

Finally a win for WI

 **Cricket**
AFP, Brisbane

The West Indies ended their disappointing tour of Australia with a morale-boosting 27-run win over Australia in a one-off T20 International on Wednesday.

After losing all five one-day internationals and a warm-up game against the Prime Minister's XI, the T20 world champions cruised to an easy win against a below-strength home side.

The West Indies romped to 191 for six in their 20 overs, then restricted Australia to 164 for eight on a perfect batting strip.

Australia, whose five-man pace attack was badly exposed by the West Indies batsmen, started brilliantly.

But they were reined in by the off-spin of Sunil Narine and the run outs of Sean Marsh (21) and Adam Voges (51) when both were in full flight.

Voges and Marsh put on 74 at better than a run a ball until they were run out within three runs of each other.

Narine, who finished with 2-19 from his four overs, then chipped in with the key wicket of Australian skipper George Bailey (15) to put the hosts under intense pressure.

Wicketkeeper Brad Haddin (22) and debutant Ben Rohrer (16) threatened briefly, but the asking rate was too much and the innings fell away towards the end.



West Indies opener Johnson Charles plays one on the on side during their lone T20 International against Australia at the Gabba in Brisbane on Wednesday.

PHOTO: INTERNET

Earlier West Indies opener Johnson Charles scored a blistering 57 off just 35 balls as the visitors dominated the Australian attack.

Charles took control after fellow opener

Chris Gayle (8) failed once again, and hit seven fours and a six in a sparkling innings.

Any thoughts Australia had of keeping the West Indies under control after Gayle's early departure were soon ended by a brilliant partnership between Charles and Darren Bravo.

They added 88 in quick time before Johnson played on to Nathan Coulter-Nile.

Bravo followed soon after when he was run out for 32 following a dreadful mix-up with Kieron Pollard, which left both batsmen stranded at the non-striker's end.

Pollard was looking dangerous until he miscued a drive off Faulkner and holed out to Marsh at long on for 26, with Dwayne Bravo (13) clean bowled two balls later.

But Darren Sammy (20) and Andre Russell (23 not out) took the Australian attack apart, smashing 35 runs off the last two overs.

Left-armer James Faulkner was the pick of the attack, with 3-28 from his four overs, but the other four seamers were all expensive on a flat batting track.

SCORES IN BRIEF
WEST INDIES: 191 for 6 in 20 overs (Charles 57, Darren 32, Pollard 26, Dwayne 13, Russell 23 not out, Sammy 20; Faulkner 3-28)
AUSTRALIA: 164 for 8 in 20 overs (Marsh 21, Voges 51, Bailey 15, Rohrer 16, Haddin 22, Coulter-Nile 16 not out; Narine 2-19, Pollard 3-30)
Result: West Indies won by 27 runs.
Player-of-the-match: Kieron Pollard.

U-18 CRICKET Final evenly poised

SPORTS REPORTER

An 84-run knock from number eight batsman Prosenjit Das helped Chittagong Division recover from an early hiccup against Khulna Division on the first day of the Young Tigers U18 National Cricket Competition final at the Shaheed Kamruzzaman Stadium in Rajshahi yesterday.

Deciding to bat first, Chittagong lost four wickets for 55 runs but Tanzid Ahmed Emon made a 162-ball 65 with nine boundaries and Prosenjit added 84 off 139 balls with 11 fours as Chittagong finished on 271 in 85.3 overs.

Mustafizur Rahman and new-ball partner Wahiduzzaman inflicted the initial damage, taking two wickets each while Noman Sahriar and Nasiruddin also captured two apiece.

Khulna scored two runs without any damage before stumps were drawn for the day.

SCORES IN BRIEF CHITTAGONG: First innings 271 all out in 85.3 overs (Ashfaq 16, Tanzid 65, Samrat 18, Fokruddin 36, Prosenjit 84, extras 22; Mustafizur 2-41, Wahiduzzaman 2-25, Noman 2-69, Nasiruddin 2-51).

KHULNA: First innings 2-0 in 2 overs.

Rubel finds

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to bowl like I did before, but I have to work on it," said Rubel yesterday.

Rubel also believes that the BPL is good preparation for Bangladesh's tour of Sri Lanka next month.

"[Kumar] Sangakkara and [Mahela] Jayawardene are no doubt really good batsmen. But the players here at the BPL are good as well. I am bowling against them and it's helping my confidence-level," said Rubel.

"I'll try having special bowling sessions in the gap between the BPL and the series. I also think that since everyone is playing in the league, it'll help us perform well in Sri Lanka," he added.

PREMIER DIVISION League set for mid-March

SPORTS REPORTER

The Premier Division Cricket League, the country's most coveted 50-over competition, is most likely to get underway from March 15.

The inter-club players' transfer will be held on March 7 and March 8.

Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolis (CCDM) took the decision during its meeting on Tuesday.

"We have decided to start the league from March 15 but the date may change by one or two days according to the clubs' requests," informed CCDM chairman Jalal Yunus yesterday.

The timing made it clear that the league will rarely feature the national stars as the Tigers have two overseas series in Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe in March and April.

The matches will take place at four different venues across the country -- Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur, BKS, the Shaheed Kamruzzaman Stadium in Rajshahi and the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra.

Abahani on top again

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from Sheikh Jamal, who however could not produce any genuine chance. Four minutes into the second half, Sheikh Jamal striker Sunday Chizoba had a go from a free-kick which went narrowly wide of target before the same striker saw his header off a Raihan Hasan cross gripped by the Abahani goalkeeper Shahidul Alam Sohel.

"It was a big win for us because the opponents are a good side. They have good players and a good coach," said Abahani coach Ardeshir Pournemat. "The win gave us three points but it is six points to me considering the opponents and I will hope the boys will give such effort in the next match against Sheikh Russel KC as well."

Ardeshir thought the opposition players were tired because of two successive matches and they could not recover from their fatigue after playing their previous match [Muktijoddha Sangsad on February 9] in Gopalganj.

Sheikh Jamal coach Joseph Afusi however didn't blame anyone for the defeat.

"One mistake, one goal and the game is over. Actually we could not play well and it can happen in football," said Afusi.

Roy powers Kings

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reached his 50 off 35 balls in the 16th over. The fall of wickets, however, made Rajshahi struggle to keep up with the asking rate.

Earlier, the Chittagong Kings lost Naeem Islam, who scored a seven-ball duck, in the second over of the match. However, an aggressive 71-run stand for the second wicket, between Roy and skipper Brendan Taylor helped Chittagong recover. They scored 72 runs in the first nine overs. Taylor smacked two sixes and two fours whereas Roy hit four fours and a six in the stand.

After Taylor's dismissal, caught off Mukhtar Ali in the tenth over, ten Doeschate picked up the pace seamlessly and along with Roy, scored boundaries with ease. Roy was particularly harsh against the spinners. The 15th over was a treat to watch -- Roy used his feet against Taijul Islam and dispatched him for a four and a six down the ground and ended the over with a smack over midwicket for a boundary. He ended up hitting a total of four sixes and eight fours in his 55-ball 92. Ten Doeschate wasn't too far behind, hitting four fours and three sixes -- two of which came in the last over -- in his 39-ball innings.

School chess concludes

SPORTS REPORTER

India's Suvradeepta Das, Fahad Rahman and Tanzina Akter Tani emerged champions in their respective groups of the 13th Standard Chartered School Chess Tournament which concluded at the National Sports Council Tower yesterday.

Suvradeepta became unbeaten champion in Group A after beating Miraj Ahmed Chowdhury Sajib in the eighth and last round and securing full eight points while Shohel Howlader of Khilgaon Govt School and College and Akib Jawad of Chittagong Collegiate School became second and third respectively with 6.5 points each.

In Group B, Fahad Rahman of Gemcon Group emerged unbeaten champion after beating Pranto in the last round. Fahad secured seven points from eight matches. Jamim Al Hamid of Lily Children Academy finished second with six points while Nova Tasha finished third.

In Group C, Tani became unbeaten champion with seven points as she defeated Mishel in the final round. Fatema-Tuz-Zohra became runner-up.

WOMEN'S WC Windies take on Australia in the final

APP, New Delhi

The West Indies stunned mighty Australia by eight runs on Wednesday to enter their first ICC women's World Cup final, a result that knocked out defending champions England.

The West Indies and Australia topped the Super Sixes table with eight points each, while England can finish with only six points even if they defeat New Zealand in their last match later on Wednesday.

The West Indies, who were shot out for 164, hit back to dismiss Australia for 156 in 48.2 overs in a dramatic finish in Mumbai, with left-arm seamer Shanel Daley claiming three for 22 in 9.2 overs.

SCORES IN BRIEF
WEST INDIES: 164 all out in 47 overs (Deandra 60, McLean 26; Holly Ferling 3-27, Megan Schutt 3-50, Erin Osborne 2-16)
AUSTRALIA: 156 all out in 48.2 (Alex Blackwell 45, Jess Cameron 39, Rachael Haynes 21; Shanel Daley 3-22, Stafanie Taylor 2-26)
Result: West Indies beat Australia by eight runs.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	30 Hot lub	3 Gets	12 Knighted
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7 Location	hospital	4 Gift	down
8 Skeptical	drama	from a	15 Neither
sort	36 Ending	wise	mate
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Yesterday's answer 1-9

ACROSS

DOWN

Dutch style coming?

Bangladesh national football team's newly-appointed Dutch coaches Lodewijk de Kruif and Rene Koster gave an interview to FIFA.com recently where they briefed about their vision as to how to get Bangladesh's football forward, their methods of working and how they want to build-up a side styled after their own Dutch system. The gist of the interview is presented below.

Football

FIFA.COM

"It is a big challenge to manage a developing football country like Bangladesh," said Kruif, who has coached Nigerian giants Heartland over the past year-and-a-half. "But our goal is clear -- to bring the game in Bangladesh to a higher level. To achieve that, we will begin from a Dutch-style education focusing on organisation and disciplines. We should improve their professionalism in both thinking and working."

Koster, whose tasks include training coaches and youth development, elaborated what they are expecting the players to do: "Our vision is to instil the Dutch-style of play into their minds. This means good possession of the ball, patient build-up from the back, control of rhythm to score goals, aspiration for dominance and win."

Kruif's first real test, after the AFC Challenge Cup Qualifiers in March, would be to guide the team in the SAFF Championship in Nepal in September, during which the team are expected to emulate their title-winning feat in 2003. "Our contract officially begins in June, which allows us three months to prepare the team for the tournament. We will start from the base and will aim to improve the team step-by-step," said the 43-year-old.

In fact, their work begun after the announcement of their appointment, as they are keen to prepare for the job as early as possible. "We were in Bangladesh four weeks ago and we watched two games in the local league. We have seen players with good qualities. In March we will go to the Challenge Cup qualifying with the team," added Koster.

While the ever-progressive Bangladesh Premier League remains nearly the sole provider to the national team, the Dutch coaches have cast their sights further abroad as they have started to recruit overseas-based Bengali players eligible to play for their country. Koster said: "To select players from Europe and other countries is our vision for the long-term development. We hope we can find players from the rest of the world who can bring some extra qualities to the national team and can join us for the SAFF tournament."

Despite the difficulties facing Bangladesh, Kruif has no doubt that they can fulfil their mission: "In the Netherlands to become a coach you must go through strict education and work hard. That is why Dutch managers have found their places in many countries across the world. To gain development the players have to train hard with a good programme, and this is what we will present our boys with as we are aiming for success in Bangladesh," he concluded.

Pupils run amok

Cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

While it may not be possible to say for certain whether the score of 480 in a 50-over game is a record, it was undoubtedly a rare feat in the game's history. And to make it more remarkable, the score was made possible by two students from Manikganj Model High School in the Young Tiger National School Cricket Tournament yesterday.

Samrat Talukder and Bikash Rajbangshi both slammed hurricane hundreds as Manikganj Model High School amassed a towering 480 for six, and their gigantic efforts helped their school script a 393-run victory over Garpara High School at Shaheed Miraz-Tapan Stadium in Manikganj.

With the massive victory, Manikganj Model High School reached the final of the tournament, in which they will take on Matta High School on



SAMRAT...140 BIKASH...121

February 15.

Samrat, who was selected for the Dhaka Division North U-14 squad, hit 140 off 78 balls while Bikash made 121 off 51 deliveries. Syed Shah Anam was the other notable scorer with 84.

In reply, Garpara High School were bundled out for only 87 runs.

Saiful, Rahim and Samrat took two wickets each.

Tamim to miss

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bit. But I am confident that I will recover. I will be following a strict schedule for the next two weeks as per the doctor's instruction and hopefully things will go well," said Tamim.

The injury to his left wrist is nothing new from Tamim as he had a surgery on the wrist in 2010.

SA-Pak 2nd Test starts today

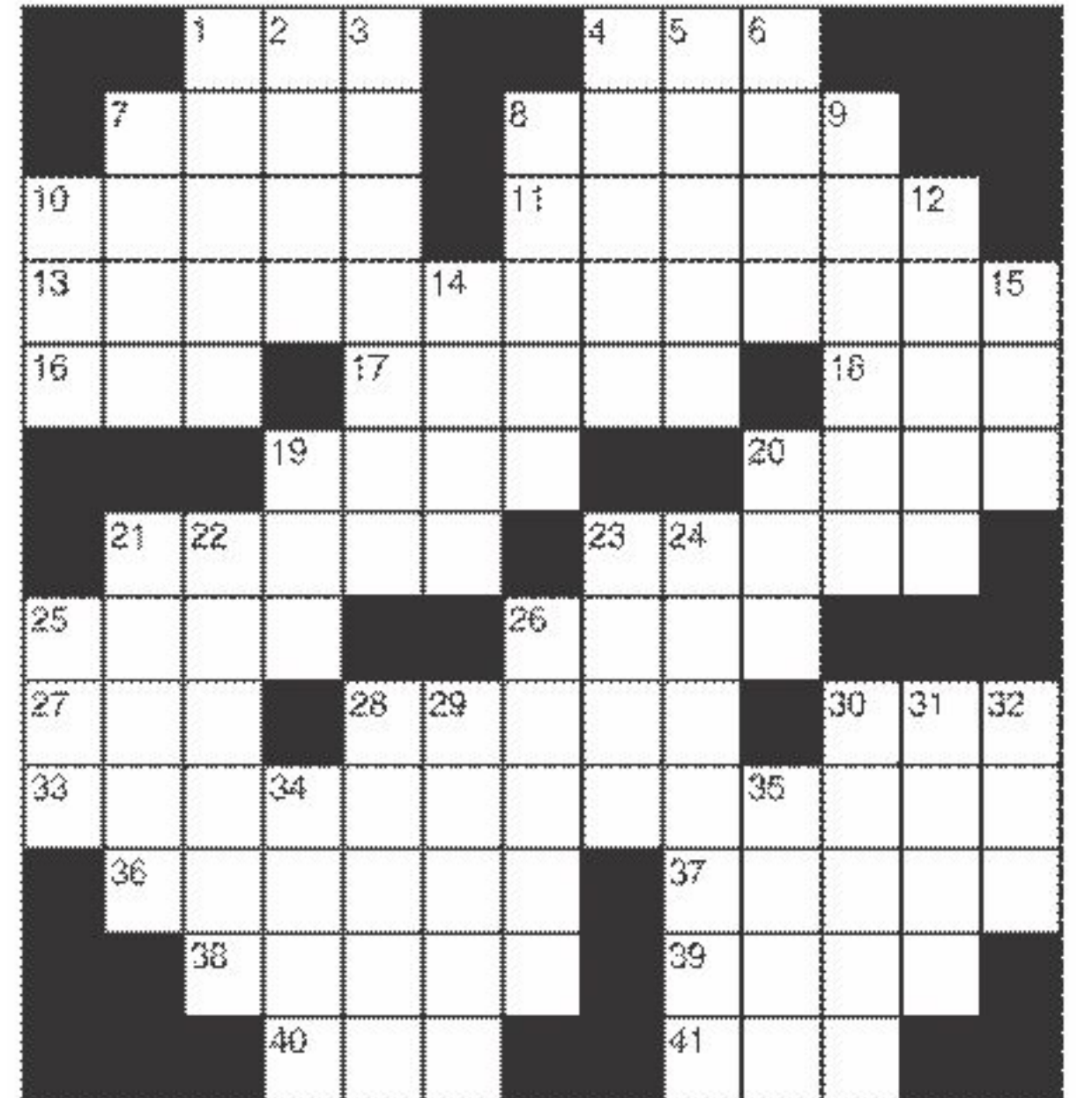
AFP, Cape Town

Pakistan's batsmen face a big challenge when they take on South Africa's in-form fast bowlers in the second Test starting at Newlands on Thursday.

After being bowled out for 49 on the way to a 211-run defeat in the first Test in Johannesburg, Pakistan will be up against Dale Steyn, Vernon Philander and Morne Morkel on the ground where Australia were bowled out for 47 last season and New Zealand for 45 last month.

Pakistan captain Misbahul Haq identified combating the new ball as the top priority for his team following the first Test.

Left-handed Imran Farhat, who played the most recent of his 39 Tests in August 2010, opened the batting in both innings in a two-day practice match against an Emerging Cape Cobras team which ended on Monday, but it is uncertain whether he will play in the Test.



CRYPTOQUIP

C N J P O P U X E P G H U H C Z F D P
B S L J W F C J D P D S L D S L H H P E F F J
B P T D G Q F . C D ' H H O F X P G M T
N P M D S F Q L T Z C J W .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN FLOWERING PLANTS ARE PARTICULARLY TINY SPECIES, YOU MIGHT REFER TO THEM AS BABY BLOOMERS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals T