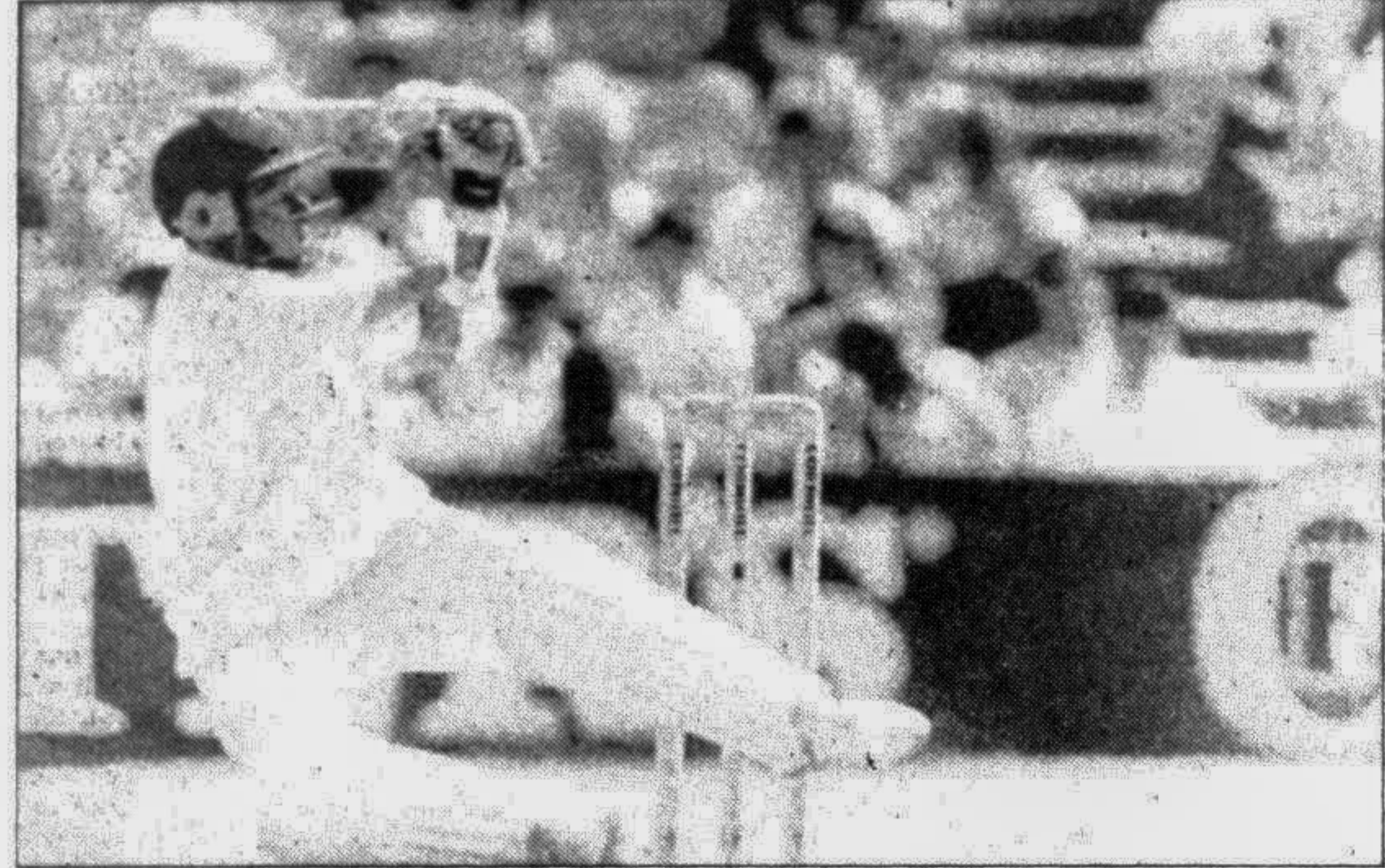


# Boon helps Aussies onto driving seat

**MANCHESTER, England, June 5:** David Boon, Australia's best batsman over the past three years, led from the front as Australia took command of the first Test against England on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Boon struck an unbeaten 85 as Australia stretched their lead over England to 310. At the close of the third day the touring team were 231 for three with captain Allan Border 29 not out.

The Australians batted with remorseless discipline and concentration against some indifferent spin bowling after England had been dismissed for 210 in their first innings. Opener Mark Taylor (9) and Michael Slater (27) were both in the pavilion with the score at 46 but Mark Waugh, his Test



Debutant England cricketer Peter Such swivels too much to have a fall while batting during the second day's proceedings of the first Ashes Test at Old Trafford, Manchester. England made 210 in their first innings. —AFP photo.

place in danger, batted with his customary elegance for 64 to take Australia out of any possible danger.

Australia clinically wrapped up the England innings when play resumed on a hot, sunny day at Old Trafford.

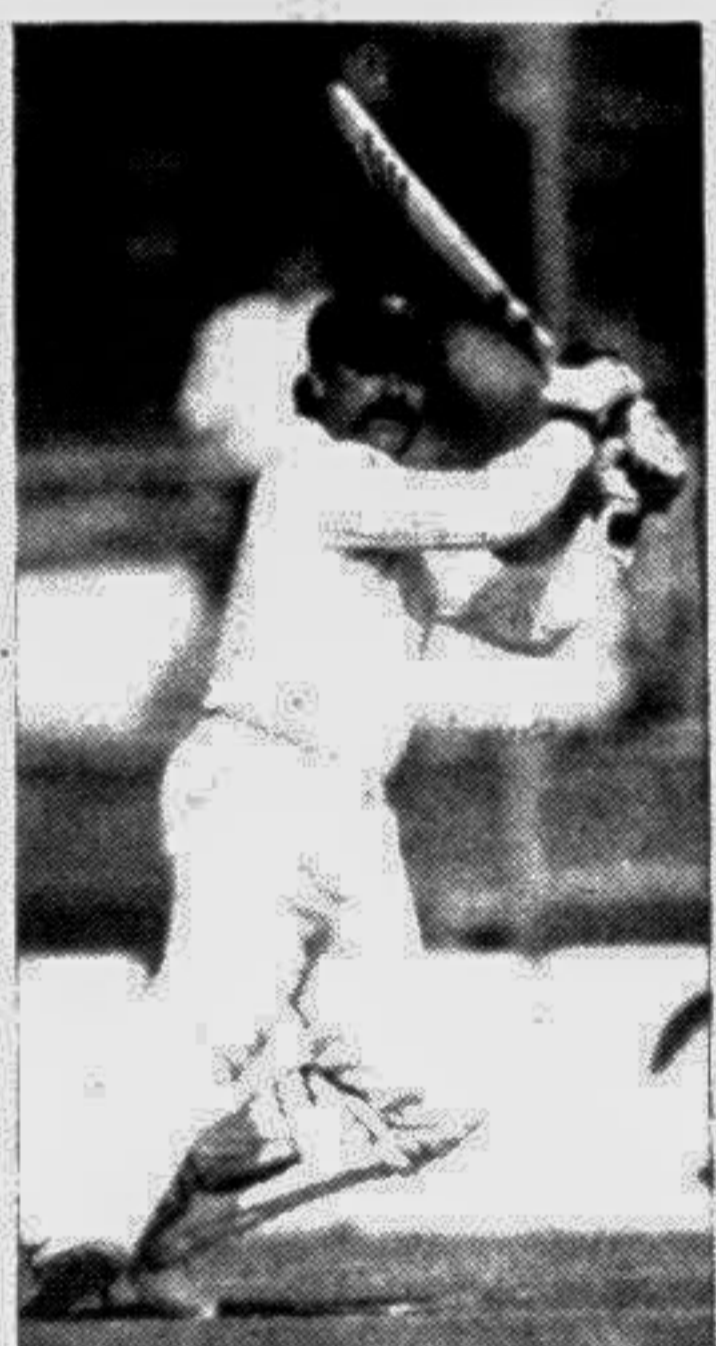
Leg-spinner Shane Warne, whose first ball dismissal of Mike Gatting sparked a terminal decline in the England first innings on Friday, took a further wicket to finish with four for 51.

He was ably assisted by Merv Hughes who took four for 59 on a pitch offering no assistance to the pace bowlers.

England skipper Graham Gooch introduced Peter Such early into the attack and the off spinner, who took six wickets in the first innings on Friday, took a further wicket to finish with four for 51.

Tufnell pitched almost exclusively outside the leg stump and the Australians accordingly prospered with Waugh striking five fours and a six during his 107 ball innings before he was bowled by Tufnell.

The dismissal brought little relief for England as Border, the most prolific Test batsman of all time, lent able assistance to Boon.



**BOON...85 n.o.** rough patch fully nine inches outside Mike Gatting's left stump and then jumped for joy as the ball turned viciously to hit somewhere near the top of off stump.

Gatting stood motionless for several seconds as if wanting an explanation. Finally, he dragged himself away and potted back to the pavilion, still shaking his head in disbelief, having made just four.

One can only guess at the reaction in England's dressing room after their pitiful efforts at playing the Indian and Shri

Lankan spinners during their disastrous close-season tour there.

Robin Smith emerged like a man walking out to meet a firing squad and although a straight-driven boundary off Warne suggested his discomfort was an illusion, in the next over he pushed stiffly forward and edged a catch to slip.

Suddenly England were 84 for three and what followed from a side who have lost five consecutive Tests was only too predictable.

Gooch, having batted beautifully for 65 to end an alarming personal trot of 17 international innings without a half-century, drove a Warne full toss to Brendon Julian at mid-on.

Soon afterwards Graeme Hick, on 34, slashed a wide, long hop from Merv Hughes into the covers, where Allan

"Psychologically it was enormously important to us and the English. At the end of the game that might be the moment that sets up the result."

"The Gatting wicket was the most important one for us. We have a great respect for him and getting a wicket like that at that time was absolutely vital."

Fletcher and Simpson agreed they had never seen the ball turn so far in a Test in England, but Fletcher felt England round have batted better.

"Warne's a fine bowler but he only got three of the wickets and one of those was with a full toss," he explained.

"I'm more disappointed with the fact we lost five other wickets to their scammers. And it's especially disappointing to lose both Gooch and Graeme Hick to bad balls."

"But we've got two spinners in our side to their one and we still stand a chance if it keeps turning."

"I don't know what the pitch will do over the next few days, but 250 will take some getting in the fourth innings."

Not surprisingly Simpson was the more contented boss as the tourist eyed big first innings lead.

"I'm pretty happy to be 87 runs in front," he said. "That's all we're concerned about at this stage and it's a good position to be in."

Simpson also paid tribute to Hughes, who has taken three for 52.

He said: "He's always hustling and no one should ever underestimate him. He's a proven wicket-taker, he's got flair and produces the goods every time you ask him."

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between England and Australia at Old Trafford on Saturday:

**AUSTRALIA:** First Innings 289 (M Taylor 124, M Slater 58; P Such 6-67)

**ENGLAND:** First Innings (overnight 202-8) G Gooch c Julian b Warne 65 M Atherton c Healy b Hughes 19 M Gatting b Warne 4 R Smith c Taylor b Warne 4 G Hick c Border b Hughes 34 A Stewart b Julian 27 C Lewis c Boon b Hughes 9 P DeFreitas lbw b Julian 5 A Caddick c Healy b Warne 7 P Such not out 14 P Tufnell c Healy b Hughes 1 Extras: (b-6, lb-10, nb-5) 21 Total: 210

Fall of wickets: 1-71; 2-80; 3-84; 4-123; 5-148; 6-168; 7-178; 8-183; 9-203

**BOWLING:**

	O	M	R	W
McDermott	18	2	50	0
Hughes	20.5	5	59	4
Julian	11	2	30	2
Warne	24	10	51	4
Border	1	0	4	0

**AUSTRALIA:** Second Innings M Slater c Caddick b Such 27 M Taylor lbw b Such 9 D Boon not out 85 M Waugh b Tufnell 64 A Border not out 29 Extras: (b-4, lb-8, nb-5) 17 Total: (for three wickets) 231

Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-46, 3-155

**Bowling**

	O	M	R	W
Caddick	8	2	26	0
DeFreitas	12	1	31	0
Such	25	6	51	2
Tufnell	23	2	63	1
Hick	9	1	20	0
Lewis	6	0	28	0

# Middlesex march on to the top

**LONDON, June 5:** Middlesex marched to the top of the English County Championship on Friday after crushing Derbyshire by 10 wickets inside two days at Lords, reports AFP.

Fifteen wickets fell for 210 runs in 90.2 overs on Friday before Middlesex openers Desmond Haynes and John Carr hit the necessary 65 runs for their second victory in five days. It was Middlesex's third win of the summer and the 209 points they received was enough to take them above Somerset, who are heading for defeat against Essex.

Former England paceman Neil Foster bowled Essex towards their first championship victory of the season, snapping up four for 35 as Somerset, trailing by 63 on the first innings, crashed to 88 for six at Chelmsford.

Northamptonshire are also in total command against Worcestershire after Alan Fordham cracked a magnificent 193 — the highest individual score in the championship this season.

His 375-ball knock enabled Northants to declare at 494 for six and by the close Worcestershire has slumped to 157 for eight from 50 overs — still needing 188 to avoid the follow-on. Surrey just managed to avoid that indignity against Lancashire thanks to a battling 57 from paceman Martin Bicknell.



**HOOPER...96** Yorkshire and Glamorgan are still on first innings at Middlesbrough, where Richie Richardson scored his first championship half-century to boost the home county to 265 for four. Before the West Indies skipper's 81, the visitors had been dismissed for 323. There is also a long way to go at Edgbaston after Sussex captain Alan Wells hit his second championship century of the season to steer his side to 414 all out against Warwickshire.

In reply, Warwickshire's opener Andy Moles and Jason

Ratcliffe raced to a century stand in just 24 overs, with Moles unbeaten on 60 and Ratcliffe undefeated on 56 out of a total of 119 without loss.

There was also a century for Leicestershire opener Tim Boon and with West Indian fast bowler Winston Benjamin blasting an unbeaten 81, the home county were well on top against Durham.

Leicester, looking for their first championship win of the season, closed at 330 for eight, a lead of 170.

A similar Anglo-West Indian alliance gave Kent the upper hand against Gloucestershire at Tunbridge Wells.

A second-wicket stand of 206 in 60 overs between skipper Mark Benson (103) and West Indies all-rounder Carl Hopper (96) steered Kent to 285 for five — a lead of 42.

Earlier, a career-best seven for 79 from new recruit Dean Headley saw Gloucester lose their last five wickets for 22 runs.

Meanwhile, Hampshire off-spinner Shaun Udall produced a burst of four for 16 from 33 deliveries to rock Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge.

Udall finished with five for 88 to send Notts plummeting from 235 for four to 275 for nine in reply to Hampshire's first innings 355.

**County Championship results and summaries:**

Chelmsford: Somerset 202 (Mushtaq Ahmed 71) and 88-6. Essex 265 (P J Prichard 123, D R Pringle 54).

Tunbridge Wells: Gloucestershire 243 (G D Hodgson 75, B C Broad 64, DW Headley 7-79). Kent 285-5 (M R Benson 103, C L Hooper 96).

Leicester: Durham 160-9. Leicestershire 330-8 (T J Boon 105, W K M Benjamin 81 not out).

Lords: Derbyshire 168 (C J Adams 53) and 89. Middlesex 193 and 68-0. Middlesex (20 pts) beat Derbyshire (4 pts) by 10 wickets.

Northampton: Northamptonshire 494-6 dec (A Fordham 193, A J Lamb 64, N A Felton 59, DJ Capel 54). Worcestershire 157-8.

Trent Bridge: Hampshire 355 (D I Gower 153, A N Aymes 62). Nottinghamshire 275-9 (P Johnson 100, C L Cairns 81, S D Udall 5-89).

The Oval: Lancashire 392 (M Watkinson 107, G D Lloyd 79, N J Speak 73, Wasim Akram 60) and 24-1. Surrey 260 (M P Bicknell 57).

Edgbaston: Sussex 414 (A P Wells 130, D M Smith 80). Warwickshire 119-0 (A J Moles 60 not out, J D Ratcliffe 56 not out).

Middlesbrough: Glamorgan 323 (A Dale 100, S P James 76). Yorkshire 265-4.

## Title retained

**SEOUL, June 5:** South Korea's Byun Jung-il retained his World Boxing Council (WBC) bantamweight title last week outpointing Mexico's Josefino Suarez over 12 rounds in a title bout in Seoul, reports Reuters.

# Twenty-five for h'ball course

**Sports Reporter**

Quite over a week on account of the holy Eid-ul-Azha celebrations, sports arena will start humming with life from Tuesday, as a coaching programme for handball coaches begins at the conference room of the National Sports Council (NSC), from June 8.

Tom Van Linder, a handball expert from abroad will conduct the 12-day coaching programme, scheduled for a closure on June 19.

Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) worked in harness with International Handball Federation (IHF) to organise the programme, better known as an International Olympic Solidarity Course '93.

Twenty five coaches from all over the country are taking part in the course. The full list of the participants is as follows, Sq Ldr M. Shamsur Rahman, Wasim Khan, Mousum Ali (Handball Federation), Mohammed Kausar, Iqbal Hossain Khan (National Sports Council), Mohammad Joyal (Bangladesh Rifles), Nasirullah Lavlu, Nazir Akhtar Mukul, Maqbul Hossain, Shahabuddin Bhuiyan, Qamrul Islam, Salahuddin Ahmed, Selim Miah, Azad Rahman, Mizanur Rahman, Munna (Dhaka), Abu Nasser Md Wahid (CMKS), M. Mujibur Rahman (BAF), Zahid Mahmud (Ansars), Abdul Malek (Police), Asaduzzaman (Rajshahi University), Mohammad Billal Hossain (Mohammadpur Physical Education College), Ratan Kr. Sarkar Rajshahi Physical Education College, Muhammad Iftikhar Alam (Magura), and Md. Selim Alamgir Khan (Natore).

## Chess meet now on Monday

**Sports Reporter**

The double leg play-off chess tournament involving three players — Grand Master (GM) Niaz Mureshed from Bangladesh, GM Dibyendu Barooah from India and his compatriot International Master (IM) Koshy — will now begin from Monday, June 7, at the chess room of the National Sports Council.

Originally scheduled to start last Friday, the tournament has been reportedly delayed by the failure of the two Indians — Dibyendu Barooah and Varugese Koshy — to arrive on time. The seven day meet, if gets underway on June 7, will continue upto 14 of this month.

Earlier, the three players jointly finished on top of the points table having earned eight points from eleven rounds. In the World Championship of chess for Zone Eleven, held in the Iranian city Isfahan. Only one player of the trio will advance to the next round expected to be held in Switzerland some time later this year.

## Boxer dies of brain injury

**CEBU, Philippines, June 5:** A top Filipino professional boxer has died of severe brain injury after losing a title fight against the country's lightweight champion Ernesto Alesna, reports Reuters.

Macario Silvano died on May 30 at a hospital in Cebu in the central Philippines hours after he quit in the seventh round of the scheduled 12-round bout, boxing officials said.



Possibility of a nasty injury is something every close-in fieldman has to learn to live with. Australian David Boon is too switched on to stay put on the way of this swipe from England's Andrew Caddick yesterday in the first Test of the Ashes at Old Trafford. — Star TV photo.

# ROK's flattering win over HK

**SEOUL, June 5:** South Korea beat Hong Kong 4-1 and Bahrain and Lebanon fought to a scoreless draw in the opening day games of the second round of the Asian Group D 1994 World Cup soccer qualifier in Seoul on Saturday, reports AP.

In the days first game, South Korea scored three goals in nine minutes to beat Hong Kong 4-1. The victory boosted South Korea's chances for a berth in the 1994 World Cup to be held in the United States.

South Korea finished at the top of the first round qualifier in Beirut, Lebanon, last month that also attracted teams from Bahrain, Lebanon and India. Hong Kong lost to South Korea 0-3 in a first round encounter in Beirut.

In Saturday's opener at Seoul's Olympic Stadium, the

South Koreans displayed better individual skills and teamwork to overwhelm the Hong Kong team, which relied on occasional surprise attacks.

The Koreans went ahead with a goal by Choi Mun-shik 12 minutes into the first half. Nine minutes later, Hong Kong came up with an equaliser when Au Wai Lun right-booted from close range.

Au trapped a low centering by defender Loh Wai Chi from the left and shot past South Korean goalie Sin Bumb-chul 10 meters (yards) out. Au sprained his right ankle as he attempted the kick and was carried off the field.

In the second half, Hong Kong concentrated on defence but it could not deter the fast moving Koreans. Hong Kong goalie Chung Ho Yin, who made several brilliant saves, allowed three goals, each by Korcas Chung Jae-kwon, Ila Suk Ju and Noh Jung-yun, in the

76th, 81st and 85th minute before the whistle.

In the other game of the day, Bahrain took the offensive and threatened the Lebanese goal-mouth repeatedly but their attempts lacked accuracy. Lebanon were forced to concentrate on defence.

Lebanon came close to winning goals in the second half when kicks by Babkin Melkian and Youssef Farhat hit the right goal post and cross bar.

Sunday is a rest day for the teams. On Monday, India will take on Bahrain and South Korea will meet Lebanon. The Seoul rounds will end next Saturday.

Asian nations are divided into four groups to qualify for the World Cup. One team from each group will be allowed to compete in the final Asian qualifying rounds later this year.

Asia has two slots in the main World Cup in 1994.

# Higuaita's costly drug nexus

**BOGOTA, June 5:** Authorities arrested Colombia's premier soccer player here and accused him of negotiating the release of an alleged hostage of drug boss Pablo Escobar, newspapers reported Saturday, reports AP.

Rene Higuaita, the celebrated goalie for Colombia's national soccer team, was charged with helping to secure the freedom of the daughter of a former Escobar partner. Her April abduction was reportedly ordered by Escobar.

According to a new Colombian law, paying ransoms and holding talks with kidnappers

without alerting authorities is a crime.

Police arrested Higuaita in his Medellin apartment on Friday, Bogota newspapers reported. He was transferred to Bogota the same day.

Faced with one of the highest kidnapping rates in the world, the Colombian government last year passed a law that punishes ransom payment. The controversial measure is designed to take the financial reward out of the kidnapping business.

The El Tiempo newspaper cited officials as saying Higuaita helped the hostage's family contact the kidnappers with an offer to pay ransom.

Claudia Molina, a daughter

of reputed drug trafficker Luis Carlos Molina, was reportedly released late last month after a ransom was paid.

Antinarcotics officials say Molina and Escobar had a falling out last year when the Medellin cartel split up into pro-Escobar and anti-Escobar factions.

Higuaita has repeatedly admitted to being a friend of Escobar. In 1991 the soccer star visited the drug boss at a luxurious jail in the hills surrounding Medellin. After it was disclosed that the visit was unauthorized, the jail's military warden was forced to resign.

Escobar escaped from that jail last July and has since been on the run.

# Success eludes Americans

**MISSION VIE-JO, Calif, May 28:** The US soccer team, hoping to build momentum and create a groundswell of enthusiasm for the World Cup next year, hasn't been very successful so far, reports AP.

The Americans have won just once — 2-0 over Saudi

Arabia — in 14 international matches this year, with nine games ending in ties.

Although playing well defensively, the Americans have lacked scoring power. They've been shut out five times and scored only 18 goals.

Coming off scoreless ties with Bolivia and Peru this week, the US team heads into matches against three of the world's soccer titans — Brazil, England and Germany — in the US Cup tournament.

The American team is, though, a work in progress. Some of the players on the squad now won't be on the roster for the World Cup next summer, with a number of US players joining the team after playing in other countries.

A few of those players have reported to camp recently, including Roy Wegerle, who played for Coventry City in England; John Harkes, Sheffield in England; Ernie Stewart, Willem II, Holland; and Peter Woodring, Hamburg SV, Germany.

Wegerle, who played in the tie with Peru on Wednesday night, said he believes the American team will improve.

"We have still more players coming from Europe and there'll be changes," he said. "We will just have to get used to each other. Time will help us."

Wegerle believes the US Cup, which the United States played against Brazil on June 6 at the Yale Bowl in Mew Haven, Conn., will provide some indication of where the American team is.

"Three of the best five teams in the world are going to be there and they're going to give us a good test," Wegerle said. "I think we'll know just how good we are."

"I also think we'll get better as the US Cup goes on."

Hank Steinbrecher, executive director of the US Soccer Federation, has rather modest goals for the American team in the US Cup.

"Hopefully, we will play well and not be embarrassed, be

able to hold our own," Steinbrecher said. "I'm not even looking for a point; if we get a point, it will be very good."

"It's a test to see how well some of our players do ... but these are the best soccer teams in the world; we have to play well."

The federation will attempt to provide coach Bora Milutinovic any players he wants, Steinbrecher said.

"If Bora says he needs this player or that player from overseas, we will do everything we can to get him. We believe we've hired the best coach in the world and we will take our cues from him."

# Save the whales, save the Games

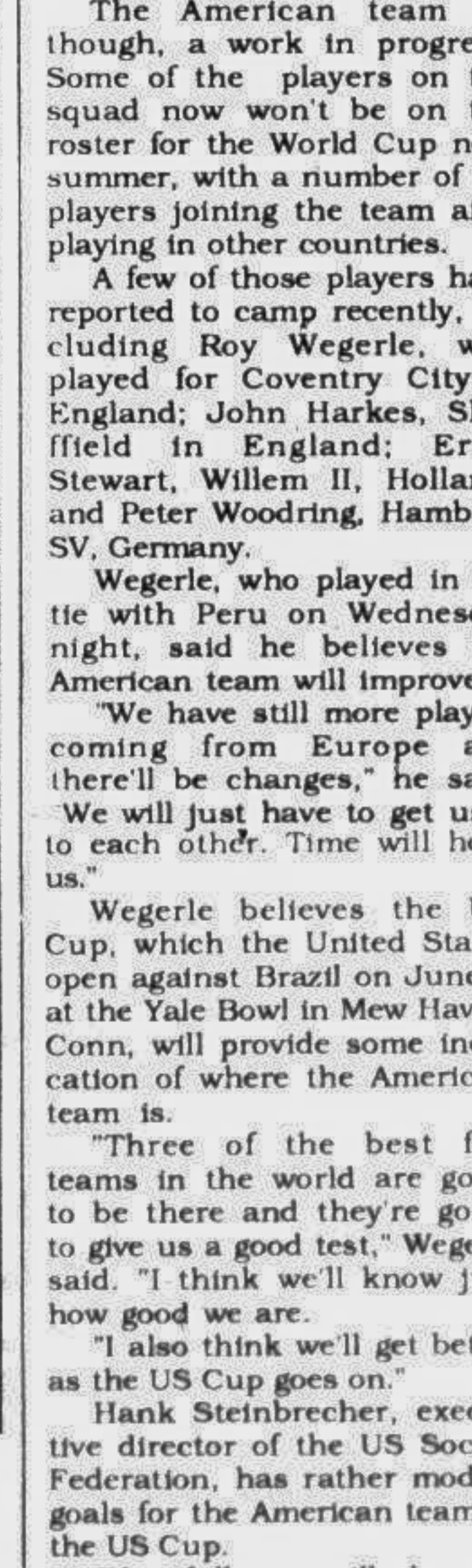
**LONDON, June 5:** Norwegian Olympic officials said on Thursday they feared the government's decision to resume whaling could damage next year's Winter Olympic Games, due to be held in the Norwegian resort of Lillehammer, reports Reuters.

The committee organising the Games has received hundreds of letters every day, mainly from Americans, threatening to boycott the Games, its chairman Gerhard Heiberg told a news conference.

"We are worried by these letters and are having a dialogue with the government and together we think we will be able to work out a solution," he said.

Norway announced earlier this month that it would resume commercial hunting of minke whales in defiance of an International Whaling Commission moratorium. It has set a quota limiting this year's whale catch to just under 400.

Heiberg said protesters had threatened to boycott Norwegian products, campaign for US athletes, not to compete in the Games in February and urge Americans not to watch television coverage of the events.



World Cup USA chairman and CEO Alan Rothenberg inaugurating the public sale of World Cup tickets at a news conference on June 4. The first day of ticket sales to the general public will be June 12. The World Cup trophy is in front of Rothenberg. —AFP photo.