

Kallis, Sreesanth shine

Cricket

AFP, Cape Town

India lost two early wickets as they launched their reply to a Jacques Kallis-inspired South African first innings total of 362 on the second day of the third and final Test at Newlands on Sunday. Virender Sehwag (13) and Rahul Dravid (5) were both dismissed cheaply before tea was taken.

Gautam Gambhir (65 not out) and Sachin Tendulkar (49 not out) had taken the score to 142 for two at stumps.

Earlier in the day, Kallis was the mainstay of the South African innings, making 161 before being last man out. Kallis batted superbly with tailenders Paul Harris and



PHOTO: AFP

South Africa great Jacques Kallis acknowledges the applause after reaching his 39th Test ton during the second day of the third Test against India at Newlands yesterday.

Lonwabo Tsotsobe, taking his score from 100 to 161 while the last two wickets added 79 runs.

It was the South African batting star's 39th Test century, moving him into joint second place on the all-time Test centuries list alongside Ricky Ponting of Australia and behind only India's Sachin Tendulkar, who has made 50 hundreds.

It was also the highest of seven Test centuries by Kallis at Newlands, his home ground.

The innings came at a cost to South Africa, however, as Kallis aggravated a side strain while batting and did not take the field at the start of the Indian innings.

Sehwag again had a disappointing first innings after being out for nought in the first Test in Centurion and 25 in the second match in Durban. He made 13 before a typically flat-footed drive against Dale Steyn spooned to mid-off where South African captain Graeme Smith made a good catch, diving forward.

Dravid was out in unusual circumstances when Gautam Gambhir was dropped on 10 by Alviro Petersen at gully off Tsotsobe. The batsmen went through for a run but second slip AB de Villiers picked up the ball and threw down the stumps with Dravid just short of his ground.

South Africa's eventual total seemed unlikely when they lost four wickets in the space of 26 balls against the second new ball during the first hour of the day. Three of the wickets fell to fast bowler Shanthakumaran Sreesanth, who finished with five for 114. It was Sreesanth's third five-wicket haul in Tests.

Sreesanth struck in his first over of the day, after Kallis and Ashwell Prince had added 30 runs to the overnight total of 232 for four. Prince looked in particularly good form as he moved to 47 before being bowled by a ball from Sreesanth which cut back sharply.

Sreesanth had Mark Boucher caught behind off the next delivery, Zaheer Khan had Dale Steyn caught at third slip and Sreesanth had Morne Morkel caught behind.

Paul Harris helped Kallis add 27 for the ninth wicket and Kallis then gave a masterly exhibition of keeping the strike as he and Tsotsobe added 52 for the last wicket before Kallis edged an attempted square cut against Zaheer Khan in trying to keep the strike yet again.

Kallis reached a watchful century off 209 balls but scored his next 61 off only 82 deliveries, adding ten more boundaries to the nine in his first 100.

SCORES IN BRIEF

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 362 (Petersen 21, Amla 59, Kallis 161, De Villiers 26, Prince 47; Zaheer 3-89, Sreesanth 5-114, Sharma 2-77)

INDIA: First innings 49 for 2 at tea (Gambhir 22 not out, Sehwag 13, Dravid 5, Tendulkar 8 not out; Steyn 1-25)

Afridi to testify again

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

Pakistan's limited-overs captain Shahid Afridi will testify at a hearing of players suspended for alleged spot-fixing despite believing he has nothing to add to his earlier testimony, a report said Monday.

Afridi has been summoned to appear before the International Cricket Council's (ICC) anti-corruption tribunal for a hearing of charges against Salman Butt, Mohammad Asif and Mohammad Aamer, in Doha from January 6-11.

Salman, Asif and Aamer were suspended over claims of spot-fixing during Pakistan's Lord's Test against England in August and face severe punishment, including lengthy bans.

Both Afridi, along with team coach Waqar Younis and security manager Khawaja Najam, who will also attend the Doha hearing -- made statements to the ICC Anti-Corruption Unit last month.

According to Pakistani media, these statements link the suspended players to alleged bookmaker Mazhar Majeed and allege that large sums of money were confiscated from the players' hotel rooms.

Afridi reportedly said he had not lied to the ICC, and had given a full account of what he had witnessed during the team's tour of England.

"I have already said what I had to say

and what I saw," Afridi was quoted as saying by Pakistani daily Jang on Monday. "I could not have lied before the ICC because they already had enough information about the case."

Afridi said he would participate in the hearing by teleconference and not attend in person because of family problems. Waqar is expected to participate by telephone as he is on tour with the Pakistan team in New Zealand.

The ICC tribunal, headed by Michael Beloff QC, is likely to use Afridi, Waqar and Najam as witnesses in the light of their statements last month.

Afridi said he had no animosity towards any player.

"I have a clean conscience... I was asked about Majeed (the alleged bookmaker) and his brother Azhar (Majeed) so whatever I knew I told the ICC," said Afridi.

Pakistan's tour of England last June to September was hit by a sting operation arranged by British tabloid News of the World, which claimed that several players took money from a bookmaker to perform specific acts during the Lord's Test, such as bowling a no-ball.

Scotland Yard then raided the Pakistani team's hotel and reportedly confiscated money from players' rooms and later interrogated Salman, Asif, Aamer and a fourth player, Wahab Riaz, who was not suspended.

The ICC provisionally suspended the three players on September 3.

Mustafiz helps Satkhira to title

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Left-arm paceman Mustafizur Rahman snared three wickets to fire Satkhira to the Standard Chartered Young Tigers Under-16 Championship at the local stadium yesterday.

The champions beat Kushtia by eight wickets after the latter made 154 after electing to bat first.

Apart from Mustafizur's 3-23 from nine overs, Ashiq bagged two wickets in front of a large crowd.

Rinku's 52 then eased Satkhira to the title as they reached the score in only 34.3 overs.

Unlucky for a

FROM PAGE 16

the servers were slow and they had nothing to do with it. "We don't control the servers. I agree that it's slow and it is taking longer to serve an individual."

Another major issue was that people didn't get the tickets of the matches they wanted.

"I needed one ticket each for the two quarterfinals in Mirpur, but I couldn't get it because they said the server was blocked. Instead of the first quarterfinal, they gave me two tickets of the third," said Kalyanpur resident Yusuf, who also complained that each individual needed 25-30 minutes and it was a very slow process.

In the city's Mirpur 1 branch of the same bank, a large number of people turned up to buy the tickets once again.

The bank authority on Sunday gave away token numbers to the people who were not able to buy the tickets.

Kazi Ibrahim, who had the token No 12, got his desired tickets yesterday at 1:00 pm. "I bought 14 tickets of the World Cup, but the process took a very long time," he complained.

"We don't blame the bank for such a slow system but the BCB should have known and done something about this," added Mehedi while waiting in the line.

V-DAY HOCKEY Sonali, BKSP finish top

SPORTS REPORTER

Sonali Bank and Bangladesh Kriya Shikha Protisthan (BKSP) finished top in their respective groups in the Dhaka Bank Victory Day Hockey Tournament after beating their respective rivals at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Star-studded Sonali Bank routed Armanitola 14-0 to emerge Group B champions to set up a semifinal clash against Bangladesh Army while BKSP handed a 4-0 defeat to Baikali Sangha to play the first semifinal against Group B runners-up Mukto Bihango. Both semifinals are slotted for Wednesday. The final takes place on Thursday.

BCB wipes

FROM PAGE 16

that we can request them to address the complaints. We will sit to discuss about the matter today," he added.

There was a common query among the fans about how many tickets was so far sold out in the two days but Tamim said that they would only be able to provide the figure after the completion of the entire procedure.

"Right at the moment its not possible but we can provide you the complete picture after completion of the selling," he informed.

He also informed that they have yet to decide on when the tickets will go on sale for the opening ceremony which will take place at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on February 17 next year.

"It will be decided on LOC's (local organising committee) next meeting on Wednesday," he said.



PHOTO: STAR

Ace golfer Siddikur Rahman is about to tee off during the second round of the BTI Golf Championship at Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

Sohel shares top spot with Siddikur



SPORTS REPORTER

Golf sensation Siddikur Rahman kept his place at the top of the table after the second round of the BTI Professional Golf Championship at the Kurmitola Golf Course yesterday.

Siddikur, who led the first round on Sunday with six under par (66), did not do as well in the second round with two under par (70), taking his tally after two rounds to eight under par.

Siddikur's close rival Shakhawat Sohel, who was placed second at the end of the first round with five under par (67), outshone his more illustrious competitor in the second round with a three under par (69) elevating him to a shared top spot on the leader board.

It was however a bad day for Sunday's third-place finisher Jamal Hossain as his second round score of five over par meant that he had to share third place with Liton Howlader and Mohammad Zia.

The third round of the tournament will take place today and the fourth and final round will be held tomorrow.

Can't forget

FROM PAGE 16

FA: Four players retired after the tournament and it was also sad how Gordon Greenidge exited after the World Cup.

DSS: What is your expectation from the 2011 World Cup?

FA: Playing the World Cup on home soil is another massive moment for any player. Putting a check to emotions would also be a tough task. I think everyone will be happy if Bangladesh can reach the quarterfinals, and beyond that, it will be a huge surprise.

Australia on back foot

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

Australia wasted a solid start on the rain-marred opening day of the final Ashes Test against England at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Monday, despite a confident Test debut by Usman Khawaja.

The Pakistan-born Khawaja, 24, the first Muslim to play a Test for his adopted country and replacing injured Ricky Ponting, fitted in seamlessly with a poised start to his Test career before he fell for 37.

Australia, under acting captain Michael Clarke and attempting to prevent England from winning their first series Down Under in 24 years, relinquished a hard-won start to be 134 for four when play was washed out late in the day.

Michael Hussey was the not out batsman on 12.

Khawaja's accomplished two-

hour knock ended when he topped a sweep off spinner Graeme Swann to Jonathan Trott at backward square leg. It was to be the last ball of the day before the rain swept in.

His first 15 runs flowed off 10 balls but England's bowlers pinned him down and his next 22 runs were grafted off 85 balls.

Khawaja caressed a two and a boundary off his first two balls in Tests to get off the mark through the leg-side and looked secure with his parents, Tariq and Fauzia, nervously watching from the stands.

But he was outwitted when Swann tossed one up in the 59th over of the innings and the batsman committed his first false stroke.

Australia were looking to restore confidence after their crushing innings defeat in the fourth Melbourne Test that saw England retain the Ashes.

Clarke's dismal series continued when he went hard at Bresnan and

found James Anderson in the gully on four.

Clarke, standing in for Ponting in this Test, struggled for 21 balls before he attempted to cut a ball too close to his body to give the chance just 11 minutes after a rain resumption.

Clarke has scored just 152 runs in eight innings in the series at an average of 19.

The Australians looked more assured in their batting early after Clarke won the toss.

The opening pair of Shane Watson and Phillip Hughes patiently left the majority of balls and put on 55 for the first wicket before Hughes fell in the last over before lunch.

Hughes's concentration wavered when he needlessly sparred at a Chris Tremlett delivery outside offstump to edge to Paul Collingwood at third slip.

SCORES IN BRIEF

AUSTRALIA: First innings 134 for 4 (Watson 45, Khawaja 37, Hughes 31; Bresnan 2-47, Tremlett 1-40)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

38 Nil
1 New York Giants founder Tim
5 Petrol
8 Counterfeit
12 Tied
13 Skedad-dle
14 Head light?
15 Forbidden act
16 Venusian vessel
17 Grandson of Eve
18 False
20 Razor inserts
22 Donkey
23 "Monty Python" opener
24 Hesitate
27 Branch
32 Yoko of music
33 Larry's pal
34 Long March leader
35 Slender cigar

DOWN

19 "People" rival
21 Fleur-de-
24 Jazz style
25 Literary collection
26 Isolated, and feeling it
28 Page no.
29 Arousing terror
30 Rowing need
31 Excessively
36 Swear (to)
37 Menlo Park monogram
38 Enthusiast, plus
41 Broad-casting
42 Lather
43 Competent
44 Church section
46 Ripped
47 Pull an all-nighter
48 Succor
51 Tonic mate

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	H	A	D	J	U	G	T	S	A	R
M	I	R	E	U	S	A	A	Q	U	A
O	L	E	A	N	D	E	R	L	U	N
G	L	A	D	E	R	G	O	A	T	S
L	E	S	S	I	N	N				
L	U	C	Y	L	U	B	E	D	E	L
E	M	O	P	U	R	R	S	E	V	A
G	A	L	E	R	G	O	B	R	E	W
A	H	A	E	W	E	R				
A	R	N	O	L	D	R	A	I	S	A
D	A	D	A	I	S	L	A	N	D	E
E	V	E	R	M	A	Y	C	E	N	T
N	E	R	D	E	W	E	H	A	T	S

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19		20	21			
			22			23				
24	25	26		27	28	29			30	31
32				33				34		
35			36	37			38			
			39			40	41			
42	43			44		45		46	47	48
49				50	51		52			
53				54			55			
56				57			58			

CRYPTOQUIP

H R R B I U Y I N Y P Z V B I D B D
N A Q Q B I V N N B U Y D B E T
R H P Z P S H Z F F T , S B A F E T B A N Z T
V C Z V Q Y I N B P H N B P V C Y E B F Y ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT MIGHT SOMEONE CALL ANY AUSTRALIAN PERSON'S PANCREAS OR THYROID? THE GLAND DOWN UNDER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals B