

Column One

DIDU' KNOW?

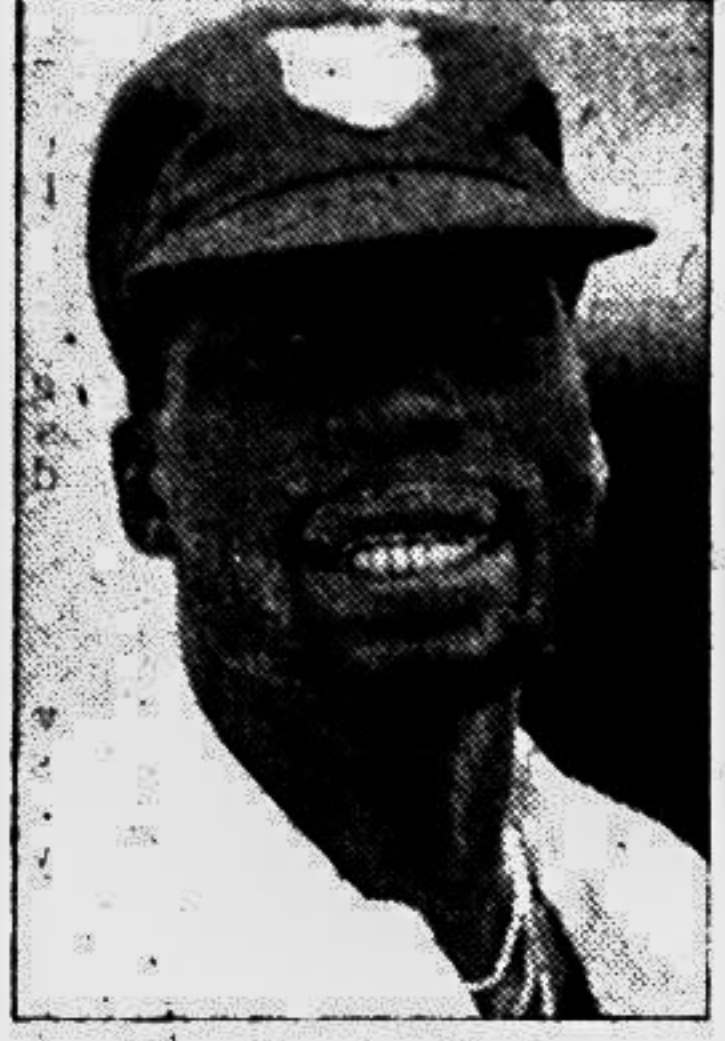
(The Professor does)

HAT Sultan Zairawani was taken to hospital for precautionary X-ray after being struck on the head by Donald Snorter during his side's World Cup opener against South Africa in Rawalpindi on Feb 16. The UAE skipper, who had to pay the penalty for not using a helmet against one of the most fearsome quickies in the world, later was dismissed by McMillan for a duck.

His manager, however, seemed to be very proud of his captain's bizarre audacity by telling, "I'll love to face even Wasim Akram or Waqar Younis without a helmet, though I'm now on 52."

But batsman beware for that even Gary Sobers, the most accomplished batsman against any pace attack, lost two of his valuable teeth while batting at No. 5.

SPORTS TALK



Curtly Ambrose
(West Indies' premier fast bowler)
"A wise man doesn't sit with his back to the door."

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-27
Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m., Feb 23, 1996)

- Asian Club football champions are:
 - Thailand Farmers
 - Kawasaki Verdy
 - Al-Nasr
- The 1974 Asian Games were held in:
 - Delhi
 - Tehran
 - Islamabad
- The present West Indian cricket vice-captain is:
 - Courtesy Walsh
 - Brian Lara
 - Roger Harper
- Tennis prodigy Martina Hingis is a:
 - Swiss
 - Czech
 - Polish
- The name of the captain of the UAE cricket team is:
 - Zairawan
 - Dulhawal
 - Mashar

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

Julie breaks Iva's heart

PARIS, Feb 19: Top seed Iva Majoli still smarting over what she considered to be a series of unfair line calls crashed to French player Julie Halard-Decugis 5-7, 6-7 (4/7) in Sunday's singles final at the Paris Open. — but said next time she came to France it would be different, reports AFP.

The 18-year-old Croatian who has risen to fourth in the rankings after her Tokyo Triumph two weeks ago where her victims included Australian Open champion Monica Seles was clearly referring to Roland Garros.

Admitting that she had lost her composure inside the Courtbertin Stadium when calls went against her after she had taken a 5-1 first set lead Majoli said, "At least at Roland Garros it is on clay so you can show the mark."

"Usually it doesn't get to me but today there were so many bad calls. They weren't even close and they were all in Julie's favour. I lost my concentration. I guess I was somewhere else out there."

Majoli who has been taking anti-biotics call week because of flu said that she had been feeling a lot better before today's match.

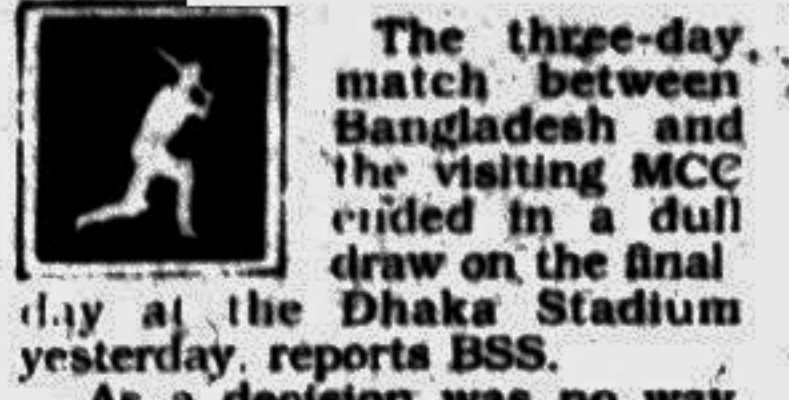
"I don't think my cold made any difference to the final result," she said adding, "It was just the bad call."

"It was normal that the crowd should be behind Julie. I had no problem with that but so many times the calls were wrong."

Halard-Decugis, 25, and winner of a fifth career tournament at Hobart, Australia last month, looked down and out when she trailed 1-5 in the opening set.

But a decision by the French umpire Fabrice Chouquet to overrule an ace which would have given Majoli set point in the vital sixth game proved to be the springboard for the French girl's revival.

MCC head home unhappy



The three-day match between Bangladesh and the visiting MCC ended in a dull draw on the final day at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday reports BSS.

As a decision was no way possible both the teams agreed to call it a day with eleven overs remaining.

Returning on the overnight score of 290 for eight the visitors were all out for 368 playing 121 overs; Ian Salisbury remained not out a superb 73. In partnership with A J Mackay they hit up 75 valuable runs for the last wicket with Mackay scoring 32.

Bangladesh pacer Hasibul Hasan Shanto turned out to be the most successful bowler with a haul of five wickets at the cost of 79 runs in his 23 overs. Nannu and Rupom took two wickets each for 48 and 41 runs respectively. Rafique accounted for the other wicket conceding 81 runs. He bowled a long spell of 38 overs.

The home side in their second knock started disastrously as they lost the first innings century maker and opener Ziaur Rashid Rupom for nought with the team's score on 2.

Bangladesh lost three more quick wickets and were 81 for four at one stage.

But opener Athar and skipper Akram, who notched up a sparkling century in the first innings, stopped the slide and put 45 runs for the fifth wicket before Athar Ali was back to the pavilion scoring a patient 44 which included four fours.

Losing the wicket of Nannu at 106, Akram pairing with Rafique played safe before the match was declared drawn with eleven overs to play.

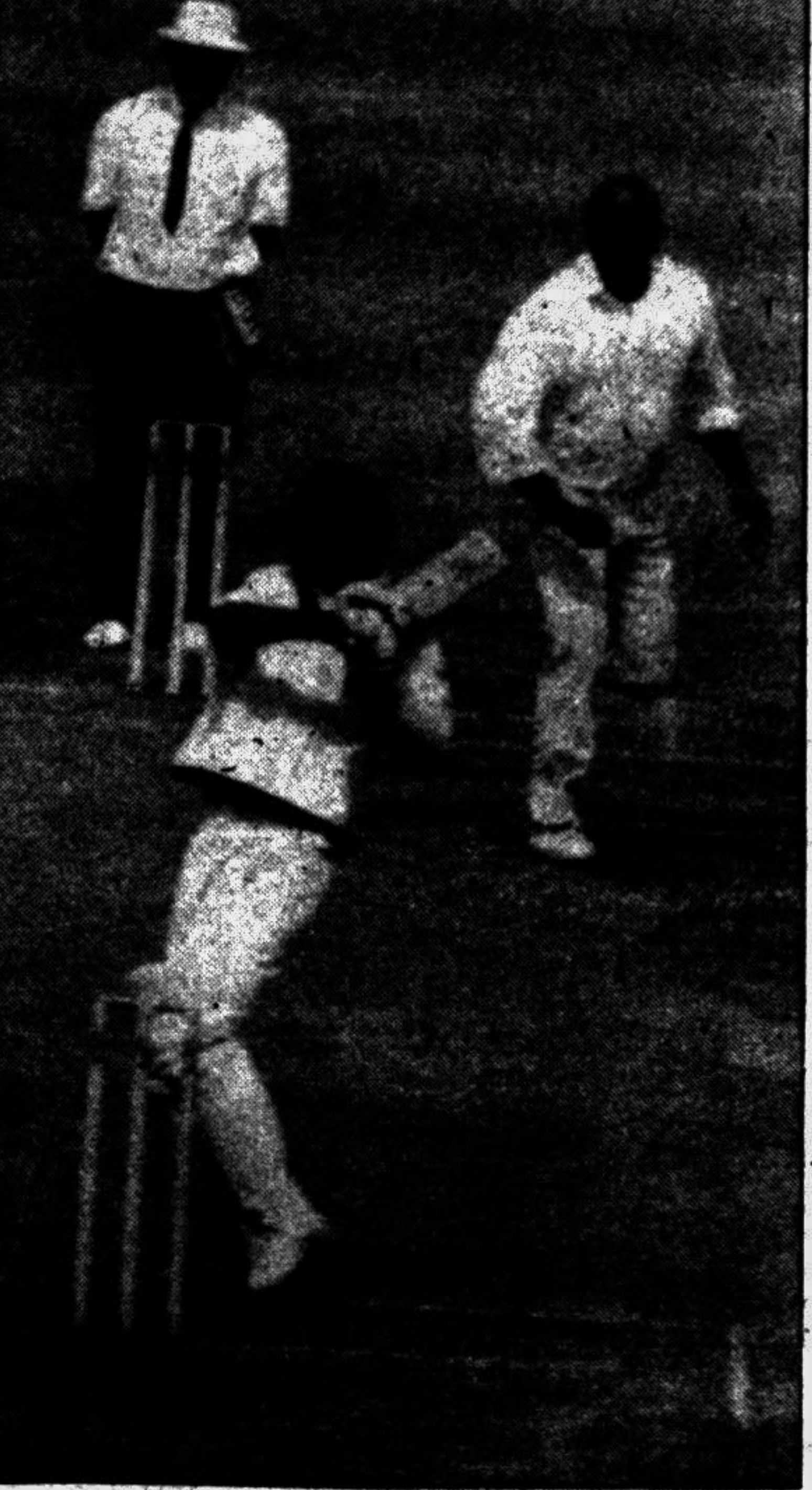
Akram Khan hit an unbeaten 50 with five hits to the fence. Rafique's breezy 24 included three fours and one six.

Mackay and Potter took two wickets apiece giving away 21 runs each. Williams and Capel got one wicket apiece.

The visitors who were scheduled to leave Dhaka late last night ending an 18-day tour, played six one-dayers and lost five of them. They won only against the Bangladesh Youth played in Sylhet on February 7.

Mackay c Rafique b Nannu	32	Pilot lbw b Mackay	12	
Extras: (b-1, lb-13 nb-2, w-2)	27	Bulbul c Batty b Capel	3	
Total: (all out, 121 overs)	368	Akram not out	50	
Fall of wickets: 1-28, 2-38, 3-50, 4-150, 5-193, 6-199, 7-212, 8-272, 9-293, 10-368.		Nannu c Hollins b Potter	10	
Bowling	O	M	R	W
Shanto	23	5	79	5
Ansuar	14	2	51	0
Rafique	38	11	81	1
Safiq	11	5	23	0
Athar	4	2	12	0
Rupom	18	4	48	2
Nannu	11	1	41	2
Bulbul	2	0	10	0

BANGLADESH: Second Innings
Athar at Metson b Potter 44
Rupom b Mackay 13
Faruque c Metson b Williams 0



Bangladesh opener Athar Ali Khan follows through on a hook shot while MCC's paceman William anxiously looks on during the final day's proceedings of their three-day match. — Star photo

Sampras regains No 1 slot

SAN JOSE, California, Feb 19: Pete Sampras is No 1 again.

Putting his big serve to good use, Sampras easily defeated Andre Agassi 6-2, 6-3 Sunday to win the Sybase Open and regain his ranking as the world's top player, reports AP.

Sampras entered the match ranked No 2 and Agassi was No 3. The winner was assured of overtaking No 1, Thomas Muster, who lost Wednesday at the Dubai Open on Wednesday in his first match at the top.

Already this year, the top spot has changed hands four times. Sampras began the year as No 1. Agassi took it over on Jan 29 and then lost it on Feb 12 to Muster.

The new rankings will have Muster No 2 and Agassi No 3. This was the first time since the ATP Tour started computer rankings in 1973 that two players met in one match with the winner sure to emerge as No 1. But the match failed to live up to the hoopla.

Agassi's vaunted return game was no match for Sampras' overpowering and deceptive serve. Sampras won eight of the first nine points and broke Agassi in the second game, holding his serve and fighting off three break points the rest of the way.

Sampras was down 30-40 while serving at 4-2, and someone in the crowd had just yelled "Viva Las Vegas!" — a nod to Agassi's hometown — after he backed Sampras into a corner and dropped in a crossing shot to win a long rally.

The crowd and momentum was shifting back his way, but Agassi lost the chance to break Sampras when he netted a return. Sampras seized the next two points after deuce and broke Agassi again in the eighth game to win the set, 6-2.

Agassi lost his first service break again in the second set, and when the opportunity to break back came in the seventh game, Sampras again fought him off.

This time Sampras was down double-break point, but he used two first-serve winners and an ace to win the game and go up 5-2.

Sampras was broken just twice in five tournament matches, saving 14 of the 16 break points he faced.

Sampras holds a 10-8 edge over Agassi in their seven-year rivalry. Sampras has enjoyed more time at the top, logging 113 weeks at No 1 to Agassi's 32.

The victory was Sampras' second straight over Agassi, following a win in January in the semifinals of the Australian Open, where Agassi was attempting to defend his title.

Agassi and Sampras played in 17 tournaments together in 1995, and one of the other won seven of those titles. They played each other in the finals five times, with Agassi holding a 3-2 edge.

The two are scheduled to play in the ATP's next event in Memphis.

Goran pockets Dubai Open

DUBAI, Feb 19: Goran Ivanisevic produced almost flawless tennis to beat Alberto Costa of Spain 6-4, 6-3 in the final of the 1.6-million dollar Dubai Open Sunday, reports Reuter.

The fourth seeded Croatian controlled the game with penetrating groundstrokes, often mixing them with deft volleys from the net to beat the unseeded Spaniard ranked 23 in the world, and win his first hard-court title.

Ivanisevic ranked ninth in the world, broke Costa, with ease in the sixth game and then comfortably held on to his serve to take the first set.

The second set followed the same pattern as the Croat kept up relentless pressure on the tentative Spaniard sending down a string of aces.

Ivanisevic, who earned 142,000 dollars for his efforts, broke Costa for a 2-1 lead and then went on to wrap up the game and with it the match when Costa, who earned 84,000 dollar hit a return into the net.

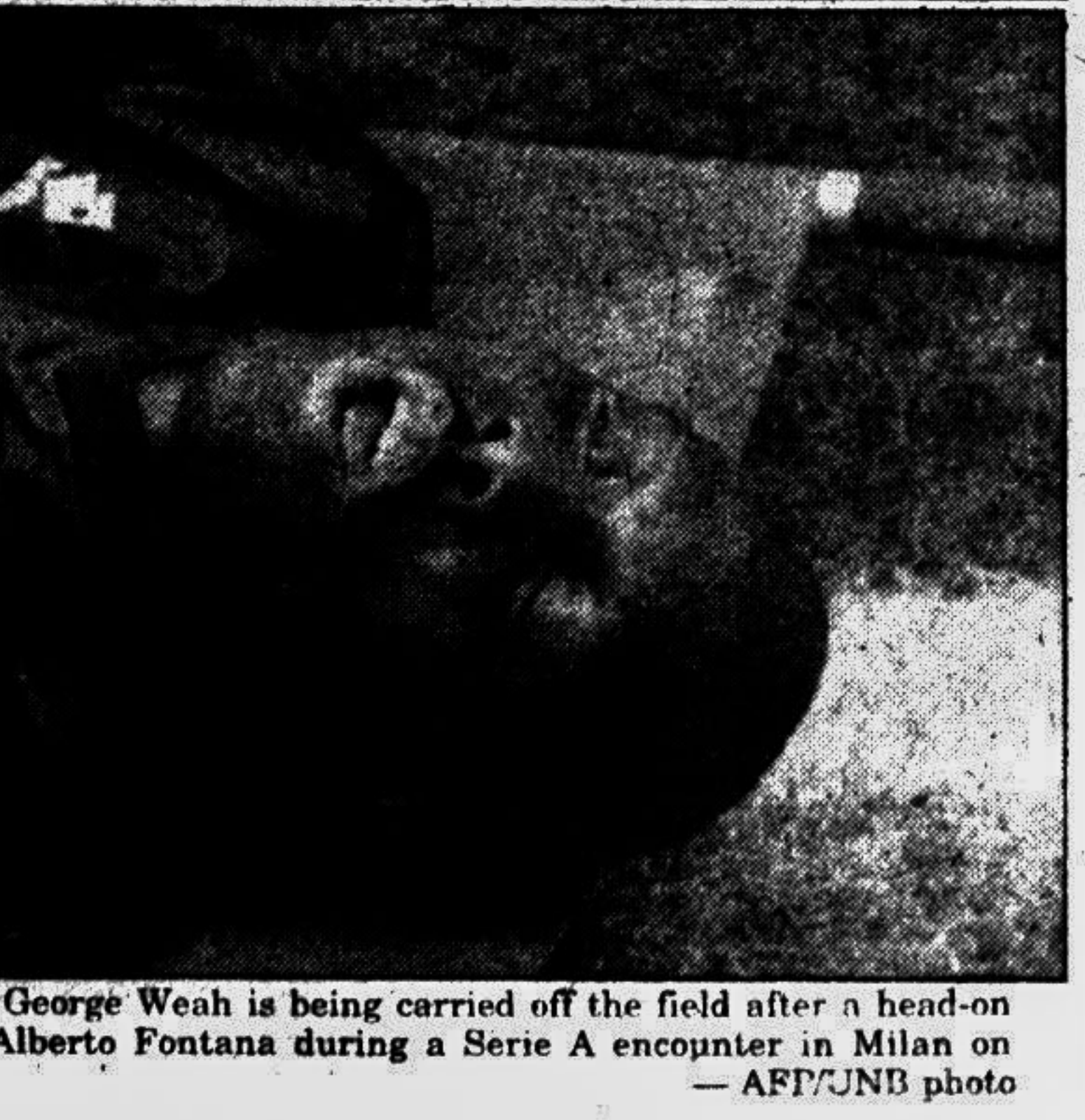
The Visakhapatnam match will be Australia's first outing in the tournament after they forfeited their fixture against Sri Lanka in Colombo last Saturday.

Police have taken over the stadium in the western city of Jaipur to arrange security for the Cup match between Australia and West Indies on March 4.

A bomb exploded at the Sawai Man Singh Stadium on January 26, forcing authorities to cancel a ceremony celebrating India's Republic Day. No one was injured in the attack by suspected militants.

The United News of India (UNI) said police had banned entry into the stadium to all but those with the correct identification including photographs before the Cup match.

Jaipur is the capital of Rajasthan state and an important tourist destination.



AC Milan's Liberian superstar George Weah is being carried off the field after a head-on collision with Bari custodian Alberto Fontana during a Serie A encounter in Milan on Feb 18. — AFP/JNB photo

Lara-Sachin tomorrow

CUTTACK, India, Feb 19: Sachin Tendulkar is ready to challenge Brian Lara to a fascinating batting duel in Gwalior on Wednesday after introducing the hard way on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Tendulkar's dominant, career-best, unbeaten 127 may not have been achieved against the strongest attack in the game, but once again illustrated his importance to India's World Cup strategy as a dashing opener.

There will be a very different set of bowlers awaiting Tendulkar when the co-hosts meet West Indies, a fixture which always revives memories of India's startling success in the 1983 World Cup final at Lord's.

Tendulkar was barely 10 years old that day but is now closer than ever to demonstrating to a wider audience exactly why he is worshipped by the Indian cricket public.

Tendulkar and Lara have very similar records in one-day internationals, both having scored well over 3,000 runs. Each also averages above 50 in their relatively brief World Cup careers.

Both, though, have had to contend with the pressure of being national celebrities. Lara's recent absence from the West Indies side has been well-documented but Indian critics believe Tendulkar is coping with the consequences of his genius.

On the field he always wants to be involved whatever he is doing but if he is very different," said one.

"He is a very private person."

The Kenyan, who scored a respectable 199 for six in their 50 overs before Tendulkar changed the complexion of the match in his 134-ball stay, were swift to congratulate the 22-year-old when he reached his century, and themselves earned praise from India's captain Mohammad Azharuddin.

"If I was the Kenyan captain I'd have been proud to score that total and take three wickets against us," said Azharuddin after his side's seventh wicket win. "I thought they did very well."

Kenya now travel down the Bay of Bengal coastline to the Visakhapatnam where they face another stiff test of their character against Australia on Friday.

TODAY'S VENUE

FAISALABAD: Situated south-west of Lahore in the Punjab province, this city is at the hub of the cotton belt.

Before the partition, Faisalabad was a small but beautiful town called Lyallpur. It has now mushroomed into being Pakistan's fourth largest city. It is now a sprawling city and is popularly known as the Manchester of Pakistan.

The industrial town is two hours by road from Lahore. The Iqbal Stadium, which seats 28,000, is a regular Test centre since 1982. It will hold today's World Cup match between South Africa and New Zealand.

The Daily Star readers' poll

Today's predicted winners: South Africa
Predicted winners of Feb 21:
Match at Gwalior — West Indies
Match at Colombo — Sri Lanka
Predicted winners of Feb 22:
England
Predicted winners of Feb 23:
Australia

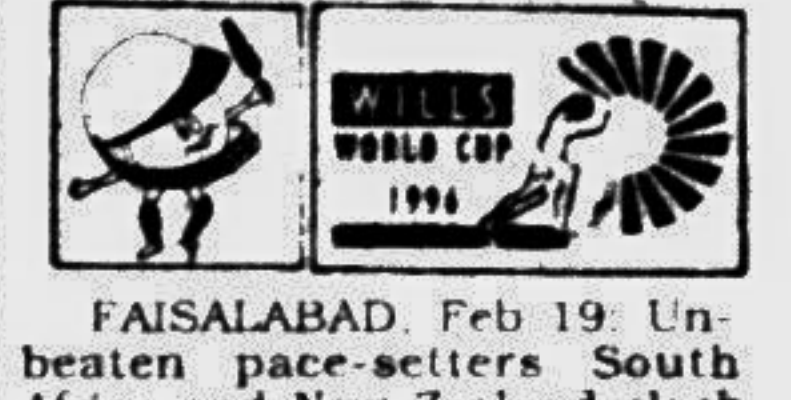
Tight security for Aussies

NEW DELHI, Feb 19: A huge security clampdown has been ordered for the World Cup match between Australia and Kenya in the Southern port city of Visakhapatnam on Friday, Indian media reported on Monday, reports Reuter.

Unprecedented security arrangements had been made for the game, with dog squads, bomb squads and anti-sabotage squads deployed at the airport, stadium and elsewhere in the city. The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported.

Security during the month-long tournament was thrust into sharp focus after Australia and West Indies refused to play Cup matches in Sri Lanka following a bomb attack by suspected rebels in the capital Colombo on January 31 that killed more than 80 people.

SA, NZ lock horns today



FAISALABAD, Feb 19: Unbeaten pace-setters South Africa and New Zealand clash here on Tuesday in the first big confrontation of the World Cup, reports agencies.

Group B encounter will set heart beats racing at last after a series of tournament mismatches — and guarantee the winner a place in the quarter-finals.

Tuesday will also provide a classic duel between South Africa's highly-rated attack on the one hand and New Zealand's up-and-coming stroke-makers on the other.

That head-to-head should provide the key to the match.

South African skipper Hansie Cronje, despite keeping his selection cards close to his chest, looks sure to add Paul Adams to his formidable pace battery, led by the world-class Allan Donald.

Lee Gernon, however, will be hoping Nathan Astle, a century-maker in the opening win over England, and Craig Spearman, man-of-the-match against Holland, can launch his side to a third win in a row.

The game will also throw up a fascinating duel between two of the game's leading all-rounders, Brian McMillan on the one hand and Chris Cairns on the other.

McMillan did not get a bat in his side's dismantling of the United Arab Emirates — their one win so far — but three wickets for eleven, a world-class slip catch and a key role in a run-out suggested there is little wrong with his form.

Cairns, by contrast, has impressed as a batsman rather than bowler, a quickfire 36 at number six against England followed by an equally dramatic half-century against the Dutch.

His sudden emergence as a world-class performer is one of the key factors why the Kiwis, branded as no-hoppers before the Cup, are now looking such an exciting bet to at

least match their previous record of three semifinal finishes.

While South Africa kept their rivals guessing on Monday as they dodged the question over whether Paul Adams will get a crack at the Kiwis.

The rookie left-arm wrist-spinner, now immortalised as the man with the 'frog in a blender' action, was kept under wraps during the victory over Group B minnows at Rawalpindi last week.

Skipper Hansie Cronje, asked if that meant Adams would line up against New Zealand here on Tuesday, smiled and replied: "maybe."

Pressed further, however, Cronje all but acknowledged the 19-year-old, an overnight sensation against England last year, would get his chance.

For himself, he only uses one finger and his thumb to hold the ball, imparting turn with a flick of the wrist.

His stock ball, to confound matters further, is the googly going away from the right-hander instead of the more conventional Chinaman cutting back.

But then Adams, who was unearthed by former spring-bob great Eddie Barlow, has been breaking rules all his life.

Even the most optimistic predictions did not forecast coloured cricketers breaking into the South Africa eleven until the turn of the century.

In November, last year Adams would probably agree with them. Yet a single game was to change his life.

The 5ft 6ins teenager had still not made his western province debut when, selected for South Africa A against England, he took nine for 181 as Atherton and Co were left mesmerised like rabbits caught in a pair of headlights.

His Test debut — in only his sixth first-class game — soon followed before he caught everyone by surprise again, playing a decisive role in the final Test... with the bat.

A 33 run last-wicket stand with Dave Richardson set up the series-clinching Cape Town win. His man-of-the-match award in the sixth one-dayer also proved that he had the control necessary to blossom here. New Zealand batsmen have been warned.

There was quite a lot of grass on the pitch in Rawalpindi and we thought it might have a little juice in it after the rain earlier in the week," he said.

"We also reckoned the UAE wouldn't have had much experience against pace so we decided to throw in all our quickies."

The South African captain added: "There was a bit of turn out there, so a spinner might have been useful."

Adams will certainly offer the team variety at the Iqbal Stadium, normally regarded as

Reeve recalled at last

Team manager Ray Illingworth confirmed Reeve's call-up and said: "There was some doubt about whether he was in England but we were able to get in touch with him on Sunday night to let him know he was needed pending confirmation from the committee."

It's a bit of a problem that he hasn't been playing cricket, but at least he had a run-out in South Africa and played some grade cricket in Australia before that.

White was due to fly to Islamabad on Monday for a connecting flight back to England. The England players were given the day-off on Monday, with several of them playing golf at the course which backs on to their hotel in Faisalabad.

Ned Smith, who was physically sick on the field while batting during his side's eighth wicket win over the United Arab Emirates, was recovering, but seaman Peter Martin suffered a stomach upset.

Injured batsmen Robin Smith and Graeme Hick are both expected to be fit for the match against the Dutch.

Sajjad nat'l Jr snooker champ

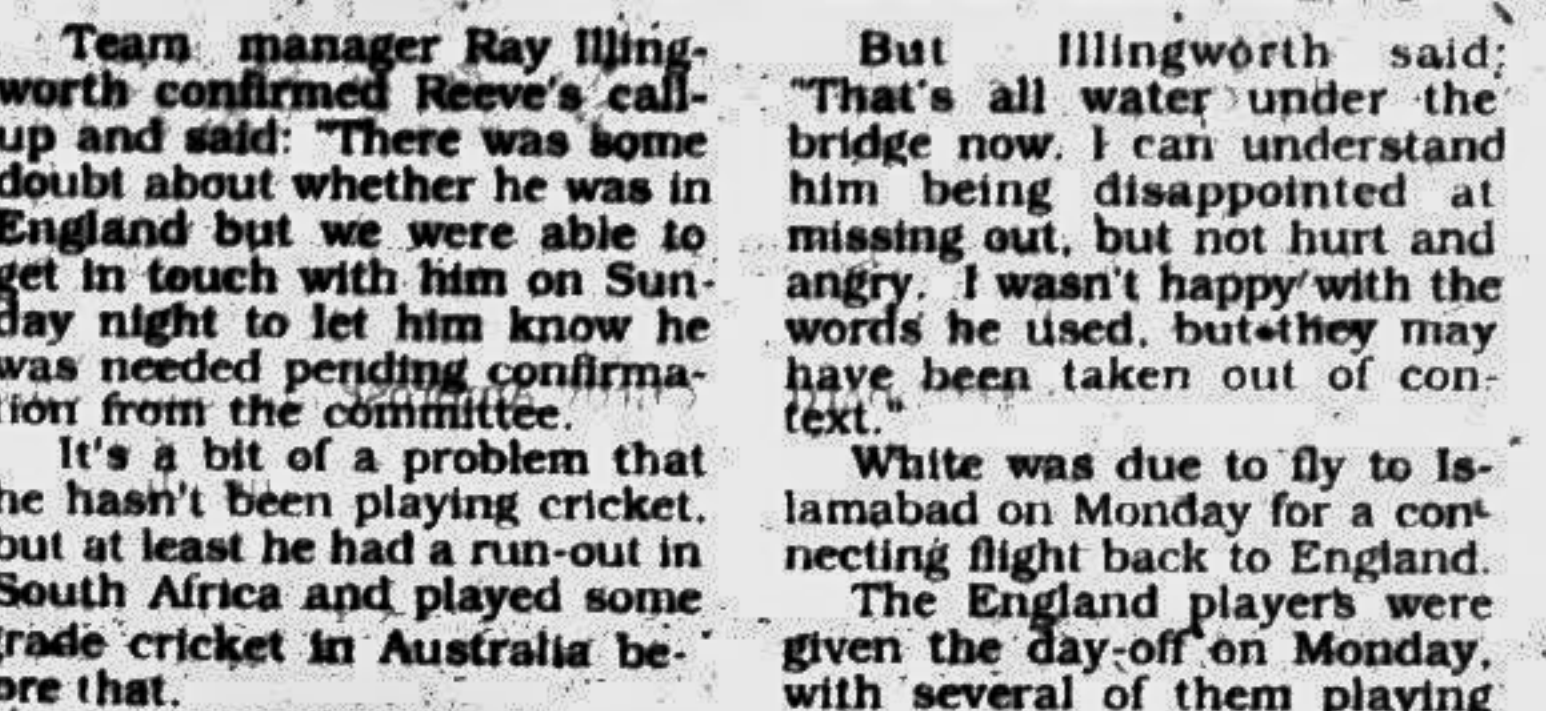
Syed M Sajjad of Dhaka Club clinched the title of the Asyok Leyland national junior (under-21) snooker championship.

Sajjad defeated Anin Chowdhury of Gulshan Club in a tough ten-frame match at the Gulshan Club yesterday.

In a topsy-turvy encounter, Sajjad shot to an early lead, finishing the first session 4-1 ahead. But Amin shot right back to reduce the margin to just one frame but could not come up with a strong enough game to challenge the steady Sajjad who took the match 57-49, 53-56, 48-10, 56-22, 58-55, 41-52, 48-41, 30-53 and 56-43.

High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh, Deb Mukharji distributed the prizes amongst the winners later in the evening.

DERMOT REEVE



If we could have gone outside the squad, we might have gone for Surrey all-rounder Adam Holtake, who has also been playing grade cricket."

Reeve was a member of England's World Cup squad in 1992, playing in the final against Pakistan in Melbourne.

The man who has steered Warwickshire to five domestic trophies in two years was quoted as saying he was "hurt and angry" about missing out on the original squad, prompting suggestions he might be overlooked again, this time for disciplinary reasons.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	1 Flich	35 Shirvel	shopper's concern	Heidi
4 Mildred Pierce	36 Knighthood	2 Remedy for dry toast	when airborne	23 Dracula, when
8 author in hood of Minotaur	37 Craze	3 Minimal noise	24 Doe Passos trilogy	
12 Bullying	48 Family line	4 Breaks a Commandment	25 Predicament	
13 In a previous life	46 Family member	5 Ouzo flavor	26 "Monkey suit"	
14 Hodge-podge	47 Brutus' breakfast?	6 Summer-flavor	27 Gossip columnist	
15 Witness	48 Pound of poetry	7 FDR's program	28 Downed	
16 Witness	49 Spike the punch	8 Pleasing program	29 Jerry's partner	
17 Pianist Peter	50 Diastema	9 Turn on the waterworks	31 Evening gowns	
18 Bareback performer?	51 Turn on the waterworks	10 Name in the Guinness book?	32 "Bye Bye Birdie"	
21 Seine season	52 Took to court	11 Italian bread	33 Life comb.	
22 Tarzan	53 The loneliest	11 Let's Make a Deal	35 Enraptured	
23 Polishes	DOWN	12 Remaining option	36 Watch-band	
26 Eavesdropping device.	1 Component	13 Remaining son	37 On the (undeclared)	
27 Am in the science building	14 Component	14 Remaining son	38 Make tea	
30 we (so to speak)	15 Component	15 Remaining son	39 Sleep	
31 Quantitative suffix	16 Component	16 Remaining son	40 Weight	
32 Prop in Ben's experimentation	17 Component	17 Remaining son	41 Winkler	
33 Overburden	18 Component	18 Remaining son	42 Wait	
34 30 up	19 Component	19 Remaining son	43 Kelly's possum	
	20 Component	20 Remaining son	44 Lend of	

Solution time: 23 mins.

ACROSS: 1 Flich, 2 Remedy for dry toast, 3 Minimal noise, 4 Breaks a Commandment, 5 Ouzo flavor, 6 Summer-flavor, 7 FDR's program, 8 Pleasing program, 9 Turn on the waterworks, 10 Name in the Guinness book?, 11 Italian bread, 12 Remaining son, 13 Life comb., 14 Component, 15 Component, 16 Component, 17 Component, 18 Component, 19 Component, 20 Component, 21 Seine season, 22 Tarzan, 23 Polishes, 24 Doe Passos trilogy, 25 Predicament, 26 "Monkey suit", 27 Gossip columnist, 28 Downed, 29 Jerry's partner, 31 Evening gowns, 32 "Bye Bye Birdie", 33 Life comb., 35 Enraptured, 36 Watch-band, 37 On the (undeclared), 38 Make tea, 39 Sleep, 40 Weight, 41 Winkler, 42 Wait, 43 Kelly's possum, 44 Lend of.

DOWN: 1 Heidi, 2 when airborne, 3 Heidi, 4 when airborne, 5 Heidi, 6 when airborne, 7 Heidi, 8 when airborne, 9 Heidi, 10 when airborne, 11 Heidi, 12 when airborne, 13 Heidi, 14 when airborne, 15 Heidi, 16 when airborne, 17 Heidi, 18 when airborne, 19 Heidi, 20 when airborne, 21 Heidi, 22 when airborne, 23 Heidi, 24 when airborne, 25 Heidi, 26 when airborne, 27 Heidi, 28 when airborne, 29 Heidi, 30 when airborne, 31 Heidi, 32 when airborne, 33 Heidi, 34 when airborne, 35 Heidi, 36 when airborne, 37 Heidi, 38 when airborne, 39 Heidi, 40 when airborne, 41 Heidi, 42 when airborne, 43 Heidi, 44 when airborne.

CRYPTOQUIP
O W D J W P B D H E G H K
H T M K B D M Q T F Z E N N
M W D C T Q O T C K Q I I Z
E J M W D E G N D D W
Yesterday's Cryptoquip:
ARTIST HARDY PAINTED EASELY
Today's Cryptoquip clue: N equals 1
The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that A equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters stand for words and words using an apostrophe give you a clue.