

Column One

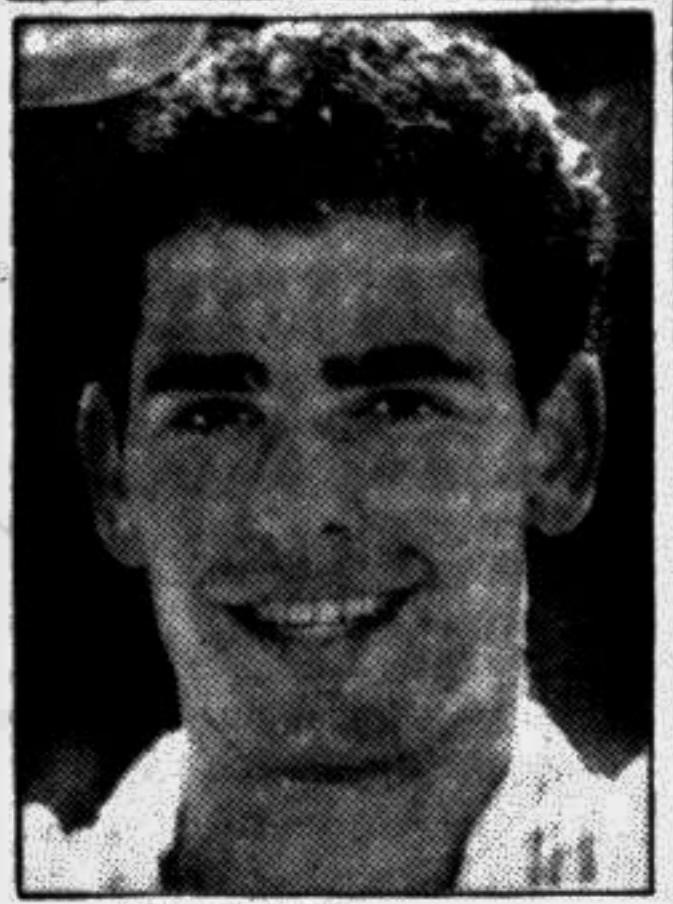
DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

That marathon commemorates the heroic activities of Phileippides in 490 BC. History of ten fails to relate, however, that for at least part of the distance the dashing Greek hitched a lift on a goat. Inspired, no doubt, by this precedent, many modern marathon runners have also avoided themselves of alternative means of transport.

My problem is elsewhere. In these days, with so much traffic everywhere, it would be impossible to be as heroic as Phileippides. I mean who would ride a goat when inter-district buses abound.

SPORTS TALK



Pete Sampras

(World number one men's tennis player)

"I hope people appreciate the tennis I play. I'm not going to throw tantrums or act like a jerk out there. That's the way I was brought up and that's the way I will continue to be."

On the question whether he should change his playing style for further improvement.

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

(The rules are published every Saturday.)

Scissors icon

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-17

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes 8 p.m. Dec 15, 1995)

1. Who is the highest run accumulator in Test cricket?	Border	Gawker	Miandad
2. What is the official name of the sixth cricket World Cup?	Border	Rehman	Waqar
3. Who is the current French Open singles (men's) champion?	Burgess	Muster	Sampras
4. Brazilian footballer Bebeto plays club football in	Spain	Holland	Italy
5. The 1997 ICC Trophy cricket tournament will be held in	Sharjah	Malaysia	Pu Island

Name:

Class:

Roll No:

School Address:

Phone: (If any)

US Olympians of history

NEW YORK, Dec 9: Former Olympians Dick Button, Tenley Albright, Blakely Bill, Cleary Jim, Craig Dorothy Hamill and Dianne Rossetti were named on Thursday among the top 100 Olympic champions in history, reports Reuter.

Other former Olympic champions chosen by the USOC and the US Olympic Alumni Association were Andrea Mead Lawrence, Phil Mahre, Marvin Whitfield, Glen Davis, Dan Gabel, Lones Wiggler, Sheila Young Ochoa, Carol Heiss Jenkins, Dick Fosbury, J Michael Plumb, Charles Moore, Jack McCarran and Kristi Yamaguchi.

So far 60 former Olympians have been chosen for the 100 best list, and the rest will be named in the run up to the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

Button won the United States first gold medal in men's figure skating at St Moritz in 1948 and repeated in 1952.

Blakely overcame childhood polio and a serious leg injury to become the first American woman to win the Olympic gold medal in figure skating in 1956.

Cleary led the United States to two hockey gold medals, and Craig was the goalie of the 1980 hockey team which defeated the Soviet Union at Lake Placid to win the gold.

Hamill won gold in women's figure skating in Innsbruck in 1976.

Akram antics stymie NZ



CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, Dec 9: Ijaz Ahmed and Inzamamul Haq made the New Zealand bowling attack look second rate as they posted an 83-run partnership at a good speed to give Pakistan the edge on the second day of the Test at Christchurch, reports Reuter.

Pakistan ended the day at 138 for the loss of one wicket, 60 runs ahead of New Zealand with Ijaz not out 54 and Inzamam undefeated on 52 from 60 balls.

Fortunes in this match have seen sawed, but the impetus swung back towards the tourists as Inzamam and Ijaz bludgeoned, caressed and generally demoralised the New Zealand bowling in a partnership of the highest quality.

They came together with the score at 55 after Aamir Sohail was bowled by off-spinner Dipak Patel in the 23rd over for 30 and fellow opener Rameez Raja had left the field after being struck on the arm attempting to hook Danny Morrison.

Ijaz adopted the same attitude that netted him a century in the recent series against Australia. He played out the good balls and thumped the bad ones, often to the fence. He brought up his 50 with his ninth four, in 71 balls.

Inzamam used his prize-fighter physique, punching short balls from Morrison to the fence and using quick footwork to punish Patel when he dropped short. Neither offered a chance.

Sohail, who scored 88 in the first innings, looked in premium form and hit some slashing cover drives to the fence. He also took toll of some loose bowling by Patel.

His instinct to attack was his demise. He tried to cut a straight ball from Patel that was too full a length for the shot and chopped the ball on to his stumps. Morrison lacked fire, Cairns was too short after picking up four wickets in the first innings and Dion Nash failed to find any life in the placid strip.

Twose hit five boundaries in a disciplined innings but was out when he shuffled a devastating spell of bowling by Pakistan captain

Wasim Akram earlier restricted New Zealand's first innings lead to 78 runs as the hosts were dismissed for 286 just before tea.

Akram picked up five wickets for 53, the 20th time he has

across his stumps and missed a full Akram delivery to be trapped lbw. Akram then accounted for Lee Germon when he edged an out-swinger to wicketkeeper Rashid Latif.

Cairns played too late at an Akram in-swinger that got through bat and pad to bowl him. The tail then quickly folded to Akram and Mush-taq.

Morrison was bowled by Mushtaq for his 24 Test duck, equalling the Test record.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the Test between New Zealand and Pakistan at Christchurch on Saturday:

PAKISTAN: First innings 208 (Aamir Sohail 88, Rameez Raja 54, Chris Cairns 4-51).

NEW ZEALAND: First innings (98 -3 overnight)

Young c Latif b Rehman 16
Spearman c Mushtaq 40
Parore c Latif b Rehman 9
Fleming st Latif b Mushtaq 25
Twose lbw b Akram 59
Cairns b Akram 76
Germon c Latif b Akram 21
Patel c Sohail b Akram 3
Larsen not out 5
Nash c Latif b Akram 11
Morrison b Mushtaq 0
Extras: (nb-17, lb-4) 21
Total: (all out) 286

Fall of wickets: 1-48; 2-65; 3-73; 4-119; 5-221; 6-262; 7-265; 8-269; 9-283.

Bowling O M R W
Akram 24.5 4 53 5
Waqar 16 2 60 0
Rehman 17.1 4 47 2
Mushtaq 30.4 4 115 3
Sohail 3 0 7 0

Total: (all out) 138

PAKISTAN: Second innings

Sohail b Patel 30
Raja retired hurt 1
Ijaz not out 54
Inzamam not out 52
Extras: (lb-1) 1
Total: (for one wicket) 138

Fall of wicket: 1-55

To bat: Malik, Basit Ali, Rashid Latif, W Akram, Mushtaq Ahmed, W Younis, Ataur Rehman.

Bowling (to date) O M R W
Morrison 6 0 38 0
Nash 8 0 35 0
Cairns 7 1 27 0
Patel 9 0 33 1
Larsen 3 0 4 0

Umpires: Steve Dunne (New Zealand), BC Coors (Sri Lanka); Third umpire: David Quester (New Zealand).

Acknowledgements: Steve Dunne (New Zealand), BC Coors (Sri Lanka); Third umpire: David Quester (New Zealand).

A devastating spell of bowling by Pakistan captain

AKRAM... 5 for 53

taken five or more wickets in a Test innings, to bring the New Zealand innings to a premature close.

New Zealand looked on course for a bigger lead after some aggressive batting from Chris Cairns, 76, and Roger Twose.

Cairns played some brutal shots although he had two huge slices of good fortune in his innings. On 30, Rameez Raja dropped a simple lobbed chance at mid-on, and on 41 he was caught at first slip off an Ataur Rehman no ball.

Raja's mistake typified a shoddy Pakistan fielding display. Several misfields were so clumsy they drew laughter and jeers from the spectators.

Twose hit five boundaries in a disciplined innings but was out when he shuffled

of the year when they met European champions Ajax Amsterdam in Tokyo last week.

He said finding a solution would not be easy but he thought a limit of 18 clubs in national leagues, with a preference for 16, might be one step.

FIFA was also working to harmonise the international calendar to protect players from stress and injuries caused by too many matches.

FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter told Reuters on Friday: "We must attack this problem. We cannot sell the soul of our game."

Clearly pointing to television as one of the main causes of a mushrooming calendar, Blatter said: "There are too many competitions and the worst thing is that it tends to be the same players and the same clubs who are always involved."

The top players are tired. They and the sport suffer. We have to take care of the players for the good of the game.

"There are ethical and moral considerations at stake. We must not put television cover first all the time."

Blatter pointed out that South American champions Gremio of Brazil were playing their 87th competitive match

But he said FIFA was working towards reforms of

the refereeing system with the idea of giving more responsibility to linesmen and to the fourth member of the team, the assessor in the main tribune.

He said he would like to see the assessor take over the timekeeping function with the linesmen promoted to assistant referees.

The four officials would be able to communicate by use of a beeper system, currently being tested in the Swiss First Division.

Blatter said both linesmen

should be involved in each offside decision with one "beeping" the other when the ball is kicked forward to let the other concentrate on judging whether there is an offside position at that exact moment.

"We have told linesmen to keep their flags down when in doubt but there is a sort of instinct to raise their flags and too many mistakes are still being made," he said.

Blatter rejected criticisms

voiced by the continental confederations, notably Europe's UEFA, of a lack of democracy in FIFA and the autocratic style of its president Joao Havelange.

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