

## Sport

## Column One

## DID U' KNOW?

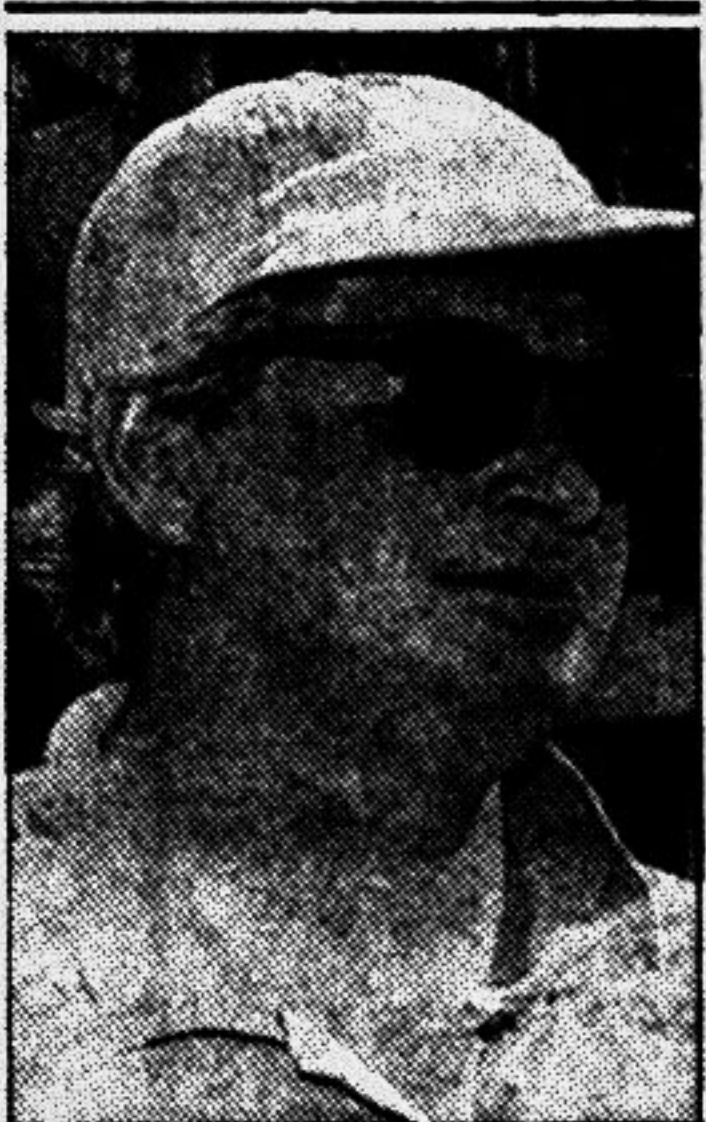
(The Professor does)

THAT it is every golfer's dream to hit the ball further than anyone ever has before. To do that you need a good high tee. And, what better tee than the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

Arnald Palmer did just that. In the October of 1976, he climbed the 377 feet to the second stage of the Eiffel Tower only to find a stiff breeze blowing into his face. He had earlier got the police to close the Champ de Mars to traffic but the wind was against his teeing-off direction. Nevertheless, he teed up his ball and drove off, achieving 276 yards with his best shot.

Hoping to do better next year, he tried again in October. Palmer climbed to the second stage of the tower and was ready to tee off at 8.30 am. On a perfect golfing morning, Palmer hit three balls -- 223 yards, 363 yards and a magnificent 402 yards. The last would count as one of the longest golf drives in history. But, the ball curved off sideways, described a perfect arc and landed with an audible ping on the roof of a passing bus.

## SPORTS TALK



Ian Smith

(Former New Zealand wicket-keeper)

"It is a bit of a thankless job. It is a job where you have to self-analyse. You're the odd man out on the field, doing a different job. You have to wait for the opportunity to come along. If they don't come along you got to be patient."

## Sports

## WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

## Sports WHIZZ KID competition-24

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Feb 2, 1996)

- The fielder opposite to mid-wicket across the pitch is  
Leg slip Cover Long-off
- Boris —  
Becker Bruen Boca
- Australian Open Tennis Championship 1996 is hosted by the city of  
Sydney Canberra Melbourne
- The World Cup Cricket 1996 opening ceremony will be held in  
Lahore Calcutta Colombo
- Mohammedan SC are currently taking part in the  
IFA Shield Merdeka Ashraf-Jabbar

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

## WHIZZ KID-22 winners



- Hossain Al Mahmud Dhanmondi Govt Boys' High School, Dhaka
  - Moureen Sunbeams School Dhaka
  - Faisal Ahmed Barisal Govt High School BIT, Dhaka
  - Anwer Ehsan Khan BIT, Dhaka
  - Farihana Maple Leaf, Dhaka
- (No 2, 3, 4, 5 pictures are not available.)

## Gazza indicted in Italy

LONDON, Jan 26: Maverick England star Paul Gascoigne will contest charges of injuring a photographer after being indicted by an Italian judge, the player's lawyer said on Thursday, reports AFP.

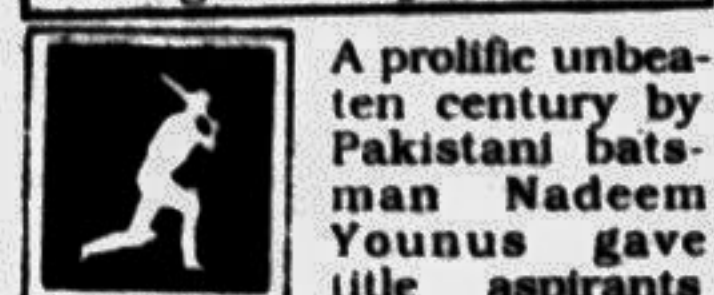
## Mohammedans on top rung

Sports Reporter

## BRIEF SCORES

**VICTORIA SC:** 223 for eight in 50 overs (Al Shahrir Rokon 64, Sajid 57; Shahed Mehmood 57/30)

**MOHAMMEDAN SC:** 227 for two in 38 overs (Nadeem Younus 117 n.o., Jahangir 56, Sujon 43 n.o.)



A prolific unbeaten century by Pakistani batsman Nadeem Younus gave Mohammedan Sporting Club their eighth victory in the ongoing Premier Division cricket league when they handed Victoria Sporting Club a humiliating eight-wicket defeat at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Chasing a reachable target of 227 in 50 overs, Mohammedans prevailed in 38 overs. This was possible due to a marauding Nadeem who scored his second century in the league yesterday.

Nadeem, who scored his first century against Agrani Bank in their first league encounter on December 20, played a fluent inning with his willow and scored 117 runs off only 90 deliveries inclusive of 15 boundaries and a huge six.

The hard-hitting right-hand bat from Karachi added 149 runs to the MSC account along with his opening partner Jahangir Alam (56) before the latter was caught before off Indian all-rounder Chetan Sharma's first ball of the 28th over.

After losing one-down batsman Selim Shahed (0) in the next delivery with the scoreboard unchanged, Nadeem and all-rounder Khaled Mahmud Surjo collected the remaining 78 runs without any further Victoria interference.

Both Nadeem and Sujon (43) remained not out when Mohammedans reached home in the final delivery of the 38th over.

Victorian pacer Raisul Amin Bobby will try to forget his yesterday's bowling performance as he had to concede 81 runs in a wicket-less 10-over spell.

Earlier, put in to bat, Victorians, who created sensa-

tion in the league ten days ago beating Abahani Krira Chakra by three wickets collected 223 for eight in their stipulated 50 overs.

National cricketer Al Shahrir Rokon scored highest 64 of 81 balls with an over boundary and five fours, and opener Sajid Hasan hit 57 off 107 deliveries inclusive of three fours.



**MERCY PLEASE...** Victoria wicket-keeper Ahmed Dindar prays for his life as Mohammedans' Nadeem Younus unleashes a savage pull yesterday. — Star photo

The pair added 95 runs to the Victoria account in a valuable second-wicket partnership which raised their hopes for a big total. But their middle-order batsmen failed to keep up the trend. After losing the second wicket on 149 in 36.2 overs, the could collect only 74 runs from the remaining overs enabling

lead in the 12-team league with a two-point lead over second placed Bangladesh Biman and Brothers Union, both of whom have 14 points each.

On the other hand, it was the sixth league defeat for Victoria in ten matches which almost buried their hopes of a super league berth.

## A gentleman with a purpose

COLOMBO, Jan 26: Arjuna Ranatunga has a genial demeanour masking an inner strength that has been an essential ingredient in his rise to the top of Sri Lankan cricket, reports Reuters.

Since his debut as an 18-year-old schoolboy in Sri Lanka's inaugural Test, against England in 1982, Ranatunga has enjoyed a career of mounting personal achievement.

Yet the path to the summit for Sri Lanka's captain, who is preparing to play in his fourth World Cup, has had its trouble spots.

Ranatunga was twice dropped on disciplinary grounds, but fought his way back into the side to become his country's most successful skipper.

His batting record at international level is matched only by Aravinda de Silva among Sri Lankans. Ranatunga has to date scored 3,410 runs in 61 Tests and made 4,908 runs at a strike rate of 80 per 100 balls in 179 one-day matches.

To underline his value in limited overs internationals, he has captured 74 wickets at gentle medium pace.

Although a sturdy figure, Ranatunga plays with a deceptive ease, whether bowling, making runs with

sweetly-timed strokes or when fielding.

An attacking left-hander, he has scored two hundreds and 32 half-centuries in one-day internationals, many of his runs made with deft placements on either side of the wicket. To increase the run-rate urgently, he unleashes his signature drives square of the wicket and



A RANATUNGA

mighty blows over long-on.

Off the field, Ranatunga is very much the family man, spending his time with his two children after a working day at one of the island's

leading insurance companies.

"There's nothing I like better than to relax and play with the children," he said.

On the field, Ranatunga cherishes most the day he led Sri Lanka to their first Test victory overseas, against New Zealand last March.

"That was one of the finest moments in my life," he says, adding that another treasured memory is the 86 he scored to help his side beat India in a one-day thriller in Sharjah in 1989.

Ranatunga's genial nature has been put to the test during Sri Lanka's current tour of Australia.

Ball-tampering allegations against Sri Lanka, off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan called for throwing, and heated exchanges between members of the touring team and the Australians have provided a traumatic run-in to the World Cup.

Impressive wins over the hosts and West Indies during the World Series one-day competition have been among Sri Lanka's happier tour memories but, even so, Ranatunga is cautious about his team's World Cup chances.

"We have been playing well recently and team morale has been high. If the breaks come our way we should make the final rounds at least," he said.

## An island portraying the ultimate triumph

COLOMBO, Jan 26 (AFP): Sri Lanka's cricketers have touched the heights of success and plunged to the depths of despair in a roller-coaster build-up to the World Cup.

Arjuna Ranatunga's team go into the game's showpiece limited overs tournament with confidence-boosting victories in Pakistan and Sharjah tempered by a traumatic tour of Australia.

Allegations of ball-tampering by off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan being called for throwing, and heated on-field exchanges between some of their players and the Australians have caused turmoil.

Sri Lanka, co-hosts with India and Pakistan, must seek to put these distractions behind them to enhance their growing reputation when the Cup starts on February 14.

As far as one-day cricket is concerned, we have arrived," said Harindra Dissanayake, vice-president of the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka.

Victory over Pakistan in a Test series for the first time last September, then beating the same opponents in the one-day series that followed, gave Sri Lanka an immense

lift.

Buoyed by those achievements, Sri Lanka went to Sharjah in October and won the three-team Champions' Trophy limited overs competition, beating West Indies in the final.

Optimism at home about their Cup prospects soon rose, and former Sri Lanka captain Bandula Warnapala said: "We have a good chance of reaching the final and even winning the Cup."

"Our strength lies in our fielding. The average fielding of our side is much better than any other side, perhaps with the exception of Australia."

However, Sri Lanka's preparations became clouded by events in Australia where the team were accused, then exonerated by the International Cricket Council (ICC), of ball-tampering during the first Test in Perth.

Their problems mounted as Muralitharan was not batted for throwing during the second Test in Melbourne and also in a World Series Cup one-day match against West Indies in Brisbane.

Tensions between the touring side and Australian players rose significantly after a succession of heated clashes during Sri Lanka's innings in an ill-tempered

World Series Cup limited overs final in Sydney.

Ranatunga, commenting on the concerns of Australia's World Cup players about the reception they might get from Sri Lankan crowds, said: "Australians should understand the treatment they have got in the past. They have been treated very well. I don't know how the crowds will react but they won't have any other problems."

Despite the ICC's advice that Muralitharan should change his bowling style to ensure his career can continue, he has been named in Sri Lanka's Cup squad.

A lack of consistency in their attack is a concern for Sri Lanka, while they have the batsmen with flair and ability to rise to the big occasion.

Ranatunga, their captain and most experienced batsman at both Test and one-day level, and Aravinda de Silva, his deputy in the Cup, can give power and impetus in the top order. De Silva's batting has been honed by his debut season in English county cricket with Kent last year when he scored his runs both stylishly and in great quantity.

His Benson and Hedges Cup final century in a losing cause against Lancashire was one of the finest innings in a Lord's one-day final.

## BTV to telecast 21 World Cup matches

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Television will telecast 21 matches of the sixth cricket World Cup including quarterfinals, semifinals and the final to be held in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka from February 14. The opening ceremony will take place in Calcutta on February 11.

World Tel, who have exclusive rights on tele coverage of the world extravaganza signed a deal with Asian Marketing Company on January 24 in this regard.

## Regency CJKP soccer champs

CHITTAGONG, Jan 26: Regency Sports Club clinched the CJKP First Division football league title collecting 16 points from seven matches, reports BSS.

Regency lost to Chittagong Mohammedan Sporting Club 0-2 in the last match of the league at the Chittagong Stadium here today.

Liton and Zahid scored one goal each for Mohammedans.

With this win, Mohammedans completed the league securing third position with 14 points from seven outings.

Meanwhile, Chittagong Abahani Krira Chakra got the runners-up slot in the league earning 15 points from seven encounters.

## POINTS TABLE

Team	Matches	Points
Regency	7	16
Abahani	7	15
Mohammedans	7	14
HCC	7	12
City Corporation	7	7
Customs	7	6
Shatalad	7	4
Friends Club	7	3

## Yamaha Div I cricket

Sports Reporter

**SURJO TARUN CLUB:** 173 for nine in 45 overs (Shaon 35, Dear 34, Dipon 22 n.o.)

**AJAX SC:** 170 in 42.3 overs (Sumon Biswas 59, Rafique 29, Sanjeev Sharma 3/23, Nadir Shah 3/26)

Surjo Tarun Club registered their fifth win the Yamaha First Division cricket league with a narrow three-run victory over Ajax Sporting Club at the City Club ground yesterday.

Batting first after winning the toss, Surjo Tarun scored 173 for nine in 45 overs.

Mahibul Ahsan Shaon (35) and Dear (34) were the leading Surjo Tarun batsmen.

In reply, Ajax were booked on 170 in 42.3 overs with opener Sumon Biswas scoring 59 and Rafique collecting 29 runs.

Surjo Tarun's Indian all-rounder Sanjeev Sharma and local veteran Nadir Shah earned three wickets each conceding 23 and 26 runs respectively.

## Div II soccer

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Government BG Press footballers earned full points in the ongoing Sonali Bank Second Division football league when they handed Jurani Janata Club a 0-3 defeat at the Mirpur Stadium.

Mohammad Ali opened BG Press account 28 minutes into the first half while Abul Kashed doubled the margin in the 17th minute of the second half.

Alfazz sealed the match three minutes before the final whistle.

In the day's second match, Little Friends beat Lalmatia Boys Club 3-1.

Little Friends' Uttam netted twice in the 21st and 45th minute while Tutul added the other goal in the 37th minute.

On the other hand, Khokon reduced the margin for Lalmatia in the 43rd minute.

The day's last encounter between Mirpur Chalanika and Gandaria Famous ended in a goalless draw.

## WHIZZ KID-23 winners

- Irin Nahar Rajdhan High School, Manik Miah Avenue, Dhaka
- Rony BKPS, Savar
- Faisal Tangir Dhanmondi Govt Boys' High School, Dhaka
- Nabeel Fahmi Ali Sunnydale, Dhaka
- Sara Noorwen Engineering University School, Dhaka

## WHIZZ KID-23 correct answers

- Shaquille O'Neil is famous for playing.  
Ans: Basketball
- Chetan Sharma plays local cricket for.  
Ans: Victoria
- Srinivas Mahabubul Alam won SAR gold in.  
Ans: 200m
- The first century in cricket this season was by.  
Ans: Ope
- City Club ground cricket is located in.  
Ans: Mirpur

## SL face uphill battle



ADELAIDE, Jan 26: Sri Lanka faced a daunting task to avoid defeat in the third and final Test after all-rounder Steve Waugh lifted Australia to a formidable first innings total with a fine century today, reports Reuters.

Waugh plundered a mediocre Sri Lankan attack for 170 in a marathon seven-hour innings before Australia captain Mark Taylor declared one hour before the scheduled close with the total on 502 for nine after 157.3 overs.

At close of play on the second day at Adelaide Oval, the tourists were 80 for no wicket, still needing 223 runs to avoid the follow-on and the likelihood of a third successive heavy Test defeat.

Waugh, who played a near-flawless innings before deflecting the first ball after tea onto his stumps, needed just nine more runs to push his Test average above 50.

Sri Lanka opener Sanath Jayasuriya responded positively late in the day with a succession of attacking shots, including one cover drive that cleared the boundary for six, to remain unbeaten on 47 alongside Chandika Hathurusinghe on 24 not out.

Resuming on 70, Waugh hit 13 fours and one five on his way to a second successive century against Sri Lanka, eclipsing his 131 not out in Melbourne in the second Test last month.

Australia have already wrapped up the series 2-0 with crushing victories in the first two Tests after posting successive first innings totals of 500 for six and 617 for five declared.

In Adelaide, the Sri Lankan bowlers once again struggled for penetration and accuracy as Australia added to their overnight score of 239 for five with seaming ease.

Wicketkeeper Ian Healy hammered an untroubled 70 and pace bowler Paul Reiffel contributed 56, his highest score in Test cricket, to highlight the impotency of the Sri Lankan attack.

But it was Waugh who, above all, capitalised on the opportunity provided by Sri Lanka's lacklustre display

after starting the day on 70. A late developer in Test cricket, Waugh played 27 Tests before hitting a maiden Test. His total now stands at 11 in 81 Test.

But it was an agonising dismissal for the New South Wales batsman, who watched helplessly as the ball brushed against the stumps with only enough force to dislodge a



S WAUGH ... 170

single ball. Sri Lanka paid a heavy price for a poor fielding display after spilling a succession of chances during the innings, most significantly when Waugh was dropped on 37 by wicket-keeper Ramesh Kaluwitharana on the first day.

Waugh's dismissal left him tantalisingly close to joining West Indies left-hander Brian Lara, Pakistan's Javed Miandad and Sachin Tendulkar of India as the only current Test batsmen to boast a Test average above 50.

"It would have been nice to hang around a little bit longer to get the few more runs I needed," he said. "It would be great to average above 50 but hopefully there'll be other opportunities to get there."

"It was a good ball from pace bowler Ravindra Pushpakumara to get me out. It

had a bit of pace and he managed to get the ball to cut back off the wicket."

Waugh said he would not be volunteering to move up the order to number three when incumbent David Boon retires from international cricket at the end of the current Test.

"I don't mind doing the job but I feel pretty settled at number five," said Waugh, who believes Australia remain in a commanding position despite Sri Lanka's positive response.

"We did not bowl well late in the day but the Sri Lankans batted well and just teed off at everything. But I think the wicket is going to play a few tricks and we've still got a good chance to enforce the follow-on," Waugh said.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the third and final Test between Australia and Sri Lanka at the Adelaide Oval today:

**AUSTRALIA:** First innings (overnight 239 for five)

M Taylor c Kaluwitharana b Vaas 21  
M Slater c Kaluwitharana b Vaas 20  
D Boon b Pushpakumara 43  
M Waugh c Pushpakumara 37  
Wickremasinghe 7  
S Waugh b Pushpakumara 170  
R Ponting c Kaluwitharana b Vaas 6  
I Healy c Pushpakumara b Dharmasinghe 70  
P Reiffel c Gurusinha b Wickremasinghe 56  
S Warne c Pushpakumara b Wickremasinghe 33  
C McDermott not out 5  
Extras: (lb-9, w-1, nb-2, b-5) 17  
Total: (for nine wickets declared, 167.3 overs) 502

Fall of wickets: 1-1: 2-36; 3-96; 4-181; 5-196; 6-326; 7-443; 8-467; 9-502.

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Vaas 42 11 106 3  
Pushpakumara 34 4 128 2  
Wickremasinghe 39.3 7 128 3  
Dharmasena 25 3 80 1  
Jayasuriya 13 2 45 0  
Hathurusinghe 4 0 15 0

**SRI LANKA:** First innings

C Hathurusinghe not out 24  
S Jayasuriya not out 47  
Extras: (b-2, lb-6, nb-1) 9  
Total: (for no wicket, 16 overs) 80

**Bowling:** O M R W  
McDermott 5 1 28 0  
McGrath 6 1 22 0  
Reiffel 2 1 7 0  
Warne 3 0 15 0

## An outlaw with a 'spin' gun

ISLAMABAD, Jan 26: Shane Warne has a world-wide fan club. The Pakistan star branch, however, hasn't exactly been followed with new applicants just recently, reports AFP.

If Warne and Australia live up to their billing as World Cup favourites and make the final in Lahore on March 17, however, passionate Pakistani cricket fans are sure to turn up in droves to support the opposition.

For the blond Australian leg-spinner, public enemy number one after accusing Salim Malik of trying to bribe him to lose a match, the tournament is likely to prove the greatest challenge of his short career.

His sorcerer's skills are beyond question, but his temperament in the lions' den will be sorely tested.

The pressure, indeed, has already been on for months. The 26-year-old had expressed concerns over his safety before abusive messages began to arrive through his letter box "from all over the subcontinent."

He thought long and hard about not going. "I live and die for cricket," said Warne but added pertinently: "My life is worth a lot more than going over for the World Cup."

The organisers, determined not to lose one of their most marketable assets, tried to reassure the whole of the Australian team about their security.

But Warne has pointed out that the bodyguards would have to stay behind when he walked to the middle.

It is unthinkable, of course, that he should not take part in the sport's showpiece.

Not only is he one of cricket's most famous names -- with his colourful background as a former rebel and his trademark gold earrings, facial war paint and reversed baseball caps -- but he is also the best spinner in the world, with over 200 Test wickets in just four years to prove it.

The digits of his right hand that delivered the "ball of the century" against Eng-

land in 1993 -- it clean bowled Mike Gatting after pitching at least a foot outside the leg stump -- are an Australian national treasure. Insurance brokers Lloyds of London recently valued them at a cool one million pounds.

The irony of the Malik affair -- Warne, Tim May and Mark Waugh all accused him of offering them money to play badly during last year's series in Pakistan -- is that it has made the wrist-spinner so unpopular in a country which so relishes his art.

Asia, with its slow pitches, is a breeding ground for slow bowlers. In Pakistan Mushtaq Ahmed, the suc-

cessor to Abdul Qadir, and Saqlain Mushtaq rival Waugh and Waqar in the popularity stakes. In India there is Anil Kumble, in Sri Lanka Muttiah Muralitharan.

Perhaps the Malik affair might have gone off the boil if it hadn't been for the unfortunate coincidence of an Australia-Pakistan Test series at the end of last year.

Inevitably Malik just restored to the national team after being exonerated "in Pakistan," came across Waugh. And came off worse, dismissed for a fourth-ball duck.

The Australian, deeply hurt at Pakistani suggestions he had concocted the accusations and bitter at the failure of the ICC to bring the matter to a head, unwisely upped the temperature after his match-winning performance in the first Test.

"It shows you there is justice in the game after all," he said after taking 11 wickets in the match for 77, before criticising Malik for not batting in the first innings because of a hand injury.

The remarks did nothing for Warne's career chances in the Australian diplomatic corps, nor did they help bury the hatchet.

At least the two cannot come face to face until the quarterfinals at the earliest, with the Australians tucked away in India and Sri Lanka during their five group matches.

When Salim Malik batted in the Australia series, he was met by a graveyard silence every time. Which is saying something, considering the Australians' record of healthy sledging.