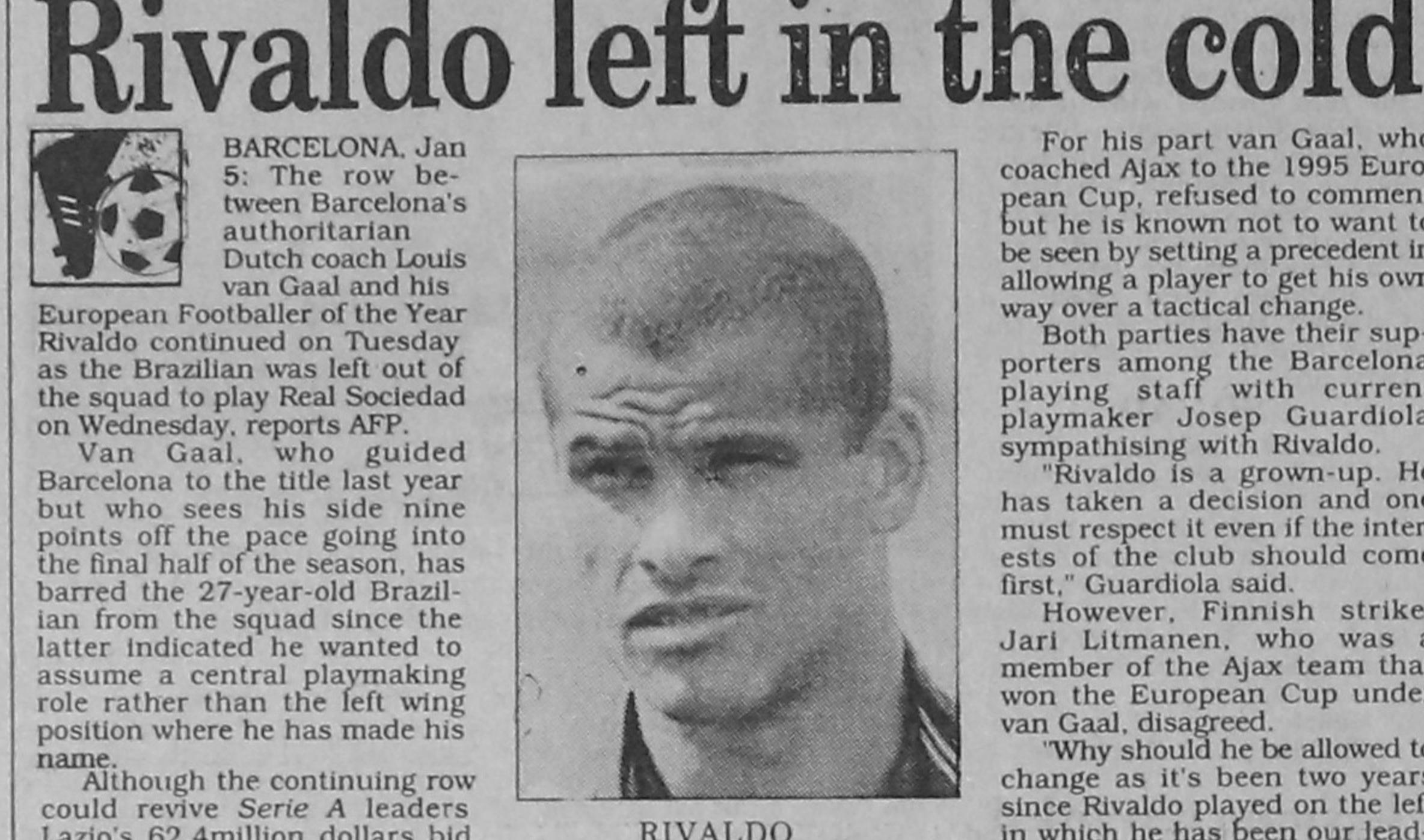
Sachin Tendulkar	3	6	-	278	116	2	1	46.35	-
Venkat Laxman	3	6	-	221	167	-	1	36.83	2
Saurav Ganguly	3	6	-	177	60	1	-	29.50	3
Anil Kumble	3	6	2	102	28	-	-	25.50	-
Sadagopan Ramesh	2	4	1	60	28	-	-	20.00	1
Hrishikesh Kanitkar	2	4	-	74	45	-	-	18.50	-
Rahul Dravid	3	6	-	93	35	-	-	15.50	1
Mannava Prasad	3	6	-	52	14	-	-	8.67	10
Javagal Srinath	3	6	1	42	15	-	-	8.40	3
Venkatesh Prasad	3	6	3	22	10	-	-	7.33	1
Vijay Bharadwaj	1	1	-	6	6	-	-	6.00	-
Ajit Agarkar	3	6	-	19	19	-	-	3.17	-
Devang Gandhi	1	2	-	4	4	-	-	2.00	1

### BOWLING

Australia	3	5.0	1	17	2	8.50	2-12
Glenn McGrath	3	113.0	34	248	18	13.78	5-48
Brett Lee	2	69.0	19	184	13	14.15	5-47
Damien Fleming	3	96.2	25	279	12	23.25	5-30
Greg Blewett	3	14.0	4	49	2	24.50	1-5
Shane Warne	3	127.0	35	335	8	41.88	4-92
Ricky Ponting	3	17.0	2	85	-	-	-
Michael Slater	3	1.0	-	2	-	-	-

### India

Ajit Agarkar	3	108.0	24	351	11	31.91	3-43
Sourav Ganguly	3	21.0	2	90	2	45.00	1-34
Sachin Tendulkar	3	9.0	-	46	1	46.00	1-31
Javagal Srinath	3	126.0	18	461	10	46.10	4-130
Venkatesh Prasad	3	106.3	25	356	7	50.86	3-83
Anil Kumble	3	146.2	22	450	5	90.00	2-72
Hrishikesh Kanitkar	2	12.0	1	35	-	-	-
Venkat Laxman	3	3.0	1	2	-	-	-



RIVALDO

BARCELONA, Jan 5: The row between Barcelona's authoritarian Dutch coach Louis van Gaal and his European Footballer of the Year Rivaldo continued on Tuesday as the Brazilian was left out of the squad to play Real Sociedad on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Van Gaal, who guided Barcelona to the title last year but who sees his side nine points off the pace going into the final half of the season, has barred the 27-year-old Brazilian from the squad since the latter indicated he wanted to assume a central playmaking role rather than the left wing position where he has made his name.

Both parties have their supporters among the Barcelona playing staff with current playmaker Josep Guardiola sympathising with Rivaldo.

"Rivaldo is a grown-up. He has taken a decision and one must respect it even if the interests of the club should come first," Guardiola said.

However, Finnish striker Jari Litmanen, who was a member of the Ajax team that won the European Cup under van Gaal, disagreed.

"Why should he be allowed to change as it's been two years since Rivaldo played on the left in which he has been our leading scorer and created a lot of goals," Litmanen said.

However, I have taken the decision to no longer play on the left and I will continue to try and win a place in the centre," added Rivaldo, who inspired Brazil to last year's Copa America trophy.

For his part van Gaal, who coached Ajax to the 1995 European Cup, refused to comment but he is known not to want to be seen by setting a precedent in allowing a player to get his own way over a tactical change.

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