India way behind

SCOREBOARD

INDIA: First innings 191 (Dhoni 57 not

AUSTRALIA: First innings (overnight

out, Tendulkar 41; Pattinson 4-43)

Warner cTendulkar b Zaheer

Marsh c Laxman b Zaheer

Ponting c Tendulkar b Sharma

Extras: (b-2, lb-13, w-4, nb-3)

Total: (For 4 wkts decl in 163 overs) 659

Did not bat: Haddin, Siddle, Pattinson

4 122

2 123

2 144

5 157

114

SL stare at big defeat

followed his fellow opener to

the pavilion when he was on

revealed a faint edge from his

bat before the ball looped from

his thigh pad to Hashim Amla.

difficult time, bowling into

rough outside the left-hander's

off stump, before having the

batsman caught at slip for 34

when he went back to a ball

wicket of Mahela Jayawardene

with the assistance of a diving

catch at second slip by Kallis.

Morkel claimed the key

which bounced sharply.

wicket before the close.

resuming on 149 for two.

Steyn took three for 56 and

bowled superbly on Thursday,

an impressive three for 16 off

was even better, his three

Tahir gave Sangakkara a

straightforward chance.

Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-8, 3-37, 4-325

Cowan Ibw b Zaheer

Clarke not out

Hussey not out

Hilfenhaus, Lyon

Bowler

Zaheer

Yadav

Sharma

Ashwin

INDIA: Second innings

Sehwag cWarner b Hilfenhaus

Gambhir not out

Dravid b Hilfenhaus

Tendulkar not out

Bowler

Pattinson

Hilfenhaus

Extras: (lb-3, w-1, nb-1)

Total: (For 2 wkts in 41 overs)

Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-100

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

Triple centurion Michael Clarke put team interests ahead of personal glory as Australia moved towards a crushing win over India in the second Test in Sydney on Thursday.

Captain Clarke, unbeaten on 329, declared Australia's first innings closed at 659 for four to press for victory despite various individual milestones beckoning.

After building a massive 468-run lead, Clarke called a halt to the onslaught to give his attack seven and a half sessions to bowl India out.

He was rewarded with the key wickets of Virender Sehwag and Rahul Dravid as the tourists dug in to save going 2-0 down in the four-Test series. India, who have never won a Test series in

Australia, reached third day stumps at 114 for two, 354 behind, with Gautam Gambhir on 68 and Sachin Tendulkar eight. The tourists had an early stumble when

big-hitter Sehwag was brilliantly plucked from the air by the athletic David Warner at point off Ben Hilfenhaus for four. Dravid's reputation as "The Wall" took

another hit when he was out bowled for the third time in the series, this time by Hilfenhaus for 29.

Gambhir was dropped by wicketkeeper Brad Haddin on 66 off James Pattinson in the penultimate over of the day.

Clarke's selfless decision meant he passed up the chance to press on against an unthreatening Indian attack and have a shot at Matthew Hayden's 380, the highest Test score by an Australian. The 30-year-old now ranks fourth behind

Hayden, Mark Taylor (334 not out) and Don Bradman (334) in the list of highest individual Australian Test scores. "I didn't think about it at all," Clarke

Nat'l Hockey

C'ship from

After a four-year break, the

28th National Hockey

Championship gets under-

way tomorrow at the

Maulana Bhasani National

Hockey Stadium with 21

teams fighting for the trophy.

place on the opening day

with holders Faridpur taking

on Bangladesh Police AC,

Dhaka facing Rangpur and

BKSP playing against

The participating teams --

including four service teams

will be split into seven groups,

and after the round-robin

matches the top team from

each group will advance to

the next round where the

seven champions, divided

into two groups, will compete

Trust Bank and Vielatex will

jointly provide the estimated

budget of Tk 15 lakh, informed

the Bangladesh Hockey

Bangladesh Air Force, Dinajpur

and Tangail; Group-G:

Bangladesh Navy, Patuakhali

for the semifinal spots.

Chittagong Divison.

Three matches will take

tomorrow

SPORTS REPORTER

said. "I didn't have Don Bradman and Mark Taylor's week's opening Test in Melbourne. score in my head whatsoever.

thought was really good for a declaration and then get out

Cricket

Sri Lanka were in danger of an

innings defeat after losing 12

wickets on the third day of the

third and final Test against

South Africa at Newlands on

in their follow on innings at the

close, still 203 runs short of

making South Africa bat again.

backed by the leg spin of

Imran Tahir, put Sri Lanka's

batsmen under inexorable

pressure after the first two

days of the decisive Test were

729 runs were scored in the

first two days but it was a

complete contrast on Thurs-

day as 12 wickets fell for 228

runs despite conditions

remaining largely favourable

Sri Lanka were bowled out

for 239 in their first innings,

with fast bowlers Dale Steyn

and Vernon Philander taking

Philander struck again in

the fourth over of the follow

on when Tillekeratne Dilshan

drove loosely at a ball which

moved away, edging a catch to

Lahiru Thirimanne and

wicketkeeper Mark Boucher.

Kumar Sangakkara showed

some fight in a second wicket

three wickets apiece.

for batting.

Only six wickets fell while

dominated by batsmen.

South Africa's fast bowlers,

Sri Lanka were 138 for four

AFP, Cape Town

Thursday.

there and try and have a crack and take a couple of wickets this afternoon. That's all I was thinking about."

Taylor earned national admiration in 1998 when as skipper he declared overnight on 334 against Pakistan in Peshawar rather than beat the legendary Bradman's highest Test score.

In a world perspective, Clarke's score ranks joint 14th among the highest Test innings behind West Indian world record holder Brian Lara's 400.

Soon after batting partner Mike Hussey reached 150 and middle session drinks were due, Clarke called it quits, leaving his bowlers with plenty of time to bowl India out.

"I spoke to Huss [Hussey] just before we declared and I really wanted him to make 150, he deserved that, and once he got that and I thought once we have a 450-run lead it's a good time to pull up stumps and try and get a couple of wickets tonight," Clarke said.

Clarke's supreme innings surpassed VVS Laxman's 281 as the highest individual score in Australia-India Tests and also overtook Bradman's 270 as the best by an Australian captain in a home Test -- a record that had stood since 1936.

The Australian skipper received a standing ovation from his hometown crowd when he eclipsed the highest score of 287 at the Sydney Cricket Ground -- hosting its 100th Test match -- registered by Englishman Reg Foster in 1903.

Clarke's unbroken 334-run stand with Hussey was a record for any Australian wicket against India, eclipsing the 288 the captain set with Ricky Ponting for the fourth wicket on the previous day.

He was at the crease for 617 minutes and faced 468 balls, hitting 39 fours and one six. Australia's 659 for four total ranked second

only to their 674 in India Tests at Adelaide in

1947-48. Hussey's innings took a back seat to Clarke's prodigious knock. He batted for 312 minutes, scoring his runs off 253 balls with 16

fours and a six. It was Hussey's 16th century in his 68th Test match and followed his fighting 89 in last

"I said to Pup [Clarke] out in the middle I was honoured

"It was about trying to get the team to a total which I and privileged to be out there to witness and be a part of that," Hussey said.

PUP'S MOMENT OF GLORY: Australia captain Michael Clarke celebrates his maiden triple century on the third day of the second Test against India at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

Kohli fined Pup puts team ahead

AFP, Sydney

India batsman Virat Kohli was fined 50 per cent of his match fee after making a finger gesture to the crowd during the second Test against Australia in Sydney, team officials said on Thursday.

Kohli was pictured in Thursday's newspapers showing home fans his middle finger during Wednesday's second day of the match and subsequently received a leveltwo offence sanction by match referee Ranjan Madugalle.

India team media manager GS Walia said Kohli had been informed of the charge on Thursday and had pleaded guilty to making the gesture.

"The matter has been sorted out... the player felt guilty and sorry and the matter has been closed," Walia told reporters.

"When he went to the match referee, he said sorry and that out of emotions ' must have done it'."

Kohli's indiscretion came during a frustrating day in the field for India when Australia's batsmen posted 366 runs for the loss of just one wicket.

Nat'l b'ball

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka, Gazipur, Satkhira, Khulna and Chittagong won their respective matches in the 25th National Basketball Championship at the Dhanmondi Basketball Gymnasium yesterday.

Dhaka defeated Rangpur

84-35 after dominating the first half 38-16 while Gazipur registered a massive 103-56 win over Kushtia after taking a comfortable 52-20 lead in the first half. Satkhira beat Jessore 62-

50, Khulna defeated Mymensingh 85-58 and Chittagong thrashed Narsingdi 67-47.

380 -- Matthew Hayden, Perth 2003

311 -- Bob Simpson, Manchester 1964

307 -- Bob Cowper, Melbourne 1966

334 -- Don Bradman, Leeds 1930

334 not out -- Mark Taylor, Peshawar 1998

329 not out -- Michael Clarke, Sydney 2012

Cricket

AFP, Sydney Michael Clarke said he was thrilled to join the cricket elite with his unbeaten 329 against India Thursday but the important thing was to press on for victory in the second Test in Sydney.

Captain Clarke became only the sixth Australian to score a triple century as he selflessly called a halt to his team's first innings at 659 for four and a massive lead of 468 runs with seven and a half sessions to press for victory.

Clarke had Australian milestones at his mercy when he walked off **AUSSIE TRIPLE TONNERS**

with batting partner Mike Hussey (150) at middle session drinks satisfied he had enough runs to bring off a 2-0 lead in the four-Test series. India lost the wickets of

Virender Sehwag (4) and Rahul Dravid (29) in the 41 overs to third day stumps to be 114 for two and trailing by 354.

"It feels pretty good, but it probably won't sink properly in until we win the Test match," Clarke said.

"I'm stoked to have managed to make 300odd runs today in this Test match, but the most important thing for me now is that we win the Test and that was a big reason for my declaration."

Clarke said the fatigue of batting for more than 10 hours and facing 468 balls was physically and mentally taxing.

"I've never batted that long in any form of

the game in any team, so that was the hardest thing for me," he said.

"Physically, I felt pretty fresh but it's just the mental application that you need to have. "It's a lot of stop-start, you stop for a

break, you stop for drinks and you stop for the end of the day and then you have to start your innings again." The Australians are in a dominant position

mediocre 191 batting first in the Test. "It's gonna be a challenge. There's not much there for the bowlers, there's no real

to force a win with India up against it after a

swing, no reverse swing, not much spin either," he said. "The execution and discipline we showed

at the end of today is what's going to be required to win

this Test match. "We are going to have to

bowl a lot of overs and hang onto our chances. "But I'm confident, no doubt, that we're in a good

position to win this Test match. If it takes two days, it takes two days.' The 30-year-old now ranks fourth behind Matthew Hayden (380), Mark Taylor (334 not

highest Australian Test innings. Clarke said he had no regrets about declaring and forfeiting his chance of surpassing their achievements.

out) and Don Bradman (334) in the list of

"It's about putting the team first, that's why we play, that's what I love most about this game, seeing this team win," he said.

"If I had thought it was best for the team to

continue to bat, I would have continued to bat."

Mushfiq, Faisal hit tons

three wickets conceding 25 runs but it was Faisal who made the maximum damage capturing five wickets for 45 runs.

SCORES IN BRIEF

BROTHERS: 207-9 in 50 overs (Nazimuddin 49, Aftab 26, Sohail 23, Saker 23 not out, Rony 20 not out; Arafat Sunny 3-22, Ariful 2-

SHEIKH JAMAL: 211-3 in 44.2 overs (Deepak Joon 72, Mushfigur 105 not out; Sohail 2-32)

Result: Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club won by seven wick-

CCS: 273-8 in 50 overs (Rokibul 86, Jubayer 34, Suleman 64; Rezaul 3-40, Kashif 2-38, Fawad 2-68)

BIMAN: 276-3 in 45.1 overs (Kashif 44, Avishek 30, Junaed 67, Faisal 104 not out, Fawad 25 not out; Robiul 1-61).

Result: Biman won by seven wickets. DOHS: 248-5 in 50 overs (Nasir 54, Ashraful 88 not out, Faisa

41, Tanvir 22; Hasan 2-54)

KALABAGAN: 208 all out in 47.1 overs (Nasiruddin 40, Rifat 95; Faisal 5-45, Enamul 3-25)

Result: Old DOHS won by 40 runs.

22

38 39 40

Narrow wins

FROM PAGE 16

from an aerial clash with the opposition goalkeeper in the 14th minute of the game. But the former BFF coach is

hopeful of putting up a decent show in the next matches as he rested two proven foreign recruits in the game in a bid to observe his local players.

At the BSSMKS, Nigerian Vitus put Sheikh Russel ahead in the 11th minute while Cameroonian Emako doubled the lead in the 26th minute but they could not extend their margin.

"We should have won the game with a margin of 8 to 9 goals but we could not do so because of the failure of strikers said Sheikh Russel captain

as well as the uneven pitch," Biplob Bhattacharjee.

32 | 33 | 34

50 51

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42

49

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer DOWN **ACROSS** 19 "Star 41 Noon, 1 "Hum-Wars" 1 Rudimenon a

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48

MQHQ IBTQHSAQOK ASOO?

CRYPTOQUIP

13

16

TQZHQQR VSWH WX CQWZCA.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE I AM CUTTING THE SMALL BAND MEMBERS' HAIR, YOU COULD SAY I'M TRIMMING THE TRIO.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals E

Federation (BHF) officials. The participating teams are: Group-A: Faridpur, Chittagong and Police AC; Group-B: Dhaka, Mymensingh and Rangpur; Group-C: BKSP, Gaibandha and Chittagong Division; Group-D: Rajshahi, Joypurhat and Narayanganj; Group-E: Bangladesh Army, Satkhira and Jessore; Group-F:

and Comilla. Another ad-hoc body SPORTS REPORTER

The National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday dissolved the expired executive committee of Bangladesh Table Tennis Federation and appointed a 25-member ad-hoc committee retaining the service of Abdul Karim as the president.

Syed Kamrul Huda, a club official of Ceciron Club, has been appointed general secretary in place of Shamsul Alam Anu, who was excluded from the ad-hoc committee.

Some 13 members, who were involved in the previous elected committee, have also been retained in the newlyformed committee which has been asked to hold an election as soon as possible.

Former general secretary Rafiqul Islam Tipu, Jobera Rahman Linu, Munira Morshed Helen and Kazi Moinuzzaman Pila were also named in the committee.

Mockery of an A team

FROM PAGE 16

It's not only about selection of the team, but questions were also raised about the selection of the team manager. Former cricketer Mozibul Haque remained as team manager for the home series against England Lions which raised many eyebrows. Many players who toured the West Indies with the A team have had their reservations about Mozibul.

"He is a gentleman but knows nothing about how to work," said a player who did not want to be named.

Siraj however defended Mozibul's appointment. "He [Mozibul] is a perfect gentleman. Yes he might have some limitations about communication, but I don't think there is any problem with his services."

BPL to brand

Andre Nel have joined the growing list of foreign players to have

announced themselves available for the tournament. An opening ceremony is being planned for the first ever

edition of the BPL T20 on February 9 at the Sher-e-Banagla National Stadium in Mirpur. A concert will be held at Cox's Bazar on January 13 which will unveil the theme song of the tournament in which local and foreign artists will also perform. While the artist of the song has been kept a secret the song has been said to be composed by Bappi Lahiri. Tickets will be sold 10 days prior to the start of the tourna-

ment through bank outlets. Yet to be launched, Channel 9 has the exclusive rights to

broadcasting the matches of the BPL T20 for its first 6 editions at the cost of 24 Million US dollars. Jalal Yunus, director of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), BPL

Governing Council secretary Sirajuddin Alamgir, director of Game On Sports Management Anjan Ganguly and BCB CEO Manzur Ahmed were present on the occasion.

stand of 67, although wickets costing 12 runs off Thirimanne should have nine overs. Steyn struck with the third ball of the day when

He edged Morne Morkel Sangakkara sliced a drive to and Boucher put down a point without adding to his overnight score of 35. Thirimanne made 30 Jayawardene and Samarabefore he was caught at short weera stayed together for more than an hour before

leg off Jacques Kallis after umpire Richard Kettleborough Philander accounted for initially gave him not out. Samaraweera, who was South Africa asked for a caught at second slip for 11. review and the 'hot spot' SCOREBOARD

> Thirimanne b Morkel 23 Dilshan c Smith b Tahir Sangakkara c Amla b Steyn Jayawardene c Kallis b Steyn Samaraweera c Kallis b Philander Mathews c Boucher b Steyn Chandimal c Boucher b Morkel 35 Perera b Tahir Herath Ibw b Philander Prasad c Petersen b Philander Welegedara not out Extras: (b-6, lb-3, nb-2)

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 580-4 decl

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 149-2)

Total: (All out in 73.5 overs) 239 Thilan Samaraweera and Angelo Mathews added an Fall of wkts: 1-70, 2-126, 3-149, 4-184, 5-189, 6-194, 7-219, 8-220, 9-236. unbeaten 40 for the fifth Bowler Sri Lanka collapsed in their first innings, losing eight Morkel wickets for 90 runs after 54

Philander three for 46. Both Thirimanne c Amla b Kallis Dilshan c Boucher b Philander 34 Sangakkara c Kallis b Tahir with Steyn's figures for the day Jayawardene c Kallis b Morkel Samaraweera not out eight overs, while Philander 28 Mathews not out Extras: (lb-10) Total: (For four wkts in 53 overs) To bat: Chandimal, Prasad, Perera, Herath,

SRI LANKA: Second innings

Welegedara. Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-79, 3-83, 4-98 Bowler Philander Morkel 29

BFF frees

FROM PAGE 16 "Definitely our intention is not

to finish the careers of any footballers. Both of them paid their fines and served onematch bans," said BFF president Kazi Salahuddin. "They apologised repeatedly

for their deed and promised not

to repeat it again. Besides they had already been recalled to the national fold by the coach and represented the national team," explained the BFF boss adding that he did not believe that the exemption of Emily and Mithun from punishment would influence others to replicate their wrongdoing. At the same time, Abahani

winger Zahid Hasan had also been fined Tk 1 lakh and given a two-match suspension following his indecent behaviour with the national coach but Zahid did not seek any exemption from his punishment.