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Goalmouth incident from yesterday's Jiban Bima Club Cup match between Mariner Youngs Club and Victoria Sporting Club. Mariner Youngs won 2-1. — Star photo

Bulu sings the blues for Victoria

Sports Reporter
A late second half penalty stroke by forward Bulu enabled Mariner Youngs Club to post a hard fought 2-1 win over Victoria Sporting Club in their first group D match of the Jiban Bima Club Cup hockey tournament at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.
The match was locked 1-1 after the first session.
Mariner, who finished fourth in the league last year, suffered an early setback when they conceded a goal from a penalty corner in the very fifth minute. Defender Faruque of Victoria converted the short corner with a power-packed hit.
Undaunted by the goal, Mariner kept their cool and levelled the match six minutes later with skipper Biaka Lusai scoring a spectacular field goal.
From that point onwards the match remained evenly poised until Mariner earned the penalty stroke and Bulu pushed the ball home in the 63rd minute.
The winners will take on Sonali Bank in their next match on August 12.

SADHARAN BIMA ON TRACK

Earlier, Sadharan Bima Krishna Sangstha thrashed Bangladesh Railway by five goals to nil.
Goutam Kumar Das and Moinuddin struck two goals apiece while Rashed Khan added the other to the winners credit.

TODAY'S MATCHES

(Moulana Bhasani Stadium)
Azad SC v Bangladesh SC (2:45 pm)
Farashganj SC v Bachelors Club (4:30 pm)

Vialli gives a piece of his mind

PALERMO, Aug 8: Chelsea's player-coach Gianluca Vialli branded AS Roma manager Zdenek Zeman a terrorist on Friday night, saying he should be banned for at least a year for his allegations of drugs use, reports AFP.
Zeman claimed in an interview that drugs were in danger of turning the Serie A into another Tour de France adding that he was amazed at the muscle development of Vialli and current Juventus star Alessandro Del Piero.
But a furious Vialli called for action from the Italian Football Federation (FIGC) on Friday as he left the pitch after Chelsea's 2-2 friendly draw here with Parma.
"He's a terrorist," fumed the Stamford Bridge boss, "because he's destabilising the world of (Italian) football. It's time the federation did something about it — he should be banned for one or two years."
Vialli also said he was considering legal action against the Czech coach, similar to that already announced on Friday by Del Piero's agent.
Del Piero is to seek damages in a civil court for the slur on his reputation, while a statement from the Turin club on Friday said they were considering their legal position.

Commonwealth Games hockey squad Sadeq's old gold devalued

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) yesterday announced a 16-man national team for the 16th Commonwealth Games which will be held in Malaysia next month. But surprisingly, the federation did not allot ace forward Mohammad Sadeq of Usha Krira Chakra a place in the team.
Sadeq, considered the most talented centre forward of his time was the number one choice for the national team for last couple of years. He was the highest scorer with 10 goals in the Office League last month. He also scored a hat trick last Thursday when his side tormented Bachelors' Club eleven nothing in their match of the Jiban Bima Club cup. But that splendid performance proved futile as the selectors considered his age a major point to omit him. Sadeq is around 30.
Talking to the press, former national player and manager of the Commonwealth squad Khaja Rahmatullah said, "The present trend in international hockey is not to keep anybody who is over 28 in the team. From that point of view we have decided to give Sadeq a rest and test fresh blood for the future."
BHF general secretary Shamsul Bari, however, turned down the idea that Sadeq would



In the team announced yesterday, Usha Krira Chakra have maximum six players followed by Abahani Krira Chakra who

not be considered for the national team in future. "If our present selection does not click and Sadeq can continue with his superb form, he can come back any time," said Bari.
have one less. Two players each have been picked from League champions Mohammedan Sporting Club and BKSP while the remaining player belongs to Bangladesh Army. Four players -- Russell Khan Bappi, Rafiqunabi Nakib, Shipu and Moududur Rahman Shuvo -- have been kept in the reserve. Abahani defender Mamun-ur Rashid will skipper the side while Usha's Rafiqul Islam Kamal has been named his deputy.
Bangladesh, pencilled in group A for the first round of the 12-team competition along with Pakistan, England, Canada, Kenya and Malaysia, will play their first match against Malaysia on September 9.
The squad: Jahangir Alam (Army), Mohammad Javed (MSC), Mamun-ur Rashid (AKC), Isa Miah (Usha), Mahfuzul Alam Nixon (Usha), Rabiuddin Ahmed (AKC), Khurshid Alam (Usha), Ishiaque Ahmed Shipu (MSC), Musa Miah (Usha), Ashiquzzaman (AKC), Tutul Kumar Nag (Usha), Mahbulul Ehsan Rana (BKSP), Rafiqul Islam Kamal (Usha), Ariful Haque Prince (BKSP), Giassuddin Rubel (AKC) and Shamsuzzaman Khokon (AKC).

Fraser puts team on track

LEEDS, England, Aug 8: A fighting half-century by captain Hansie Cronje gave South Africa a first innings lead of runs as Angus Fraser kept England's hopes alive on the second day of the fifth and final Test at Headingley on Friday, reports Reuters.
Replying to England's first innings of 230, South Africa were indebted to Cronje's four-hour vigil for their slender lead after five of his teammates passed 20 but failed to go on with the job.
Fraser returned his third consecutive five-wicket haul to keep England in the match and within sight of their first major series win since 1986-87.
The seamer finished with five for 42, including the key wicket of Cronje for 57.
England fought back well in the final session after spilling four catches earlier in the day. Cronje the lucky man on two of the occasions when he was on 20 and 32.
The tourists resumed on nine for no wicket in the morning but soon lost Gary Kirsten (6) to a contentious lbw decision when a ball from Fraser appeared to be heading over the stumps.
Gerardus Liebenberg, who also resumed on four not out, reached his highest score of the series before edging Fraser to second slip to go for 21.
With the pitch showing signs of deterioration and uneven bounce, Daryll Cullinan went on the attack thrashing consecutive boundaries off Dominic Cork before a lavish attempted back foot drive against Gough took a thin edge to wicketkeeper Alec Stewart. His 27 came from just 29 balls.
Jacques Kallis' long vigil

came to an end with an extraordinary one-handed, diving catch at mid-wicket by Mark Ramprakash when an attempted pull off Cork came off the splice of the bat.
Kallis' 40 spanned two hours and 57 minutes, 134 balls and included seven fours.
Jonty Rhodes added a brisk 43 with Cronje for the fifth wicket although he was also dropped by Ramprakash and Graeme Hick on 19 and 20 at

Cronje lbw. His 57 spanned 163 balls and contained nine fours.
Mark Butcher and Mike Atherton survived one over to carry England to two for no wicket in their second innings.

SCOREBOARD
Scorecards at close of the second day of the fifth Test against England at Headingley on Friday:
ENGLAND: First innings 230 (M Butcher 116, M Ntini 4-72)
SOUTH AFRICA: First innings (overnight 9-0)
Kirsten lbw b Fraser 6
Liebenberg c Hick b Fraser 21
Kallis c Ramprakash b Cork 40
Cullinan c Stewart b Gough 27
Cronje lbw b Fraser 57
Rhodes c Stewart b Gough 32
McMillan c Salisbury b Cork 7
Pollock c Salisbury b Fraser 31
Boucher c Atherton b Gough 6
Donald lbw b Fraser 0
Ntini not out 21
Extras: (lb-20, nb-1) 252
Total: 252
Fall of wickets: 1-17; 2-36; 3-83; 4-120; 5-163; 6-184; 7-237; 8-242; 9-242.
Bowling:
Gough 24.3 7 58 3
Fraser 25 9 42 5
Cork 21 3 72 2
Flintoff 8 1 31 0
Salisbury 3 0 6 0
Butcher 9 4 23 0

ENGLAND: Second innings
Butcher not out 0
Atherton not out 1
Extras: (lb-1) 1
Total: 2
To bat: N Hussain, A Stewart, M Ramprakash, G Hick, A Flintoff, D Cork, I Salisbury, D Gough, A Fraser.
Bowling:
Pollock 1 0 0 0
Umpires: Javed Akhtar and Peter Willey

Romario jokes at Zagallo's cost?

RIO DE JANEIRO, Aug 8: Brazil's sacked coach Mario Zagallo is considering legal action against Romario over an unflattering caricature adorning the walls of a toilet in a bar owned by the Brazilian striker, reports AFP.
In an interview with the local press Zagallo said he was appalled by his depiction in the Cafe Gol and he rejected Romario's explanation that it was there to pay homage to Zagallo.
The offending picture, on the door into the men's cloakroom, shows Zagallo sitting on a toilet. On the adjacent door Brazil's ex-technical advisor Zico is pictured holding a toilet roll.
"It's appalling. I certainly don't appreciate it," said the 66-year-old veteran manager. "I never thought I'd be treated like this."
According to Zagallo, Romario, left out of Brazil's World Cup squad because of injury, was ungrateful, remarking: "To leave him out on the eve of the world cup was inevitable. We waited until the last moment to see if he had made the necessary recovery."

Rising damp rotting BCB's core Cricket loses another soul

Sports Reporter
Saad was appointed Executive Secretary of the BCB by president Saber Hossain Chowdhury in September 1996 as the first-ever paid official of the board.
Meanwhile, when contacted yesterday, Saad insisted that he resigned only on personal ground.
However, it was gathered that Saad was increasingly unhappy with his job since the board's elections as he was being cornered by a 'group' who did not approve of his appointment. It was also learnt that Saad had expressed his desire to the BCB boss to quit his job on five different occasions in the past. But he had to reconsider his decision each time on the request of the BCB president.
Sources said Saad, a former national cricketer, made several attempts to make up with his adversaries but, having failed ultimately, he submitted a written resignation letter on August 1.



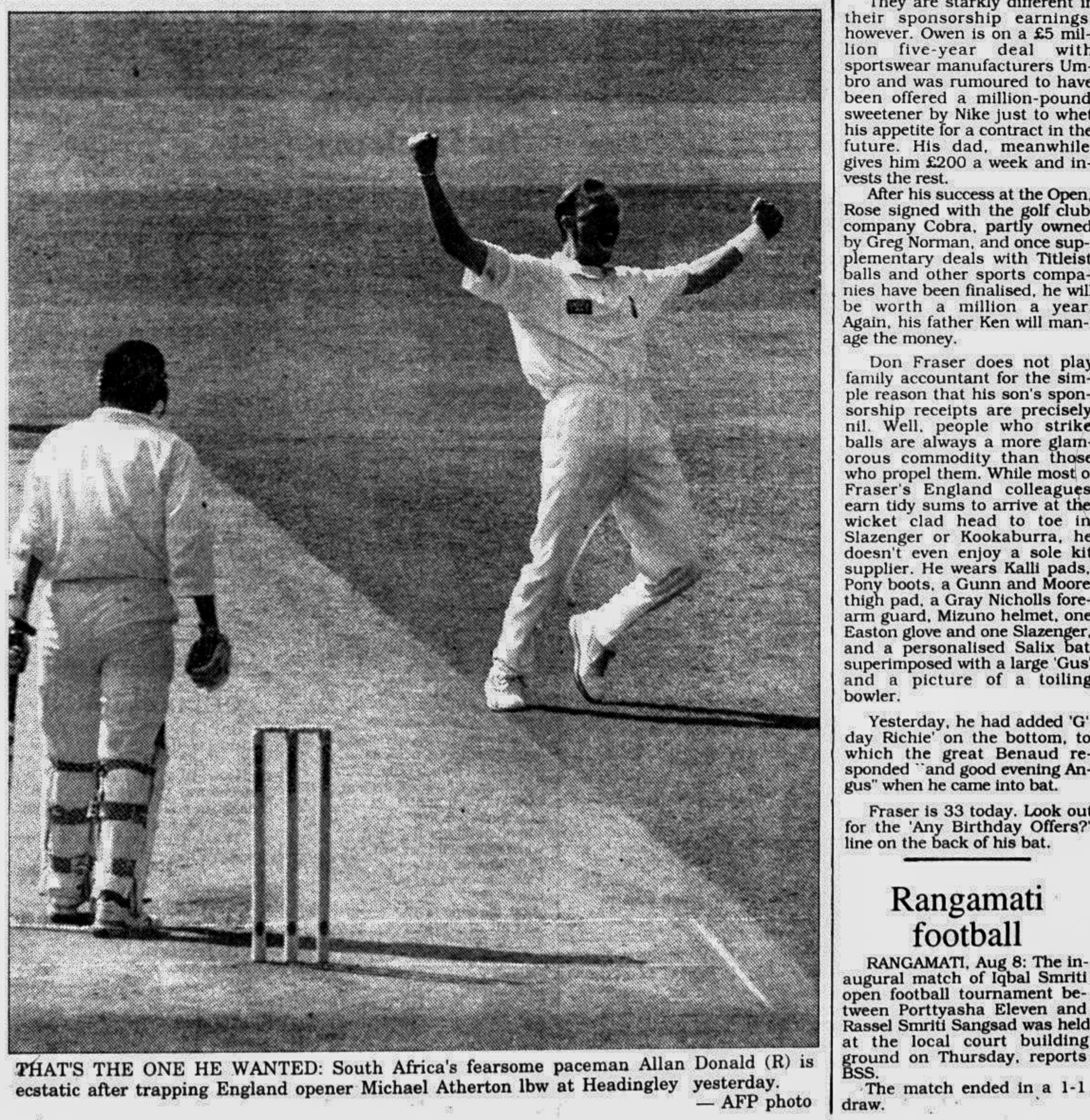
TANJEB AHSAN SAAD

Mind games that prove so deadly

LONDON, Aug 8: (The Electronic Telegraph): David Birstow was very much at large during last year's Headingley Test, putting heart and soul into a campaign for Yorkshire CCC to remain at their old home. The campaign continues but Bluey is just one huge memory having tragically taken his own life in January.
Arguably the best wicket-keeper batsman to play for Yorkshire, certainly the loudest, he ultimately felt shunned by his beloved county. Having been released in 1990, he was financially insecure - much of his benefit proceeds had gone on an acrimonious divorce from his first wife - surviving on a bit of this and a bit of that. He couldn't stomach life out of the cricketing limelight but sadly was too proud to admit it.
Suicides happen. It does seem in cricket, however, that they happen alarmingly often. At least 100 reputable cricketers worldwide have given themselves out, so to speak, including 24 Test players - over one per cent of the total (2,142) who have represented their country.
Britain's suicide rate is 0.007 per cent, and in other major sports it is equally negligible. Golf, tennis, rugby, boxing and horse racing have six between them, and there are only a handful of cases in football. The best known was the Scottish centre-forward Hughie Gallagher, who threw himself under a train in 1957, the most

bizarre the Crystal Palace goalkeeper Billy Callender, who hanged himself on the crossbar.
Yet there are enough cricket suicides to write a book and one actually exists. By His Own Hand, a 250-page tome with a macabre black cover by the cricket historian David Frith which is due to be updated next year. There are tales of players who shot themselves, took overdoses, strung themselves up from the banisters, some as recently as three years ago when the extrovert Surrey medium-pacer Danny Kelleher was found dead at his home with a note beside his body.
Wayne Larkins, a close friend of Birstow's and the batsman who once intoxicated middle England with his swashbuckling strokeplay, is now scratching a living on club grounds and at northern racecourses. He earns barely £3,000 turning out for Bedfordshire and in darker moments has talked of suicidal thoughts. "I'd love to get into coaching but nothing's turned up," he said. "It's sad, it's a waste of my experience. People don't realise how desperate it can become."
The all-embracing nature of cricket definitely contributes to these people's predicaments. As a long, absorbing game of mind as well as matter, of practice and preparation and performance, of blow-by-blow post mortems and unglamorous nights sharing rooms in anonymous motorway-side hotels, it is to many a way of life. It becomes your wife, mother and favourite uncle, an all-in-

one family that, once initiated in, you cannot see beyond.
The game's intrigue draws you in from a young age, consumes you, then ejects you little more than a carcass a decade or two later. I cried when I was sacked by my county, Middlesex, having played for them at various levels for 22 years. I felt spent and worthless, like an old washing machine thrown on the tip. Cricket defines professional players - it is all they've ever done. Without it, they don't know who they are or what they can be instead.
Some land on their feet, others don't. While his England contemporaries like Graham Gooch and Geoff Cook still enjoy prominent roles in the game, Larkins today is playing at Sedgely CC and has an uncertain future.
Other fine players, names like Chris Old, Graham Dillie and Barry Wood, endure a similarly meagre existence clinging to the cricketing bosom. There's an unpalatable truth here. They need to divorce themselves from the one thing they love to avoid turning into an emotional wreck.
The main contenders for the BBC Sports Personality of the Year have already emerged - quite a relief, considering the array of charisma bypasses on offer last year. A fair bet is that Michael Owen will win it by a short head from Justin Rose with Angus Fraser a close third. These are all chaps of excellent character and sound fathers. They have all made fabulous contributions to an outstanding sporting summer.
They are starkly different in their sponsorship earnings, however. Owen is on a £5 million five-year deal with sportsware manufacturers Umbro and was rumoured to have been offered a million-pound sweetener by Nike just to whet his appetite for a contract in the future. His dad, meanwhile, gives him £200 a week and invests the rest.
After his success at the Open, Rose signed with the golf club company Cobra, partly owned by Greg Norman, and once supplementary deals with Titleist balls and other sports companies have been finalised, he will be worth a million a year. Again, his father Ken will manage the money.
Don Fraser does not play family accountant for the simple reason that his son's sponsorship receipts are precisely nil. Well, people who strike balls are always a more glamorous commodity than those who propel them. While most of Fraser's England colleagues earn tidy sums to arrive at the wicket clad head to toe in Slazenger or Kookaburra, he doesn't even enjoy a sole kit supplier. He wears Kallis pads, Pony boots, a Gunn and Moore thigh pad, a Gray Nichols forearm guard, Mizuno helmet, one Easton glove and one Slazenger, and a personalised Salix Bat superimposed with a large 'Gus' and a picture of a toiling bowler.
Yesterday, he had added 'G-day Richie' on the bottom, to which the great Benaud responded "and good evening Angus" when he came into bat.
Fraser is 33 today. Look out for the 'Any Birthday Offers?' line on the back of his bat.



THAT'S THE ONE HE WANTED: South Africa's fearsome paceman Allan Donald (R) is ecstatic after trapping England opener Michael Atherton lbw at Headingley yesterday. — AFP photo

Rangamati football

RANGAMATI, Aug 8: The inaugural match of Iqbal Smriti open football tournament between Portyasha Eleven and Rassel Smriti Sangsad was held at the local court building ground on Thursday, reports BSS.
The match ended in a 1-1 draw.