

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Mike Atherton (England cricket captain) 'They're a bit of a fix for US. On England losing to Zimbabwe recently.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

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Sports WHIZZ KID competition-62

Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes : 8 pm Jan 31, '97

Competition questions and answers regarding cricket and sports facts.

Name, Class, Roll No., School Address, Phone (if any) form.

Div I cricket result

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

ESKATON 55: 196 for eight in 45 overs... CITY CLUB: 198 for seven in 42.4 overs...

City Club recorded a three-wicket victory over Eskaton Sabuj Sangha in their First Division relegation league opener...

For Eskaton, Pakistani bowler Shahbaz Ahmed took three wickets for 19 runs while Mamun captured two wickets conceding 35 runs.

With yesterday's win, City Club kept the lead in the four-team relegation league, having collected 10 points from as many matches.

For Eskaton, Pakistani bowler Shahbaz Ahmed took three wickets for 19 runs while Mamun captured two wickets conceding 35 runs.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Premier Division Cricket League: (Super league) Abahani vs Biman (DS) (Relegation vs Victoria SC (BKSP) GMCC vs Victoria SC (BKSP) First Division Cricket League: Dhaka Wanderers vs Azad SC (DCS) Dhanmndi Club vs Sadharan Bima (CCG) Acme Second Division Cricket League: Jatrabari KC vs Rayerbazar Club (T&T) Amoriyoti Club vs Lancashire CC (DCS, West) Western SC vs Lalbagh USC (DC) Millbarrack CC vs Indra RC (MOS) Uditi Club vs Rupali Bank (Utara).

MSC in endless abyss

Sports Reporter



It seems there is no way out of the vicious circle of chronic defeats for holders Mohammedan Sporting Club.

The defending champions, smarting under five consecutive defeats, extended their spell of unprecedented misfortune to six as title-contenders Brothers Union handed them a four-wicket thrashing in a Premier Super league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Skipper Faruque Ahmed played a captain's innings of 74 as Brothers overhauled a fighting Mohammedan total of 223 for seven with six balls to spare and four wickets in hand to celebrate their second successive win in the six-team Super league.

The match-winning knock of Faruque, the second consecutive half century by the former national skipper, also enabled the Gopibahadur outfit to steal a march on others in the points table with a haul of 22 points from 13 outings.

Faruque, who came in to bat at his customary position of four, played the sheet anchor role to throttle Brothers close to victory with a brilliant 74 off 95 balls. After a jumpy start with Brothers reduced to 65 for two in 11.4 overs, the stockily-built right-hander shared 60 runs for the third wicket with Shahriar Hossain Bidyut before the national opener departed for a gritty 38 off 84 balls.

After the fall of Bidyut, who was beaten in the air by a lighted delivery from Shahed Mehmood, Brothers suffered a mini-collapse. The Pakistani leg-spinner of Mohammedans responsible for the sudden slide, then went on to disturb the furniture of his compatriots Aamir Hanif and Zahid Ahmed in successive overs, leaving Brothers precariously placed at 148 for five in 33.4 overs.

But once Shahed Mehmood exhausted his quota of 10 overs with 33 for three, Faruque and Halim, who added priceless 48 runs for the sixth wicket, were hardly troubled by the other Mohammedan bowlers. Faruque hammered seven brutal hits across the rope in his 95-ball vigil before being eventually out in the 45th over when Mohammedans' tall right-arm seamer Shanto had him trapped in front of the wicket.

While Halim Shah and Mofizur Rahman Munna, the two heroes of Brothers' many a sensational victories this season, collected the required 28 runs without further damage. Halim Shah, in his chancy unbeaten 31 off 44 balls, hammered three sweetly-timed fours in successive deliveries off Harshib Hossain Shanto. The right-hander was earlier dropped by Parvez at deep mid-wicket while on 17. A shakky Parvez had also dropped Faruque at the same position while the Brothers skipper was on 66.

Earlier, the Mohammedan total was built around some useful contribution by their top and middle-order batsmen. Opener Parvez scored 30 off 46 balls while Pakistani Shahed Mehmood, who replaced his compatriot and opener Raja Arshad in a changed batting order, hammered 23.

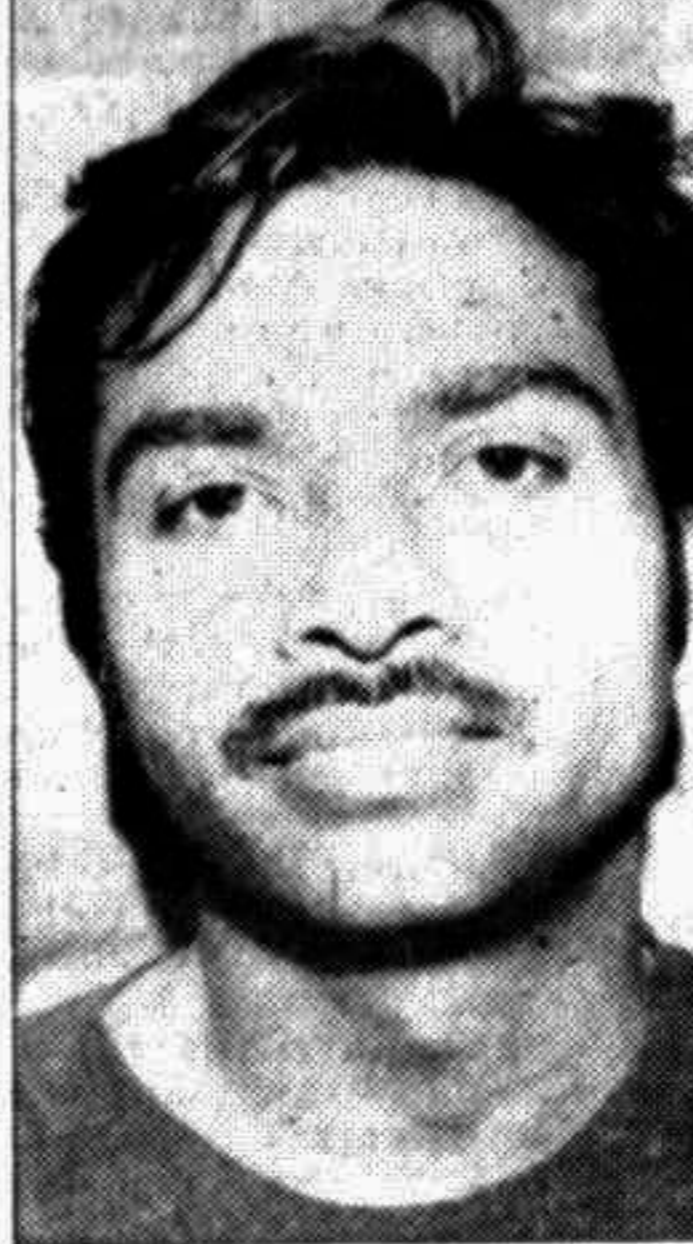
Skipper Aminul Islam top scored for his side with a gritty 49 and Raja Arshad contributed 45. For Brothers, their three tweakers - national left-arm spinner Enamul Haq Moni, Pakistani Zahid Ahmed and Saifullah Gem - evenly shared six wickets.

some chairs at the VIP enclosure during the last Thursday's first phase encounter. Brothers fans yesterday behaved in the most seamy way and added to the spirit of entertainment with the sight of a giant flag of the club and the ceaseless sound of bugs.

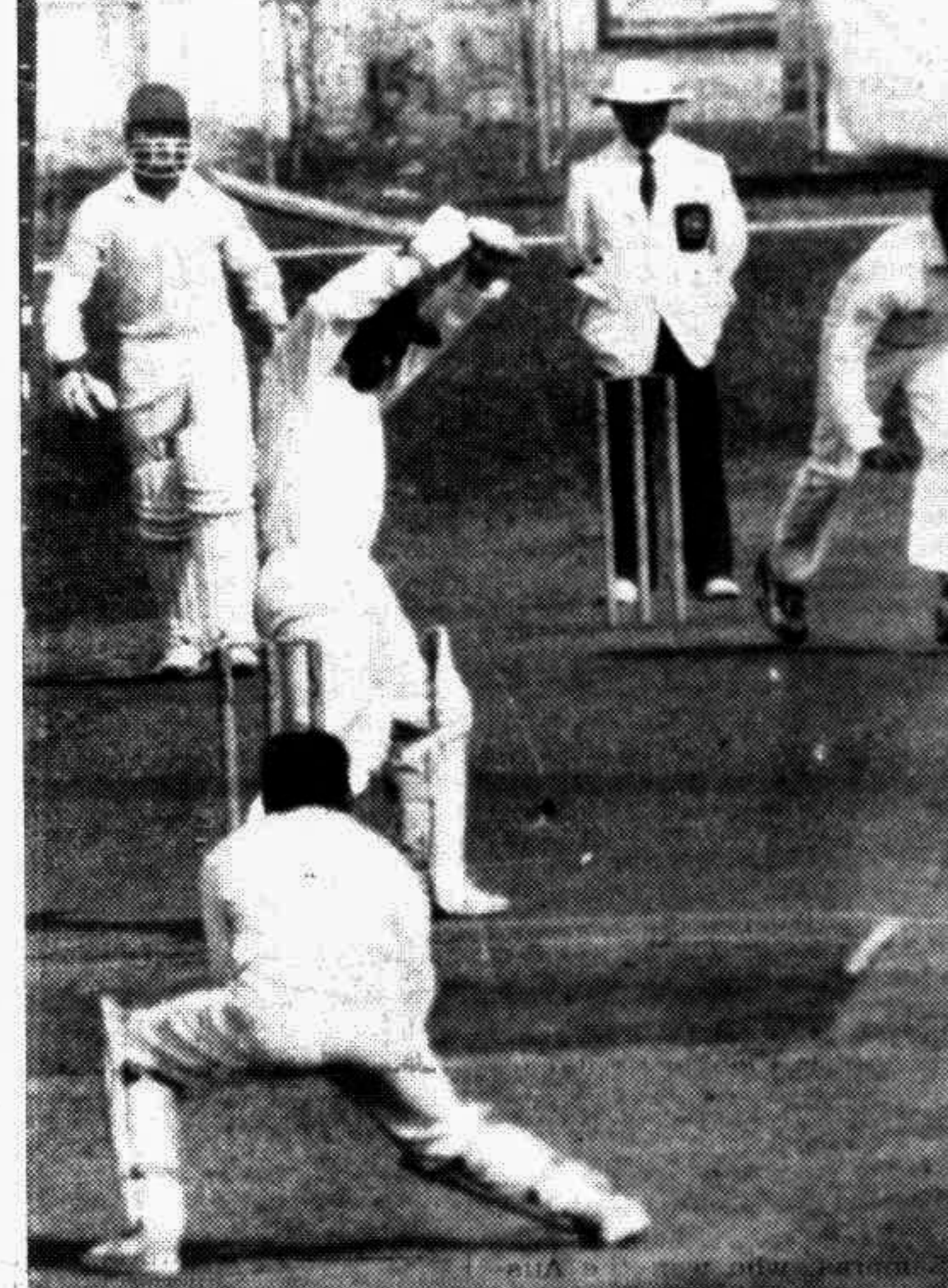
Meanwhile, in the other match of the day at the BKSP ground in Savar, former Pakistan international Manzoor Elahi set an unofficial world record by smashing the quick-cent half century to inspire Kalabagan to a six-wicket win over Wari Club.

Manzoor whacked a quartet of sixes and as many fours to complete his 50 off only 16 deliveries as Kalabagan, chasing a paltry Wari total of 123, rattled up 125 for four in only 16.5 overs to celebrate their tenth victory from 13 matches. Besides, opener Harun-ur Rashid Liton scored a quick-fire 41 off 40 balls.

Manzoor's pyrotechnics, however, overshadowed another brilliant performance from Kalabagan skipper Saiful Islam, who with a five-wicket haul played havoc in Wari innings.



FARUQUE... 74 Extras: (b-1, lb-5, n-1, w-9) 16 Total: seven wickets in 50 overs: 223 Fall of wickets: 1-36; 2-75; 3-93.4-169.5 178; 6-179.7 208 Bowling: O M R W Sajal 6 1 29 1



Mohammedan skipper Aminul Islam Bulbul shoulders arm to let go a delivery of Brothers Union's Pakistani bowler Aamir Hanif during their Premier Division Super league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Scoreboard table for the match between Mohammedan SC and Brothers Union.

With this win, Kalabagan joined Bangladesh Biman in the second position with 20 points. But Biman played one match less. The national airline outfit will take on Abahani Kirra Chakra at the Dhaka Stadium today.

Scoreboard table for the match between Mohammedan SC and Brothers Union.

Mohammedan SC and Brothers Union batting details.

Scoreboard of the premier cricket super league match between Mohammedan SC and Brothers Union at the Dhaka Stadium on Monday:

Scoreboard table for the match between Mohammedan SC and Brothers Union.

Chelsea, down 2-0 on goals by Robbie Fowler and Stan Collymore, scored four times in 25 minutes in the second half. Mark Hughes, coming off the bench at half time, scored in the 50th, with another by Italian Gianfranco Zola in the 57th and the clincher in the 62nd by fellow Italian Gianluca Vialli. Vialli, benched for the past few games, got another in the 75th on a header.



Olympic legend Carl Lewis (C) of the United States finishes equal seventh in a 100 metres sprint at the site of the 2000 Summer Games in Sydney yesterday.

Bankers beat Surjo Tarun

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

SURJO TARUN CLUB: 152 all out in 49.4 overs (extras 55. Zafar Ali 24, Dufin 20; Dipu Roy 3/16, Irfan 2/16; Shahid Iqbal 2/23) AGRANI BANK: 153 for four in 42.4 overs (Shahid Iqbal 80 n.o., Nahid 44 n.o.; Rehan 2/30) Result: Agrani Bank won by six wicket.

Aided by a brilliant all-round performance by Pakistani cricketer Shahid Iqbal Agrani Bank thumped-down a six-wicket defeat on Surjo Tarun Club in the relegation league of the Premier Division cricket at the eastern strip of the Dhanmndi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Cashing a paltry Surjo Tarun total of 152 for victory, Shahid Iqbal, the tall right-hander who earlier in the first session captured two wickets for 23 runs with his medium pace bowling to help his side restrict Tarun to a paltry total, hammered an unbeaten 80 off 90 balls, enabling bankers reach the summit in the 43rd over with six wickets in hand.

Coming in to bat at number five with the bankers shabbily placed on three for eight in the tenth over, Shahid hung on to create rest of the time and played a blazing innings to steer side to the winning mark. Shahid's breezy knock included nine sweetly hit side re-ropes and a big sixer.

Earlier, electing to bat first, Surjo Tarun were all out for 152 in 49.4 overs thanks to the highest contribution of 55 runs from Mr Sundries. The hefty amount of extras featured 27 wides and 23 leg-byes.

Veteran left-arm pacer Dipu Roy Chowdhury was the most successful among the Bank bowlers with three wickets for 16 runs. Irfan and Shahid Iqbal claimed two wickets each.

With their second successive win yesterday, Agrani Bank tallied 14 points from 13 matches to maintain their sole lead in the six-team Relegation league. On the other hand, Surjo Tarun remained glued to their previous collection of 4 points on completion of their 13 matches.

India 104/4 in 28 Sports Reporter

India were 104 for four after 28 overs chasing a target of 237 to win against Zimbabwe in a triangular cricket tournament match at Paarl, South Africa yesterday, according to Star TV monitors, here late last night.

Saurav Ganguly and Ajay Jadeja were at the crease with 36 and 11 respectively. Earlier, the Zimbabweans piled up a fighting totals of 236 losing eight wickets in their stipulated 50 overs. Skipper Alistair Campbell hit 61 and Craig Evans scored 40, while Venkatesh Prasad claimed three of the Zimbabwe wickets giving away 49 runs.

Dutch clinch three-nation hockey title

DURBAN, South Africa. Jan 27: Olympic champions Holland treated a huge crowd to a thrilling display of hockey skills when they beat South Africa 1-0 to win the tri-nations men's tournament at Queensmead stadium here on Sunday, reports AFP.

After a breakfast meeting winding up their two-day summit, the leaders signed autographs on soccer balls for the governor and other leaders of this southern Japan province which has a football club led by South Koreans.

The province with its capital located in Oita, adjacent to this hot-spring resort, is also one of 10 Japanese venues for the 2002 World Cup football finals to be co-hosted with South Korea.

"I asked him (Kim) if South Korea has set up a branch office," Hashimoto told reporters, referring to Oita Football Club, a Second Division team established in 1994.

Choi Dae-Sik, 32, a former Daewoo star who played in both the 1990 and 1994 World Cup, joined the Oita club last year. He was followed by 23-year-old Lee Woo-Yung, fresh from his Olympic campaign at the Atlanta Games.

Now, with former South Korean national team coach Park Kyong-Hwa as its new pilot, Oita is looking at a brighter future in the Premier-J League. Hashimoto said that President Kim had shown interest in the hot-spring and the system of geothermal power generation at a hotel where he stayed.



A demoralised Mohammedan cricket team led by Bulbul (2nd from left), leave the ground after suffering their sixth successive defeat in the Premier Division super league to Brothers Union at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Lara fighting a losing battle

Windies in spin scare

ADELAIDE, Jan 27: West Indies master batsman Brian Lara ended his longest slump in Test cricket with a defiant display of big-hitting on the third day of the fourth Test match against Australia today, reports Reuter.

But Lara's 65 not out, including 11 fours and two sixes, appeared a virtual oasis in a West Indies batting desert, as four wickets fell about him in the final session to leave his team 154 for six at the close of play.

The West Indies have the mammoth task of reaching 387 with just four wickets in hand on a turning pitch to make Australia bat again.

Australia, who lead the best-of-five match series 2-1, are now virtually assured of a victory, which would deliver a series win and allow them to retain the Frank Worrell Trophy they won in the Caribbean in 1995.

Lara, under immense pressure after scoring just 86 runs in his last seven Test innings, chose to attack as the shadows lengthened on the tree-lined Oval, lashing Australia's spin duo of Shane Warne and Michael Bevan to all parts of the ground.

Lara brought up his 50 with a brutal cut for four off Shane Warne, giving him some revenge over the leg-spinner.

Warne snared the wicket of Lara for nine in the first innings when Lara waltzed down the pitch to Warne's first ball and succeeded in scooping a mis-hit drive to mid-off.

Lara's self-destruction was the centrepiece of a dismal West Indies first innings of 130 and drew some savage criticism about a perceived lack of discipline in the local press.

His swashbuckling reply in the last session was his first Test 50 since May last year and his first venture into double figures in a Test since late November.

But despite Lara's example, the wickets kept tumbling around him. Warne and Bevan, who is playing his first match

as a recognised spinner, again ran amok through the West Indies. Bevan took three, for 56, fooling first Shivmarine Chandernaul (8) and then Sherwin Campbell (24) into nickes to first slip with his bouncy chinamen.

Bevan, who has until now been chosen as batsmen who bat and pad to clip the top of off-stump.

The 25-year-old South Australian strode from a hushed ground in disbelief, his head down and cursing.

The packed Oval just managed to stir itself into a standing ovation as a grim-faced Blewett walked into the dressing room.

Brian Lara... 65 n.o.

bowls occasionally, was brought on within the first hour in both innings and has taken seven wickets in the match so far.

Earlier an unusually tentative Bevan batted for 324 minutes to compile 85 not out in Australia's first innings of 517.

The feature of Australia's morning batting effort was the dismissal of home town boy Greg Blewett for 99, which stunned the Adelaide Oval crowd of about 20,000.

A careful Blewett seemed to be forging inexorably towards his Test third century when Cuffy sent down a ball that seemed back between Blewett's

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the fourth cricket Test between Australia and West Indies at the Adelaide Oval Monday.

WEST INDIES: First innings 130 in 47.5 overs; Bevan 4/31, Warne 3/42. AUSTRALIA: First innings (434 for five overnight). Taylor lbw Bishop 11 Hayden et Murray b Hooper 125 Langer c Murray b Cuffy 19 M Waugh c Murray b Hooper 82 S Waugh c Hooper b Chandernaul 26 Blewett b Cuffy 99 Bevan not out 85 Healey c Lara b Thompson 12 Warne c Hooper b Bishop 9 Bichel c Lara b Walsh 7 McGrath b Walsh 1

WEST INDIES: Second innings Griffith c S Waugh b McGrath 1 Campbell c Taylor b Bevan 24 Chandernaul c Taylor b Bevan 28 Lara not out 65 Hooper lbw Warne 45 Adams c Bevan b Warne 0 Bishop c Bevan b Warne 1 Extras: (b-0, lb-5, w-0, nb-6) 11 Total (for six wickets): 154

Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-22; 3-42; 4-138; 5-145; 6-154. Bowling O M R W McGrath 17 4 31 1 Bichel 8 4 16 0 Bevan 15 2 56 3 Warne 12.3 2 46 2 Blewett 2 2 0 0

Sport takes front seat

BEPPU, Japan. Jan 27: Football played a central position at a summit between Japanese Prime Minister Hashimoto and South Korean President Kim Young-Sam here Sunday, reports AFP.

After a breakfast meeting winding up their two-day summit, the leaders signed autographs on soccer balls for the governor and other leaders of this southern Japan province which has a football club led by South Koreans.

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Japanese officials said that Hashimoto and Kim had basically agreed to continue visiting each other's country for summit talks in short-leaves.

When the couple's first son was born three years ago, Hashimoto came here to spend the New Year's holidays with her family. The Asahi newspaper said. The Premier had Beppu on his mind after the first summit with Kim on Cheju.

Following the launch of direct flights to Seoul in 1992, Beppu has also become a popular tourist destination for South Koreans with 36,000 arriving in 1995, about 12 items as many as 1985.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer with CRYPTOQUIP puzzle below.