

Watson awaits recall

CRICINFO, Adelaide

Shane Watson could return to the Test team for Australia's first match against South Africa as the side considers taking a four-man pace attack to the WACA. The Perth Test begins on December 17 and Australia's captain Ricky Ponting said there was no guarantee a spinner would be required at a venue where pace has dominated in first-class cricket this season.

Australia took four fast men, including Shaun Tait, into the Perth Test against India last summer and the plan backfired when they lost by 72 runs. But depending on the surface they have not ruled out a similar strategy this year and Watson's 7 for 69 in the first innings of Queensland's Sheffield Shield match this week make him the leading contender for a spot.

An Akram appeal

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

Former great Wasim Akram on Monday called on India not to break cricketing ties with Pakistan, suggesting both countries should instead play a Test match in terrorist-hit Mumbai to show solidarity.

The former Pakistan cricket captain made his remarks amid reports that the Indian government has denied its cricket team permis-



WASIM AKRAM

sion to tour Pakistan early next year following last week's attacks on Mumbai which left more than 170 dead.

"Cricket is not on anyone's mind at the moment, but after three to four days both the

countries must take a positive step. I suggest Pakistan and India play a Test in Mumbai so to give a clear message that we will not give in," Wasim told AFP.

"India is like a second home for me, so whatever has happened there has hurt everyone in Pakistan including me," said Wasim, who holds the world record of most one-day wickets with 502.

"But if this hits our relations and cricket, it would mean that we have given in to terrorists." He cited his own experiences when captaining Pakistan on a tour of India in 1999 despite threats from Hindu fundamentalists, playing the first cricket series between the two countries after a decade-long deadlock due to political tension.

"Cricket means everything in the subcontinent. It has built bridges and has averted wars on several occasions. People love and worship cricket, so it would be a great loss if cricket is halted. I hope it isn't," Wasim said.

India had been scheduled to play three Tests, five one-day internationals and a Twenty20 match during a five-week tour from January 4 to February 19.

The tour was first put in doubt last month when the Indian government refused its national junior hockey team permission to visit Pakistan due to security concerns.

If India cancels its tour, it would be the latest in a string of recent blows to cricket in Pakistan caused by terrorism fears.

Australia cancelled a Test tour of Pakistan in March and the International Cricket Council postponed the high-profile Champions Trophy here in September due to security concerns caused by Islamic militant activity.

Wasim said the Mumbai attacks have derailed the peace process between longtime rivals India and Pakistan.

"A week ago our President (Asif Ali Zardari) was suggesting there should be no visas for travelling between the two countries and suddenly we have this tragic incident and the whole thing is derailed," Wasim said.

Mohali comes into play

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) are engaged in "positive discussions" to ensure the two-Test series goes ahead with Mohali and Chennai now believed to have been identified as the new venues.

The BCCI said last week that Chennai would replace Mumbai as the host of the second Test, following terror attacks in the city which forced England to return

home without completing the tour. But it now turns out that discussions are being held on whether Chennai can host the first Test and Mohali the second.

The pre-Test practice match is also likely to be held at the venue of the first Test, scheduled to start from December 11, underscoring reports that the ECB had made this request.

"The discussions are still going on and nothing has been finalised as yet," MP Pandove, BCCI treasurer and secretary of the Punjab Cricket Association (PCA), which runs the Mohali venue, told Cricinfo. Pandove, however,

refused to confirm the venue change.

What is certain is that Ahmedabad -- the scene of serial bomb blasts three months ago -- has been ruled out as the first Test venue considering its relative proximity to Mumbai.

Under the BCCI schedule, revised following the terror strikes, the first Test was to be held as originally scheduled in Ahmedabad from December 11-15, and the second Test in Chennai from December 19-23. The pre-Test practice match between England and a Board President's XI was to be held in Vadodra from December 5-7.

Chennai is now being considered for the first Test, possibly because it is seen as a venue with the least threat perception from a security point of view, and will help ease the immediate fears expressed by some of the England players on touring India. The ECB has specifically asked for a southern Indian venue for the second Test instead of Mumbai.

There were also reports that Kolkata could be an alternate venue instead of Ahmedabad, but Jagmohan Dalmiya, the president of the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) told Cricinfo that he was yet to receive any official information from the BCCI.

Hugh Morris, the managing director of the ECB, indicated that if England failed to reach India in time for the match against Board President's XI, they might opt for a neutral venue provided the tour was still on. "We have to keep our options open, and training in Abu Dhabi is definitely an option," he said.

Saikat steers

CRICINFO

Rajshahi were 91-2 when the stumps were drawn early due to bad light at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

Delwar struck in the fourth over removing Anwar Hossain for 11 and since then an unimaginative Dhaka lost wickets at regular intervals. Mahmudullah scored highest 38 while captain Javed Omar, who scored a century in the last round, fell for 21.

Delwar finished the day on 5-45 while Saiful Islam and Sharawardi Shuvo took two wickets each.

Rajshahi in their chase lost their first wicket early. But Jahurul Islam steadied the innings with an unbeaten 56 off 118 balls. He struck eight boundaries.

SCORES IN BRIEF
SYLHET: First innings 279-6 in 94 overs (Saikat 111, Mithun 24, Golam Rahman 70 not out; Tariqul 4-71)

KHULNA: First innings 267-6 in 90 overs (Sahagir 33, Raihan 63, Nahidul 67, Selim 20 not out; Ziaur 43 not out; Tareq Aziz 4-53)

DHAKA: First innings 142 all out in 47.4 overs (Javed 21, Mahmudullah 38, Nadif 24; Delwar 5-45, Saiful 2-31, Shuvo 2-13)

RAJSHAHI: First innings 91-2 in 35.4 overs (Jahurul 56 not out, Shuvo 9 not out)

Sharma has to be protected

PTI, New Delhi

Ishant Sharma, the teen pace sensation of Indian cricket team, is a treasure which India need to protect well to keep firing at the opposition batting line-ups, former India pace-man T A Sekar said on Monday.

Sekar, the former MRF Pace Foundation head coach, said Sharma was a unique talent which needed to be handled cautiously.

"Ishant is a treasure. We need to wrap him in cotton wool and protect him so that he can last long. He makes a good combination with Zaheer."

"It's important that we monitor his progress well. We should never play him if he feels even a little uncomfortable," Sekar told PTI on the sidelines of a function here.

Sekar, who was here to announce Gatorade Pacers -- a talent hunt programme -- said the 20-year-old Sharma need to improve his physique which will make him even better.

"He has to build up his body. That is going to help him survive for long. He knows his body best and should be given immediate rest even if he encounters an injury," he said.

However, Sekar did not read much into Sharma getting injured so early in his career as he missed the first two one-dayers of the India-England series.

"Any bowler, who is bowling at a speed of 135 kilometres or more, will face some injuries. Ishant just had a niggles at that time and it was sensible to rest him." Meanwhile, former India strike bowler Javagal Sreanath said the exposure of Twenty20 cricket has helped Zaheer Khan and Ishant become better bowlers in longer formats of the game.

Khulna

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177 in 49.4 overs, which they had never thought to be a defensible total.

Khulna play today's winners of the second semifinal between Rangpur and Dinajpur in the December 4 final.

Dutch pain

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Persie's rapid brace.

Chelsea were the only side in English professional football not to have conceded a second-half goal in a league game this season before the Dutchman hit the target with a controversial strike.

Emmanuel Adebayor won a header which Denilson chipped down before playing Van Persie through.

The striker, half a yard offside, blasted his shot past Cech to level the match 59 minutes in.

And if that stunned the hosts, worse was to come three minutes later as the Dutchman fired in his second.

Gunners captain Cesc Fabregas played a free kick into the penalty box which Adebayor headed back across goal for Van Persie.

With his back to goal, Van Persie turned Lampard and blasted his shot in across Cech to shock Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea boss Luiz Felipe Scolari threw on forward Florent Malouda in place of John Obi Mikel with 20 minutes to go in a bid to force an equaliser.

The Frenchman fired a free kick over the bar in the 77th minute and Deco shot likewise four minutes later as the hosts urgently sought a leveler.

Scolari then brought on pacy winger Miroslav Stoch in place of Deco but the academy graduate could do nothing to alter the outcome as Arsenal successfully hung on to send a message to the rest of the Premier League that they are still in the title race.

Razzak

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reported for suspect action in his first international series, the 2004 Asia Cup in Sri Lanka.

ICC urges England to go back to India

Cricket

AFP, London

International Cricket Council (ICC) chief executive Haroon Lorgat has pleaded with England's stars to return to India for next month's two-Test series.

England flew back to London on Saturday after the final two one-day internationals against India were postponed in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in Mumbai this week that killed 174 people.

But Kevin Pietersen's team are due to return for the first Test starting on December 11 in Ahmedabad.

That match could be moved to Kolkata with the second Test already switched from Mumbai to Chennai, but Pietersen's players won't decide whether to return until they are given security advice from the England and Wales Cricket Board.

After expressing his horror at the events, Lorgat said: "If safety and security allow then I would urge the England Test tour of India to go ahead and if it does so then representatives of the ICC will be there to show

solidarity with the competing teams.

"And if those Tests are played I would also urge supporters of the game to attend them as that will be the best way to send a message to those who seek to disrupt our way of life, that we will not be prevented from doing what we want or what we enjoy.

"I have written to the Board of Control for Cricket in India pledging whatever support the ICC can offer to help ensure that, if appropriate, cricket goes ahead.

"I have also written to the England and Wales Cricket Board with a similar offer of support and solidarity."

Lorgat also revealed issues of safety and security will be addressed at next week's ICC chief executives' committee meeting in Cape Town.

The ECB and the BCCI have discussed a number of ways forward but a neutral venue such as Abu Dhabi looks like one which will not be pursued.

The favoured option currently is thought to be for the team to head straight for the city in which they will play the first Test -- be it Ahmedabad or Kolkata -- and play a two-day warm-up game at an alternative ground to the Test.

Mumbai set

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Tendulkar, 35, the world's leading run-getter in both Test and one-day cricket, is not a regular on the domestic circuit since he prefers to rest between international commitments.

The Hyderabad team will, however, include Test batsman Venkatsai Laxman, while Mumbai has international players like Ajit Agarkar, Rohit Sharma and Wasim Jaffer in its ranks.

The players appear keen to return to the field.

"Whatever happened was very unfortunate," Jaffer told the same paper. "So many people have lost their lives. We will have to overcome this and keep moving in life.

"The scar that has been left will remain but we have to be alert and ready to face such situations."

Sharma, a one-day regular in the Indian side, said he was determined to give his best in the match.

"Whatever happened was very sad," he said. "But as a professional cricketer, I don't want to put pressure on myself by thinking about the tragic events."

"The world moves on. Every game is very important for me. I don't want to take any game lightly because of the stiff competition we have."

England are expected to decide this week if they will return to India for the two-Test series starting on December 11.

Lee seals series

FROM PAGE 17

Only Aaron Redmond and Jamie How reached double-figures from the top six, but the opening pair was responsible for allowing the early carnage. Australia captain Ricky Ponting provided the highlight for Lee with a stunning one-handed take at second slip to remove How for 28. Lee squared up the batsman and the edge was intercepted by a flying Ponting who was at full stretch. The catch was so good Ponting, who is not usually excited by his own deeds, started on a looping run before his teammates mobbed him, and he received a special hug from Lee as they watched the replay on the big screen.

Lee started by removing Redmond, whose back-foot drive looped to Michael Clarke at point, with the second ball of the morning before Jesse Ryder (3) pushed a wide delivery moving further away to Andrew Symonds at forward point. New Zealand were 2 for 55 and three runs later Ross Taylor (1) turned his bat too early to Lee and gave the bowler a simple return catch.

Ponting's classic take made it 4 for 63 and it could have

been worse for the tourists and better for Lee without Brad Haddin's drop of a speeding edge from Daniel Flynn before he had scored. Lee released some personal tension by hitting Peter Fulton in the arm, but had to wait until after tea to bring up his tenth five-wicket haul with the lbw of O'Brien. In 25 overs he had 5 for 105 and added the collection to his 4 for 66 on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the fourth day of the second and final Test between Australia and New Zealand at Adelaide Oval on Monday.
NEW ZEALAND: First innings 270

AUSTRALIA: First innings 535
NEW ZEALAND: Second innings (overnight 35 for no loss)

Redmond c Clarke b Lee 19
How c Ponting b Lee 28
Ryder c Symonds b Lee 3
Taylor c & b Lee 1
Fulton b Johnson 7
Flynn lbw b Johnson 9
McCullum not out 84
Vettori c Hayden b Hauritz 13
Southee c Ponting b Hauritz 11
O'Brien lbw b Lee 0
Martin b Johnson 0
Extras: (b-7, lb-8, nb-13) 28

Total: (All out in 74.1 overs) 203
Fall of wickets: 1-39, 2-55, 3-58, 4-63, 5-76, 6-84, 7-105, 8-131, 9-181, 10-203.

Bowler O M R W
Lee 25 5 105 5
Clark 10 5 22 0
Johnson 15.1 7 29 3
Hauritz 24 11 32 2
Result: Australia won by an innings and 62 runs and clinched the two-match series 2-0.

Man-of-the-match: Brad Haddin.

Man-of-the-series: Michael Clarke.

Brothers

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their chances. The strikers were told not to miss because oppositions like Abahani don't give away many opportunities. Zahid was also instructed to use his powerful shots and he succeeded after two landed off target," added Wasim.

Amallesh rued the absence of his midfield players Mamun, Pranotosh and Ujjal.

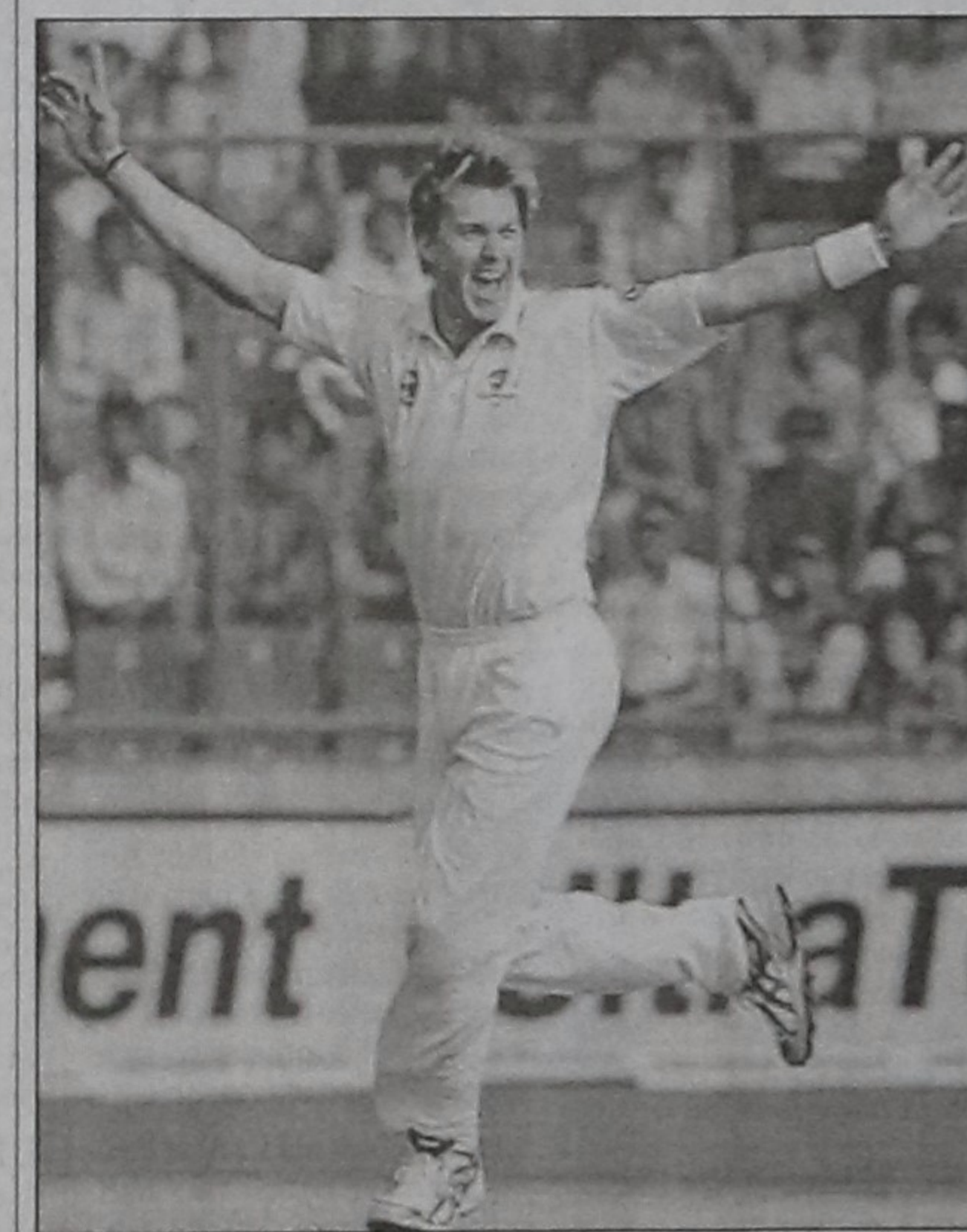
"Mamun has been suffering from fever, Pranotosh needed several stitches on his head during the Mohammedan match and Ujjal has yet to regain fitness after being away for long due to disciplinary action by the club," informed the veteran coach.

"We could not play according to our plan or change strategy. Moreover, Abul and Emily were totally colourless. Its hard to survive against a strong team with so much lacks, especially when the opponents play good," explained the ex-international midfielder.

Yellow cards: Mishu (Brothers) and Joy, Ibrahim, Tipu (Abahani)

TEAMS

BROTHERS: Zia, Shuvra, Ariful, Shakil (Liton), Arup (Ashrafu), Divine, Mishu, Zahid, Matur Munna, Tapu (Parvez) and Henry.
ABAHANI: Biplab, Nazrul (Siraji), Samad, Sujun, Waly, Zahed (Tipu), Joy (Pradip), Abul, Emeka, Ibrahim and Emily.
Referee: Abdul Hannan.



BRETT LEE ... 5 for 105

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 William tribe
5 Recipe meas.
8 Work at the key-board
12 — vera
13 Hocter
14 Frost
15 Non-paying passenger
17 Baseball scores
18 Upper surface
19 With it
20 Elude
21 Automaton for short

Crossword grid and solutions: 33 Arizona, 53 Look las-civiously, 21 Seccession, 22 Remiss, 23 Inmate, 24 Khan title, 25 Gun the engine, 26 Wrong member (Pref.), 27 Prof conclusion, 28 French article, 29 UFO crew?, 31 Junior, 34 Clampett patriarch, 35 A bit of a shock, 37 He — at scars..., 38 Houston acronym, 39 Finished

ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানী লিমিটেড
DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD.
(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)
Invitation for Local Tender
1 Agency: Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC)
2 Procuring Entity Name: Deputy General Manager, Contracts & Procurement Circle, Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC).
3 Procuring Entity District: Dhaka.
4 Invitation for: Procurement of 400 Volt, 10(100)A Whole Current Metering Unit
5 Invitation Ref. no.: DPDC/DGM(CP&S)/08-09/300
6 Date: 27/11/2008
Key Information:
7 Procuring Method: Open Tendering Method (Single -Stage Two-Envelope)
Funding Information:
8 Budget & source of Funds: DPDC's own fund.
Particular Information:
9 Tender Name: Procurement of 400 Volt, 10(100)A Whole Current Metering Unit
10 Last Selling Date of Tender, with Bid Submission and Bid Opening Date, Time: Last Selling Date: 06/01/2009, Bid Submission & Bid Opening Date: 07/01/2009, Bid Submission Deadline: 12:00 noon, Bid Opening Time: 12:30 pm
11 Name & Address of the office for selling, receiving and opening of Tender Document: Selling: Deputy General Manager, Contracts & Procurement Circle, Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC), Biddut Bhaban (3rd Floor), 1 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka - 1000. Receiving & Opening: Deputy General Manager, Contracts & Procurement Circle, Dhaka Power Distribution Company Limited (DPDC), Biddut Bhaban (3rd Floor), 1 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka - 1000.