

Bits and pieces

From page 13

a better performance from our players?" was the comment of the perplexed cricket organiser.

MANJURUL'S FEAT

Manjurul Islam of Bangladesh was the second most economical bowler in the World Cup after New Zealand's Gavin Larsen at the end of the Bangladesh match at Dublin.

Manjurul's runs per over was two point five from 15 overs and Larsen's was 2.2 from 20.

Equal to Manjurul was Shaun Pollock of South Africa, but from 27 overs. Also in contention are South Africa's Steve Elworthy and West Indian Courtney Walsh with RPO of two point six.

LEFT WHO?

SOUTHAMPTON, May 23: New Zealand's cricket World Cup clash with the West Indies here on Monday will see the best two left-handed batsmen on the planet facing each other, reports AFP.

Well, according to Roger Twose anyway.

When Brian Lara — widely regarded as the world's best left-hander — was signed by English country side Warwickshire in 1994, shortly after scoring a world Test record of 375, he was greeted by a sign on his changing room clothes peg that read: "Welcome to the second best left-hander in the world."

Twose's tongue-in-cheek joke was soon put into perspective when, a few weeks later, Lara scored 501, the highest individual innings ever made in first-class cricket, against Durham. Twose, however, who later emigrated to New Zealand after failing to make his mark with England, may yet end up with the last laugh at the World Cup.

Lara has yet to shine in the tournament, with two knicks of 11 and 25, while Twose has scored 110 runs for New Zealand without being dismissed, including an undefeated match-winning 80 against Australia.

SPEED GUNS COMING SOON

LONDON, May 23 (AFP): Pakistan's Shoaib Akhtar could be officially crowned the world's first 100-miles-per-hour bowler at the cricket World Cup after all.

Organisers have agreed to allow the installation of speed guns from the Super Six second round.

They had initially demanded a two-million-pound (\$3.2-million dollars) fee to install the devices for the tournament's 42 matches but have now settled for a smaller, undisclosed sum.

The gun measures the bowler's speed of delivery from the moment the ball leaves his hand until it bounces.

Akhtar, who has captured the public imagination during this event, was timed at 97mph during the Sharjah Cup one-day tournament in April. South African Allan Donald and Australia's Glenn McGrath are not far behind. Australia's Jeff Thompson still holds the record for the quickest delivery on record, a 99.70 balls in 1975 in Perth.

KENYANS UNAWARE

BRISTOL, May 23 (Reuters): Kenya have not been contacted by cricket authorities over allegations that one of their bowlers has been reported for bowling illegally.

Team coach Mohammad Kureishi said on Saturday he had read British newspaper allegations that debutant Jimmy Kamande had been reported for "chucking" after Kenya's first match against Zimbabwe.

"We have heard nothing about this from the cricketing authorities but we have read about it in the press. He's been bowling in the nets today and he looks fine. I don't understand what the problem might be," Kureishi told Reuters.

Kamande, 20, made his debut against Zimbabwe a week ago in Taunton, where he took none for 38 from nine overs.

The Daily Telegraph said the umpires had reported Kamande to cricketing authorities after the Zimbabwe match.

Jubilo on top

TOKYO, May 23: Jubilo Iwata moved closer to winning the first stage of the J-League season with a 1-0 victory over Gamba Osaka on Saturday, reports Reuters.

Defender Koji Maeda had the lone tally in the match with a 53rd minute goal and the win put Jubilo two points clear at the top of the J-League standings.

This year's Asian club champion Jubilo can clinch the first stage as early as Wednesday with a victory over lowly Avispa Fukuoka. Jubilo has 32 points from 13 matches.

Shimizu S-Pulse, managed by former Tottenham captain Steve Perryman, pulled off a 1-0 victory over Vissel Kobe to claim second spot on Saturday with 14 matches. Midfielder Yoshiyuki Kuboyama scored the lone goal in the match.

Verdy Kawasaki, with 30 points, followed form for the day and also posted a 1-0 victory over Kashiwa Reysol. Verdy, third on goal difference, got its score from forward Keisuke Kurihara.

Last year's league champion Kashima Antlers lost 2-1 to Nagoya Grampus Eight at Tokyo's National Stadium. Under-22 international striker Kenji Fukuda scored an extra-time golden goal to give Grampus Eight two points with the win.

In other matches, Cerezo Osaka beat JEF United Ichihara 2-0 while Yokohama F. Marinos beat Sanfrecce Hiroshima 3-2.

Avispa beat Urawa Reds 3-2 and Kyoto Purple Sanga beat Bellare Hiratsuka 4-3.

Struck by

From page 16

ters and swing and slower balls as England played and missed their way to 103, their lowest one-day score against the South Africans.

It was pretty indigestible stuff for home supporters.

What made it even harder to stomach was that, well - whisper it quietly - they just can't help liking Donald.

If it has been the sledging Glenn McGrath doing the damage on Saturday, it might have been okay. They love to hate Australian pace bowlers here: they've had plenty of practice, after all.

But the 6ft 2ins Donald is as good as one of their own. He's married to an Englishwoman and settled in the Birmingham area. He's been applauded and lauded at Warwickshire since the late 1980s.

Donald himself had said before the World Cup that if he played against England at Edgbaston during the tournament, "they'll probably cheer me but want South Africa to lose."

A South African defeat, however, at Edgbaston or anywhere else, is looking increasingly unlikely. Their performance against England confirmed what everyone knew but did not want to admit - that Hansie Cronje's side are a class apart.

Openers Gibbs and Gary Kirsten put on 111 for the first wicket at almost a run a ball. Klusener gave impetus to the end of the innings. Jonty Rhodes fielded like, well, Jonty Rhodes, and Kallis and Pollock bowled with menace.

And then there was that other chap, that hazy bloke on the edge of things. Forget his name ... been around a bit, think he got a wicket or two ...

Kiogora wins Sydney title

SYDNEY, May 23: Kenyans Stephen Kiogora and Godfrey Kiprotich dominated the Sydney half-marathon here today finishing one and two, reports AFP.

The Africans surged away from their leading Australian rivals Shaun Creighton and Pat Carroll near the halfway stage of the 21.1 kilometre race around the Sydney CBD.

Kiogora maintained a lead of between 10 and 15 metres over the closing stages before finishing in one hour three minutes 17 seconds, seven seconds ahead of his compatriot, who also finished second last year.

Stuart tons fall short

LONDON, May 23: Stuart Law's second century of the century of the match was not enough to save Essex from defeat against Yorkshire at Chelmsford in the English county cricket championship on Saturday, reports Reuters.

The 30-year-old Australian, who scored 150 in the first innings, offered the only significant resistance as Yorkshire cruised to a 174-run victory.

Law finished 113 not out as Essex were dismissed for 237. Left arm spinner Ian Fisher took 5-73.

Law's compatriot Michael Di Venuto was the inspiration behind Sussex's two-wicket win against Gloucestershire at Hove.

Sussex were set 452 for victory, a formidable target given their first innings total of 145. But they were boosted by 162 from Di Venuto and 126 from Tony Cottee.

Di Venuto, who began the day on 56, was finally trapped lbw by Gloucestershire captain Mark Alleyne. His innings laid the foundation for the victory secured by Umer Rashid and Robert Kirtley.

Gloucestershire's Australian bowler Ian Harvey finished the innings with three for 109.

Nixon McLean, Hampshire's West Indian fast bowler, took three wickets as Middlesex posted a second-innings total of 339 at Lord's, setting Hampshire a target of 217 to win from a minimum of 42 overs.

Hampshire, who have won both of their county championship games so far, were boosted in their run-chase by 64 from Giles White.

Lancashire secured their first win of the season, beating Nottinghamshire by three wickets at Old Trafford. They reached their victory target of 332 for the loss of one additional wicket. Glen Chapple

Two down one to go

UNDATED, May 23 (Reuters): Manchester United head for Barcelona and their date with Bayern Munich in the European Cup final on Wednesday as convinced as it is possible to be that destiny beckons.

United completed a record third English League and Cup double on Saturday when they overpowered Newcastle United 2-0 to win the FA Cup and stretch their unbeaten run in all matches to 32.

And almost immediately coach Alex Ferguson, who became the first coach in history to win the FA Cup four times, turned his attention to Barcelona where United will attempt to become the first English club to win a treble of domestic league and cup and European Cup.

"We're ready. The spirit the players showed was fantastic and we can't wait to get to Barcelona. The confidence of everyone is very high - it's never say die and they don't want to be beaten," Ferguson said.

"Striker Andy Cole added: "The hunger is still there for Wednesday and the European Cup Final. It's another big game this game did not take anything out of us, even though it was not easy. Newcastle played their part."

The way United played has also given Ferguson extra options for Wednesday's match. With skipper Keane and Scholes suspended, Ferguson is set to bring back Nicky Butt for the game against Bayern. He will also be able to call on defender Denis Irwin, who was suspended from the cup final.

And with Sherginham showing the type of form that once made him an England regular, Bayern might have even more to worry about as the final approaches.

Manchester did not return home after the game for a civic parade but instead are heading to Spain by Concorde on Monday, 30,000 United fans travelling in their wake.

In every way it is now onward to Barcelona, where the only thing for certain is that Bayern Munich will give Manchester United a far tougher battle than Newcastle did on Saturday as United attempt to become champions of Europe for the first time since 1968.

While United had to overcome Newcastle, Bayern Munich lifted the Bundesliga trophy without even kicking the ball.

Thomas Helmer, captain for the day, marked his last home game after playing seven seasons for Bayern by raising the Bundesliga trophy before a capacity 63,000 crowd who hailed a record 15th league championship for the Bavarian club.

Bayern then dispatched VfL Bochum into the Second Division with a 4-2 win.

Bayern did not even field a full-strength team. Helmer, whose error led to Bayern going one-down before halftime, and Salihamidovic are unlikely to start in the European Cup Final. Coach Ottmar Hitzfeld could also afford to take Stefan Effenberg off at halftime to rest the pivotal midfielder.

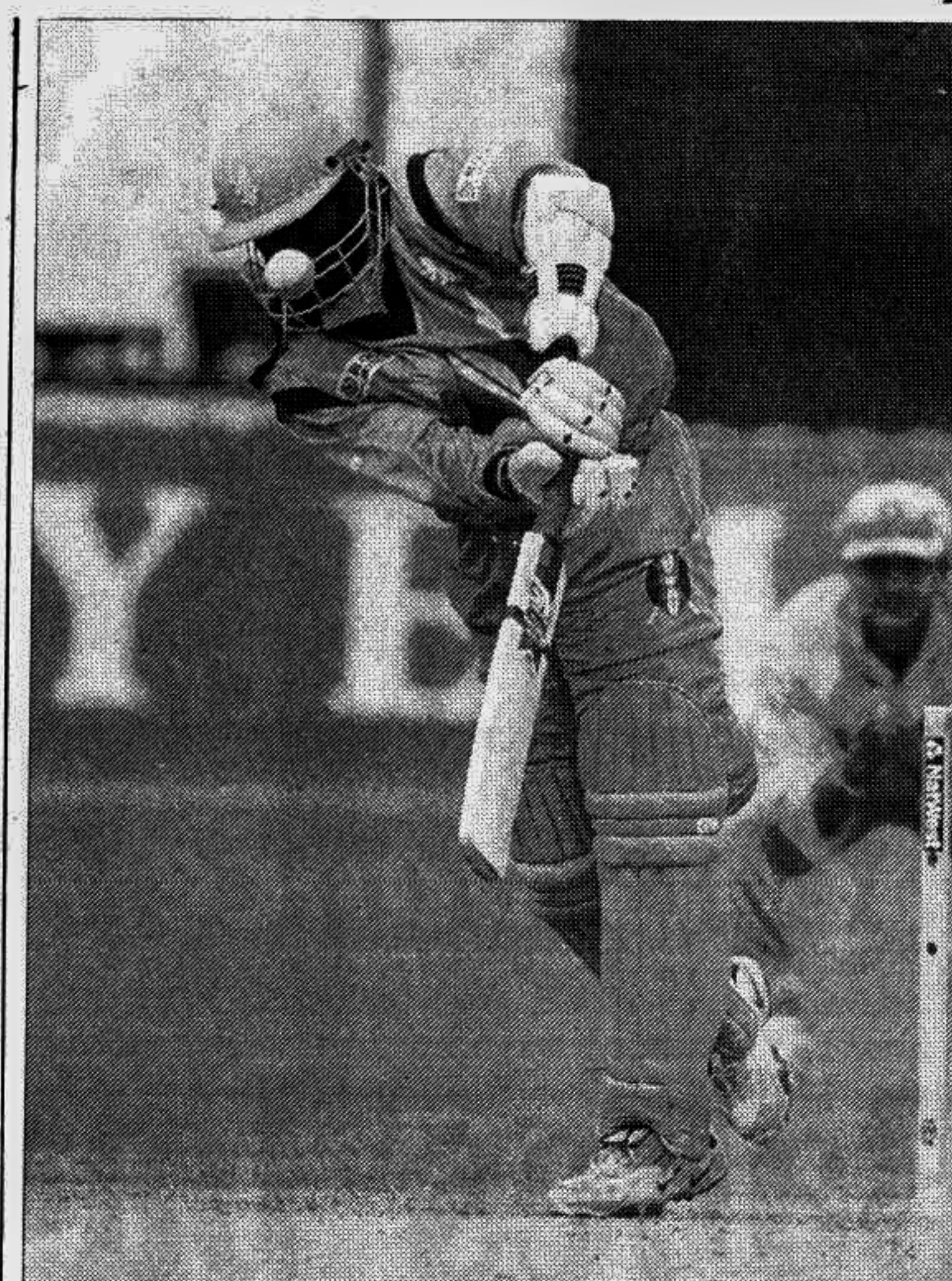
Hitzfeld said after Saturday's match that his players had reacted well to his halftime appeal to play for pride. With one match to go in the league, Bayern are in a class of their own. 12 points ahead of second-placed Bayer Leverkusen.

"I have to compliment the players. They just didn't let go," Hitzfeld said.

"I told them at halftime that this was all about pride. The team made a concerted effort in the second half."

Unlike United, who will be without suspended Roy Keane and Paul Scholes in the final, Bayern have no players barred, although two World Cup-winning French defender Bixente Lizarazu and Brazilian striker Elber, are out with knee injuries.

Fortunately for Hitzfeld, talismanic libero Lothar Matthaeus, still in the national



Kenya's Kennedy Otieno tries to play on the on-side yesterday. — AFP photo

| INDIA-KENYA SCOREBOARD | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----|---------------|---|
| From page 13 | | | | | |
| Scoreboard of the Indian innings against Kenya at Bristol yesterday : | | | | | |
| INDIA | R | B | 4 | 6 | |
| S Ramesh run out (Tikolo) | 44 | 66 | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| S Ganguly lbw b M Suji | 13 | 26 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| R Dravid not out | 104 | 109 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| S Tendulkar not out | 140 | 101 | 16 | 0 | 3 |
| Extras : (lb-5, w-21, nb-2) | 28 | | | | |
| Total : (For 2 wickets in 50 overs) | 329 | | | | |
| Did not bat: M Azharuddin, A Jadeja, NR Mongia, N Chopra, AB Agarkar, J Srinath, D Mohanty. | | | | | |
| Fall of wkts: 1-50 (Ganguly, 10.4 ov); 2-92 (Ramesh, 20.5 ov). | | | | | |
| Bowler: | O | M | R | W | |
| M Suji | 10 | 2 | 26 | 1 (3-w) | |
| Angara | 7 | 0 | 66 | 0 (1-nb, 6-w) | |
| Odoyo | 9 | 0 | 59 | 0 (1-nb, 2-w) | |
| Tikolo | 9 | 1 | 62 | 0 (2-w) | |
| Aasif Karim | 7 | 0 | 52 | 0 (5-w) | |
| Odumbe | 8 | 0 | 59 | 0 | |
| Umpires: DB Cowie (NZ) and ID Robinson (Zim). | | | | | |
| TV Umpire: JW Holder. | | | | | |
| Match Referee: PJP Burge (Aus). | | | | | |

Aminul & Co

From page-13

tel booking'. Tanveer blasted the organisers, adding 'They (the Scots) are absolutely incompetent'.

Responding to a query, the receptionist at the Stakis Grosvenor said, 'We knew they (Bangladesh cricketers) were coming, but we did not know they were coming so early. Our checkout time is 11 am and our check-in time is 4 pm'.

Some of the Bangladesh players finally got their rooms at 1.40 pm, but not the manager and the captain and several others. The hotel management assured this correspondent that the rest would soon get their rooms.

Perhaps vexed by the developments since morning, Tanveer and Aminul took several others out of the hotel for lunch.

The Bangladesh team is scheduled practice the Grange Cricket Club ground --venue of tomorrow's match --sometime after the filing of this report.

Farmer's favourite

From page 16

tims - and four wickets for 21 in Albury, Australia, during the 1992 World Cup.

That game, the sides only meeting in the tournament, saw Ian Botham bowl out Zimbabwe for 134 and Brandes bowl out England for 125.

In his early days Brandes, who made his first-class debut in 1985 and who was a school-friend of Graeme Hick, was a fast-medium opening bowler.

Now, worn down by injuries and his commitment to chickens - he is more medium-medium, coming on as first change behind Heath Streak and Neil Johnson and mixing up swing with line-and-length seamers.

He remains effective, despite the loss of pace.

In November Zimbabwe knocked out Sri Lanka in the first round of the Champions Trophy in Sharjah, defeating them by 10 runs. Brandes was instrumental in their first success, dismissing Avishka Gunawardena, Marvan Atapattu and Sanath Jayasuriya - all plumb leg-before - in his first six overs.

His bowling style should be as well suited to English conditions as it is to English batsmen.

From Sachin

From page 16

a reverse sweep for four, straight drives and faint leg glances that taunted the Kenyan fielders.

Soon after arriving back in England on Saturday, Tendulkar was in the nets, smashing his team's bowlers around the ground with a concentration that belied the fact he had just stepped off a long-haul flight.

His voice breaking with emotion, the baby-faced Tendulkar said his mother had persuaded him to return to the World Cup and win for his father.

"I just have to go in there and think of my father looking down at me," he said.

Little wonder, then, that Tendulkar raised his eyes to the skies as first he reached his 50 and then his century.

From the last ball of India's innings, Tendulkar casually lofted a six over midwicket and at the same time passed his previous World Cup best of 137. But it will be for other reasons that he remembers the overcast day in Bristol in 1999.

Counting on cold

From page 16

perform now because we all know this is a game we are capable of winning. We believe we have better players than Bangladesh but we need to perform.

"Everyone has been really positive about our performances so far and the spirit within the squad is excellent - it would be fantastic to build on that with a win."

With a vociferous travelling contingent of Bangladeshi supporters joining an enthusiastic home gathering, a carnival atmosphere is ensured at the Grange, Scottish cricket's ancestral home.

Ali's lucky escape

SOUTH BEND, May 23: Mechanical troubles forced a US Airways flight with 73 aboard, including Muhammad Ali, to make an emergency landing at Michiana Regional Airport, reports AP.

None of the 68 passengers and five crew members were hurt on the Friday flight from Pittsburgh to South Bend. All got off the Fokker F-100 jet safely and were bused to the terminal, airport director John Schalliol said.

Ali, the former heavyweight champion who is ailing from Parkinson's syndrome, is not an unusual visitor to the airport on Indiana's northern border. He lives a few kilometers (miles) north of the airport in Michigan and flies into the Michiana Regional Airport all the time, Schalliol said.

About 25 kilometers (15 miles) from the airport, the pilot of US Airways flight 1240 called the control tower to say he had mechanical troubles he could not fix and asked the airport to prepare for an emergency landing.

The plane landed safely, but a blown tire made the plane slide as it landed, said US Airways spokesman David Castelvetri.

Two of the three landing gears were off the edge of the runway, Schalliol said. The jet did not catch fire, he said.

"The captain did an outstanding job," Schalliol said.

Airport and airline workers were still working to move the aircraft off the main north-south runway late Friday.

Babes' battle

From page 13

said. "It is a nice pitch to score on. There should be plenty of excitement."

Salmond hinted that Yorkshire professional Gavin Hamilton, who made 76 for Scotland against Pakistan, may be asked to open to enable him take charge of the innings from the start.

Hamilton was included in England's provisional World Cup squad, but turned to Scotland, his country of birth, when the English selectors ignored him from the final 15.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Scotland, who do not yet have official one-day or Test status, won two friendly matches against Bangladesh last year. Bangladesh, however - now accepted as a one-day but not a Test side - defeated Scotland in the World Cup qualifiers in Malaysia in 1997.

Players to watch:

Bangladesh: Mehrab Hossain. The country's first and only centurion in limited-overs internationals, he showed his potential against the West Indies by making 64 in blustery conditions.

Scotland: Gavin Hamilton. An all-rounder with English county side Yorkshire, he almost made it into the England team for the World Cup. By far the best player in the Scottish team, he showed his ability against Pakistan, when defying the most potent bowling attack in the world to make 76.

Venue: Edinburgh. The Grange cricket club ground will host its first international with this match. Scotland also play New Zealand here on May 31. The ground, created in the middle of last century, has been renovated to the tune of half a million pounds (around 750,000 US dollars) for the World Cup. Capacity: 5,000. (AFP)

AC Milan Serie A Champions

MILAN, May 23: AC Milan lifted their 16th Serie A crown when they defeated Perugia 2-1 in the last match of the league at the San Siro on Sunday, reports AFP.

Coming in to the game, Milan were just one point ahead of Lazio who also won their last league outing against Parma by an identical margin.

Results of Sunday's Serie A matches:

AC Milan 3 (Ronaldo 9, Simic 86, Ventola 89) Bologna 1 (Simutenkov 88)

Inter Milan 3 (Conte 11, Inzaghi 45, Luppi 85-gol) Venezia 2 (Rita 63, Recoba 90)

Lazio 2 (Salas 27, 76) Parma 1 (Vanoli 54)

Sino coach's denial

HANOI, May 23: The coach of China's Olympic football team today denied reports that his players had been fined for misbehaving after hours in Hanoi, reports AFP.

"They have a curfew of between ten thirty and eleven O'clock. There have been no problems here," Robert Houghton told the agency.

Five minutes into the second half Barcelona were all but home and dry. Brazilian forward Rivaldo jinked down the left and swung in a cross for Kluijert to nod home his 15th goal of the season.

Figo made it 3-0 with a sweetly struck third on 67 minutes, his right-foot shot from outside the area drifting past Tito and in at the far post.

Salinas, who struck from close range, briefly threatened to spoil the Barcelona party but a late goal from Luis Enrique re-established the three-goal cushion.

Barcelona remain well short of matching Real Madrid's record of 27 league titles but they are slowly catching up. The Catalans have won six championships in the 1990s to Real Madrid's three with Atletico Madrid in 1995-96 the only side to break the stranglehold of the top two this decade.

De la Hoya keeps his WBC belt

LAS VEGAS, May 23: Carlos de la Hoya stopped Oba Carr in the 11th round here Saturday to keep his World Boxing Council welterweight title and secure his half of a unification bout against Felix Trinidad, reports AFP.

De la Hoya came out fast, knocking down the veteran challenger in the first round. He finished him with a left to the head at 55 seconds of the 11th that sent Carr sprawling face down.

As de la Hoya celebrated, Carr climbed to his feet behind the champion, but referee Richard Steele waved the fight over.

"This guy can take a punch. He was ready," said de la Hoya, who said he suffered from a "personal problem" midway through the fighting that he declined to specify.

"It was something physical but nothing (he did) bothered me, not the head butts or low blows. If I didn't have the personal problem, I would have taken him out sooner."

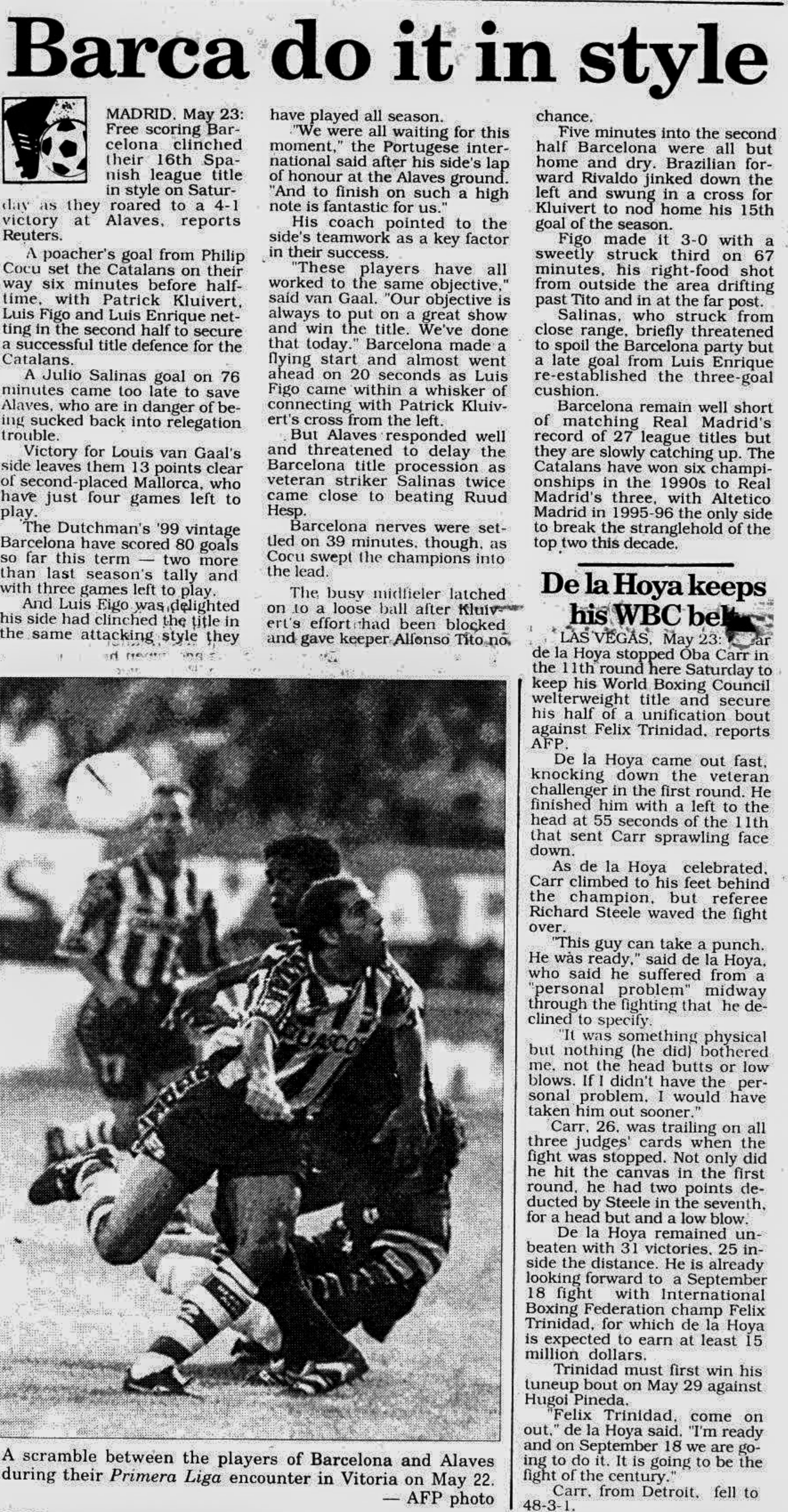
Carr, 26, was trailing on all three judges' cards when the fight was stopped. Not only did he hit the canvas in the first round, he had two points deducted by Steele in the seventh, for a head butt and a low blow.

De la Hoya remained unbeaten with 31 victories, 25 inside the distance. He is already looking forward to a September 18 fight with International Boxing Federation champ Felix Trinidad, for which de la Hoya is expected to earn at least 15 million dollars.

Trinidad must first win his tuneup bout on May 29 against Hugo Pineta.

Felix Trinidad, come on out," de la Hoya said. "I'm ready and on September 18 we are going to do it. It is going to be the fight of the century."

Carr, from Detroit, fell to 48-3-1.



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

CROSS

1 Not a lot

4 Computer abbr.

7 A lot

8 Sinking looks

10 Hardly effeminate

11 Jimmy's successor

13 However possible

16 Donkey

17 Obey a comma

18 1914-1918 event

19 Nurse

20 Skedaddled

21 Aristocrat

23 Dens

25 Leave at the altar

26 Type set

27 Remnant

28 Freight

30 Apt. parts

33 Examined

36 Use for

some folks buds while--

37 "...rose-buds while--"

38 Wounded areas

39 Orderly

40 Cellist's need

41 Sea eagle

DOWN

1 Explorer

2 Reverb

3 Upstairs

4 Merry-making

5 Morison's band

6 Luminary

7 He hit 660 home runs

8 Kvell

9 More leisurely

10 Biz deg

12 "20/20"

13 Upstairs

14 Critique of Pure Reason

15 Tool set

16 Stick with a kick

17 Humor

18 North Dakota city

19 Author

20 Huxley

21 Trade-mark

22 Pain-killer

23 Lustrous black

24 Pond

25 denizens

26 Egypt's capital

27 Veep who resigned

28 Cicero, e.g.

29 Gator bowl?

30 Firmament

31 Handle

32 Sly look

GRAB FIT GUIDE

LAME USE ABOY

AVOWMENT DITIS

DEARANCE PITIS

ICY GUN

HELLO ENGARDE

ORE DRU HAW

GRANDIE OZIOE

ANITA GREENADE

PEDIGREE OLEN

ERIC INK EGG

ROIDE OTT RAPS

Saturday's answer

CRYPTOQUIP

Z H Z W F I P Z W Z U Q I P T I

O F E P T O V T M T M X W T U Q T E J J V

T E F M J E U Z X H F T O X F T E V

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT MIGHT ONE

YESTERDAY CALL A PILGRIM GIVE NO MONEY? A

POORITAN.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: X equals Y

The Cryptoquip 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.