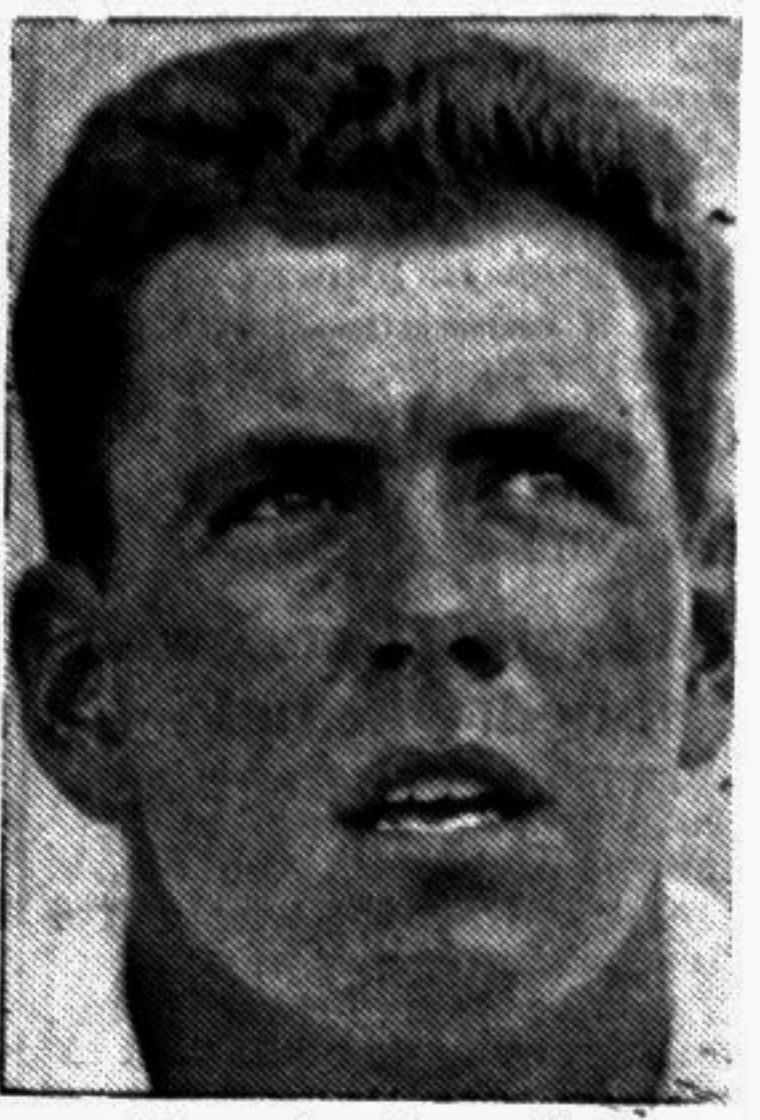


## Column One

## SPORTS TALK

**Hansie Cronje**

(South Africa cricket captain)  
"It is a big pleasure beating the world champions at the same venue where they won the world title last year."

After winning the Golden Jubilee quadrangular tourney defeating Sri Lanka at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore.

**Boost sports WHIZZ KID**

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

**Competition-84**

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm, on Dec 12, '97

1 Who lifted the Chase Championships title?

Hingis Novotna Pierre

2 Who became champions in the quadrangular cricket tourney?

Africa Pakistan Sri Lanka

3 How many stadia will be used during France '98?

8 9 10

4 Which team clinched the Delta Life handball title?

Shamsunnahar Lalmata A Bawani

5 Who won the Div II handball league?

Bantangan W Jatrabari Mansoor

Name .....

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Class ..... Roll No. ....

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School Address .....

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Phone: (If any) .....

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POWERED WITH

EN-VITS

ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

**McEnroe best among seniors**

LONDON, Dec 8 (Reuters): John McEnroe took the ATP Senior Tour of Champions' title in London's Albert Hall on Sunday but not before one of his trade-mark tirades of old, reports Reuters.

The fiery American, who opted for a navy-blue T-shirt and black trainers over the traditional tennis whites, beat France's Henri Leconte 6-2, 3-6, 10-5 (correct) in the tie-break.

Trailing 3-5 in the second set, the 38-year-old reminded spectators of another of his traits, his ability to ruffle officials and opponents by arguing against decision.

He disputed an official's call of out on his first service at 15-30 by climbing over the net and putting a ball down on the line. After the umpire refused McEnroe's demand to overrule the official and said: 'You are full of s...'

**Super duo's vintage show**

JOHANNESBURG, Dec 8: Romario and Bebeto used speed and flair to score first-half goals Sunday as Brazil defeated South Africa 2-1 in an exhibition soccer match between two World Cup qualifiers, reports AP.

South Africa were no match for Brazil's quickness and ball-handling wizardry but fought back to score a 78th minute goal by substitute Helman Mkhalele.

The South Africans had few other serious scoring chances and rarely were able to penetrate deep into the Brazilian zone.

Brazil coach Mario Zagallo praised Romario and Bebeto, who have teamed together less frequently since 1994.

Rising stars such as Ronaldinho, who missed the match due to games for Inter Milan on Saturday and Tuesday, have crowded the lineup and given Zagallo a problem of too much talent.

Romario said he enjoyed pairing with Bebeto, but the most important thing was the victory, Brazil's fourth straight on its world tour after triumphs over Mexico, South Korea and Japan.

"I think I showed what I can do," the swift forward said of his chances of playing a significant role on next year's World Cup squad. "I'm going to continue to work hard to make the team. I know we have a lot of good players."

For South Africa who qualified for the finals for the first time since they returned to international arena in 1992 after being banned two decades because of apartheid, it was another defeat to a world soccer power.

Despite a strong record in Africa, including an African Nations' Cup triumph in 1995, they have yet to defeat a legitimate

mate European or South American power in the past two years, including two losses to Brazil and defeats by England.

**ROMARIO**

In the 37th minute, Denilson charged up the left and sent the ball inside to Romario, who back heeled it to Bebeto. His

charge European or South American power in the past two years, including two losses to Brazil and defeats by England.

FRANKFURT, Dec 8: Anke Huber of Germany battled five sets for an upset of favourite and World No. 1 Martina Hingis in the final of the first Masters of Champions tennis tournament Sunday, reports AP.

The match, Huber's only tournament win this season, started off as expected with the 17-year-old Hingis rushing off to a 6-2 first set win.

Huber pulled even taking the second set 6-3, with Hingis bouncing back with a 6-2 third set, and Huber winning the fourth with the identical result as Hingis appeared to be tiring.

Then the battle started.

Hingis held her serve in the first game of the fifth set, then broke Huber's serve in the second game at zero, with the help of one of many net rollers in the match, and double-fault by Huber.

But the 23-year-old Huber, who has dropped from No. 6 in world rankings to 14 this season, got a break against Hingis in the third game then held her own serve to tie the set at 2-2.

Both women held their services to go to 5-5, with the volleys getting longer and the crowd loudly applauding as the two chased down shots that seemed impossible to return.

But the young Swiss star tired and in the 11th game and with the help of yet another net roller, Huber broke Hingis' service to pull ahead 6-5.

Hingis fought to come back in the last game going ahead 30-0, but Huber recovered to win the set 7-5, the match and a purse of \$675,000 marks (\$91,000).

Hingis, who ends the 1997 season with 79 match wins against only six losses, got 575,000 marks (\$24,556 dollars) as the runner-up.

No world ranking points were awarded for this 2.75 million marks (1.6 million dollars) tournament.

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**European soccer scene**

LONDON, Dec 8 (Reuters): Ajax Amsterdam and Kaiserslautern left little doubt at the weekend that they both intend to be number ones at Christmas.

While title races hotted up elsewhere, with Juventus closing in on Inter Milan in Italy and Barcelona knocking Real Madrid off the top in Spain, the championship contest in the Netherlands and Germany cooled.

In the case of Ajax, a credibility gap emerged as total football gave way to total domination.

Their 1-0 home win against Roda JC Kerkrade, sealed with a 10th minute Tijani Babangida goal, was one of their least impressive of the season yet it stretched their overall league lead to a massive 15 points.

Ajax have now won 17 out of 18 league games this season, drawing the other one against Roda in October, and were helped further by their closest rivals' PSV Eindhoven losing 4-1 at Willem II Tilburg.

Kaiserslautern meanwhile beat second-placed Bayern Munich 2-0 on Friday to open a seven-point lead.

**ITALY**

Champions Juventus beat Lazio 2-1 on Saturday with two goals from Alessandro Del Piero that cut the gap at the top of Serie A to two points.

Leaders Inter Milan had Brazilian striker Ronaldo back on the scoresheet with a ninth minute goal against Sampdoria but that match ended in a 1-1 draw.

Equal third placed Roma and Udinese also kept in the hunt, three points behind Juventus, with home wins against Atalanta Bergamo and Bologna respectively.

German striker Oliver Bierhoff scored twice for Udinese in a 4-3 win. Bologna played the last half hour with 10 men after Michele Paramatti was sent off.

**ENGLAND**

Chelsea dealt Tottenham Hotspur their heaviest home

defeat in 62 years, winning 6-1 to maintain their challenge to leaders Manchester United.

United beat Liverpool 3-1 at Anfield, two of the goals scored by Andy Cole, to stay three points clear of second-placed Chelsea — who were also drawn as their first opponents in the FA Cup draw on Sunday.

Blackburn Rovers were a point behind Chelsea in third place thanks to a 3-1 win at home to Bolton.

At the bottom of the league, Everton ended a run of five successive defeats with a draw at Leeds, whose former great Billy Bremner died on Sunday.

**GERMANY**

Kaiserslautern were sitting comfortably at the top after beating second placed Bayern 2-0 but third-placed VFB Stuttgart moved to within three points of Bayern with a 3-1 win at TSV 1860 Munich.

**SPAIN**

Barcelona emerged from a

month-long crisis to knock Real Madrid off the top of the league in Spain.

The Catalans beat Real Zaragoza 2-1 in their best game of the season under former Ajax coach Louis Van Gaal while Real let Oviedo in for a late equaliser and drew 1-1.

**FRANCE**

Monaco and Metz stayed deadlocked at the top of the league with Paris St Germain a point behind.

Striker David Trezeguet kept Monaco on top on goal difference with a late goal in a 2-1 win over Olympique Lyon, who had taken an early lead, while Metz beat Chateauroux 2-0. PSG were reduced to 10 men in the 85th minute when defender Eric Rabesandratana was sent off but Rai scored the winner two minutes later.

**GERMANY**

German Anke Huber (L) proudly shows the winner's trophy along with world No 1 Martina Hingis whom she defeated in the final of the Masters of Champions tennis tournament in Frankfurt, Germany on Dec 7. Huber won 2-6, 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 and 7-5. —AP/UNB photo

**Hingis stoops to Huber**

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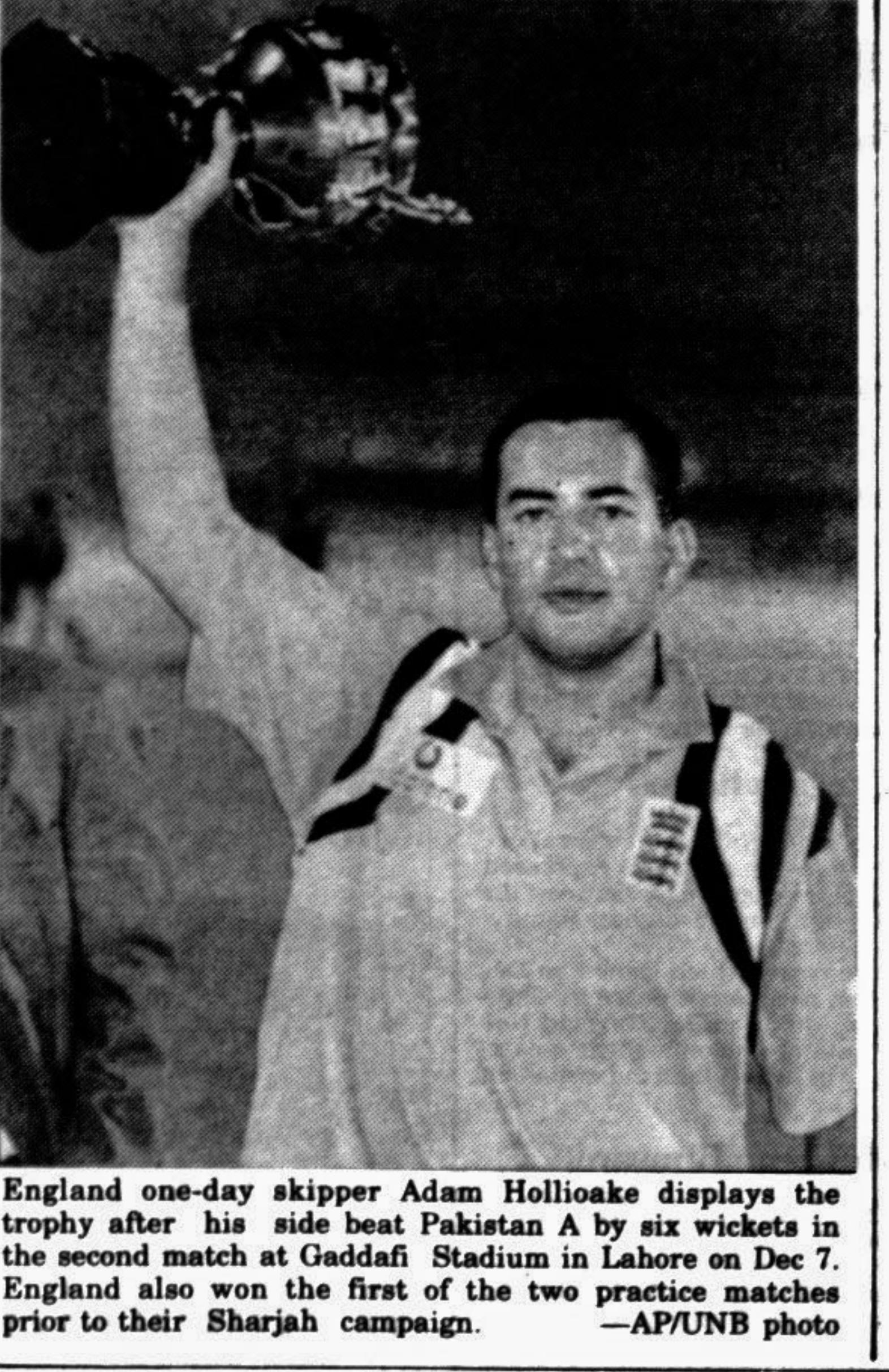
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**England one-day skipper Adam Hollioake displays the trophy after his side beat Pakistan A by six wickets in the second match at Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on Dec 7. England also won the first of the two practice matches prior to their Sharjah campaign.**

—AP/UNB photo

**Moody gets a surprise call**

MELBOURNE, Dec 8: Veteran Tom Moody won a surprising recall to Australia's limited-overs team Monday for Tuesday's match against South Africa at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, reports AP.

The West Australian and Warwickshire captain last played an international match on Jan 12, scoring 94 and taking 2 for 46 off six overs against the West Indies.

The 32-year-old's call up was surprising considering the selectors' attitude of bringing young players into the lineup this season.

"I don't think I'm too old," Moody said Monday. "I've got plenty of cricket to play... I still feel fit enough and keen enough to represent and do well for my country."

"I think I'm in the peak of my career now so I feel I can offer some good years of cricket ahead."

Moody will replace paceman Glenn McGrath, who suffered a stomach muscle injury in Sunday's thrilling three-wicket win over New Zealand at Adelaide Oval.

His crisp, powerful hitting and nagging seamers, shape as valuable commodities against the tough South African team.

Moody scored a brilliant 160 in the current Sheffield Shield match against Tasmania in Perth, in front of national chairman of selectors Trevor Hohns.

He has played one-day internationals, scoring 766 runs at 23.93 and taking 21 wickets at 40.66.

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academy played a match against a side that included several members of our national squad. He hit Pat Symcox for a couple of big sixes. That was the impetus he needed and he never looked back.

From there he went to this year's Zone Six tournament and made 80 off 70 balls against Zimbabwe.

When he made his debut for Griquas in a Standard Bank league match against Natal in Durban, he gained one immediate fan is Northern Cape premier, Manne Dipico, a cricket fanatic, who sent his family a bouquet of flowers. Hunte is also excited about the ability of Toyana.

"It needs to tighten up his shot selection but there is no doubt his ability. He also went through the regional academy route to the Zone Six tournament and he learned a lot when he spent this past summer on the grounds staff at Lord's as part of the agreement.

"Perhaps this does also show that the UCB's development programmes are working. Both Toyana and Bosman are the products of regional academies of excellence organised by Conrad Hunte, former vice-captain of the West Indies and chief development coach of the UCB.

"I couldn't quite put my finger on it when I first saw Bosman play," Hunte recalled. "But I felt at the time there was something special about him. I am not saying that he has anything like the same talent but he plays the game with a style and with a lateness of stroke that is reminiscent of the great Frank Worrell."

"On November 22, Geoffrey Toyana of Soweto came out to bat at No 7 for Gauteng against West Indies A and made a sparkling unbeaten 44 in a home total of 372 for seven declared.

Two days later, Roger Telemachus was a shock withdrawal from the South African tour party for Australia and was replaced by 20-year-old Makanya Ntini who became the first black to represent the new South Africa at cricket.