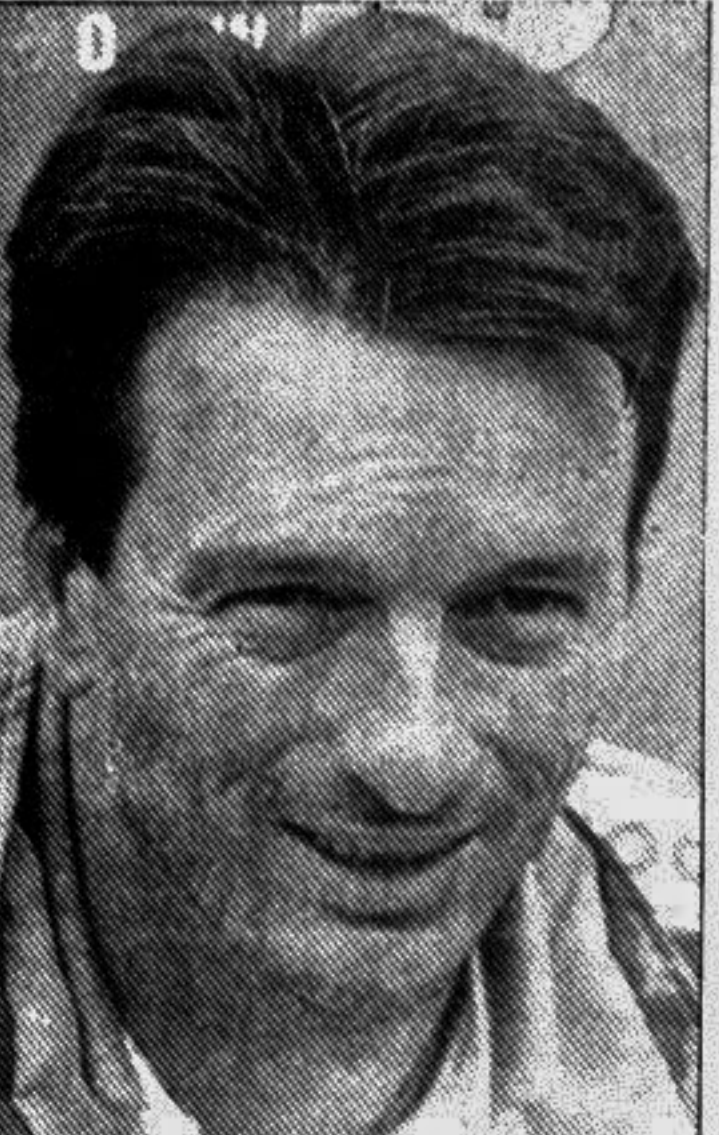


Column One

SPORTS TALK



Steve Waugh
(Australian one-day cricket captain)

"I just hope that the selectors stick with a bunch of cricketers and don't chop and change too much now because the guys are getting to know each other and I think there is potential for a very good one-day side there."

While urging the selectors not to change his team after mixed results in four-match limited-over series in New Zealand last week.

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT Cesar Luis Menotti, former manager of Argentina, refused to compare between Pele and Maradona. Said he at the time: "Pele was the supreme player of his era; Maradona is the pre-eminent player of his time. You cannot compare them. Such greatness does not submit to comparison."

Indeed M was great. In 1980, at the age of 19, he was sold to Boca Juniors for one million pounds, a record for a teenage. Two years later he was sold to Barcelona for another world record three million pounds. Come 1984, he was again sold to Napoli for a third world record, five million pounds.

Somewhere down the line he was also sold to drugs.

Boost sports
WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-88
✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm
on Feb 20, 1998

1	How many countries took part in the World Youth Cricket Cup?	14	15	16
2	What is the position of Korda in ATP rankings at the moment?	1st	2nd	3rd
3	How many Test matches has Dave Richardson played?	42	43	44
4	Who is the current 100m world champion?	Billy	Greene	Cason
5	Which team finished first in the Premier Division soccer league?	Muktijoddha	MSC	Fganj

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Kalabagan upend AKC too

Sports Reporter

Kalabagan Krira Chakra completed their first phase campaign of the Janakantha Premier Division cricket league in style, inflicting a punishing 52-run defeat on holders Abahani Krira Chakra at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The new lieutenants, following hard on the heels of their nine-wicket thrashing of Mohammedan Sporting Club, with this resounding victory, not only returned to the title chase quite confidently, but also earned the unique feat of flooring two titans in the domestic circuit within the span of 72 hours.

Kalabagan did half the job done when, sent into bat by Abahani skipper Akram Khan, they piled up a huge total of 244 for nine in their share of 50 overs. Then the last year's runners-up went on to bundle out their more illustrious Dhanomdi neighbours for 192 in 46.3 overs to record their eighth win on completion of their 11 first phase engagements.

For Abahani, the stinging defeat dealt a severe blow ahead of their blood-and-thunder clash against Mohammedan Sporting Club, to be held at the same venue today.

Kalabagan were off to a rollicking start with their last match heroes — Manzoor Elahi and Harun-ur Rashid, who provided a match-winning 139-run opening partnership against Mohammedans, plundering 58 runs in the first 7.1 overs.

Manzoor, the former Pakistan Test-cap and the more aggressive of the two Kalabagan openers, hammered a breezy 36 off 23 balls embellished with seven firmly hits across the rope. Abahani off-spinner Sheikh Salahuddin broke the dangerous alliance when he had

the marauding Pakistani caught by wicketkeeper Khaled Masud.

Harun scored a polished 43 off 49 balls which included five fours and a towering sixer. But once Harun, an under-rated batsman from Mymensingh, fell in the 18th over, Kalabagan slipped from a comfortable position of 105 for two to a precarious 138 for six, losing their next four wickets with the addition of only 33 runs to the total.

After that stunning middle-order collapse discarded na-



tional all-rounder Enamul Haq came to his side's rescue with a priceless 40. The southpaw, coming in to bat at number seven, shared an invaluable 53 runs for the seventh wicket with stumper Ishtiaq, who chipped in with a gritty 28. Enam then found a wily partner in his captain Saiful (28) to guide Kalabagan past the 200-mark before being bowled by national right-arm seamer Zakir Hossain in the final delivery of the innings.

Enam, who later did one better with the cherry claiming two wickets in his 10 nugging overs, clouted a massive sixer in his sensible 55-ball knock.

In reply, Abahani, set to score a little less than five runs per over, got off to a disappoint-

ing start, losing their aggressive opener Imran Hamid (4) and star Indian recruit Raman Lamba (12) for 40 runs in 10.4 overs.

Both were dismissed by Kalabagan's right-arm seamer Zakir Hasan, who trapped Imran leg before wicket in the fifth over before claiming the big wicket of Lamba, thanks to a brilliant catch at mid-wicket by Manzoor Elahi.

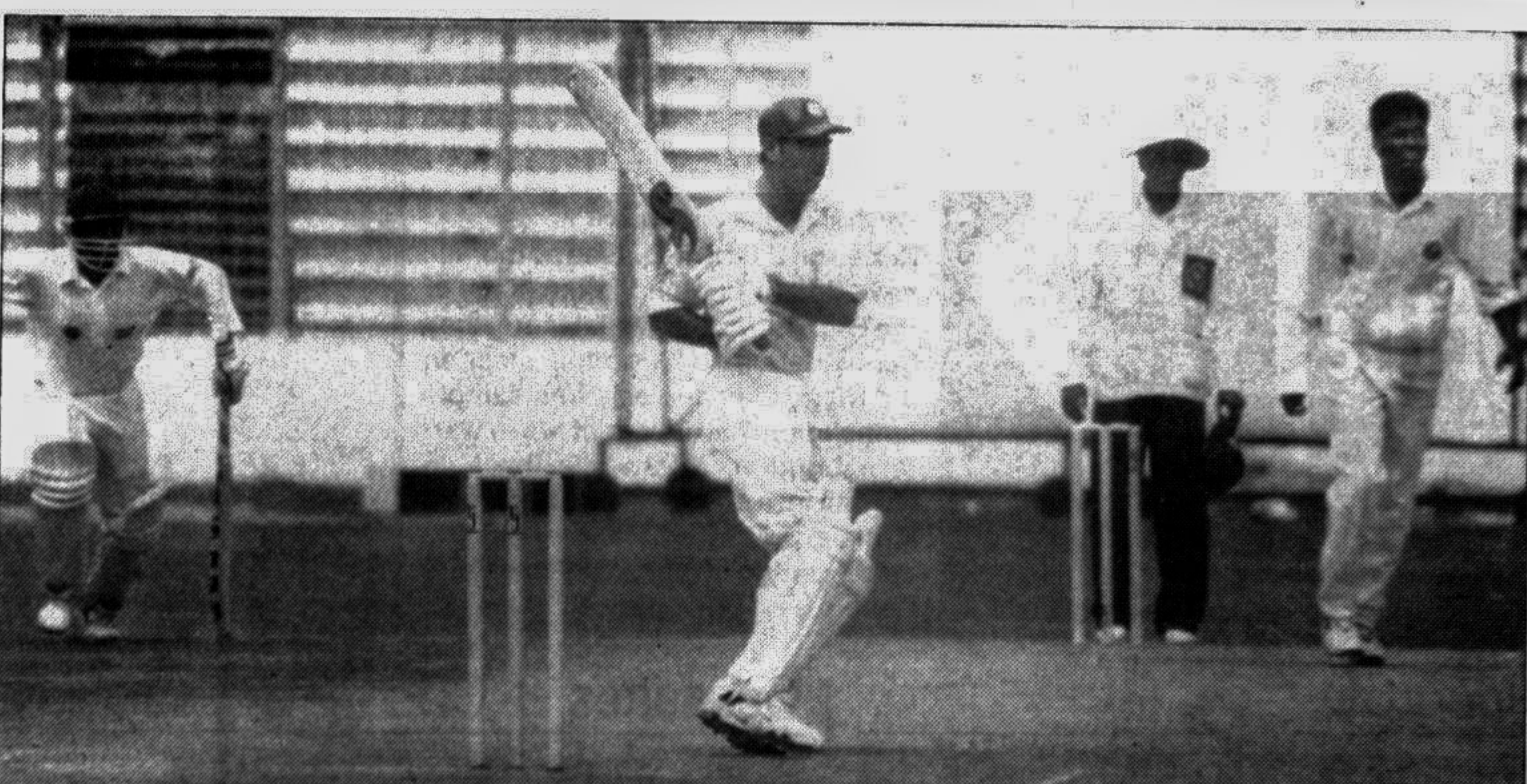
Opener Azam Iqbal and skipper Akram Khan tried to mend the early damage, putting on 52 runs for the third wicket. A plucky Azam scored a 86-ball 51 spiced with three four and a six before running himself out in a bizarre fashion.

But the real rot started when Akram was undone by a flash of brilliance off occasional bowler Sajjad Ahmed Mansur. With Kalabagan desperately in need of a breakthrough to end the threatening partnership of Akram Khan and Al-Shahriar, Sajjad had Akram leg before wicket for 31 with his first delivery to more than vindicate his skipper's decision to fall back on his slow-medium pacers.

Al-Shahriar scored a quick-fire 25 off 27 balls which included a massive six against Enamul. But the young stroke-maker followed in the footsteps of his captain soon, playing a rash shot into the safe pair of hands of Kalabagan captain Saiful at mid-wicket.

The departure of Al-Shahriar effectively ended Abahani's hopes of a comeback despite Khaled Masood, who scored a run-a-ball 27, put up a valiant fight for the lost cause.

With this win Kalabagan finished at par with Brothers Union, both having won seven matches from 11 outings.



Kalabagan's left-handed middle order Enamul Haque pulls Abahani's rightarm seamer Zakir during yesterday's Janakantha Premier Division cricket league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium. Kalabagan won the match by 52 runs. —Star photo by Anisur Rahman

KALABAGAN-AKC SCOREBOARD

KALABAGAN KC				
Harun b Saifulah	43			
M Elahi c K Masood b Salahuddin	36			
Sajjad c & b Al-Shahriar	27			
G Kazmi c Zakir b Saifulah	6			
Zakaria c K Masood b Zakir	8			
M Rahman run out	5			
Enamul b Zakir	40			
Ishtiaq c Azam b Al-Shahriar	28			
Saiful c K Masood b Zakir	27			
Saikat not out	2			
Extras: (b-2, lb-7, nb-1, w-12)	22			
Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs)	244			
Fall of wkts: 1/58; 2/105; 3/120; 4/127; 5/136; 6/138; 7/191; 8/241; 9/244				

Bowling				
O	M	R	W	
Zakir	10	0	70	3
Colonel	7	0	28	0
Salahuddin	10	0	44	1
Saifulah	10	3	35	2
Iqbal	4	0	19	0
Al-Shahriar	9	0	39	2

ABAHANI KC:

ABAHANI KC:				
Azam run out (Kazmi)	51			
Imran lbw b Zakir	4			
Lamba c M Elahi b Zakir	12			
Akram lbw b Sajjad	31			
Al-Shahriar c Saiful b Enamul	25			
K Masood c M Rahman b Enamul	27			
Salahuddin b Saikat	5			
Iqbal run out (Harun)	11			
Zakir lbw b Saiful	12			
Colonel run out	1			
Saifulah not out	4			
Extras: (b-1, lb-5, w-3)	9			
Total: (All out in 46.3 overs)	192			
Fall of wkts: 1/14; 2/40; 3/92; 4/126; 5/130; 6/157; 7/171; 8/175; 9/183				

Bowling:				
O	M	R	W	
Zakir Hasan	10	0	41	2
Saiful	8.3	0	27	1
Saikat	10	0	36	1
Gaffar Kazmi	6	0	35	0
Enamul Haq	10	0	37	2
Sajjad Ahmed	2	0	11	1

Result: Kalabagan won by 52 runs.

Div 1 cricket

Bima emerge champions

Sports Reporter

SADHARAN BIMA KS: 187 for nine in 50 overs (Mintu 60, Babu 22, Moin 18; Babu 3/26, Dalim 3/57)

ORIENT: 173 all out in 49.1 overs (Babul 45 n.o., Amir Ishaque 27, Rezaul 19; Bipul 3/29; Nakib 2/21, Mintu 2/23)

Result: Sadharan Bima KS won by 14 runs.

Sadharan Bima Krira Sangha emerged champions in the First Division cricket league defeating Orient Sporting Club by 14 runs in their last Super league clash at the Dhanomdi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Put in to bat first, the insurance scored 187 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs with middle order Mintu hammering highest 60 off 57 balls.

In reply, Orient, who finished runners-up in the league, were bundled out for 173 in 49.1 overs in the face of some fired up bowling from Bipul who finished with 3 for 29 from his 10 overs. He was ably helped by Nakib and Mintu who evenly shared four wickets among themselves.

Both Bima and Orient have already been promoted in the Premier league.

Milan, Parma match drawn

MILAN, Italy, Feb 19: Brilliant goalkeeping by Sebastiano Rossi helped AC Milan salvage a 0-0 draw with AC Parma Wednesday night in an Italian Cup first-leg semifinal, reports AP.

Parma had the far better scoring chances before 17,488 spectators at San Siro Stadium, but were stymied by Rossi and the woodwork.

Rossi blocked a dangerous shot by Parma midfielder Stefano Fiore in the 24th minute and then made a reflex save on striker Enrico Chiesa's blast from steps away on the opening action of the second half.

In the 55th, Rossi got a hand on another Chiesa drive, sending the ball off the crossbar. Chiesa also found the crossbar with a 12-metre (yard) strike earlier in the game.

Milan's Liberian striker George Weah, the 1995 world and European player of the year, returned from a two-month absence after back surgery. He entered the match at the start of the second half, but was not a factor.

Taylor keen to taste the rare

SYDNEY, Feb 19: Australia are unofficially rated the world champions of cricket yet leave here Friday attempting to win their first Test match in India for 18 years, reports AFP.

The Australians, under the immaculate leadership of captain Mark Taylor, have beaten the West Indies home and away, England in a six-match Ashes series in England, South Africa home and away and Pakistan at home in the last three years.

But an Australian XI have not won a Test match, let alone a series, in India since Bill Lawry led his team to a 3-1 victory in 1969-70. Australia's record in neighbouring Pakistan is even worse, with no Test victories since 1959-60.

Australia play series infrequently against India. This three-Test series will be the first in India since 1986-87, when the opening Test in Madras was tied and the other two were drawn.

India comprehensively won

September.

"I think that will hold us in good stead and it certainly ensures we will have plenty of motivation."

Only vice-captain Steve Waugh and coach Geoff Marsh have played in a Test series in India before and Taylor admits this could be a weakness.

"But we have played a lot of one day cricket there," Taylor said.

"Remember we won the World Cup there in 1987 and we were runners-up in 1996 when most of our matches were played in India so our record there has been pretty good."

His major concern was the absence through injury of his main strike bowler Glenn McGrath and new ball partner Jason Gillespie.

In their absence the pace attack will be led by Mike Kasprovic and Paul Reiffel with support from uncapped duo Adam Dale and Paul Wilson.

Leg-spinner Stuart McGill and off-spinner Gavin Robert-

son have been chosen as back-up for champion wrist-spinner Shane Warne, whom Taylor is confident will return to his best form after looking tired during the third Adelaide Test against South Africa earlier this month.

Taylor believes his side will be better prepared to face India in the Test series this time around.

Australia open their tour with a three-day game in Bombay starting on February 24 while the first Test begins in Madras on March 6. Further Tests will be played in Calcutta on March 18-22 and Bangalore on March 25-29.

The Tests will be followed by a triangular one-day series against India and Zimbabwe.

SQUAD: Mark Taylor (captain), Steve Waugh, Greg Blewett, Adam Dale, Ian Healy, Mike Kasprovic, Darren Lehmann, Stuart McGill, Ricky Ponting, Gavin Robertson, Paul Reiffel, Michael Slater, Shane Warne, Mark Waugh, Paul Wilson.

Butcher likely to be benched

PORT OF SPAIN, Feb 19: Mark Butcher, who guided England to a nail-biting victory over the West Indies in the third Test, was Wednesday told he has no guarantee of holding his place in the team, reports AFP.

Butcher held firm with 24 not out, the most important innings of his young career, to steady England after a late flurry of wickets and help the tourists to a series-leveling victory.

But Butcher, 25, only made the side because Adam Holoake was injured and Mark Ramprakash was ill.

All three players are likely to be included in a three-day match against Guyana starting on Saturday, it will be a virtual shootout for a place in the team for the fourth Test.

"Mark has put himself right up there in contention, but it's not impossible he'll be left out," said England coach David Lloyd.

"What is important, though, is that he's made a big contribution, especially after the tour

he'd had previously.

"He was drafted into the side for the Jamaica Test right at the last minute because of Jack Russell's illness, and got a first-class duck before the match was abandoned. Then we didn't see him again until he got into the last Test, again as a replacement."

"But he coped with everything. At lunchtime on Tuesday when we were close to victory, I went to see how he was."

"He was having a cigarette in the toilets at the back of the dressing-room and just said to me 'I'm fine' — just leave me alone."

"We may look to give the five players who didn't play in the last Test some cricket in the Guyana match, but can't decide on our team until we get there and have a practice today."

Lloyd defended his decision to publicly criticise pace bowlers Andy Caddick and Dean Headley after England lost the second Test.

MARK TAYLOR

their last one-off Test meeting in Delhi by seven wickets in October 1996.

Taylor has success against the Indians uppermost in his mind when the 15-man squad leaves here Friday.

"I was thinking about our recent record the other day and we've beaten the West Indies away, South Africa away, England away and the last time we went to Sri Lanka we won as well so our recent away record has been pretty good," he said Thursday.

"But the only places we haven't won in are India and Pakistan and we get the chance to rectify both this year (the team tours Pakistan in

Zimbabwe in dire straits

WELLINGTON, Feb 19: New Zealand had Zimbabwe on the rack after the first day of the first cricket Test at the Basin Reserve here today, reports AFP.

After winning the toss, Zimbabwe limped to 132 for eight at stumps with allrounder Heath Streak remaining as their last hope of posting a respectable total.

Zimbabwe made a bright start when play finally began two and a half hours late after water seeped under the pitch covers and saturated the bowlers run-up at the northern end.

Openers Grant Flower and Gavin Rennie put on 30 for the first wicket but the innings fell apart under pressure from the New Zealand attack.

All four seamers, Shayne O'Connor, Simon Doull, Chris Cairns and Dion Nash, and left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori bowled tightly.

New Zealand coach Steve Rixon rated the bowling and fielding as one of the most efficient he had been associated with.

"Nash did a particularly fine job bowling into the wind," Rixon said.

"I guess the fact they weren't prepared to play too many shots

might have had a bit to do with it as well but we did bowl one side of the wicket to well-set fields."

Rixon also praised captain Stephen Fleming for rotating his bowlers in short spells.

"I thought Stephen handled it very well. With four seamers they can often get in each other's way."

"He also brought Daniel Vettori in when not much was happening and I thought that was good captaincy," Rixon said.

Zimbabwe failed to make good use of ideal batting conditions, the grass that had covered the pitch in the lead-up to the Test disappeared when Zimbabwe captain Alistair Campbell won the toss.

There was little sideways movement for the seamers and no turn of note for Vettori.

Rixon said New Zealand would have bowled first had they won the toss but on hindsight it was not a bad toss to lose.

"The best day to bat will be from lunch onwards tomorrow so it was important we knocked them over on the first day and a bit and try and keep them to an absolute minimum."

Zimbabwe's innings fell apart after Vettori's arm-ball accounted for Murray Goodwin. Goodwin played back and was adjudged leg before wicket

by umpire Steve Dunne for eight to leave Zimbabwe at 53 for two.

The next six wickets fell for 79 runs with left-arm medium pacer O'Connor striking twice in an impressive six-over spell before tea.

O'Connor bowled his first spell into the wind but he was far more dangerous with the breeze at his back from the northern end.

He caught the edge of Guy Whittall's bat in his third over but the ball flew over the head of Bryan Young at second slip.

However, he had his reward in his next over when Whittall edged to wicketkeeper Adam Parore with his score on six.

Andy Flower scratched around for 16 minutes before becoming O'Connor's second victim when he drove at a full delivery, only to give Parors his second catch.

Zimbabwe went to tea at 70 for four and the innings fell apart when Grant Flower gave Dion Nash a wicket in his return Test; Nash was playing his first Test since December 1995 against Pakistan at Lancaster Park in Christchurch.

Nash, who has battled hard to overcome a back injury, dug the ball in and it climbed on Flower, who managed only to play it on to his stumps.

Paul Strang took 41 minutes for one run before Doull put him out of his misery then Streak and captain Alistair Campbell had another misunderstanding with their running between the wickets.

Streak ran out Campbell for 196 against Canterbury in Timaru last Saturday but this time the captain had himself to blame.

Campbell looked a class above his peers in reaching 37 before he charged down the wicket looking for a single.

Nash moved to the ball quickly and fired in a good throw to Parore, who removed the balls, although Dunne called for the third umpire to adjudicate, Campbell was resigned to the fact he was short of his ground.

Andy Whittall came and went before the close to give Cairns his first wicket of the match and cap off a professional bowling performance by the home team.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of the first Test between New Zealand and Zimbabwe at Wellington's Basin Reserve on Thursday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings

Rennie b Doull	13
G Flower b Nash	38
Goodwin lbw b Vettori	8
G Whittall c Parore b O'Connor	6
A Flower c Parore b O'Connor	2
A Campbell run out	37
P Strang c Young b Doull	1
Streak not out	9
A Whittall c Parore b Cairns	1
Huckle not out	1
Extras: (lb-10, nb-6)	16
Total: (for eight wickets)	132

Fall of wickets: 1-30; 2-53; 3-64; 4-70; 5-78; 6-89; 7-122; 8-131.

Bowling				
O	M	R	W	
Cairns	12	2	25	1
O'Connor	13	6	35	2
Doull	12	6	12	2
Nash	14	7	11	1

Vettori 17 8 38 1

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Gumbo	37 Trick-or-treater's booty
5 Lustrous black	38 Environment
8 Yawn	41 Distant
12 Number of letters in this answer	42 Enthusiastic, plus
13 Multipurpose truck for short	43 D-Day battle site
14 Occipital bulges	48 Patrick Dennis' auntie
15 Taiwanese	49 KGB counterpart
17 Comprehends	50 Antitoxins
18 Hill dweller	51 Any moment now
19 Half asleep	52 Actor from creations
24 Scallop	53 Bedazzle
25 On the bony	
26 Mad Party guest	
30 Cable network	
31 Salome's covers	
32 Spacecraft compartment	
33 Inactivity	
35 Maintain	
36 Burn	

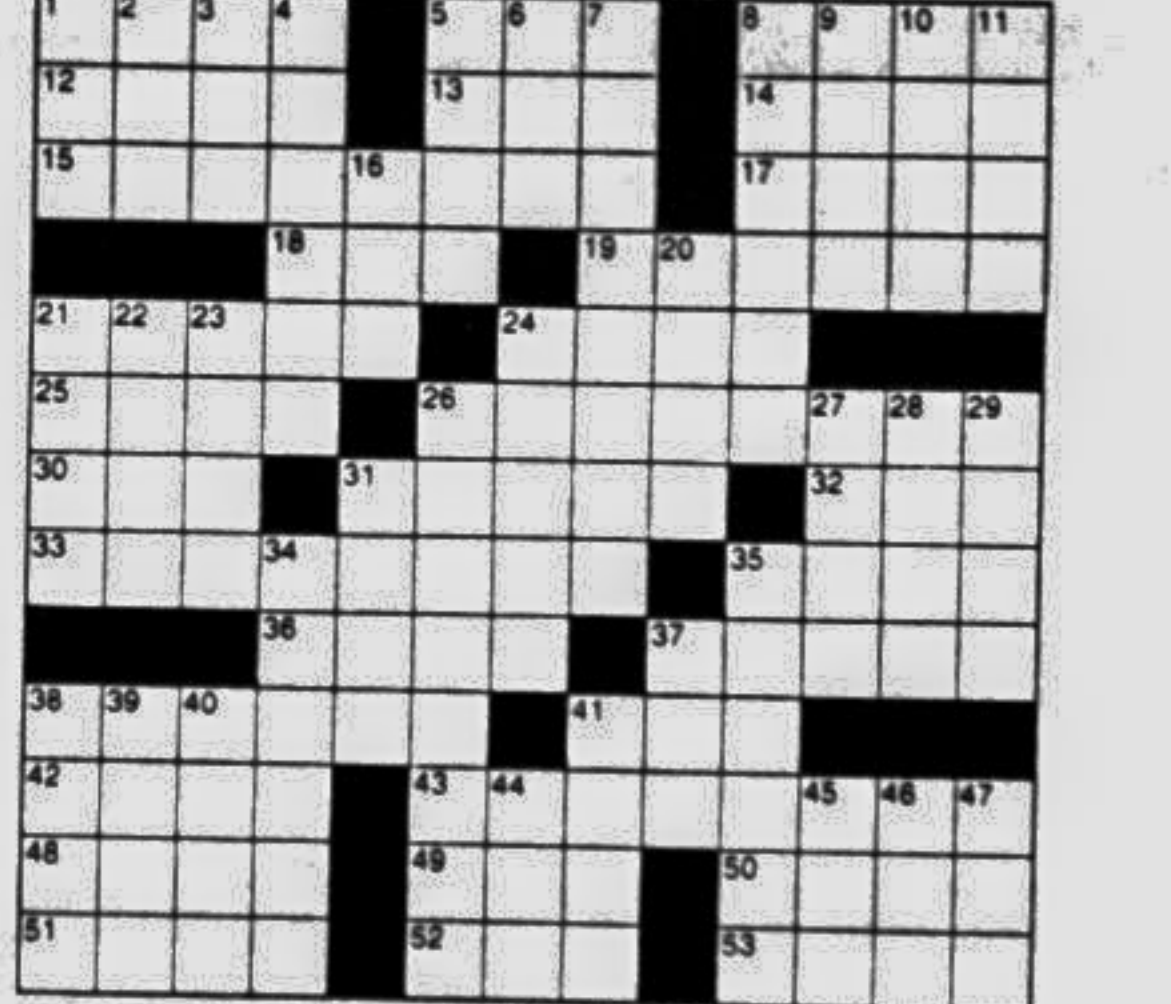
DOWN

1 Vacationing	21 Tennyson poem
2 "Kicky"—F	22 —bucco
3 Play with machines?	23 Mad king
4 Fleet	24 Laryngeal output
5 Equitable	26 Censure publicly
6 Plato's H	27 Fairy-tale word
7 Rosemary	28 Auctioneer's call
8 Escort of a sort	29 Vortex
9 From square one	31 Singer Jerry
10 They're depressed	34 Winless
11 Relaxed	35 Moisten
16 Switch	37 Video equipment, for short
20 St. Louis	38 One of the Three Bears
39 Temple guy	40 Wheels of fortune
41 Come	42 Spindletop spillage
44 Bottom line	46 Actress Joanne
47 TV chef	

Solution time: 24 mins.

HOOD	DESKS	PATY
ABU	EXOTIC	APPE
SITIMUN	PURE	USA
NIU	EAGLES	
GENERA	AVIS	
OLE	CHILI	EVICT
AKIN	REDS	EMER
DOLES	END	ORIS
SLAW	CHANCE	
BRIDGE	HIS	
RAM	SILMON	ONE
EGG	ANIVS	POI
DEN	SLAYS	TUT

Yesterday's answer



HW GUQ ZQHUY WHXXL
MG PJXX J WPRGXJXL
IQZJM Q NQVI NGE
MRGVYRM?
Yesterday's Cryptogram: THIS POLISHED MAPMAKER OFTEN REMARKED THAT HE WAS A MAN OF THE WORLD.
Today's Cryptogram clue: P 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.