



Action from yesterday's Premier Hockey League match between Mariners and Sadharan Bima at the Maluana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium.

PHOTO: STAR

Coach Murali?

Cricket

APP, New Delhi

Record-breaking Sri Lankan bowler Muttiah Muralidaran said Wednesday he plans to team up with Indian counterpart Anil Kumble to coach spinners when he retires from international cricket.

Shane Warne (708) and leg-spinner Kumble (608). Murali is also the second-highest wicket-taker in one-day internationals with 464 scalps in 305 games after retired Pakistani fast bowler Wasim Akram (502).

some bowlers are coming through in Sri Lanka I would like to give them a chance. "I can achieve 1,000 Test wickets, but the thing is it is too long and too hard to achieve. I am 36 now and you have to retire when you are on the top. Numbers are going to be just numbers for your own satisfaction."

Upper hand for Royals

On a roll after a hat-trick of wins, Shane Warne's Rajasthan Royals will have their tails up when they take on a depleted Kolkata Knight Riders, which is struggling after back-to-back defeats, in Indian Premier League on Thursday.

Drop worked for Bopara

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Ravi Bopara has cited his dropping from the England side in Sri Lanka as the catalyst which has led to his remarkable early-season form.

regain his Test spot, however. Alongside him are Robert Key, who struck 178 not out against the New Zealanders at Canterbury on Monday, and Owais Shah who many believe has been unlucky not to break his way back into the team.

IM norms for Sagar, Shakil

SPORTS REPORTER

FIDE Masters Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar and Abu Sufian Shakil secured one International Master's (IM) norms each with the outcomes of their respective tenth round matches in the 34th National Chess Championship at the federation hall-room yesterday.

Saheba asked to clarify remarks

CRICINFO, undated

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has sought an explanation from umpire Amiesh Saheba for his remarks, made to a Mumbai-based tabloid, about Shanthakumar Sreesanth's behaviour.

Mumbai's first win

FROM PAGE 17

Mumbai, who lost their first four games and will miss the services of 850,000-dollar signing Harbhajan Singh for the rest of the tournament after his row with Sreesanth during the match against the Kings XI Punjab.

Mumbai, who lost their first four games and will miss the services of 850,000-dollar signing Harbhajan Singh for the rest of the tournament after his row with Sreesanth during the match against the Kings XI Punjab.

Salahuddin

FROM PAGE 17

Salam Mursheid, who was elected from losing president candidate Maj Gen (ret'd) Amin Ahmed Chowdhury's panel, said that there is only one team now.

Outcome

FROM PAGE 17

two losses of the tosses. I'll always remember walking out there with the blazer on. "How will certainly have no qualms about welcoming the IPL contingent back into the bosom of the team."

'Ban Bhajji for life'

Former Australian Test umpire Lou Rowan on Wednesday labelled Harbhajan Singh a menace on the field and called for a life ban on the temperamental off-spinner for slapping India teammate S Sreesanth.

'Players need right advice'

Cricket

REUTERS, Mumbai

Indian cricketers need professional help to cope with their fame and wealth, Test captain Anil Kumble said on Wednesday.

the moment, it's important that someone ensures that players are given the right kind of advice, that there are professionals to help them cope with fame and the money it brings...

Mohali. Television pictures showed Sreesanth, an international teammate of Harbhajan's, sobbing after the game.

LOCAL SNIPPETS

FROM PAGE 17 Batting first after winning the toss, Chandpur were all out for 140 in 38.5 overs with Sakawat scoring 41 runs.

Shoaib loses ban appeal

Cricket

APP, Lahore

A Pakistani appeals committee on Wednesday temporarily upheld a five-year ban imposed on fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar but said he was free to play cricket outside the country.

Farrukh said the main hearing into Akhtar's appeal against the ban would take place in June and that the ban on playing in or for Pakistan would stay in place until then.

BCCI announces winter venues

PTI, New Delhi

Ahmedabad will host the first Test between India and England when Michael Vaughan's team come to India for a two-Test and seven-ODI series in November-December, the final itinerary of which will be announced soon by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. ACROSS 35 Swindle 36 For 4 Puncturing tools 8 Teensy bit 12 Snitch 13 Pace 14 "Clue" weapon 15 Way-farer's refuge 16 Frost 17 Words of denial 18 Intensely 21 Shelter 22 Formerly called 23 Wanted poster 26 Hoosergow 27 Realtor's offering 30 Frilly, in a way 31 Felon's flight 32 Swamp-land 33 Cautious solution 34 Prohibit

DOWN 20 "O My Heart" 23 The whole enchilada 24 Deposit 25 "Rocks" 26 One may hold the mayo 27 Smith or Claiborne 28 Mined-over matter 29 X rating? 31 It's kid stuff 32 Castle protection 34 Scrooge's cry 35 Pure blood-hound's clue 37 Huge pit 38 Get ready to travel 39 PC picture 40 Small combo 41 "Easy" - it 42 Snatched 43 Not pre-recorded 44 Vivacity

CRYPTOQUIP. UX GZCDIT SVLDT UD KY. JYYL SK S AYYVD GSZU. VYUDEYTX OST KYJT OCU. SEYQK. VY C KYLL S ASITDZ. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE PLAYFUL RIVER MAMMAL CALL HIS GIRLFRIEND HIS SIGNIFICANT OTTER? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals M