



Players and officials of the visiting Zimbabwe cricket team who arrived yesterday to play against Bangladesh in the Gold Leaf one-day international series. The two exhibition matches will be played at the Dhaka Stadium on November 3 and 4.

Another feather in Border's cap

PERTH, Nov 1: Australian cricket captain Allan Border reached another milestone in his illustrious career here Sunday, capturing his 100th first class wicket on the third day of the Sheffield Shield match between his side Queensland and Western Australia at the WACA Ground.

Zimbabweans in town

A fourteen-member Zimbabwean cricket team led by Andrew Flower arrived in the city yesterday to play two exhibition one-day international matches against the Bangladesh cricket team. The two 50 overs-a-side matches of the Gold Leaf one-day cricket series, named after one of the products of the sponsors, Bangladesh Tobacco Company (BTC), will be played at the Dhaka Stadium on November 3 and 4.

Western Australia, bundled out for 211 in their first innings, are 4-280 in their second, holding a fragile overall lead of only 61 runs over Queensland's first innings 430. Border is best known as the man who has scored more Test runs than any player in the history of the game. The man who led Australia to 4-1 Ashes triumph over England during the past northern summer, has hit 10,695 runs in 147 Tests at an average of 51.17, with 26 centuries.

Touch of English

Playing in Bangladesh must have been the remotest of the thoughts that crossed his mind in the electrifying ambience of the MCG as Wasim Akram and Mushtaq Ahmed kept on driving nails in England's coffin with the unrealised vengeance of Shakespeare's Caliban.

Div II hockey

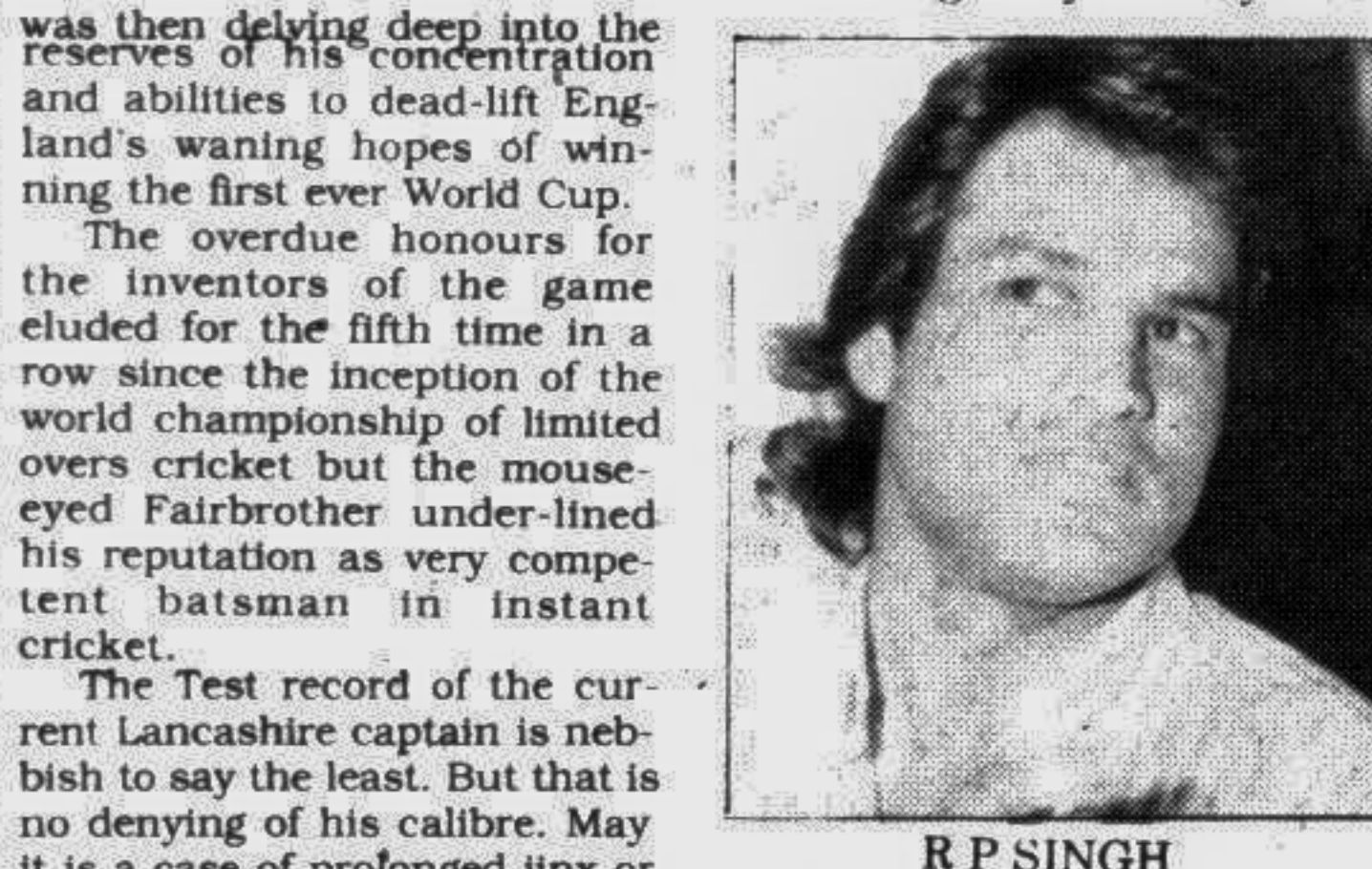
Udity Club booked the last seat for the super league of the Metropolitan Green Delta Second Division hockey league after a goalless draw with Victoria SC in the last group match at the Hockey Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Div III soccer

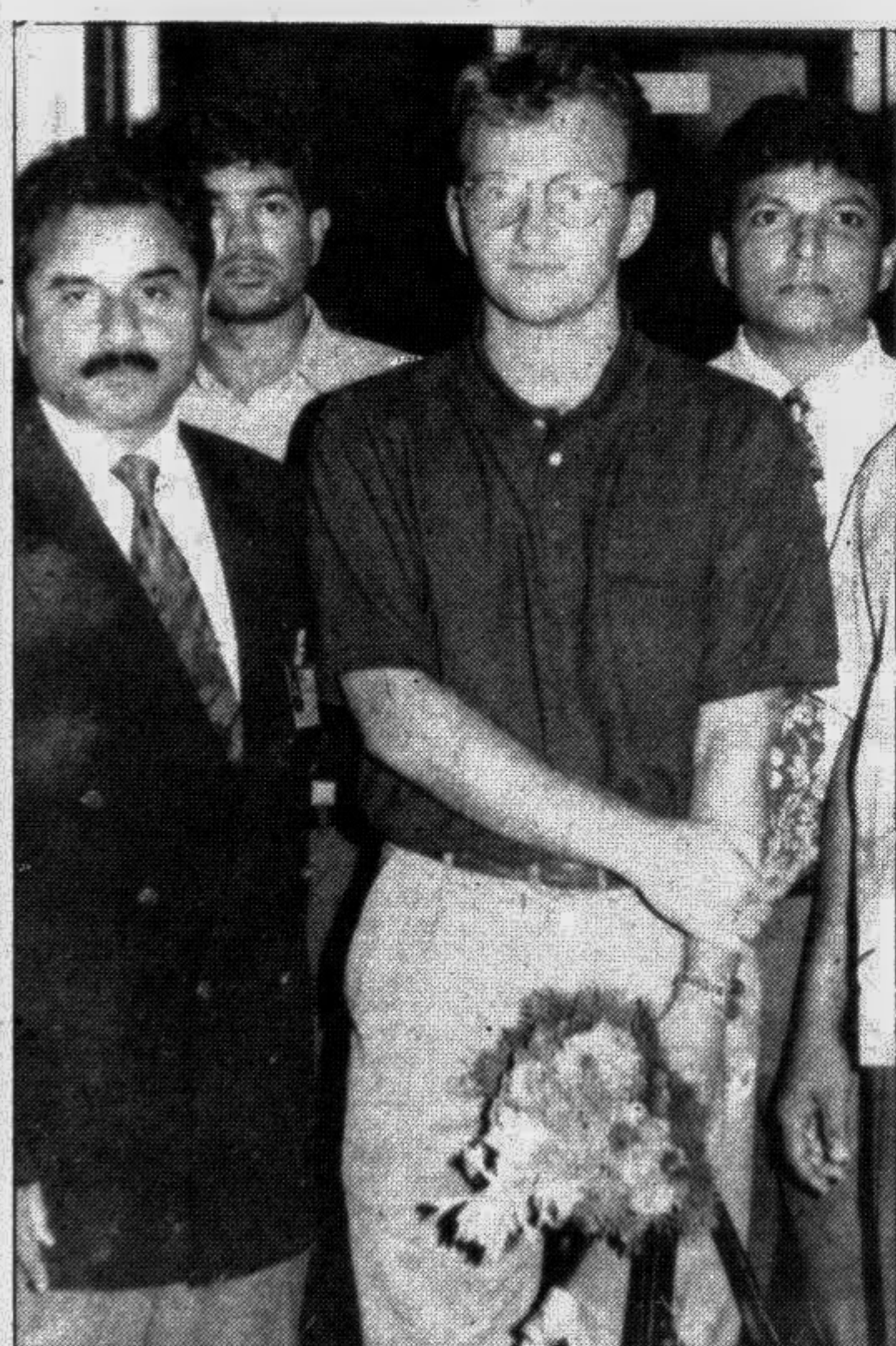
Sunrise Sporting Club made an auspicious start in the Progate Insurance Third Division football league beating Maghbar Kisholay Sangha by a single goal in the opening match at the Outer Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Iranian coach sacked

TEHRAN, Nov 1: Iran has sacked head coach Ali Parvin and his four-man back-up team after their failure to reach the World Cup finals, Keyhan newspaper said on Sunday, reports Reuter.



Rudra Pratap Singh, the tall medium pacer from Uttar Pradesh, India. But Singh who played four one-day internationals for India joined Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC), Singh is GMCC's second foreigner after Raman Lamba, the Indian Test dis-card.



England Test player Neil Harvey Fairbrother being received by the Abahani officials at the Zia International Airport (ZIA) yesterday. Fairbrother will play for Abahani in this year's Navana Premier Division cricket league.

place in the semifinals in one of the ICC Trophy meets, a four-yearly qualifying championship for the associate members of International Cricket Conference (ICC) in England. Coincidentally, it is before another ICC Trophy championship that Bangladesh are meeting Zimbabwe, this time on home soil and with no existential proposition at stake.

CAB tourney venue switched

NEW DELHI, Nov 1: The six-nation limited-over tournament to mark the diamond jubilee of Calcutta's Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) was caught up in a financial dispute on Sunday after organisers announced a late switch of venues, reports Reuter.

India's day-night match against South Africa on November 12 has been moved from Delhi to the northern Punjab State following a dispute over advertising rights at the original stadium which normally stages athletics. Disgruntled Delhi officials have threatened legal action and said CAB chief Jagmohan Dalmiya, also secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), was not entitled to change the venue.

A fatter Maradona fitter?

SYDNEY, Nov 1: "Diego Maradona must have shed all his strength along with the reported 12 kilograms (26 pounds) he lost in a bid to get ready for Sunday night's World Cup football qualifier here with Australia," Hungarian match referee Sandor Puhl said Monday, reports AFP.

"He looked completely unfit for a match of this calibre," said Puhl, who referred the 1-1 first-leg draw. "He never broke out of a mere jog, and when he did, he took a long time to recover. I think he was fitter when he was fatter."

Puhl said he booked the 33-year-old Argentine superstar towards the end of the match for dissent after he queried whether Australia should have been awarded a corner. Asked whether he (Puhl) spoke Spanish, Puhl responded: "I didn't need to... he kept on, and when I waved him away, he just kept gesticulating and arguing in a pleading tone, so I had no choice."

Blain steers NZ to victory over NSW

NEWCASTLE, Australia, Nov 1: Wicketkeeper Tony Blain steered New Zealand to the first victory of their Australia tour today with an unbeaten second innings 45 against New South Wales (NSW), reports Reuter.

The win over the Sheffield Shield champions restored some morale to the Kiwis after the loss of their first three matches by large margins. The tourists resumed at 167 for six, needing 79 to record their first win. They reached the target with three wickets to spare.

The 31-year-old Blain, five not out overnight, hit out for quick runs before the second new ball. He lost Murphy's for 12 with the total at 200 when the left-hander tried to hit all-rounder Brad McNamara over mid-off and Phil Alley took a nice running catch.

Fast bowler Danny Morrison had put the match within New Zealand's reach by taking six for 54 on Sunday, after the tourists trailed by 136 runs on the first innings. Morrison, 27, who ended on 26 not out, drove glant left-arm paceman Phil Alley for four to tie the scores. Blain hit the winning run in the next over.

NSW captain Mark Taylor said his players had been more interested in having a good time in Newcastle than in playing cricket. He said they should have won easily after leading by 136 on the first innings but probably had too many beers at night.

New Zealand now head to Launceston to play Tasmania in a four-day match, their last outing before the first Test against Australian in Perth starting on November 12.

Spunky Anwar sparkles again as Pakistan halt Windies march

SHARJAH, Nov 1: Saeed Anwar's second successive century lifted Pakistan to a crucial five-wicket win over West Indies in the Champions Trophy here Monday, reports AFP.

The 25-year-old left-hander, who made 107 against Sri Lanka on Saturday, struck a career-best 131 as Pakistan beat West Indies by five wickets with six balls to spare. The World Cup winners not only avenged their loss to West Indies in their first meeting last Friday, but also improved their chances of playing the final on November 5.

West Indies and Pakistan have two wins from three matches and will contest the final unless they lose both their remaining matches to Sri Lanka by big margins. Sri Lanka, who play Pakistan on Tuesday, are winless in the three-nation tournament.

Anwar slammed 12 boundaries and three sixes in a brilliant 142-ball knock that helped him surpass his previous best of 126 against Sri Lanka in 1991. It was also the highest ever individual score at the Sharjah cricket ground where Pakistan have won seven of the 14 previous tournaments.

Anwar's super stroke play found able support at the other to keep Pakistan in the run for a 5.2 per over victory target. Opening partner Asif Mujtaba (15) helped him put on 42 for the first wicket by the 12th over.

Number three Inzamam ul Haq was run out for 20, in a third-wicket stand of 57 between Anwar and Javed Miandad took Pakistan to 143 two by the 33rd over.

Miandad was caught behind off Kenneth Benjamin for 20, but Basit Ali came in to strike 16 off as many balls with the

help of one six and a boundary. Basit ran himself out by backing too far down at the non-striker's end to enable Anwar (99) to complete his century.

Anwar reached three-figures in the same over and celebrated by swinging two boundaries off successive balls in Anderson Cummins' next



S ANWAR... man-of-match over

Anwar fell in the 48th over when 10 more were needed for victory. Veteran batsman Salim Malik (34 not out) and skipper Wasim Akram (five) saw Pakistan through.

West Indies began on the wrong foot after electing to bat first when openers Desmond Haynes and Brian Lara were removed by the 15th over with the score at 57. Haynes, playing his first match in the tournament after recovering from a throat infection, made six before being caught at point in Akram's fifth over. Lara was caught behind off Mushtaq for 14.

Simmons and Keith Arthurton (63) retrieved the situation by adding 132 for the third-wicket that took the West Indies to a healthy 189 for two by the 38th over.

Simmons, who hit seamer Ataur Rehman for a huge six

over long-off, was yorked by the same bowler when he was 19 runs short of a century. Mushtaq set West Indies back by removing both Arthurton and skipper Richie Richardson (seven) in the 41st over to make it 204 for five.

West Indies added 59 runs in the final 10 overs, but not before losing four more wickets, three of them to Akram.

The Pakistani skipper had Carl Hooper caught at mid-off for 18 and bowled both Roger Harper and Kenneth Benjamin with swinging Yorkers.

Leg-spinner Abdul Qadir, playing his first international for two years, had Anderson Cummins stumped by Rashid Latif to finish with one for 43 from 10 overs.

West Indies went into the match without a specialist wicketkeeper dropping junior Murray to accommodate Harper came in for Wladimir Benjamin and Curtley Ambrose.

Qadir, replaced Pakistan seamer Aqibul Javed, who sustained a back injury in Saturday's match against Sri Lanka.

SCOREBOARD: Scoreboard of the Champions Trophy 50 overs cricket match between Pakistan and West Indies on Monday. WEST INDIES: Lara c Rashid Latif b Mushtaq Ahmed 14; Haynes c Mushtaq Ahmed b Wasim Akram 6; Simmons b Ataur Rehman 81; Arthurton c Anwar b Mushtaq Ahmed 63; Richardson c Malik b Mushtaq Ahmed 7; Hooper c Mujtaba b Wasim Akram 18; Adams not out 18; Harper b Wasim Akram c Cummins st Latif b Qadir 10; Benjamin b Wasim Akram 4; Walsh not out 2. Extras: (b-3, lb-10, w-20, nb-2) 35. Total: (for nine wickets, 50 overs) 260.

Tour to India unlikely, hints BCCP chief

SHARJAH, Nov 1: Pakistan's cricket chief said Monday his team was unlikely to go to India for this month's six-nation tournament, reports AFP.

Wasim Hasan Shah, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP) said the scheduled Test series between the two countries after the one-day tournament was also doubtful. But he denied the breaking off of cricket relations between the two countries would affect the joint hosting of the World Cup in 1996.

"There is no word yet from our government, but I don't think we will be going to India," said Shah, who is here for the Champions Trophy.

He told AFP that Indian board president Inderjit Singh Bindra had asked Pakistan's new Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto to let the team tour India, but permission was unlikely to be granted.

"Threats from Shiv Sena chief Bal Thackeray and the Hazratbal Mosque siege in Kashmir have made the circuit

tour very difficult," he said. Shah, who is Chief Justice of Pakistan's Supreme Court, said his team would fly back home after the Champions Trophy ends here on November 5.

According to the original schedule, Pakistan was to go straight to India where the one-day series organised by the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) starts on November 7.

West Indies, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Zimbabwe and India are the other teams taking part in the 21-day tournament in various venues across India.

Shah also confirmed that Zimbabwe would tour Pakistan soon after the one day tournament, casting further doubt on the proposed Test series in India.

The Pakistani board president said the suspension of cricket relations with India was only temporary and would not affect the 1996 World Cup to be jointly hosted by India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

"The World Cup is still a long way off. Things will improve by then. There is no threat to the organisation of that tournament," he said.

Fall of wickets: 1-26; 2-57; 3-189; 4-201; 5-204; 6-222; 7-234; 8-251; 9-256.

Bowling: O M R W. Wasim Akram 10 1 40 4; Ataur Rehman 10 1 59 1; Mushtaq Ahmed 10 1 46 3; Abdul Qadir 10 0 43 1; Salim Malik 7 0 35 0; Asif Mujtaba 3 0 24 0.

PAKISTAN: Saeed Anwar c Lara b Hooper 131; Asif Mujtaba c Arthurton b Cummins 15; Inzamam ul Haq run out 20; Javed Miandad c Adams b Benjamin 20; Basit Ali run out 1; Salim Malik not out 34; Wasim Akram not out 5. Extras: (b-1, lb-9, w-9, nb-1) 20. Total: (five wickets-49 overs) 261.

Fall of wickets: 1-42; 2-86; 3-143; 4-186; 5-251. Did not bat: Rashid Latif, Mushtaq Ahmed, Abdul Qadir, Ataur Rehman.

Bowling: O M R W. Walsh 10 1 39 0; Benjamin 10 1 54 1; Cummins 10 0 69 1; Simmons 2 0 10 0; Harper 8 0 36 0; Hooper 9 0 43 1.

Result: Pakistan won by five wickets. Man-of-the-match: Saeed Anwar.

Karpov officially champion!

JAKARTA, Nov 1: Russia's Anatoly Karpov drew with Jan Timman of the Netherlands to win the official World Chess Championship in Jakarta on Monday, reports Reuter.

Karpov, 42, beat 41-year-old Timman by 12.5 points to 8.5 points in the 24-game series to take the winner's 5/8ths share of the one million Swiss francs (700,000 US dollars) prize money.

Karpov thus recaptures the title he held between 1975 and 1985 but lost to Azerbaijani-born Russian Garry Kasparov. He becomes the first player

since 1961 to regain the title. In Monday's game, Timman, playing with the advantage of the white pieces, tried desperately to generate pressure against Karpov's Nimzo-Indian defence.

But the Russian restrained Timman's pair of bishops and managed to exchange so many pawns that a draw soon seemed to be the only possible result.

After thinking for almost half an hour over his 19th move, Timman offered a draw and conceded the title to Karpov.

A rare Karpov smile greeted Timman's proposal of a draw and the two shook hands to

end their eight-week battle. "I am happy," said Karpov after the game. "It was a very interesting match. I think we played many interesting games, particularly for opening theory."

Timman seemed pleased the match was finally over. "My situation in the match was desperate but I was glad to win at least one game in Jakarta," he said, referring to Saturday's shock victory.

The match between Karpov, ranked second in the world, and Timman, ranked only 31st, has been beset by difficulties over prize money and often overshadowed by a rival, unofficial contest in London.



Bangladeshi Ziaul Qader Tuhin (L) lost his ninth round match against Indian International Master (IM) Shekhar Chandra Shahu (R) in the Dr QM Hussain memorial International Masters' chess tournament at the Hotel Purbani yesterday.