

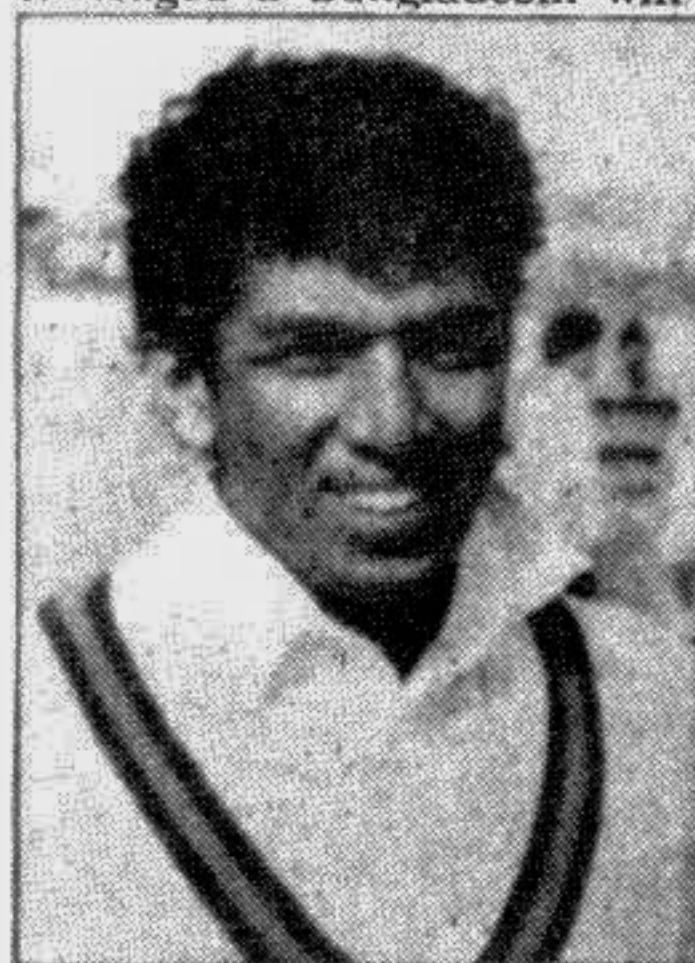
# Pakistan take on SL today

Pre-tournament favourites Pakistan need a big margin victory to avert the ignominy of a premature elimination when they take on no-hopers Sri Lanka in the last league match of the four-nation SAARC

**Sports Reporter**  
nearly impossible and if they fail to accomplish what they desperately need to do, Rameez Raja's men can only blame themselves for not taking care of their low-scoring habits in time.

found in the previous matches, into consideration, one might suggest it's a lost cause for the representatives of the World Cup champions.

However, as no one has ever envisaged a Bangladeshi win-



HATHURUSINGH

**cricket competition at the Dhaka Stadium today.**

With Bangladesh's enthralling one-run win over India yesterday, the task for Pakistan's second national selection have suddenly become

## Flowers fire Zimbabwe up

DUBBO, Australia, Dec 26: Brothers Andy and Grant Flower starred as Zimbabwe cruised to an 82-run victory over a New South Wales Country Districts XI in a day-night limited-overs cricket match played Monday at Dubbo Oval, reports AP.

Zimbabwe captain Andy Flower won the toss and chose to bat — and they proved a wise decision.

Flower top-scored with 114 and his brother Grant made 91 as Zimbabwe scored 277-5 from their 50 overs and then restricted the regional selection to 195-5.

Phillip Stanbridge top-scored for the New South Wales team with 42, while leg-spinner Paul Strang took 3-25 from seven overs for Zimbabwe.

The African tourists will next play a three-day game against Queensland starting on Wednesday in Maryborough.

Lagging painfully behind India and the hosts in net run rate, something that has to do with the difference between the runs per over scored and conceded, the Pakistanis will have to improve on their -0.61 record to overhaul Bangladesh's -0.03 if they plan to play in the final.

Translated into runs, that might demand Raja and his men to score more than four runs an over and restrict the Lankans at least to 150 to 160.

Taking the appallingly inconsistent pitch plus the lack of application on the part of the Pakistani batsmen, as

## Imarat Nirman Orient Bread Kabaddi champs

Imarat Nirman Sramik League won the title in the Orient Bread kabaddi league, beating Mirpur Juba Sangha 26-15 in the final at the kabaddi ground here yesterday, reports BSS.

Sonali Bank took the third spot.

Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain witnessed the final and distributed trophies among the winners.

over the Indians, the Pakistani cricketers can also prove all sorts of speculation wrong.

On the other hand, the Lankans, who are already without any chance of advancing to the final, might find today's match a mere formality and might not take this encounter seriously, which would certainly help Pakistan's cause.

Whatever happens at the end of the day, the home fans would definitely go through yet another prolonged spell this time of 'uninvolved' tension.

## National long distance swimming

The first national long-distance swimming competition from Pagla Ghat at Narayanganj to Munshiganj Launch Station was held yesterday, reports BSS.

Md. Selim Ahmed of Bangladesh Navy emerged champion in 4 hrs 58 mins and 05 secs while Sergeant Dhanarajan Das of Bangladesh Air Force became runner-up in 5 hrs, 03 m and 53 secs the third slot went to Army's Nayek Asaduzzaman who took 5 hrs 17 m and 20 seconds.

## PM fetes Bangladesh team

The members of the Bangladesh cricket team were accorded a warm reception by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia last night at her Hare Road office for their brilliant victory against India, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister greeted the team with bouquets for each player.

Sweets were also served to them to celebrate the victory. Bangladesh beat India by one run in a thrilling league match of the SAARC cricket tournament at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Congratulating the players the Prime Minister said people all over the country were delighted at their brilliant performance.

"I am also happy with the people of Bangladesh for the victory," Begum Zia said.

The Prime Minister advised concerned officials to further improve the standard of cricket in Bangladesh and hoped the players would bring laurels for the country in future.

Captain of the Bangladesh squad Akram Khan thanked the Prime Minister on behalf of the players.

Deputy Leader of the House Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury and Foreign Minister and president of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) A S M Mostafizur Rahman and coaches and officials of the BCCB were also present on the occasion.

## Hasina's praise for players

Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina has congratulated Bangladesh cricket team for their glorious victory against the Indian team in the SAARC Cricket Tournament in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

In a message of felicitation, the Awami League leader thanked the Bangladeshi players, coach, officials and cricket fans for the great victory.

She hoped that the victory will enhance the honour and prestige of Bangladesh in the field of international cricket.

Hasina also observed that the Bangladesh team, if patronised and trained properly, will be able to win a place in world cricket.

## America3 a sponsor's dream

WARREN, Mich., Dec 26: The member of the first all-women America's Cup team are a corporate sponsor's dream: They look good, speak well and generate headlines, reports AP.

The women of America3 have a chance to win a race dominated for 143 years by men. They're already far ahead the other teams in the race for publicity, and the Cup's first round doesn't get under way until Jan 12.

For Chevrolet, the team's biggest sponsor, it's an opportunity to reach female car buyers and to upgrade its middle-class image.

The automaker plans to spend about \$2 million sponsoring the team. That gives it the right to put the Chevy logo on the team's sail and uniforms, and to use its members in Chevrolet advertising and publicity.

On Tuesday, the four Michigan members of the 28-woman team and one of its coaches appeared before a gathering of Chevrolet employees at the company's Warren headquarters.

"One of the biggest things for me is how exciting it is to have a hometown company like Chevrolet behind us," said Merritt Palm, who grew up in Grosse Pointe Farms. "My family has always had American cars, and they happen to be Chevrolets."

Team members, of course, have other reasons to be enthusiastic about their top sponsor. Competitive sailing historically has been a rich man's sport, not the sort of activity a group of women, most just out of college, could afford to do full-time on their own.

Sponsorship has made it possible for them to train without worrying about the next rent or car payment. They get free housing, use of 20 Chevys and a stipend.

America3's other sponsors include Motorola, Glamour Magazine, Columbia Sportswear Co and Hewlett-Packard Co.

Chevrolet first sponsored the 1992 America3 team, which won. When it was asked to sponsor the all-women 1995 team, it jumped at the chance.

"When we learned what the makeup of this team would be, that made it all the more inviting," said Thomas Pyden, a Chevrolet marketing executive. Pyden said he expected the women to get "a ton of publicity," but that the attention on the team's gender has even exceeded his expectations.



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia congratulates the victorious Bangladesh team that beat India by one run in the SAARC cricket tournament at her Hare Road office yesterday. BCCB president Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman is seen on her right. — PID photo

## Warne brings Aussies back



MELBOURNE, Dec 26: Australian legspinner Shane Warne inflicted more damage on England after the tourists lost opener Alec Stewart with a broken finger on Monday, the second day of the second Ashes Test, reports Reuter.

In response to the home side's 279, England struggle to 148 for four, still 131 in arrears, at close of play at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Australia, who began the day on 220 for seven, added 59 valuable runs for their last three wickets with all rounder Stephen Waugh left stranded on 94 not out.

At 119 for one, the tourists looked capable of a first innings lead before Warne intervened with three quick wickets after tea.

He sent captain Mike Atherton, Graham Thorpe and Mike Gatting back to the pavilion as the tourists added just 21 runs.

Warne, whose 11 wickets in Brisbane helped Australia to a crushing 184-run in last month's first Test, finished with figures of three for 34 from 20 overs.

England's problems were heightened by Stewart's misfortune. The England vice-captain and reserve wicketkeeper suffered his second fracture to the right index finger since arriving on tour, after being struck by a lifting delivery from McDermott immediately after lunch.

After an examination by team physiotherapist Dave Roberts, Stewart retired and a hospital X-ray later confirmed the damage.

The injury is identical to the one he suffered at the start of the tour in October. On that occasion he was out of action for four weeks.

Roberts said Stewart was likely to be sidelined for three weeks once the current Test is over.

The tourists were clearly unhappy about two of Warne's dismissals, both Thorpe and Atherton stared at West Indian umpire Steve Bucknor with surprise bordering on disbelief following his verdict.

Number three batsman Graeme Hick looked equally unhappy when he was adjudged to have edged a catch to wicketkeeper Ian Healy off fast bowler Craig McDermott.

Hick scored a fluent 23 before McDermott found a gap between his bat and pad, but television replays suggested the ball had deflected off the batsman's thigh.

Thorpe and Atherton added 79 for the second-wicket before Atherton was trapped leg before wicket with his score on 44. Thorpe was dismissed shortly afterwards, caught by Mark Waugh close to the wicket for 51.

Gooch and Mike Gatting looked to steady the innings but Gatting walked straight into Warne's trap, caught behind square by a diving Steve Waugh for nine as he found himself unable to resist the temptation to sweep.

England's hopes now rest with veteran Gooch, who was unbeaten on 15 at the close. All-rounder Darren Gough was on one.

Steve Waugh was earlier stranded six runs short of his eighth Test century as Australia were dismissed for 279 in their first innings.



WARNE .... 3 for 34

Waugh was unbeaten on 94 when Damien Fleming (16) was the last man out after the home team resumed at 220 for

seven wickets.

Waugh shared useful partnerships with tail-enders Tim May and Fleming of 22 and 37 respectively. He began the day on 61 but Australia made slow progress against some accurate bowling from Devon Malcolm, Phillip DeFreitas and Gough.

Gough made two crucial breakthroughs when he dismissed May (9) and McDermott (0) within space of four balls during his 23rd over.

May walked across his stumps and was clearly leg before wicket, while McDermott was yorked for a duck as Gough bagged his fourth wicket of the innings.

Gough finished with figures of 4-60 from 26 overs.

Waugh was given a huge ovation as he left the field after a defiant innings that included five boundaries.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard during the second day of the second Ashes Test cricket between Australia and England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground here Monday:

**AUSTRALIA:** First innings (overnight 220 for seven)

M Slater run out	3
M Taylor lbw b DeFreitas	9
D Boon c Hick b Tuffnell	41
M Waugh c Thorpe b DeFreitas	71
M Bevan c Atherton b Gough	3
S Waugh not out	94
I Healy c Rhodes b Tuffnell	17
S Waugh c Hick b Gough	6
T May lbw b Gough	9
C McDermott b Gough	0
D W Fleming c Hick b Malcolm	16
Extras (lb7, nb3)	10
Total (all out, 107.3 overs)	279

Fall of wickets: 1-10: 2-39: 8-91: 4-100: 5-171: 6-208: 7-220: 8-242: 9-242.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
Malcolm	28.3	4	78	1
DeFreitas	23	4	6	2
Gough	26	9	60	4
Tuffnell	28	7	59	2
Hick	2	0	9	0

**ENGLAND:** First innings

M A Atherton lbw b Warne	44
A J Stewart retired hurt	1
G A Hick c Healy b McDermott	23
G P Thorpe c M Waugh b Warne	51
G A Gooch not out	15
M W Gatting c S Waugh b Warne	9
D Gough not out	1
Extras (2nb, 2lb)	4
Total (4 wks, 48 overs)	148

Fall of wickets: 1-40: 2-119: 3-124: 4-140.

Bowling:	O	M	R	W
McDermott	16	4	43	1
Fleming	11	5	30	0
M Waugh	3	1	11	0
Warne	20	8	34	3
May	18	5	28	0

## Marvellous Muzumdar!

NEW DELHI, Dec 26: Bombay's Anil Muzumdar played just eight matches to complete his 1000 runs in first-class cricket and set a new Indian record, scoring the fastest 1000 runs in terms of matches in first-class cricket, reports PTI.

He achieved this distinction when he reached 145 yesterday during his double-century knock against Maharashtra in Solapur in the Ranji Trophy match, according to statistician S Pervaz Qaiser.

The previous record stood in the name of Ravi Modi who needed 10 matches to complete his 1000 runs in the first-class cricket.

However, Muzumdar played one innings more than Modi who had achieved it in the 11th innings.

By scoring 260 on his debut for Bombay against Haryana at Faridabad in the Ranji Trophy pre-quarterfinal in February this year, Muzumdar had broken the 73-year-old world record held by South African W F E Marx who had made 240 for Transvaal against Johannesburg in 1920-21.

## Sanders settles for fourth

MIAMI, Dec 26: Barry Sanders had every right to be disappointed after the Detroit Lions fell behind the Miami Dolphins early and never really gave him a chance to make National Football League history, reports AP.

If he'd run for 169 yards he would have joined O.J. Simpson and Eric Dickerson as the only NFL running backs to rush for 2,000 yards in a season.

Sanders, whose Lions fell behind 27-10 by halftime, ran for only 52 yards on 12 carries Sunday night. But he wasn't complaining after his team's 27-20 loss.

"To lose this game when it meant so much is disappointing," said the quiet-spoken running back many consider to be the best in football. "But we're still in the land of the living when it comes to the playoffs. It could be a lot worse."

"I wanted to rush for as many yards as I could. We wanted balance today like we've had in the past," said Sanders, in his sixth year in the league.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- Radio watchdog org.
- Gran Paradiso, e.g.
- Mountain-er's foothold
- Obsessed captain
- Towel word
- Command to Fido
- Nobody (Lat.)
- Drs. org.
- Pre-diplo-ma worry
- Huge
- United nations
- Tease
- Formation
- Disintegrates
- Auto style
- TV's
- Intention
- Arrive-derci, —
- Quincy or Spike
- Renais-sance jacket
- Fervid
- Name in

**China's history**

- Novice
- Hindu prince
- "Star Wars"
- Alphabet start
- Lasso
- Pizzeria- fixture
- Zadora or Lindstrom
- Bern-hard's rival
- Resound-ing blow
- Finish up, in the O.R.
- Carrot-top's nickname
- DOWN
- Phyllis
- Solution time: 24 min.

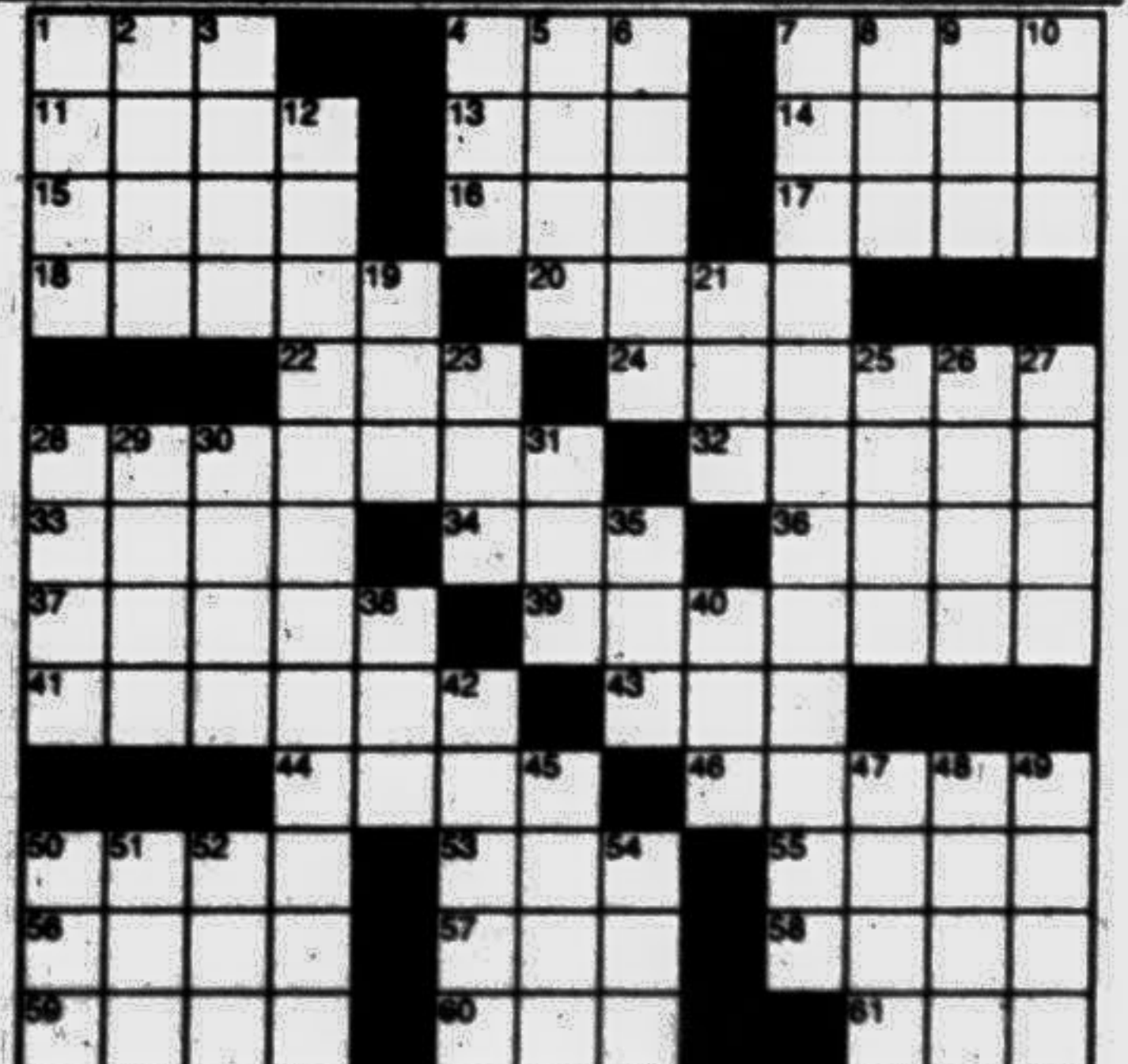
**Diller's "husband"**

- "Moon-struck" star
- Arrived "you"
- Owl's perch
- Any of 150 in the Bible
- Squared pattern
- Harrison or Read
- Altar constellation
- Prized possession
- CEOs' get-together

**19 Bind**

- W Hemisphere
- Bikini half
- Object of worship
- Designate
- Estival pest
- Goya subject
- Skunk's protection
- Settle
- Comic Caesar
- 35 Off-tattooed word
- Ship's timber curve
- Eg, and Syr., once
- Drum set, slangily
- Theater award
- 47 24 heures area
- Church
- Pay attention
- Exemplar of patience
- Uncle Tom's Cabin" girl
- Lair
- Cornfield comment

**PHOTO SCREW BEAVIS HOAXED ORGANS ALPINE RUG YIELD LYS ISLE ELL LEAK SEEMS FORESTS DIP WIG BAREXAM CAPRA OVER RAE LOON GET PATTY TOT UNITED HUMANE SURETY ELATED BELED LEROY**



## CRYPTIQUIP

Y D A L A Z Y Z A M Z I J Y I  
L Q E F V M K I Q Z A Y X M H  
K E B D Y E J V A A V L A  
Z H X E J B

**Saturday's Cryptiquip:** SAID UNFLAPPABLE NON-SWIMMER, AT POOLSIDE FOUNTAIN: "A ROOT-BEER FLOAT, PLEASE."

Today's Cryptiquip clue: H equals P

The Cryptiquip 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.



India's Venkatesh Prasad picks up his third wicket by clean bowling tail-end batsman Rafique. However, the Bangladeshi spinner had the last laugh when he had Prasad stumped later in the day to pave the path for an exciting and historic one-run win for Bangladesh at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. — Star photo by A K M Mohsin