

Shaun's ultimate act

Cricket

AFP, Cape Town

Shaun Pollock said he felt as though he was on 'cloud nine' as he produced a bowling masterclass to take South Africa to a resounding 86-run win in the second one-day international against the West Indies at Newlands Friday.

Pollock took two for 13 in ten overs while a crowd of 18,000 cheered his every move and he received a standing ovation when he finished his stint.

Captain Graeme Smith was the anchor of the South African innings, making 86. But Pollock trumped him for the man-of-the-match award.

"I've had some wonderful experiences in Cape Town," said Pollock. "It was just great. You almost feel you're on cloud nine out there with the crowd cheering everything you do. You almost feel you need to calm them down."

Pollock said a dry pitch had suited his bowling.

"I managed to hit my areas and there was a bit of movement off a length which kept them in check. It nipped back and nipped away and some of them stood up a bit."

The result, which put South Africa 2-0 ahead in the series, was a foregone conclusion long before the West Indian innings petered out at 169 with 10 balls remaining.

Shivnarine Chanderpaul, batting with a runner for most of his innings, made 54 before being ninth out.

"The bowlers did a good job," said West Indian captain Dwayne Bravo. "A target of 250 was achievable but we as batters didn't apply ourselves and we lost wickets at crucial times."

Smith, though, praised a "clinical performance" by the whole South African team.

In addition to Pollock, fast bowler Morne Morkel made a claim for a long-term place in the team by taking four for 36.

The West Indies made a good start to the match when fast bowler

Jerome Taylor dismissed senior batsmen Herschelle Gibbs and Jacques Kallis inside the first five overs, reducing the hosts to 18 for two.

Smith shared stands of 91 with AB de Villiers (45) and 72 with JP Duminy (68) as South Africa recovered.

but the tempo lifted when Ravi Rampaul came on as the first change bowler.

De Villiers hit his first three balls for 4, 6, 4 and added another boundary as 18 runs were scored off the over.

De Villiers survived a confident appeal for a legside catch behind

wicketkeeper Denesh Ramdin.

The left-handed Duminy made his third career half-century and his second in successive matches after being man of the match when the South Africa won the opening clash in the five-match series by six wickets in Centurion Sunday.

Pollock started with two maidens to put the West Indians on the back foot from the start of their innings.

Then he had Brenton Parchment caught at backward point off the splice of his bat in his third over. Pollock's first spell was 7-3-10-1.

Morkel took two wickets off successive balls and Pollock snuffed out any lingering hopes they might have had when he came on for his second spell in the 31st over.

He again started with two maidens and his accuracy produced a run-out when Dwayne Bravo tried to get off strike. Then he bowled Denesh Ramdin to take his career tally to 390 wickets in 300 one-day internationals.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the second one-day international between South Africa and the West Indies at Newlands on Friday:

SOUTH AFRICA: 255

WEST INDIES

Parchment c De Villiers b Pollock	8
Chattergoon c Boucher b Langeveldt	34
Morton c Steyn b Morkel	19
Samuels c Boucher b Morkel	2
Chanderpaul c Botha b Langeveldt	54
Bravo run out (De Villiers)	11
Ramdin b Pollock	0
Sammy c Boucher b Morkel	21
Rampaul c Smith b Steyn	1
Edwards not out	8
Taylor c Steyn b Morkel	1
Extras: (lb-5, nb-1, w-4)	10
Total: (All out in 48.2 overs)	169
Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-59, 3-64, 4-69, 5-97, 6-97, 7-134, 8-138, 9-168.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Pollock	10	5	13	2
Steyn	10	0	35	1
Langeveldt	8	0	28	2
Morkel	8	2	36	4
Botha	9	0	30	0
Kallis	3	0	22	0
Result: South Africa won by 86 runs and lead 5-match series 2-0.				
Man-of-the-match: Shaun Pollock.				

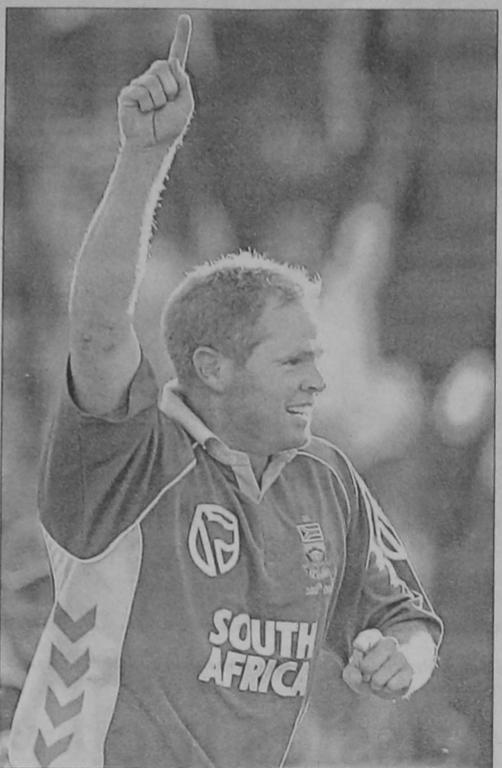


PHOTO: AFP

SHOULD BE A HAPPIER ENDING: South Africa all-rounder Shaun Pollock is overjoyed after taking the wicket of West Indies opener Brenton Parchment in the second one-day international at Newlands in Cape Town on Friday.

Taylor was easily the best West Indian bowler. He took four for 34 and bowled an excellent last over in which he conceded only one run while three wickets fell, including two run-outs.

After 11 overs from Taylor and Fidel Edwards the total was only 34

the wicket off Edwards and took 16 balls to score his first run. But he then batted fluently to make his 45 off 59 balls.

Smith struggled early on but went on to make his 86 off 107 balls with 11 fours before edging off-spinner Marlon Samuels to

the wicket off Edwards and took 16 balls to score his first run. But he then batted fluently to make his 45 off 59 balls.

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'Warne will fix spin'

PTI, Melbourne

Legendary spinner Shane Warne was sorely missed by Australia on the second day of the crucial fourth Test at the Adelaide Oval, prompting former Australian batsman Darren Lehmann to say that only when the player was capable of solving the problem.

"What this day does is highlight the need for Shane Warne to be brought in by Cricket Australia at the grassroots level to find our next spin champion," Lehmann said.

"He must be brought in now to avert a crisis. He is the only man who can do this," he was quoted as saying by the Courier Mail.

Warne produced one of the greatest performances of his career in Adelaide last summer when he bowled Australia to a stunning Ashes victory.

India took control of the fourth Test in Adelaide by posting 526 in which Australian spinner Hogg had a horror day and his Test career may be over if he cannot tame India's batsmen in their second innings.

Better

FROM PAGE 20

"I tried to focus on my serve and I managed to hold my serve most of the times.

"But it's very hard because I didn't get many chances on her serve, so it was a little disappointing for me. Ivanovic was left to rue a number of missed opportunities in the first set.

"Still, it's a learning experience for me. I (have not been) in these situations many times.

"Last year was the (first) opportunity I had to play against top players in the big occasions. So it's just a learning experience and learning process."

Merzuki, Boey lift U-14 titles

UNB, Dhaka

Merzuki Mohammad Asri and Boey Adelle of Malaysia were named as boys' and girls' champions in the Mobil IFF Asian under-14 Asian Tennis Championship (Group 2) at the National Tennis Complex yesterday.

Merzuki won the boys' singles crown beating Naow Amer of Syria 6-4, 6-4 while Adelle lifted the girls' crown defeating compatriot Selvarajoo Theviya 6-3, 6-3 in their respective finals.

A veteran of 96 Tests and 277 one-day internationals and the new record holder for most Test dismissals, Hayden said Gilchrist will be one of the most influential players the game had produced.

"It's a massive and surprising news," he said.

"From my point of view I feel incredibly privileged to have played with Adam for as long as I have. He's held the baggy green in his hand with great pride, passion,

Zaker stays on top

SPORTS REPORTER

Through a win over Nahid Parvez, SA Zaker maintained his lead in the metropolis selection chess tournament at the federation hall-room yesterday.

After his seventh round victory, Zaker moved to seven points, one clear of second position holders Moniruzzaman Khan and Giasuddin Mithu who are on six points each.

Monir and Mithu also won their respective matches over Obaidul Islam and Amir Hossain.

State honour thrills Sachin

PTI, Adelaide

Sachin Tendulkar may have won countless awards but the master batsman Saturday said all those trophies pale in comparison to India's second highest civilian honour, the Padma Vibhushan.

"I have won many awards and trophies but this is right at the top," Tendulkar said after the third day's play in the ongoing fourth and final Test against Australia.

"... I came to know about it Friday through my wife. I was extremely excited by it but since I was in the middle of the match, it was important to keep my focus on the game," he added.

Tendulkar said being conferred the second highest civilian honour was like a dream realised for him.

"It's truly a great honour to accept this award as this is recognized by the government of India. I have played for so many years and when government of India recognises your effort, gives you the second highest civilian award in the country, it's very, very special," he gushed.

"It means a lot to me to get this award alongside such great personalities. It's truly something which I can only dream of," he said.

The champion batsman also congratulated the other awardees.

"I want to take this opportunity to congratulate other awardees. It's fantastic to be in the same list," he said.

Tendulkar was among five other top sportspersons, including chess Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand, to have been selected for the Padma awards Friday.

PCB insists on Asia Cup

PTI, Karachi

Pakistani cricket authorities have made it clear they were not interested in either shifting the Australia's cricket tour anywhere else from their country or surrendering the hosting rights of the Asia Cup to Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankan Cricket Board has said it had written to the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) that it was willing to host the Asia Cup in June if Pakistan could not hold it because of the security conditions in their country and with countries reluctant to play in the country.

But PCB chairman Nasim Ashraf has said he had received no such offer from the Sri Lankan board and was not interested in surrendering the hosting rights of the tournament as it was perfectly safe to have international matches in Pakistan.

Gilchrist

FROM PAGE 17

know when that time is." His retirement continues a changing of the guard in Australian cricket, with Shane Warne, Glenn McGrath, Justin Langer and Damien Martyn all bowing out of international cricket in the last 15 months.

New South Wales wicketkeeper Brad Haddin is expected to take over the gloves for the Australian team.

Akram denied

FROM PAGE 20

East and we will keep in touch with him. He is somebody who we will maintain an interest in for the long term."

Akram was one of the stars of the Iraq side that won the Asian Cup for the first time in July of last year and was also part of the squad that reached the semifinals of the 2004 Olympic soccer tournament.

'Man of change'

Cricket

AFP, Adelaide

Australian opener Matthew Hayden said Adam Gilchrist was one of the greatest players the game had ever seen after the brilliant wicketkeeper-batsman announced his retirement here Saturday.

Gilchrist told teammates of his shock decision before the third day's play in the fourth Test against India and will hang up the gloves after the upcoming triangular one-day series.

A veteran of 96 Tests and 277 one-day internationals and the new record holder for most Test dismissals, Hayden said Gilchrist will be one of the most influential players the game had produced.

"It's a massive and surprising news," he said.

"From my point of view I feel incredibly privileged to have played with Adam for as long as I have.

"He's held the baggy green in his hand with great pride, passion,

discipline and great work ethic," he said.

"A fantastic leader and an ability to be able to change the game and that has made Adam one of the greatest players ever to play the game.

"Greatness is something we have aspired to be in the Australian cricket team and he's fulfilled everything that has been asked of him."

Hayden said Gilchrist would leave a lasting legacy in world cricket.

"The flamboyant nature equals the greatness of Vivian Richards and some of the other calypso characters that we've seen over the years," he said.

"It's all been such an inspiring and stellar performance over such a long period of time.

"Longevity is the ultimate pat on the back when it comes to a professional sportsman.

"He has played with remarkable skill, he has entertained and done so in a statesmanlike way, bonding cricketers throughout the world and changing cricketers throughout the

world with how he has played the game.

"A tremendous individual." Hayden said the popular left-hander would be deeply missed in the Australian team and said it was a privilege to partner Gilchrist at the top of the order in one-day cricket.

Hayden said it had been an emotional time when Gilchrist informed his fellow players.

"Adam informed everyone individually this morning, there was a lot of emotion," he said.

"What he wants out of this is to celebrate this Test match.

Hayden wouldn't be drawn on the reasoning behind Gilchrist's decision, just 24 hours after seemingly indicating he wanted to play on.

"Adam will talk about his emotions at the end of this Test match," he said.

"Adam will tell you why he actually decided to retire."

Hayden, the oldest player in the Australian team, said he had no intention of retiring anytime soon.

Ref ignored Sachin

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Mike Procter, the match referee who found Harbhajan Singh guilty of calling Andrew Symonds a "monkey" during the Sydney Test, relied on the evidence of three Australian players in reaching his decision, it has been revealed.

Harbhajan Singh denies saying these words. Both umpires did not hear nor did Ricky Ponting or Sachin Tendulkar. I am satisfied and sure beyond reasonable doubt that Harbhajan Singh did say these words.

"I have heard evidence from Andrew Symonds, Michael Clarke and Matthew Hayden that he did say these words. Harbhajan Singh denies saying these words. Both umpires did not hear nor did Ricky Ponting or Sachin Tendulkar. I am satisfied and sure beyond reasonable doubt that Harbhajan Singh did say these words.

"I am satisfied that the words were said and that the complaint to the umpires, which forms this charge, would not have been put forward falsely, I dismiss any suggestion of motive or malice."

Procter's decision came late into the night of January 6, after Australia won a Test match that was mired in controversy and ended amid inflamed passions among players and public. The race issue apart, there were several contentious umpiring decisions, largely going against India, and visible tensions between the teams. The verdict itself

created almost as much controversy as the incident; it was welcomed and criticised along national lines, the neutrals preferring to wait and see how Procter reached his decision, and these revelations are likely to stir up emotions again.

Among those present at the hearing was Sachin Tendulkar, the other Indian batsman at the crease, but Procter indicates he would not have been within earshot of the incident. "It was submitted to me by Chetan Chauhan (the Indian team manager) that there was doubt because the umpires and other players did not hear the words but, in my judgment, they would not have been in a position to hear them," Procter says. "I note that Sachin Tendulkar only became involved when he realised that something was happening and was gestured over. He tried to calm things down because something had happened that he did not hear."

The second issue he had to consider, Procter said, was whether Harbhajan used the words with the intention of insulting or offending him. "I am sure beyond reasonable doubt that the use of the word 'monkey' or 'big monkey' was said to insult or offend Andrew Symonds on the basis of his race, colour or ethnic origin."

While asserting that whatever may have been said between them prior to the exchange in question was irrelevant, Procter acknowledges there was a "history" between the two dating back to the one-day international in Mumbai late last year.

"It is not relevant to my findings here to decide what happened in

Mumbai. Nevertheless there was trouble in Mumbai when members of the crowd were arrested for using the word 'monkey' and gesturing towards Andrew Symonds. This caused both Indian and Australian boards to issue a joint-statement. To this extent Mumbai is relevant to this hearing."

The spat between Harbhajan and Symonds took place on the third day of the second Test in Sydney, when India were batting. Symonds later revealed he approached Harbhajan after the Indian off-spinner had tapped Brett Lee on the back with his bat.

"I was standing nearby and when I saw what happened, I thought, 'Hold on, that's not on,'" Symonds told the Herald Sun. "I'm a firm believer in sticking up for your teammate so I stepped in and had a bit of a crack at Harbhajan, telling him exactly what I thought of his antics. He then had a shot back which brings us to the situation we're facing."

Tendulkar and the umpires -- Mark Benson and Steve Bucknor -- intervened to defuse the situation, Benson covering his mouth while talking to Harbhajan to avoid tipping reading television viewers. The umpires reported Harbhajan to Procter after receiving a complaint from Australia's captain Ricky Ponting, who was abiding by the ICC directives concerning racism.

Following India's appeal the ICC appointed New Zealand judge John Hansen to chair the hearing, which is slated to be held on January 29 and 30 in Adelaide.



PHOTO: STAR

Chittagong area commander Maj Gen Abdul Mubin and Unilever managing director Rakesh Mohan pose with the winners of the 6th Unilever Golf Tournament at the Bhatary Golf Club in Chittagong yesterday.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

27 Yoko flight

10 O-S link

12 Large-headed nails

13 Partially mine

14 Firmament

15 Humor

19 Paving

20 Strength

21 Joplin or Ian

22 Unnamed person

23 Finished thing

24 Once-over

25 Moo goo gal pan pan

26 Sign up (for)

28 Charmed slitherer?

29 Earlier, in verse

30 Sacred song

31 Peel

32 Erstwhile acorn

34 Certain agt.

35 Antarctic bird

DOWN

1 Stage statues

2 Notoriety

3 Direct, as an assault

4 Strength

5 Farm-land

6 "I, e.g. statistic

7 Ski-lift escapade

8 Chopped info

9 Go off track

10 Excellent town

11 Corre-sponds

13 Nursery rhyme baker

16 Neighbors of mis

17 Massa-chusetts university

18 Arctic diving bird

19 Cautious

20 Straight-en (up)

21 Incarcer-ates

23 Milky gems

25 Privation

26 State with conviction

27 Yoko flight

28 Charmed slitherer?

29 Earlier, in verse

30 Sacred song

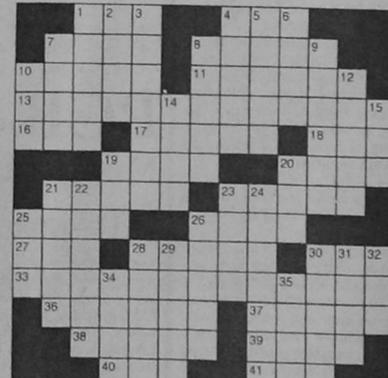
31 Peel

32 Erstwhile acorn

34 Certain agt.

35 Antarctic bird

Solution time: 21 mins.



CRYPTOQUIP

FT EDTUMQG K VMBFXMW
IEMX JFJ BNZBWN JZ IENT
XENG NTVZDTXNQNJ M HFU
QMX? XENG HZZNJ M BNKX
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOMEONE CONFISCATED ALL OF YOUR POLITICAL PAMPHLETS, THEN I'D SAY YOU ARE DIS-TRACTED.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals D

Insults traded

FROM PAGE 17

defensive," Sehwas said.

"They only scored 260 in a day, this is not like Australia.

"Last time we came here they scored 400 in a day, I think they're scared about defeat."

Press conferences later showed the ill feeling between the sides generated by the contentious second Test in Sydney still hadn't been fully resolved.

Spinner Harbhajan Singh, a key player in the Sydney drama, exchanged words with Ponting late in the day, after the pair collided as the Indian tried to stop a ball off his own bowling.

Harbhajan, recalled to renew his duel with Ponting, struggled to make an impact and failed to take a wicket in 28 overs, conceding 70 runs.

PCB denies

FROM PAGE 17

monthly salaries ranging between 1,200 to 3,500 dollars.

They raised the pay scales by 25 per cent in 2006.

CONTRACTED PLAYERS

Category A: Shoaib Malik (captain), Younis Khan, Mohammad Yousuf, Mohammad Asif and Misbahul Haq

Category B: Kamran Akmal, Salman Butt, Umar Gul, Shahid Afridi and Sohail Tanvir

Category C: Abdur Rehman, Yasir Arafat, Rao Iftikhar Anjum, Danish Kaneria and Fawad Alam

Category D (emerging players): Sarfraz Ahmed, Nasir Jamshed, Afaq Raheem, Khuram Manzoor, Naumanullah, Sohail Khan, Zulfiqar Jan, Wahab Riaz, Shoaib Khan and Samiullah Khan

OPEN SECRETS

FROM PAGE 20

The young French tennis player does, however, have a more tangible connection with the former world heavyweight boxing champion.

Tsonga's father Didier, who arrives in Australia on Sunday before the final against Serbia's Novak Djokovic, was at the famous 1974 "Rumble in the Jungle" fight in the former Zaire between Ali and then world champion George Foreman.

"My father was at the fight at Kinshasa because he's from Brazzaville," Tsonga told an astonished press pack on Saturday. "He took some photos, so I have some souvenirs." The 22-year-old said he had not thought of Ali as a sporting hero growing up, but he is now well aware of the "Louisville Lip" and his impact on world sport. "Yeah, of course, I watch some DVDs," Tsonga said, adding that there were other things he admired in the 66-year-old. "Maybe his personality on the court. Maybe I think I have the same (in) tennis as his (in) boxing."



PHOTO: COURTESY

Winners of the Square Golf Tournament pose with chief guest Lt General Masud Uddin Chowdhury, Principal Staff Officer, Armed Forces Division, at the Kurmitola Golf Club on Friday.