

India battle for survival

BIRSBANE, Australia, Dec 22: India were battling for survival today after a bold declaration by Queensland to re-open the Gabba...

14 boundaries and a six. Narendra Hirwani denied Ritchie a century in his 100th appearance for Queensland by having him caught by Pandit for 68.



ALAN BORDER

Border and Prestwidge put on 106 for the unbroken fifth wicket by tea when the declaration came. The Australian captain warmed up for the second Test starting in Melbourne on Boxing Day with a sparkling 85 inclusive of nine boundaries.

Prestwidge remained unbeaten on 48, but both batsmen were let off by the butter-fingered Indian fielders. Border then on 69, was dropped at square leg by Srikanth when he swept left-arm Venkatapathy Raju.

he cut Kapil Dev hard to point where Subroto Banerjee failed to anticipate the catch. Banerjee was the most expensive Indian bowler with figures of one for 106.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard after the third day's play in the four-day cricket match between India and Queensland here today. INDIA 1st innings: 454 for nine declared. QUEENSLAND: 1st innings (overnight 118 for one)

INDIA 2nd innings: R. Shastri c Border b Prestwidge 1, K. Srikanth lbw b Williams 1, D. Vengsarkar batting 41, M. Azharuddin batting 46, Extras: (nb2) 2

Total: (for 2 wkts) 91, Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-5.

Bowling: O M R W, Banerjee 22 3 106 1, Kapil 16 2 32 1, Ganguly 4 0 22 0, Raju 27 6 76 0, Hirwani 25 2 53 2, Shastri 7 0 22 0

WEST INDIES: 1st innings: 235, AUSTRALIA XI: 1st innings: Boon lbw b Patterson 10, Phillips lbw b Cummins 51, Moody a Williams b Anthony 70, Waugh c Best b Patterson 11, Bewan c Williams b Anthony 58, Lew c Hooper b R Haynes 68, Healy c Anthony b R Haynes 44, Matthew c Best b R Haynes 63, Reffel c D Haynes 64, B R Haynes 44, Warne not out 10, Extras (11 lb, 30 Nb) 41, Total (for 9 wkts) 461, Fall: 1-28, 2-160, 3-160, 4-193, 5-254, 6-348, 7-358, 8-448, 9-461.

Bowling: O M R W, Patterson 17 1 85 2, Cummins 26 1 80 1, Anthony 21 1 107 2, Hooper 27 1 72 0, R. Haynes 27 5 106 4

WEST INDIES 2nd innings: Best c Healy b Refuel 12, Wallace c Healy b Reffel 13, Lara not out 10, Arthurton not out 7, Extras (2 lb, 6 Nb) 8, Total (for 2 wkts) 50, Fall: 1-23, 2-33.

Bowling: O M R W, Reid 8 0 1 28 0, Healy 6 2 3 2, Warne 2 0 7 0

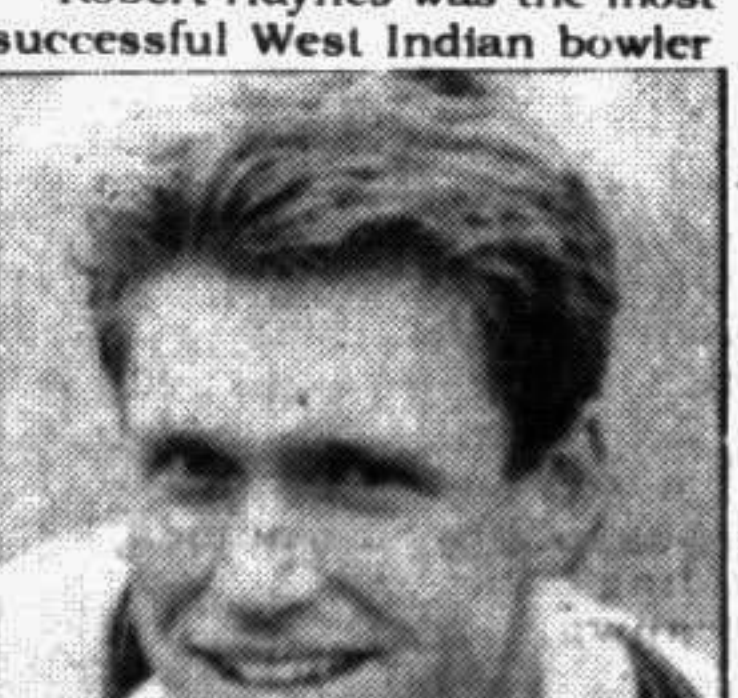
TOM MOODY

grabbing four for 106 off 27.5 overs. SCOREBOARD: Scoreboard at close of play in the first day of the Test match between West Indies and Australia.

Moody strengthens Test claim

HOBART, Dec 22: An Australian XI skipped by Test wicket-keeper Ian Healy consolidated its commanding position over the West Indies on the third day's play at Bellerive Oval today, reports AFP.

regular opener Geoff Marsh who was injured last week. Left-hander Mark Bevan's half-century included a six and five boundaries.



TOM MOODY

At stumps, the West Indies needed 176 to avoid an innings defeat with eight wickets standing. The four-day match, dubbed the sixth Test of the summer, ends on Monday after losing a full day's play to rain on Friday.

Gavaskar's money on the Aussies

SINGAPORE, Dec 22: Australia has the "best chance" of winning the forthcoming World Cup cricket, veteran cricketer Sunil Gavaskar said here today, reports PTI.

When asked for his views on the ongoing World Cup series, Gavaskar said though it was hard to tell, but judging from how Australia is playing now, "I think it stands the best chance of coming out tops."

Commenting on the latest move to allow South Africa to participate in competitive cricket, Gavaskar said he was happy that "those obnoxious laws have been abolished allowing South Africa into world cricket again."

History Department moved into the final with a massive 52-runs victory over Government and Politics Department in the second semifinal of the inter-department cricket competition of Jahangirnagar University held yesterday at the Mir Mosharrif Hossain Hall playground.

Put into bat, History scored 165 all out with Sanwar hitting a fine 67 and Kamrul 46. Sajju took three History wickets for 24 while Niaz got two for 42.

In their turn, Government and Politics were all out for a meagre 113. Faruk took four wickets for only 33 while Sanwar bagged two for eight for the winners.

History Department will meet Economics in the final of the tournament on a date yet to be announced.

MAJDEE COURT (Noakhali), Dec 22: Choumuhani Mohammedans Sporting Club emerged as champion of the Suresh-Tofall memorial under-16 football tournament here Saturday.



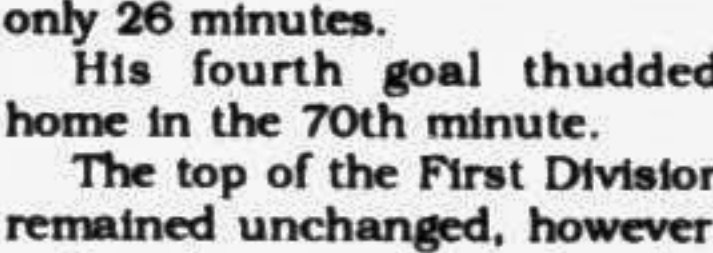
Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia exchanged greetings with members of the Bangladesh SAF Games-bound contingent aboard the aircraft on way to Colombo Dec 20. -PID photo

Wright's hattrick sinks Everton

LONDON, Dec 22: Arsenal striker Ian Wright made sure Highbury hosted the match of the day on Saturday by scoring four times as the English champions beat Everton 4-2, reports Reuter.

Wright, who joined Arsenal two months ago from Crystal Palace, took his tally for the season to 17 with his four strikes. But it was Everton who scored first, Polish international Robert Warzycha hitting home in the third minute.

Limpar set up the fourth goal, splitting the Everton defence with a cross from the right that Wright turned into the net. Another London side, Chelsea, emulated Arsenal with a 4-2 victory over Oldham.



WRIGHT...hattrick

Wright replied from close range a minute later and was there again at the far post to tap Arsenal 2-1 ahead after 13 minutes.

Scottish international Mo Johnston equalised with his second goal in three matches for the Merseysiders since his Ebberell.



WRIGHT...hattrick

Wright completed his hattrick by sweeping in a low cross from Swedish international Anders Limpar.

The wind, gusting in Arsenal's favour in the first half, hindered their efforts after the break but there was no stopping Wright, despite a booking for a foul on John

Sheffield Wednesday tightened their grip on third place with a 2-0 win over Wimbledon. Ireland international John Sheridan scored both goals.

Early Christmas present for Marseille fans

PARIS, Dec 22: French champions Marseille gave their home fans an early Christmas present when they crushed Caen 5-0 on Saturday to stay comfortably at the top of the French league, reports Reuter.

Jocelyn Angloma, Jean-Pierre Papin, Chris Waddle and Basile Boli, who scored twice, got the goals on the last soccer night of the year. Players and fans will now take a four-week break.

Plenty of goals were scored in the other matches. At Auxerre the home side beat struggling Sochaux 4-0 while Lens defeated lightly-regarded Toulouse 4-0.

Monaco, with a 1-0 win over Paris St. Germain, stayed second four points behind Marseille, who have a game in hand. The principality's team will have a job to catch the champions, now ideally placed to clinch their four successive league title.

Unfashionable Le Havre beat Toulon 3-0 to take third place one point behind Monaco. Rennes and Nancy, fighting to avoid relegation, managed a 1-1 draw. Rennes goalkeeper Pascal Rousseau was hurt in a clash with a Nancy striker during the game and was taken to hospital.

Marseille post 32m franc profit

MARSEILLE, France, Dec 22: French champions Olympique Marseille announced profits of 32 million francs (six million dollars) on Saturday for the year ending on June 30, reports AFP.

The profits are up by a third over the 1989-90 figure, but they will have been more than swallowed up by the 5 million francs transfer fee agreed with Glasgow Rangers four months ago for former England midfielder Trevor Steven.

Rangers, who are still owed 20 million francs of the money, have said they would be willing to buy Steven back from the French club.

Turnover was up 81 million francs to 280 million, thanks largely to reaching the European Cup final, which they lost on penalties to Red Star Belgrade.

1991: The has-beens eclipse the champion

PARIS, Dec 22: The heavyweight boxing scene in 1991 was dominated not by the world champion Evander Holyfield, but by two former titleholders, reports AFP.

The 19st 4lb giant who reigned the category back in 1933, had weighed more. But those who had predicted that the fight would be a farce were forced to eat their words.

Foreman's performance in front of a packed and excited 19,000 crowd was heroic. He plodded bravely forward for 12 rounds, taking the champion's best punches without flinching, and although he couldn't quite find the right range for one of his famous "put them to sleep" punches, he certainly hurt the champion several times - especially in an explosive seventh round.

After a points win over Foreman, Holyfield at last agreed to the long-awaited showdown against Tyson.

He made two comebacks - finally decided to call it a day after losing his World Boxing Council (WBC) light-middleweight title to Terry Norris - an opponent 13 years his junior.

And Mike Tyson, who dominated the division until his shock defeat in Tokyo against Buster Douglas in February 1990, continued to make headlines outside the ring when he was charged with raping a beauty queen contestant.

The reigning champion, Evander Holyfield, with a scientific, hi-tech, low-profile approach to the sport and a body shaped by careful diet, hours of weightlifting and workouts with his ex-ballerina fitness coach, ended the year still unbeaten after 27 fights.

By contrast, the outrageously enormous Foreman, 42, shaven skulled and delighting press and public with a non-stop string of one-line gags, became a national institution.

The middle-aged preacher, enjoying a popularity he had never known when he was at his most destructive to decades earlier, became known affectionately throughout the United States as "Big George."

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Sidek in final at Joko's cost

JAKARTA, Dec 22: Shuttlers from Malaysia, Indonesia and South Korea assured themselves Saturday of places in the finals of the Cathay Pacific Asian Cup badminton tournament here, reports AFP.

Joko: the two had met seven times previously, with Joko holding a 4-3 advantage. While having no trouble leading throughout the first set, Rashid lost the second to Joko's rally plays and accurate drop shots as he repeatedly failed to return Joko's drop shots to his left front.

compatriot Fung Permadi 15-7, 15-13.

WOMEN'S FINAL

China's only finalist will be world champion Tan Jiu Hong, who thrashed Thai hopeful Somharath Jaroenjiri in straight sets.

Japan and China also won places in the finals of the Cup, which offers a total cash prize of 100,000 dollars.

Joko led in the decider before Rashid caught up at 8-8. The Malaysian shuttler had to fight hard to equal the score at 11 and at 13 before leading the rest of the match and taking it 18-14.

Tan will face Kuala Lumpur Grand Prix semifinalist Bang Soo Hyun of South Korea, who beat host player Yuliani Santoso.

Malaysia's Rashid Sidek, who defeated Indonesia's Joko Suprianto in a tough game 15-8, 6-15 and 18-14.

Joko's attempt to repeat his deadly drop shots started landing too far outside the line. Rashid will face Indonesia's Bambang Suprianto who made an easy game of whipping

Malaysia, booked another final berth when its men's double team of Cheah Soon Kit and Soo Beng Kiang scored an upset won by easily trouncing China's Chen Kang and Chen Honyyong 15-5 and 15-8.

With his win, Rashid also equalled a private score with

Indonesia's Joko Suprianto in a tough game 15-8, 6-15 and 18-14.

The Chinese pair obviously not at their fittest made repeated mistakes and showed little coordinated play.

Prpic, Novacek move up in Kooyong Classic tennis

MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec 22: Croatian Goran Prpic defeated Austria's Richard Fromberg in three sets in the final of the Kooyong Tennis Classic here today, reports AFP.

Prpic, ranked 16th in the world and seeded second in the eight-man round robin tournament, won 6-4, 6-7 (6/8), 6-3.

In the finals, the Malaysian team will face host Duo Ricky Subagya and Rexy Mainakey who also had an easy time besting another Chinese team Zheng Yumin and Huang Zhanzhong, 15-4 and 15-8.

Prpic displayed all his court speed as he won the opening set and snatched an early lead in the second.

At 5-4, he had three match points but was unable to deliver the final blow.

In the ladies doubles, Japan's Kimiko Inai and Hisako Mori defeated China's Yao Fen and Li Yanfen in an extended game 10-15, 17-14 and 15-1, while the host team of Rosiana Tendeen, Erna Sulistianingsih scored an equally tough win over South Korea's Hwang Hye Young and Chung Soo Young.

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Tyson...unimpressive



Foreman...nat'l institution



Holyfield...eclipsed champ

twice. A controversial first meeting at the Mirage in Las Vegas ended in a near riot and with Riddick's promoter Murad Muhammad being suspended for a year after a strange seventh round stoppage in Tyson's favour by referee Richard Steele.

The inevitable rematch, at the same venue four months later, also produced a Tyson victory - this time by points.

Leonard bowed out - but his old rival Thomas Hearns, 32, soldiered on and became the first man ever to hold six world titles at five different weights when he outpointed the previously undefeated Virgil Hill for the World Boxing Association (WBA) light-heavyweight crown.

Foreman's chin and power are suspect. I want to fight him as soon as possible," he said - saying aloud what scores of challengers were secretly thinking after watching the fight against Cooper.

Leonard's retirement Outside of the heavyweights, the year was marked by the retirement of the legendary Sugar Ray Leonard.

Nunn, often accused of arrogance, lost his International Boxing Federation (IBF) title when he was stopped by 22-year-old compatriot underdog James Toney in the 11th round of their meeting in Iowa in May. Nunn, who had been leading comfortably on points, made the mistake of losing his

When Foreman eventually climbed into the Atlantic City ring on April 20th he looked more like a sumo wrestler. Weighing a colossal 18st 5lb, he was the second-heaviest man ever to fight for a world crown. Only Primo Camera,

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