

ARTHUR WANTS 'EXEMPLARY' PAKISTAN TO COMPLETE ENGLAND 'MISSION'

LONDON: Pakistan coach Mickey Arthur hopes his side's hard work on and off the field will be rewarded when they face England in the fourth Test at The Oval.

The tourists are currently 2-1 down in the four-match campaign following a 141-run defeat last time out at Edgbaston. But while recent results may have been disappointing, this tour has not been dogged by the controversy that afflicted Pakistan's last two trips to England.

In 2006, Pakistan became the first side to forfeit a Test when they refused to return to the field at The Oval after being penalised five runs for ball-tam-

pering. And in 2010, the Lord's Test was overshadowed by a spot-fixing scandal that led to five-year bans and jail terms for three Pakistan players, including Mohammad Amir—now back in the squad. By contrast this trip, where Pakistan won the first Test at Lord's by 75 runs, has not yet witnessed any major flashpoints. "It will be mission accomplished if we can get out of this Test match at 2-2, that will be a hugely successful tour," said Arthur at The Oval yesterday.

"I certainly think off the field, we have made a lot of friends," the South African added. "I think the way the boys have

conducted themselves through these last two months has been exemplary. They've been brilliant in behaviour, both on and off the field, and they've been a credit to Pakistan."

Pakistan were far more competitive at Edgbaston than they had been during a 330-run reverse in the second Test at Old Trafford. They had a lead of more than 100 runs on first innings and were well on their way to saving the game at 69 for one at lunch, before a dramatic collapse shortly before tea saw them lose four wickets for one run.

Arthur, asked if it would be hard to pick up his players ahead of Thursday's

start in south London said: "No, not at all. I spoke pretty frankly about the Old Trafford Test match. I thought we were very good (at Edgbaston). I do think we competed exceptionally well, certainly through three-and-a-half days at Edgbaston."

The South African added: "I'm really happy with our all-round performance, particularly with the bat. We got some partnerships going which were fantastic. Second innings, England got through us. "I certainly did not feel that we were rolled over there. We were in the contest for most of that game."

England took the third Test away

from Pakistan thanks to a second-innings century stand between Jonny Bairstow (83) and Moeen Ali (86 not out). "I said to the boys, we were probably one wicket away there from breaking through," said Arthur. "If we could have knocked Bairstow over or Moeen early, it certainly would have put a totally different perspective on the game," he added.

"We hate losing, of course we do, but we lost with a lot of credibility at Edgbaston and that puts us in a really good space to come back particularly hard here," the former Australia coach insisted. —AFP

WINDIES AXE SAMMY, NAME BRATHWAITE T20 CAPTAIN

FLORIDA: West Indies have axed two-time World Twenty20 winning captain Darren Sammy and put fellow all-rounder Carlos Brathwaite in charge for two matches against India this month in Florida.

Sammy, who led West Indies to their second World Twenty20 title earlier this year despite struggling for form, could not find a place in the 13-member squad for the matches at Central Broward Regional Park, Fort Lauderdale on Aug. 27 and 28. "With regards to Sammy's omission from the squad, the chairman (of selectors) noted that the named-squad was selected purely on players' performances," the West Indies Cricket Board said in a statement.

Chairman of selectors Courtney Browne thanked Sammy, 32, for his contribution and expected Brathwaite, who blasted four successive sixes off a Ben Stokes over in the April 3 World Twenty20 final in Kolkata, would prove an inspiring captain. "Brathwaite is one of the most talented players in the T20 format of the game and his humble and committed approach to the game can inspire young and upcoming players," he added. Squad: Andre Fletcher, Andre Russell, Carlos Brathwaite, Chris Gayle, Dwayne Bravo, Evin Lewis, Jason Holder, Johnson Charles, Kieron Pollard, Lendl Simmons, Marlon Samuels, Samuel Badree, Sunil Narine. — Reuters

PAKISTAN RECALL GUL FOR IRELAND, ENGLAND ODIS

LAHORE: Pakistan yesterday recalled pacer Umar Gul after a 15-month lay-off in the squad for the two one-day internationals in Ireland and five in England starting later this month. The 32-year-old last played a one-day match in Dhaka against Bangladesh in April 2015 before being discarded over his lack of form and fitness. He has 173 one-day wickets from 126 matches in a storied career, marred by recent injury problems.

Azhar Ali will lead the side which has uncapped 22-year-old all-rounder Hasan Ali, but there was no place for opener Ahmed Shehzad and middle-order batsman Umar Akmal. Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Shaharyar Khan last week said both players were axed from the initial squad of 31 because of discipline issues. Umar has not played for Pakistan since the 2015 World Cup held in Australia and New Zealand.

"This squad is a blend of youth and experience and the selectors hoped it will do well," said chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq. "We have included some young players like Ali to build the team for the future."

Ali took 200 wickets in eight matches for Pakistan's second team on the England tour that ended earlier this month. Pakistan has lost the last three of its four one-day series, sliding to as low as ninth in the limited overs rankings.

Pakistan will play the final Test against England at The Oval starting Thursday before leaving for Ireland, where they play two one-day internationals in Dublin on August 18 and 20. Pakistan will then play five one-day internationals against England

in Southampton (August 24), Lord's (August 27), Nottingham (August 30), Leeds (September 1) and Cardiff (September 4).

Pakistan also face England in the only Twenty20 international at Old Trafford on September 7, the squad for which will be named at a later date.

Squad: Azhar Ali (captain), Sharjeel Khan, Sami Aslam, Mohammad Hafeez, Babar Azam, Shoaib Malik, Sarfraz Ahmed, Mohammad Rizwan, Mohammad Amir, Wahab Riaz, Hasan Ali, Umar Gul, Imad Wasim, Yasir Shah, Mohammad Nawaz.

* Meanwhile, Former Australia captain Michael Clarke was given an honorary life membership of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) yesterday.

Clarke retired from international cricket last year after establishing himself as one of Australia's finest batsmen with 8,643 runs in 115 Tests. The 35-year-old follows in the footsteps of former Australia team-mates Shane Warne, Glenn McGrath and Ricky Ponting, who are also life members of the MCC. Clarke scored 416 runs in five Test matches at the MCC's historic Lord's home. "This is a fantastic honour and I am delighted to become an MCC honorary life member," Clarke said.

"MCC is the most prestigious cricket club in the world and to be invited to become a member is a great privilege. "Lord's has always been a very special place to play cricket, and I've got some great memories of playing there so I'm really looking forward to coming back as a member of MCC." —AFP



BULAWAYO: Zimbabwe bowler Michael Chinouya (L) in action during the fourth day of the second test in a series of two matches where New Zealand lead hosts Zimbabwe 1-0 at the Queens Sports Club in Bulawayo, yesterday. — AFP

N ZEALAND EYE VICTORY AFTER LATE WICKETS

BULAWAYO: Seamers Trent Boult and Tim Southee struck late to leave New Zealand needing seven Zimbabwe wickets on the final day of the second test after setting their hosts an unlikely victory target of 387 runs yesterday.

Zimbabwe closed day four at the Queens Sports Club in desperate trouble on 58 for three after New Zealand had smashed a quick-fire 166 for two declared in 36 overs in their second innings.

Craig Ervine and nightwatchman Donald Tiripano will resume in the morning having yet to get off the mark after Zimbabwe lost their top three before the close.

Chamu Chibhabha (21) edged seamer Neil Wagner to Martin Guptill at third slip before Tino Mawoyo (35) was trapped lbw by Boult in the penultimate over.

It got worse for the hosts when two balls later Southee produced a superb in-swing to have Sikandar Raza (0) leg before as well.

Survival will be top of the agenda for Zimbabwe on an excellent batting wicket but they must find a way to counter the prodigious swing of the New Zealand seamers.

Zimbabwe were 305 for six overnight in their first innings and lost their remaining four wickets for 57, including anchor Ervine for 146, his maiden Test century, as he picked out Wagner at long-off off the bowling of spinner Ish Sodhi.

The latter was the pick of the visitors' attack with 4-60 as New Zealand chose not to enforce the follow-on having been in the field for 143.4 overs. They rather pushed for quick runs in their second innings but slipped to 26 for two before

captain Kane Williamson (67 not out) and Ross Taylor (68 not out) shared an unbeaten third wicket-wicket stand of 140.

The declaration came four overs after tea,

leaving the tourists a minimum of 116 overs to bowl out their hosts. New Zealand lead the two-match series 1-0 after an innings and 117-run victory in the first test. — Reuters

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day in the second and final Test between Zimbabwe and New Zealand yesterday in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

| | | |
|---|--|-----|
| New Zealand 1st innings 582 for 4 decl (T. Latham 136, R. Taylor 124no, K. Williamson 113, M. Guptill 87, B. Watling 83no) | T. Latham c Moor b Tiripano | 11 |
| | K. Williamson not out | 68 |
| | R. Taylor not out | 67 |
| | Extras (lb-4 w-3) | 7 |
| | Total (for 2 wickets declared, 36 overs) | 166 |
| | Fall of wickets: 1-24 T. Latham, 2-26 M. Guptill | |
| | Did not bat: H. Nicholls, M. Santner, B. Watling, I. Sodhi, T. Southee, N. Wagner, T. Boult. | |
| | Bowling: M. Chinouya 9-2-45-1 (w-2), D. Tiripano 6-1-14-1 (w-1), C. Chibhabha 3-0-22-0, G. Cremer 11-0-59-0, J. Nyumbu 7-0-22-0. | |
| Zimbabwe 1st innings (Overnight: 305-6) | Zimbabwe 2nd innings (Target: 387 runs) | |
| T. Mawoyo b Southee | T. Mawoyo lbw b Boult | 35 |
| C. Chibhabha c Williamson b Santner | C. Chibhabha c Guptill b Wagner | 21 |
| S. Raza c Williamson b Wagner | S. Raza lbw b Southee | 0 |
| C. Ervine c Wagner b Sodhi | D. Tiripano not out | 0 |
| P. Masvaure b Santner | Extras (b-1 lb-1) | 2 |
| S. Williams lbw b Sodhi | Total (for 3 wickets, 25.2 overs) | 58 |
| P. Moor c Guptill b Sodhi | Fall of wickets: 1-45 C. Chibhabha, 2-58 T. Mawoyo, 3-58 S. Raza | |
| G. Cremer lbw b Boult | To bat: C. Ervine, P. Masvaure, S. Williams, P. Moor, G. Cremer, J. Nyumbu, M. Chinouya. | |
| D. Tiripano lbw b Wagner | Bowling: T. Southee 6-2-3-18-1, T. Boult 6-2-11-1, N. Wagner 8-3-21-1, M. Santner 5-2-6-0. | |
| J. Nyumbu c Santner b Sodhi | | |
| M. Chinouya not out | | |
| Extras (b-12 lb-6 nb-1) | | |
| Total (all out, 143.4 overs) | | |
| Fall of wickets: 1-65 T. Mawoyo, 2-83 S. Raza, 3-107 C. Chibhabha, 4-115 P. Masvaure, 5-147 S. Williams, 6-295 P. Moor, 7-319 G. Cremer, 8-327 D. Tiripano, 9-352 J. Nyumbu, 10-362 C. Ervine | | |
| Bowling: T. Southee 28-14-73-1, T. Boult 27-13-45-1, M. Santner 35-8-105-2, N. Wagner 31-8-61-2 (nb-1), I. Sodhi 21-4-9-60-4, M. Guptill 1-1-0-0. | | |
| New Zealand 2nd innings | | |
| M. Guptill c Nyumbu b Chinouya | | 13 |



LONDON: Pakistan's cricket team players laugh while playing football during a training session at the Oval in London, yesterday, ahead of the 4th Cricket Test match between England and Pakistan. — AP

RIO THIEVES STRIKE FASTER, HIGHER, STRONGER

RIO DE JANEIRO: In the chaotic world of Rio criminality, it is an old trick that is winning the gold medal. A blonde woman distracts the victim while an accomplice grabs the bag of cameras, computers or valuables. A second partner in crime sends the victim the wrong way if he or she gives chase.

This textbook larceny is being played out each day on the beachside cafes along Ipanema. Pickpockets also ply Copacabana and there is also a more dangerous version. Sometimes the attacker just takes out a knife and puts it to the throat of his victim.

Around the Olympics, thefts and muggings have become the talk of the town. A government minister, athletes and coaches and press photographers have all fallen victim. The danger lurks from the Rio media village to stadiums, and the cafes on the upscale seafont Ipanema district. The 'Cariocas', as the inhabitants of Rio are known, have long got used to the threat of crime, whether theft or murderous muggings. It has been a shock to the Olympic influx and the government estimates that 500,000 people will visit Brazil for the Games.

Even on the night of the opening cere-

mony, two people were fatally shot near the Maracana stadium where it was held.

Australian photographer Brett Costello is one of a growing press band to have suffered. The News Corp. journalist lost tens of thousands of dollars worth of equipment in an Ipanema coffee shop and then saw the thief two days later wearing his Olympic jacket with accreditation number.

"I knew my number, you know, the vests have the number. If a guy walks in with a jacket that's stolen from me two days before, there's got to be something going on, don't you reckon?" he told The Australian newspaper. Security video of the theft showed he was caught in the blonde woman sting.

The Agence France-Presse (AFP) news agency, which has 700 square metres (7,500 sq feet) for its 180 accredited Olympic staff in Rio, has suffered several thefts. Security film has shown a man and a woman leaving the office pulling a case full of lenses and an official photographer's jacket. "There is a security problem," said Eric Baradat, AFP's photo chief at the Games. "Some people get onto the sites and into official buses without accreditation." —AFP



ST LUCIA: West Indies' wicketkeeper Shane Dorwich, left, celebrates with teammate Jermaine Blackwood taking the wicket of India's Shikhar Dhawan on day one of their third cricket Test match at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground in Gros Islet, St. Lucia, yesterday. — AP