

Aussies keep coming on

CAPE TOWN, Mar 20: An inspired all-round effort by Steve Waugh and three quick wickets seized by Shane Warne on Sunday gave Australia a chance for victory in the second Test against South Africa, reports AP.

The match seemed headed for a draw when Australia's first innings ended at 435 all out after lunch to give the visitors a 74-run lead heading into South Africa's second innings.

Waugh, who hit a brilliant 86 for Australia including a record 108-run sixth-wicket partnership with Ian Healy, then grabbed two crucial wickets and Warne picked up his three to leave the home side reeling at 100 for six at stumps.

South Africa, struggling on 94 for three, lost four wickets for three runs in the space of 30 balls in 19 minutes, before Jonty Rhodes and Brian McMillan saw the last 18 minutes safely through.

Waugh triggered the South African collapse, brilliantly catching danger man Hansie Cronje off his own bowling in his second over and then beating Andrew Hudson with a straight ball.

In the 39th over of the innings, South Africa skipper Kepler Wessels was run out on an Allan Border throw from mid wicket.

Peter Kirsten then lobbed a catch to Mark Taylor when attempting to sweep Warne and three balls later, Fanie de Villiers was done by a top spinner.

Warne has picked up three for 20 in 17 overs while Waugh's two wickets cost him 16 runs.

South Africa's hopes for a draw depend on Rhodes and McMillan, who must remain alive on enough to score some runs and eat away Australia's time to bat.

South African coach Mike Proctor blamed a "lack of discipline" for the batting collapse, saying his side lost its composure after Australia took the lead in their first innings.

"We have lost three very good wickets to run outs in this Test, which is very sad," Proctor said.

South Africa won the first Test of Australia's two-month tour and hold a 3-1 lead in a

series of eight one-day matches, with another Test and the four remaining one-day matches to come.

Although the wicket has played a few trick with the pace getting slow and low, Waugh believes it is still a good wicket to bat on.

"We planned out a few things and it worked. We are desperate for a win and in the given conditions, under pressure South Africa panicked."



S WAUGH ... all-round show he said.

South Africa's limping second innings overshadowed an outstanding bowling effort by hometown hero Craig Matthews, who returned a career best five for 80 in the Australian innings.

He picked up four wickets for four runs off 16 balls as Australia crashed after lunch, following the record stand by Waugh and Healy.

Their 108 runs in a sixth-wicket partnership broke a 93-year-old record in the South Africa - Australia series - 107 runs shared between Charles Kelleway and Vernon Ransford against South Africa in Melbourne.

Healy completed 2000 Test runs and therefore joined the "2000 Runs and 200 Dismissal Club" with Australian Rod Marsh (3633 runs, 355 dismissals in 95 Tests), West Indian Jeff Dujon (3322, 272 in 81) and Englishmen Allan Knott (4389, 269 in 95) and Godfrey Evans (2439, 219 in 91).

Healy has scored 2002 runs with 203 dismissals in 61

Tests. Waugh finally fell to a grubber from Matthews which kept low to hit off stump. His 86 runs lasted 260 minutes and included 14 boundaries off 164 balls.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the fourth day of the second cricket Test between Australia and South Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 361 (A. Hudson 102, B. McMillan 74, P. Kirsten 62).

AUSTRALIA: First innings (overnight 336-5) Slater c P. Kirsten 26 b De Villiers Taylor c Richardson b De Villiers 70 Boon c Richardson b De Villiers 96 M Waugh c P. Kirsten b McMillan 7 Border c Richardson b Matthews 45 S. Waugh b Matthews 86 Healy c De Villiers b Matthews 61 Hughes lbw b Matthews 0 Matthews c McMillan b De Villiers 11 McDermott c P. Kirsten b Matthews 1 McGrath not out 1 Extras: (b-6, lb-17, w-1, nb-7) 31 Total: 435

Fall of wickets: 1-40; 2-145; 3-153; 4-244; 5-310; 6-418; 7-418; 8-430; 9-434; 10-435.

Bowling: O M R W Donald 35 10 111 0 De Villiers 44 11 117 4 Matthews 36 12 80 5 McMillan 29 8 82 1 G. Kirsten 4 0 13 0 Cronje 11 4 9 0

SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings Hudson lbw b S. Waugh 49 Kirsten lbw b Warne 10 Cronje c and b S. Waugh 19 Wessels run out 9 Kirsten c Taylor b Warne 3 Rhodes not out 1 De Villiers lbw b Warne 0 McMillan not out 1 Extras: (lb-5, nb-3) 8 Total: (six wickets) 100

Fall: 1-33; 2-69; 3-94; 4-97; 5-97; 6-97. **Bowling:** McDermott 9 1 30 0 Hughes 5 1 12 0 Warne 17 10 20 3 McGrath 8 3 17 0 S. Waugh 9 4 16 2 Border 1 1 0 0

Office league hockey on

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Navy celebrated their first ever win over Bangladesh Army by the odd goal in three in the opening match of the Sonali Bank office hockey league at the Hockey Stadium yesterday.

All the three goals were scored in the second session after the two service teams fought neck and neck for an elusive goal in the first half.

However, Bangladesh Army drew the first blood when Shafique Islam sounded the board with a nice drive.

Navy nullified Army's lead three minutes later when their defender Rafique drove home one of their four short corners through the Army defence.

Farhad Hossain sealed the fate of the match in the 68th minute.

Earlier, president of the Bangladesh Hockey Federation Maj Gen Abdur Rab inaugurated meet, the first of its kind.

Dhaka Ansars will take on Sonali Bank in today's match.

IM chess meet begins today, but where?

Sports Reporter

The second United Insurance International Masters chess competition was formally inaugurated yesterday by the State Minister for Youth and Sports, Sadeque Hossain, at the National Sports Council conference room but the venue for the meet is yet to be decided, exposing once again the loopholes in the overall management and certainly calling into question the ability of the organisers, the Bangladesh Chess Federation, to host an event such as this.

Although the opening ceremony, presided over by Dr A. R. Khan, a vice-president of the federation, ran quite smoothly, touching up every detail of formality, the uncertainty over the venue remained ironically unresolved.

In fact, it never augured well for the tournament as the eleven-round meet, at one stage, ran the risk of being jeopardised with national champion Reefat Bin Sattar jibbing to participate on grounds of examination, which could have left the competition one short of the quorum of three IMs required for a meet of this nature. Fortunately, Reefat eventually agreed to play, sparing the blushes for the organisers.

Mahmood Ahmed Khan Lodhi, the two familiar and frequenting Pakistani IM, will top the 40-player meet with a FIDE rating of 2475. Lodhi, who needs one more norm to be the first Pakistani Grandmaster, starts as the favourite to clinch the title although he is expected to come across stiff challenge in the shape of two Bangladeshi IMs - Ziaur Rahman (2435) and Reefat (2430).

The Indian quartet of Shubrajat Saha (2320), Priton Singh (2305), Paritosh Bhattacharya (2190) and Suryashekar Ganguly (2130) may as well trouble the bouncy pathan. Of the four, the eleven-year-old Suryashekar could well turn out to be the centre of attraction as the youngster had produced a string of promising performances leading up to the tournament.

The other rated players in the meet are: Syed Tahmidur Rahman (2280), Kalimullah Khan Kalam (2255), Ziaul Kader Tuhin (2245), Jamilur Rahman (2225), Rezaul Huq (2210), Khandaker Kayes Hassan (2210), Sayefuddin Lavlu (2145), Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu (2145), Omar Khaled (2130), Ali Amjad Mintu (2100), A. N. M. Ruhul Kuddus (2060), Nahid Miyaad (2060) and Rukhsana Gulshan (2005).

If the organisers finally make up their mind on a venue, the first round matches will start today at 2-30 pm.

Forty players are taking part in this Swiss league meet with a total amount of Taka 60,000 up for grabs.



NO JOY: Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin is about to gobble up a ball with the hopes of giving another blow to the waning Kiwi innings. But the offering had no bearing as the ball played by Dion Nash bounced off the ground. New Zealand were all out for 187 on the second day of the one-off Test against India at Auckland yesterday. — AFP photo

Batting remains Kiwi bane



HAMILTON, New Zealand, Mar 20: The one-off Test at Hamilton between India and New Zealand was left evenly poised at the end of the second day today, reports Reuter.

India were 104 for three in reply to New Zealand's first innings total of 187.

Captain Mohammad Azharuddin, eight, and makeshift opener Nayan Mongia, 33, were the batsman still at the crease.

Starting the day at 81 for three, New Zealand collapsed to 187. When India replied, Navjot Sidhu was the first batsman dismissed - yorked by Danny Morrison after making 10 with the score on 25.

He was followed by Vinod Kambli, who edged a delivery from Chris Pringle to Bryan Young at second slip with the total on 38.

Despite the loss of two wickets, Sachin Tendulkar was prepared to attack the bowling and twice in one Pringle over cut the ball high over the slips to the boundary.

He made 43 from 47 balls, passing 2,000 Test runs in only his 32nd Test. The 22-year-old then hooked at a bouncer off spinner Shane Thomson and Dion Nash took a fine sliding catch at deep backward square leg.

Tendulkar had struck the two previous balls to mid-wicket for four and with the close of play only 15 minutes away, caution may have been a sounder approach.

Mongia, playing the sheet anchor role, was more watchful but showed an ability to strike the loose ball.

In the New Zealand innings, medium-pace Javagal Srinath

was the most successful bowler with four wickets for 60.

New Zealand had begun in positive fashion with captain Ken Rutherford, 43 not out overnight, dispatching the second ball of the day to the extra cover boundary off Kapil Dev.

He brought up his 50 with his only false shot of the morning, the ball squinting past the stumps for a single from an edge as he attempted to cut Anil Kumble.

But with the total on 100 and the fourth wicket partnership worth 51, Rutherford lost his partner, debutant Stephen Fleming.

Fleming, 10 overnight, had moved to 16 before hooking at Srinath. Kambli held the straightforward catch at deep backward square leg.

Rutherford, on 63, was next to go six runs short of his highest score against India. He played back to a Kumble googly that barely span, the ball dropping from the bat on to the balls.

There was little resistance from the rest of the innings. Thomson went two runs later with the score at 124 to Venkatapathy Raju.

Adam Parore, looking to straight-drive, hammered the ball back to bowler Rajesh Chauhan for a return catch.

One run later, on with the score on 155, Hart was bowled by Chauhan for 17. Morrison could only last for three runs before being trapped lbw by Srinath.

Nash and Pringle provided some resolute defence for 52 minutes before Raju bowled Pringle for 18 to end the innings.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second

day of the cricket Test between India and New Zealand today.

NEW ZEALAND: First innings (overnight 81 for three) Hartland c Chauhan 0

b Kapil Dev Young c Kumble b Srinath 13 Greatbatch c Azharuddin b Srinath 12 Rutherford b Kumble 63 Fleming c Kambli b Srinath 16 Thomson c Manjrekar b Raju 12 Parore c and b Chauhan 9 Hart b Chauhan 17 Nash not out 10 Morrison lbw b Srinath 3 Pringle b Raju 18 Extras: (lb-9, nb-5) 14 Total: 187

Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-21; 3-49; 4-100; 5-122; 6-124; 7-154; 8-155; 9-158.

Bowling: O M R W Srinath 31 8 60 4 Kapil Dev 9 2 29 1 Kumble 23 8 34 1 Raju 13 2 5 14 2 Chauhan 21 5 41 2

INDIA: First innings Mongia not out 33 Sidhu b Morrison 10 Kambli c Young b Pringle 9 Tendulkar c Nash b Thomson 43

Azharuddin not out 8 Extras (w-1) 1 Total: for three wickets 104 Fall of wickets: 1-25; 2-38; 3-89.

Yet to bat: S Manjrekar, Kapil Dev, R Chauhan, A Kumble, J Srinath, V Raju.

Bowling: O M R W Morrison 12 2 25 1 Nash 9 3 29 0 Pringle 7 2 23 1 Hart 4 0 11 0 Thomson 4 1 16 1

Final round of Pepsi Cup starts today

Sports Reporter

The final round of the Pepsi Cup 20th national cricket championship begins today with two matches billed for the opening day at different city venues.

Last year's runners-up Bangladesh Biman will face Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) at the Dhaka Stadium while Dhaka University, a direct qualifier in the meet, will take on Rajshahi in the other match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Twelve teams including eight zonal champions and the last year's semi-finalists divided into four groups are taking part in the meet.

Lotus-Kamal pace bowling programme unveiled

Sports Reporter

With Madras Rubber Factor (MRF) blazing the trail across the border, Lotus-Kamal company unearthed announced its official emergence yesterday as the fast bowler producing foundation in south India.

Some 550 youngsters had their names registered on the launching ceremony of the programme by Lotus-Kamal company.

The project, a long term one, for unearthing fast bowlers will culminate in a three-month training following two phases of elimination. The first phase of the training to be monitored by former national coach Osman Khan will begin from April 1 at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

The organisers revealed plans of providing scholarships to the picked promising pacer-men.

Independence Day basketball begins today

Sports Reporter

The Independence Day basketball competition, comprising five teams, begins at the wooden-floor gymnasium today.

Two Senior Division clubs - Josephite and Eagles - and three from two service teams - Bangladesh Air Force, Bangladesh Army A and B - will take part in the six-day meet.

Two matches will be held on the opening day. Bangladesh Army 'A' will take on Josephite in the first match at 4 pm while Bangladesh Army 'B' will face Eagles at 5:30 pm at the same venue.

Independence Day kabaddi from March 26

Sports Reporter

The Independence Day kabaddi competition will begin from March 26 under the aegis of the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation (BKF), said a federation press release issued yesterday.

Meanwhile, the final round matches of the national youth kabaddi championship will be held on April 19 and 20 and the national kabaddi is scheduled for May 15 and 16 at Dhaka.

'Fashion war'

MILAN, Mar 20: Giorgio Armani outbid Valentino in an all-Italian "fashion war" for providing the Italian World Cup team with its famous blue uniforms, reports AP.

Lara, Adams run riot at Bourda Oval

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Mar 20: Led by a trio of left-handers, the West Indies battled its way to 487 for six and a 165-run lead over England Saturday, the third day of the second cricket Test, reports AP.

Brian Lara's boundary-studded 167, made from 209 balls and including two sixes and 26 fours, set the pattern in the first half of the day. It was followed by Jimmy Adams, who completed his maiden Test century just before the end when he was at an unbeaten 102, and Shivnarine Chanderpaul, a frail, 19-year-old Guyanese on his debut, who hit 62.

Lara and Adams added 112 for the fourth wicket and Adams and Chanderpaul 126 for the fifth as the West Indies took a commanding position, after England's first innings 322, with two days remaining.

Resuming at 57 with the West Indies 152 for one, Lara thumped the second ball of the day, a full toss from leg-spinner Ian Salisbury, for four and sped to his century - his second in Tests and his first in six in the West Indies - with an hour and 10 minutes of the start.

Lara's only other century was 277 against Australia at Sydney eight Tests ago.

"I've been under a lot of pressure since that 277 in Australia and I'm very glad to get this one," Lara said. "I didn't think the English bowlers used the pitch properly."

Salisbury lifted England's hopes with in the first 40 minutes by dismissing opener Desmond Haynes for 63 to a catch by wicket-keeper Jack Russell and another left-hander, Keith Arthurton, for five to a catch at silly-point.

By then, Lara was in full gear and no bowler could contain him as he delighted a packed crowd at the Bourda ground estimated at 14,000.

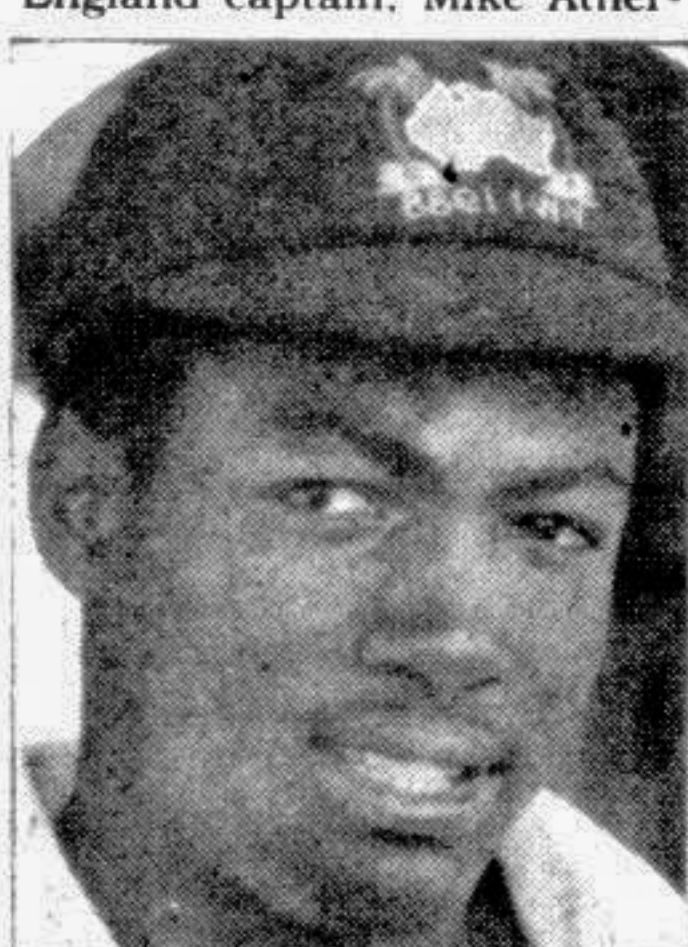
Adams, less flamboyant, proved the perfect foil to Lara's aggression and the two carried the West Indies within seven of the lead when Lara flicked a catch to square-leg off fast bowler Chris Lewis who he had just hooked for his second six.

The only blemish to Lara's innings was a near stumping off occasional off-spinner, Mark Ramprakash, muffed by wicket-keeper Russell when he was at 120.

The crowd stood to acclaim Lara as he returned to the

pavilion - and to welcome Chanderpaul, a local favourite from the small village of Unity who was the first teenager to represent the West Indies since left-arm spinner Elquemedo Willett in 1973.

Chanderpaul batted with a maturity that belied his age and the six bowlers used by England captain, Mike Atherton.



B LARA 167

ton, could make no impression on him and Adams.

Chanderpaul's 50 was the signal for an invasion of the ground by dozens of jubilant home fans but he added only 12 more before he missed an attempted pull shot off Salisbury and was bowled.

Adams was then 93 and immediately lost Junior Murray, leg before wicket to Salisbury playing back to his first ball. The two setbacks seemed to upset his concentration and he had two narrow escapes before finally reaching his landmark of three-figures.

At 94, he was nearly run out through confused calling with his partner, Winston Benjamin, and at 97, he was left stranded by off-spinner, Graeme Hick, and wicket-keeper Russell again missed the stumping chance.

"I thought a little bit of luck should be on my side at that time," Adams said. He was left unbeaten 95 when the West Indies were all out in the first Test.

ROK rock night

DALLAS, Mar 20: World Cup qualifiers South Korea beat the Dallas Rockets amateur team 7-1 (halftime 2-1) in a friendly match played on Thursday night, reports Reuter.

South Korea are due play two of their first round matches, including one against champions Germany on June 27, at the Dallas Cotton Bowl Stadium.

Adams has so far batted five hours, 20 minutes and hit 16 fours. Fast bowler Winston Benjamin joined him in the closing stages and took toll of the tiring England team, slamming an unbeaten 37 off 36 balls.

For England, Salisbury was the best bowler with four wickets for 163 off 37 overs.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the second cricket Test between West Indies and England at the Bourda Ground on Saturday.

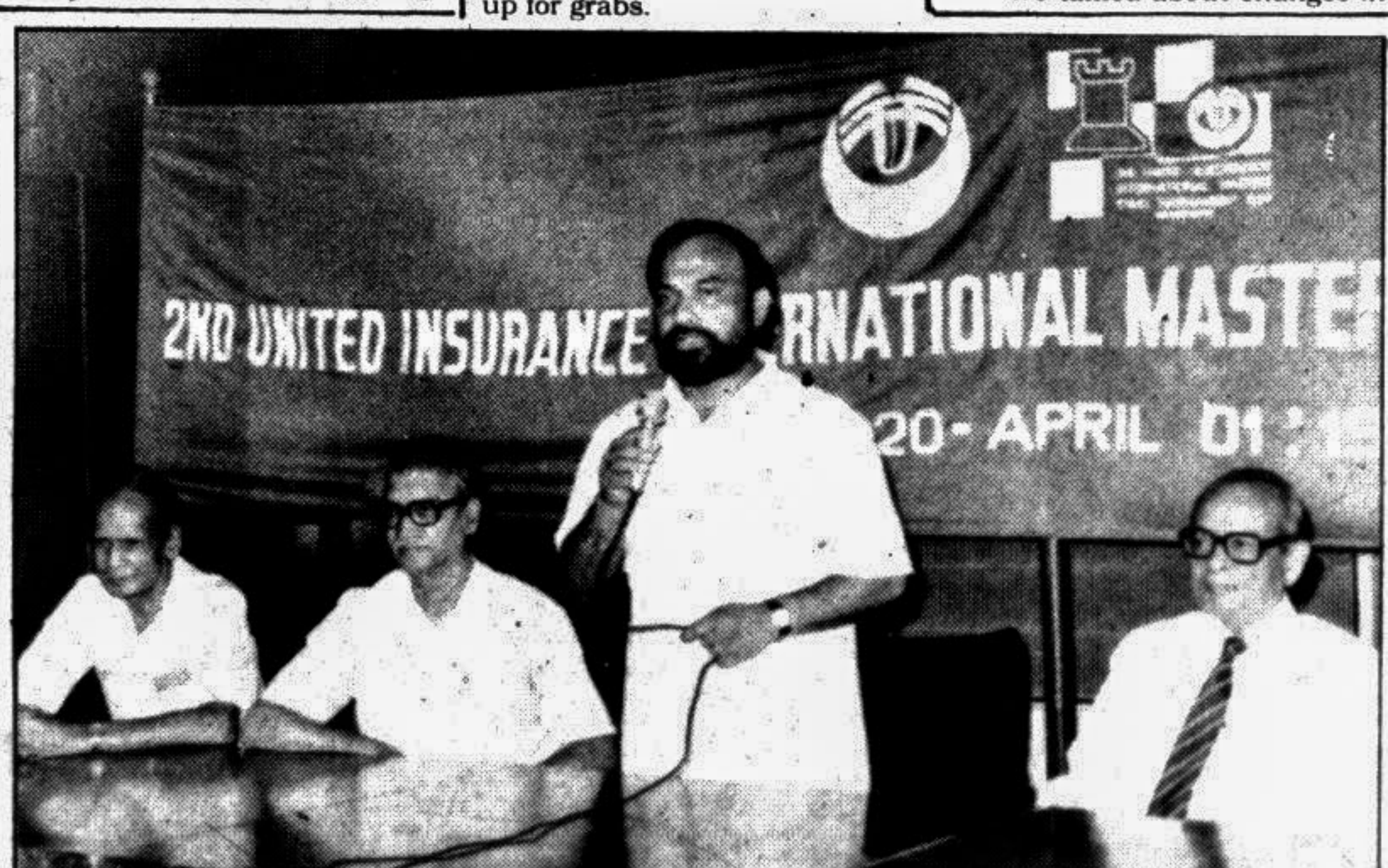
ENGLAND: First innings 322 (M Atherton 144, R Smith 84, C Ambrose 4-58).

WEST INDIES: First innings (overnight 152-1) Haynes c Russell b Salisbury 63 Richardson c Lewis b Fraser 35 Lara c Atherton b Lewis 167 Arthurton c Thorpe b Salisbury 5 Adams not out 102 Chanderpaul b Salisbury 62 Murray lbw b Salisbury 0 Benjamin not out 37 Extras: (b-1, lb-3, w-1, nb-11) 16 Total: (for six wickets) 487

Fall of wickets: 1-63; 2-177; 3-203; 4-315; 5-441; 6-441.

To bat: C Ambrose, K Benjamin, C Walsh.

Bowling: O M R W Lewis 19 1 70 1 Igglesden 21 3 82 0 Fraser 23 3 72 1 Salisbury 37 4 163 4 Hick 20 1 61 0 Ramprakash 15 1 35 0



State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeque Hossain is seen speaking at the inauguration ceremony of the second United Insurance International Masters chess tournament at the conference room of the National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday. The meet begins today. — Star photo