

Nitol-Tata soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Rajshahi*

Shaheed Zia Memorial Club of Bogra moved into the divisional final of the Nitol-Tata National Football League defeating Red Lion Club of Joypurhat 5-1 at the local stadium yesterday.

Bulbul netted twice while Tapu, Hanif and Askar Babu scored one each for the winners.

Mahub scored lone goal for the losers.

Abahani Krira Chakra of Rajshahi take on Shaheed Zia Memorial today.

Same SA

AFP, Port Elizabeth

South African selectors Tuesday named an unchanged squad for the third and final Test against India starting at Centurion near Pretoria on Friday.

Convenor Rushdi Magiet said the eleven for the Test would be finalised Thursday.

At the same selection meeting, a 15-man squad to tour Australia next month will be picked but not necessarily announced.

SQUAD FOR CENTURION
Shaun Pollock (captain), Herschelle Gibbs, Gary Kirsten, Jacques Kallis, Neil McKenzie, Boeta Dippenaar, Lance Klusener, Mark Boucher, Nicky Boje, Makhaya Ntini, Mornantau Hayward, Jacques Rudolph.

Denness

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to call a hearing had been made by Denness himself.

"There was no report submitted by the on-field umpires or anyone else to the match referee," the statement said.

The statement said that at the hearing Denness had watched the video in the company of Tendulkar and members of the Indian team management. He "deliberated long and hard" before reaching a decision.

"In making a decision, the match referee took into account everything that Tendulkar had said during the hearing. Nevertheless as a player and highly respected player, Tendulkar had breached the code of conduct and by his actions has brought the game into disrepute," the statement continued.

The statement gave no further details of disciplinary action taken against five other players.

Can Murali do it for SL?

Cricket

AFP, Kandy

Sri Lanka go into the second cricket Test against the West Indies here on Wednesday with a prayer on their lips despite having a match-winner in Muttiah Muralitharan.

The hosts fear the Asgiriya Stadium here more than the inconsistent West Indians, whom they thrashed by 10 wickets in the opening Test at Galle last week to lead the three-match series.

Sri Lanka have lost their last three Tests at this popular tourist hill resort, against South Africa, England and India.

"Kandy is a problem for us," conceded Sri Lankan skipper Sanath Jayasuriya, adding his players would have to raise the level of their performance to reverse the trend.

Coach Dav Whatmore, however, believed that his team's poor record at this venue had nothing to do with any jinx.

"A cricket match is not won or lost by any hoodoo. It is won or lost by what you do in the middle," he said.

The hosts will look to Kandy-based Muralitharan to break the jinx, for the ace off-spinner is expected to influence the course of the match once more.

Muralitharan had the West Indian batsmen in a spin at Galle, taking 11 wickets in the match to bowl Sri Lanka to their first-ever Test victory over their rivals.

The West Indies appeared to be a one-batsman team at Galle, where Brian Lara alone countered the off-spinner's clever variations

and prodigious turn to score 178 in the first innings.

West Indian coach Roger Harper said his batsmen would have to apply themselves well against the spinners, especially Muralitharan,



SANATH JAYASURIYA

so as to sustain hopes of squaring the series.

"He (Muralitharan) is an outstanding bowler and competing against him on these wickets is always going to be tough," Harper said.

"We have to look at how to counter him and we have been working on that."

However, there was a bad news for the touring side as they will have to be without fast bowler Reon King. Team manager Ricky Skerritt said that King would take no part in the current tour of Sri Lanka because of a hernia.

King, who also missed the first Test, is to return home Wednesday. Harper said his team had a chance to bounce back because they were better prepared this time.



CARL HOOPER

slow bowlers to trap the West Indies, considering the tourists' batting limitations against spin.

TEAMS

SRI LANKA (from): Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Marvan Atapattu, Kumar Sangakkara, Mahela Jayawardene, Russel Arnold, Hashan Tillekaratne, Thilan Samaraweera, Chaminda Vaas, Niroshan Bandaratilleke, Muttiah Muralitharan, Charitha Buddhika, Nuwan Zoysa, Suresh Perera, Michael Vandort, Upul Chandana.

WEST INDIES (from): Carl Hooper (captain), Brian Lara, Chris Gayle, Daren Ganga, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Marlon Samuels, Ridley Jacobs, Wavell Hinds, Leon Garrick, Neil McGarrell, Dinanath Ramnarine, Colin Stuart, Mervyn Dillon, Marlon Black, Pedro Collins.

Another victory for U-19 cricketers

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Under-19 team earned another victory beating South Australian Second Eleven by 13 runs in a preparation match in Adelaide yesterday.

Sent in to bat first, the touring BCB Under-19 side piled up 223 runs for all in stipulated 50 overs with skipper Nafees Iqbal contributing highest 48 off 71 balls hitting seven fours one six.

Number seven bat Waseluddin hammered a useful 28 in 37 deliveries featuring four boundaries. Shariful scored 24 in 35 balls and Aftab made 27 in 50 balls with one four and a six for the visitors.

The second highest runs of Bangladesh innings 41 came from extras.

J Marsh was the most successful among Australian bowlers taking three wickets for 44. A Crook captured two wickets conceding 54 runs while S Crook and C Duval took one wicket each giving away 43 and 45 runs.

In reply, the South Australian second string team closed their innings at 210 for the loss of 8 wickets in allocated 50 overs with opener Williams hitting highest 37 in 92 balls while A Crook & J Borgas making 28 runs each.

Murad of Bangladesh captured three wickets conceding 44 runs in 9 overs, Shafaqe bagged two for 26 runs in 8 overs while Waseluddin and Shaiful got one wicket each for 18 and 20 runs respectively.



Frenchmen Fabrice Santoro (L) and Arnaud Clemente practise in Melbourne yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Davis Cup

Aussies to risk Rafter

Tennis

AFP, Melbourne

Patrick Rafter has been passed fit to play for a full-strength Australia against France in next week's Davis Cup final here.

But France on Tuesday named five players, leaving themselves the possibility of discarding one when the draw is made a week on Thursday.

Rafter had been doubtful with tendinitis in his right shoulder but Australian Davis Cup captain John Fitzgerald on Tuesday included the two-time US Open champion in the side alongside reigning US Open champion and world No 1 Lleyton Hewitt, Todd Woodbridge and Wayne Arthurs.

Inflammation of the shoulder affects Rafter's serve-volley game, hindering his ability to kick the ball upwards.

He has not been able to serve flat out for two days in a row since the Davis Cup semi-final win over Sweden last September.

Rafter has been trying several treatments, including acupuncture, icing and massaging during matches, in a bid to remedy the repetitive strain injury.

"Pat is having physio and he's with the trainer every day and it is improving," Fitzgerald said.

"He's having a rest today, he's OK, he just needs a day off." "Today he's probably not ready to go but by the time it comes around he'll be fine. He's got to manage the pain in his arm. He's done it before and he's doing it now."

The portable grass court the Australians have laid at the Rod Laver Arena here suits Rafter, who lost this year's Wimbledon final to Goran Ivanisevic.

However Rafter believed France would not be unduly worried about playing on grass.

"Everyone seems to find another lift in their game when you play for your country and I don't expect France to be any different. I expect them to come out very hard, very fast and we are going to stay with them," said Rafter, who will take an indefinite break that may lead to retirement after next week's final.

The left-handed Arthurs will partner Woodbridge in the doubles as Australia field the same side that qualified them for their third successive final.

The captain also said he gave a weary Hewitt three days off from training to recover from the Masters Cup tournament in Sydney, where he gained the world No 1 ranking.

"He's played a lot of matches and he's a bit sore but he still played well in the semis and final," Fitzgerald said.

"He's having three days off. There is a small chance he will hit balls tomorrow but I doubt it. I think he'll probably play on Thursday."

France appeared to be hesitating between 2001 Australian Open finalist Arnaud Clement and Nicolas Escude as the No 2 singles player alongside Sebastian Grosjean, who went down in straight sets to Hewitt in the Masters Cup final on Sunday.

France captain Guy Forget named Grosjean, Escude, Clement, Fabrice Santoro and Cedric Pioline for the match.

He has until Nov 29 to select his final team of four, which will not be overly uncomfortable on grass.

Shoaib off to Sydney

AFP, Karachi

Pakistan's Rawalpindi Express Shoaib Akhtar flew to Australia Tuesday to play club cricket alongside his "best friend" and rival to the title of fastest bowler in the world, Brett Lee.

But his stint for the Mosman club will be overshadowed by fresh doubts over his bowling action after he was reported for chucking for a third time during a one-day tri-nation tournament in Sharjah two weeks ago.

"I want to entertain people by playing cricket and am going to play for a Sydney club. I don't want to think of anything else other than playing entertaining cricket," Akhtar told AFP.

Akhtar said he was "not bothered" by the chucking controversy because his action had been analysed and cleared by an Australian university this year.

Akhtar will play seven games for Mosman in a pace duo with Australian international Lee.

"I have always enjoyed playing cricket in Australia because the people know the game and love their heroes," he said.

"Brett is my best friend and I accepted this club contract only because I wanted to play with him... I was free for a month so I decided to play for Brett's club."

Kapil will coach bowlers

Cricket

REUTERS, New Delhi

Kapil Dev, who quit as India coach last year after refuting allegations of match-fixing and vowed never to return, is to coach the country's fast bowlers for the 2003 World Cup.

The former record-breaking all-rounder told a news conference that he had accepted an offer from the Indian cricket board following concern over a spate of injuries to the country's medium-pacers.

"I will train the bowlers, make them fit, teach them what I know," he said, adding that he was still discussing the details of his role with

the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

India have struggled recently because of injuries to left-arm pacemen Zaheer Khan and Ashish Nehra, besides recurring fitness problems faced by all-rounder Ajit Agarkar.

An angry Kapil quit as India coach during the match-fixing scandal which rocked the sport last year and declared that he was severing all ties with the game.

But the former Test bowling world-record holder renewed links recently when he agreed to help Nehra work on his bowling technique before the current South African Test series.

"They (fast bowlers) are getting

around 50 million rupees.

The film, which will also be released as an eight-part television serial, will include events connected with the cricket match-fixing scandal.

D'gupta, Dravid

FROM PAGE 13

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-171, 3-184
Did not bat: V Laxman, V Sehwag, A Agarkar, Harbhajan Singh, A Kumble, J Srinath

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Pollock	26	11	39	1
Hayward	25	6	58	2
Kallis	11.2	5	15	0
Ntini	12	4	25	0
Boje	14	4	33	0
Klusener	7	3	15	0
McKenzie	1	0	4	0

Result: Match drawn and South Africa lead 1-0.

Man-of-the-match: Herschelle Gibbs.

Third Test: Centurion, November 23-27.

Umpires: Ian Howell (South Africa) and Russell Tiffin (Zimbabwe).



KAPIL DEV

injured by the day. If I can do anything to help my country to win the World Cup or win matches that is something I can do," he said.

Kapil, known for his superb fitness as a top all-rounder in the world in the 1980's, said constant playing made current players more injury-prone.

But he ruled out a return as India coach. "Hundred per cent no," he said.

The former skipper said he saw nothing wrong in India drafting New Zealander John Wright as its first foreign coach.

"It is an experiment. Nothing wrong in doing that. If it gives good results, is good for the team, for the country, go ahead."

Kapil also announced the launch of a feature film entitled "Kapil Dev -- The True Story" and with a budget of

BCCI against 4th Test

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

English cricket officials headed for a showdown with their Indian counterparts on Tuesday after India refused to play an extra Test during next year's tour of England.

India said that they would play only three Tests in England next summer, the same number Nasser Hussain's team are scheduled to play during their current Indian tour.

England, however, insisted the Indians had given a written commitment to play four Tests, adding the itinerary was "non-negotiable" at this late stage.

"We have made all arrangements for the tour and even started selling tickets for the four Tests," England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) spokesman David Clarke told AFP from Bombay.

"The ECB is adamant India will play all four Tests, the itinerary is non-negotiable."

The ECB said the then secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Jayawant Lele, had confirmed in a letter dated April 5 that India will play four Tests and a limited-overs tri-series also featuring Sri Lanka.

But the new dispensation in the BCCI, headed by recently-elected Jagmohan Dalmiya, is clearly not in a mood to oblige the Englishmen.

BCCI sources said Dalmiya is upset that England refused to play two extra one-day internationals in India in January, preferring to stick to the scheduled five.

Dalmiya, a former president of the International Cricket Council (ICC), had made the request when he met ECB officials during the ICC meetings in Kuala Lumpur in October.

Dalmiya argued that India would play seven matches in the one-day series in England next year if they reached the final, and wanted the ECB to reciprocate the same on

their tour of India, BCCI sources said.

But when the ECB refused, the BCCI too wanted to scale down their commitments in England.

"England said their players were busy and needed a rest. Well, our players too need a rest," present BCCI secretary Niranjana Shah said.

ECB's Clarke rebuffed Shah, saying: "Since 1998 it has been clear there would be an imbalance in the numbers of games on these two tours. It's too late to change the schedule."

If India refuse to budge from their stand, they face a penalty of two million dollars introduced recently by the ICC for nations refusing to honour their commitments.

Meanwhile, Reuters adds, England's assistant coach Graham Dilley has been discharged after spending a night in hospital, an Indian cricket official said on Tuesday.

Dilley was admitted to Bombay Hospital after being taken ill while working with players not involved in England's opening tour match against a Bombay President's XI team on Monday.

"He (Dilley) was under observation for a night. He had low blood pressure," a senior Bombay cricket official said Tuesday.

The official said it had not yet been decided when Dilley would join the England team, which is now in the southern city of Hyderabad for a three-day tour match starting on Thursday.

Former Test fast bowler Dilley, 42, is acting as England coach Duncan Fletcher's number two on the tour of India.

Following England's drawn two-day match on Monday, Fletcher said some of his players felt drained due to the heat and humidity.

The England coach said opening batsman Marcus Trescothick and seam bowler James Ormond had both felt nauseous after a full day in the field.

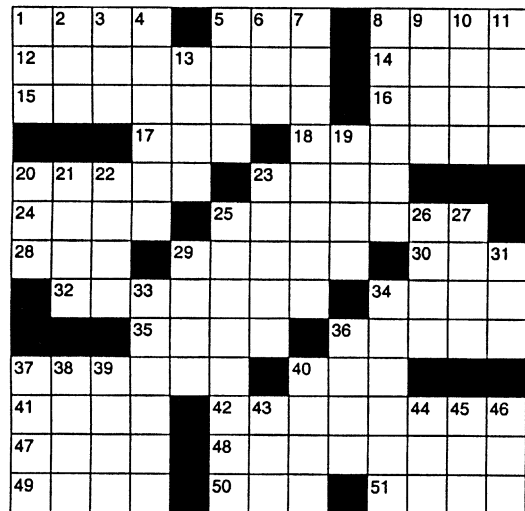
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Iditarod team
5 NFL branch "Ships"
8 Smooch
12 Choral work
14 Garfield's pal
15 Typewriter replacement
16 Early day
17 "Poetica"
18 Spectrum member
20 Iberian river
23 Ward (off)
24 Evangelist
25 Web businesses
28 Cartoonist
29 3rd rock from the sun?
30 "Eureka!"
32 Surfer's venue?
34 Gift tag word
35 Highway division
36 Insomniac's wish

DOWN
1 Happy companion?
3 Whale group
4 Midwest-ern capital
5 Crafts' mates
6 "A pox upon thee!"
7 Snazzy Chovy
8 Indonesian island
9 Pedestal occupant
10 "Your Majesty"
11 Faxed
13 Not theirs
19 Minimal measure

2 Plata partner
3 Whale group
4 Midwest-ern capital
5 Crafts' mates
6 "A pox upon thee!"
7 Snazzy Chovy
8 Indonesian island
9 Pedestal occupant
10 "Your Majesty"
11 Faxed
13 Not theirs
19 Minimal measure

20 Anderson's "High —"
21 "And prettily maids all in —"
22 Stars
23 Specialty
25 More delicate
26 Former filly
27 Loafer, e.g.
29 Birthright barterer
31 Increase the volume
33 Fan
34 Very ornate
36 Dance lesson
37 Swine
38 Largest of the seven
39 Zlich, in Xochimilco
40 Macy Gray song
43 Dundee denial
44 Ultra-modernist
45 "The Name of the Rose" author
46 President pro —



CRYPTOQUIP

VT EAG CUETGRR RELTH
EAG LQQRNGH CGXX
HUPPGD RCVDG EV EGXX
EAG AVXG EDNEA
Saturday's Cryptquip: AFTER THE ENDANGERED BEARS ESCAPED FROM THEIR CAGE, PANDA-MONIUM BROKE OUT.
Today's Cryptquip Clue: R equals S
The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Solution time: 24 mins.
SICAB SIADIA WOV
HIALTO ORIAL TRIA
ORDO VILLA PIR
TEAM TILL BEND
ERE APV
PARROT SASHAY
LIDERS STONE
ADONIS STEEDS
GET PAD
JAMES ACE ARAB
ORE ABLE GILLA
BIN OLIAD USER
SIAT HEINS TIEEN