

BCCB names Selection Committee

Sports Reporter
The president of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) Sabir Hossain Chowdhury MP, who is yet to declare the full committee of the BCCB for reasons best known to him, has however announced a six-member Selection Committee with Lutfar Rahman Makhani retaining his job as chairman. Lutfar Rahman, the lone survivor from the previous Selection Committee will hold the reins of a new-look body which includes five former national cricketers. They are Shaiful Huq Hira, Jahangir Shah Badsha, Ahmed Iqbal Barchu, Dipu Roy Chowdhury and Wahidul Ghani. Although in even number, normally non-existent in any such body, the puzzling situation was unraveled when it was gathered that Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu, the manager of the national team, will be the "obvious" seventh member of the newly-appointed body.

Ajax go down again

AMSTERDAM, Aug 25: Dutch champions Ajax Amsterdam faltered in their second league match of the season on Saturday losing 2-0 away at Heerenveen, reports Reuter. Ajax, who had a dismal series of pre-season results before beating NAC of Breda in their opening game, had the best of an entertaining first half but failed to break the deadlock. Eight minutes after the interval, Heerenveen's Romeo Wouden broke through the Amsterdam defence, left defender John Veldman standing and curled the ball beyond goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar into the Ajax net. Ajax, without injured defenders Marcio Santos and Winston Bogarde and strikers Jari Litmanen and Marc Overmars, then stepped up the pace and looked certain to equalise. But they left gaps at the back and on 73 minutes Danish striker Jon Dahl Tomasson rushed out of his own half, beat the Ajax defence and lobbed Van der Sar. The defeat means Ajax's main title contenders PSV Eindhoven, who beat the champions 3-0 in the traditional league curtain-raiser, can go three points clear of their rivals if they beat Groningen today.

Return of the fugitive

WARSAW, Aug 25: Polish heavyweight boxer Andrzej Golota, who has been in exile in the United States since 1990 to escape criminal charges in his homeland, returned to Poland on Saturday, reports AFP. Golota was given a safe-passage assurance from the Polish courts after paying 11,000 dollars in bond. The boxer who escaped Poland after being involved in a bar brawl returned six years later to consult his lawyers and see his mother. Golota achieved overnight fame in the US earlier this year when he was disqualified for hitting American Riddick Bowe below the belt in a bout on July 12.

Sulaiman an optimist

MEXICO CITY, Aug 25: Jose Sulaiman of Mexico said Saturday that he expects to be re-elected as president of the World Boxing Council, a post he has held for the past 21 years, reports AFP. The WBC will hold its annual convention in Buenos Aires next month and Sulaiman is currently the only candidate for the leadership of the organisation.

Eriksson still sixth

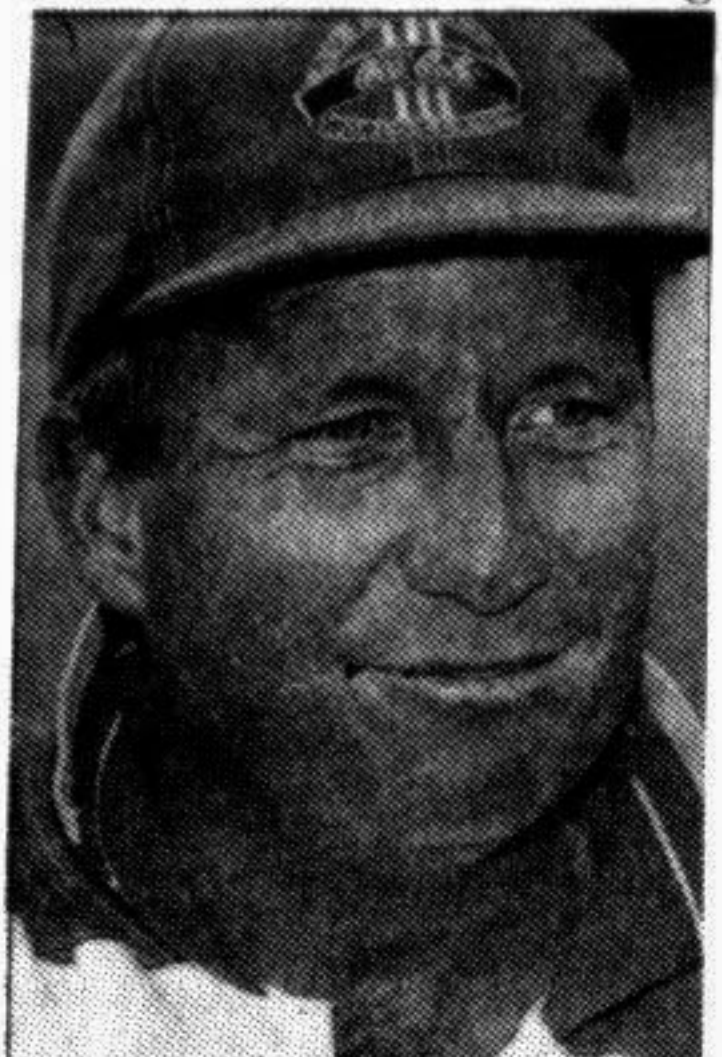
555 Subaru world rally team driver and current Asia-Pacific rally champion, Kenneth Eriksson, maintained sixth position at the end of Leg 1 and 195 competitive kilometres of the 1000 Lakes rally in Finland, says a press release.



Determined to pick up points on the sixth round of the FIA World Rally Championship, the Swede is tackling the notoriously fast stages tactically, and is well placed for today's second leg; the front runners all being of the opinion that they have been at a disadvantage running at the head of the field. Teammate and reigning world champion, Colin McRae, dramatically crashed out of the rally on Special Stage 6; the conclusion of a stressful and unsettling week for the 28-year-old Scot. Like many of the other non-Finnish competitors, Colin was all too aware of the disadvantage of only competing on this, the fastest rally in the World Championship, once before, and fell foul of a misjudged corner on the Special Stage 6. Leg 1 of the Jyväskylä-based rally is being led by four times world champion, Juha Kankkunen, who has shown supreme skill by winning 7 of Sunday's 10 competitive Special Stages.

Aussie-Zimbabwe tie today

COLOMBO, Aug 25: Zimbabwe will take inspiration from hosts Sri Lanka when they clash with Australia in the opening match of the Singer Cup here on Monday, reports AFP. The Sri Lankans were the eternal underdogs of world cricket until their stunning



IAN HEALY

World Cup triumph in March. Zimbabwe, who won just one match in the World Cup — against first timers Kenya — are determined not to be considered the whipping boys in the four-nation limited-overs tournament here. The Africans were ignored in the pre-tournament build-up, with all the attention being focused on Australia's first visit to Sri Lanka since boycotting their World Cup fixture in February. There was also the hope over the champion home team and the elevation of batting genius Sachin Tendulkar as Indian captain — even though Zimbabwe themselves have a new skipper in Alistair Campbell. Campbell, 24, who took over the leadership after Andy Flower stepped down voluntarily to concentrate on his batting, refuses to believe his team will be the whipping boys of the tournament. "There was no point in coming here if we did not believe we had a chance of winning," the top-order batsman said. "Look at Sri Lanka. Not

many bet a penny on them to win the World Cup. Any team can be inspired by their victory. "We had a disappointing season, but we have a very good side. We are determined to do well," he said. Zimbabwe, who will stay back after the tournament ends on September 7 to play a two-



Test series against Sri Lanka, have not played a major international since the World Cup ended in March. But Australia's new coach Geoff Marsh, the former Test opener, agreed their unfancied opponents could not be taken lightly.

"You've got to play your best to win at the top level," said Marsh, who succeeded Bob Simpson during the off-season. Australia begin the tournament with a new team management and without the services of two of their injured star players — regular captain Mark Taylor and spinner Shane Warne.

Still, the Australians led by veteran wicket-keeper Ian Healy and including 11 World Cup players remain one of the strongest sides in the tournament.

FIXTURES		
Date	Time (BST)	Match
August 26 (Monday)	3:00 pm-6:30 pm 7:15 pm-10:45 pm	Australia vs Zimbabwe (Day/Night)
August 28 (Wednesday)	3:00 pm-6:30 pm 7:15 pm-10:45 pm	India vs Sri Lanka (Day/Night)
August 30 (Friday)	3:00 pm-6:30 pm 7:15 pm-10:45 pm	Australia vs Sri Lanka (Day/Night)
Sept 1 (Sunday)	10:00 am-1:30 pm 2:15 pm-5:45 pm	India vs Zimbabwe
Sept 3 (Tuesday)	10:00 am-1:30 pm 2:15 pm-5:45 pm	Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe
Sept 5 (Thursday)	10:00 am-1:30 pm 2:15 pm-5:45 pm	India vs Australia
Sept 7 (Saturday)	10:00 am-1:30 pm 2:15 pm-5:45 pm	Final

With the weather showing signs of clearing after heavy rains over the last two days, the day-night opener at the Premadasa Stadium appears set to be played over the full distance.



ALISTAIR CAMPBELL

Waugh, Ricky Ponting, Darren Lehmann, Damien Fleming, Stuart Law, Michael Bevan, Paul Reiffel, Glenn McGrath, Jason Gillespie, Brad Hogg. **ZIMBABWE** (from): Alistair Campbell (capt), Andy Flower, Eddo Brandes, Mark Dekker, Craig Evans, Grant Flower, Wayne James, Henry Olonga, Ali Shah, Bryan Strang, Paul Strang, Heath Streak, Andrew Whittall, Guy Whittall.

Major shuffle in England squad

LONDON, Aug 25: England all-rounder Chris Lewis has been dropped from the on-day squad to face Pakistan starting on Thursday after turning up late at the Oval on the fourth day of the final Test today, reports Reuter.

Lewis was still not in the dressing room 45 minutes before play began and, when he did arrive chairman of selectors, Ray Illingworth, abruptly informed him he had been replaced in the squad by uncapped Kent fast bowler Dean Headley. The mercurial Lewis has endured an increasingly disappointing season after being recalled to the England set-up at the start of the season, only just managing to hold his place for The Oval Test despite an unimpressive display at Headingley in the previous Test.

The 28-year-old Surrey player is not exactly a stranger to controversy but, ironically, has claimed to have rediscovered his motivation since moving back to London to live closer to his family after stints with Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire. The Lewis rumpus totally overshadowed the surprise inclusion of Graham Lloyd, son of national coach David, in a much-changed squad of 13.

Four others in the team contesting the final Test at The Oval have been either dropped or rested, with Lancashire batsman Lloyd, Surrey all-rounder Adam Holloake and Headley all given initial chances to impress.

Darren Gough, Matthew Maynard, Ronnie Irani and Peter Martin have been recalled to the international set-up, with four certainties Dominic Cork, Nasser Hussain and John Crawley rested, and Ian Salisbury and Test 12th man Andy Caddick omitted.

SQUAD
Michael Atherton (captain), Alec Stewart, Graham Thorpe, Nick Knight, Graham Lloyd, Matthew Maynard, Ronnie Irani, Adam Holloake, Robert Croft, Darren Gough, Peter Martin, Dean Headley and Alan Mullally.

Malaysian Open badminton

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 25: Ong Ewe Hock of Malaysia took only 31 minutes to rout world junior champion Cheng Gang of China 15-2, 15-6 Saturday and move within one step of his first major badminton title at the Malaysian Open, reports AP.

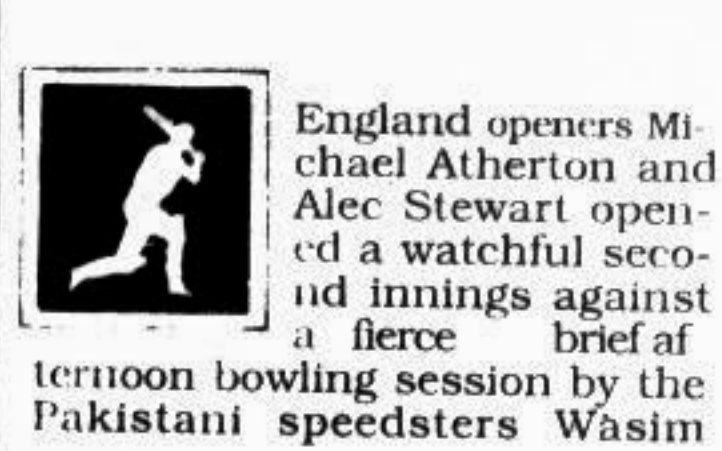
With many of the top players including Olympic bronze medalist Rashid Sidek of Malaysia missing, Ewe Hock could capture his first crown only two years after turning pro. In Sunday's final of the 180,000 dollars event, he will face Indra Wijaya of Indonesia, who defeated China's Luo Yigang 11-15, 15-11, 15-8 in Saturday's other semifinal.

The fourth-day of the six-star tournament was marred by a 15-minute blackout at the start of the Luo-Wijaya match. In the women's singles, top seed Wang Chen beat compatriot Sun Jian 11-4, 6-11 and 11-5 and will meet a teammate and second seed Zhang Ning in the final. Zhang defeated Gong Zhichao 2-11, 12-10, 11-7 in the other semifinal.

The men's doubles final will be an all-Malaysian affair between Olympic silver medalists Cheah Soon Kit and Yap Kim Hock, and Lee Wan Wah and Chong Tan Fook. Soon Kit and Kim Hock faced little challenge from Indonesian pair Rudy Wijaya and Tony Gunawan in the semifinals, winning 15-7, 15-8 but Wan Wah and Tan Fook's victory came after only they faced match point six times. Zhang Wei and Liu Yong of China won the first set 15-9 before the Thomas Cup reserve pair took the second 15-5. Zhang and Liu led 14-9 and held serve six times, but never got another point as Wan Wah and Tan Fook won the next eight points to win 17-14.

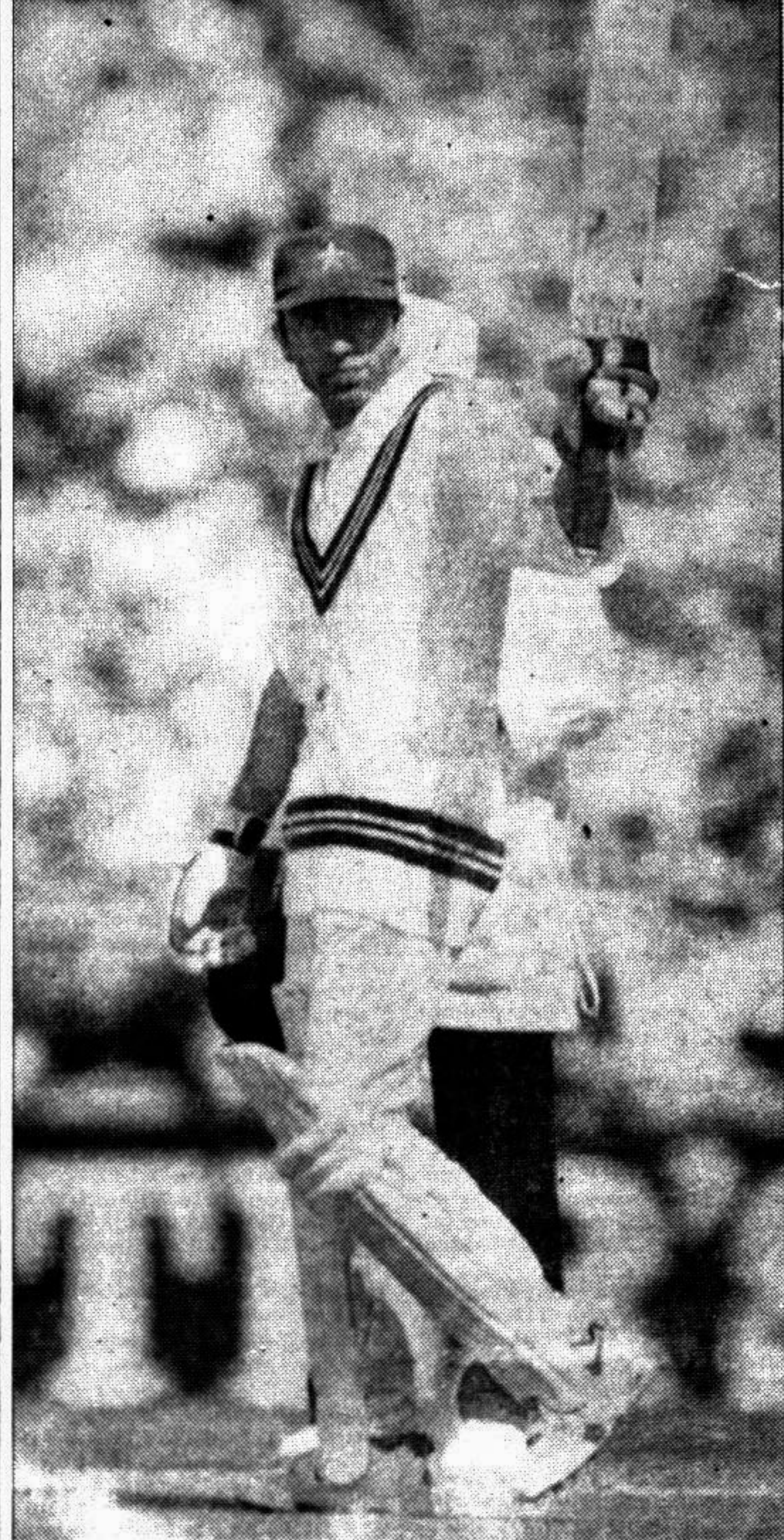
In the mixed doubles, the Indonesian pair of Trikus Heryanto and Minarti Timur clinched the title after defeating Denmark's Michael Sogaard and Rikke Olsen 15-7, 15-5 in 29 minutes.

Third Test heads a draw



England opens Michael Atherton and Alec Stewart opened a watchful second innings against a fierce brief afternoon bowling session by the Pakistani speedsters Wasim

Sports Reporter
The right-arm strike bowler began his spell with a maiden, and in the next over by Mullyally ran Asif out for 13 with a perfect outfield throw from third man. It was almost like Lewis had a point to prove after he had earlier been dropped from Eng-



Prolific Pakistan left-handed opener Saeed Anwar acknowledged the crowd's applause after reaching 150 on the third day of the decisive third Test against England at The Oval on August 24. Anwar went on to score 176, his highest Test score in an innings. — AFP/UNB photo

Akram and Waqar Yunis at The Oval yesterday, according to BBC monitored here last night. Playing with a great deal of respect and caution, the openers steered England to 74 without loss at the close of the fourth day of the third and deciding Test.

Pakistan declared their first innings at 521 for eight after the tea with a lead of 195 runs. Veteran batsman Salim Malik, who scored a classy unbeaten century, had helped the tourists take a fighting lead over England's first innings total of 326 before Pakistan skipper Wasim Akram declared. For Malik it was long overdue. He was well supported by his skipper who scored 40.

Agencies add: Wasim, who came to the crease before lunch after Asif Mujtaba had been brilliantly run out by Chris Lewis, wacked a neat 40 which included lb; boundaries and a six. The six came from off spinner Robert Croft on the second ball after the extended lunch break. But nine overs later Croft had his revenge when Wasim tried to repeat the feat, but missed the well lighted delivery and was stumped by Alec Stewart making it 440 for six.

Malik who had a quiet morning session adding just 11 runs to his overnight two not out played himself into form after lunch and registered his 26th Test half-century — and Pakistan's 450 — with his fifth boundary. Pakistan resumed the day on 339 for four, with Malik and Asif confidently seeking off opening spells from Dominic Cork and Alan Mullally. But in the ninth over of the day, the Athletic Lewis injected momentum into the game.



England's one day team against Pakistan because he had arrived at the Oval late. With Pakistan's total on 365 Asif guided Mullyally through slips for what appeared to be an easy two runs. But Lewis attacked the ball vigorously and with economy of time and movement, speared a throw back straight over the stumps for Alec Stewart to take the balls on before Asif had completed his second. But that was the only joy for



Malik ... 100 n.o.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the fourth day of the third and final Test between England and Pakistan at The Oval on Sunday:

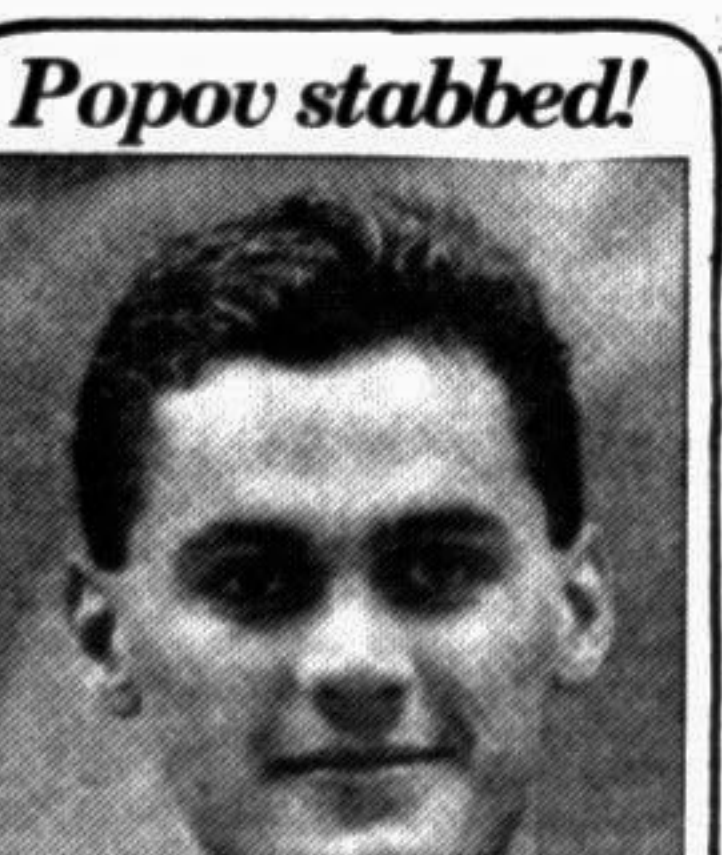
ENGLAND: First innings 326 (J. Crawley 106, G. Thorpe 54, Waqar Yunis 4-95)
PAKISTAN: First innings (overnight 339-4)
Saeed Anwar c Croft b Cork 176
Amir Sohail c Cork b Croft 46
Ijaz Ahmed c Stewart b Mullyally 61
Inzamam c Hussain b Mullyally 35
Salim Malik not out 100
Asif Mujtaba run out 13
Wasim Akram st Stewart b Croft 40
Moin Khan b Salisbury 23
Mushtaq Ahmed c Crawley b Mullyally 2
Waqar Yunis not out 25
Extras: (lb-4, nb-16) 20
Total: (for eight wickets, declared) 521
Fall of wickets: 1-106; 2-239; 3-334; 4-334; 5-365; 6-440; 7-502; 8-519.
Did not bat: Mohammad Akram

Bowling: O M R W
Lewis 23 3 112 0
Mullyally 37.1 7 97 3
Croft 47 10 116 2
Cork 23 5 71 1
Calisbury 29 3 116 1

ENGLAND: Second innings
Atherton not out 26
A Stewart not out 40
Extras: (nb-8) 8
Total: (for no wicket) 74
Bowling (to date): O M R W
Wasim Akram 7 0 35 0
Waqar Yunis 7 1 24 0
Mushtaq Ahmed 7 2 11 0
Amir Sohail 2 1 4 0

Bowlers buck up Essex

LONDON, Aug 25: Essex are set to step up their English county championship challenge with a fifth consecutive victory after new-ball pair Neil Williams and Mark Flint sent Gloucestershire reeling on Saturday, reports Reuter. Williams seized two wickets in two deliveries and left-arm flint also captured two as Gloucestershire, 252 behind on first innings, slumped to 27 for four at the close on the third day of the four-day game at Colchester.



Popov stabbed!

Essex, who started the current round of matches in fifth place, 20 points behind leaders Derbyshire with a game in hand, could go top if they complete victory on Monday's last day and other results favour them. Williams thrust Essex on course for success by dispatching Matt Windows and Andrew Symonds in his second over, before flint removed Dominic Hewson and Tim Handcock to reduce Gloucestershire to 17 for four at one stage.

The visitors had started the day optimistically by sending back former England captain Graham Gooch when he added just six to his overnight 105, but Essex went on to make 532 for eight before declaring. Captain Paul Richard plundered 88 from 73 deliveries, hitting 15 fours and one six. Second-placed Kent were frustrated by rain which prevented any play at Cardiff, where they have reached 255 for three in their first innings against Glamorgan, while third-placed Surrey are facing an uphill task against Nottinghamshire.

Surrey slipped to 88 for four in reply to Notts commanding first innings of 446 for nine declared at Trent Bridge, before Alistair Brown struck a 55-ball half-century. Brown's 56 not out, containing eight fours and three sixes, lifted Surrey to 128 for four on a rain curtailed day. Fourth-placed Leicestershire had Hampshire on the ropes at Leicester before rain intervened. Pace trio David Millis (2-24), Gordon Parsons (3-20) and Vince Wells (2-19) had Hampshire reeling at 81 for seven in reply to the home county's first innings of 353. Yorkshire rekindled their title hopes after three successive defeats by taking the upper hand against arch-rivals Lancashire at Old Trafford.

Facing Yorkshire's 529 for eight declared, Lancashire were forced to follow on 206 behind after being bowled out for 323. Derbyshire with a game in hand, could go top if they complete victory on Monday's last day and other results favour them. Lancashire when reached 210 for five at the close — just four ahead — after Neil Fairbrother hit 55 in 60 balls to add to his first innings of 86.

Sidhu banned for 50-day

NEW DELHI, Aug 25: Indian opener Navjot Singh Sidhu was today given a 50-day ban from international cricket for quitting this year's tour of England, the Press Trust of India said, reports Reuter. The right-handed batsman will have to forfeit half the money he was due to earn from the tour, the news agency said after a disciplinary committee set up by the Board of Control for Cricket in India met at Mohali, near the northern city of Chandigarh. Sidhu abandoned the Indian team after the third one-day international against England at Old Trafford in Manchester on May 26, before India began a three-Test series, citing serious differences with captain Mohammad Azharuddin. Azharuddin was sacked after the tour and replaced by Sachin Tendulkar.

Sidhu was not considered for the four-nation Singer Cup beginning in Sri Lanka this month and the Sahara Cup against Pakistan scheduled to be played in Canada next month. Sidhu, whose ban ends on October 14, will be free to play domestic cricket. He will not be considered for a Test match against Australia starting on October 10 in New Delhi, the United News of India said.



Camille Waddell of the United States waves to crowd after setting a new Paralympic record 1 min 53.48 seconds in the women's 100m breaststroke on August 24 in Atlanta. — AFP/UNB photo

Flavio going to Madrid

MADRID, Aug 25: Brazilian international Flavio Conceicao was set to join Spanish club Real Madrid in a deal worth five million dollars, the Marca Sports daily said today, reports Reuter. "I want to go to Real Madrid," the Palmeiras midfielder said.

Assefa a la Gebreselassie

SYDNEY, Aug 25: Assefa Mezgebu of Ethiopia added the 5,000-metre title Sunday to the 10,000-metre gold he won earlier at the World Junior athletics championships, following in the footsteps of countryman Haile Gebreselassie, reports UNB. Mezgebu won in a championship record of 13 minutes, 35.30 seconds, relegating highly-rated Kenyan David Chelule (13:36.27) to his second silver of the championships. Aaron Gabonewe of South Africa finished third in 13:46.19. The Ethiopians dominated their great East African rivals from Kenya on the track Sunday with Kutre Dulecha winning the women's 1,500 metres and Ayelech Worku taking gold in the women's 5,000. Chelule and Mezgebu broke

away from a lead pack of five runners with about 600 metres to go. The Kenyan set the pace until 800 metres from home when Mezgebu glided past to take gold in a virtual replay of the finish of the 10,000 metres. "I have a lot of respect for Chelule," said Mezgebu. "As an athlete he is very strong and I knew he would run the last two or three laps hard and I was waiting for him." Mezgebu matched the performance of Gebreselassie, who won the 5,000 and 10,000 at the 1992 junior championships in Seoul. Gebreselassie is the world record holder over 5,000 and the Olympic champion over 10,000 metres.

Dulecha used similar tactics to win the 1,500, sitting behind Kenyan's Jackline Maranga and Rose Kosket before turning on the power in the final straight. Dulecha clocked a winning time of 4:08.65, ahead of Maranga (4:08.98) and another Ethiopian, Shura Huteasa (4:09.49). Worku completed a great day for Ethiopia, by winning the women's 5,000 metres in 15:40.03, ahead of Olivera Jevtic of Yugoslavia (15:40.59) and Cristina Ilco of Romania (15:41.44). Kenya gained a measure of revenge in the men's 1,500, where Shadrack Langat won in 3:38.96, ahead of Mohammed Yagoub of Sudan (3:39.17) and Miloud Abaoub of Algeria (3:39.37). Obea Moore became the first athlete to win three world junior golds by running in the American teams that won the 4-x-100 metre and 4-x-400 relays. Moore also won the individual 400 race earlier in the championships.