

Good news for Tyson

WASHINGTON, Oct 22: Mike Tyson should know by the end of the week whether he will have to go on trial for allegedly assaulting two people in Montgomery County, Maryland, his lawyer said Wednesday, reports AP.

State's Attorney Robert Dean has been asked to postpone the former heavyweight champion's December 1 trial on misdemeanor assault charges, defence lawyer Paul Kemp said.

"If there's a way to resolve the case short of going to trial and it's fair, I'm interested in exploring it," Dean said.

He said he is considering asking the judge to postpone the case by putting it on the District Court's inactive docket.

Kemp has been negotiating a possible settlement with two men who accused Tyson of assaulting them following a minor traffic accident involving Tyson's wife, Monica, on August 31. Tyson has denied the charges.

The men, Abnielec Saucedo and Richard Hardick, supported the return of Tyson's boxing licence by the Nevada Athletic Commission earlier this week. It was revoked after he bit Evander Holyfield's ears a year and a half ago during a title fight. The panel voted 4-1 to restore Tyson's licence.

Kemp said he is also suggesting the misdemeanor assault charges be dropped after about a year provided Tyson stays out of trouble. Tyson might undergo counseling as part of the deal, Kemp said.

Such arrangements are "not unusual" in criminal cases, said Stephen Saltzberg, a criminal law professor at George Washington University. "It is unusual for somebody who is a convicted felon to get the benefit of this," he added.

Tyson is on probation for a 1992 rape conviction in Indiana.

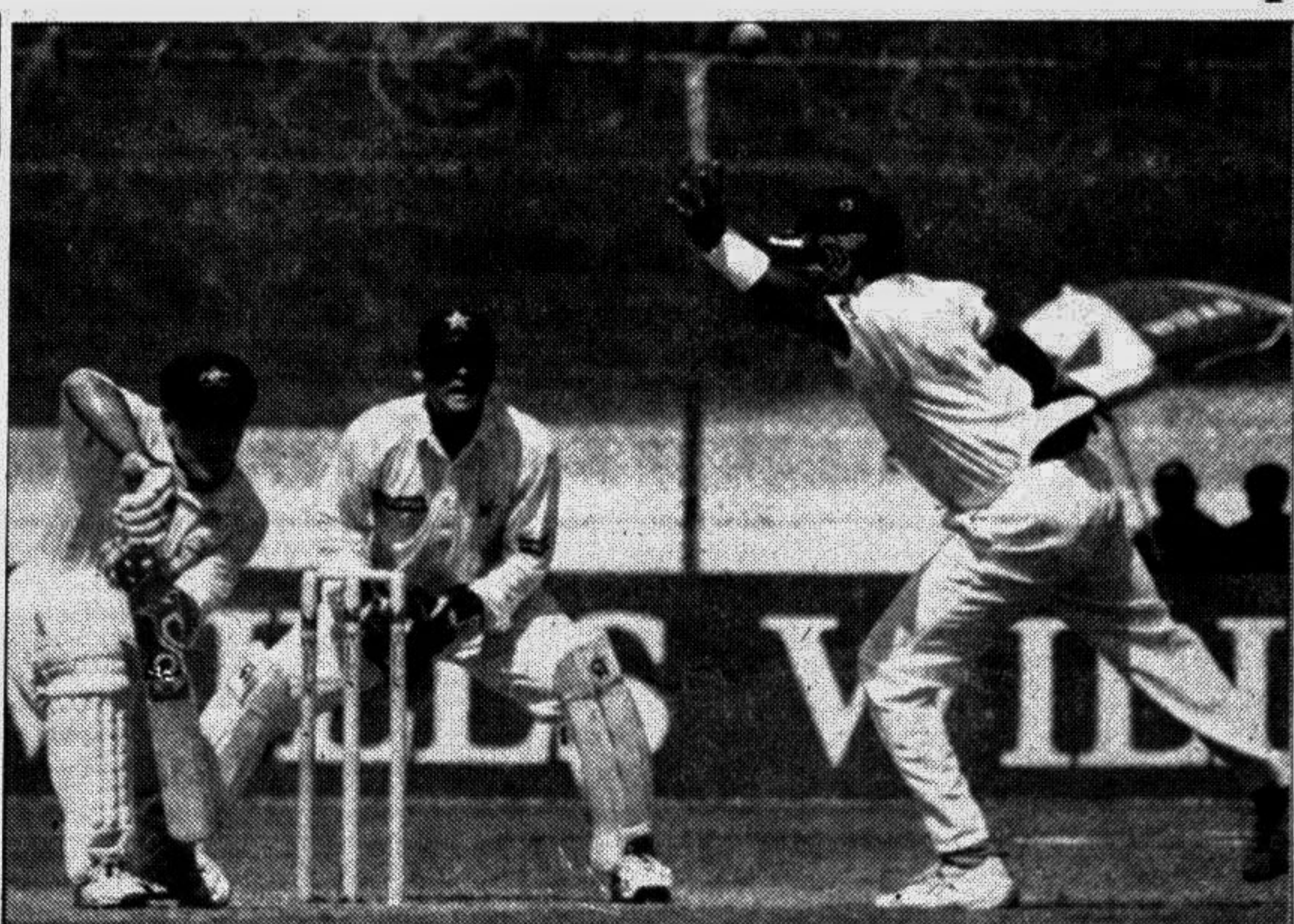
The Indiana parole board is likely watching what Maryland does in this case, Saltzberg and Kemp said. They agree an assault conviction could prompt Indiana officials to revoke Tyson's probation and send him back to prison. Even if Tyson is not convicted, the parole board could still take such action, although that is unlikely, the lawyers said.

Lecote defaults

MELBOURNE, Oct 22: Frenchman Henri Lecote was forced to default his opening match in the Champions senior tennis tournament Wednesday after slipping on the fake clay surface, reports AP.

Lecote hurt himself in the opening set against former dual Australian Open champion Johan Kriek and packed up for the day with Kriek leading 6-3, 2-0.

Vilas was beaten 6-2, 7-6 by Australian Pat Cash in the second singles match.



A Pakistani fielder fails to catch Justin Langer during the first day's play of the third Test in Karachi yesterday. —AFP photo

Shahid shackles tourists

KARACHI, Oct 22 (AP/AFP): Debutant leg-spinner Shahid Afridi claimed three wickets in 13 deliveries as Australia dramatically collapsed to 207 for six on the opening day of the third and decisive cricket Test against Pakistan Thursday.

The 18-year-old Afridi, known for his pinch-hitting in one-day cricket, removed the Waugh brothers — Mark (30) and Steve (0) — in his ninth over. He then had the wicket of left-handed Darren Lehmann as the batsman got a thick inside edge and rolled the ball back onto his stumps.

On a dry and bare wicket, Australia suffered a major blow in the last half an hour when opener Michael Slater was stumped by Moin Khan for 96. Slater, who twice lifted Arshad Khan over long off for two big sixes, tried to bring his century with another big hit off Arshad.

However, he completely misjudged the line of the off-spinner and was smartly stumped by Moin. Slater hammered nine four and two sixes in his five and a half hour vigil at the crease during which he faced 257 balls.

Slater, when 25 was given a life when Yousuf Yohanna failed to catch a sharp chance off Shaheel.

Slater when 52 also completed 3000 runs in his 40th Test.

Australia who were comfortably placed at 141 for two at tea slumped to 189 for six in eight overs before veteran Ian Healy and Gavin Robertson saw

the remaining half an hour. Healy was unbeaten on 14 while Robertson, featuring for the first time in the series, was undefeated on four.

Afridi was the pick of Pakistani bowlers with three-wicket burst for 37 while Arshad bowled 34 overs and conceded 58 runs for two wickets. Another debutant 32-year-old left-arm spinner Shaheel Ahmed, yet to get his first Test scalp although he bowled a tidy 21.4 overs for 43 runs.

Shaheel completed paceman Akhtar's 10th over when the bowler was hit by Mark Waugh's handle of the bat in his follow through which badly bruised the forearm of bowler's right hand after tea.

Earlier, after electing to bat first, Australia crawled to 65 in the first session for the loss of skipper Mark Taylor (16).

The Aussie captain, who made 334 and equalled Sir Don Bradman's highest individual innings for Australia in the drawn second Test at Peshawar, got the top edge of Khan's fifth ball of the match and skied it to Inzamamul Haq at midwicket.

Taylor bagged a pair here four years ago.

Wasim Akram, back in the side after missing the Peshawar Test due to flu, hit Slater's temple off two successive short deliveries, but with the wicket giving little assistance to seam bowlers, he bowled only 11 overs in the day without a wicket.

The Australians added another 76 runs in the second session as the home team could get only the wicket of Justin Langer (30), trapped leg before by pacer-

man Shoaib Akhtar's low full toss.

After putting 67 runs with Langer, Slater compiled another 64 runs for the third wicket with Mark Waugh (26) before Afridi hit back with three wickets inside 13 balls after tea.

Australia made two changes from their second Test line-up, playing with three spinners, off-spinner Robertson and left-handed batsman Darren Lehmann replaced Ricky Ponting and Damien Fleming.

Australia last played with three spinners against New Zealand at Sydney in November 1985 when leg-spinner Bob Holland, left-armed Ray Bright and off-spinner Greg Mathews were used.

Pakistan made four changes. Opening batsman Saeed Anwar had a pain in his stomach and was forced to sit out Thursday morning. He was replaced by Afridi, who made his Test debut after playing in 67 one-day internationals. Muhammad Zahid, who had aggravated a groin injury at Peshawar, was replaced by Akram, while injured leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed made way for Arshad Khan. Shaheel took the place of all-rounder Azhar Mahmood.

Mushtaq is nursing a knee injury.

Australia are 1-0 up after their innings and 99-run win in the first Test in Rawalpindi, the second Test at Peshawar ended in a draw.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard on the opening day of the third and final Test between Pakistan and Australia on Thursday:

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes entries for Afridi, Akhtar, Arshad, Lehmann, Healy, Robertson, Extras, Total.

PAKISTAN: Aamir Sohail (captain), Shahid Afridi, Ijaz Ahmed, Inzamamul Haq, Salim Malik, Yousuf Yohanna, Moin Khan, Wasim Akram, Arshad Khan, Shaheel Ahmed, Shoaib Akhtar.

Afridi in for his first Test appearance against Australia today, reports AFP.

The 18-year-old comes from a tribal area in northwest of Pakistan where the youths love

to carry a rifle. But Afridi chose the cricket bat, blasted his way to the fastest one-day ton and pursued a dream to make a name in Test cricket.

"Everybody is congratulating me on getting the Test cap. This was my wish and now I am determined to make a name for myself in tests," Afridi said.

With Pakistan one-down in the three-match series, fans demanded his inclusion. Young women have formed queues to get his autograph and may be a

Glenn to get pay raise?

LONDON, Oct 22 (AP): England manager Glenn Hoddle is expected to get a 100,000-pound (170,000 dollar) pay raise this week despite mounting pressure on him to resign. Speculation increased, meanwhile, that Frenchman Arsene Wenger is being lined up as Hoddle's successor.

Reported to be earning 250,000 pounds, Hoddle was to meet this week with English Football Association chief executive Graham Kelly. Newspaper reports suggested the pay increase may hinge on England qualifying for the 2000 European Championship.

Calls for Hoddle to step down have been mounting since England was knocked out of the World Cup by Argentina.

They have increased in the last month after a loss to Sweden, a 0-0 home draw with Bulgaria and a lacklustre 3-0 win over Luxembourg in qualifying for the 2000 Championship.

In addition, Hoddle has had run-ins with the British press and has been widely criticised for backroom revelations about the team in a recently published book.

Meanwhile, The Times reported Tuesday that Arsenal manager Wenger is the choice of many within the FA to succeed Hoddle — probably after the European finals.

Wenger, who would become the country's first non-English coach, has drawn down the odds to head Japan and France but has said he would consider talking about the England post.

Max Clifford, who has served as a publicist to Frank Sinatra and Muhammad Ali, said Tuesday Wenger would be his choice.

"He is a clever man with a calm personality and a mind perfect for man management," Clifford said. "He's made for the job."

Wenger, who is reported to earn almost 1 million pounds at Arsenal, led the Gunners to last season's league and FA Cup double.

He is soft-spoken, low-key and has been praised for his dealings with the media and his serious approach to training and match preparation.

McNamara's bid gets support MELBOURNE, Oct 22: Peter McNamara's challenge for the Davis Cup team captaincy against incumbents John Newcombe and Tony Roche was a healthy sign for Australian tennis, former cup stalwart and now commentator John Alexander said Wednesday, reports AFP.

McNamara, who represented Australia in 21 Davis Cup matches and was a member of the victorious 1983 and 1986 teams, is the first to challenge Roche and Newcombe, who must also apply again to retain their positions.

Alexander, who quipped the selection process of Davis Cup captaincy during Neal Fraser's reign in the early 1990s, was encouraged to hear someone of the quality of former world top 10 player McNamara would stand against cup coach Roche and captain Newcombe.

"If they choose to keep the current captain and coach who are great, that's a good thing," Alexander said Wednesday.

"But at least we know we have other people who are interested when the selection process deems they be replaced."

Alexander's confrontation with Tennis Australia (TA) early this decade over the procedures in choosing the Davis Cup captain changed the selection process and ultimately ended Fraser's 24-year leadership of the team in 1993.

As a result of Alexander's challenge, TA now sends each former Davis Cup player a letter of invitation to apply for either the captaincy or coaching post.



ALL SMILES FOR THE WINNERS: Former national cricket captain Roquibul Hasan (L), renowned vocalist Shabnam Mustari (C) and former national cricketer Tanveer Haider hold up the winning entries of The Daily Star Standard Bank Cricket Quiz '98 yesterday. —Star photo

The Daily Star - Standard Chartered Cricket Quiz '98 Draw

Bipul gains Thai flights

Bipul Gain, a student, gained two Dhaka-Bangkok-Dhaka tickets on Thai Airways as the First Prize of The Daily Star Standard Chartered Cricket Quiz '98. The Draw of Round One was held at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday afternoon.

Former national cricket captain, possibly the country's best opening batsman ever, former President of Bangladesh Kriya Lehak Samity and presently Member, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Roquibul Hassan; former national cricketer, presently BCB vice-president and Chairman, Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan Tanveer Haider; and renowned Nazrul Geeti vocalist, TV and radio artiste Shabnam Mustari were present at the Draw as specially invited guests. Also present were several quiz participants.

S A A Masur, Acting Chief, Standard Chartered Bank, the sponsors of the three prizes also graced the occasion.

Mahfuz Anam, Editor, The Daily Star, presided over the proceedings. Dr. Nizamuddin Ahmed, Advisory Sports Editor

of the daily, was the Master of Ceremonies.

The Second prize -- two Dhaka-Calcutta-Dhaka Biman tickets -- was bagged by Farah Diba, a serviceholder. The Third prize -- dinner for two at Sonargaon Hotel -- went to Abdullah Al Mahmud, a government serviceholder. All of them

are residents of Dhaka.

In her brief deliberation, Ms. Mustari said that, as an artiste, she felt one with sport which was also an art form. She thanked the DS and the Bank for organising such an event which can only arouse interest in the game.

Tanveer Haider said that he was indebted to The Daily Star

for making him a more informed man. "I just learnt that 'down under' was Australia only five minutes back," quipped the veteran sports or-ganiser, who added that he had earlier in the week been inundated with inquiries about the word by interested quiz fans.

Roquibul Hassan recalled the exploits of his playing days in good humour and narrated why Tanveer Haider became to be known as "patak Mamu", which referred to his bouncers (patak in local dialect) as a fast bowler.

Mr. Masur spoke of continued support of his Bank for such sporting events.

The Editor thanked the Standard Chartered Bank for choosing The Daily Star. He thanked the cricketers who he said were otherwise extremely busy ahead of the Wills International Cup. "They did mention that they were physically present here but their mind was at the BCB," he added. Mr.

Anam also spoke highly of Ms. Mustari who, he said, was a good singer even in her days as a university student.

ATTENTION PRIZE WINNERS

Prize winners of Round-1 are requested to contact A F M Jamaluddin, Establishment Manager, with a passport size photograph between 10.30 am-4 pm on all working days at The Daily Star office to collect their prizes.

Round-I correct answers

Table with columns: Question, Answer. Includes questions about Test-playing nations, Sachin Tendulkar, and ICC's T stood for.

Ijaz simply irritated

KARACHI, Oct 22: A buoyant Ijaz Ahmed, upset over match-fixing allegations, Wednesday complained he has been given a raw deal all through his career, depriving him of achieving international renown, reports AFP.

The 30-year-old Pakistani hit a career-best 155 in the drawn second Test at Peshawar against Australia and promised he will prove his point and mettle in international cricket in spite of all the odds he has been facing.

"Look at my career I have always played for Pakistan wholeheartedly, but they alleged me and my place has always been under doubt," he said.

"Do I deserve all this after what I have done for my country," he said.

Ijaz, along with brother-in-law Salim Malik and teammate Wasim Akram, was implicated in an alleged match-fixing and betting scandal in an interim report of the Pakistan Cricket Board's probe committee last month.

Dropped in the first Test, Ijaz hit back by scoring a century, helping Pakistan give a spirited reply to Australia's imposing 599-4.

Yet when he set off for the pitch, there were chants of "Gambler from the crowd,"

Camble he did, with his aggressive batting, hitting 24 forceful boundaries in his knock.

"Such a treatment has made

me a patient of high blood pressure but I have always replied back with my performances. I will prove that I have never done anything wrong," he vowed.

Ijaz's nine centuries include four against Australia and five on foreign turf. He hit a match-winning 137 at Sydney against Australia in 1995-96 after being sent as replacement.

"My record is before everyone, but still I have no permanent place and a batting position," he complained.

Ijaz believes once he has a permanent batting position he can set new records.

"Records are made with a free mind, and once I am given a permanent position I will go for records, like I can go for most runs scored," he said.

Agassi advances

OSTRAVA, Czech Republic, Oct 22: Andre Agassi strolled into the second round of the one million dollar Czech Indoor tournament on Wednesday, with a straight sets win over Denmark's Kenneth Carlsen, reports Reuters.

Agassi, ranked six in the world and seeded second in Ostrava, controlled Carlsen from the baseline to win 6-4, 6-4.

The American next faces unseeded Swede Magnus Norman on Thursday.

Third seed Karol Kucera of Slovakia booked his second round slot with a 4-6, 7-6, 6-3 win over Daniel Vacek of the Czech Republic.

Advertisement for The Daily Star - Standard Chartered Cricket Quiz '98. Includes details about prizes like Dhaka-Kathmandu-Dhaka air tickets, Dhaka-Calcutta-Dhaka air tickets, and dinner at Sonargaon Hotel.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE section with 15 numbered rules for the quiz contest, including eligibility, submission, and prize distribution.

FIXTURE OF THE ROUND table showing quiz dates and answers for Round 2.

Registration form for the quiz, including fields for Name, Address, Telephone, and Signature.

From pinch-hitting to proper batting

KARACHI, Oct 22: Pakistan selectors caved in to mounting pressure when they brought Shahid Afridi in for his first Test appearance against Australia today, reports AFP.

The 18-year-old comes from a tribal area in northwest of Pakistan where the youths love

to carry a rifle. But Afridi chose the cricket bat, blasted his way to the fastest one-day ton and pursued a dream to make a name in Test cricket.

"Everybody is congratulating me on getting the Test cap. This was my wish and now I am determined to make a name for myself in tests," Afridi said.

With Pakistan one-down in the three-match series, fans demanded his inclusion. Young women have formed queues to get his autograph and may be a

telephone number. But Afridi must satisfy critics who say his aggressive style may not stand the patient demands of a five-day game.

"Now I have got a chance and I will do my best and prove that I am not a one-day wonder only," said Afridi, who when just 16 set a world record with a 37-ball century against Sri Lanka in Nairobi, with 11 sixes, he still shares the record of most hits over the ropes with Sri Lanka's Sanath Jayasuriya.

"His hits were like suds missiles," charged Indian commentator Ravji Shastri in his bewilderment mauling of the Sri Lankan bowling.

But creating a world record brought testing times for Afridi as each time the burly Pathan appeared at the crease, spectators demanded cricket fireworks.

One rowdy Peshawar crowd demanded he be given another chance when he got out on the first ball of a one-day match against Zimbabwe. They shouted: "We are here to see his fireworks, bring him back." But Afridi has followed his own path. His habit of throwing his bat at every ball has generated a lot of controversy among Pakistan's cricket establishment.

"No one can change his style, he never listens to us," Wasim Akram once retorted.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer and CRYPTOQUIP sections. Includes crossword clues and a grid for the cryptogram puzzle.