

Vinod Kambli hits a magnificent 224

India in sight of a clean sweep

BOMBAY, Feb 22: Vinod Kambli hit a record-breaking double century and Manoj Prabhakar captured three quick wickets to put India in sight of a 3-0 Test series sweep against England on Monday, reports Reuter.

England, beaten in the first two Tests, ended the fourth day of the third and final Test on 108 for three in their second innings, needing a further 136 to avoid an innings defeat with one day left.

Despite a rearguard action from Robin Smith (39 not out) and Mike Gatting (31 not out) after England slumped to 34 for three, the touring team were still facing a third successive crushing defeat.

India's dominance was exemplified by Kambli's 224 — the country's third best individual Test score and the highest by an Indian against England — as they piled up 591 for a first innings lead of 244.

England's second innings was then rocked by Prabhakar, who took three wickets for eight runs in 22 balls.

The seamer whipped out Alec Stewart (10), with the last ball before tea, Graham Gooch (8) and Michael Atherton (11).

It was a sad end for Gooch whose dismissal, bowled driving at an inswinger, meant his final overseas tour brought him a paltry 47 runs from his four Test innings.

Smith, looking more comfortable than at any time in the series, and a shaky Gatting built an unbroken 74-run partnership notable for their determination to attack the bowling whenever possible.

Gatting was especially fortunate to survive when 22. He was given, not out when a television replay showed him narrowly run out by Rajesh Chauhan's throw to Anil Kumble.

As England's wickets tumbled in late afternoon it was

hard to believe that, less than an hour before, Indian tailenders Kumble and Chauhan had been lifting sixes into the jubilant crowd.

That flourish came as India, despite England's questionable tactics of slowing the over rate to barely 12 an hour, scored at a run-a-minute to build a big lead quickly enough to have plenty of time to dismiss the touring team again.

One of the casualties of the chase was Kambli, out just 12 short of Sunil Gavaskar's record Indian Test score of 236 not out against West Indies in Madras in the 1983-84 series. India's second best score, by Vinod Mankad, was



VINOD KAMBLI... 224
231 against New Zealand in Madras 37 seasons ago.

Kambli had slowed noticeably as the record approached but, with time pressing, he had to attack. His dismissal was clearly a bitter disappointment to the left-hander, who batted seven minutes short of 10 hours, hitting 23 fours and facing 411 balls.

His favoured scoring strokes against the scammers were in the arc from third man to cover point, while he frequently struck the spinners

over extra cover and mid-wicket.

Dropped on 39 by Phillip DeFreitas off John Embury and on 119 by Gooch off Chris Lewis, Kambli eventually fell the way England always anticipated, well caught at backward point by Gatting slashing at Lewis.

It was fitting reward for Lewis, the pick of the England attack on a pitch not suited to him. He bowled 42 overs, taking two for 114, while left-arm spinner Phil Tufnell took the last two wickets in successive balls to end with four for 142.

Praveen Amre struck 57 in a fifth-wicket partnership of 101 in 21 overs with Kambli, while Mohammad Azharuddin (26) and Kapil Dev (22) also chipped in as India made their highest Test total against England at home.

The crowd, smaller at 25,000 than on the previous day, was well behaved apart from an isolated incident of fruit-throwing at Stewart. That was about the only thing given to England all day.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the fourth day of the third cricket Test between India and England today:

ENGLAND: First innings 347 (G Hick 178)

INDIA: First innings (overnight 397 for three)

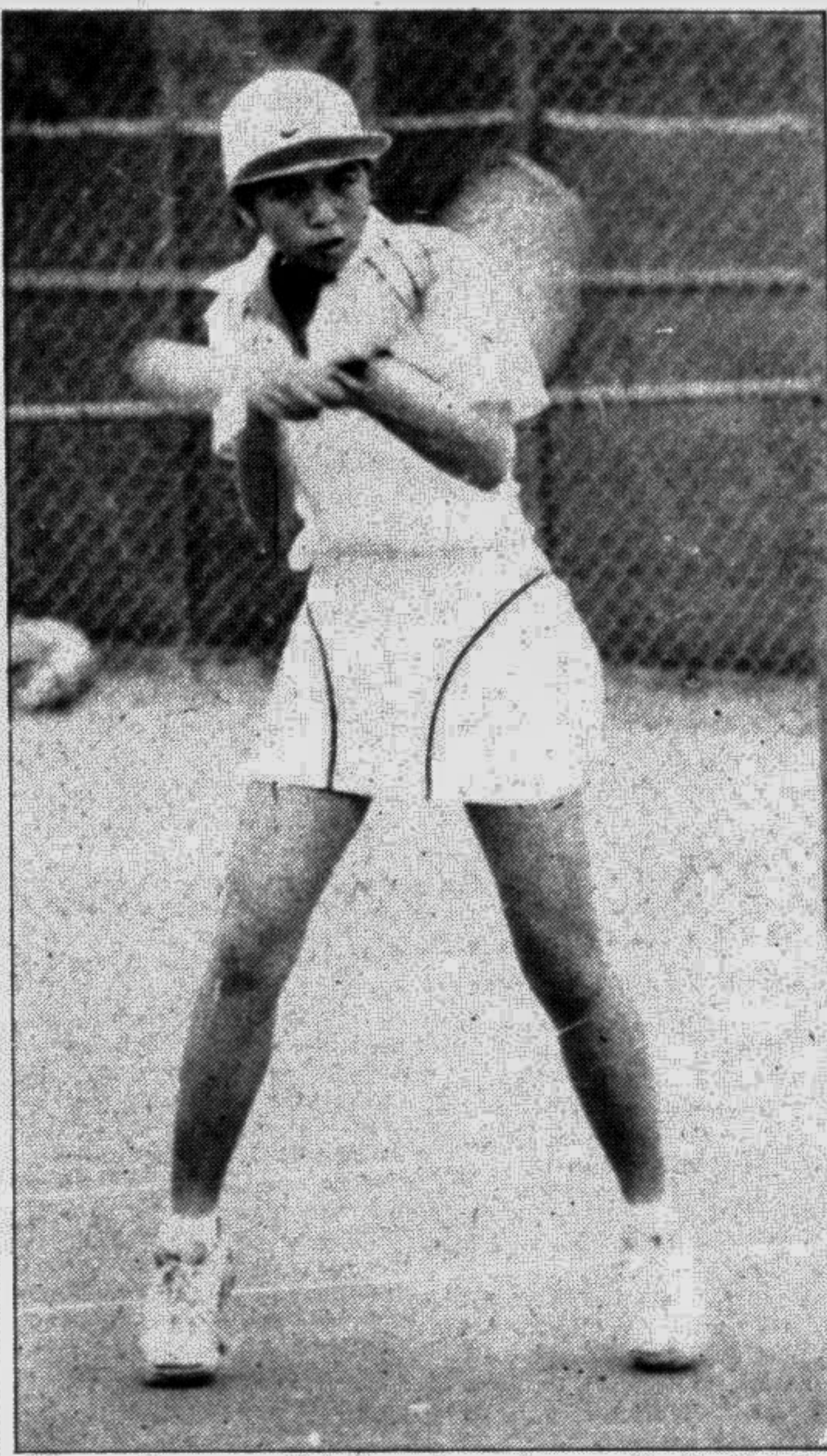
N Sidhu c Smith b Tufnell 79
M Prabhakar c Blakey b Hick 44
V Kambli c Gatting b Lewis 224
S Tendulkar lbw b Tufnell 78
P Amre c DeFreitas b Lewis 26
M Azharuddin lbw b Hick 57
Kapil Dev c DeFreitas b Embury 22
K More c Lewis b Embury 0
A Kumble c Atherton b Tufnell 16
R Chauhan c Atherton b Tufnell 15
V Raju not out 0
Extras: (b-5, lb-14, nb-6, w-5) 30
Total: 591

Fall of wickets: 1-109; 2-174; 3-368; 4-418; 5-519; 6-560; 7-560; 8-563; 9-591

Bowling: O M R W
DeFreitas 20 4 75 0
Lewis 42 9 114 2
Embury 59 14 144 2
Tufnell 39 3 6 142 4
Hick 29 3 97 2

ENGLAND: Second innings
G Gooch b Prabhakar 8
A Stewart lbw b Prabhakar 10
M Atherton c More b Prabhakar 11
R Smith not out 39
M Gatting not out 31
Extras: (b-4, lb-3, nb-1, w-1) 9
Total: (for three wickets) 108
Fall of wickets: 1-17; 2-26; 3-34

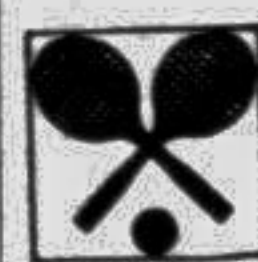
Bowling: O M R W
Kapil Dev 7 1 21 0
Prabhakar 8 2 27 3
Raju 10 4 26 0
Kumble 9 3 19 0
Chauhan 5 3 8 0



Vinca Rampen of Indonesia makes a double-fisted backhand return during her first round match against Taslima Khatun of Bangladesh in the seventh Bangladesh international junior tennis championships which began at the National Tennis Complex, Ramna yesterday. Rampen routed Taslima 6-1, 6-0. — Star photo

Jr int'l meet begins

Sports Reporter



The seventh Bangladesh international junior under-18 tennis championships began yesterday at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna.

Thirty-two boys and 13 girls representing 12 countries including hosts Bangladesh are participating in the week-long meet.

Eight boys' singles and three girls' singles matches were held yesterday.

The highlight of yesterday's

boys' singles was a deserving victory registered by Shaikh Moinuddin Waliullah Jhilar against Jirapong Rojanavasee of Thailand.

Jhilar beat Rojanavasee 6-3, 6-1 in his first-round match.

Syed Faisal Haq, seeded fifth, beat compatriot Faraz Rahman Omar 6-3, 6-0 to move into the next round.

Fourth seed Genuan Guncwardene of Sri Lanka outplayed Shahan Hassan Nafez of Iran 6-2, 6-2; seventh-seed Djanur Radjab of Indonesia eliminated Hussain Khan (Obh) 6-3, 6-0 in other boys' singles matches yesterday.

In the girls' singles, Vinca Rampen of Indonesia eliminated Taslima Khatun of Bangladesh 6-1, 6-0; Saathi Sarker of Bangladesh outclassed compatriot Yasmin Ahmed 6-1, 6-4 while Khaleda Fowzia, another local girl, outlasted her fellow Bangladeshi Rawshan Kabir 6-0, 6-2.

The remaining eight boys' singles and two girls' singles matches of the first round will be held today.

In addition, some second round encounters are also scheduled for today.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka inaugurated the week-long programme as chief guest.

Secretary of the Bangladesh Tennis Federation A Morsheed Khan Chowdhury, tournament director Iyadzur Rashid and other federation officials were present.

Matches start at nine in the morning.

Graf to skip Indian Wells

PARIS, Feb 22: Steffi Graf has pulled out of the women's circuit tournament at Indian Wells this week because of a pulled stomach muscle, reports AFP.

Graf has not played since losing to Martina Navratilova in the semifinal at Tokyo two weeks ago where she picked up the injury.

The Women's Tennis Association, which is committed to providing at least one of the top two players for the 375,000-dollar tournament, has asked world number one Monica Seles to step in.

Seles said she would give her response after Sunday's final of the Paris Open against Martina Navratilova.

If neither of the top two play the WTA has to pay the sponsors of the tournament a fine of 50,000 dollars. Seles would be eligible for an incentive bonus of 75,000 dollars if she stepped in but only if she meets her tournament commitment throughout the year.

Div II cricket Sports Reporter

Young Pegasus A, Shantinagar Club B and Amarjyoti Club won their respective matches of the Second Division cricket league yesterday.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium Young Pegasus A registered a big 73-run victory over Western Cricket Club.

Batting first Pegasus A were all out for 143 in 33.5 overs with Shipon, Morsheed and skipper Shahinor making 34, 25 and 17 respectively.

Rashed and Dipu took two wickets each for Western Club.

In reply, Western Club were shot out for a poor 70 in 23 overs.

Moin and Rashed made 25 and 14 respectively.

At the Mirpur Pallabi ground, Shantinagar Club B outplayed Azad Boys Club by 50 runs.

At the Dhanmondi Club ground, Amarjyoti beat Kakrail Boys Club by 23 runs.

Batting first, Amarjyoti were all out for 191 in 34.5 overs with Aman topscoring with 45, Hassan, Rashed and Raju making 35, 29 and 25 respectively.

Sachchu claimed four wickets for 42.

Kakrail Boys made 168 for the loss of seven wickets when the overs ran out.

Arif and Shafigue scored 32 each and Sritu got 27.

Tarek and Raju bagged two wickets each for Amarjyoti.

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The 36-year-old American, with the vociferous support of the Paris crowd, trailed 4-2 in the third set but managed to break Seles when she served for the match at 5-4.

Navratilova saved two break points on her next game and came into her own when the 19-year-old Yugoslav cracked in the tiebreak, taking the last four points of the match.

Navratilova ended Seles' 34-match winning streak since the first round of the US Open last year.

"Maybe I was a bit lucky at the end," Navratilova said. "I was just happy to be on the same court as her. She's a great player."

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Aussie morale takes a knock

NELSON, New Zealand, Feb 22: Australia's preparation for their Test series against New Zealand, already disrupted by weather, received a further knock today when they were beaten by a New Zealand President's XI by three wickets in a 50-over match, report agencies.

The first two days of their three-day match were abandoned because of rain and a one-day game was arranged instead of the scheduled last day.

Home side captain Ken Rutherford led the President's XI to victory with a fine 97. He and Bryan Young (57), at times chasing more than six runs an over, added 141 for the fifth wicket to set up the win.

The President's XI got off to

a bad start and slumped to 74 for four before Rutherford and Young triggered a revival.

Their first 50 came up in just 39 minutes.

Rutherford hit a brace of sixes off the bowling of leg spinner Shane Warne and another over long-on from off-spinner Tim May, while Young flicked a ball from seamer Paul Reffel over the mid-wicket fence.

When Rutherford clubbed his fourth six over mid-wicket off Reffel, it raised the President's XI to 200 in the 46th over. They needed 14 from the last four overs, and nine from three, before Rutherford and Young departed just before the end.

Australia's innings was built around two substantial contributions from opener David Boon and Mark Waugh. Boon,

eight balls, including that of Australian captain Allan Border, who ended a run of three successive ducks by making 18.

Australia now head to Christchurch to prepare for the first Test against New Zealand, which starts on Thursday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of Australia's one-day cricket match against a New Zealand President's XI here today:

AUSTRALIA:
M Taylor b Gale 7
D Boon b Gale 75
J Langer c Rutherford b Latham 7
M Waugh c Rutherford b Latham 56
D Martyn b Pringle 20
A Border c Hart b Pringle 18
I Healy b Pringle 3
P Reffel not out 14
C McDermott run out 1
S Warne not out 3
Extras: (w-8, lb-10) 18
Total: (for 8 wickets, 50 overs) 222

Did not bat: T May

Fall: 1-21; 2-42; 3-132; 4-165; 5-200; 6-201; 7-206; 8-209.

Bowling: O M R W
Pringle 10 1 23 3
De Groen 10 3 26 0
Gale 10 0 46 2
Latham 9 1 54 2
Hart 10 0 53 0
Rutherford 1 0 10 0

NZ PRESIDENT'S XI:
B Pocock c Waugh b McDermott 20
R Latham c Reffel b Waugh 25
D Murray c Taylor b McDermott 9
K Rutherford c Martyn b Waugh 97
B Waugh 19
S Thomson b Martyn 19
B Young run out 57
L Germon lbw b Waugh 1
M Hart not out 1
Extras: (lb-7, w-2, nb-4) 13
Total: (for 7 wickets, 48.4 overs) 223

Fall: 1-2; 2-20; 3-45; 4-74; 5-215; 6-217; 7-221.

Did not bat: A Gale, R de Groen

Bowling: O M R W
C McDermott 9 4 0 38 2
P Reffel 10 0 52 0
M Waugh 6 1 18 3
D Martyn 6 2 17 1
S Warne 8 2 35 0
T May 9 0 56 0

Result: President's XI won by three wickets.

Boon may not play in first Test

NELSON, New Zealand, Feb 22: Australian opening batsman David Boon could miss the first Test against New Zealand after suffering a heel injury during a warmup match played Monday, reports AP.

Boon suffered a blow on the inside of his right heel early in his innings of 75 for Australia in its three-wicket loss to the New Zealand President's XI.

He fielded for a short time in the President's XI innings before leaving the arena to undergo an X-ray.

Australian team physiotherapist Errol Alcott said Boon had suffered a painful injury and could have damaged a tendon.

"It's pretty tender inside, so we sent him off for an X-ray," Alcott said.

"I doubt he's got a fracture, but it's precautionary. It's a bit of a concern with only two days left to the Test."

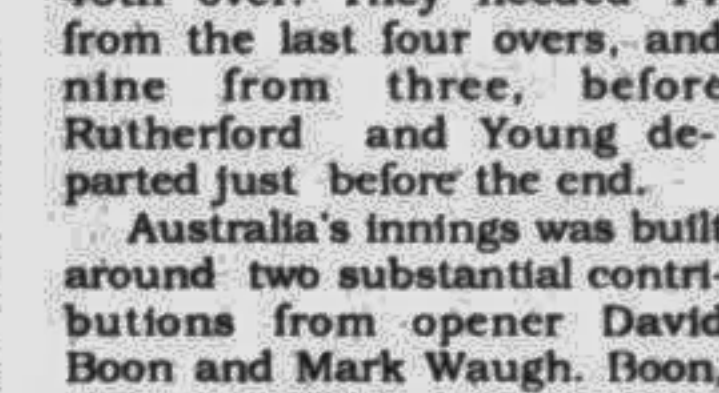
Alcott said Boon's heel got progressively more painful during the day.

The first of the three Tests between Australia and New Zealand begins in Christchurch on Thursday.

Boon is currently Australia's most consistent batsman.

In 71 Tests, he has scored 14 centuries at an average of 44.35.

K RUTHERFORD... 97



having his first innings in 2 1/2 weeks, hit an impressive 75, growing in confidence the longer he spent at the crease.

His best support came from Waugh in a 90-run third wicket partnership in 68 minutes. Waugh batted elegantly in making 56, which included three fours and two sixes.

Boon hit 11 boundaries in his 94-ball innings but the President's XI bowlers did a good job in restricting what could have been a large Australian total.

Fast-medium bowler Chris Pringle put the brakes on the scoring with three wickets in

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Gritty Navratilova nips Seles

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The 36-year-old American, with the vociferous support of the Paris crowd, trailed 4-2 in the third set but managed to break Seles when she served for the match at 5-4.

Navratilova saved two break points on her next game and came into her own when the 19-year-old Yugoslav cracked in the tiebreak, taking the last four points of the match.

Navratilova ended Seles' 34-match winning streak since the first round of the US Open last year.

"Maybe I was a bit lucky at the end," Navratilova said. "I was just happy to be on the same court as her. She's a great player."

"But she'd beaten me three

times in a row and it was my turn."

Navratilova's victory was her seventh in 17 meetings with Seles, whose last defeat was in the Canadian Open final last August in three sets by Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain.

The match was a classic of contrasting styles with both women producing scintillating tennis.

Seles kept the Navratilova's aggressive instincts largely in check with her power and accuracy, hitting winner after winner from the baseline when the American attacked the net.

But Navratilova was in gritty mood, fighting back strongly every time Seles threatened to dominate.

Some of the American's touch tennis was vintage stuff, particularly the delicate half-volley pickups which regularly frustrated her opponent.

Seles seemed to be taking command in the first set when she served to love to lead 3-2 but Navratilova moved up a gear and took the next four games to capture the set.

The Yugoslav opened a 5-1 lead in the second but Navratilova came back tenaciously to 5-4, saving set

points at 5-1, 5-2 and 5-3 before Seles was able to level the match.

Navratilova's chance seemed to come when she had break points for a 3-1 lead in the third. But Seles held on and broke her rival in the next game.

That looked as if it would be decisive until Navratilova's final charge.

The American, who has missed the French Open in each of the last four years, was making a long-awaited return to the French capital and had the Parisian public solidly behind her.

"It's a long time since I played in France," she said. "I missed it. I missed the people and I missed the food."

"It's a thrill to beat the world number one," Navratilova said. "I was overwhelmed after the match. I didn't really believe I could do it."

"I'm told I'm the oldest player to beat the world number one. I beat the record of Billie Jean King when she beat me in 1980."

"But I was a lot easier to beat than Monica is now."

Seles, who defeated Navratilova in last week's Chicago final, said she felt tired.

Newest boy from Bombay

BOMBAY, Feb 22: Vinod Ganpat Kambli, who became the latest 'boy' from coach Ramakant Achrekar's stable to notch a Test century yesterday, surpassed his stablemates Pravin Amre and Sachin Tendulkar at the Wankhede Stadium today when he converted it into a double century in the third and final Test against England, reports PTI.

The last man from the talented trio, given Test baptism in the ongoing series, the 21-year-old Kambli also became the tenth Indian batsman, and the only left-hander, to score 200 or more runs in a single innings and the fourth to do so against England.

Kambli's brilliant innings of 224, which was the backbone of the Indian first innings total

of 591, is also the third highest score by an Indian in Test cricket following legendary Sunil Gavaskar's 236 not out [vs West Indies at Madras in 1983] and the great all-rounder Vinoo Mankad's 231 against New Zealand at Madras in 1955.

Incidentally, Kambli's double century, the highest score against England, was the 14th occasion that an Indian batsman had surpassed 200 or more in Tests — Gavaskar performed the feat thrice while Dilip Sardesai and Vinoo Mankad did it twice each.

Significantly, only four batsmen — Gavaskar, Ravi Shastri, Dilip Sardesai and Sanjay Manjrekar — have performed the feat abroad and all of them were from Bombay.

Stich wins Stuttgart Classic

STUTTGART, Feb 22: Former Wimbledon champion Michael Stich cast aside his off-court row with Boris Becker to beat Dutchman Richard Krajceck in an intense five-set final of the Stuttgart Classic tennis event on Sunday, reports Reuter.

The 24-year-old German fought back from one set down in a big-serving battle to seal his first title of the year with a 4-6, 7-5, 7-6, 3-6, 7-5 victory in three hours and 45 minutes.

Stich's argument with Becker over the German Davis Cup team reached boiling point at the 2.25 million dollar event this week. The 1991 Wimbledon champion is angry that Becker has refused to play for Germany in next month's opening round.

Stich seemed to bring the dispute on court with him as he struggled with his serve for one set against Krajceck.

But from then on he played some delightful shots to take a victory which will put him

back in the top 10 when the ATP world rankings are published on Monday.

Stich, presently 11th, last won a tournament in December when he beat American Michael Chang in the final of the Grand Siam Cup in Munich.

Top seed Becker, who has decided to skip Germany's Davis Cup tie against Russia to concentrate on regaining the world number one ranking, accused Stich of plotting against him this week.

The three-time Wimbledon champion said he had been told by a German teammate that Stich had demanded a written assurance at a meeting with the German Tennis Federation (DTB) that Becker would not be selected for future ties this season.

Both Stich and the DTB denied there had been any assurance or that a meeting had taken place over the matter.

But a possible on-court showdown was scuppered when Becker pulled out of his semifinal against Krajceck on

Saturday because of a stomach virus.

Stich dropped his serve in the first game, broke back in the fourth but was broken again in the fifth as Krajceck sewed up the set in 38 minutes.

Stich made a key break in the 12th game of the second set to level the match, then played some of his best tennis when the third set went to a tie-break, hitting a superb forehand return down the line to go 5-2 up.

Krajceck then double-faulted to give Stich the tiebreak 7-4. But the Dutchman refused to give up and took the fourth set 6-3 after a key break in the eighth game which he clinched with a clever lob.

In a thrilling fifth set Krajceck had two key break points to go 6-5 ahead after Stich double-faulted three times. But the German saved the day and broke Krajceck's serve in the next game to ensure the 355,000 dollar prize.



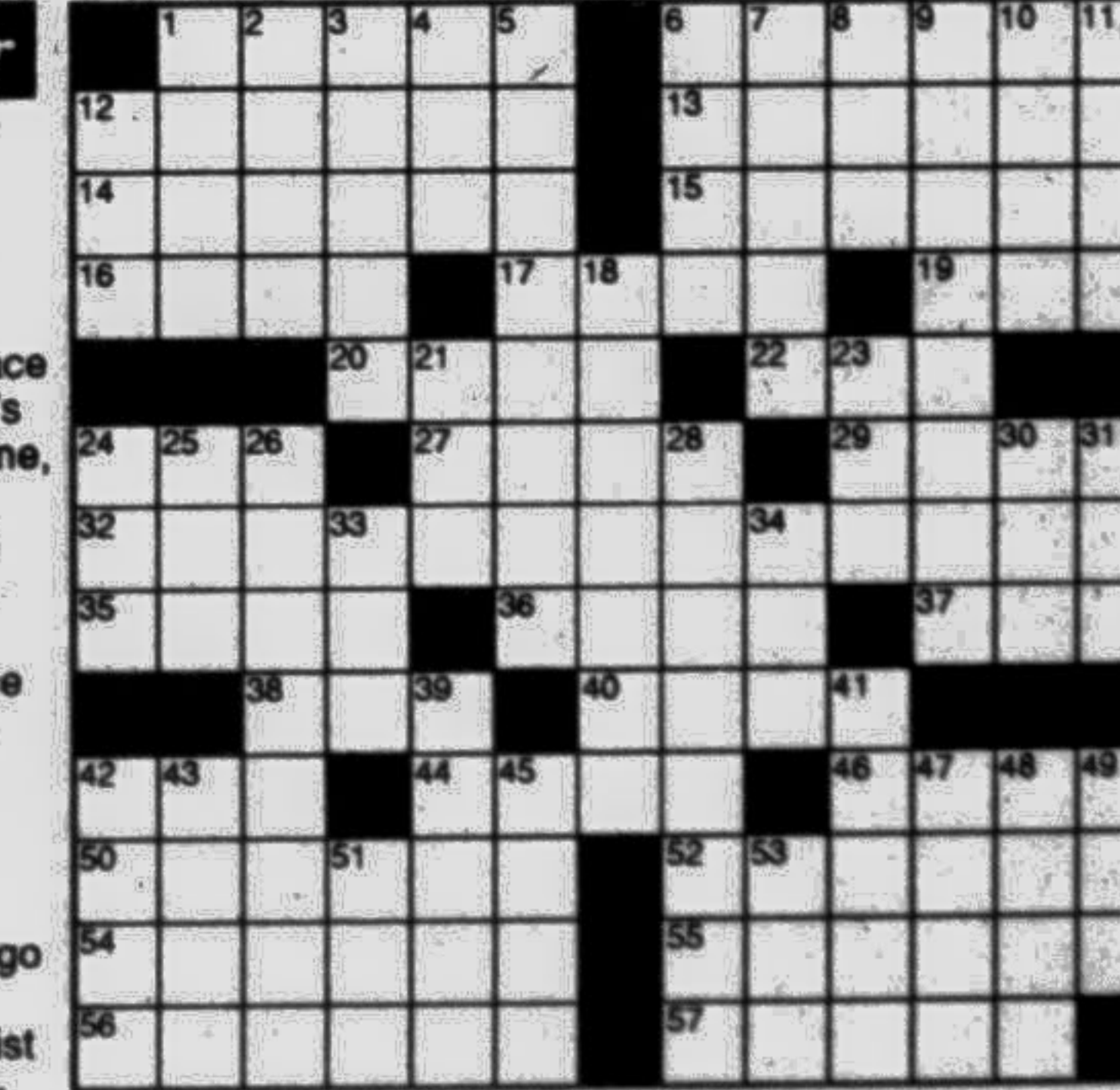
Chief guest Mahbubul Alam Tara, MP, Whip of the Jatiya Sangsad hoisting flags at the fifth annual sports of the Dhaka Badir Sangha (Dhaka Deaf Association) at the Notre Dame College ground on Saturday. Harun-ur-Rashid Khan Monno, MP (R), chief patron of the association, and M Ali Hossain, president of the association, are also seen in the picture. — Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 42 Ashen cert industry
1 Blessed 44 Tom, Dick, or Harry 4 First X or O? 21 Tray minutia
6 Prayer book 46 Where Harry 5 Morphine or codeine, e.g. 23 Copper head?
12 Pet-shop rodent 48 Where Harry 5 Morphine or codeine, e.g. 24 Pig's place
13 Gum Arabic 50 Muppet drummer 6 Race-horse — War 25 "So that's your game, eh?"
14 Onslaught 52 A whole lot 7 What "ven" means 28 Vigil
15 Incendiary device 54 Farnish 8 Maple fluid 31 Bashful
16 — Mine, All Mine 55 Turmoil 9 Traumatic 33 Pitch
17 Tiny bit 56 Uses an adhesive 10 Wing: Fr. 34 Yale student
19 CSA soldier 57 Overflows DOWN 11 Elia 39 Jack
20 Head-light? 1 A "Little Woman" 12 What to fill 'er up with 42 Slim waist comparison
22 Corn serving 2 Art Deco artist 18 Hawaii's biggest 43 Theater org.
24 Weep 3 Discon- Solution time: 24 mins.
27 Old French coins

DOWN 1 A "Little Woman" 12 What to fill 'er up with 42 Slim waist comparison
22 Corn serving 2 Art Deco artist 18 Hawaii's biggest 43 Theater org.
24 Weep 3 Discon- Solution time: 24 mins.
27 Old French coins

ANSWERS: 1 LON, 2 ACTS, 3 FRED, 4 IMA, 5 GLAW, 6 RELY, 7 MAHARAJA, 8 AXLE, 9 BRAVOS, 10 BAN, 11 ASS, 12 BIKINI, 13 GLASS, 14 HEX, 15 DOG, 16 OUST, 17 DUD, 18 GLUE, 19 DLI, 20 GIB, 21 GHENT, 22 SUNUNU, 23 FAA, 24 HUB, 25 ALFRED, 26 BARB, 27 LOCOFOCO, 28 IDEA, 29 EVER, 30 CHE, 31 BOON, 32 DATE, 33 KOS



CRYPTOQUIP

K F H K K C O R L N I O F L K O
O R L R U H D L C L D O L Z V I C
I S V T R I M L S O D L L S R T V L
S U Z R I T Z U K R L Z D T S N L

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: EVEN THOUGH TAILOR ALWAYS NEEDLES HIS GIRLFRIEND, SHE SAID, "I ONLY HAVE EYES FOR YOU."

Today's Cryptoquip clue: R equals H

The Cryptoquip 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.