



West Indies batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan pulls one over mid-wicket during his match-winning knock of 67 not out in the second one-day international against New Zealand at AMI Stadium in Christchurch yesterday.

W Indies win late

Cricket

AFP, Christchurch

A late batting onslaught by Ramnaresh Sarwan and Denesh Ramdin saw the West Indies snatch victory with one ball to spare in the second one-day international against New Zealand here Saturday.

Ramdin took two off the first delivery bowled by Southee, and then he and Sarwan took singles off the fourth and fifth balls to seal the match.

In between both Brendon McCullum and Grant Elliot missed shies at the stumps that could have resulted in run outs.

Match statistics table including batting and bowling figures for both teams.

Zimbabwe

FROM PAGE 17 players like Tatenda Taibu and Raymond Price. Wicketkeeper Taibu has played in the last series between the two teams in Bangladesh and has even appeared for Premier League side City Club a few seasons ago.

SA eye big first innings

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

South Africa finished a strong first day with six Australian wickets but already their thoughts are turning to producing a significant total to limit the difficulties in the fourth innings.

on 73 as he lifted the side from another uncomfortable start from the misfiring order.

can carry on that in the morning with Mitchell Johnson. If we get one or two really good partnerships we'll get ourselves in a reasonably good position.

SQUAD

Prosper Utseya (captain), Elton Chigumbura, Graeme Cremer, Keith Dabengwa, Hamilton Masakadza, Stuart Matsikenyeri, Christopher Mpofu, Tawanda Mupariwa, Forster Mutizwa, Raymond Price, Edward Rainsford, Visumuzi Sibanda, Tatenda Taibu (wicketkeeper), Malcolm Waller, Sean Williams.

Peter doesn't deny KP rift

CRICINFO, undated

Peter Moores has turned down the opportunity to deny the scale of the rift that has formed between him and England's captain, Kevin Pietersen, following the exclusion of Pietersen's predecessor, Michael Vaughan, from next month's tour of the Caribbean.

BFF honours

FROM PAGE 17 Salahuddin himself was a member of the historic team.

The BFF will unveil a stone with the names of the 36 footballers engraved on it so that the next generation never forgets these heroes.

Chief of Army Staff and NSC chairman General Moeen U Ahmed will inaugurate the commemorative inscription this evening.

On December 24, players of the squad testified to the reception committee, headed by BFF member Sirajul Islam Bachchu, that Biren Das, Mozammel Haque and Abdul Khalek were members of the team.

India behind the delay?

Cricket

PTI, Karachi

The Sri Lankan cricket authorities are delaying finalising the itinerary for the Pakistan tour because they first want to work out a window for a lucrative one-day series against India, sources said.

According to reliable sources, the Board of Control for Cricket in India has offered to play six one-dayers against Sri Lanka sometime in February-March with a proposal to organise three matches each in both the countries.

"The Sri Lankans have made it clear that they are very keen to play against India as this guaranteed them maximum revenues. This could be one reason why they have asked Pakistan to reschedule their tour from January," one source said.

"Because of this reason they want the Pakistan tour delayed until late February and have also reduced the number of matches from three Tests and five one-day internationals to two Tests and three one-day games," the source said.

"One thing is for sure, the Indian offer is far more important for them."

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) officials have insisted that they didn't think the Indian board was trying to derail their hastily arranged series against Sri Lanka but the sources said India was not making life easier for Pakistan.

"Both the series are unscheduled ones so it is a case of the board with more muscle power having his way and in this case it appears to be India," one source said.

Pakistan are due to tour Bangladesh from March 3 to play five one-day internationals but Sri Lanka's insistence on changing their itinerary has left Pakistan with no option but to ask Bangladesh to delay the scheduled series.

However, Sri Lanka Cricket chief executive Duleep Mendis on Friday said his board would consult the players before finalising Pakistan tour itinerary but made it clear that there was no question of backing out of the series.

Mendis dismissed reports that the delay in finalisation of itinerary was due to Sri Lankan players being reluctant to tour Pakistan.

"We have already confirmed to our Pakistani counterparts that we will be touring their country. We will definitely honour our commitment. Reports of our possible pullout from the tour are not true," Mendis told Geo News.

"There are few things which we're discussing with the PCB and our players and then we'll finalise the itinerary, may be in few days... I would say in a couple of days.... But the tour is definitely on," Mendis said.

Pakistan had invited Sri Lanka after India cancelled their tour in the wake of the Mumbai terror attacks.

Sources say the Lankan authorities want a confirmation from their players on the number of matches they would play in Pakistan and the financial details for the tour as it is not part of the Future Tour Programme of the ICC.

PCB Chief Operating Officer Saleem Altif said he didn't think the Sri Lankans were delaying the confirmation of the itinerary because of a possible pullout.

"They have some issues to sort out internally and will get back to us soon. On our part we are preparing for the series," he said.

ICC backs D/N Tests

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Day-night Test matches have been given the support of the International Cricket Council's (ICC) chief executive, Haroon Lorgat, but a five-day game under lights will only take place once a suitable ball has been developed.

"The lack of crowd attendance at many grounds around the globe is a cause for concern," Lorgat said at a Sydney press conference to mark the 100th anniversary of the ICC's founding.

Last month Sutherland said that playing under lights "might be the only way that Test cricket stays alive", with attendances reportedly in decline in the face of Twenty20's growing popularity.

The biggest problem, for players and public alike, is replicating the visibility of a red ball at night while retaining its colour and characteristics. In one-day and Twenty20 cricket, a white ball is used which contrasts well against the coloured clothing, sightscreens and the night sky.

But it discolours easily and behaves differently than the red ball. As one scientist told Cricinfo in April, "the optimum would be to have one ball, of course, which behaved in the right way [for all cricket]", but this is easier said than done.

At the start of England's 2008 domestic season, the MCC trialled the use of a pink ball with some success, and last November Cricket Australia were given assurance by the country's government scientists that a suitable replacement for red balls would be possible.

Despite the concerns over the future of Test cricket, Australia is one of the few countries - England being the second - where attendance (and television audience) remains strong. David Morgan, the ICC president, spoke more optimistically. "If you ask the cricketers what they believe to be the apex of the game, those who play say it's Test cricket," he said. "I understand that TV ratings for Test cricket are very good."

Fielding gaffes

Cricket

FROM PAGE 17

Zunaed Siddiqui however made the most costly blunder when he dropped Dilshan on 78. Dilshan got a thick edge from left-arm spinner Mehrab Hossain trying to flash but only to travel to the first slip where the lanky fielder fumbled the right-hander to make his second highest total of 162 that saw 21 fours and two sixes.

Imrul Kayes was the other culprit on the day as he dropped Kapugedara on 37 to give the right-hander a chance to make his maiden Test hundred. This time the unlucky bowler was Mashrafe.

Kapugedara, who is now just seven runs away from making his hundred, got forward to whip Mashrafe away through the on side and chipped it tamerly to Kayes at mid-on but the fielder dived forward to spills a sitter.

So one can say that the fielders actually made the day difficult for the Tigers bowlers.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of the second and final Test between Sri Lanka and Bangladesh at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium on Saturday.

SRI LANKA: First innings Warnapura lbw b Ashraf 63 P Jayawardene lbw b Mashrafe 0 Sangakkara b Mashrafe 5 M Jayawardene c Mushfiqur b Shakib 11 Samarweera b Shahadat 19

Honours

FROM PAGE 17 straightforward chance at short mid-wicket off Ntini and Mitchell Johnson kept him company to stumps with an unbeaten 17.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of the third and final Test between Australia and South Africa at Sydney Cricket Ground on Saturday:

AUSTRALIA: First innings Hayden b Steyn 31 Kitch c De Villiers b Kallis 47 Ponting c Boucher b Morkel 0 Hussey c Kallis b Harris 30 Clarke not out 73 McDonald c Boucher b Ntini 15 Haddin b Steyn 38 Johnson not out 17 Extras: (lb-7, w-2, nb-7) 16 Total: (For 6 wks in 88 overs) 267

To bat: Hauritz, Siddie, Bollinger.

Fall of wickets: 1-62, 2-63, 3-109, 4-130, 5-162, 6-237.

Bowler O M R W Steyn 21 4 71 2 Ntini 19 5 53 1 Morkel 17 3 49 1 Kallis 15 4 43 1 Harris 16 3 44 1 SOUTH AFRICA: McKenzie, Smith, Amla, Kallis, De Villiers, Duminy, Boucher, Morkel, Steyn, Harris, Ntini.

Toss: Australia. Umpires: BF Bowden (New Zealand) and EAR de Silva (Sri Lanka)

Morning

FROM PAGE 17 After fall of the wicket of Samarweera in the 28th over of the Bangladesh cricket fans had to pass a long time to see another achievement which came in the 52nd over when Tigers skipper Mohammad Ashraf grabbed the wicket of Warnapura (63 runs off 151 balls) off the first ball of his (Ashraf) two overs.

At stumps on the first day, the cricket fans could not calculate their earning from the match while the drop of catches also added salt to their wounds.

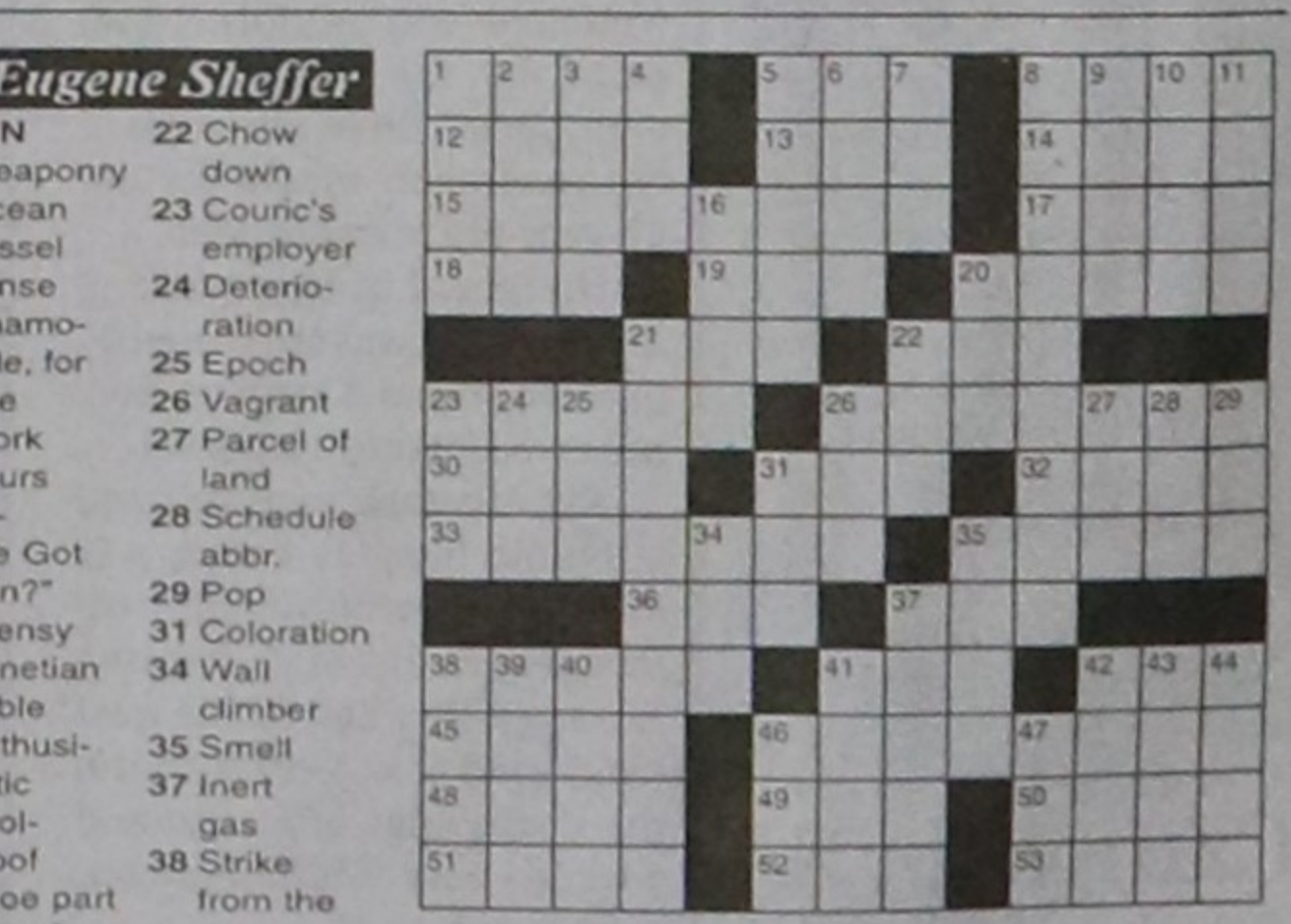
Jabed Monwar, an employee of a private firm, said he used to not go to the stadium to enjoy Test matches, but the hopeful performance of the Bangladeshi players in the first match in Dhaka forced him like others to watch the match.

"But I am quite unhappy with the performance that they showed today," Jabed said.

Like Jabed many other cricket fans thronged the Chittagong Divisional Stadium yesterday only to come back home with a broken heart.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 35 Eightsome DOWN 22 Chown 1 Help a 36 Rd. 1 Weaponry 2 Ocean 23 Course's vessel 37 Common ton 24 Deterioration 5 Witnessed 3 Tense 24 Deterioration 8 Korean 38 Jerry 3 Tense 24 Deterioration War Herman 4 Chamomile, for movie heroine 4 Chamomile, for movie heroine 12 Went on 41 Expert 5 Work hours 42 Taste the 5 Work hours 13 Hasten wine 6 28 Schedule 14 Chills and 45 Foll 6 28 Schedule 15 Periodical 46 'Galcon- da' 7 Teeny 31 Coloration 17 'An incon- venient painter 8 Venetian noble climber Truth' René 9 Enthusi- 35 Small teller? 48 Set down 9 Enthusi- 37 Inert 18 Pig's home 50 Crazy 10 Fool- gas 49 Past proof 38 Slink 51 Otherwise 11 Shoe part from the 20 Christmas- tree top- played 20 TV alien birth- stone per, maybe Lili Vonn 21 A Biblical stone 22 TV lawyer 40 Oahu sou- 23 Coffee 41 Senatu 41 Senatu 24 Additive 42 Old 42 Old 26 At a loss 43 Reason to 43 Reason to 30 Bjorn of tennis 44 Laborer scratch 31 Sports 44 Laborer scratch 32 Title 46 Chart 46 Chart 33 Sports arena 47 Sort 47 Sort



CRYPTOQUIP

MJMYLHGLZQMAPYBCBLA UGYQGRJHJLZSAZURMALI IYHTIZRLMPDCRYIM'L HYSMAPCDGLZBATR Yesterday's Cryptopquip: THE SHORT-ORDER COOK WENT DASHING INTO THE KITCHEN. FRANTICALLY ASKING 'WHERE'S THE FRYER?' Today's Cryptopquip Clue: A equals N