

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-86

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm on Jan 9, 1998

1 Who is the Australia cricket coach?

Lille Marsh Simpson

2 Who is the Argentina soccer coach?

Passarella Venables Cruyff

3 Which county will Lara lead next year?

Essex Durham Warwickshire

4 Who hit the first century in this year's Premier Division cricket league?

Nadim Saeed Kazmi

5 Who lifted the women's singles title of the national TT championships?

Lima Tumpa Zulkeha

Name

Class Roll No.

School*Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

NOTICE

Due to unavoidable circumstances draw for the WHIZZ KID Competition-86 could not be held yesterday. Therefore, the current competition will continue upto Jan 16. Inconvenience regretted.

— Sports Editor

SPORTS TALK



Wasim Akram

(Former Pakistan cricket captain)

"I might have been badly injured, or it might have been more serious."

After escaping a car crash in Sharjah during the Champions' Trophy.

Agassi in semis

ADELAIDE, Jan 9: Andre Agassi continued his strong start to the year with a solid quarterfinal win over New Zealand's Brett Steven at the Australian men's hardcourt tennis championship Friday, reports AP.

Agassi won 1-6, 6-1, 6-1 and Steven declared that the former world No 1 was in great touch.

"He's as fit as he's been since he was No 1 and he'll get better," said Steven of the three-time Grand Slam singles winner, now ranked 110 in the world.

"It shows he's back to play for real because he stayed in there and gusted it out."

In another quarterfinal Friday, Australia's Jason Stoltenberg beat Nicolas Escude of France 6-7 (3-7), 6-1, 7-5. He now faces fellow Australian and defending champion Todd Woodbridge.

The fifth seeded Woodbridge downed France's Jerome Gomard 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 in his quarterfinal.

Agassi next faces Australia's Leyton Hewitt, a 7-5, 3-6, 6-1 winner over Vince Spades of the United States.

In heat-wave conditions at Adelaide's Memorial Drive's courts, Agassi broke Steven's spirit in the first game of the second set when the New Zealander squandered three break points.

"I survived a bullet in that game and held serve and then I did sense a bit of a bleed (in Steven)," said Agassi.

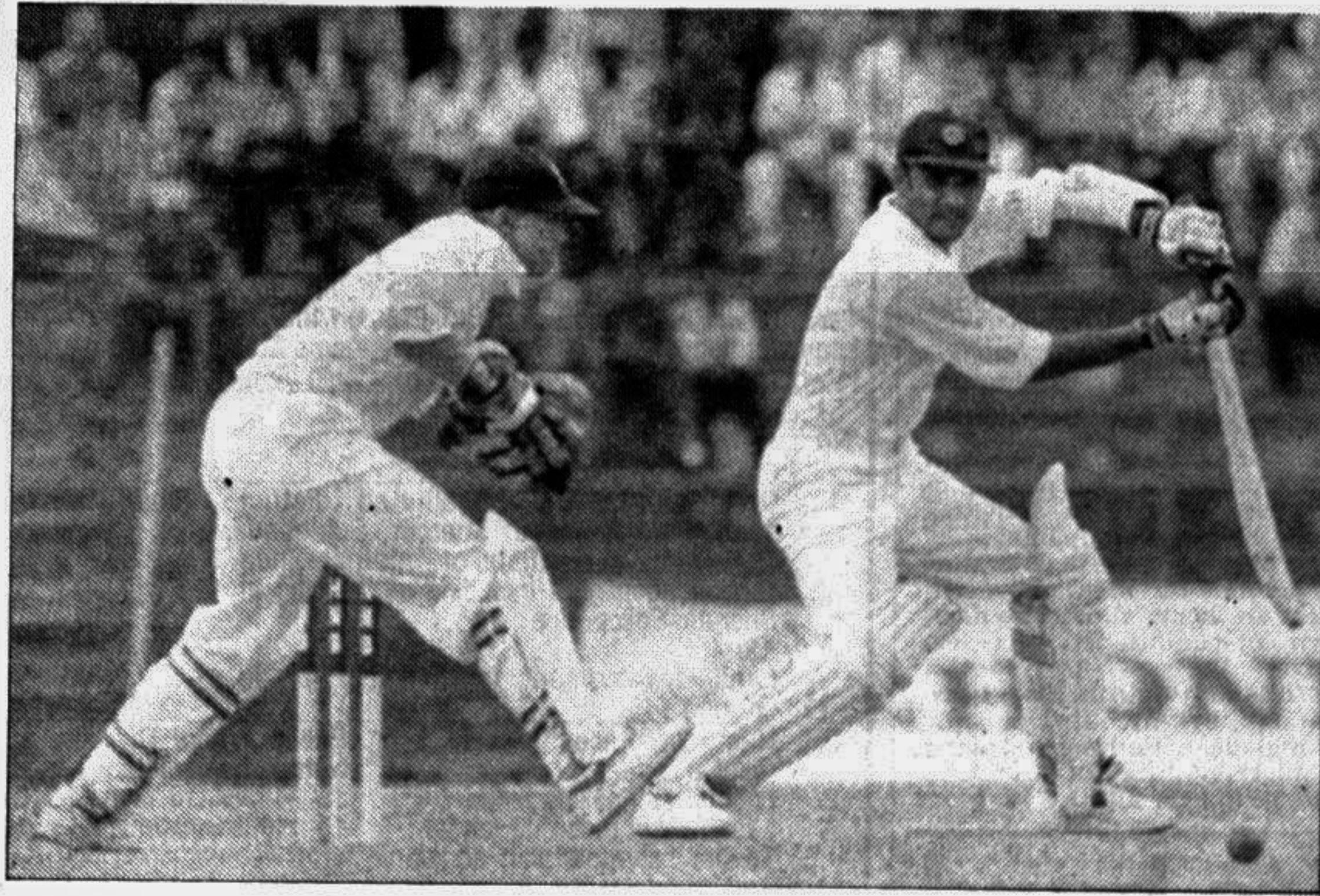
"There are a few significant points of a comeback where you feel a surge and you feel yourself making a huge step ... today reflected a huge step."

Stoltenberg came back from a set down to beat French qualifier Escude.

The Australian said he always felt in control of the match despite the close scoreline, putting his inability to win earlier down to the heat and a four-month injury-induced break from the game.

"I just went into a couple of laps at stages where I should have closed in and put the match away," Stoltenberg said.

The tournament is a warm-up event to the Australian Open, the year's first Grand Slam tournament, starting in Melbourne on Jan 19.



Sri Lankan opener Marvan Atapattu cuts the ball during his majestic knock of 223 against Zimbabwe on the second day of the first Test on Jan 8.

— AP/UNB photo

Zimbabwe in deep trouble

KANDY, Sri Lanka, Jan 9 (AP/Reuters): Zimbabwe were in deep trouble at 71 for two, still needing 258 runs to avert an innings defeat in the first cricket Test against Sri Lanka at the Asgiri Stadium on Friday.

Sri Lanka enforced the follow-on after bundling out Zimbabwe for 140 shortly after tea as their spin duo of Muttiah Muralitharan and Jayantha Silva accounted for eight of the wickets.

But if Zimbabwe harboured thoughts of saving the match, it may have all been dashed aside when openers Grant Flower (38) and Gavin Rennie (24) departed within the space of two overs after defying the Lankans for 19 overs in the second innings on the third day.

Save a brisk 35 with four boundaries from the bat of Paul Strang and a painstaking 53 by Rennie, the rest of the tourists batsmen could not read the pace or spin of the hosts' bowlers. They adopted a mere defensive approach while at the crease.

Strang and Rennie produced the highest partnership for the tourists which yielded 44 runs and was terminated by the dismissal of the latter who drove a delivery from left-arm spinner Jayantha into the hands of Aravinda de Silva at mid-on. Rennie, dropped by wicket-

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first Test between Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe on Friday:

SRI LANKA: First innings 469-9 dec (M Atapattu 223, A de Silva 75)

ZIMBABWE: First innings (overnight 46-2)

Rennie c De Silva b Silva	53
G Flower b Muralitharan	4
Goodwin lbw b Silva	2
A Flower lbw b Vaas	8
Campbell c Mahanama b Pushpakumara	7
Wishart c Mahanama	3
Muralitharan	35
H Streak b Muralitharan	5
Whittall not out	6
B. Strang b Muralitharan	2
Hucke lbw b Silva	0
Extras: (b-6, lb-2, nb-7)	15
Total (all out)	140
Fall of wickets: 1-29; 2-36; 3-46; 4-72; 5-75; 6-119; 7-127; 8-134; 9-136; 10-140.	

Bowling: O M R W

Vaas 17 4 36 1

Pushpakumara 14 5 34

Muralitharan 29 18 23 5

Silva 19 4 27 3

De Silva 5 0 12 0

Jayasuriya 1 1 0 0

ZIMBABWE: Second innings

Rennie lbw b Muralitharan	24
G Flower b Silva	38
Goodwin not out	1
Whittall not out	2
Extras: (b-1, lb-5)	6
Total (Two wickets)	71
Fall of wickets: 1-68; 2-68.	

Bowling (to date) O M R W

Vaas 6 1 13 0

Pushpakumara 5 0 22 0

Muralitharan 7 4 11 1

Silva 2 1 2 0

De Silva 8 3 17 1

Sheffield Shield scores

MELBOURNE, Jan 9: Victoria captain Darren Berry saved his side from the follow-on and probable defeat against New South Wales with an unbeaten century in the Sheffield Shield today, reports Reuters.

But wicketkeeper Richie Richardson needed the assistance of fast bowler Matthew Inness to frustrate the visitors with a record last wicket partnership worth 118 runs.

Their defiant stand lifted Victoria to 387 all out, four runs more than they needed to avoid the follow on at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

New South Wales amassed 532 for nine declared in their first innings on Thursday after opener Rodney Davison hit 169, his highest score in first-class cricket.

Inness scored 27, his highest score in any form of cricket, on his debut for Victoria.

New South Wales were left to rue a costly mistake by former Test opener Michael Slater, who dropped a simple catch at first slip when Berry had scored 103.

Berry, who took over the captaincy in the absence of leg-spinner Shane Warne because of international duty, resumed on 25 before posting his highest score in first-class cricket.

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The partnership between Berry and Inness was a record for the 10th wicket for Victoria against New South Wales.

Indonesia may skip Asiad

JAKARTA, Jan 9: Indonesia may pull out of the 13th Asian Games in Bangkok, Thailand, because of the currency crisis, a senior sports official was quoted as saying Friday, reports AP.

The official Antara news agency quoted Wismoyo as saying in the first step, the committee will be thrifty by trying to limit the number of athletes, and then the number of sports.

"If the allotted fund is still not enough, then if possible, we will not send our athletes," Wismoyo said as quoted Friday by Antara.

The Indonesian rupiah has continued to drop, plummeting to an all-time low Thursday of 10,550 rupiah per dollar.

In another report, Antara quoted Jusuf Talib, chairman of the parliament commission dealing with sports, as calling for participation regardless of the number of sports.

The Asian Games is not only an arena for sports competition but also reflects the spirit of solidarity among Asian countries," Talib said.

Jakarta has so far managed to set aside two billion rupiah (drs 250) out of the 16.5 billion rupiah (drs 2,062 million) budget for the December event, Antara said.

The remainder is expected coming from the provincial committees whose athletes take part in the games.

Wismoyo also indicated that Indonesia might only participate in badminton, which he said could provide the country with some medals.

He vowed, however, not to give up in trying to meet the country's plan to take part in all 21 sports.

Three minutes later, Ganz, whose goals guided Inter to the UEFA Cup final last season,

Hopman Cup French-Slovak showdown

PERTH, Jan 9: Cedric Pioline assured France of a berth against Slovakia in Saturday's Hopman Cup final with a straight-sets victory over South African Wayne Ferreira on Friday, reports AP.

Pioline's 7-6, 6-3 win gave France a winning 2-0 lead over last year's runner-up with only the mixed doubles remaining. Earlier, Mary Pierce beat Amanda Coetzer 6-3, 6-3.

The French pair won the mixed doubles 6-4, 7-6.

"I think today I played the match better on the important points," Pioline said.

"I had a very good start in the tie-break so he was chasing my score and it was difficult for him because I closed the tie-breaker."

"I played one very good point at 6-6 to give me another set point and then it is always difficult to play."

Pioline lost the opening set of her first match to Germany's Anke Huber on Tuesday, but has since conceded just 16 games in six sets.

Her win Friday was punctuated by blistering groundstrokes.

In the second match Friday, the United States scored its only win from three matches, beating Germany 2-1.

Huber beat Chanda Rubin 6-3, 6-1 inside an hour to give Germany an early lead.

Jonathan Stark beat Tommy Haas 7-6 (7-4), 6-7 (3-7), 6-4 to level the tie.

Stark and Rubin won the mixed doubles 6-3, 6-4.

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