

40-plus for Bucknor

ADELAIDE, Dec 11: West Indies cricket umpire Steve Bucknor was honoured here today when he took the field for his 40th Test match, reports AFP.

NSW out for 56

ADELAIDE, Dec 11 (Reuters/Internet): New South Wales were dismissed for their lowest score in Sheffield Shield history on Friday, skittled out for just 56 on a bouncy WACA pitch by a fired-up Western Australian side.



JOINING THE HUNDRED CLUB: Veteran Pakistan batsman Salim Malik celebrating his 100th Test appearance by cutting a cake while being surrounded by teammates and officials at Lahore on Thursday.

Tourists peg Pakistan back

LAHORE, Dec 11: Pakistan had to strive hard to get ahead of Zimbabwe and were 184-5 at close on the second day of the second cricket Test here today, reports AFP.

Zimbabwe captain Alistair Campbell dropped Ijaz Ahmed when he failed to hold a sharp edge off Heath Streak in the first slip. Ijaz was on 9.

Pakistan captain Moin Khan said. Scorecard at close on the second day of the second cricket Test between Pakistan and Zimbabwe on Friday.

Chelsea deny Pizzi bid

LONDON, Dec 11 (Reuters/Internet): Chelsea will not be buying River Plate's Spanish World Cup striker Juan Antonio Pizzi, contrary to reports from Argentina, the English side's managing director Colin Hutchinson said.

Caribbeans in a quagmire

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Nixon McLean to be out for 36. Five runs later Donald became the fourth batsman in the innings to be caught by Carl Hooper, at second slip, in reaching a new career best score of 33.

Scoreboard on the second day of the second Test between South Africa and the West Indies at St George's Park on Friday.

Frustrated Kiesel calls it quits

LAHORE, Dec 11: The Pakistani cricket team's Jewish physiotherapist resigned today, citing personal reasons, reports AFP.

Langer hits first home ton Aussies comfortably placed

ADELAIDE, Dec 11: Disgraced batsman Mark Waugh made just seven after being booted by the Adelaide crowd on the first day of the third Ashes cricket Test Friday, reports AP.

had scored in the third over of the morning, went onto make 59 runs and in the process shared 112 for the second wicket with Langer.

264 before Gough, armed with the second new ball, struck. With the fourth ball, Gough forced Waugh (59) to edge an off cutter and Hick at second slip made no mistake in latching on to a shin-high catch.



LANGER... 108 n.o

Prosinecki joins army!

ZAGREB, Dec 11 (Reuters/Internet): Croatian international midfielder Robert Prosinecki and European boxing champion Zeljko Mavrovic have been conscripted to the Croatian army, local media reported on Friday.

The Croatia Zagreb player and Mavrovic, who lost on points to Lennox Lewis in a World Boxing Council heavyweight title fight in September, attended a special enrolment ceremony in the presence of senior army officers.

The pair, along with several other members of the national soccer team and top basketball club Cibona, will serve the usual 10 months conscription.

Rajshahi cricket

RAJSHAHI, Dec 11: Upashahar Cricket team reached the semifinal of the 2nd Mayor Gold Cup cricket competition beating Provati Sangha by 4 wickets at the local stadium today, reports UNB.

ANC on 'lily-white' sport

CAPE TOWN, Dec 11 (Reuters/Internet): South Africa's ruling African National Congress has stirred up a hornets' nest with plans to legislate to promote more black players into some of the country's white-dominated national sports teams.

and racism in the sport, erupted again after the country fielded an all-white team against the visiting West Indies.

The ANC said cricket selectors left out black players Makhaya Ntini and Paul Adams for the flimsiest of reasons.

SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq COUNT DECLARER'S HOLDING FOR EFFECTIVE DEFENCE (Hand # 148)

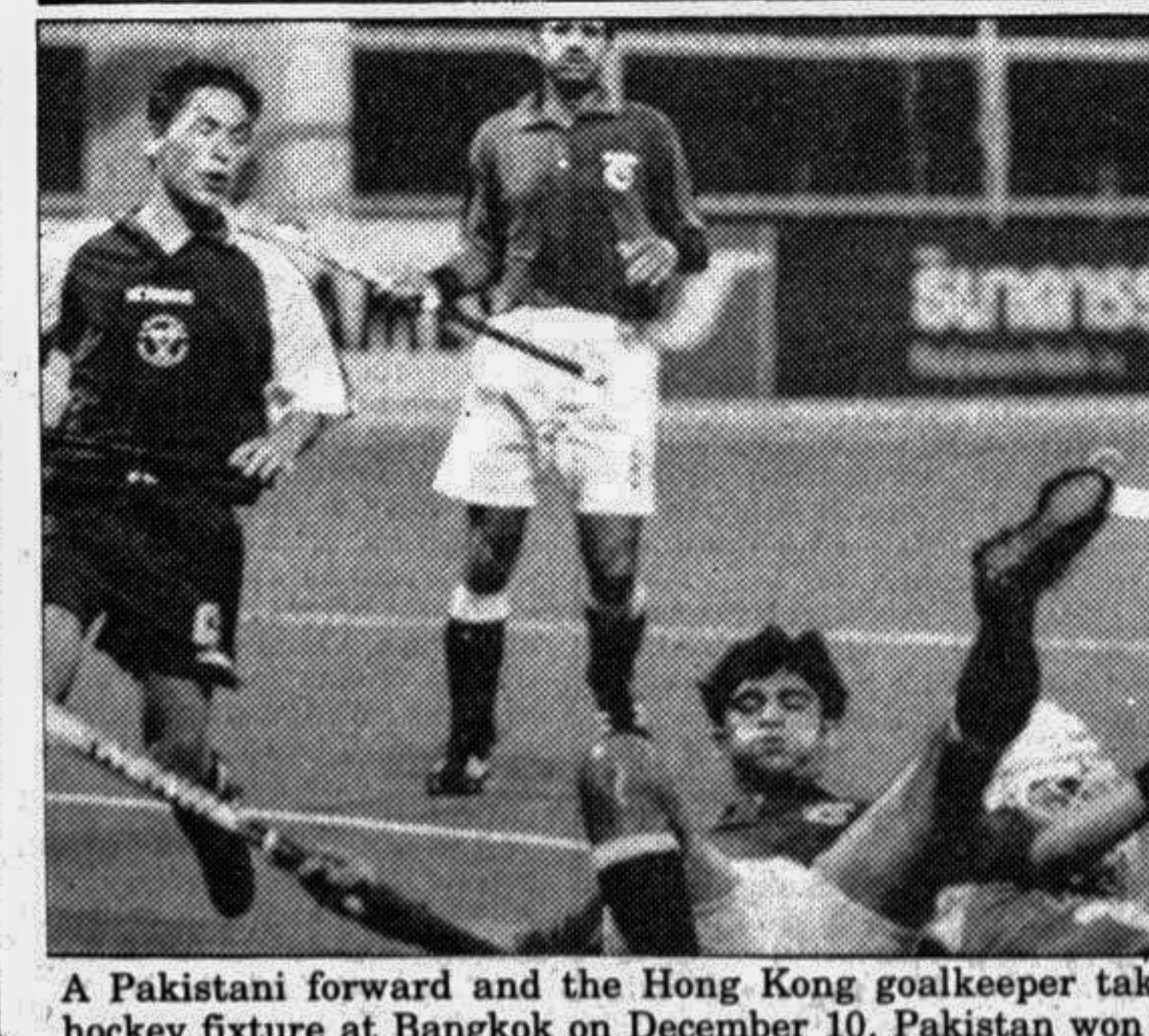
Table with 4 columns: South, West, North, East. Rows show card counts for Spades, Clubs, Hearts, Diamonds.

With 13 HCP West doubled South's one Spade and when North redoubled, East passed. In the absence of a five-card major, West bid 2 Clubs when South left partner's redouble. Finally, North South reached 4 Spades in the bidding sequence shown above.

THE PLAY The opening lead was the 8 of Spades. The declarer cleared trumps in two rounds, East dropping the Jack in the second trick. Next the declarer played the King of Diamonds. On winning the trick with the Ace, West tried to calculate the declarer's holdings. Outside the trump suit, the declarer had eight cards. He had at least one Heart loser if he has the Ace with one, two or three Hearts (the losing Hearts can be ruffed in dummy).

Cops to give evidence at Vieira hearing

LONDON, Dec 11 (Reuters/Internet): Arsenal midfielder Patrick Vieira will face the evidence of three police witnesses at his Football Association disciplinary hearing next Monday.



A Pakistani forward and the Hong Kong goalkeeper taking a tumble during their Asia hockey fixture at Bangkok on December 10. Pakistan won 5-0.

Europa Cup 'b' ball

Title aspirants Bangladesh Army emerged Group-B leaders to advance to the semifinals of 21st Europa Cup national basketball tournament beating Bangladesh Rifles at the Dhanmondi gymnasium yesterday, reports APB.

Curse of cricket?

BANGKOK, Dec 11 (AP): Are former British colonies playing too much cricket and ignoring other sports? As Asia's version of the Olympics, the Asian Games, reach its midpoint, the performance of nine former British colonies, including the world's second most populous nation India, is nothing but dismal.

poverty problems, but has only 6 million people. It has won three bronze medals.

Ntini told Reuters he hoped more black players would win a place on the team soon, but because of merit not race.

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AB Bank TT

Three matches of the AB Bank Metropolitan First Division table tennis league were held at the wooden floor gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

CRYPTOQUIP

HEC VSUWG ZTH GWTG T UDECJ EA MXQGSZGZ MDSFF GXTV Yesterday's Cryptiquip: A NASTY ASSOCIATE WAS ALWAYS CALLING THE ERROR-PRONE OCEANOGRAPHER ALL WET.