

Sport

Pak-Zimbabwe first one-dayer tied

Minnow magic continues

HARARE, Feb 22: Zimbabwe bowler Guy Whittall produced a dramatic tied finish with Pakistan in their opening one-day international when he grabbed the last wicket of the penultimate ball of today's game, reports Reuter.

From 105 for one at the halfway mark they slipped to 189 for eight in the 48th over and it was only Whittall's efforts which got them past 200. He later chipped in with three for 46 with the ball, including the crucial last wicket.

Grant Flower top-scored with 41 for Zimbabwe and shared in two good partnerships — 45 for the first wicket with his brother Andy (25) and 60 for the second with Mark Burmester (25).

The introduction of Amir Sohail's left-arm spin worked well as he removed both Grant Flower and Burmester and then Alistair Campbell for 21 after the Zimbabwean had threatened to rebuild the innings with a partnership of 51 with Dave Houghton (32).

Sohail finished with his best day international between Zimbabwe and Pakistan at Harare Sports Club today:

Table with 4 columns: Player, Runs, Wickets. Includes players like A Flower, G Flower, Amir Sohail, M Burmester, A Campbell, Amir Sohail, D Houghton, Wasim Akram, G Whittall, Aaqib Javed, S Carlisle, P Strang, Wasim Akram, S Pab, B Aaqib Javed, B Strang, Extras, Total.

Fall of wickets: 1-45; 2-105; 3-108; 4-159; 5-168; 6-170; 7-188; 8-189; 9-219.

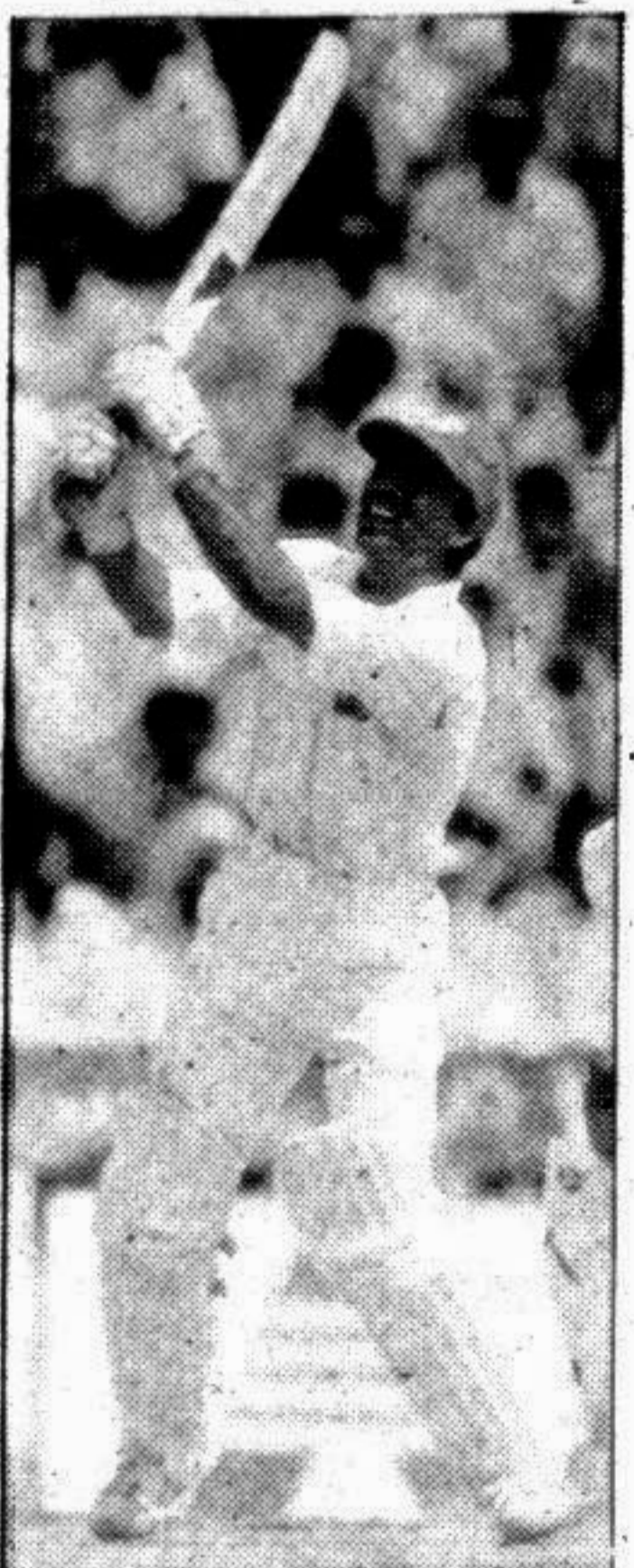
Bowling table with 4 columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Includes Wasim Akram, Aaqib Javed, Amir Nazir, Manzoor Elahi, Amir Sohail, Salim Malik.

Bowling table for Pakistan with 4 columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Includes Amir Sohail, Saad Anwar, Inzamamul Haq, b B Strang, Salim Malik, Whittall, Ijaz Ahmed, Shaukat Ahmed, Rashid Latif, Manzoor Elahi, b B Strang, Aaqib Javed, Amir Nazir, Wasim Akram, Extras.

Fall of wickets: 1-9; 2-13; 3-68; 4-107; 5-172; 6-175; 7-209; 8-210; 9-213; 10-219.

Bowling table with 4 columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Includes Jarvis, B Strang, Whittall, Burmester, Peall, P Strang, A Flower.

Result: Match tied. Man-of-the-match: Saad Anwar (Pakistan) and Bryan Strang (Zimbabwe) — shared. Second international: February 25, Harare. Third international: February 26, Harare.



SAEED ANWAR... 103 no one-day international figures of three for 36 from 10 overs.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the first one-

Sher-e-Bangla Cup football

Sports Reporter

Bhola, Kushtia, Nilphamari and Bogra moved into the final round of the 19th Sher-e-Bangla Cup national football championship after winning their respective zonal finals at different venues across the country yesterday.

In the zone-5 final at Patuakhali, Bhola, who had earlier sauntered into the semifinals with a thumping 7-0 win over Barguna, recorded another convincing 3-0 victory over Pirojpur on their way to the 12-team final leg to be held in Naogaon in the second week of March.

Mehdi Masud scored two goals while Tutul netted the other for the winners. At Jaipurhat, Bulbul notched up a hat-trick as Bogra earned a thrashing 4-0 win over Pabna in the zone-7 final.

The Bogra striker struck in the 44th, 53rd and 73rd minute to complete a treble while Sajidul notched up his mark on the score sheet when he slammed home the third goal in the 70th minute.

But the Zone-6 final between Kushtia and Satkhira was a lot more entertaining one with the former winning the match by 3-2.

Sohrab Hossain, Yunus Ali and Towhidur Rahman were the scorers for the eventual winners while Iqbal and Imadul made it for Satkhira.

In the zone-8 final at Rangpur, Nilphamari prevailed over Kurigram 3-2 in a keenly contested match.

Sanaullah and Ainal gave the winners a 2-0 lead at the breaker before Ershadul Huq and Rezaul Karim neutralised the margin for Kurigram with strikes in the 72nd and 80th minute respectively.

But Sanaullah pulled off a sensational victory when he scored his second goal and the match-winner five minutes away from the final whistle.

Meanwhile, Narayanjan and Noakhali moved into their respective zonal finals while Habiganj, Mymensingh and Bangladesh Police were other winners of the day.

At Faridpur, Narayanjan set up a Zone-1 final engagement with Munshiganj when they beat Dhaka by a solitary goal.

Gotam Gaus, the dapper national winger, scored the all-important goal for Narayanjan in the 35th minute.

Noakhali earned a 3-0 win over Rangamati in tie-breakers after the regulation period of the Zone-3 semifinal ended goalless.

Noakhali will take on hosts Cox's Bazar in the final tomorrow.

Mymensingh defeated Jamalpur 3-2 in a Zone-3 engagement at Kishoreganj while hosts Habiganj beat Moulvibazar by a lone goal in a Zone-4 match.

Bangladesh Police earned a lone goal win over Air Force in the inaugural match of the Services Zone at the Mirpur Stadium.

Bulbul Ahmed struck the match-decider for the winners 10 minutes away from the long whistle.

ROK submits bid to host 2002 World Cup

ZURICH, Feb 22: South Korea officially submitted its bid to host the 2002 World Cup soccer finals at a ceremony in FIFA headquarters today, reports Reuter.

Written confirmation of the bid was handed over to Sepp Blatter, the general secretary of world soccer's governing body, by Song Young-Shik, of the Korean bidding committee (KOBID) and South Korea's ambassador to Switzerland, Kang Dee Wan.

"Koreans love football and I believe I am carrying the hopes of the whole country in the envelope I am taking to Zurich," said Song before the delegation left Seoul.

"We are extremely confident that our football pedigree and our record in representing Asian football in the World Cup will be a key factor when FIFA members make their decision in June next year," Song said.

FIFA has indicated it wants the tournament to be held in Asia for the first time in 2002, although Mexico made a surprise bid to host world soccer's prestigious tournament last staged in 1970 and 1986.

South Korea's arch-rivals Japan, the only other candidate, started preparing for the 2002 cup as early as 1986 and boosted their chances with the introduction of their new professional J-League in 1992.

But South Korea is convinced they were the best qualified team to host the 2002 cup as they had qualified for the finals four times, while Japan had never survived the qualifying stages.

South Korea can also point to the successful staging of the 1988 Olympic Games, although Japan was the first Asian country to stage the Olympics in Tokyo in 1964.



A goalmouth melee in the Green Delta First Division super league match between Mohammedan Sporting Club and Sonali Bank at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. MSC went on a scoring-spree netting nine times without reply.

Mohammedans mow bankers

Sports Reporter

Favourites Mohammedan Sporting Club registered their third successive victory in the course of a roaring campaign to retain the title when they whaled Sonali Bank 9-0 in yesterday's second of the two Green Delta First Division's super league matches at the Hockey Stadium.

Revved up by the stellar presence of the Pakistani quartet of the incomparable Shah-baz, talented Tahir Zaman, un-falling Irfan and the formidable Ahmad Alam under the bar, Mohammedans who failed to notch a hat-trick of the titles by a whisker last year tore apart the awed and unfancied bankers.

Tahir struck twice as the black and whites took an unassailable lead of 3-0 in an embarrassing one-sided contest, if it was any at all.

The good looking midfielder and Irfan found the mark twice each after the short whistle as the unabated Mohammedan onslaught resulted in six more goals, with the stupefied Sonali Bank players reduced to the level of children in a man's game.

It all began with Tahir, the Pakistan international, sounding the board with a firm lit from a penalty corner in the second minute.

defender Nixon doubled up the margin in similar fashion in the 6th minute and the first half tally was completed by Tahir two minutes before the break with Pakistani World Cupper driving in yet another penalty corner.

Three minutes after the half time, Shahbaz world hockey's most celebrated individual in the recent times got his maiden goal in the Dhaka league.

A customary turn of speed and a fascinating piece of wizardry with the stick and a flawless finish brought up Mohammedan's fourth goal, the first of the five field goals in a bigish annul of no less than nine goals.

Having got the cue from Shahbaz, the springwell of Pakistan's inspiration in their World Cup triumph down under, Tahir scored two effortless field goals in the 42nd and 47th minutes.

These two strikes took Tahir's tally to five in the three matches. He managed one in the previous two matches.

Centre forward Mohammad Irfan, another member of the Pakistan's World Cup winning squad retained his strange numerical connection with the number two, scoring twice in successive minutes.

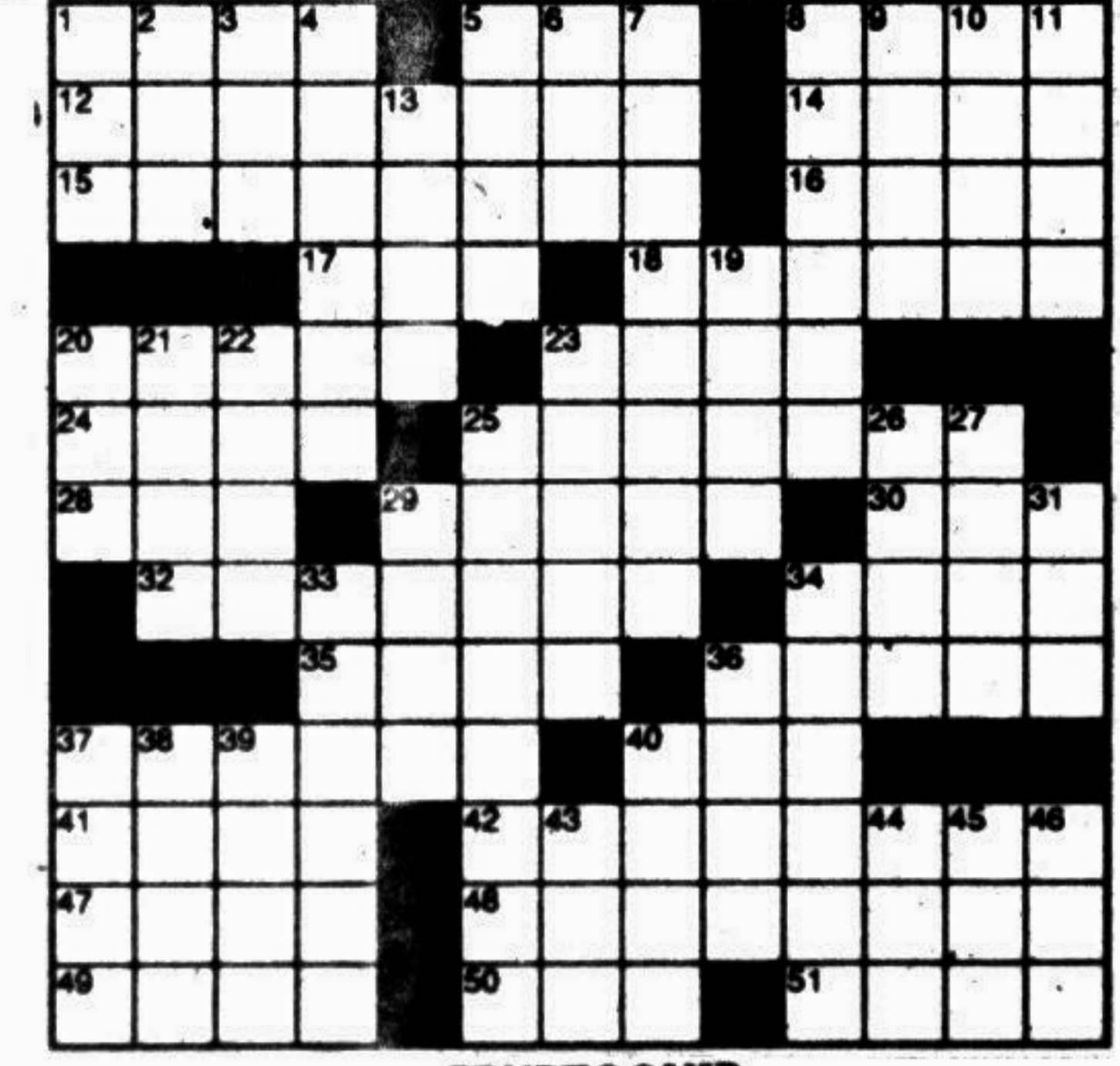
Both players support the concept of a world tour, which Norman said would balance the power structure in international golf.

"The only thing I want to see is the players have a little more control than they have now," he said.

Price praised Norman for previously pushing the idea publicly, according to an article Wednesday in Business Day newspaper.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Biography Mr. Ziegfeld 8 The Big Dipper 12 Chuck Yeager's field 14 U.S. Attorney General 15 None of your business 16 He was terrible 17 Sign 18 Sleeping slowly 20 Recipient of a check 23 Jupiter 24 Blood-hound's cue 25 Manages a Rose 26 Hamelin employee 27 Jinx 28 Habit 29 Sign



CRYPTOQUIP V Z V V Q Q S A T Z K U Q D Z B B Z D S G V U C R Z A Z T R K B Q G R K T R Q P U A S D. Saturday's Cryptoquip: FOUND IN THE MEDICAL CENTER'S NEWSLETTER: HEAD NURSE MARRIES FOOT DOCTOR. Today's Cryptoquip clue: V equals T. 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.

Spurs rock Rockets again

NEW YORK, Feb 22: Another Spurs-Rockets matchup, another close game. And another San Antonio win.

In five meetings between the Midwest Conference rivals this season, four of the games have been decided by three points or less. On Tuesday night, the Spurs got a 98-97 win — their fourth over the Rockets this season — at Houston on David Robinson's jam with 2.2 seconds left, reports AP.

(Elliott) made the big pass in finding David under the basket.

Houston trailed by as many as 23 midway through the second period but regrouped in the second half behind Drexler, making his home debut after a trade a week ago brought him from Portland for power forward Otis Thorpe.

Drexler finished with 29 points.

Cantona charged

LONDON, Feb 22: French soccer striker Eric Cantona was charged by British police with common assault on Tuesday, a police statement said, reports Reuter.

The Manchester United player launched a two-footed attack on a Crystal Palace fan on January 25 after being sent off during a Premier league match. He has been already suspended by his club for the rest of the season.

Cantona will appear at Croydon magistrates court, south of London, on March 23.

The French striker, accompanied by Manchester United lawyer Maurice Watkins, was questioned at South Norwood Police station in London after returning from a holiday in the Caribbean with his family.

Cantona angered police investigating the incident when he failed to make himself available for police questioning earlier this month.



South Korean sports officials Young Shik Song (L) and Dae Wan Kang (R) present their official bid for the 2002 World Cup at the organization's Zurich headquarters yesterday. The Koreans face a stiff challenge from Japan and Mexico but neither yet to formally present their candidacy. — AFP photo

When will Tyson be released?

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb 22: Confusion surrounds Mike Tyson's status as his release date from prison nears, reports AP.

A Department of Correction spokeswoman, Pam Pattison, said the former heavyweight champion has a sentence modification hearing Wednesday before Marion Superior Court Judge Patricia J Gifford.

But, Lori McKinney, assistant chief Superior Court clerk, said she was unaware of a hearing.

"Nothing is scheduled for tomorrow," she said Tuesday. Equally confusing was exactly when Tyson will leave prison.

The New York Times reported Tuesday that promoter Don King said he would be in Plainfield on Wednesday for case Tyson was released from the Indiana Youth Center.

Tyson was convicted in 1992 of raping a teen-age Miss Black America beauty pageant contestant. Like most Indiana prison inmates, he has received one day's credit for every day served for good conduct behind bars.

King told columnist Dave Anderson that a Tyson release this week from the prison about 15 miles (25 kilometers) from Indianapolis was a possibility, a very good one.

"Everything is in order, Mike has signed his release papers. Something might happen Wednesday," the Times quoted King as saying.

With time off for good behavior, Tyson is due to complete a six-year term for a rape conviction on March 25.

"Mike will be out when they let him out," King said today in Boston. "I don't want to be put in a position of speculating."

Lawyer Alan Dershowitz told the Associated Press on Monday night that he had heard nothing about an early release.

"That's news to me. This is the first I've heard of it," Dershowitz said.

Asked if he would know if his client was going to be released, he said, "I'd like to say yes, but I can't necessarily say that."

Gifford, who sentenced Tyson, refused a request to reduce the boxer's sentence on Feb 10.