



England batsman Mike Gatting drives one to the cover fence during his superb unbeaten knock of 114 against Queensland Bulls at the Neritige Oval in Toowoomba yesterday.

—AFP photo

## Gatting powers England

**TOOWOOMBA.** Australia, Dec 17: Veteran Mike Gatting scored an unbeaten century Saturday as England made a superb start to their tour cricket match against the powerful Queensland state team at Heritage Park, reports AP.

Gatting was unbeaten on 114 at stumps with England 355-5 after the first day.

John Crawley scored 91, Graham Gooch added 50 and Graeme Hick made 49 as England rebounded from their humiliating loss to Zimbabwe in a World Series match in Sydney on Thursday.

The England batsmen punished a Queensland attack that included Australian Test spearhead Craig McDermott and Australia A International Greg Rowell.

Gatting, who has performed poorly on tour, shared a fourth-wicket stand of 202 with Crawley — England's best partnership of the tour.

Gatting, who had only two half-centuries in his last 15 innings, snared 15 boundaries.

The good start provided respite for England manager Keith Fletcher and captain Mike Atherton, both of whom have been criticised for their team's poor performances.

Fletcher said Saturday that he has no intention of resigning.

"It's entirely up to the journalists what they write, but I've still got two-and-a-half years of my contract to go and I intend to see things through," Fletcher said.

"Criticism is justified if you're not winning and if the criticism of me takes pressure off the players then that is OK, although it always hurts."

Fletcher said he remains confident of England's ability to compete in the forthcoming second Test against Australia, which begins Dec 24 in Melbourne.

"We've got to play a lot better, but we've got the ability in our side," he said. "The most important thing is that we get runs, and if we can do that, we can put Australia under pressure."

Pace bowler Darren Gough may miss that match, however, after suffering an injury to his

right leg while bowling in the nets an hour before the start.

"It's the hamstring again, but in a different place," said Fletcher. "We're all hoping he'll be fit for the second Test."

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps Saturday, first day of the four-day cricket match between England and the Queensland state team at Heritage Park:

**ENGLAND: 1st innings**  
Gooch c Rowell b McDermott 50  
Atherton b Tazelaar 6  
Hick c Love b Rowell 49  
Gatting not out 114  
Crawley c Law b Kasprowitz 91  
Rhodes lbw Kasprowitz 0  
Udal not out 14  
Extras 31  
TOTAL: (for five wickets) 355  
Fall of wickets: 16: 106; 118: 320; 330.

**Bowling:**  
Craig McDermott 21 3 87 1  
Dirk Tazelaar 18 4 60 1  
Andrew Symonds 10 2 51 0  
Greg Rowell 21 5 66 1  
Mike Kasprowitz 18 2 71 2  
Jimmy Maher 1 0 5 0  
Matthew Hayden 1 0 5 0  
Batting time: 377 minutes.  
Overs: 90.

## ACOG for tight security

**ATLANTA.** Dec 17: Thousands of private guards in uniforms with a symbol of the American West on the sleeve will help provide security for the 1996 Olympics under a multi-million-dollar contract announced on Monday, reports AP.

Borg Warner Security will provide security officers, ticket takers and ushers to stand guard along with personnel from 37 law-enforcement agencies when the centennial Games open in July 1996.

"This is part of our efforts to make sure that these are not only the most accessible but also the most secure Games in Olympic history," said Billy Payne, president of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

Financial terms of the deal — Borg-Warner gets to call itself "official protective services sponsor of the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games" — were not disclosed. Similar sponsorships have been fetching about 10 million dollars for ACOG.

Part of Borg-Warner's worldwide empire is Wells-Fargo, the old stagecoach line of innumerable Western movies and the company that provided private security guards for the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

The symbol of Wells-Fargo, a Pony Express rider in silhouette, will be drawn into the company's Olympic emblem and worn as a patch on uniform shoulders. And those uniforms will be brighter and more cheerful than the starkly serious white shirt and black tie that the company's guards usually wear.

"It will be a special Olympic uniform, and it will be very people-friendly," said Donald Trauscht, chairman and chief executive officer for Borg-Warner.

Delegation had intended to start out on Thursday but delayed the swim for a day due to bad weather.



The skipper of the losing side Faruque Ahmed receives his prize from the sister of Shaheed Jewel after the traditional exhibition cricket match between Shaheed Mushtaq Eleven and Shaheed Jewel Eleven on the Victory Day at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on Friday.

—Star photo

## Udity win

Sports Reporter

Ferdous Alam scored a brilliant half century as Udity Club went home with a four wicket win over Evergreen Club in the Yamaha First Division cricket league at the City Club ground yesterday.

Chasing 161 for victory in the stipulated 45 overs, Ferdous struck 67 with the help of eight hits to the fence to guide Udity to a comfortable victory with eight balls to spare.

After a disastrous start with Udity tottering at 23 for four, Ferdous joined forces with opener Shaker (21) to share 76 runs for the fifth wicket and then added another 49 runs for the sixth wicket with Jahangir, who made a quick fire 24 off 28 balls.

Ferdous eventually departed in the 41st over after giving Abul Bashar a return catch with the scoreboard reading 152 for six. Udity scored the remaining nine runs with consummate ease.

Bashar, who also captured the wicket of Jahangir, finished with two for 33 in his eight-over spell. New ball bowler Ekram, who made early inroads into Udity's batting line-up, claimed three wickets for 34 runs in his quota of nine overs.

Earlier mustered 160 for nine in the allotted 45 overs with Bhutto (31), Tuhin (20), Rashid (18), Pijush (13), and Sajal (24 not out) making it to the double figures.

Udity new ball bowler Robin ripped through the top order finished with three for 38 in his quota of nine overs while Taher with two for 23 was the other successful Udity bowler.

## Div II cricket

Sports Reporter

Shaheen dazzled with the willow as Western Cricketers Club recorded a convincing four-wicket win over Amartyoti Club in one of the two Acme Second Division cricket league matches played at different city venues yesterday.

At the Dhanmondi Club ground, set to score 173 runs for an outright victory, Western CC, powered by a sparkling 71 from Shaheen, posted 176 for six wickets in 38.1 overs.

Shaheen, who came to bat at number three, hit ten boundaries in his 80-ball knock. Rumon, who chipped in with 30, was the other notable contributor for the winners while extras yielded 25.

Earlier, sent in to bat, Amartyoti scored a fighting 172 in the allotted 40 overs with extras contributing the highest 40.

Dipu scored 25 followed by Ahmed (21) and Shaiful Alam, who remained unbeaten on 22. Hassan, Ferdous and Liton took two wickets apiece for the winners.

Away at the Mirpur Outer Stadium, Uttara Sporting Club earned a 29-run win over East End Club.

Sent in to bat first, Uttara scored 164 for six in the stipulated 40 overs and then restricted East End to 135 with more than three overs remaining.

Chinu, who remained undefeated on 32, was the top scorer for Uttara followed by Nadim and skipper Ashique who made 31 and 25 respectively.

Noman took two wickets for 30 runs for the losers.

In the poor East End collection, opener Shipon (23), Noman (26), Subir (19) and Pappu (13) were the key scorers.

## V-Day cricket

Sports Reporter

Shaheed Mushtaq Eleven won the traditional Victory Day cricket match beating Shaheed Jewel Eleven by 56 runs at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on Friday.

Two half-centuries by Al Shahriar and Habibul Bashar helped Mushtaq Eleven pile 251 for six wickets from the stipulated 45 overs.

Shahriar cracked 63 off 62 balls with the help of six fours and a sixer while Habibul Bashar staying till the end remained unbeaten on 52 off 43 balls hitting four hits across the fence.

Ather Ali, who along with Sajjad Mansur, put up 80 for the first wicket was the other notable contributor with 45.

Left-arm spinner Rafiq was Jewel Eleven's best bowler bagging two for 31 from nine overs.

After losing Sajid cheaply, Mihrab the other opener teamed up with captain Faruque to add 74 runs for the second wicket.

In-form Naimur Rahman kept the chasers in the game with a proper 39 but support at the other end was at a premium and the innings lost momentum to fold at 193 in the 43.1 overs.

Sajal Chowdhury sent back three lower order batsmen to finished with three for 38.

His partner Anis picked two for 36 while Mustafiz removed collected two important wickets for 36.



American tennis legend John McEnroe awaits the ball on his knees in an exhibition of his familiar on-court antics after one of many disagreements with the umpire in an exhibition match against compatriot Michael Chang in Hong Kong on Dec 16. Chang won 6-0, 7-5.

—AFP photo

## Cloud over Bangkok Asiad

**BANGKOK.** Dec 17: Political turmoil has thrown up a new threat to Thailand's plans to host the 1998 Asian Games, with an important deadline looking, reports AFP.

For the second straight week, the cabinet failed Tuesday to reach any agreement on a sports complex, accommodation and a rapid-transit link meant to be built for the Games.

The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has made growing noises in recent months that Bangkok risks losing the event unless a start is made on multi-million dollar preparations.

Thai government leaders have been concentrating instead on keeping their coalition in power after a rift that threatened to force new elections. Prime Minister Chuan Leepai saves the alliance by bringing in an opposition party.

But no ground has been broken on facilities, although an OCA mission is scheduled to visit Bangkok next month to check on progress.

And, according to OCA officials, the perceived procrastination of the Bangkok organisers will be discussed when many of the continent's sports leaders gather at an International Olympic Committee (IOC) executive board meeting this week in Atlanta, Georgia.

Officials from the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) and Thai Olympic Committee also flew to Atlanta on Monday. Officially they were to examine the city's efforts for the 1996 Olympics.

"This is a very important month," said the SAT's Somchai Prasertsirpan in a recent interview with AFP.

Thailand must, in any case, speed up the pace of preparations. Thai officials were first warned here last March by OCA president Sheikh Ahmad al Fahad al Sabah that the Games might be moved unless construction began immediately.

The Prime Minister gave assurances at the time, but the work did not start and OCA executive officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there was concern.

Thailand was given the 1998 Games in part because it has twice hosted them when other countries could not: in 1970 for Seoul and 1978 for Pakistan. Both times, the host countries were swept up in political unrest.

But domestic politics have been a problem since Thailand won the right in 1990 to host its fourth Asiad.

Thailand has had four governments in four years, one via a coup d'etat, and each change has derailed preparations.

At the Hiroshima Asian Games in October, Thai officials cast doubt on plans for an ambitious sporting complex and talked instead of restoring existing facilities.

The OCA executive said it would accept either proposal but remained worried about what is reputedly the world's worst traffic and pollution in Bangkok.

Concerns about the financing of the event also encouraged the South Korean city of

Pusan to believe it might step in as an alternative host.

Nevertheless, Sheikh Ahmad and Thai Deputy Prime Minister Banyat Bantadtan signed a memorandum of understanding in October.

But new worries emerged when on November 1 the government sacked the company assigned to develop a workable plan which failed to come up with financing or blueprints.

The sports authority drafted alternative plans, in record time, for a 600-million-dollar sports complex and a 10-kilometre (six-mile) subway for another billion dollars.

"We could use designers and construction companies from abroad," the SAT's Somchai Prasertsirpan told AFP. "We know that there are companies in Australia, South Korea, and the United States which are interested."

But the plans, said by Banyat to be too expensive, have yet to be endorsed by the Thai cabinet.

The Prime Minister gave a new promise last month: "I want to assure you that the Games can be organized in time."

He vowed that the government would pay the bill itself if necessary. But the sudden political reshuffle had newspapers and analysts predicting the death of the Chuan administration long before the 1988 Games.

"Then, no matter what happens, no matter what government comes along, we can be proud of the Games," he added.

## Pakistan's World Cup dented

**ISLAMABAD.** Dec 17: The hockey World Cup won by Pakistan last week has been dented and will need repairs, a report said Friday, reports AFP.

The 300,000 dollar Cup is to go back to the army workshop in Rawalpindi where it was made in 1970 for the repairs, the official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) said.

The gold and silver-crested trophy was donated by Pakistan, who initiated the World Cup.

Pakistan beat the Netherlands to win back the trophy it has now taken an unprecedented four times.

No official explanation of the damage was given. But Pakistan team manager Rashid Junior commented: "After all those years of travelling, such an aberration can occur. But there is nothing to worry about, everything will be fixed."

The report said the Cup, which is insured for three million dollars, was at the Pakistan Hockey Federation headquarters in Lahore.

## Eyles pulls off a surprise win

**BOMBAY.** Dec 17: Australia's Rodney Eyles pulled off a shock win against top seed and countryman Brett Martin in the semifinal of the Mahindra World Super Series squash tournament on Friday, reports Reuters.

Eyles beat Martin 15-13, 12-15, 13-15, 15-13, 15-12 to set up a meeting with Peter Marshall of England in the final today.

Fortunes fluctuated right from the start as both players varied their shots and switched their game with some glimpses of top quality squash.

Third-seeded Eyles, one of the fittest players on the circuit, was made to fight hard for each point as Martin tried every trick in the book to upset his rhythm, but was invariably beaten by a better shot.

Martin came back strongly from losing the opening game by winning the second and third games with some brilliant side-wall shots.

But with vociferous support from the crowd, Eyles came into the fourth and fifth with renewed vigour, hitting from impossible angles and showing quicker recovery when it mattered most.

In the other semifinal, second seed Marshall stuck stubbornly to his steady play to unnerve countryman and fifth seed Chris Walker to beat him 15-8, 15-13, 15-12 in 68 minutes.

## Benign Jansher

**ISLAMABAD.** Dec 17: World squash champion Jansher Khan has launched a campaign to raise funds to hold fight blood-related diseases in children and pledged 10 per cent of his future prize money to the cause, reports AFP.

He appealed for donations to the local Fatimid Foundation which provides free treatment to some 12,000 children each year in Karachi, the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) reported.

Speaking to reporters at the launch Thursday, he added that he would sponsor the treatment of 10 children each year and play exhibition matches to help raise funds for the foundation.

It costs 6,000 rupees (200 dollars) to sponsor one child for a year, the foundation said.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

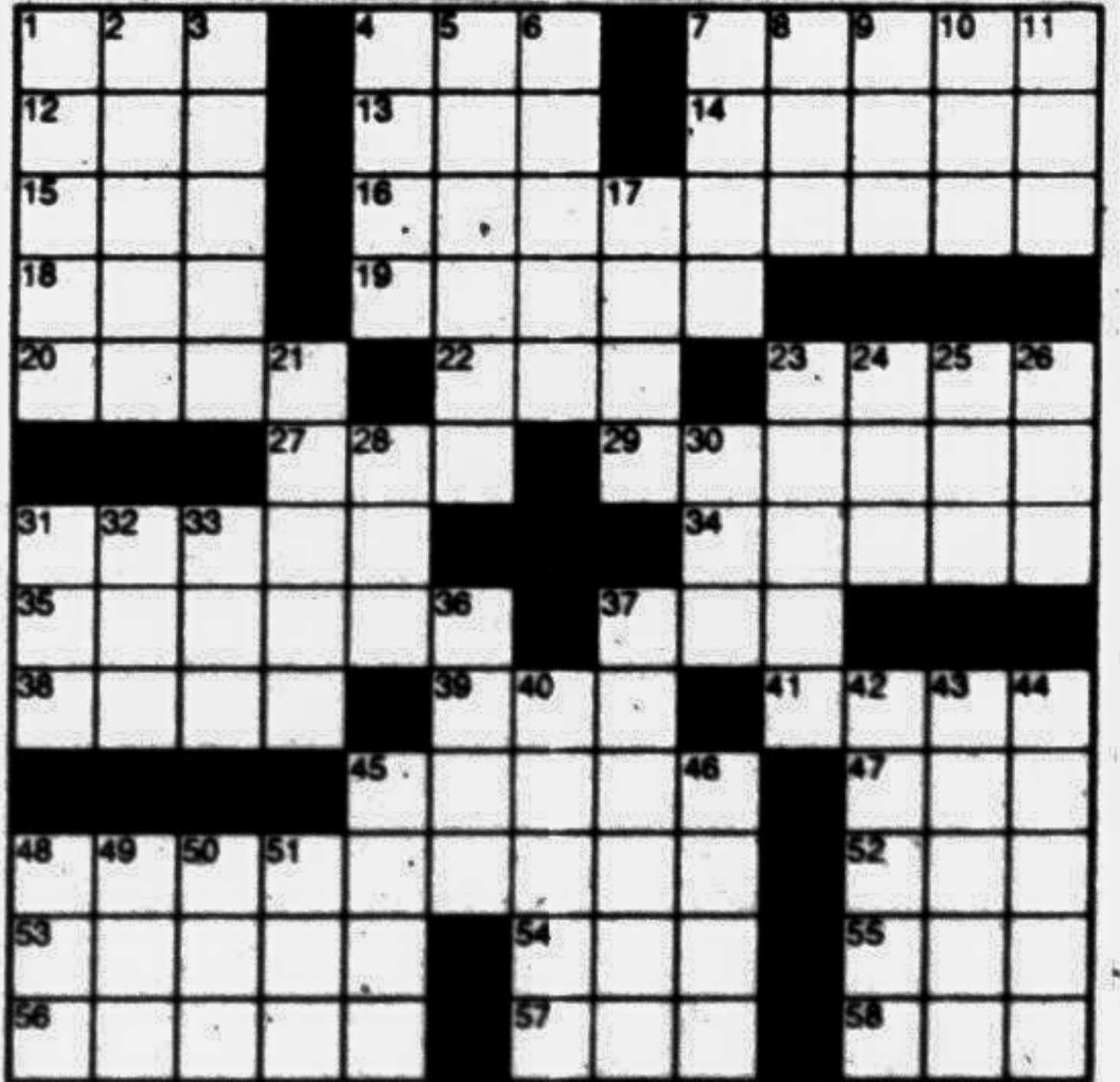
**ACROSS**  
1 Evening Shade role  
4 Earn an Obie, maybe  
7 Wetish  
12 Round Table address  
13 Needlefish  
14 Sound  
15 Heyer-dahl's — Tiki  
16 Side dish member  
18 Guidonian note  
19 "GWTW" star  
20 Stupely  
22 Flushed  
23 Blueprint  
27 Shot  
29 Douglas fir's cousin  
31 Send forth  
34 A man of many words  
35 Lea  
37 Hose, in Boston?  
38 Call on a beeper  
39 Episodic story line

**41** Symbol of servitude  
**45** Oriental Director  
47 Howard  
48 Side dish member  
52 Evil  
53 Sooth-sayer  
54 Peggy or Michele  
55 — de France  
56 Steak variety  
57 Superlative suffix  
58 Young Mr. Lincoln?  
**DOWN**  
1 Sent out  
2 String quartet member  
3 Ball's partner  
4 Over-thusiasm  
5 Big Bird's tiny cousin?  
6 Cherokee, e.g.  
7 Lion's pride?  
8 — Town  
9 A mean Amin  
10 Sermon subject  
11 Dress (up)

**17** Auto-maker  
Ransom Eli —  
21 Chopin piece  
23 Substitute  
24 Schlepp  
25 Expert  
26 Bottom line  
28 17 Down's car  
30 In favor  
31 Devilkin  
32 Vast quantity  
33 Succumb to gravity  
36 Lave  
37 Alarms  
40 Ransack  
42 Trip around the world  
43 Qantas "spokes-bear"  
44 Over measure  
45 Land  
46 U.N. veto  
48 Corpulent  
49 Difficulty  
50 "I" strain  
51 "Sister Act" extra

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

**DAB BAAS EWES**  
**EMU ERIC PILE**  
**FIRESIDE ISLE**  
**NAT ANOTHER**  
**JESTER EVA**  
**UPI DIP APRIL**  
**TEDS GUM HIDE**  
**SEEMS POD NOS**  
**OAF BOGGLE**  
**SEATTLE WAS**  
**ARCH IRONSIDE**  
**MIME ELSE DOG**  
**PEER SEAR ERG**



### CRYPTOQUIP

**E W Y O J E U Y Q K Y : "W ' A A E W B C U O P U N D M U D J P L A K U B N W X O " O K L P B C E U Y Q K Y : "V P X M U O V ."**  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TO KEEP READERS INTERESTED, MY BOOK ABOUT MOUSETRAPS NEEDS TO BE SNAPPY.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: E equals F

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.