

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-87

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

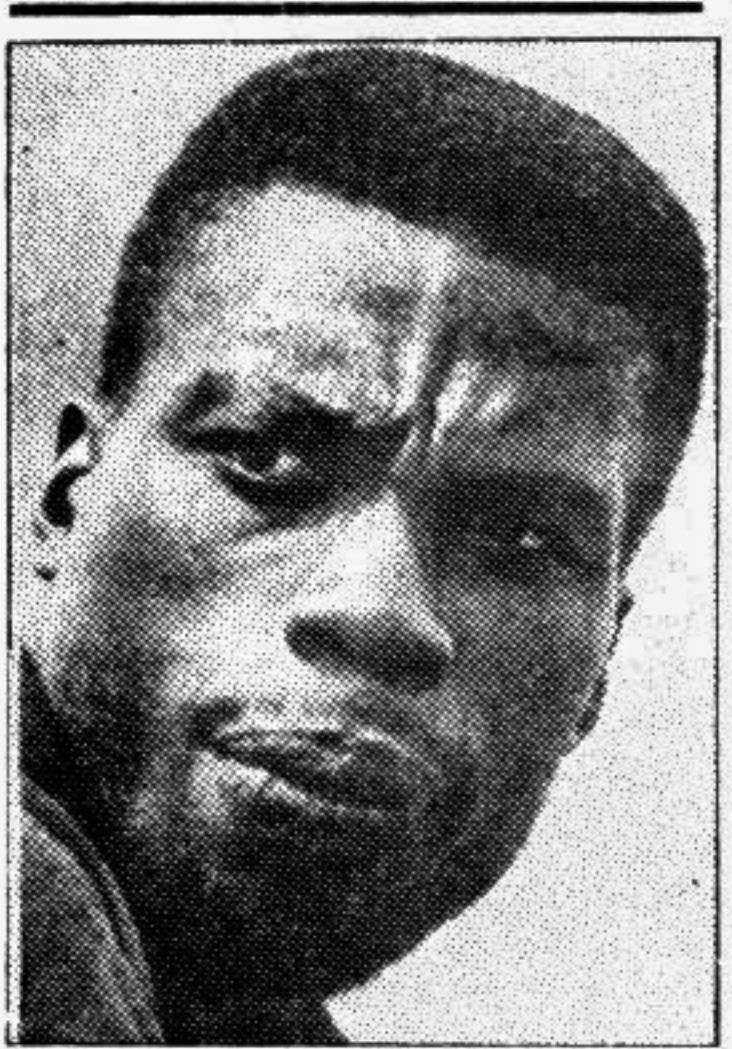
Competition closes at 8 pm on Jan 30, 1998

- 1. Which Kiwi batsman scored the only ODI century against Pakistan?
Calma Asle 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?
Aminal Akram Mahmud
- 5. Who is leading Bangladesh in the World Youth Cup cricket in South Africa?
Sabbir Al-Shariar Sajal

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



SPORTS TALK



Curtly Ambrose
(West Indies fast bowler)
"I'm not done yet and only Curtly knows when to call it quits. I still have something to offer to West Indies cricket."
Denying speculation that he was preparing for retirement.

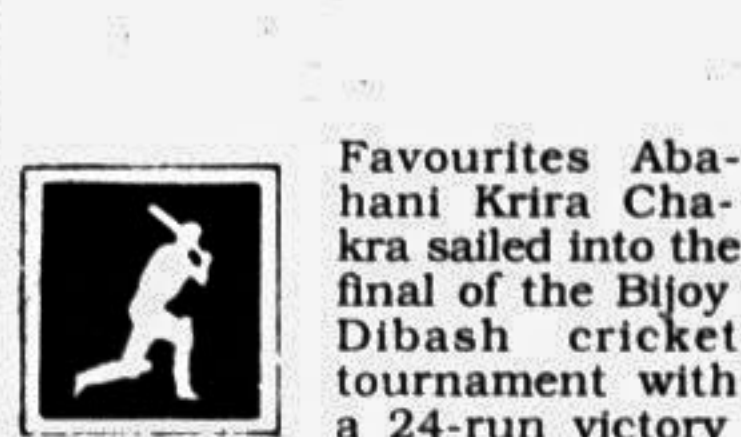
FA Cup Rovers blank Wednesday

LONDON, Jan 27: Chris Sutton, Tim Sherwood and Damien Duff scored first half goals Monday as Blackburn won at Sheffield Wednesday 3-0 to reach the fifth round of the FA Cup, reports AP.
Blackburn, in second place in the Premier league behind Manchester United, got Sutton's goal in the sixth minute and Sherwood's in the 37th to quiet a small crowd of 15,000. Duff final goal came in the 87th.
The victory means Blackburn will play at West Ham in the fifth round in mid February. In other fifth-round games it will be: Aston Villa vs Coventry; Leeds vs Birmingham; Stevenage vs Newcastle vs Tranmere; Wimbledon vs Charlton or Wolverhampton; Manchester United vs Tottenham or Barnsley; Arsenal vs Crystal Palace; Ipswich or Sheffield United vs Cardiff or Reading.

Muller the most wanted French coach

PARIS, Jan 27: Metz coach Joel Muller has become the most sought after coach in France following his team's splendid form in recent months, reports Reuters.
The team he began with as a player has improved out of all recognition to stand top of the French First Division, proving that his pragmatic approach has paid off.
Muller's success of story has led to comparisons with Arsenal coach Arsene Wenger, like him an aloof, soft-spoken character who comes from the same region of eastern France.
Muller's contract with Metz runs out at the end of this season and some of the most prestigious teams in the French league are keen to recruit him.
Patrick Proisy, president of struggling but wealthy Strasbourg, on Thursday said he was hoping to hire 45-year-old Muller next season.
This week Strasbourg parted company with coach Jacky Duguereux after a string of poor results and replaced him with his deputy Rene Girard.
The sports daily l'Equipe on Friday said Paris St Germain had also approached Muller to see whether he might be available to take charge next season.
PSG president Michael Deniset has repeatedly said current coach Ricardo would remain if the club won the league title this season.

AKC in Bijoy Dibash final



Favourites Abahani Kirra Chakra sailed into the final of the Bijoy Dibash cricket tournament with a 24-run victory over Brothers.

Union Club in the second semifinal played at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.
In the final which is likely to be held on January 8 at the same venue, Abahani will take on arch-rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club.
In a reduced 46-over-a-side affair the Damal Smriti champions managed to score 219 for eight after being sent into bat.
Openers Azam Iqbal (14) and Imran Hamid Partho (19), gave Abahani a slow but steady start putting on 36 in nine overs before both perished in quick succession to Brothers' new-ball bowler Narayan Shah.

Skipper Akram Khan and wicketkeeper batsman Khaled Masood then consolidated the Abahani innings with a 67-run third wicket stand.
The partnership was broken with the score on 110 in the 31st over when Masood was run out.
Akram added another 24 runs to along with Naimur Rahman before he was out in the 35th over after playing a responsible knock of 53 off 65 balls.
In his 88-minute stay at the crease, Akram, who was later adjudged as the player-of-the-match, hammered five boundaries. Naimur (11) followed his skipper which left Abahani reeling on 138 for five in 36.1 overs.

But allrounders Naimur Rashid Rahul (39) and Iqbal Hossain (25) put on an invaluable 65 runs for the sixth wicket and ensured Abahani cross the 200-run mark.

Rahul, who hit three fours and a huge six, faced only 36 balls to while Iqbal's 19-ball cameo included a six and a four.
Brothers Union's national paceman Shafuddin Babu captured three wickets for 44 runs from nine overs while his new ball partner Tapu finished with two for 26 from his nine. Brothers in their quest were restricted to 195 in nine.

The Gopibagh boys were off to a nightmarish start losing their three top order batsmen within nine overs with just 23 runs on the board.
Opener Shahriar Hossain, who scored a century against Surjo Tarun Club in the quar-

terfinal on Sunday, fell to a stunning catch in the covers by Akram off the bowling of

BRIEF SCORES

ABAHANI KC: 219 for 8 in 46 overs (Akram 53, Rahul 39, Masood 30, Iqbal 25; Shafuddin 3/44, Tapu 2/26)
BROTHERS UNION: 195 for 9 in 46 overs (Sanwar 69, Halim Shah 48; Naimur 3/35, Zakir 3/40)
Result: Abahani KC won by 24 runs.
Player-of-the-match: Akram Khan.

Colonel for six while the other century maker in Sunday's game one down Jahangir Alam was bowled by Zakir without opening his account.

Although, two middle order bats Sanwar Hossain (69) and skipper Halim Shah (48) shared a gallant 104-run fourth wicket partnership to raise some hopes, their good work proved futile as the lower middle order succumbed to an average Abahani bowling and Brothers eventually finished 24 runs short.

Abahani's new-ball bowler Zakir Hossain and off spinner Naimur Rahman even shared six wickets among themselves. Zakir conceded 40 runs in ten overs for his three wickets while Naimur, who bowled six overs, gave away 35 runs for his share.

Besides, medium-pacer Colonel and off spinner Sheikh Salaududdin took one wicket apiece.



Abahani skipper and player-of-the-match Akram Khan drives during his precious half-century in the second semifinal of the Bijoy Dibash cricket tournament against Brothers Union at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo

Tour opener tomorrow

Latif's men in S Africa



RASHID LATIF

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 27: The Pakistan national cricket squad arrived here on Monday without key fast bowler Wasim Akram, but brimming with confidence they can end their recent slump, reports AFP.

New captain Rashid Latif said the squad is a mixture of experience and youth, while his deputy Aamir Sohail reckons Pakistan have a 50-50 chance of emerging victorious from the three-Test series against South Africa.
Included in the squad are fast bowler Waqar Younis and spin wizard Mushtaq Ahmed, and world class batsmen Saeed Anwar and Inzamamul Haq.
But some of Pakistan's former greats, including 1992 World Cup winning captain Imran Khan, have slammed the selectors for omitting Akram, who stepped down as captain in December amid allegations of match-fixing despite leading his side to a 3-0 whitewash of the West Indies in November.

Coach Haroon Rashid insisted, however, that Akram had a neck injury and was not fit to tour. And he also doubted the possibility of a fit Akram joining the tour party later.
"We're not sure how he will prove his fitness," he said, explaining the cricket season in Pakistan is over.
Without Akram for the Tests — the first starts at the Wanderers in Johannesburg on February 13 — Latif expects Younis to open the bowling with either



RASHID LATIF

Shoaib Akhtar or Mohammad Akram.
"Pakistan are in a rebuilding process," Latif said.
"We are trying to make good combinations for the future, and the boys are trying hard to win matches."
"We have some youngsters

who should do well, like Azhar Mahmood, Akhtar, Ali Naqvi, Saqlain Mushtaq and Younis."

Pakistan will be looking to reverse the 1-0 home series defeat they suffered at the hands of South Africa at the start of the season.

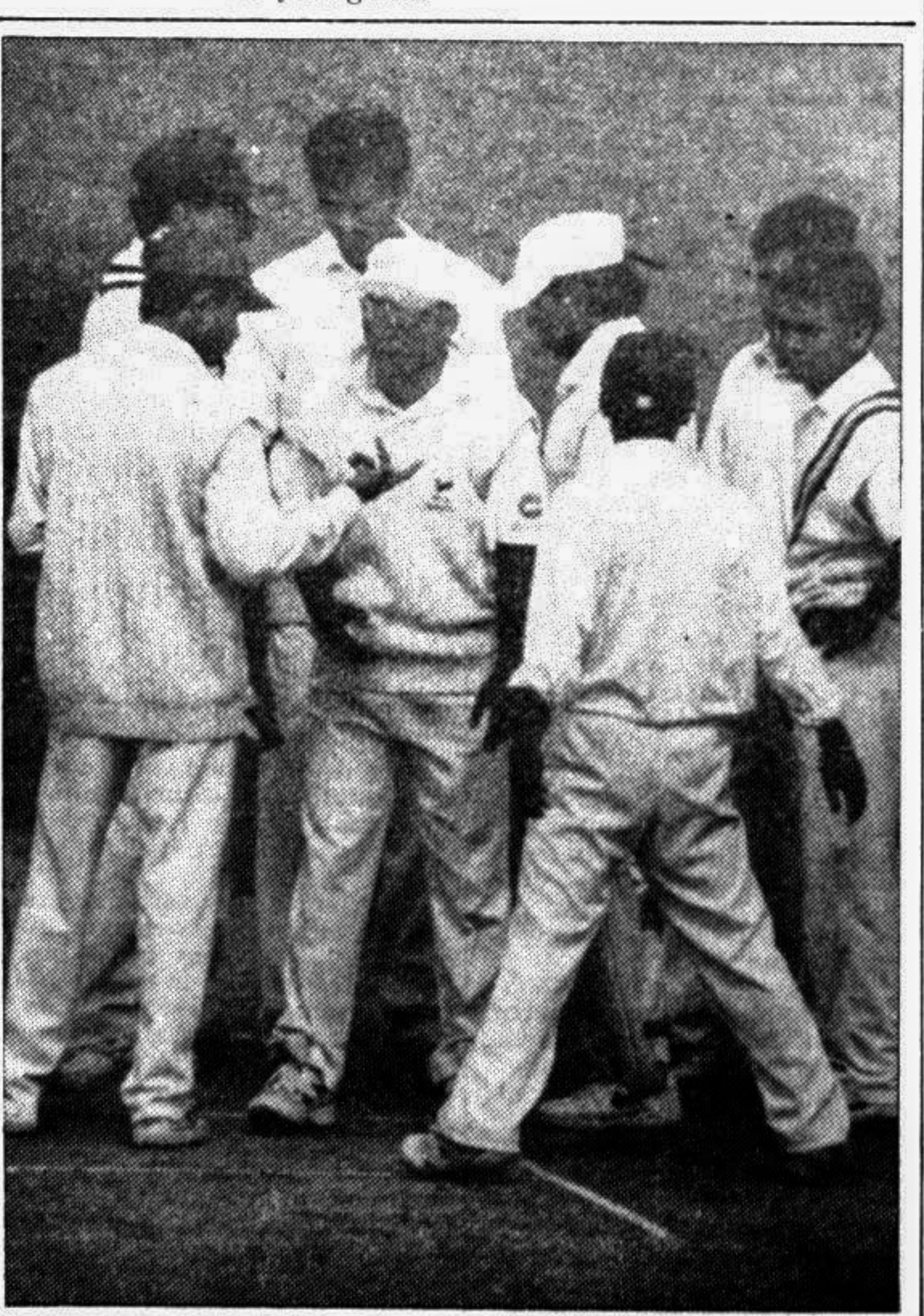
"Team spirit is high. We're going to put up a big fight," So-hail said.

After the second and third Tests in Durban (starting February 26) and Port Elizabeth (March 6), Pakistan will travel to Zimbabwe for two Tests and three one-dayers before returning to South Africa for a triangular limited-overs series against South Africa and Sri Lanka.

Pakistan kick-off the tour against a Nicky Oppenheimer XI at Randjesfontein on Thursday.

SQUAD

Rashid Latif (capt), Aamir Sohail Vice-captain, Saeed Anwar, Inzamamul Haq, Ijaz Ahmed, Younis Youhana, Moin Khan, Mohammad Wasim, Saqlain Mushtaq, Azhar Mahmood, Ali Naqvi, Shoaib Akhtar, Mohammad Akram, Waqar Younis and Mushtaq Ahmed.



Brothers Union players gather after the fall of an Abahani wicket.

Lankan colts beat Zimbabwe

EAST LONDON, South Africa, Jan 27: Sri Lanka beat Zimbabwe by four wickets in their limited-overs under-19 World Cup clash at Buffalo Park in East London on Monday, reports AFP.

Pradeep Hewage put together a match-winning innings of 80 in the Lankans total of 138 for six.

This was in reply to Zimbabwe's 137 for nine on a typically low, slow surface where only all-rounder Muleleki Nkalato with 33 runs managed to put up any opposition to the Lankan attack.

Nkalato also shone with the ball taking four for 26 in his allotted 10 overs, but got little support from the rest of the bowlers.

The final of the tournament, which involves 16 nations, will be played at the Wanderers in Johannesburg on February 1.

To Stade de France by boat!

PARIS, Jan 27: Football lovers who want to avoid traffic jams are being offered a new way to reach the new Stade de France, when it opens on Wednesday, reports Reuters.

As police fear huge traffic jams around the stadium for the soccer friendly between France and Spain, government and city officials have urged the 80,000 capacity crowd to use rail and metro to get to the stadium, some seven km north of central Paris.

They did not mention boats although the Saint Denis waterway runs alongside the ground.

Riverboat firms usually operating along the Seine have been quick to seize an opportunity. Three companies are offering a cruise on Wednesday afternoon from central Paris and back at a price of between 10,000 and 20,000 French francs (1,670 to 3,333 dollars), depending on the services provided, for one boat with about 100 guests aboard.

The Canauxrama company claimed a sell-out on Monday for its three boats and said it expected a huge success this summer for the nine World Cup matches scheduled at the stadium, including the opening game and the final.

"Guests will have a cocktail before or after the match."

Private catering is also planned on the way back if dinner was not served in the stadium during the game.

Canauxrama managing director Michele Colorado said.

Passengers will need to have time to spare, however, the journey from central Paris takes almost two hours, with five locks to negotiate.

AIBA may have new chief

PARIS, Jan 27: A powerful group within the International Amateur Boxing Association is aiming to overthrow long-serving president Anwar Chowdhury of Pakistan at the organization's quadrennial congress, reports AFP.

The group, comprising some of AIBA's most senior figures, believes Chowdhury has been in control for too long, looks after regional interests ahead of global interests and is against the modernisation of the organisation to meet the demands of international television.

The rebel group has not yet decided on a candidate to stand against Chowdhury at the congress in Antalya, Turkey, in November but is determined to force a change at the top.

Chowdhury has been in control of Amateur boxing for 12 tempestuous years.

"This is going to be a war — but it is a war we must win," said one leading AIBA member who asked to remain anonymous.

The rebel group are to hold meetings in key international cities — including one in Frankfurt, Germany — ahead of the congress in a bid to build support for a rival ticket.

Amateur boxing has been beset by controversial refereeing and judging and there have been repeated claims of bias.

There was particular controversy when Russian Chagaev of Uzbekistan scored a contentious points decision over Cuban Felix Savon in the final of the World Championships in Budapest, Hungary, in October.

Jamaica lifts ban on Nigeria

KINGSTON, Jan 27: The Jamaican government announced an end Monday to its two-year athletic boycott on Nigeria, citing a pledge by the African country's leaders to reinstate democracy, reports AP.
The move clears the way for Jamaica's soccer team to play Nigeria at home in an exhibition game Feb 22.

The government will consider lifting other sanctions against Nigeria after Oct 1, the date by which Nigeria's military leaders have pledged to turn the country over to a democratically elected president, the Jamaican Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

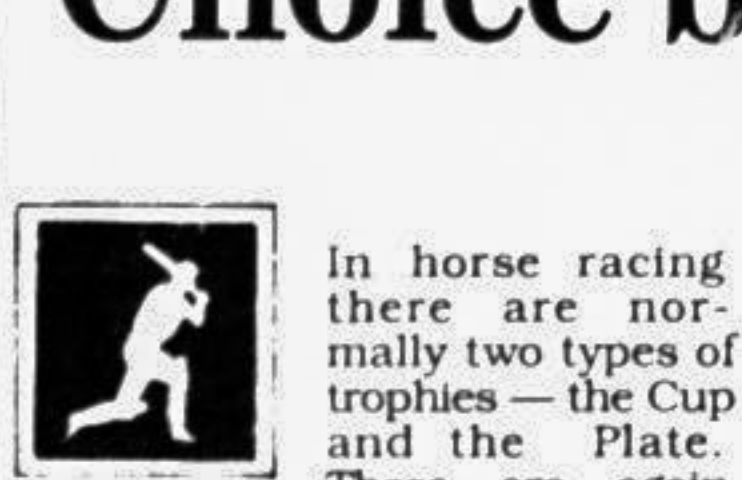
In the meantime, other measures such as visa requirement for Nigerian nationals visiting Jamaica and a moratorium on new technical cooperation and military contacts will remain in place.

Following Britain's lead, Jamaica imposed sanctions on Nigeria in March 1996 after a group of Nigerian military generals toppled the elected government and executed nine civil rights activists.



Khaled Masood of Abahani sweeps during the Bijoy Dibash tournament semifinal against Brothers Union yesterday.

Choice between Cup & Plate



divided into age groups and also between fillies and colts.

In South Africa, our team qualified for the Plate and we handsomely won it.

The historic win over the West Indies XI in South Africa has enhanced the prestige of the country and the winning team deserves all the praise in the world. I wish this was as clean an event as it should have been. But was it?

The teenage heroes narrowly missed a berth in the final proper because of slower run-rate than England. A victory against Namibia and a tremulous win against England in the robin league matches did not take the boys to the finals. But these two wins, especially the one against England speaks very high of the morale and fighting capabilities of the young tigers. This had shown

Tawfiq Aziz Khan

the mindset of each player that he had broken the shackles and was fully prepared to snatch victory from the opponents. It was the much-needed shot in the arms. Psychologically the team had travelled a lot further than their present position. It would work as a guiding force in their future encounters.

But the loss to New Zealand had posed a very intriguing question. Were the New Zealanders proving to be the Achilles' heel for the Bangladeshis? Was the New Zealand team proving to be the 'spoilsport' for Bangladesh?

The results of the seniors in the recently concluded tour of the beautiful islands were better forgotten. The big boys not only lost all matches that were played but created some kind of records by losing in two days in what was billed as a 4-day first class match. They did not leave us at that. The only match our boys lost in the Junior World Cup was against New Zealand which mainly prevented Bangladesh from qualifying for the Cup finals. The top eight

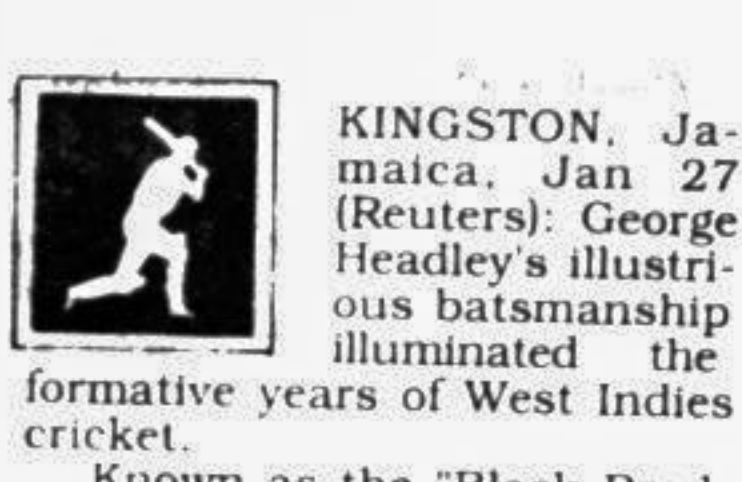
teams made it to the Cup, the rest eight fought for the Plate.

Players who were included in the team in spite of overage did well in the final against the West Indies. In fact they played the major part in Bangladesh's victory. We had always maintained that overaged players should have given way to genuine teenagers who were organised. Do we feel morally strong to celebrate this victory? Are we not guilty of cheating ourselves?

Surely this is not the way we are going to improve the game here. Winning a Cup or a Plate, once in a while, that too unethically, should not be our only aim. Instead, we must look forward positively, engage our whole might and energy for the steady improvement in the standard of the game of cricket.

There will be many a miss between cup and lip, but the game will continue to improve. But my fear for a repeat of Goutha proved to be true. The ghost of Goutha did find a new mount in the form of Bangladesh youth cricket team.

Dean a la grandpa Headley



DEAN HEADLEY

of his side's batting.

Although Headley was born in Panama where his father helped to build the canal, he played most of his cricket in Jamaica.

And it is at Kingston's famous Sabina Park ground that Dean Headley is poised to follow in the footsteps of his legendary grandfather George — as an England pace bowler in the first Test against West Indies

starting on Thursday.

Now, just a couple of net sessions away from his first Test in the Caribbean, Headley is trying to put the family connection at the back of his mind.

"I will need all my concentration if Brian Lara is batting," said the 28-year-old English-born bowler. "I will not have any time for looking up at granddad's name on top of the grandstand."

"I rate the experience as awesome, although it is going to give me extra pressure. In some ways I will be glad when the first Test is finished and I am just one of the team again."

George Headley's son Ron, Dean's father, played county cricket for Worcestershire and for West Indies as a batsman in the 1970s, and ever since he arrived in Jamaica 11 days ago, reminders of his past have been with Dean constantly.

"I have eaten with members of my family most nights and they will all be at Sabina Park for the Test," says the bowler who captured nine wickets in the opening tour match against Jamaica but who was rested for last weekend's drawn game against West Indies A.

"It was a reminder to me that the team comes first, but the selectors know that I don't need as much conditioning as other bowlers," Headley said.

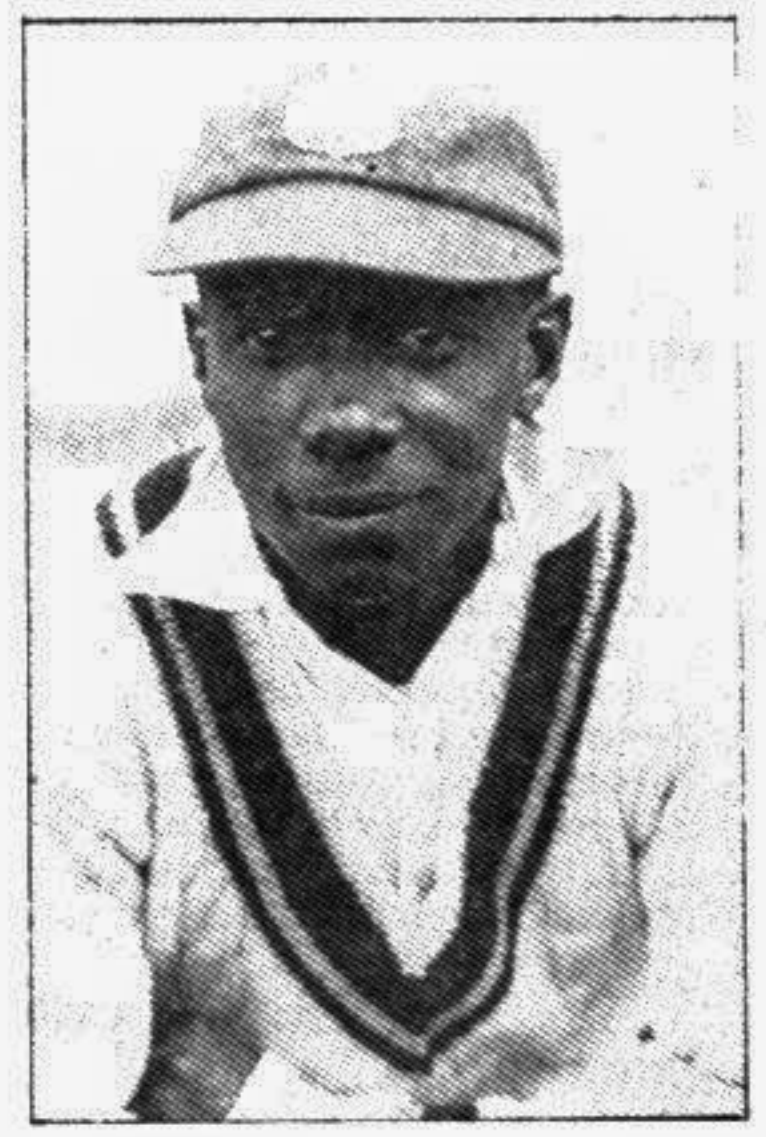
"As a result I am quite relaxed, although I know that I will have the support of many Jamaicans during the Test. They know all about granddad and I think they will be behind me."

"I only met him once, for a few hours at home in England when I was 11, two years before

he died in 1981. I don't suppose a great cricketer like granddad was much impressed with the cricketing thoughts of a young lad."

"I bowled a couple of balls to him but I have no memories of how he played or even what he was like. I hear he was a very humble man."

"I remember him as an ordinary bloke and it is difficult for



GEORGE HEADLEY

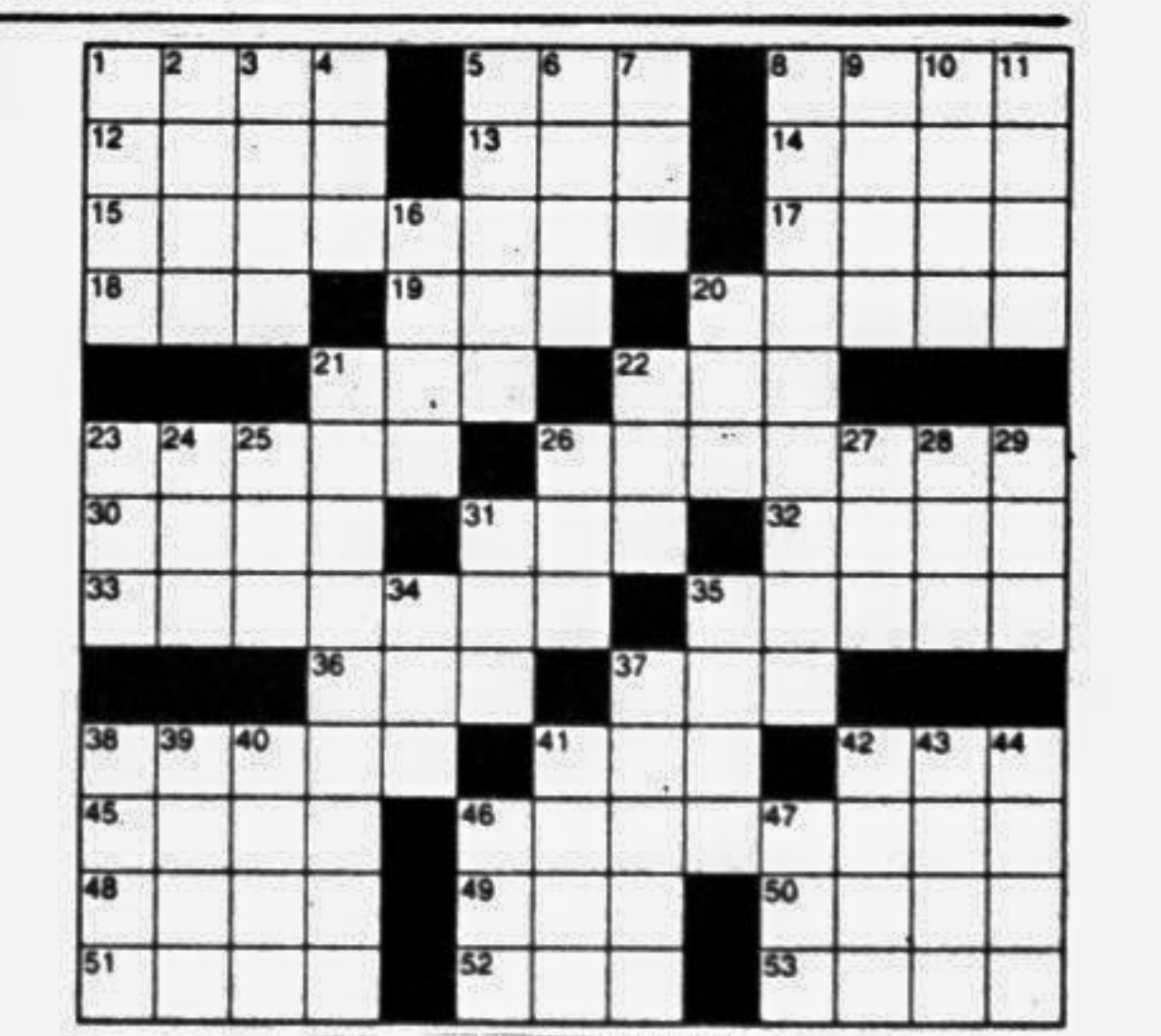
me to see him as a national hero."

"I was given all his awards, including his MBE, when he died and it is an inspiring thought to have family background."

"I just want to do nothing to tarnish the memory," Headley said.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 37 Living room sets? 21 Islands home 38 Heathen side 2 Writer Argentina 5 Lid for a lad 20 restitution 22 High degree 8 Mimicked 42 — Locks, 3 Jagger or Fleetwood 23 Take blades to blades 12 Troop group 45 Bard's watery 5 Now 24 St. 13 Word 46 Scottish island group 25 W.C.'s one-time co-star 14 Mrs. Herman 48 Twine 49 "I — personnel 26 Food fish 15 Aegean island group 50 One may come out of the closet 9 Heap 27 Enthusiast 28 — es 17 "Born Free" heroine 51 Rams' ma'ams 10 Differently 31 Wildlifebeast 34 A billion years 35 Incessantly 37 Brass instruments 21 Emulate 22 Deposit 23 Half a '60s quartet 26 In shambles 30 Ellipse 31 Pantheon member 32 Emanation 33 Time off, for many 35 Stage direction 36 "Skip to My —"
- DOWN 1 Genie's sets? 21 Islands home 38 Heathen side 2 Writer Argentina 5 Lid for a lad 20 restitution 22 High degree 8 Mimicked 42 — Locks, 3 Jagger or Fleetwood 23 Take blades to blades 12 Troop group 45 Bard's watery 5 Now 24 St. 13 Word 46 Scottish island group 25 W.C.'s one-time co-star 14 Mrs. Herman 48 Twine 49 "I — personnel 26 Food fish 15 Aegean island group 50 One may come out of the closet 9 Heap 27 Enthusiast 28 — es 17 "Born Free" heroine 51 Rams' ma'ams 10 Differently 31 Wildlifebeast 34 A billion years 35 Incessantly 37 Brass instruments 21 Emulate 22 Deposit 23 Half a '60s quartet 26 In shambles 30 Ellipse 31 Pantheon member 32 Emanation 33 Time off, for many 35 Stage direction 36 "Skip to My —"



CRYPTOQUIP

P J U L G V X Q J E U M G

Z Q P G O Q J E J H X E G J I

P G U I V P M G E Z L E Q J I H U Y

J M E J H U H U Y O J U V J X ?

Yesterday's Cryptquip: THIS VET OFTEN REMARKED THAT A HORSE SHOW WAS KIND OF A MANE EVENT.

Today's Cryptquip clue: P equals C

The Cryptquip 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.