

## Harvey hits 1st Twenty20 ton

AFP, London

Australia one-day all-rounder Ian Harvey became Monday the first player to make a hundred in English cricket's Twenty20 Cup.

Batting for Gloucestershire in their match away to Warwickshire at Edgbaston, Harvey made exactly 100 not out off 50 balls, including four sixes and 13 fours, as the visitors won by eight wickets.

After Warwickshire posted 134 for seven a Gloucestershire win looked likely and some shrewd manipulation of the strike, as well as Harvey's own blazing hitting, saw the 31-year-old Victorian to three figures.

Gloucestershire are certain to finish top of the Midlands/West/Wales division and qualify for the semifinals.

Introduced this season, the Twenty20 Cup is a 20 overs per side competition.

English cricket chiefs hope that the game's brevity, and the fact that matches are staged in the evening, will draw new audiences to often poorly attended county grounds.

In a bid to entice youngsters, pop bands such as Misteeg have also formed part of the supporting entertainment at some Twenty20 games.

So far attendances at Twenty20 contests have often been in the thousands at venues where a daily crowd of a few hundred spectators would be the most treasurers would expect for four-day county championship matches.

The semifinals and final of the Twenty20 Cup will all take place at Trent Bridge, Nottingham, on Saturday, July 19.

## Gaibandha h'ball

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Kholahati Smrity Sangsad and Jubo Sangsad moved into the final of the Cute Handball League beating their rivals at Islamia High School ground yesterday.

Kholahati defeated Hiru Smrity Sangsad 6-5 and Jubo Sangsad beat Fulchhari Upazila Dal 7-5.

Abahani Krira Chakra will meet Asaduzzaman Girls High School in the women's final.

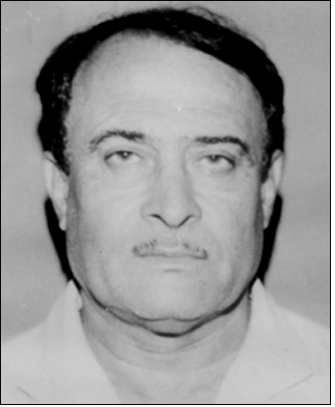
## Baluch's death anniversary today

SPORTS REPORTER

The sixth death anniversary of noted football coach Gafoor Baluch will be observed today by Brothers Union Club.

The day-long programme begins with lowering of the club's flag at half-mast in the morning. A milad has been arranged at the club premises in the afternoon.

The programme will conclude



with a memorial meeting.

Water Resources Minister and former national footballer Hafizuddin Ahmed Bir Bikram, Sadek Hossain, the Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation, State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman and State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfuzzaman Babar will be present in the meeting.

# Warne helps Harbhajan



REUTERS/AFP, New Delhi

Banned Australian cricket star Shane Warne has come to the rescue of fellow spinner Harbhajan Singh after the Indian was struggling to find a specialist to treat his injured finger.

Warne, serving a one-year ban from the game on drug-related charges, recommended the name of Melbourne surgeon Gregory Hoy, who had operated upon the Australian leg-spinner four years ago.

Harbhajan accepted Warne's advice and will travel to Melbourne later this week for surgery at the Avenue Hospital where Hoy is based.

The Indian had earlier planned to have the surgery in the United States at the same Baltimore hospital where teammate Sachin Tendulkar was operated upon last month for a hand injury.

"I am grateful to Shane for his advice," said Harbhajan. "I called him up and he readily agreed to help me out."

## ACC bolsters BD

FROM PAGE 13 the ACC is vital because they are more concerned about Bangladesh's performance than anybody else," said Ashrafal adding that the governing body would do everything possible to enhance Bangladesh's reputation.

Ashrafal, one of the key figures in Bangladesh's successful campaign for Test status, however expressed his reluctance to address the present state of Bangladesh cricket.

He said that was not in a position to make any comment on how he looked at the state of Bangladesh cricket from his unique position.

"But I always feel bad when our team loses."

When his attention was focused on what the ACC was doing to bring India and Pakistan back to cricket field, Ashrafal said that the ice was melting.

"We are relishing the prospect of India visiting Pakistan early next year. But before that we are arrang-

Harbhajan, who will lead India's attack on the tour of Australia later this year, was advised earlier this month he needed surgery to rectify the ligament injury in the knuckle joint of his right middle finger, attributed mainly due to his tight bowling grip.

Despite the pain, he played in the World Cup in South Africa earlier this year, where India lost to Australia in the final, and in a one-day tournament in Dhaka in April.

But swelling and pain forced him to pull out of a stint with English county side Lancashire earlier this month.

The Indian cricket board will bear the expenses for Harbhajan's treatment in Australia, according to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) executive secretary Sharad Diwadkar.

"He is leaving on Saturday and will have the surgery in Melbourne," said Diwadkar.

The 22-year-old Sikh, one of the finest off-spinners in the modern game, was nicknamed the "turbanator" after taking 32 wickets in three Tests during India's memorable 2-1 victory over world champions Australia at home in 2001.

## Sports key to Indo-Pak peace

AFP, Karachi

A visiting Indian parliamentarian Tuesday said sports can play a significant role in furthering a thaw in the relationship between Pakistan and India.

"Sports have a lead role in people-to-people contact between Pakistan and India and, not only cricket, both countries must revive hockey, football and other sports," parliamentarian Kuldip Nayyar told AFP.

Pakistan and India have made tentative steps toward normalising relations since Indian Premier Ata Behari Vajpayee offered a "hand of friendship" to Islamabad in April after a 17-month standoff and the breakdown of diplomatic relations.

Pakistani Prime Minister Zafarullah Jamali responded positively by putting several confidence-building measures involving sports at the top of his agenda of normalisation with India.

"All those who are against sporting activities between the two countries are politically motivated and are mixing sports and politics," said Nayyar, who was born in Sialkot, Pakistan, and played hockey in his youth.

## Lillee being

FROM PAGE 13

watching the World Cup one-day contest earlier this year and the indifferent performances from some teams, that the game is degenerating into a money-driven event because of television.

"Is the ICC (International Cricket Council) more concerned about keeping Test cricket elite, or developing the game purely to maximise TV revenue without the slightest concern about compromising the structure and history of the game?"

Bangladesh, ranked last in the ICC's 10-nation Test Championship, arrived in Australia this week for what is expected to be a hugely one-sided Test series.

Bangladesh gained Test status in 2000 and have lost 18 of their 19 matches while drawing a rain-shortened Test against Zimbabwe. Australia are the top-ranked Test nation as well as the World Cup holders.

Lillee added: "Nobody worked harder than (former West Indies pace man) Courtney Walsh for his world-record 519 wickets, but he is going to be absolutely swamped because of what's up for grabs these days."

## Niaz, Rakib share lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Niaz Murshed and International Master Abdullah Al Rakib jointly led the table with 5 points each after the end of the fifth round games in the Open FIDE Rating Chess tournament at Bangladesh Chess Federation auditorium yesterday.

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman, International Master Enamul Hossain Rajib and Fide Master Abu Sufian Shakil were in the second position with 4.5 points each.

In this round, Niaz beat Arman, Rakib beat Reefat, Zia beat Emon, Rajib beat Taibur, Shakil beat Parag, Chanchal beat Robin, Javen beat Khorshed, Rani beat Liza, Kazal beat Debaraj, Naser beat Alam, Farhad beat Atiq and Moni beat Polish.

Sixth round games will start today from 4:00 pm at the same venue.

## StanChart school chess from July 7

UNB, Dhaka

The Standard Chartered Bank School Chess tournament will start from July 7 instead of July 2 at the Bangladesh Chess Federation Auditorium.

The tournament, sponsored by Standard Chartered Bank Bangladesh and organised by Bangladesh Chess Federation, is open to all school students. Interested students can enroll their names on or before July 2, everyday from 3pm to 8pm, at the Federation office with a letter from their school. No entry fee will be needed to take part in the tournament to be held in Swiss-League system. Cash prizes and trophies will be given to the winners while there are special prizes for girls and students from class I to V.

## Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 13

was not out on 59.

They shared 128 runs for the undefeated fifth wicket after the home side were in trouble on 54 for four.

It was Bangladesh's second defeat in three one-day games. The visitors suffered a 121 run thrashing against Sri Lanka under-19 team in the first match while the second game against Nondescript Cricket Club under-23 was washed out on Sunday.

Nafees Iqbal's men are scheduled to take on Bloomfield under-23 team in the first of their five two-day matches from June 26.

SCORES IN BRIEF

BANGLADESH U-23: 175 for 5 in 50 overs (Rajin 41, Mazharul 31 not out, Nafees 22, Nazimuddin 26).

SRI LANKA U-23: 178 for 4 in 45.1 overs (Mandis 71 not out, Kumara 59 not out, Alamgir Kabir 2-36, Gazi Alamgir 2-34).

Result: Sri Lanka under-23 won by six wickets.

## Coming down under

FROM PAGE 13

in the 1999 World Cup in England.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has vowed to reverse Bangladesh's cricketing fortunes after repeated defeats in Test and other matches.

"The ICC wants to bring about significant changes in terms of result-oriented progress in Bangladesh's cricket within a short span of time," Andrew Eade, ICC's global development manager, said after a two-day visit to Dhaka last month.

Bangladesh, under new coach Dav Whatmore, open their Australian tour against a Queensland Academy of Sport Invitational XI here on Friday before heading to Darwin for the first Test starting July 18.

## STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM



AFP, London

Croatian giant-killer Ivo Karlovic was Wimbledon king for a day in beating top seed Lleyton Hewitt on Centre Court in Monday's opening round. But back home in Zagreb he's going to get the star treatment regardless of how much further he goes.

"We are so proud of him," said father Vlado, 55, who recalled how his 24-year-old son, the tallest man in tennis at 2.08m (6'10"), became interested in the game.

Recalling the 1985 tournament, when Boris Becker came from nowhere to win the title aged 17, Vlado Karlovic said: "He turned to me and said: 'I want to be like Boris.'"

HAT'S OFF TO ANDY - AND BRAD

US star Andy Roddick says his new coach, Andre Agassi's long-time mentor Brad Gilbert, hasn't tried to change too much too quickly since he brought the 20-year-old Nebraskan under his wing following the French Open.

Asked if Gilbert had been correctly quoted that all he had changed was Roddick's visor-style cap, the American big-server laughed and retorted: "Yeah. He said I looked too much like (golfer) Freddie Couples with my visor. I couldn't take that. I had to ditch it."

THE SNOWBALL EFFECT

There's a snowball effect going on in tennis right now. The International Tennis Federation, keen to see rallies on the green grass of Wimbledon as much as elsewhere, has already caused controversy by introducing heavier balls this season.

Now the ITF is mulling increasing the size of the ball as well - and perhaps even the size of racquet heads. The current ball diameter is 6.35 cm (2.5 inches). But the 'snowball effect' could see that rise to 6.75 cm (2.65 inches) in a bid to slow the game down and neutralise the monster servers. An ITF conference next month will assess the viability of the plan.

SERVICE BRAKE?

Bigger balls are one way of forcing players to enter the fray equipped with more than a huge serve. But the game's rulers have other plans afoot to put a brake on the serve

machines.

Andy Roddick equalled Greg Rusedski's fastest ever serve of 149 mph (238 kph) at Queen's Club and Venus Williams has produced a serve at 127 mph (203 kph) to break the women's speed barrier.

But new rye grass has been laid at this year's Wimbledon in a bid to slow things down as the new surface produces a slightly slower bounce which dyed-in-the-wool baseliners should love.

Returners could benefit from an estimated 0.1sec extra reaction time.

SMILE, YOU'RE ON CAMERA

Make sure you have your best Hollywood pose with you at this

year's Wimbledon tournament. The All England Club has granted unprecedented access to a film crew working on a romantic comedy called simply Wimbledon.

The film stars Kirsten Dunst from Spiderman as an American player called Lizzie blazing a trail to stardom, wooing along the way Paul Bettany, from A Beautiful Mind, who plays Peter, a lowly-ranked Briton on a wildcard.

The producers, the talents behind earlier smash hits Four Weddings and a Funeral and Notting Hill, will hope the movie does better than ill-fated British players traditionally do in the tournament.



PHOTO: AFP

HAT-TOP TENNIS? A fan sports a hat with a genie sitting on a flying magic carpet and a tennis racquet in its hand on top of it on the opening day of the Wimbledon Championships in London on June 23.

# Agassi, Serena

FROM PAGE 13

was also on his way home after a 7-5, 7-6 (7/4), 6-3 defeat by Olivier Rochus, but the demise of a player who has built his reputation, and his ranking, on clay foundations, was less of a surprise than the premature departure of Malisse.

Rochus will play Anthony Dupuis of France or British wildcard Richard Bloomfield in the second round.

And although Belgium lost their number one male player, there was the consolation of seeing qualifier Gilles Elseneer complete a surprise victory over former world number four Nicolas Kiefer.

OTHER RESULTS

Results on the second day of the Wimbledon tennis championships here on Tuesday (x denotes seeded player):

MEN'S SINGLES

First round

Radek Stepanek (CZE x35) bt Michal Mertinak (SVK) 7-6 (8/6), 6-

4, 6-4

Gilles Elseneer (BEL) bt Nicolas Kiefer (GER) 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4

Scott Draper (AUS) bt Paul-Henri Mathieu (FRA) 7-6 (7/5), 4-6, 6-3, 6-4

WOMEN'S SINGLES

First round

Alicia Molik (AUS) bt Dinara Safina (RUS) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4

Akiko Morigami (JPN) bt Tamarine Tanasugarn (THA x32) 6-4, 6-3

Laura Granville (USA x28) bt Akina Jidkova (RUS) 6-1, 6-4

Elena Likhovtseva (RUS x31) bt Lindsay Lee-Waters (USA) 4-6, 6-2, 8-6

Aniko Kapros (HUN) bt Meghann Shaughnessy (USA x19) 6-3, 6-2

Emmanuelle Gagliardi (SRI) bt Stephanie Cohen Aloro (FRA) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3

Martina Sucha (SVK) bt Gala Leon Garcia (SPA) 6-2, 4-6, 6-1

## Roddick made favourite

REUTERS, London

American Andy Roddick was installed as favourite to win the Wimbledon men's singles title by British bookmakers William Hill after top seed and defending champion Lleyton Hewitt's first round defeat on Monday.

Roddick, champion on grass at the Stella Artois Championships a week ago, is quoted at 11-4 with Andre Agassi second favourite on 100-30. Serena Williams is an overwhelming favourite to retain her women's singles titles.

ODDS

Men's singles

Andy Roddick (US) 11-4 Andre Agassi (US) 100-30 Roger Federer (Switzerland) 5-1 Tim Henman (Britain) 8-1 Mark Philippoussis (Australia) 16-1 Greg Rusedski (Britain) 20-1 Sjeng Schalken (Netherlands) 25-1.

Women's singles

Serena Williams (US) 4-6 Venus Williams (US) 100-30 Kim Clijsters (Belgium) 4-1 Justine Henin-Hardenne (Belgium) 7-1 Jennifer Capriati (US) 25-1 Chanda Rubin (US) 25-1.

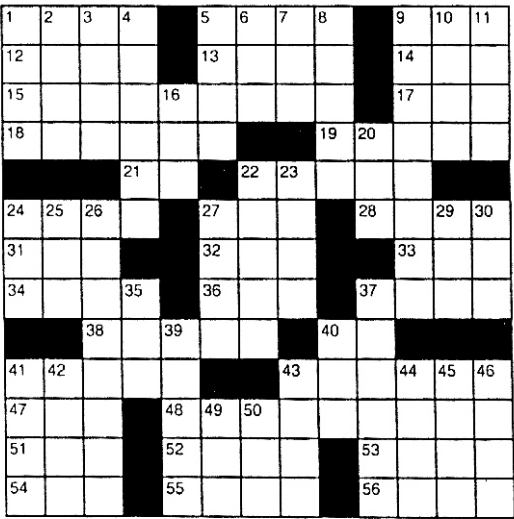
## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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bird  
15 Florida  
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18 Cruel one  
19 Some  
siblings  
21 "Be quiet!"  
22 Ring in a  
game  
24 Maintained  
27 Mongrel  
28 Micro-  
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Secret"  
32 Set up  
33 "Science  
Guy" Bill  
34 Ala.  
neighbor  
36 Put away

DOWN  
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Muse  
9 Contrite  
clown  
10 Advance  
indication  
11 Togs  
solo  
16 Blond  
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20 Peruke  
22 Throws  
in the  
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24 Do-it-  
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25 Prior  
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26 A real  
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27 Pull  
an all-  
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29 Catcher's  
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30 Kitten's  
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39 Settle a  
debt  
40 "Little  
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James  
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unexpectedly  
44 Go fly  
it!  
45 Slave to  
cross-  
words?  
46 Unwilling  
to listen  
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50 Zilch

Solution time: 25 mins.

FALLA SLOW BETH  
IRON PRY HARE  
NECKLAGE RALIA  
SAILOUT TERROR  
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CURB WAS IGOR  
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OREM EEL HERO  
NATE RAY SEEN



CRYPTOQUIP

F M H D U M X D C L J X B P D E  
Z P Q B B P S D N E P D E X D C  
C X S N M Z H J E U Z J H X R R B  
Q X O H E Q B O U D E L J X F R  
Yesterday's Cryptiquip: EVIL ALIENS, ARMED  
WITH GIGANTIC VACUUM CLEANERS,  
PLANNED TO SWEEP THE NATION.

Today's Cryptiquip Clue: R equals L.

The Cryptiquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.



PHOTO: COURTESY

The players of GrameenPhone, who became Beximco Office Cup cricket champions, receiving trophy from State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman recently.