

13 Flueary stops 26 shots to lead
Knights to 3-0 win over Capitals



14 Ashes gone, pride at stake
for wounded England at MCG



15 Golden State Warriors' win
streak snapped by Nuggets



GREEN BAY: Kylar Fackrell #51 of the Green Bay Packers tackles Jerick McKinnon #21 of the Minnesota Vikings in the second quarter at Lambeau Field on Saturday in Green Bay, Wisconsin. — AFP

Ravens hang on to beat the Colts

Minnesota Vikings' defense dominate short-handed Packers

BALTIMORE: Joe Flacco threw a pair of touchdown passes and the Baltimore Ravens held off the Indianapolis Colts for a 23-16 victory and took over the sixth playoff spot in the AFC on Saturday night. Colts linebacker Anthony Walker blocked a punt with 2:36 left in the game, giving his team the ball on the Ravens' 27-yard line. However, on fourth-and-10, Baltimore cornerback Maurice Canady knocked down a pass from Indianapolis quarterback Jacoby Brissett to seal the win. The Ravens (9-6) overtook Buffalo (8-6) in the postseason race, and Baltimore currently has a better record against common opponents, which would be a tiebreaker. The Bills play at New England on Sunday. Flacco was 29 of 38 for 237 yards.

Baltimore was able to move the ball against the Colts' 30th-ranked defense, but struggled to find the end zone. Justin Tucker's third field goal of the game increased their lead to 16-7 to open the second half.

Colts kicker Adam Vinatieri kept his team in the game with 48- and 38-yard field goals and Indianapolis trailed just 16-13 with 1:34 left in the third quarter. Two penalties—a hold and pass interference—proved to be costly for the Colts (3-12) on the Ravens' next drive. Flacco made them pay with a 4-yard touchdown pass to tight end Maxx

Williams—his first score of the season. That put Baltimore ahead 23-13.

Vinatieri's 30-yard field goal pulled the Colts to within 23-16 with 4:33 left in the game. That gave Indianapolis just enough life to put itself in position to win the game. Brissett did a solid job managing the game. He completed 16 of 33 for 215 yards with a touchdown. Brissett did not have a turnover and was sacked once.

Indianapolis receiver T.Y. Hilton created matchup problems for much of the game and finished with six receptions for 100 yards. The Ravens' opening drive stalled at the Colts' 12 after 14 plays, and they settled for a 30-yard field goal by Tucker.

Tony Jefferson blocked an attempted 38-yard field goal by Vinatieri on the ensuing drive. That led to a 6-yard touchdown pass from Flacco to Michael Campanaro and Baltimore led 10-0 with 12:16 left in the half. The Colts

responded when Frank Gore took a short pass from Brissett and ran it in for a 14-yard score. Another 39-yard kick by Tucker with two minutes left made it 13-7. Vinatieri missed a 60-yard attempt in the final seconds and the Ravens led 13-7 at the break. In Green Bay, the Minnesota Vikings' defense dominated the short-handed Packers. The Packers, with quarterback Aaron Rodgers on injured reserve, receiver Davante Adams inactive and receiver Jordy Nelson lost for the second half, simply lacked the horses to challenge the Vikings. Minnesota won for the 10th time in 11 games by knocking off the rival Packers 16-0 in a game played in sub-10 degree temperatures.

For the fourth time in their last six games, the Vikings (12-3) allowed fewer than 10 points. It was their first shutout victory since 1993. Harrison Smith's second interception of the night preserved the achievement. Green Bay (7-8) was blanked for the second time this

season, also losing at home to Baltimore 23-0 on Nov. 19. Brett Hundley, making his eighth start for Rodgers, was ineffective, going 17 of 40 for 130 yards and two interceptions. He wasn't helped by a handful of drops, a makeshift offensive line and the lack of two of the team's top weapons. Case Keenum threw a first-quarter touchdown pass to Stefon Diggs, and running backs Latavius Murray and Jerick McKinnon combined for 111 rushing yards for Minnesota. Green Bay trailed 10-0 midway through the third quarter when it faced a fourth-and-7 from the Vikings' 36-yard line. Without Adams, who ranks second in the NFL with 10 touchdown catches but was out with a concussion suffered last week, and Nelson, who exited late in the second quarter with a shoulder injury, Hundley threw the ball to Michael Clark.

Clark, an undrafted free agent, recently was promoted from the practice squad. A former college basketball player, he played one year of football at Marshall. The ball was sailed over Clark's head. The Vikings tacked on a 20-yard field goal by Kai Forbath on the ensuing possession to extend the lead to 13-0. The key play on the drive came when Keenum ran toward the line of scrimmage, backpedaled and threw a short pass to tight end David Morgan, who broke three tackles for a gain of 23.—Reuters



Flacco made them pay with a 4-yard touchdown pass

India beat Sri Lanka to sweep T20 series 3-0

MUMBAI: Paceman Jaydev Unadkat led a disciplined attack to set up India's five-wicket win in the third Twenty20 international against Sri Lanka as the hosts completed a 3-0 whitewash yesterday. Unadkat returned impressive figures of 2-15 to help restrict the visitors to 135-7. India then achieved their target with four balls to spare in a tense chase at the Wankhede Stadium. Manish Pandey top-scored with 32 but

it was Dinesh Karthik (18) and Mahendra Singh Dhoni (16) who put on an unbeaten 31-run stand to take the team home.

The win ensured that India end the year on a high after outplaying the islanders in the Test (1-0), one-day (2-1) and T20 series. Sri Lanka however put the hosts under pressure with regular strikes as paceman Dushmantha Chameera and medium-pace bowler Dasun Shanaka claimed two wickets each. Shanaka got skipper Rohit Sharma for 27, early in the chase. The in-form Sharma hit 4 fours and a six during his 20-ball stay but his wicket silenced the crowd.

Shreyas Iyer, who scored 30 before being run out while backing up at the non-strikers end, and Pandey then put on a gritty 42-run stand for the third wicket but their departure

spelt trouble. But veterans Karthik and Dhoni stayed calm in the final few overs when India needed 20 off 18 balls. Earlier Asela Gunaratne, who top-scored 36, and Shanaka, who hit an unbeaten 29 off 24 balls, gave some respectability to the total after the visitors lost their top three batsmen for 18 runs.

Unadkat, who removed the openers early, was ably supported by fellow fast bowler Hardik Pandya as they claimed two wickets each. Apart from the paceman, debutant off-spinner Washington Sundar, who opened the attack for India, dismissed Kusal Perera for four and ended with figures of 1-22. After a dominant home season across all three formats, India now head for their high-profile tour of South Africa starting January 5 with the first Test in Cape Town.—AFP



MUMBAI: Sri Lanka's bowler Dushmantha Chameera (R) celebrates after taking the wicket of India's batsman Manish Pandey (L) during the third T20 international cricket match between India and Sri Lanka at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai yesterday. — AFP