

Brother sings

Mark song

PERTH, Dec 3: Australian batsman Mark Waugh's performance showed he had more mental toughness than he had been credited with, his twin brother, Australian captain Steve Waugh, said here Sunday, reports AFP.

"Obviously, he has been under intense scrutiny, rightly or wrongly," Steve Waugh said, in an apparent reference to Mark Waugh's alleged involvement in providing information for money to an Indian bookmaker.

Mark Waugh was named in a recent report on match-fixing by India's Central Bureau of Investigation.

Lanka need to talk to Gupta

COLOMBO, Dec 3: Sri Lanka was seeking help from an Indian bookmaker to probe charges that former skipper Arjuna Ranatunga and his deputy Aravinda de Silva were bribed to throw matches, an investigator said Sunday, reports AFP.

Desmond Fernando, who is investigating allegations against the two top Sri Lankan players, said he was keen to interview bookmaker, Mukesh Kumar Gupta, as his evidence would be crucial to the case.

"We have the Indian High Commission here to help with arranging an interview with Mr. Gupta sometime early this month," Fernando said, adding that he was unable to meet with Gupta during his visit to New Delhi last month.

Fernando, who had been given a one-month deadline by the Board of Cricket in Sri Lanka (BCCSL) to probe the allegations contained in a report by India's Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), said he may need more time.

"I must first interview Mr. Gupta. What he has to say will be crucial... then I will talk to the two players concerned," Fernando said, adding that the CBI had made available to him a translation of Gupta's testimony in Hindi.

Fernando, a lawyer by profession and Sri Lanka's representative in the ICC's (International Cricket Council's) Code of Conduct Committee, also travelled to London for talks with ICC officials.

NSW face defeat

SYDNEY, Dec 3: Michael Bevan became New South Wales' highest run scorer in domestic cricket, but it wasn't enough to save his state from probable defeat against Western Australia in their Sheffield Shield cricket match here Sunday, reports AFP.

WA were dismissed for 413 and a 187-run first innings lead early on Day Three before Bevan (57) and Greg Mail (92) produced a 104-run partnership for the fourth wicket.

But as Jo Angel dismissed first innings heroes Mark Higgs (1) and Brad Haddin (8) the Blues lost three wickets for 9 runs to be 246 for six at stumps, a lead of only 59 runs going into Monday's final day.

An outright victory for WA, whose batting line-up contains Mike Hussey, Ryan Campbell, Simon Katich, Damien Martyn, Murray Goodwin, Tom Moody and Brendon Julian, is almost certain.

Rajshahi sports

From Our Correspondent
RAJSHAH, Dec 3: Jaipurhat moved into semifinals of the Rajshahi inter-district football tournament beating Nawabganj 3-2 today at the Shaheed A H M Kamruzzaman Stadium.

Noagao took on Rangpur in tomorrow's quarterfinal.

CRICKET
Noahata Sporting Club defeated Millimium Club by 21 runs in the sixth Bir Shrestha Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir Smriti Gold Cup cricket tournament at the Railway ground today.

Winning the toss, Noahata made 152 for nine in the stipulated 25 overs.

In reply, Millimium were bundled out for 131 in 23.3 overs.

HANDBALL

Morning Star Club and Green Star Club won their respective matches of the Rajshahi First Division Handball League today at the Shaheed A H M Kamruzzaman Stadium.

In the first match, Morning Star defeated Abahani Krira Chakra 45-11.

In the other match, Green Star defeated Cosmos Sporting Club 9-4.

Barisal baffle

From page 13
Fall of wickets: 1/45, 2/91, 3/101, 4/117, 5/167, 6/187, 7/193, 8/202, 9/228.

Bowler O M R W
Al-Amin 7 3 15 0
Ashfaq Ali 6 1 20 0
Hassan 39 8 103 6
Moin 26.5 11 61 2
Jalil 2 0 7 0
Shaymal 8 0 34 1

BARISAL: Second innings
Narayan lbw b Ashraf 8
Narayan not out 39
Siddique c Halim b Ashraf 3
Imran not out 10
Extras: (lb-1) 1
Total: (For 2 wickets in 37 overs) 61

Fall of wickets: 1/23, 2/31
Bowler O M R W
K Mahmud 3 2 4 0
Morsheed 4 1 3 0
Zia 4 1 12 0
Ashraf 13 7 24 2
Diplo 8 4 5 0
Mehrab 2 1 3 0
Al-Shahriar 3 0 9 0

Razzak dazzles, Test fizzles



FAISALABAD, Pakistan, Dec 3: All-rounder Abdul Razzak dazzled with an unbeaten maiden century and Pakistan's spinners gave England some anxious moments before the second Test ended in a draw here Sunday, reports AFP.

Chasing 244 runs, England reached 125-5 as opener Michael Atherton played a vital anchor role with an unbeaten 65.

But the day belonged to Razzak, who notched up his first Test century the day after his 21st birthday as Pakistan closed their second innings at 269-3.

Sensing victory, Pakistan resumed at 186-2 and raced against time to add 83 quick runs and give England 15 minutes and two full sessions to make a match out of it on a pitch that still posed no real problems for batsmen.

Razzak and Inzamam-ul-Haq went after England's bowling, adding 148 runs for the third wicket in 180 minutes.

Razzak hit 12 boundaries in his century, while Inzamam's 71 came off 122 balls with three boundaries and a six.

As soon as Razzak, declared man-of-the-match, reached his hundred, captain Moin Khan declared Pakistan's second innings and set the scene for a dramatic afternoon.

Atherton rose to the challenge for England. The 32-year-old former captain from Lancashire was a rock in defence against the spinners as three of his partners fell for just 15 runs.

Hussain's average sank a little further when he was given out caught behind by Pakistani umpire Moin Mohammad Aslam off spinner Arshad Khan when television replays showed the ball was nowhere near the bat.

The England captain was adjudged leg before by West Indian umpire Steve Bucknor in the first innings when he hit the ball onto his pads.

England then lost Marcus Trescothick for 10 when he was bowled by leg-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq, the hero of the first Test at Lahore, leaving them at 57-2.

Alarm bells started ringing when first innings top-scorer Graham Thorpe tried to leave a ball from off-spinner Arshad only to see it smash into his stumps and send him packing for a duck.

England needed some cool heads and they had the perfect pairing in old guards Atherton and Stewart, who used their experience to compile a slow 51-run partnership for the fourth wicket.

When Stewart finally succumbed to another suspect umpiring decision for 22 off part-time leggy Shahid Afridi, Pakistan again threatened to steal a victory.

Television replays showed the ball came off his pad before

it was caught at silly point by Yousuf Youhana.

Afridi struck again when he bowled Graeme Hick for nought to leave England tottering at 110-5, but time eventually gave the home team's charge.

"Although we lost the toss it was a good show by the team. It's difficult to bowl a side twice in five days on this pitch but I am happy we have played two

Afridi c Giles b Gough 10
Razzak not out 100
Inzamam c Hick b Salisbury 71
Akram not out 4
Extras: (lb-6, lb-5, nb-1) 12
Total: (For 3 wickets in 80.2 overs) 269

Did not bat: Y Youhana, S Anwar, M Khan, S Mushtaq, A Khan and D Kaneria.

Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-111, 3-259

Scoreboard at tea on the fourth day of the second Test between South Africa and New Zealand at St George's Park on Sunday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 298 (M Sinclair 150; A Donald 4/69, S Pollock 4/64)

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings (overnight 361/8)

Dippenaar lbw b Martin 35
Kirsten c Parore b Walsley 49
Kallis c Parore b Aistle 12
Cullinan b Walker 33
Pollock c Spearman b Martin 33
McKenzie c Spearman b McMillan 120
Boucher b O'Connor 0
Klusec c Parore b Martin 6
Boje c Parore b O'Connor 51
Donald lbw b Martin 9
Ntini not out 0
Extras: (lb-7, lb-4, w-2) 13
Total: (All out in 144.4 overs) 361

Fall of wickets: 1-81, 2-96, 3-114, 4-151, 5-181, 6-184, 7-209, 8-345, 9-361

Bowler O M R W
O'Connor 26.4 8 68 2
Martin 23 8 104 4
Walsley 13 2 40 1
Walker 23 5 61 1
Aistle 36 18 46 1
McMillan 17 6 31 1

NEW ZEALAND: Second innings
Richardson c Boucher b Pollock 60
Spearman lbw b Donald 0
Sinclair lbw b Boje 17
Fleming c Cullinan b Boje 8
Aistle c Boucher b Ntini 18
McMillan lbw b Pollock 0
Parore c Kirsten b Ntini 5
Walker not out 10
O'Connor not out 1
Extras: (lb-2, lb-2, nb-4) 8
Total: (For 7 wickets in 50 overs) 127

Fall of wickets: 1-4, 2-54, 3-64, 4-111, 5-111, 6-115, 7-122

Bowler O M R W
Donald 7 1 16 1
Pollock 15 4 44 2
Ntini 10 2 19 2
Boje 11 1 27 2
Kallis 7 2 17 0

Extras: (lb-4, nb-10) 11
Total: (For 5 wickets in 57 overs) 125

Did not bat: A Giles, I Salisbury, A Caddick, D Gough.

Fall of wickets: 1-44, 2-57, 3-57, 4-108, 5-110

Bowler O M R W
Akram 5 1 13 0
Razzak 1 1 0 0
Saqlain 19 4 26 1
Kaneria 7 0 30 0
Arshad 13 4 31 2
Afridi 12 3 21 2

Result: Match drawn.
Man-of-the-match: Abdur Razzak.

Third Test: December 7-11, Karachi.

PAKISTAN: First innings 316 (Yousuf Youhana 77, Moin Khan 65, Saeed Anwar 53; Ashley Giles 5-79; Darren Gough 3-79)

ENGLAND: First innings 342 (Graham Thorpe 79, Craig White 41; Saqlain Mushtaq 3-62; Abdur Razzak 3-74)

PAKISTAN: Second innings (overnight 186-2)
Elahi c Stewart b Giles 72

Star Pakistan all-rounder Abdur Razzak, who was adjudged man-of-the-match, sweeps fine during the course of his maiden Test century yesterday against England at Faisalabad.



West well," Hussain said.

Pakistan captain Moin expressed disappointment the team had missed its chances.

"It's disappointing to draw two Tests in a row and the pitch did not take as much spin as we thought in the beginning," he said.

Pakistan has lost the last three Test series at home and they will be desperate to win their last clash with England in Karachi from December 11.

Full scorecard of the second cricket Test between Pakistan and England at the Iqbal Stadium on Sunday:

PAKISTAN: First innings 316 (Yousuf Youhana 77, Moin Khan 65, Saeed Anwar 53; Ashley Giles 5-79; Darren Gough 3-79)

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Highly-placed sources have told AFP that while Azharuddin faces a life ban, there is pressure from within the BCCI and outside to go soft on Jadeja, the only one among the five with a realistic chance of playing for India again.

In the interview, Morarka said "the corrupt" CBI had not been able to prove match-fixing charges against the players.

"All they have concluded is that match-fixing exists in cricket," Morarka said.

"So what is this great thing that they have done? Everybody knew that match-fixing exists in cricket."

The CBI report accuses former captain Mohammad Azharuddin of match-fixing and four others — Ajay Jadeja, Manoj Prabhakar, Ajay Sharma and Navan Mongia — of hobnobbing with bookmakers.

BCCI man mocks report



NEW DELHI, Dec 3: An influential Indian cricket official laughed at an astonishing attack on the match-fixing report by federal investigators on Sunday, saying it resembled a prostitute's diary, reports AFP.

Kamal Morarka, one of three officials nominated to hand out punishment to guilty players this week, described the report by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) as a "big joke".

"What is the credibility of such a report?" Morarka said in an interview with Indian website, (www.tehalka.com).

"It is like a prostitute's diary. You will find names of so many rich and famous people there. How does a set of names in a bookie's diary matter?"

Morarka is one of five vice-presidents of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and sits on its three-member disciplinary committee which will decide the fate of five tainted players.

The CBI report accuses former captain Mohammad Azharuddin of match-fixing and four others — Ajay Jadeja, Manoj Prabhakar, Ajay Sharma and Navan Mongia — of hobnobbing with bookmakers.

Aussies' historic dozen

From page 13
Skipper Jimmy Adams, who finished with an unbeaten 40, and Ridley Jacobs (24) offered stern resistance in a 54-run stand before Jacobs was run out.

However, the lower tail succumbed meekly once more.

SCORECARD
Scorecard at end of the second cricket Test between Australia and the West Indies on the third day at the WACA Ground on Sunday:

WEST INDIES: First innings 196 (R Jacobs 96 not out, W Hinds 50, M Dillon 27; J Gillespie 3/46, G McGrath 3/48)

AUSTRALIA: First innings 396 (for eight declared) M Waugh 119, M Hayden 69, A Gilchrist 50, B Lee 41 not out, M Black 2/74, N McLean 2/78, M Black 2/87, M Dillon 2/130)

WEST INDIES: Second innings 116 (for two overnight)
Campbell c Gillespie b Lee 4
Ganga c Hayden b Gillespie 20
Dillon c Gilchrist b McGrath 3
Hinds b MacGill 41
Lara b MacGill 17
Adams not out 40
Sarwan c Gilchrist b Lee 24
Jacobs run out 11
McLean b Lee 11
Black b Lee 0
Widhith b Lee 0
Extras: (lb-8, nb-3, b-1) 12
Total: (All out in 66 overs) 173

Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-16, 3-42, 4-78, 5-95, 6-96, 7-150, 8-173, 9-173, 10-173

Bowler O M R W
McGrath 18 7 26 1
Lee 15 2 61 5
MacGill 17 6 37 2
Gillespie 12 4 26 1

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SA closing in on victory

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Dec 3: South Africa were on the brink of a series-clinching victory after New Zealand collapsed on the fourth day of the second Test at St George's Park Sunday, reports AFP.

New Zealand were bowled out for 148 in their second innings, leaving South Africa to make 86 to win.

By the close of play, South Africa were 29 for one wicket.

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"So what is this great thing that they have done? Everybody knew that match-fixing exists in cricket."

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Draw appeases Hussain



FAISALABAD, Pakistan, Dec 3: England captain Nasser Hussain said his team did not deserve to lose the second Test against Pakistan and a draw was pleasing, reports AFP.

"We did not deserve to lose the Test because we played some good cricket, had an upper hand in the first Test, bowled out Pakistan for 316 and gained first innings lead here," Hussain said after his team struggled hard at 125-5 to draw the second Test.

England, who started the series as underdogs, have showed remarkable prowess to surprise the home team in both the drawn Tests.

"I am pleased and boys have learnt a lot on this tour and one week is left to cap the series," he said.

Hussain suffered two poor umpiring decisions in the Test to continue his lean patch with the bat.

"It hurts when decisions go against you but I am not complaining," he said.

Hussain was adjudged leg before wicket by West Indian umpire Steve Bucknor when TV replays showed he hit the ball onto his pads.

"In the first innings I was bewildered and shocked and didn't know what to do," Hussain said, adding, "in the second, the ball clipped the pads

and I thought I was leg before, but a scorer told me I was given caught behind," he said.

Pakistan umpire Moin Mohammad Aslam ruled Hussain caught behind for 5.

Ironically Aslam gave Hussain leg before wicket in the third one-dayer in Rawalpindi in October and a furious Hussain allegedly broke the door of

"I have no problems with umpiring, they have got a difficult job to do," he said.

"Looking around the world there seems to be a lot of decision tangles, scrutiny of TV, fast replays available and it might well be time to use more technology," he said.

"Duncan Fletcher has got a theory and other people have theories on umpiring but it's for people on top to think out," he said.

Fletcher, the England coach, has called for TV replays in controversial decisions.

"I have no problems with umpires as long as they are consistent. I am mentally tough to come out from this," he said.

Hussain said the pitch at Faisalabad was "double paced."

"It was difficult for stroke-play and we knew it would be hard to chase runs once Moin Khan declared the innings," he said.

Pakistan captain Moin Khan showed disappointment over another draw.