

Column One
SPORTS TALK



Courtney Walsh
(West Indies fast bowler)
"I would like to beat the record but it will only mean anything if I can help West Indies to victory."
On the possibility of breaking Malcolm Marshall's West Indies record of 276 Test wickets.

Roost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-87
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Competition closes at 8 pm on Jan 30, 1998

1	Which Kiwi batsman scored the only ODI century against Pakistan?	Cairns	Aslie	Crowe
2	Which is the highest ODI individual score?	194	189	198
3	How many ODI centuries has Azharuddin hit?	3	4	5
4	Who scored the only half-century for Bangladesh in the Independence Cup?	Aminul	Akram	Mahmud
5	Who is leading Bangladesh in the World Youth Cup cricket in South Africa?	Sabbir	Al-Shanbari	Sajal

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address

EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

WHIZZ KID-86 correct answers

- Who is the Australia cricket coach?
Ans. Marsh.
- Who is the Argentina soccer coach?
Ans. Passarella.
- Which country will Lara lead next year?
Ans. Warwickshire.
- Who hit the first century in this year's Premier Division cricket league?
Ans. Nadin.
- Who lifted the women's singles title of the national TT championships?
Ans. Linu.

BOOST WHIZZ KID-86 winner Tanveer

Oxford International School. Please remember to bring your ID card and a passport size photograph while collecting the winner's prize from the Sport Desk of The Daily Star on January 21 at 8.00 pm.

Serena, Patrick ousted

SYDNEY, Jan 16 (Reuters, AP): Tim Henman, the rising star of British tennis at last year's Australian Open, returned to the ascendancy with an upset win over Pat Rafter today in a warm-up event for the year's first Grand Slam.

With a confident display around the court, Henman defeated the Australian world number two 7-6, 7-5 to book a place in Saturday's Sydney International final, which he won last year.

Henman, world number 19, will face unseeded Slovak Karol Kucera, who overpowered in-form Australian Michael Tebbutt 4-6, 7-6, 6-0 in the other semifinal.

In the women's draw, Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario dashed hopes America's Williams sisters would meet in an unprecedented tour final when she blew away Serena Williams.

The Spaniard, world ranked number nine and seeded fifth in Sydney, took under an hour to wrap up a 6-2, 6-1 win against the American.

The victory left her facing Serena's 17-year-old sister Venus, in Saturday's final. Venus beat Japan's Ai Sugiyama 6-1, 7-6.

Serena, playing only her third pro-tournament, had hoped to reach the final against her older sister, Venus, 17.

Zimbabwe take control



COLOMBO, Jan 16: Zimbabwe's cricketers continued to call the shots against host country Sri Lanka in the third day's play of the second and final Test with a lead of 267 runs and four second innings wickets in hand at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground in Colombo on Friday, reports AP.

For once in the series the Zimbabweans never allowed the Sri Lankan spinners to dictate terms as they kept increasing a 50-run overnight lead with crucial partnerships to take lunch at 108 for three, tea at 179 for five and reach an imposing 241 for six by the close.

Opener Grant Flower (52) and Murray Goodwin (39) took the initiative in leading the way for Zimbabwe with a third wicket stand of 70 runs in the morning session after night watchman Andrew Whittall fell in the second over of the day caught at short extra-cover against the bowling of spinner Aravinda de Silva.

Their stand was broken when left-arm spinner Sanath Jayasuriya uprooted the leg stump of Goodwin who missed the ball in a sweep attempt an over before the lunch break.

Flower had the fortune of surviving a dropped catch by Jayasuriya at point off De Silva's bowling with his score on 14 early in the day, but settled in to play a responsible innings before being bowled by Jayasuriya.

Umpire Saleem Badar from Pakistan had to seek the assistance of a replay before ruling Flower out after the delivery brushed aside a ball.

Zimbabwe lost the wicket of Guy Whittall for 17 caught by substitute close-in fielder Mahela Jayawardena off Muttiah Muralitharan. But any chance the Sri Lankans thought they had was thwarted when skipper Alistair Campbell (37) joined Andrew Flower to take the total from 129 for five to 204 before parting company in the final session of play.

Their alliance was terminated when recalled spinner Don Anurasiri had Campbell playing a reverse sweep only to edge the ball for wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana to take a simple catch.

But Flower batted the best for his side defying the bowlers for 228 minutes on a somewhat turning wicket to make his second half century in the series, an unbeaten 61.

The left hander's delightful shots included a towering six against Anurasiri that crashed into the stand over mid-wicket. His knock was also spiced with five fours.

Flower and his not out partner Craig Wishart (14) stretched Zimbabwe's lead further with an unbroken stand of 37 runs in 72 minutes of batting.

Wishart, for once in the series played soundly to give his partner vital support.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard at stumps on the third day of the second and final Test between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground on Friday:
ZIMBABWE: First Innings 251
SRI LANKA: First Innings 225
ZIMBABWE: Second Innings (overnight 24 for one)
Rennie c Kaluwitharana b Aravinda 12
Flower b Jayasuriya 52
Whittall c Tillekeratne b Aravinda 2
Goodwin b Jayasuriya 39
Whittall c Jayawardena b Muralitharan 17
A Flower not out 61
Campbell c Kaluwitharana b Anurasiri 37
Wishart not out 14
Extra: (lb-5, w-1, nb-1) 7
Total: (for six wickets) 241
Fall of wickets: 1-22; 2-34; 3-104; 4-117; 5-129; 6-204
Bowling
O M R W
Pushpakumara 8 1 34 0
Aravinda 19 4 48 2
Muralitharan 34 7 70 1
Anurasiri 19 7 41 1
Jayasuriya 24 9 43 2



IT'S ALL IN THE WRISTS: Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin works the ball through mid-on using a typical wristy stroke while Pakistani counterpart Rashid Latif watches. —Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Aussie Open draw held

MELBOURNE, Jan 16 (AFP): The Australian Open should see some early replays of last year's finals with a new confrontation by today's draw.

Martina Hingis may clash with Mary Pierce of France and Pete Sampras with Carlos Moya of Spain in quarterfinals of the first Grand Slam of the year, which starts at Melbourne Park on Monday with 6.5 million US dollars of prize money at stake.

Hingis definitely has the more difficult path to the final of the two favourites, while the women's draw threw up more tantalising clashes.

The 17-year-old Swiss starts against Germany's Wiltrud Probst but may have to take on Russian teenager Anna Kournikova in the third round.

That could turn into a major battle of the starlets expected to dominate the women's game into the next century.

After that looms Belgium's Dominique Van Roost, the number 14 seed, who battled to the quarterfinals with a stomach muscle injury that forced her to retire.

Pierce would follow, if the 1995 champion, now seeded fifth, beats Li Fang of China in the first round. With American Chanda Rubin the other main threat in her section of the draw, Hingis beat Pierce 6-2, 6-2 in last year's final to claim her first Grand Slam title.

Number two seed Lindsay Davenport starts against Amelie Cocheteu of France. But the most attention of the early rounds will be focused on American sisters Venus and Serena Williams, who could meet in the second round.

Serena must first get by tough sixth seed Irena Spilic of Romania in her opening match. Venus plays Alexia Dechaume Ballaret of France in her first round.

RABAT, Morocco, Jan 16: King Hassan II has awarded, former heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali with one of Morocco's top honours, the official MAP news agency reported, says AP.

During a ceremony Thursday night in the Moroccan capital Rabat, Ali also received a copy of a cassette recording of the Holy Quran, the agency said.

The order of the Commander of the Arch is one of Morocco's most prestigious.

Ali arrived in Morocco earlier this week to attend religious ceremonies and discussions in celebration of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Also on Thursday, he kicked the first ball in a friendly soccer match between Morocco and Angola.

At the Sydney tournament this week, the controversial sisters have been openly warning rivals that they expect to sweep aside Hingis and dominate women's tennis for the next decade.

Sampras, the most accomplished men's player of the past decade, starts against Sjeng Schalken of the Netherlands in the first round.

His first severe test could be Australia's Mark Philippoussis, the 15th seed, in the fourth round and then Moya, the seventh seed, in the quarterfinals. Sampras beat Moya 6-2, 6-3, 6-3 in last year's final to take the Australian Open title for the second time.

Number two seed Pat Rafter starts against world number 49 Jeff Tarango of the United States, but after it becomes extremely tough.

He is likely to face former Open finalist Todd Martin in the second round and could meet gifted Andre Medvedev of Ukraine in the third.

If he reaches the fourth round, Rafter could meet former world number one Andre Agassi or Spanish 16th seed Albert Costa, the player who beat him in the first round last year.

Britain's two big hopes fifth seed Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman, one of the top unseeded players, star against qualifiers.

Rusedski could play Brazil's French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten, the 12th seed, in the fourth round.



Pakistan wicketkeeper Rashid Latif and spinner Muhammad Hussain appeal in unison for a caught behind decision against Navjot Sidhu. The umpire (not seen), however, did not make any mistake by letting the Indian stay. —Star photo

Dhaka derby today

Sports Reporter
Holders Mohammedan Sporting Club will face their archrivals Abahani Krira Chakra in a crucial return leg clash of the Premier Division football league at the Dhaka Stadium this afternoon.

The Dhaka derby will kick off at 2:15 pm.

Mohammedans are leading the table with 40 points from 17 matches and Abahani have 36 points from the same number of outings.

England all keyed up

MONTEGO BAY, Jamaica, Jan 16: England's cricketers hope to forget a series of pre-series mishaps when they kick off their West Indies tour here Friday with a four-day match against Jamaica, reports AP.

The team flew into Antigua Jan 3 but had to abort a scheduled week's practice and acclimation at a new cricket centre there, as heavy unseasonal rain soaked the pitches and outfield. They flew into Jamaica a week early and have spent the past nine days in intense practice at the Kensington club in Kingston.

Things have gone well at practice but everyone is now itching to get on the park and into the real thing, team coach David Lloyd said Thursday.

"We don't have long before the first Test against the West Indies, starting Jan 29 and only two matches to sort ourselves out," he added. "We need to make fullest use of them."

Ten members of the touring party made the half-hour flight from Kingston to west coast Montego Bay Thursday morning. But 13 others, including captain Mike Atherton, opted for the three-hour cross-island bus ride.

"We wanted to see something of the country," Atherton said. "You don't get much of a chance on a cricket tour."

The match against Jamaica will be followed with another four-day match Jan 22 against the West Indies 'A' team, comprised mainly of reserve players, at Chedwin Park in St Catherine.

England play five Tests and five one-day internationals against the West Indies before the tour ends April 8.

Although Jamaica will be without fast bowlers Courtney Walsh and Franklyn Rose, both expected to join the West Indies team for the first Test, they should give the English a good match.

The Jamaican team includes five players from the recent 'A' team, including South Africa captain Jimmy Adams, batsmen Robert Samuels and Leon Garriek, Wavel Hinds and all-rounder Laurie Williams.

Cricket officials Thursday dismissed concern over conditions at Jarrrett Park, in Montego Bay, saying the pitch would be ready by the start of the match.

Coach Lloyd said England would not name its team until Friday morning, but was expected to field its strongest eleven.

Beware of Guyana!
LONDON, Jan 16: English cricket fans planning to travel to Guyana for the third Test against the West Indies have been warned the game may be called off because of political and civil unrest on the island, reports AP.

The game is in doubt because of last week's bomb explosion at a hotel in Georgetown and violence caused by crowds of people ignoring a government order banning street marches. The unrest was sparked by an election on the island with opposition parties disputing the result.

Hundreds of English fans, including the noisy group known as the "Barney Army," have tickets to visit the island for the Feb. 27-28 South Open Test at Georgetown and the British Foreign Office has issued a warning that the game may be moved to Antigua.

"We are warning everybody not to travel to Georgetown unless it is for essential reasons. The situation is volatile," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

"Anyone who does decide to travel should keep off the streets and maintain a constant vigilance. Really, we are advising people not to travel there at all for the moment."

The Guyanese Cricket Board is holding a series of meetings with British High Commission representatives on the island in the next few days deciding whether the game should go ahead as planned.

Fromberg, Rios in final

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 16: Unseeded Australian Richard Fromberg upset second seed Felix Mantilla of Spain 6-3, 7-6 (10-8) Friday to reach the final of the BellSouth Open tennis tournament, reports AP.

Fromberg will face Marcelo Rios of Chile in the final after the top seed overwhelmed Zimbabwe's Byron Black 6-1, 6-3 in just 54 minutes.

Unlike his quarterfinal against Denmark's Kenneth Carlsen, when he swarmed all over the net, Rios made few advances up court on Friday.

Rios broke Black in the first and third games to take the first set 6-1 in 21 minutes.

Fromberg says Rios will be tough in the final.



A section of female fans having a good time at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

European soccer scene

LONDON, Jan 16 (AP/AF): When Colombian star Faustino Asprilla scored three goals against Barcelona in the Champions' League a few months ago, Newcastle were riding high.

Champions' qualifiers as last season's runners-up in the English Premier league, the Magpies looked on course for major honours under highly-rated manager Kenny Dalglish.

Then it all went wrong.

Injury-plagued Asprilla has completely lost form and appears to be on his way back to Italian soccer with Parma. Newcastle, meanwhile, are out of the Champions' Cup and domestic League Cup and, instead of chasing league leaders Manchester United, are only four points above the relegation zone.

Newcastle, who have slid to 11th in the 20-club standings, also became embroiled in an embarrassing war of words with soccer minnows Stevenage this week. Newcastle demanded that the semi-pro team give up home advantage for the FA Cup fourth-round game so that more Newcastle fans can watch the Jan. 25 match at 36,000-capacity St. James Park.

American goalkeeper Brad Friedel is expected to be on the bench for Liverpool for the sixth game in a row as his team travels to Leicester, which starts American keeper Kasey Keller.

Since his one million pound (£1.6 million dollars) transfer from MLS club Columbus Crew, Friedel hasn't played once for Liverpool and will lose his work permit if he doesn't start in at least 75 per cent of the team's remaining games.

In other Premier League games Saturday, Arsenal visit Coventry, Leeds host Sheffield Wednesday and Derby travel to Wimbledon.

ITALY: Inter Milan's winning roll look set to continue this weekend, when the Serie A leaders take on lowly Bari at San Siro.

Four points clear of Juventus and with few injury worries, coach Gigi Simoni should have nothing to fear from a newly-promoted side who's main aim this season is to stay up.

Ronaldo and Youri Djorkaeff will lead the attack as usual but this time Ivan Zamorano will not be available for the substitute bench. The Chilean striker pulled a thigh muscle in training this week.

Juventus should have no problem getting three points at Bologna, despite facing their fans' former hero Roberto Baggio, now partnering Sweden's Kennet Andersson.

Bologna, who had been hoping for a UEFA Cup slot this year, are making slow progress up the table after a disastrous start to the season.

Juventus will again rely on Alessandro Del Piero and Filippo Inzaghi up front, supported by erratic French playmaker Zinedine Zidane.

Udinese, third in the table, could meanwhile be struggling to keep their surprising run of form going at relegation strugglers Atalanta.

SPAIN: Once one of the most sought after players in Europe, Portugal's Paulo Futre now appears to have little to look forward to.

A transfer target of all the big clubs in the late 1980s, the 31-year-old Atletico Madrid star just can't find a place on a starting lineup. Frustrated he now has started negotiations with La Portuguesa of Brazil.

On Sunday, with or without Futre, Atletico, six points behind leaders Barcelona, travel to No. 18 Valladolid in search of points to lift them from fifth place.

Barcelona doesn't play until Monday when they entertain Valencia, who have slumped to 15th-place with 10 defeats and four draws.

Trailing Barcelona by just one point, second-place Real Madrid are looking for a victory over 14th-placed Salamanca to regain the lead at least temporarily.

Following their 1-1 draw against cross-town rivals Atletico and the humiliating loss to a Second Division team this week in the King's Cup, Real has been criticised for not being able to win, even with new stars, Brazilian Savia and Frenchman Christian Karembeu.

Led by German Bernd Krauss, Real Sociedad are in third place after nine victories against two losses, entering the 21st round of Spanish soccer play. Real now travel west to Santander to face Racing.

Other games are: Compostela-Merida, Oviedo-Zaragoza, Celta-Espanyol, Bilbao-Betis, Tenerife-Sporting Gijon and Mallorca-Deportivo.

points behind Bolton, face a tricky home game against eight-place West Ham, who have an amazing record of inconsistency — won 11 games, lost 10 and tied one.

Last place Barnsley, playing top-flight soccer for the first time in their 100-year history, have two points fewer than Spurs and hope to improve their plight by beating third from last Crystal Palace at home.

Palace, at their lowest position all season, have won five games on the road yet cannot win at home in the league.

At the top, Manchester United doesn't play until they visit 13th place Southampton on Monday while second place Chelsea, seven points behind, visit 5th place Everton on Sunday.

That gives Blackburn the opportunity to temporarily cut United's lead to five points Saturday by beating Aston Villa at home.

Roy Hodgson's team has lost only once in 11 home league games this season and should beat a Villa team which has won only twice in 11 game on the road.

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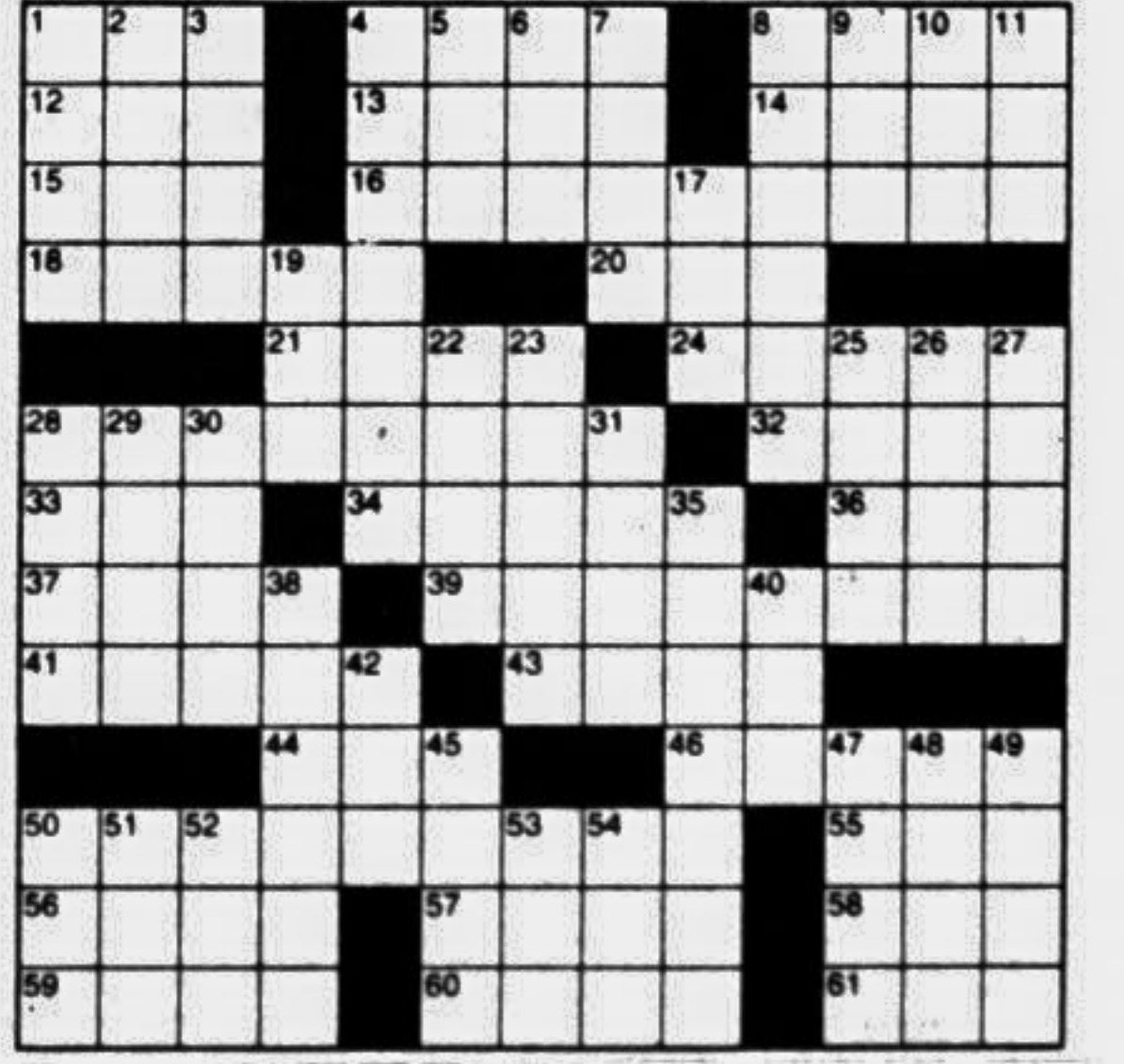
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	cosmetic	5 "Eureka!"	27 Sign of
1 "Win it"	55 Deed	6 Names	32 sadness
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CRYPTOQUIP
N V O S M N E Y L W W
I V H T I Y N E M N, Y K T F
Y K M I M F R W T S M P T H E
B V O W R M I Y B L I P T R
Yesterday's Cryptogram: MY HOUND FINALLY GRADUATED FROM CANINE COLLEGE: HE GOT A DOGREE.
Today's Cryptogram clue: I equals C.
The Cryptogram is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.