

Div I cricket

UNB, Dhaka
Young Pegasus beat Lalmita Club by five wickets in the First Division Cricket League at the City Club ground on Friday.

Sent in to bat, a brilliant 109 by Onker Krisan helped Lalmita score 220 runs for seven wickets in the stipulated 50 overs. One down Onker made his runs off 141 balls with 15 fours and a six.

Mostaq captured three wickets for 37 for Pegasus.

In reply, Young Pegasus overhauled the target making 224 for five wickets in 36.5 overs. Hasan made 77 off 72 balls while Nahid added 53 off 34 balls for the winners.

Shaheen picked up three wickets conceding 41 runs.

Sinclair

FROM PAGE 13
He and Parore added 101 runs in 136 minutes as the bowlers tired and the fielding crumbled.

Parore was dismissed for the first time in five Test innings when Australian umpire David Harper gave him out leg before wicket for 46.

Tuffey lasted a valuable 33 minutes for his highest Test score of 13, taking two fearful blows from Waqar, then Drum stayed the same length of time to get Sinclair within sight of his milestone.

Waqar, Fazle Akbar and Saqlain each took three wickets, with Saqlain toiling away again for 48 overs to end with three for 134.

Akbar was earlier caught by television cameras running his hand through his hair then polishing the ball, but there were no complaints laid by match officials.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard at the close of the second day of the second Test between New Zealand and Pakistan at the Jade Stadium on Friday.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings (overnight 284-5)

Richardson b Saqlain	46			
Bell c Faisal b Saqlain	75			
Sinclair not out	204			
Fleming run out (Younis)	32			
Astle c Moin b Waqar	6			
Bradburn c Farhat b Akbar	0			
McMillan c Younis b Akbar	20			
Parore lbw b Saqlain	46			
Tuffey lbw b Akbar	13			
Drum c Moin b Waqar	4			
Martin b Waqar	0			
Extras (lb-17, nb-10, b-2, w-1)	30			
Total (All out in 156 overs)	476			
Fall of wickets: 1-102, 2-163, 3-248, 4-276, 5-282, 6-327, 7-428, 8-449, 9-468				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Waqar	34	6	114	3
Sami	36	4	107	0
Akbar	32	6	87	3
Saqlain	48	11	134	3
Younis	6	1	15	0

PAKISTAN: First innings

Farhat c Drum b Martin	4			
Ijaz hit wkt b Drum	11			
Iqbal not out	22			
Inzamam not out	26			
Extras (nb-2)	2			
Total (For 2 wks in 22 overs)	65			
Fall of wickets: 1-5, 2-25				
To bat: Younis Khan, Yousuf Youhana, Moin Khan, Saqlain Mushtaq, Waqar Younis, Fazle Akbar, Mohammad Sami.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tuffey	7	2	23	0
Martin	8	2	24	1
Drum	4	1	7	1
Bradburn	3	0	11	0

Saurav

FROM PAGE 13
Australians during the three-day tour match against Ranji Trophy champions Mumbai.

Pace spearhead Ijavagal Sriniath, who missed the second Test with a broken finger, also returns to the squad pending a fitness Test in Madras on Saturday.

Orissa seamer Debashish Mohanty, who bagged all 10 wickets in an innings during a first-class match recently, will stand-by in case Sriniath is not declared fit to play.

"I know it is said that you should not disturb a winning combination, but emotions have no part to play when you are trying to win a series," Ganguly said.

Australian captain Steve Waugh, who regards the Indian tour as the last frontier for his world-beating side, dismissed suggestions that the tourists were under pressure going into the final Test.

"Of the 16 Tests we won, a few were under pressure," he said. "The simple fact is we were outplayed by an Indian team that played better cricket than us."

"It's now our job to recover lost ground and win the series."

Waugh lamented the itinerary which gave the teams just two days between Tests.

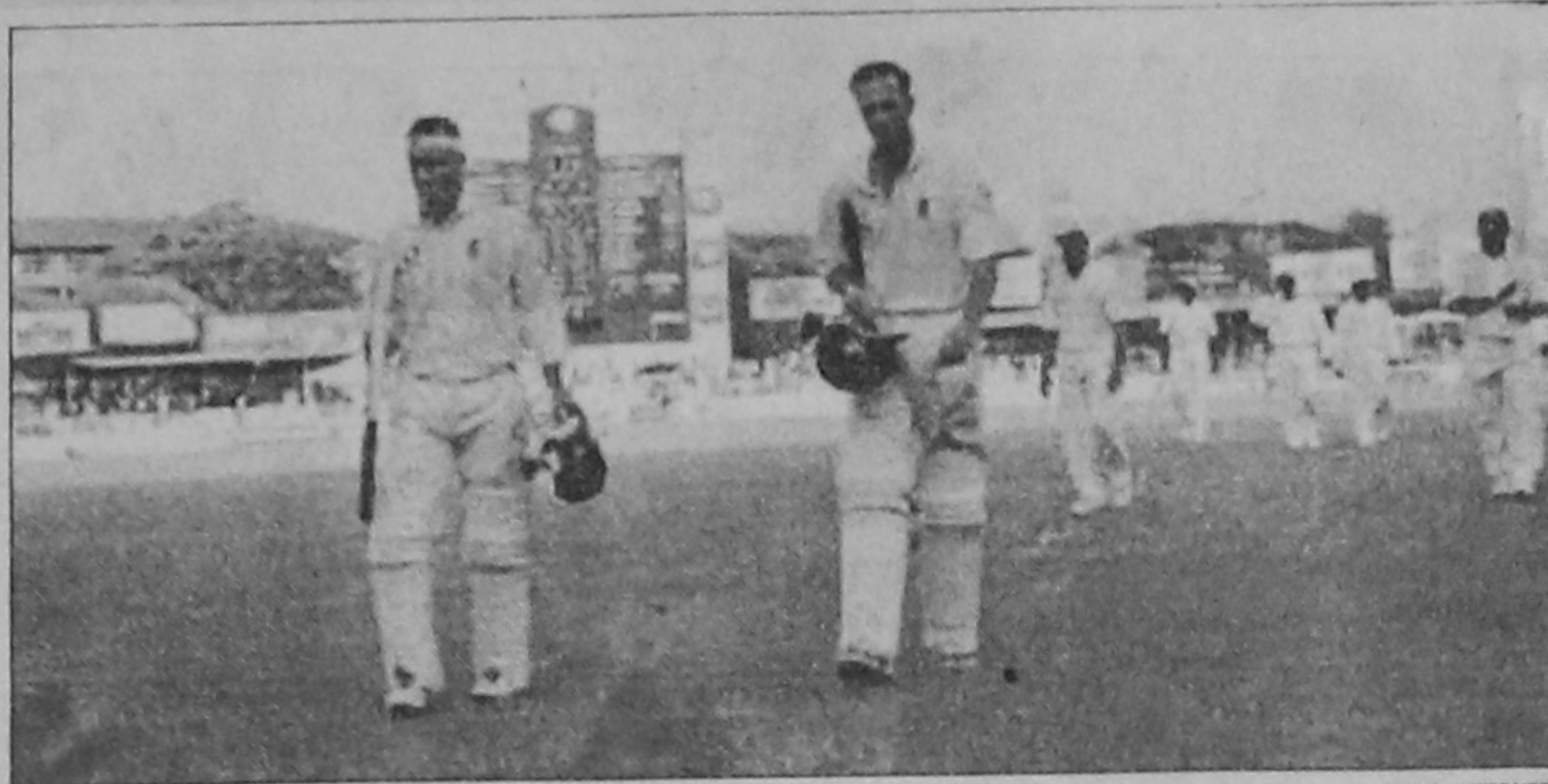
A three-day gap would have been better but we will adjust," he said.

Alam

FROM PAGE 13
Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-64, 3-72, 4-101, 5-143

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Khair	7	0	41	0
Palash	5	1	19	1
R Rafique	10	2	27	1
Wasim	10	0	32	2
Masud Rana	6	0	30	1
Ujjal	8.1	0	30	0

Result: Brothers Union won by five wickets.



England batsmen Graham Thorpe (L) and Michael Vaughan return to the pavilion after the end of the second day's play of the third and final Test against Sri Lanka on Friday. Thorpe was 71 not out and Vaughan was batting on 26.

Thorpe, Vaughan rescuers

Cricket

REUTERS, Colombo
Graham Thorpe and Michael Vaughan pulled England out of trouble with an unbroken stand of 84 against Sri Lanka on the second day of the third and final Test here on Friday.

After England slumped from 45 without loss to 91 for four, the fifth-wicket pair lifted the touring team to 175 for four at the close in reply to Sri Lanka's first innings of 241.

Thorpe was unbeaten on 71, counter attacking at first but subsequently blending watchful defence with steady accumulation, and Vaughan was 26 not out after a disciplined effort on his first appearance of the series.

With the teams level 1-1 and England facing the prospect of batting last on a turning pitch, left-hander Thorpe and Vaughan rose to the occasion with a crucial partnership after four wickets had gone for 46.

They have taken the side to within 66 of Sri Lanka's total, but the need for a useful lead has been heightened by a thigh injury to captain Nasser Hussain which is likely to curtail the part he plays in the rest of the game.

England ran into trouble directly after lunch, first losing Michael Atherton lbw for 21 as he pushed forward to a delivery from left-arm paceman Chaminda Vaas that came back into him a shade.

A freak dismissal then accounted for fellow opener Marcus Trescothick for 23. He swept at debutant left-arm spinner Dinuk Hettiarachchi and the ball lodged between Russel Arnold's arm and the inside of his shirt at silly mid-

on. Hettiarachchi's first Test wicket was followed by that of Hussain, England's captain, handicapped by his right thigh injury and using a runner, tried to drive but was caught at short extra cover by Sri Lanka skipper Sanath Jayasuriya for eight.

Thorpe responded defiantly by stroking his first 27 runs off 29 balls, but lost Alec Stewart when he played back to Muttiah Muralitharan's off spin and was bowled for three.

However, Thorpe, who completed his half-century from 116 balls, found a staunch ally in Vaughan and they resisted pace and spin for more than two hours.

England had made an ideal start to the day by capturing Sri Lanka's last three wickets for 20 runs in 35 minutes after they resumed at 221 for seven.

The initial breakthrough was made by off-spinner Robert Croft with the last delivery of the third over when Dilhara Fernando pushed forward and was snapped up off pad and bat for two by Trescothick at silly mid-off.

Vaas produced the only note of aggression by hitting three fours off Croft in two overs, twice forcing him square on the off side and also sweeping him to the fine leg boundary on his way to 19 not out.

England took the second new ball at 240 for eight and Darren Gough dispatched Hettiarachchi without scoring when he beat the test debutant's forward push and hit his off stump.

Andy Caddick dealt the final blow by knocking back Muralitharan's leg stump as the off-spinner bailed away.

Croft finished with four for 56, Gough took two for 33 and Cad-

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play on the second day of the third and final Test between England and Sri Lanka on Friday:

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 221-7)

Atapattu b Caddick	0			
Jayasuriya c White b Croft	45			
Sangakkara c Vaughan b Gough	45			
De Silva c Vaughan b Giles	38			
Jayawardene c Stewart b Croft	71			
Arnold lbw b Giles	0			
Dilshan lbw b Croft	5			
Vaas not out	19			
Fernando c Trescothick b Croft	2			
Hettiarachchi b Gough	8			
Muralitharan b Caddick	1			
Extras (b-4, lb-4, w-1, nb-6)	15			
Total (All out in 101.1 overs)	241			
Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-88, 3-108, 4-205, 5-209, 6-216, 7-219, 8-225, 9-240				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Gough	14	5	33	2
Caddick	11.1	1	40	2
White	10	1	45	0
Giles	34	13	59	2
Croft	32	9	56	4

ENGLAND: First innings

Atherton lbw b Vaas	21			
Trescothick c Arnold b H'rachchi	23			
Hussain c J'suriya b H'rachchi	8			
Thorpe not out	71			
Stewart b M'tharan	3			
Vaughan not out	26			
Extras (b-8, lb-9, nb-6)	23			
Total (for four wickets, 78 overs)	175			
Fall of wickets: 1-45, 2-55, 3-66, 4-91				
To bat: C. White, A. Giles, R. Croft, A. Caddick, D. Gough				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Vaas	17	4	37	1
Fernando	5	0	26	0
De Silva	3	1	2	0
M'tharan	26	7	43	1
H'rachchi	19	4	33	2
J'suriya	8	1	17	0

Injured Hussain unsure of ODIs

REUTERS, Colombo

England captain Nasser Hussain looks set to miss the forthcoming three one-day matches against Sri Lanka after suffering a thigh injury.

Hussain injured his right thigh as he tried to stop the ball going to the boundary during Sri Lanka's first innings on the opening day of the third and final Test on Thursday.

England physio Dean Conway said after the second day of the Test: "My first instincts are that his thigh injury will probably take around 10 days to clear up."

The limited-overs matches are being played on March 23, 25 and 27.

Hussain went into the Test after having a problem with his left thigh, and Conway said: "I think there is a link with the other injury because he has been subconsciously trying to protect that left groin."

"None of the problems Nasser's got at the moment are what you would class long-term injuries but cricket's so intense at the moment it is difficult to hide people."

"There is no problem regarding the start of our (home) Test series (against Pakistan in May). I think we are looking at 10 days to a couple of weeks for it to heal up."

On the decision to let Hussain bat in his regular number three spot despite the thigh trouble, England coach Duncan Fletcher said: "We spoke to him this morning and he was comfortable and it didn't seem to be a problem."

"But, as always happens, you start off for a quick single and you really are under a lot of pressure. You can't hide away in that situation whereas you can sometimes hide away in the field."

MacGill's reminder

REUTERS, Sydney

Discarded leg-spinner Stuart MacGill boosted his hopes of a recall to the Australian team for this year's Ashes tour of England by taking five wickets against Queensland on Friday.

While Australia's first-choice wrist-spinner Shane Warne continues to struggle with the national selectors of his talents by snafus five for 78 for New South Wales at the Gabba in Brisbane.

MacGill's haul helped restrict Queensland to a first innings total of 344 but was unlikely to have saved his team from defeat in the final round of the Australian interstate championship.

Queensland led NSW by 204 runs on the first innings after Jimmy Maher took his overnight score of 80 to 133 and Stuart Law and Wade Seccombe both helped themselves to half-centuries.

NSW, who made just 140 in the first innings, were struggling at 93 for three in their second innings when stumps were drawn, needing another 111 to make the defending interstate champions bat a second time.

Queensland are already assured of hosting next year's final against Victoria, last year's runners-up.

With little to play for in their match against Western Australia, Victoria were slowly closing in on the visitors' first innings total of 215 when play ended at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Western Australia added 51 runs to their overnight score of 164 for eight after fast bowler Matthew Nicholson hit an adventurous 48.

Egypt deny

FROM PAGE 13

converting two penalty corners (19' and 28' minutes) in giving Pakistan a 2-0 lead by half time.

Centre forward Kamran Ashraf increased the margin with a solo effort five minutes after the breather.

Malaysia earned some solace when their captain Shanmuganathan scooped the ball home from a penalty stroke in the 65th minute.

"Pakistan, the Group B champions will take on Group A runners up Japan in Sunday's second semifinal at 4 pm.

Today is a rest day.

Both seek breakthrough

Cricket

AFP, Port of Spain

After a stalemate in the first Test, West Indies and South Africa will be seeking to establish an early ascendancy in a five-match series when they meet in the second Test at the Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain, Trinidad on Saturday.

Both South African captain Shaun Pollock and West Indian skipper Carl Hooper said neither side had gained an edge in the drawn first contest in Georgetown, Guyana.



CARL HOOPER

"If it had been boxing it would have been a draw," said Hooper, who is returning to lead the team after dropping out of international cricket in 1999.

The opportunity for a knockout blow may come at a ground notorious for low final innings totals in recent years. Although the pitch often favours batsmen in the early stages, there has been a tendency for the bounce to become uneven

as matches progress. England were bowled out for 46 in 1993/94, West Indies for 51 by Australia in 1998/99 and Zimbabwe for 63 last season.

Queen's Park has a reputation as a spinner's pitch, but it has been the faster bowlers who have been mainly responsible for the low totals.

With West Indies and South Africa looking evenly matched, the toss could be a crucial factor.

South Africa had two injury worries ahead of the match, with batsman Neil McKenzie and left-arm spinner Nicky Boje both requiring cortisone injections, McKenzie for a tendon in his left forearm and Boje for a recurrence of an old left shoulder injury. Both, though, are expected to play.

Both captains were pleased with the way their players performed in Georgetown, with Hooper especially delighted by the showing of young batsmen Chris Gayle, Marlon Samuels and Ramnaresh Sarwan, who all made half centuries.

The South Africans, who usually work out detailed plans for bowling to opposition batsmen, will have had three days to figure out ways of containing the youngsters, who all played against South Africa for the first time.

Pollock said his team had adjusted well to West Indian conditions.

"It was a difficult pitch which didn't allow for aggressive cricket," he said. "We are looking to play positive cricket and we learnt a lot in the first Test."

It may have been ominous for the South Africans, though, that Brian Lara showed good form in Georgetown with innings of 47

and 45. He will be playing at the ground where he played club cricket as a youngster and could not pick a more appropriate venue to make a big score against opponents who have so far kept him in check.

TEAMS

WEST INDIES (from): Carl Hooper (captain), Chris Gayle, Wavell Hinds, Marlon Samuels, Brian Lara, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Ridley Jacobs, Nixon McLean, Dinanath Ramnarine, Mervyn Dillon, Courtney Walsh, Shivnarine Chandernaul, Reon King.



SHAUN POLLOCK

SOUTH AFRICA (from): Shaun Pollock (captain), Gary Kirsten, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Daryll Cullinan, Neil McKenzie, Lance Klusener, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini.

Umpires: Billy Doctrove (West Indies) and Darrell Hair (Australia).

Match referee: Mike Denness (England)



The winners of Summit Cup Golf Tournament (Pro-Am) pose at the Kurmitola Golf Club on Friday.

Colin may replace Shane

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

Australia are contemplating dropping an ailing Shane Warne for the decisive third cricket Test against India starting in Madras on Sunday, coach John Buchanan said.

Warne suffered both physically and mentally during the second Test in Calcutta, won by India by 171 runs Thursday, and there are concerns over his ability to withstand the physical stress of Madras' sapping heat and humidity.

Warne also has some cracked

skin on the middle finger of his bowling hand which is causing him irritation.

"Warne's quite distressed when he comes off the field all the time," Buchanan told Australian Associated Press.

"From his point of view it's hard going, very hard going. This last Test was a real test of his skill and his mental capacity to handle things."

Buchanan said Warne's fitness had him struggling in the heat and he also had to bowl a lot of overs without much preparation after missing the home Tests last summer against the West Indies with a broken finger.

"It's to do with physical fitness — it's no secret that Warne's probably not one of the fittest characters running around in world cricket."

"But certainly at the end of India's second innings he'd been challenged mentally."

Buchanan said Colin Miller was almost certain to come into the team for the third Test but that Australia also hadn't gone away from its policy of playing three fast bowlers, meaning Warne could be squeezed out.



Winners of the Bangladesh Navy's Tennis and Squash Championship pose with their trophies at the BNS Issa Khan Sports Complex in Chittagong on Thursday. Chief of Naval Staff Rear Admiral A Taher was present on the occasion. Lt Cdr ML Hossain won the tennis singles title while Cdr MJU Bhuiyan and Lt Cdr ML Hossain took doubles. In squash, Lt Cdr M Mahboob Hossain emerged champion.

Indian heroes hailed

Cricket

AGENCIES, New Delhi

Indian newspapers and former players led a chorus of praise on Friday after their team's stunning victory over Australia in the second Test in Calcutta.

"India find paradise at Eden Gardens," blared the Times of India newspaper while The Indian Express headlined a front-page article: "Miracle: 11 Indians with tons of attitude."

India shocked Australia by 171 runs on Thursday to halt their world-record streak of consecutive Test wins at 16 and become only the third team in cricket history to win after following on.

Former players who had attacked the team and skipper Saurav Ganguly after their first Test defeat lauded the star performers — Vangipurappu Laxman, Rahul Dravid and Harbhajan Singh.

Laxman hit the highest Indian Test score of 281 and Dravid contributed 180 in sharing a 376-run partnership to lift India before off-spinner Harbhajan ran through the Australian batting in returning match figures of 13-196.

Former top India batsman Sunil Gavaskar described the win as "mind-boggling."

Gavaskar and another former skipper Bishan Singh Bedi wrote in newspaper columns that perhaps the Australian skipper Steve Waugh paid the price for not batting a second time to pile more pressure on Indian batsmen.

"But hey, all those guys going

for the Indian captain's hide, will they ask questions of Steve Waugh why he did not bat again instead of enforcing the follow on..."

Gavaskar said.

"After all the Indian captaincy is a job that everybody else knows better than the one who is actually the captain," he added in a reference to the criticism of Ganguly.

Bedi said Waugh might feel he missed an opportunity by not batting a second time but Indians could not complain.

"But then, we would have been deprived of a truly great Test innings from the blade of VVS Laxman, who is now the newest VVIP (very, very important person) on the Indian horizon," he said.

Steve Waugh compared the victory to a comeback by West Indies against Australia in Barbados two years ago, inspired by a brilliant century from Brian Lara.

But Waugh rated Laxman's innings higher than Lara's.

"The architect of the victory was undoubtedly VVS Laxman," he wrote in a newspaper column.

"It was probably the best knock played by an Indian in Test cricket and even compares favourably to the classic 150-odd that Brian Lara scored against us in 1999 to win a Test for his team," he wrote.

to Laxman's marathon knock.

"VVS Laxman's innings was the best innings I've seen. He was batting in a pressure situation and his knock can be compared to Lara's effort in West Indies two summers ago," he said.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard, a serious cricket fan, has congratulated India on their amazing comeback win in Calcutta.