

Cricket coaches' course ends

A two-week long training course for cricket coaches concluded at the BUET ground yesterday, reports BSS.

State Minister for Information Professor Abu Sayeed attended the concluding session of the course as the chief guest and distributed certificates among the participants.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader, Deputy Minister for Shipping and President of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Saber Hossain Chowdhury were present.

BCB's director of training Gordon Greenidge was also present.

Fifty coaches from across the country took part.



State Minister for Information Professor Abu Sayeed distributing certificates among the local cricket coaches at the BUET ground yesterday. — Star photo

Yorkshire won't leave Headingley

LEEDS, England, Oct 17 (Reuters): English county Yorkshire announced Friday they have abandoned plans to leave their historic Headingley home in Leeds and move to a new 50 million pound (\$80 million) stadium in nearby Wakefield.

The club have agreed to work with their landlords Leeds Cricket Football Athletic Company to produce a plan for the redevelopment of their century-old stadium, which is in drastic need of modernisation.

"This is a fitting end to a season where Yorkshire has enjoyed a much improved position in the County Championship," said club chairman Keith Moss.

The agreement brings to an end almost two years of bitter fighting between the club and their landlords after Yorkshire announced their intention to quit Headingley amid a huge fanfare of publicity.

The 'Headingley is Home' action group, led a vociferous campaign against the proposals and claimed that with county cricket attracting only pitiful attendance, a move would be a complete waste of money.

England pace bowler Darren Gough backed the decision and said he hoped that Yorkshire could now concentrate on making on-field headlines.

"Headingley has tradition and history and England always get a good following when Tests are played there."

Bundesliga roundup

BOON, Oct 17: 1860 Munich kept the pressure on city rivals and league leaders Bayern by beating VfL Bochum 2-1 in the German Bundesliga on Friday, reports Reuters.

1860, re-emerging as a force after years in the doldrums, joined Bayern on 19 points but stayed second on goal difference.

Bernhard Winkler put 1860 in front from a fine Miroslav Stevic cross after four minutes but midfielder Sebastian Schindler equalised for the visitors three minutes later.

Striker Bernd Hobsch gave the home side victory when he struck from close range in the 21st minute.

Bayern, the only side undefeated after seven games, visit Schalke 04 today.

Champions Kaiserslautern could only manage a 1-1 draw at home to lowly VfL Wolfsburg.

The visitors opened the scoring through Detlev Dammeier in the 50th minute and Marco Reich levelled in the 73rd.

Kaiserslautern stayed sixth while Wolfsburg, reduced to 10 men when defender Waldemar Kryger was sent off for a second bookable offence in the 67th minute, moved up one place to 17th, leaving the bottom spot to Werder Bremen.

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SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq

A GOOD DEFENCE BY EAST (Hand # 122)

North ♠: AKQJ6 ♥: 106X ♦: AX ♣: KQJ	West ♠: 9XX ♥: K7X ♦: Q7X ♣: 1066X	East ♠: 108 ♥: AJ9X ♦: 986 ♣: A9XX	South (D) ♠: 7XX ♥: Q8X ♦: KJ10XX ♣: 7X
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Bidding

South	West	North	East
Pass	Pass	1 Club*	Pass
1 Diamond**	Pass	1 Spade	Pass
2 Diamonds	Pass	2 Spades	Pass
3 Spades	Pass	4 Spades	Pass
Pass	Pass		

* Artificial, 18 or more HCP.
* Artificial, showing 0-6 HCP.

With 20 HCP North opened 1 Club in the third position and partner responded 1 Diamond showing 0-6 HCP. A reasonable contract of 4 Spades was reached.

THE PLAY

East opened the Ace of Clubs to which partner played a discouraging low card. It appeared that the declarer was holding both the King and Queen of Clubs since he dropped the Jack on the Ace.

Thus, East could not continue with the Clubs since in that the declarer would slap a Heart on the third Club to ruff a Heart ultimately. A Diamond return will set up the suit. A routine Spade lead might help the declarer in setting up the Diamond suit, if he actually held 6-card Spade suit. Hence, the Heart tricks must be collected to beat the contract. What Heart to be led. Obviously, if partner was holding the King, the lead must be the Jack of Hearts so that the Queen in the dummy could be trapped. Good analysis and good defence for down one.

However, as the cards were, a trump return twice by East can also beat the hand. But the line of play chosen by East was more certain than trump return at trick 2.

Fraser feels for Tufnell

LONDON, Oct 17: Veteran seamer Angus Fraser believes the England selectors have made a big mistake in leaving behind his old friend and club colleague Phil Tufnell for the upcoming Ashes tour in Australia, reports AFP.

England fly to Australia on Wednesday without the maverick Middlesex left-arm spinner and Fraser said: "The selectors have made their choice but there is little doubt that Phil is the best spinner in the country.

"At times he has not done himself justice and that has probably been his undoing now. He has won matches before for England and he is a potential crackerjack."

The Middlesex seamer believes that Tufnell is worth his place for more than just crickering reasons.

"He is great to have in the dressing room and provides a positive influence on us all.

"It would be nice to see him touring with us but that is not up to the players and the selectors have decided against him."

Fraser will lead the England bowling attack in a bid to regain the famous Ashes run they have not held since 1987 but he

knows just how tough it will be.

"Australia can beat any team in the world even on a off day so it comes down to us to decide how we can compete."

"We will have to play like we did against South Africa in the last two Tests otherwise we will be in trouble from the start."

"They have real crackerjacks in Warne and McGrath and we don't, so it will have to be a group effort to get the Ashes back."

Fraser's teammate Nasser Hussain was in fighting mood believing that England have a real chance for the first time in twelve years.

"This is a better side than we have had in long time and we are much harder to beat."

"There is a real fighting spirit in the team and we won't lie down for anyone."

"They are a great side and the best in the world but we have the belief and the ability to go out there and prove them wrong."

"This series is going to come down to how well we can perform, not how they play."

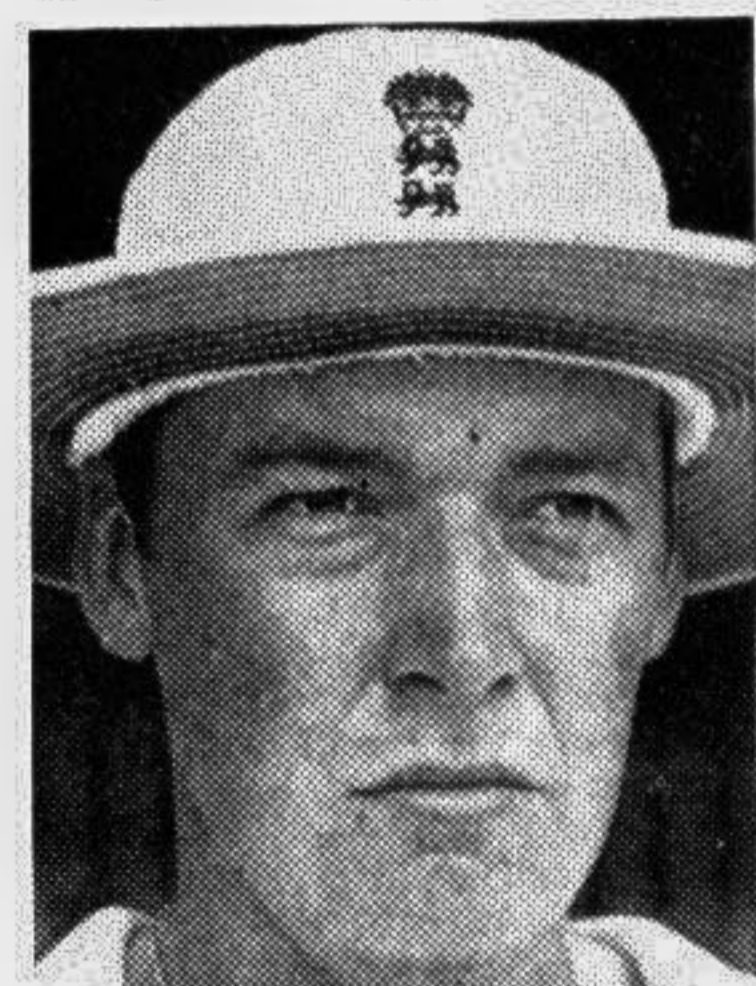
"If they play well it does not matter because we will match them. But if we don't reach the level we know we can play at then they can play badly and still win."

Fraser believes that only one win will separate the sides at the end of the series.

"It will be 2-1 to one of us and I really believe that it can be England."

"What we have to do is control the match at Brisbane and hopefully win it."

"If we can do that it will help pressure on them and that is when you make mistakes."



ANGUS FRASER

ANSA report spurs Diego

MILAN, Oct 17: Diego Maradona could soon be taking legal action against the Italian football federation following a report that his 15-month ban in 1991 was the result of a botched dope test, reports AFP.

The ban, following a positive test for cocaine after a league match for Napoli against Bari, marked the beginning of the end of his sensational career.

But a report by ANSA news agency claims that blunders with the equipment were made in March 1991 at the now discredited Acqua Acetosa Test Laboratory, currently at the centre of a drugs scandal in Italian soccer.

Not only Maradona's sample, but also the supposedly 'clean' control sample, which is only used for comparison purposes to make sure the equipment is set-up correctly also showed trace of cocaine.

They were apparently the residues left from previous ex-



DIEGO MARADONA

periments on drugs which were carried out to help local police with a civil enquiry, completely outside the remit of sport and doping.

The revelation sparked immediate reactions from the Maradona camp.

Napoli president Corrado Ferlaino said: "If this story is true, then it will be extremely disturbing for both me and for Napoli football club... we strongly urge the authorities to shed the full light on this affair."

Maradona's manager Guillermo Coppola went even further.

If Maradona was banned because of a mistake at the laboratory, "he said on television in Buenos Aires."

"We've known about these details for some time," Coppola said. "The machine which was used for the tests wasn't working properly because it had been used for tests using cocaine."

Diego said so during that year and now there's the proof. All that remains now is to find out why Diego was banned for 15 months. It's over to the lawyers because Diego suffered great pain and a great loss.

Obviously we will ask for damages because the ban came right in the middle of his career, just after he had been runner-up in the World Cup and for him it was like destroying his career."

However, the report drew a mixed answer from the head of the laboratory at the time, Alberto Giarrusso, who had been appointed that same month.

"One of the first things I did when I took over was to stop all these tests being carried out which had nothing to do with doping. As for the presence of cocaine in the control sample, it certainly was there."

Div II soccer

PWD Sporting Club outplayed Little Friends Club 4-1 at the Second Division football league at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners led the first half 2-1.

Royal scored a hatrick while Sanu netted the other goal for PWD.

Rafat scored the consolation goal for the Little Friends.

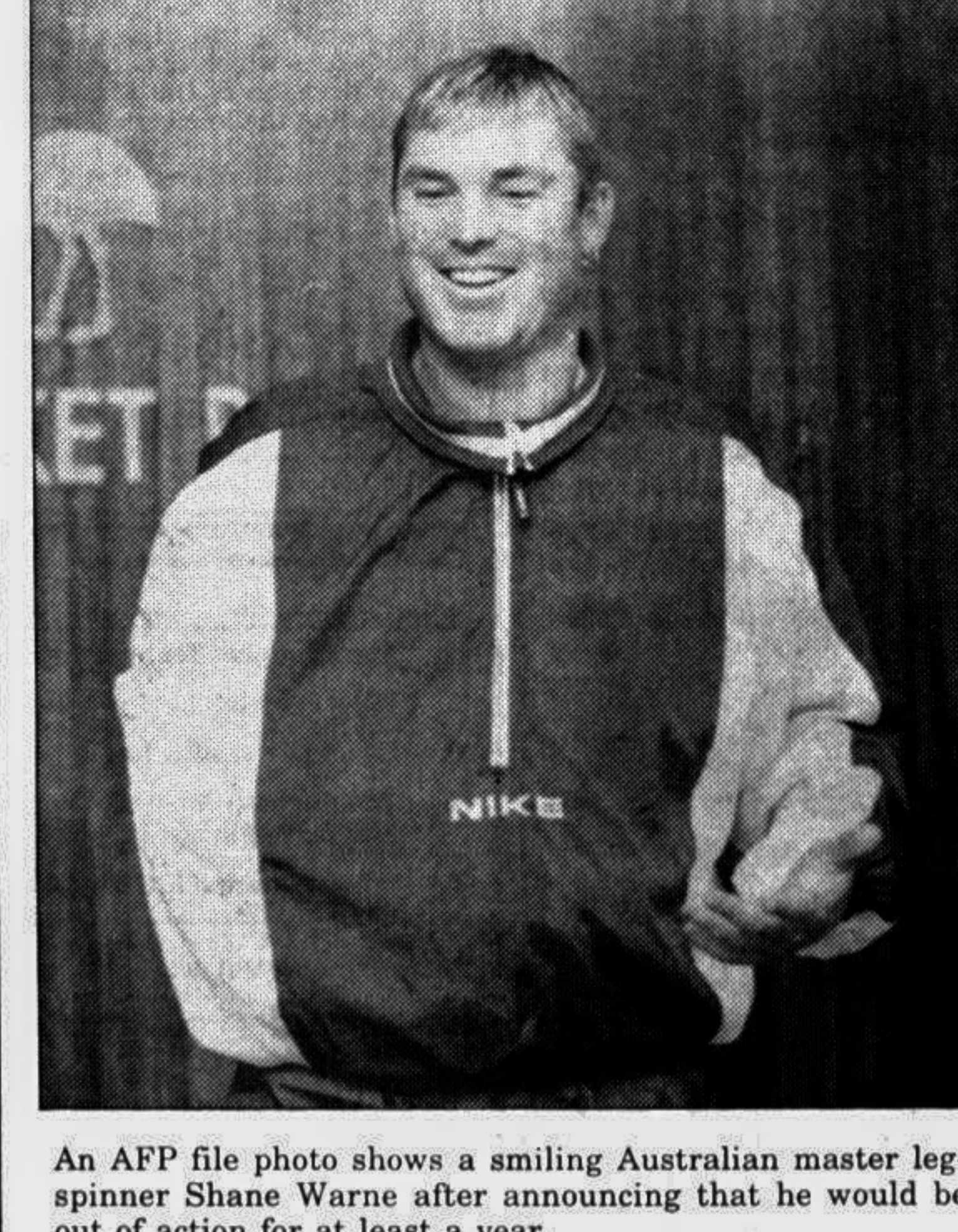
In another match, Sadharan Bima KC defeated Jurain Janata Club 4-2 after dominating the first half 3-1.

Babu of Bima struck twice in the 29th and 74th minutes while Mueshi and Hannan scored one goal each in the 38th, 43rd minutes.

Southgate signs new Villa deal

LONDON, Oct 17: Gareth Southgate has completed a signing of a new five-year contract with Premiership leaders Aston Villa, reports Xinhua.

The 28-year-old England defender, who scored his first international goal in the 3-0 midweek win in Luxembourg, joined Villa from Crystal Palace for 2.5 million pounds in 1995.



An AFP file photo shows a smiling Australian master leg-spinner Shane Warne after announcing that he would be out of action for at least a year.

Ashes series Warne doubtful for first Test

MELBOURNE, Australia, Oct 17: Shane Warne may not be fit to play against England until the second Test at Perth starting on November 28 after failing to bowl on his comeback match here today, reports AFP.

The record-breaking leg-spinner was kept in cotton wool on his comeback for district cricket side St Kilda against Melbourne and is now certain to miss Victoria's opening Sheffield Shield match against Tasmania next Wednesday.

"It was left to him and the medical people to decide when he was ready to bowl," Victorian Cricket Association (VCA) operations manager Shaun Graf said.

Warne had surgery to repair torn cartilage and ligaments in his bowling shoulder after returning from Australia's India and Sharjah earlier this year.

Initially it was feared he could be out of the game for up to two years.

But his swift recovery increased the possibility that he could be available for the Ashes Test series against England starting on November 20.

Now that he is likely to miss the first Sheffield match, he may not be ready for Test cricket at least until the second Test at Perth — starting November 28 — or even the third Test at Adelaide starting on December 11.

His next chance to play Sheffield Shield for Victoria is against New South Wales starting on November 4.

Ready to be the host

BUCHAREST, Oct 17 (Reuters/Internet): Romanian club National Bucharest said on Saturday they would host the UEFA Cup tie between Serbia Crvena Zvezda Belgrade and French team Olympique Lyon on October 20.

Earlier this week, UEFA ordered Zvezda to play next Tuesday's UEFA Cup second-round first-leg tie against Lyon in Bucharest because of the tensions over Yugoslavia's volatile province of Kosovo.

"We are ready to host this important European clash between two sparkling teams, as Crvena Zvezda and Lyon are national Bucharest club manager Gino Iorgulescu told Reuters.

UEFA's decision also applied to Partizan Belgrade, who are due to play Lazio in the European Cup Winners' Cup on November 5, but Partizan hope the situation will have returned to normal by then.

Australian eves qualify for WC

AUCKLAND, Oct 17: Australia scored a 3-1 win over hosts New Zealand on Saturday to qualify for next year's women's soccer World Cup in the United States, reports AP.

Julie Murray, playing her 50th international, got Australia off to a flying start in the Oceania zone final with a goal in the 2nd minute. Bridgette Starr added one on 13 minutes and Lisa Casagrande put the team 3-0 ahead before a consolation goal from Nicky Smith.

"This is a great result for the Australian women as part of our plans for the next two years," said Australian coach Greg Brown.

"We needed to qualify for the World Cup to give us international competition, otherwise our medal chances at the Sydney Olympics would have been severely diminished. Today completes the first part of a three-stage plan — to qualify, to do well and finish in the top eight at the World Cup and to finish in the top three at the Sydney Olympics."

Taken aback by Taylor



MARK TAYLOR

SYDNEY, Oct 17 (AP): Australian cricket greets a new hero in Denis Lillee as the Chappell brothers were telling Mark Taylor that his career was over and it was time to tuck the bat under his arm and walk.

Just 16 months ago only Taylor didn't think he was a dead man. He went 20 straight innings without a half century and was in the worst slump of any Australian captain in history.

"His bat consisted entirely of edges and there was glue upon the soles of his boots — he didn't look capable of scoring 34, let alone 334," wrote cricket columnist Peter Robuck after Taylor joined Sir Donald Bradman as the highest scoring Australian on Friday in the second Test against Pakistan.

On Saturday Taylor decided against batting on to pass Bradman, his declaration at 599 for four coming as an anticlimax at home where news bulletins all day tipped he would chase runs for another 40 minutes. His decision also cost him a chance to beat Brian Lara's world record 375 and left Taylor and Bradman as equal seventh on the all-time highest Test score list.

"The record doesn't mean anything," Taylor said Friday. "I prefer to win this game, that's what I'm here for."

"For me victory in the series is more important on the subcontinent," said Taylor, who left 41 short of West Indian Brian Lara's world record Lara made 375 against England at St John's Antigua in 1994.

"Lara's world record of 375 is not important for me. It's nice to be bracketed with Sir Don Bradman," Taylor said.

The Australian team held a vote Friday night and decided that Taylor should bat on. He ignored it.

The innings itself, and a declaration which put the team cause ahead of his own record hopes, was inspiring stuff from a man who brings little artistry

but an extraordinary work ethic and self-belief to the game.

"Of course a good character has never been enough in sport

MARK TAYLOR

where results are paramount. Taylor's 18-month personal crisis, through 1996 and into 1997, was enough to have him sacked had he been a mere player instead of the captain of the world's best side.

But while Greg and Ian Chappell, the loudest of many detractors, were demanding he stand aside, Taylor infuriated them with his determination to stay.

Despite the slump, he was leading a winning team. That gave him the support of his predecessor Allan Border.

There was strong speculation that Taylor might be dropped ahead of the last year's Ashes tour of England.

It seemed everyone was taking sides, even the Prime Minister, John Howard.

"A lot of Australian captains in the past went through the sort of valleys and troughs of despair and not getting many runs and I devoutly hope that the Australian selectors stick with Mark," said Howard.

The selectors agreed, while

the English taunted Taylor. Representatives from the London Mirror presented a ruffled Taylor with a three-metre wide bat on his arrival for the Ashes, and after a run of failures in the warm-up games there was increased talk that he would be dumped.

In a reversal of fortunes, Taylor thrived, scoring 129 in the first Test at Edgbaston, but the team lost. Fortune shifted again: Taylor slipped back into the doldrums as Australia won the series. While Taylor found it hard to score a run he won all five coin tosses.

"My future is going to be based around how I play," Taylor admitted on his return from the Ashes tour. "My captaincy certainly hasn't fallen away in the last year. It's going to be up to me to make some runs."

Taylor scored another fine century earlier this year against India but lost the series.

Now, after two years of falling as the team soared and soaring on the rare occasions the team failed, Taylor has a chance to lead the team to the summit with his bat rather than his captaincy brain.

He led the team to its first victory in Pakistan for 39 years during the first Test and this innings has placed the team on the verge of a series win on the subcontinent, Taylor's last major goal.

His old fans were still with him Saturday.

"Congratulations on a fantastic innings," Howard said Saturday in his message to the cricket captain. "Your tenacity and durability as a batsman and Australian captain is admirable. All Australians are excited by your achievement."

The issue dominated sports talkback radio Saturday.

"I've been a cricket fan for 20 years and I've never heard a 300 before," said one fan on Australian Broadcasting Corp Radio. "I couldn't believe it, I was jumping up and down and my guide dog had never heard me make a noise like that before."

Taylor wasn't the only one with blind faith after all.

Zidane leaving Juve?



ZINEDINE ZIDANE

TURIN, Italy, Oct 17: Frenchman Zinedine Zidane, rated as the world's best midfielder, has warned Juventus that he might quit the Italian champions, reports AFP.

Zidane, who guided the hosts to victory at France '98, feels bitter and betrayed by people here in Turin after a mixed run of form. Previously wooed by Manchester United, he is ready to ditch a contract he has here until 2003.

"I've been through a very difficult time which I think is finally coming to an end," said the 26-year-old.

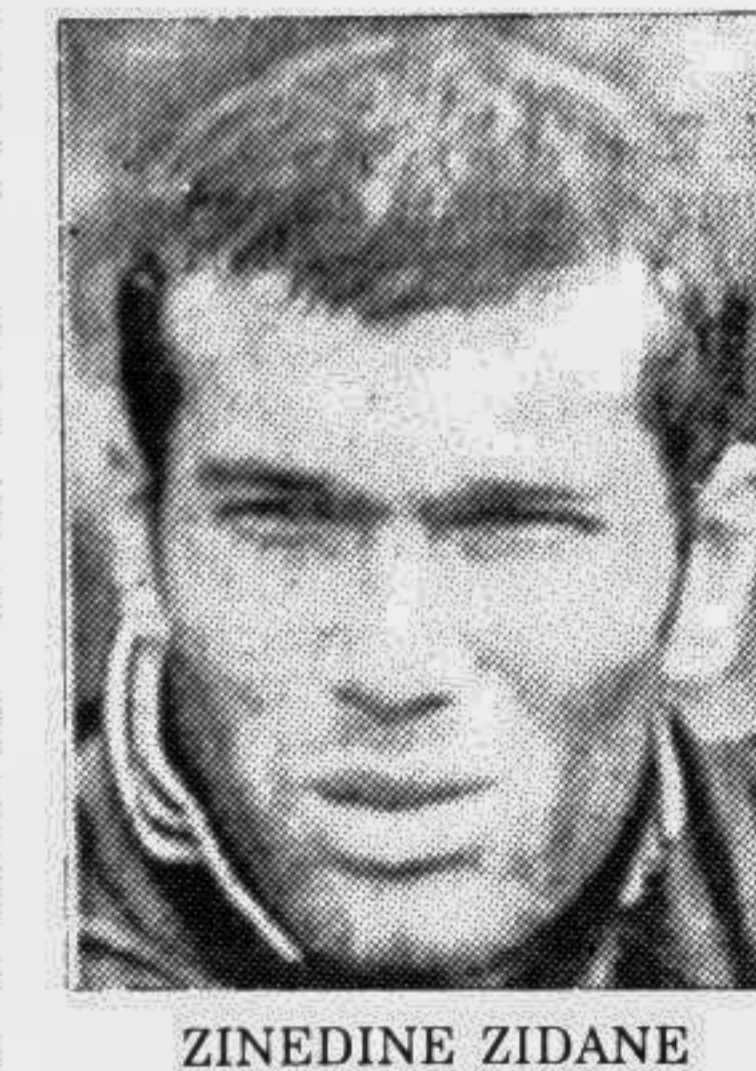
"I played really well against Russia and Andorra for the national side and although I'm not yet at my best, I'm getting there."

"I haven't been concerned about it, because people in the game have told me not to worry. That after a year as hard as the last one — and not just because of the World Cup — it's only usual to be a bit behind in the new season."

But he went on: "There are

people here who are always there to give me a pat on the back and to make compliments when things are going well. But during the hard times, like the ones I've just been through, they disappear."

They disappear into the void, into the world of silence, before I didn't understand what



ZINEDINE ZIDANE

they were really like. Now, after what's happened, I do know."

Zidane cleared his teammates of any blame and would not identify the target of his attack, though the Italian press pointed the finger at the club's owner and honorary president, Fiat Baron Giovanni Agnelli.

He simply warned the club: "It could be that I leave Juventus before the contract expires. I don't even remember if that's in 2003 or 2004."

"But it doesn't make much difference because I will almost certainly not be respecting it."

"Let me make one thing clear — at the moment, I am here, with Juventus, and I'm happy about that, but who knows if I will be here next season?"

"After four or five years with the club I might just realise that that's enough and that it's time to go," he told the Turin-based paper, Tuttosport.

Zidane joined Juventus in the summer of 1996, after reaching the UEFA Cup final with Bordeaux, and went on to win two league titles, but lose two consecutive European Cup finals with the Italian giants.

It's not true, tells Hoddle



GLENN HODDLE

LONDON, Oct 17 (Reuters/Internet): England's beleaguered soccer coach Glenn Hoddle has dismissed reports of a dressing room bust-up with his captain Alan Shearer as "vicious lies."

Hoddle said he was beginning to believe what he had been told that there were "people out there" trying to undermine his job.

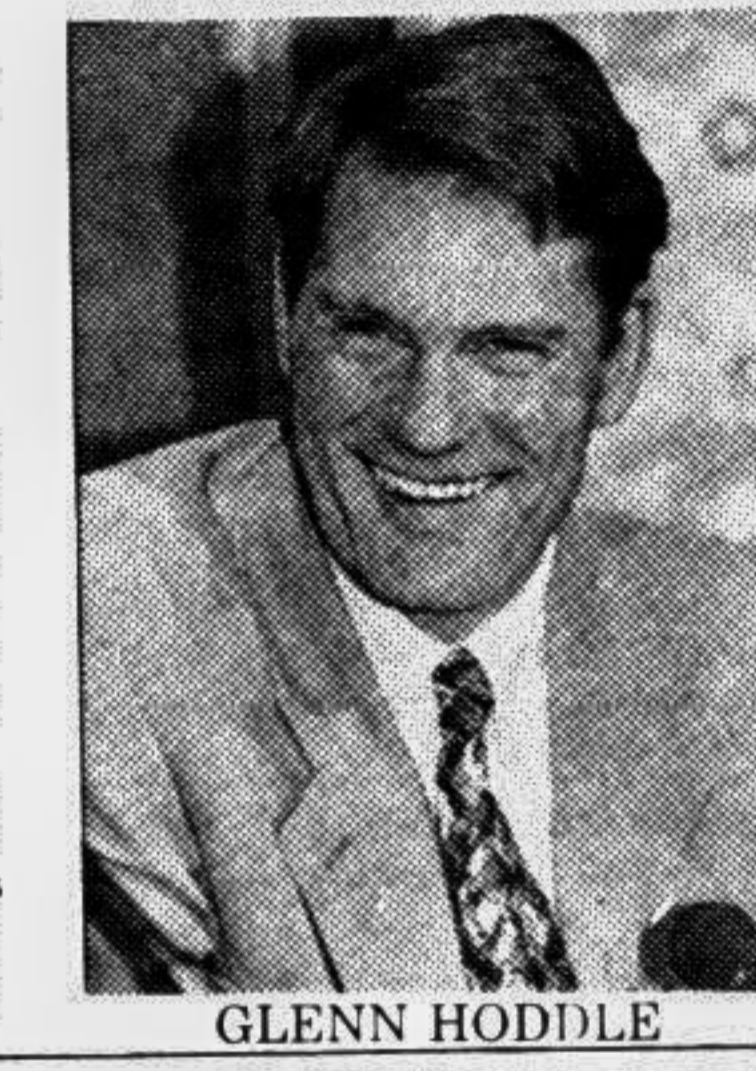
A front-page story in Saturday's Sun newspaper said an angry confrontation came after Hoddle had demanded an explanation of the team's poor performance in Wednesday's 3-0 European championship win over Luxembourg.

Hoddle, under fire for the side's miserable form since the World Cup finals, was quoted as saying: "No-one leaves this dressing room until you tell me why you are producing perfor-

mances like this.

Shearer was reported to have snapped back: "Have you ever thought it might be down to you."

Hoddle said the suggestion



GLENN HODDLE

that he and his captain had had a row was "just mischievous, pure garbage", though he admitted he had "a pop" at the team during halftime in Luxembourg and that there had been a frank exchange of views after the match.

"I'm very disappointed over these vicious lies," said Hoddle. "I have spoken to Alan Shearer and he can't believe it."

"People are going out of their way to invent stories...some of the garbage is laughable."

He said the flak he had been receiving would serve only to make him more determined to ensure that England "do well and qualify for the European championship finals."

British Sports Minister Tony Banks said it was time the fans and media got behind Hoddle.

"Everyone thinks they know how to pick a winning team," Banks told BBC radio.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	45 "Fly, fly!"	word of	21 Peculiar
1 Summer births	47 Keatsian opus	"The Raven"	23 Boutonniere
5 Sch. org.	49 Lamb	4 Hides	setting
8 Prudish search	50 Troubles	6 Afternoon	24 Caron
12 "— Mis-behavin'!"	51 Mal de —	52 Barcelona boy	8 It's a
13 Ump	53 Skillful chapter	9 "Yellow Subma-rine"	25 Bush's alma mater
14 Long lunch?	54 History	chapter	26 Owl's perch
15 Killer whale	55 Transaction album	10 "Mad About You" role	27 Fine
16 LummoX	17 Racetrack	18 Vacillate	28 Lycanthrope
19 Vacillate	DOWN	10 "Mad About You" role	32 "Cool, dude!"
20 Sunday paper section	11 Neighbor of Myanmar	11 Small article: abbr.	33 48 hours of fun?
22 Streisand vehicle	2 Emerald isle	3 First	19 — Lingus
26 Demote	29 Moreover	30 By way of	31 Turner et al.
31 Turner et al.	32 Likely	33 Jack Benny's expletive	34 Ruin the surface
35 Ram's name	36 Loft dwelling	37 Evely Brothers hit	40 Troubles
41 — duck			

Solution time: 23 mins.

BRA	PAD	42 Netman
GRUB	BORAX	Nastase
AMEER	ANIMAL	43 15th-century carvel
PATRICK	DEENNIS	44 Brits' brig
TINT	DREISS	45 Despondent
EMER	AGELS	46 Waste not a moment
SLIT	PIPE	48 "— Rosen-kavaler"
AIT	BIOTA	SCH
PATRICK	SWAYZE	
SEETH	NINAS	
ASTOR	ENGR	
TER	DUE	

Yesterday's answer