

Sport

Lankans to play positive cricket

COLOMBO, Sept 7: Skipper Arjuna Ranatunga today said Sri Lanka would play positive cricket in their bid to square the Test series against Australia during the third and final Test in suburban Moratuwa, reports AFP.

Australia after the home side dominated the match right up to the final day but collapsed on their way to a modest victory match right up to the final day but collapsed on their way to a modest victory target in the final session.

ting form in the Sheffield Shield tournament in Australia, has only played one match, against a Southern Province XI, on their current five-week tour.

Indo-Pak WC bid gets a boost

NEW DELHI, Sept 7: India and Pakistan are likely to host the World Cup cricket jointly once again, reports PTI.



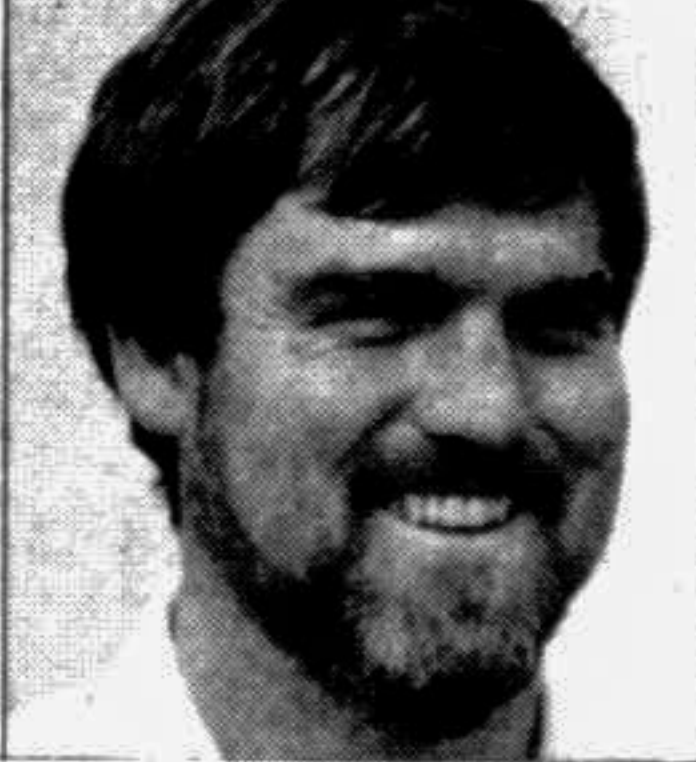
Chinese athlete Zhao Yi in action during the high jump event of the IXth Paralympic Games in Barcelona's Montjuic Olympic Stadium on Sunday. Zhao won the gold clearing 1.79m. — AFP photo

Gower dropped, Gatting recalled

LONDON, Sept 7: England have dropped former captain David Gower but reinstated "rebel" Mike Gatting to the national cricket team for the winter tour of India and Sri Lanka, reports AP.

The selectors demoted wicketkeeper Jack Russell to the England-A team, and, as a result, 20-year-old Damien Martyn is likely to end the tour without making his Test debut.

average of 44. But the selectors preferred Graeme Hick with an average of 18.05 and Neil Fairbrother with an average of 8.00.



MIKE GATTING

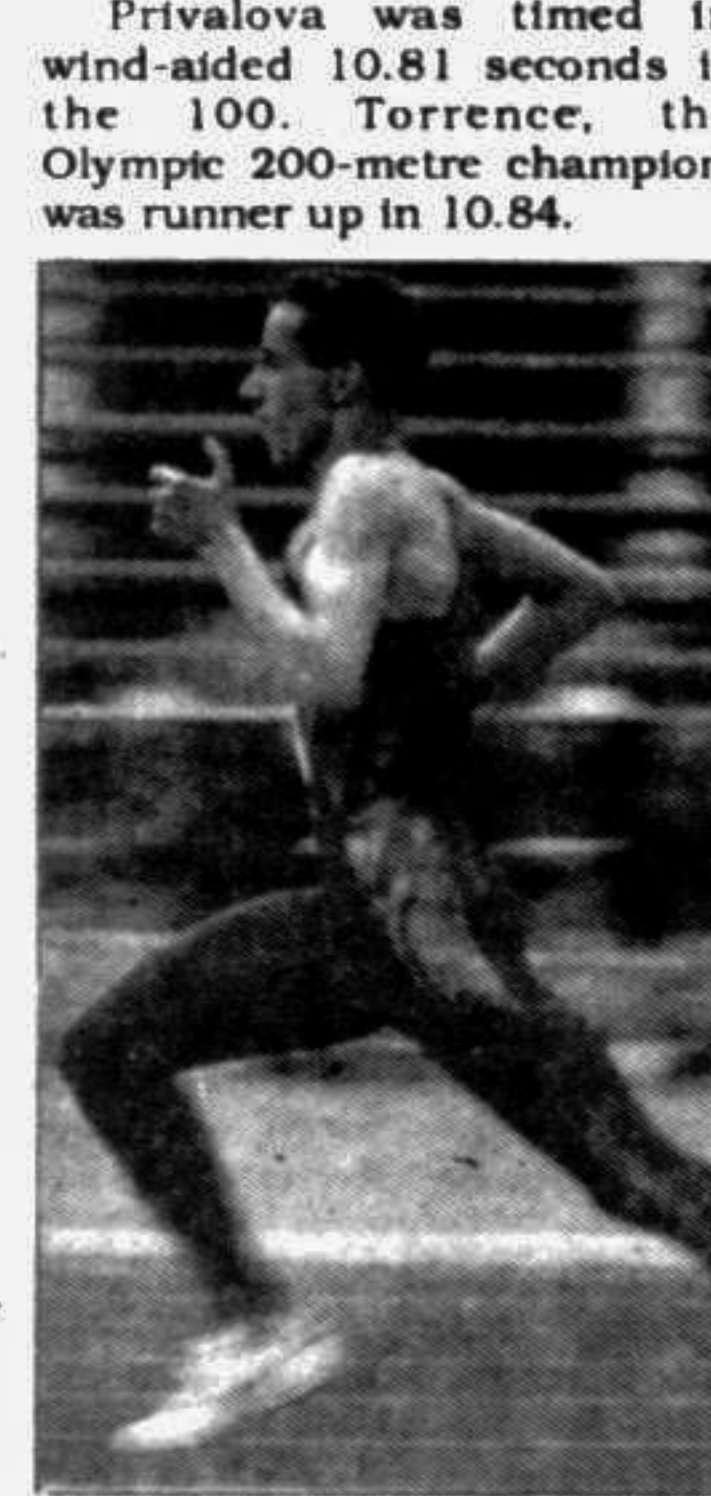
expected, ignored veteran batsmen Allan Lamb and Ian Botham.

Haslam replaces Chris Cairns

WELLINGTON, Sept 7: A second spinner was added today to the New Zealand cricket squad to tour Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka following the unexpected loss over the weekend of strike bowler Chris Cairns, reports AP.

Morceli breaks Aouita's record

RIETI, Italy, Sept 7: Noureddine Morceli of Algeria became the first man to run 1,500 metres in under 3 minutes, 29 seconds on Sunday, atoning for his disappointing performance at the Olympics with a world record at the Rieti invitational track meet, reports AP.



NOUREDDINE MORCELI

In absence of Kevin Young, Zambian Samuel Matete won the 400-metre hurdles in 47.91 seconds while Troy Kemps of Bahamas cleared 2.30 metres (7-6 1-2) to win

the high jump. Kenyan runners dominated the 800 metres, with Nixon Kiprotich edging Olympic champion William Tanui by 0.06, in 1:43.31 — an inversion of the Barcelona final.

De Castella for change in Olympic marathon timing

CANBERRA, Australia, Sept 7: Former world champion Robert de Castella said Monday that the world's best marathon runners would be likely to opt out of future Olympic Games unless there are changes to the race start time, reports AP.

Spassky's win makes it 1-1

SVETI STEFAN, Yugoslavia, Sept 7: Bobby Fischer suffered his first defeat in his comeback series Sunday, falling to Boris Spassky in 50 moves and leaving their much-touted rematch tied at 1-1, reports AP.

Spassky, playing white, used the Queen's Gambit opening. Fischer took the challenge, and the game settled into the pattern called Queen's Gambit Accepted.

a challenge from Soviet player Anatoly Karpov. The game is being played in defiance of international sanctions on Yugoslavia for its role in the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

NSC budget today

Sports Reporter The annual budget meeting of the National Sports Council will be held today at the NSC at 6:00 pm with its Chairman Sadeq Hossain, State Minister for Youth and Sports in the chair.

Experts say Krabbe's ban should be lifted

FRANKFURT, Germany, Sept 7: Two medical professors say that Katrin Krabbe's suspension should be lifted, as the drug which the fallen sprinter used, clenbuterol, is not an anabolic steroid, reports AP.

The DLV will decide her fate, along with that of fellow clenbuterol users Grit Breuer and Manuela Derr, at a meeting in Darmstadt next Friday.

Foster, Lundin crowned

GATESHEAD, England, Sept 7: Britain's Mark Foster and Sweden's Therese Lundin were crowned the world's most versatile sprint swimmers here on Sunday, reports AP.

During their last meeting in Reykjavik, Iceland, in 1972, Spassky managed to win only two of 21 games he played against Fischer.



Caught on the hip: Two female judokas of Surja Barun Club and Dhanmudi Club in action on the first day of the two-day Sadharan Bima judo competition yesterday at the NSC judo room. — Star photo

Pressmen threat to boycott Atletico matches

MADRID, Sept 7: Spanish journalists are threatening to boycott Atletico Madrid matches after the soccer club's pugnacious chairman Jesus Gil Barred all press who refused to pay to report the season's opening game, reports Reuter.

SB judo on

Sports Reporter The two-day Sadharan Bima judo competition organised by the Bangladesh Judo karate Federation got underway yesterday afternoon at the judo room of National Sports Council.

Soccer coaching begins today

Sports Reporter An intensive coaching programme for the footballers of the Pioneer league will begin at five this afternoon at the Dhaka Stadium.

Army boxing

JESSORE, Sept 7: Eight bouts of the annual army boxing championships were finalised at the Jessore cantonment today, an ISPR press release said.



US President George Bush make the first pitch at a local baseball game during a Labour Day campaign stop in Louisville, Kentucky on Sunday. — AFP photo