

DID U' KNOW? (The Professor does)

That Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, the American professional basketball player, six-time National Basketball Association (NBA) champion and six-time winner of the most valuable player (MVP) award was born in 1947. Originally named Ferdinand Lewis Alcindor, Jr. he was born in New York City. He was educated at the University of California at Los Angeles, where he led the university's basketball team to three consecutive National Collegiate Athletic Association championships (1967-1969). While a student, he became a member of the black Muslim faith and changed his name in 1971. From 1969 to 1975 he played centre for the Milwaukee Bucks of the NBA and led his team to the NBA championship in 1970-1971. In 1975 the 7-ft. 11-in player was traded to the Los Angeles Lakers; he led that team to five NBA championships. Abdul-Jabbar also developed a high-percentage signature shot known as the "sky hook," which was difficult for opponents to block. When he retired in 1989, he was the all-time NBA leader in points (38,387) and games played (1,560).

At seven feet plus you do need a name like that. In Bangladesh, three different persons would be called Kareem Abdul and Jabbar.

SPORTS TALK



Shahid Afridi (Pakistani cricketer) "I borrowed a bat from Waqar Younis and took the opportunity after the first wicket fell."

Commenting on his fastest hundred in one-dayers.

WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-58

Tick the Correct Answers

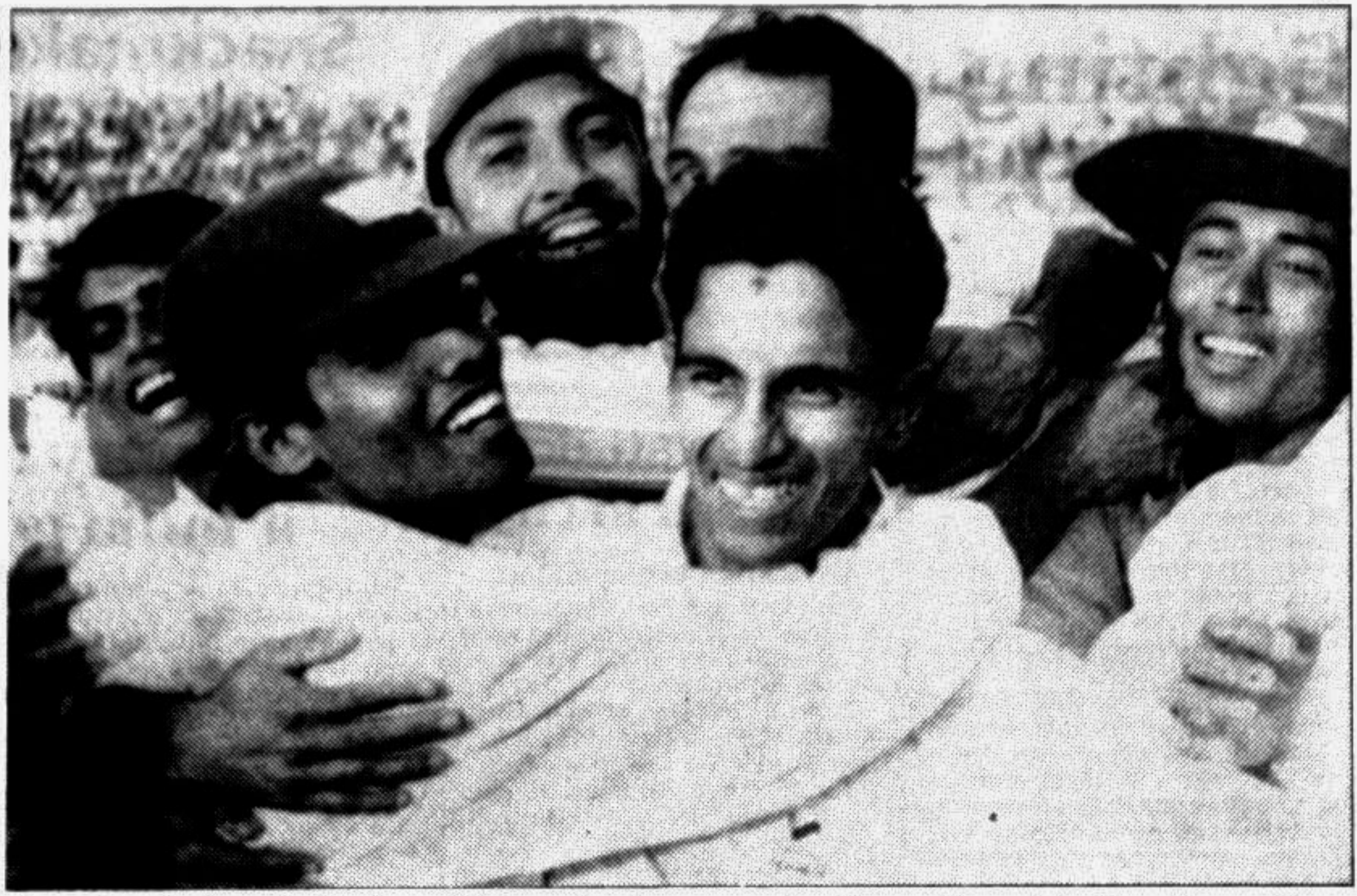
Competition closes: 8 pm December 6, 1996

- 1 Who won the Sharjah Champions' Trophy? Pakistan/New Zealand/Sri Lanka
2 Who currently holds the WBA heavyweight title? Tyson/Holyfield/Leonard
3 Which country will stage the 2002 World Cup football final? Japan/South Korea/France
4 Who scored the Danish Premier Division football league second hat-trick? Misan/Alfaz/Nakib
5 Which team has won the SMAH kabaddi league this year? Diksha SC/Asad SC/Victoria SC

Name: Roll No.: School Address: Phone: (if any)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.



An elated Agran Bank cricketers having a party time after defeating favourites Mohammedan Sporting Club by 53 runs in a highly enterprising Damal Smriti semifinal at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Drama ends in Mohammedans' dear defeat Agrani Bank in Damal final

Underdogs Agrani Bank had their greatest moment at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday when they pulled off an astonishing yet thoroughly deserving 53-run win over holders and star-studded Mohammedan Sporting Club for a memorable passage to the final of the 17th Damal Smriti cricket tournament. In the first semifinal of the season's curtain-raising tourney that saw Agrani Bank's maiden entry into the Damal final as against Mohammedans' only third exit from the semifinal stage, fortune fluctuated in a manner that once again underlined the glorious uncertainty of the game.

Mohammedans, perhaps over balanced by the presence of too many national and international stars, notably the two Sri Lankan World cuppers skipper Arjuna Ranatunga and his explosive opener Sanath Jayasuriya, at one stage had their opponents duly reeling at 57/6 after captain Aminul Islam Bulbul opted to field on calling the coin correctly in the morning.

Bulbul and his popular side's share of correctness for the day ran out at that point of the innings as the former Pakistani international Shahed Mahboob and Azam Iqbal set their minds on an astounding rescue operation. The fact that they were successful in their bid was amply demonstrated by statistics. Together they put on an invaluable 99 runs for the seventh wicket as Agrani Bank piled up a fighting 210/9 in their share of 50 overs.

Shahed Mahboob, who came to bat at number eight, after a disappointing performance so far in the meet, finally found his rhythm at a crucial stage scoring a blazing 79 off 62 balls embellished with two huge sixes and five savage hits across the rope. The latest act of the ageing yet agile Pakistani, who had to negotiate with a persistent groin injury almost throughout the match, revived memories of his hay day's in the 1983 World Cup where he featured in an eighty-plus partnership with skipper Imran Khan against Sri Lanka.

On the other hand, Azam Iqbal, the stockily-built right hander from Chittagong, scored a defiant 50 in his watchful 102-ball knock that decisively swung the pendulum Agrani Bank's way from the firm grip of Mohammedans, who in their chase, were never looked comfortable despite a conglomeration of high-profile batsmen in their line-up. Jayasuriya, the Sri Lankan left-hand opener, after surviving a confident lbw appeal fell for only 16, offering a high catch at mid-on off Shahed Mahboob in the ninth over. The early departure of perhaps the most entertaining batsman in the world with several records

under his belt, turned out to be a major blow for Mohammedans as well as for a strong crowd of 20,000 who gathered at the big bowl to watch the blitzkrieg of the balding stroke-maker.

The spirited bankers, buoyed by their early success, never looked behind on their way to skittle Mohammedans out for 157 with more than eight overs to spare. In an eventful match, marked with three successive "no ball" calls from umpire Shaheen against off-spinner Mintu for chucking, the most disappointing aspect, however, in Mohammedans' innings was the absence of someone in their star-studded line-up who could surpass Mr Sundries, which with a generous 31 stood as the highest contribution in the vanquished total.

Skipper Aminul Islam Bulbul and Arjuna Ranatunga with 21 and 22 respectively, were the only 20-plus scorers for Mohammedans, who in the face of some accurate bowling kept on losing wickets at regular intervals. Parvez, who opened the innings with Jayasuriya, departed for only four offering a simple return catch to Suja Arefin. The left-arm spinner then removed Sanwar Hossain, caught brilliantly at cover by a flying Shuvro after scoring a sedate 16.

Suja, who came as a replacement for Mintu in the 36th over after the latter was called for chucking three, brought delight amidst disappointment when he dismissed Sujon to finish most successful among the Agrani bowlers with 3/39 in his 9.5 overs.

Shahid Iqbal, who opened the Agrani attack with Mahboob, returned in the 42nd over with Mohammedans tottering at 157/8, mopped up the tail removing Shanto and Sumon in successive deliveries to finish with 2/11 in his 6.2 overs. Match adjudicator, former national speedster Daulatuz zaman had no problem in deciding in favour of Shahed Mahboob as the man of the match, the latter being Tk 3000

Muktis on a double trot

Acc striker Intiaz Ahmed Nakib and midfielder Golam Gaus scored once each as star-studded Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Krira Chakra registered a convincing 2-0 victory over Young Men's Club Fakirpur in a Dhaka Premier football league return leg encounter at the floodlit Mirpur Stadium yesterday. In a battle between the third and fourth teams of last year's league, Muktiyoddhas proved their superiority against the less motivated Young Men from the very beginning and sealed the fate of the match in the first half with two goals.

Cryptic crossword puzzle with clues and solutions.

AKC, Kalabagan lock horns today

Sports Reporter Abahani Krira Chakra take on Kalabagan Krira Chakra in the second semifinal of the 17th Damal Smriti cricket tournament at the Dhaka Stadium this morning.

Abahani, the last year's runners-up, qualified for the semi as the second round group champions while Kalabagan earned the last four berth finishing second in the other group.

Div I soccer Sadharan Bima hold Victoria

Sports Reporter Victoria Sporting Club and Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha share points in the Danish First Division football league as their return leg match ended in a 1-1 draw at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday afternoon.

Palash put the insurance men-ahead 18 minutes into the game while Rinku levelled the margin in the 77th minute. The draw raised leaders Victoria's tally to 27 points from 14 matches while Bima earned 14 points from as many outings.

Delta Life h'ball results

Sports Reporter Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University, Holy Cross College, Narayanganj Girls' College and Viqarunnissa Noon College won their respective Delta Life inter-college eves' handball tournament matches at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex yesterday.

Bangladesh finish last

Bangladesh finished last in the four-nation Chief Ministers' hockey tournament after conceding a 1-2 goals defeat to Malaysia in the third deciding match held in the Indian port city of Madras yesterday, reports UNB.

Navana v'ball begins today

The first ever Navana national volleyball league, organised by the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation, begins today at the volleyball court, reports UNB.

Taher tennis results

Sports Reporter American Club recorded a 2-1 victory over Dhaka Club in their Taher inter-club tennis tournament engagement at the Gulshan Club Tennis Complex yesterday.



Agrani Bank's Pakistani all-rounder Shahed Mahboob, who scored a breezy 79 off 62 balls and captured one wicket for 20 runs against Mohammedan Sporting Club in the first semifinal of the 17th Damal Smriti cricket tournament yesterday, receives the man-of-the-match award from former West Indies Test opener and Bangladesh cricket coach Gordon Greenidge after the match.

Uphill task for Windies

BRISBANE, Nov 25: The West Indies set off boldly in their chase for an improbable victory target on Monday after Australia had set them 420 runs to win in just under four sessions in the first cricket Test at the Gabba, reports agencies.

The West Indies were 89 for one at stumps, needing a further 331 runs from a minimum of 90 overs on the last day. Sherwin Campbell was on 28 with star batsman Brian Lara on 29.

A victory would give the visitors a morale-boosting 1-0 lead in their bid to regain the Frank Worrell Trophy in the five-match series after losing 2-1 in the Caribbean 18 months ago. Lara won the first round of his battle with leg-spinner Shane Warne, hitting him for five boundaries in his 36-ball knock.

He repeatedly pulled the wrist-spinner through mid-wicket, while exquisitely back cutting a couple of boundaries. Lara had a narrow escape on 16 when Glenn McGrath got a ball to rear on him. Lara fended the ball just short of McGrath's left hand in an attempted return catch.

In reply to Australia's first innings total of 479, the West Indies managed just 277 runs after a dramatic collapse which saw them lose seven wickets for 28 runs in 59 minutes.

Warne drew first blood for home side in his fourth over of the final session. In an eventful over, Robert Samuels was caught by Taylor at slip after the left-hander had taken 14 runs in three balls.

Samuels pulled Warne for a six over mid-wicket off the first ball and played and missed the second. He pulled the next ball to the square leg fence and Warne watched agonisingly as Paul Reiffel then dropped a sitter at square leg, which rolled over for another four.

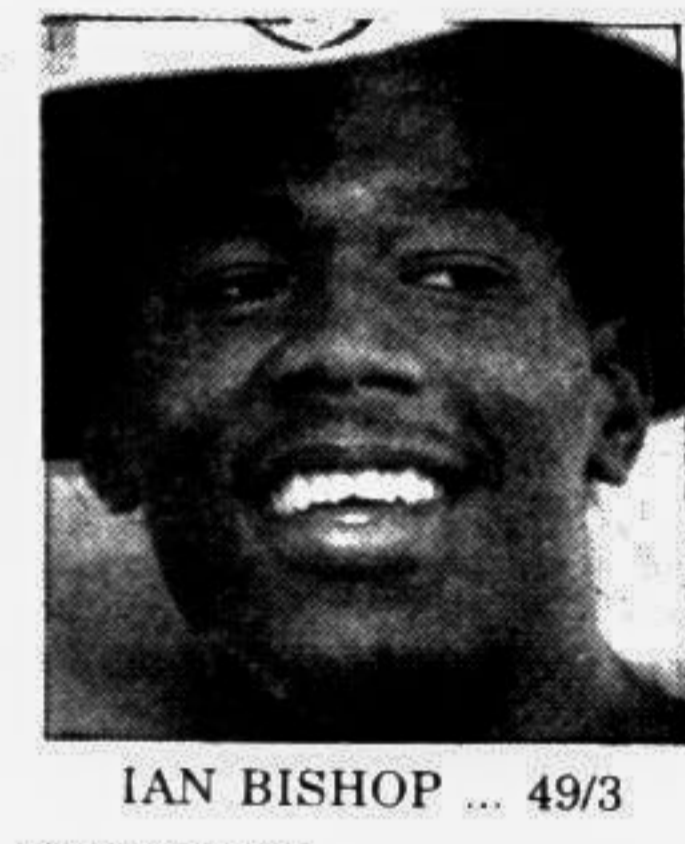
Samuels missed the fifth ball but, pushing forward to the last ball, edged the catch to chase the win.

The highest second innings West Indies has scored against Australia was a losing 352 in Sydney in 1968-69. After early hiccups, Mark Waugh, Michael Bevan and Healy added some substance to the Australian second innings total, although any score over 300 was going to be handful on a fifth-day wicket.

Waugh helped himself to 57 from a confident 95-ball innings, holding the middle-order in good stead from a shaky 82 for three at lunch.

Bevan scratched out an unimpressive 20 in 74 minutes after narrowly escaping a pair. The left-hander, whose technique against quality fast bowling has often been questioned, survived a catch at first slip - Lara dropping a straightforward chance off Ian Bishop at first slip - before he had scored.

He finally got off the mark with a miscued drive past Bishop for two runs - taking 29 minutes and 25 balls. Despite playing two full blooded pulls off Curtly Ambrose - Bevan miscued a hook and was well caught on



IAN BISHOP ... 49/3

the square leg boundary by substitute fielder Adrian Griffith. Healy - Australia's first innings mainstay with an unbeaten 161 - continued where he left off with another undefeated innings - 45 runs off 50 balls with six boundaries, when the declaration came.

His effort enabled him to post 3,000 runs in his 81st Test appearance. Ian Bishop finished with 3-49 in the Australian second innings giving him 6-154 match.

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the first Test between Australia and West Indies at the Gabba on Monday: AUSTRALIA: First innings 479 (Ian Healy 161 not out) WEST INDIES: First innings 277 (Carl Hooper 102) AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 8 for no wicket) Taylor c Browne b K Benjamin 36 Elliott b Bishop 21 Ponting c Browne b Bishop 29 M Waugh c Browne b Bishop 57 Bevan c Griffith (sub) b Ambrose 20 Healy not out 45 Reiffel run out 11 Extras: (b-1, lb-3, nb-14) 18 Total: (for six wickets declared, 65 overs) 217

Fall of wickets: 1-55; 2-74; 3-82; 4-147; 5-189; 6-217. Did not bat: S Waugh, S Warne, M Kasprawicz, G McGrath. Bowling: O M R W Ambrose 18 2 47 1 Walsh 17 1 58 0 Benjamin 15 1 52 1 Bishop 13 2 49 3 Hooper 2 0 7 0 WEST INDIES: Second innings Campbell Not out 28 Lara not out 29 Sarcis c Taylor b Warne 29 Lara not out 29 Extras: (nb-3) 3 Total: (for one wkt in 29 overs) 83 Fall of wkts: 1-54. Bowling: O M R W McGrath 10 5 15 0 Kasprawicz 5 1 15 0 Warne 10 4 34 1 Reiffel 4 0 25 0

Atherton & Co set sail

LONDON, Nov 25: Mike Atherton, England's captain for the tours of Zimbabwe and New Zealand, says it is difficult to keep leading a losing side but his desire to succeed is as strong as ever, reports Reuter.

Atherton underlined his determination on the eve of departure for the first leg of his team's 1996-97 assignment, a five-week schedule in Zimbabwe followed by almost two months in New Zealand.

England have yet to win a Test series overseas under Atherton, having lost 3-1 in West Indies in early 1994, 3-1 in Australia in 1994-95 and 1-0 in South Africa in 1995-96. "I feel pretty comfortable with the England job at the moment and refreshed after a break. But, at the same time, it's difficult of keeping taking a losing side around," said Atherton.

"We have a new vice-captain now in Nasser Hussain, and others like (Nick) Knight and (John) Crawley are also at the right sort of age and getting a little bit more experience. "There are so many factors involved but, first of all, I need to keep on enjoying the captaincy and to keep my place in the side.

"I know that if I play all winter then I will have captained England 40 times and I will be close to the record, but I don't feel any need to get that record. Someone else would break it again one day, anyway." If Atherton keeps the job, he should break former England captain Peter May's 41-Test record in next year's Ashes showpiece - the second Test at Lord's in June.

"I'm just looking to improve as a captain, and I feel at present that I am improving," Atherton said. "I do analyse myself at the end of every Test and I think I react a bit quicker on the field to certain situations.

"But, overall, I believe captaincy is a form thing as much as batting or bowling. Sometimes everything goes right and on other occasions nothing will run for you.

TOURS ITINERARY England itinerary for tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand: ZIMBABWE November 1996: 30 v Districts (Harare South Country Club) December: 1 v President's XI (Harare Sports Club) 3-6 v Mashonaland (Harare Sports Club) 8 v Matadaleland (Queen's Club, Bulawayo) 10-13 v Matadaleland (Queen's Club, Bulawayo) 15 v Zimbabwe, 1st one-day international (Queen's Club, Bulawayo) 18-22 v Zimbabwe, 2nd Test (Queen's Club, Bulawayo) 26-30 v Zimbabwe, 1st Test (Harare Sports Club) January 1997: 1 v Zimbabwe, 2nd one-day international (Harare Sports Club) 3 v Zimbabwe, 3rd one-day international (Harare Sports Club) NEW ZEALAND January: 10 v NZ Academy XI (Pukekura Park, New Plymouth) 13-16 v NZC Selection XI (Pitchebert Park, Palmerston North) 18-21 v Northern Districts (Trustbank Park, Hamilton) 24-28 v New Zealand, 1st Test (Eden Park, Auckland) 30-Feb 2 v New Zealand A (Victoria Park, Wanganui) February: 6-10 v New Zealand, 2nd Test (Basin Reserve, Wellington) 14-18 v New Zealand, 3rd Test (Lancaster Park, Christchurch) 20 v New Zealand, 1st one-day international (day/night) (Lancaster Park, Christchurch) 23 v New Zealand, 2nd one-day international (Eden park, Auckland) 26 v New Zealand, 3rd one-day international (day/night) (McLean Park, Napier) March: 1 v New Zealand, 4th one-day international (Eden Park, Auckland) 4 v New Zealand, 5th one-day international (Basin Reserve, Wellington)