

CJKS Div I Soccer

Shariful scores hattrick for Shatadal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Shatadal Club thrashed Mukti-joddha Sangsad 5-0 while Madarbari Udayan blanked Abahani Junior 2-0 in the CJKS-Elite Paint First Division Football League at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

Satadal rode on a brilliant hattrick from their striker Shariful for their second successive win. They won their first match against Rising Star 2-0.

Shariful opened the floodgates in the 18th minute with a perfect header off a Rajan cross. He doubled the margin in the 60th minute and completed the second hattrick of the league after a solo run in the 79th minute.

In day's other match, substitute Nayan scored both the goals for Udayan in the 36th and 42nd minute respectively.

On Monday, Sentu of Customs Excise and VAT Club became the first player to notch a hattrick as they recorded an easy 3-1 win over Bakalia Krira Sangstha.

Sania sent packing

AFP, Nusa Dua

India's controversial rising star Sania Mirza became Tuesday the first seed to be knocked out of the 225,000-dollar WTA Wismilak tennis tournament on the Indonesian resort island of Bali.

Eighth-seeded Mirza, 18, lost her first round singles match 6-3, 6-2 in just 57 minutes to unseeded Russian Ekaterina Bychkova.

"Everyone has bad days and it's my bad day today," said Mirza, who reached the fourth round of the US Open earlier this month.

"I wasn't really in it. I was not in my rhythm," she said, praising the play of her opponent and unable to explain the loss except to say she was rushing too much.

Sania mania gripped India when she reached the third round of the Australian Open in January, won the WTA Hyderabad Open in February and beat reigning US Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova in Dubai in March.

For her defeat Tuesday she wore a short skirt similar to those for which Muslim clerics in India have criticised her. They have accused Mirza, herself a Muslim, of playing "half-naked" and being a corrupting influence on women.

Although knocked out of singles play in Bali, Mirza is to play in a doubles match on Wednesday.

BD-SL SCOREBOARD

FROM PAGE 12

Enamul 33 8 106 0

Ashraful 1 0 2 0

BAGLADESH: Second innings

Omar c Sangakkara b Malinga 9

Nafees b Muralitharan 13

Bashar not out 13

Ashraful lbw b Muralitharan 0

Imran not out 0

Extras: (nb-1) 1

Total: (For 3 wkts in 9 overs) 36

Fall of wickets: 1-9, 2-35, 3-35

Bowler O M R W

Vaas 4 2 13 0

Malinga 3 0 22 1

Muralitharan 1 1 0 2

Herath 1 0 1 0



Did U Know?

Justin Langer registered his 22nd century in the fifth Ashes Test – his fourth against England. Twelve of his 22 hundreds have been recorded by him in the final Test of a series.



Wasim Akram

(Former Pakistan cricket captain)

"I think the time has come to change the Indian captain Sourav Ganguly. I backed Sourav before their tour of Zimbabwe but he looked pretty ordinary out there. He should be replaced with his deputy Rahul Dravid. I am talking about this purely on a cricketing point, nothing personal."



PHOTO: STAR

A goalmouth action from yesterday's CJKS-Elite Paint First Division Football League encounter between Shatadal Club and Mukti-joddha Sangsad at the MA Aziz Stadium.

English media delight



REUTERS/AFP, undated

England's first Ashes triumph over Australia for almost two decades triggered widespread celebrations in the British media on Tuesday.

"On top of the world" ran one headline while another, in the Daily Telegraph, read "A glorious end to England's summer".

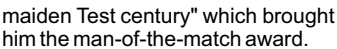
"Cricket's coming home," declared the Times in a reference to the Ashes being regained by England after Australia's record eight series victories in a row before Monday.

England, who lost the opening Test at Lord's by 229 runs before clinching the series 2-1 after drawing the fifth and final match at The Oval, last won the Ashes in 1986-87.

"After 16 years in which the national cricket team have touched the most abysmal depths of incompetence, England have risen dizzily, proudly and at times rather uncertainly to the loftiest peak their sport can offer," reported the Times.

"After 16 years, a Phoenix takes wing from the ashes of defeatism."

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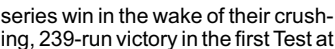
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'We must prove ourselves'



AFP, London

Michael Vaughan has admitted that England still have some work to do before they can claim to be top dogs in world cricket, starting with series victories in Pakistan and India.

Despite his side's Ashes triumph, Vaughan accepts that Australia are still the pre-eminent force in the global game.

"They have won home and away for a number of years, and we have yet to win on the sub-continent as a side," the England skipper said.

"That challenge comes this winter in India and Pakistan."

England are due to travel to Pakistan before Christmas and will also play a three-Test series in India early next year. Australia will get their chance to win back the Ashes when England travel down under at the end of 2006 for a series that runs into 2007.

Defeated Australian captain Ricky Ponting insisted that Australia could still claim to be regarded as the world's best side.

"England fully deserved their result. The truth is they outplayed us for all four Tests after the first one," Ponting said.

"There are not too many regrets for us. But we have not played our best cricket, mainly because England have not allowed us to."

"I would still rank England second. We are regarded number one in the world for what we have achieved over a long period of time."

Despite the series defeat, Ponting expects to keep his post.

"I can't say I expect it to be a great reception for us when we arrive (back in Australia)," he said.

"All the guys have given it their best shot, we have just not played well. I don't feel obliged to reconsider my position."

England selector Geoff Miller said the cricket team had to be wary of avoiding the fate of the England's rugby team, who have slumped since winning the 2003 World Cup.

"The rugby lads won the World Cup and from then things haven't gone quite as they would have wanted since then," Miller said.

"What we have to make sure we do is go to Pakistan and India and win there -- which is very difficult. The game never stops and we have to make sure that we continue to win."

"What we want to do is create a shadow team, a peripheral team. You're picking a family, a big squad - in one or two areas we need a bit of

back-up."

Miller believes the true test of England's development will be in the next Ashes series.

"The statistics say Australia are best in the world, and quite rightly so. We've got to continue to win and play Australia in Australia, which is a different ball game."

"We have to keep our feet on the ground and continue to improve."

If England do that, Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne sees no reason why they should not become the world's number one side.

"If they play like they have through this series they could be the best side in the world once they've played everybody home and away in a few years' time," he reasoned.

Even if England do go on to knock Australia off the top of the world rankings, Vaughan doubts that the drama of the just-finished series will ever be repeated.

"The response the public has given us throughout the whole summer means I am not too sure cricket will ever get to the same level again," Vaughan said.

"I hope it does and I play in many more like this -- but it is unlikely."

"It has been an extraordinary team effort, and I am just the lucky one who picked up the urn."

Daily Star storm into last eight

SPORTS REPORTER

The Daily Star dazzled into the quarterfinals of the Pepsi-DRU Inter-House Six-a-side cricket tournament yesterday.

It was yet another all-wicket success for the youthful Star team despite the Daily Sangram put up a better fight than what BSS offered the other day at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium.

The Bangla daily scored a fighting 65 but Star opener Jasimuddin Khan (24) and captain Rabeed Iman (23) chased that target in just 3.2 overs.

The Daily Star will face the Daily Naya Diganta in the quarterfinals tomorrow.

Jasim, who also took two wickets, was adjudged man-of-the-match.

Also moved into the last eight were the Daily Janakantha, Samakal, Ajker Kagaj and Amar Desh.

Australia A lose to Pakistan A

REUTERS, Karachi

Pakistan beat Australia A by seven wickets in their unofficial four-day Test in Rawalpindi on Tuesday.

A day after their senior side surrendered the Ashes to England, the Australians were bowled out for 130 in their second innings leaving Pakistan needing just 114 for victory.

Test openers Shoaib Malik (38) and Salman Butt (47) put on a first wicket stand of 76 runs to set Pakistan on their way to victory in three days.

Leg-spinner Cameron White took the three Pakistan wickets.

The Australians failed to recover from a shaky 33 for five wickets. Captain Brad Haddin put scored with 34 before becoming one of Mohammad Sami's four victims in the innings.

Sami finished with seven wickets in total for the match and took 4-33 during Australia's second innings.

The second and final four-day match begins on September 17.

Warne undecided

FROM PAGE 12 regarded as one of the best series of all time.

But the only man to take 600 Test wickets, told reporters after stumps he'd made no plans about his Test future having earlier this year separated from his wife Simone, the mother of his three young children.

Ashes reward

FROM PAGE 12 Fletcher was to join his victorious team, who on Monday won back the Ashes from Australia for the first time in 18 years, aboard an open-top bus parading through London later Tuesday.

Tens of thousands of fans were expected to pack the streets as their heroes celebrate their 2-1 win in the five-match series, which was sealed by a draw in the final Test that ended on Monday.

A typical

FROM PAGE 12 Nafees has impressed the opposition. It's an indication of his potential talent. It was not a great debut but he will do okay," he added.

Like Whatmore, Faruque admitted that Bangladesh threw away a good start.

"Our batting made a good start and our bowling was good. But the problem is that when we get an opportunity, we can't utilise it. I'm sure that they handled two top class spinners and Chaminda Vaas and scoring near 300 was not difficult."

"In that case Sri Lanka would have been under pressure after losing early three wickets and their lead would have been around 50-60."

"We have to be consistent and play well on a regular basis if we eye to win. The players must realise that they have to adapt to all conditions," Faruque added.

Mohammad Rafique is not one who often shows any emotion but this time, he was happy after taking his sixth five-wicket haul.

"It is my first Test against Sri Lanka although I have visited here often. So I am happy to achieve such a feat on their soil. It was a challenge for me," said Rafique, who earlier took five wickets in an innings against South Africa, Pakistan (twice), New Zealand and Zimbabwe, "the left-arm spinner said."

"I am dedicating this to my country because I always play for it. I am not fully fit but played on painkillers," said Rafique.

We're still No 1: Ponting Belief got us the Ashes: Vaughan



AFP, London

Australian captain Ricky Ponting refused to be panicked despite leading his side to their first Ashes defeat since 1986-87.

Ponting has been under fire from his home press, ever since winning the toss at Edgbaston and disastrously putting England into bat in the second Test where England won by two runs to level the series at 1-1.

But Ponting is adamant that England's first win -- 2-1 in the series - for nearly two decades will not take the shine off the brilliance of his side that has ruled world cricket since they beat the West Indies in 1995.

"We are the number one side in the world and they are number two (England) but there has been some unbelievable cricket," said Ponting.

"If they keep playing like that, they are a very good side. I am not too worried about this series -- we have just been outplayed."

As the series boiled up it seemed like becoming a head-to-head between the two icons of the game each side of the Equator.

Shane Warne took 40 wickets in the series to become the highest wicket taker in the history of Ashes cricket whilst Andrew Flintoff carved a niche for himself in English folklore by taking 23 wickets and scoring 402 runs in the series.

"We have played well below our best," said Ponting.

"He (Flintoff) is a player any side in the world would want."

Flintoff sought to deflect the attention away from himself, preferring to praise Kevin Pietersen whose 158 paved the way to England's safety.

"The way he played was unbelievable," said Flintoff.

"It was one of the great innings under extreme pressure and epitomised what this team is all about. When something needs doing someone is there to do it."

"It has been a great summer, really special. I have watched the Ashes since I was a kid and to play in something like this is unbelievable."

Self-belief played a huge part in England regaining the Ashes after 18 years said their captain Michael Vaughan.

Vaughan praised Pietersen -- playing just his fifth Test match -- but also the rest of the team.

"Kevin Pietersen was outstanding, but there have been a load of individual performances throughout the summer."

"It has been a hell of a lot of hard work but they believed in themselves and they expressed themselves out on the pitch."

Pietersen said he had missed out a couple of times earlier in the series but had stepped up to the plate when really needed.

"It is fantastic. The boys have been amazing I'm speechless really and the last two months have been fantastic."

Pietersen said that the comments about his diamond earrings had annoyed him in the past week but he had shown those critics that he was more than just a show pony.

"Wearing the earrings it's not going to make me cover drive any differently. I showed today that I am not just a glamour boy."

"It's amazing to have my mum and brother sitting up there. It is just special."

His fellow South African-born teammate Andrew Strauss said it had been a rollercoaster few months.

"It has been seven weeks of emotional turmoil."

"I am proud to be part of this team."

"Everyone has contributed this season. It makes you proud to be representing your country."

"We have just been on the very edge of our nerves all summer. It was a great privilege to watch Kevin today."

Australia play a series against South Africa starting in November but question marks are already being raised about the make-up of their

coaching staff.

Troy Cooley, an Australian, has been an integral part of England's success this summer -- acting as bowling coach.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fifth and final day of the fifth and final Ashes Test between England and Australia at The Oval in London on Monday:

ENGLAND: First innings 373 (Strauss 129, Flintoff 72; Warne 6-122)

AUSTRALIA: First innings 367 (Hayden 138, Langer 105; Flintoff 5-78, Hoggard 4-97)

ENGLAND: Second innings (over-night 34-1)

Trescothick lbw b Warne 33

Strauss c Katich b Warne 1

Vaughan c Gilchrist b McGrath 45

Bell c Warne b McGrath 0

Pietersen b McGrath 158

Flintoff c and b Warne 8

Collingwood c Ponting b Warne 10

Jones b Tait 1

Giles b Warne 59

Hoggard not out 4

Hamison c Hayden b Warne 0

Extras: (b-4, w-7, nb-5) 16

Total: (All out in 91.3 overs) 335

Fall of wickets: 1-2, 2-67, 3-67, 4-109,

5-126, 6-186, 7-199, 8-308, 9-335

Bowler O M R W

McGrath 26 3 85 3

Lee 20 4 88 0

Warne 38.3 2 124 6

Clarke 2 0 6 0

Tait 5 0 28 1

AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Langer not out 0

Hayden not out 0

Extras: (lb-4) 4

Total: (For no loss in 0.4 overs) 4

Bowler O M R W

Hamison 0.4 0 0 0

Result: Match drawn and England win five-Test series 2-1.

Man-of-the-match: Kevin Pietersen.

England man-of-the-series: Andrew Flintoff.

Australian man-of-the-series: Shane Warne.

Waugh's caution



AFP, Sydney

Test cricket's most successful captain Steve Waugh Tuesday cautioned selectors against rushing into making impulsive changes to the Australian team following their Ashes series defeat to England.

Waugh, 40, said some of his former teammates were reaching the crossroads of their cricket careers and some changes were likely in the next couple of years but he urged for clear heads to prevail at the selection table.

England upset the odds by beating the world champion Australians 2-1 by drawing the fifth and final Test at The Oval on Monday to regain Ashes after more than 16 years.

"They'll have a couple of players in mind which they will bring in the side over the next couple of years," Waugh told Channel Nine Tuesday.

"I think at the moment you have to have clear heads and just wait a couple of weeks, reassess the whole series, see what went wrong

and just see whether changes are necessary or not.

"It's a very good side, a really experienced side. They will be disappointed but they will move on from it."

Team members will begin arriving home over the next two days with skipper Ricky Ponting to speak to the media late Wednesday at Sydney Airport upon his arrival.

Selector and former Test batsman David Boon has spoken of the need for careful selection policies with the Australian team.

"Sometimes you're going to have to make a hard decision to keep a subtle rotation going through so you don't have mass retirements," Boon told The Australian newspaper.

"But you've also got to be realistic. If somebody is scoring 100s upon 100s, or taking five wickets every time they bowl, you've still got to be aware you're picking the best cricket team you possibly can to represent your country."

"It's a little difficult but it's a scenario we're aware of. Within the realms of reality we try to achieve a three to five-year cycle rather than

an immediate impact.

"Obviously it (age) is something we've got to monitor but I believe if we keep producing cricketers who are 25 plus, they're mature, they're ready to play, they've still got a seven or eight-year career, then we're doing okay."

Waugh, who won 41 of his 57 Tests as Australian captain from 1999 to 2004 before Ponting took over as skipper, said his successor's field settings were conservative during the Ashes campaign.

But he said this was because of the danger of conceding too many boundaries on the English grounds.