

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
**Competition-118**

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm  
Aug 13, '99 and draw  
shortly afterwards

1. Who is the new England cricket coach?  
Fletcher Hussain Marsh

2. Brazilian footballer Rivaldo plays for  
Lazio Barcelona Arsenal

3. Who is the captain of Argentina soccer team?  
Simone Batistuta Ayala

4. How many Grand Slam titles has Steffi Graf won till now?  
22 23 24

5. Who is ATP's top ranked player right now?  
Sampras Moya Agassi

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

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**SPORTS TALK**

**Nasser Hussain**  
(England cricket captain)

"We've got to sit down and listen to what people's opinions are and most importantly, what we think is the right thing for us to do for the future of English cricket."

After being named in the selection panel.

**Hampshire seek Warne's services**

SOUTHAMPTON, England, Aug 12: Hampshire confirmed today that they were in preliminary talks with Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne about him becoming their overseas player next season, reports Reuters.

"We have had preliminary discussions with him but we do point out that we have other options in the fire and there is nothing to add at this stage," said Hampshire chief executive Tony Basher.

The club are looking for a replacement for pace bowler Nixon McLean who is expected to be on tour with the West Indies.

"I won't be needed by the national team until October so this is a great chance to fulfil a dream I've had for a long time of playing a season in England," he said.

**BOA admin course ends**

Sports Reporter

The five-day long Olympic Solidarity Sports Administration Course, organised by Bangladesh Olympic Association, concluded last Wednesday.

Twenty-eight representatives from different federations and divisional associations took part in the course, which began on August 7.

Sports Secretary ASM Shahjahan handed over certificates to the participants in a brief ceremony held at a local hotel.

**Barisal Div I soccer from Aug 20**

BARISAL, Aug 12: First Division football league of Barisal District will begin from August 20, reports BSS.

Ten teams of this district will participate in the league sponsored by the Barisal District Sports Association.

The teams are: Abahani Krira Chakra, Confidence Club, Kheloir Kalyan Samitee, T&T Eleven, Rupatali Prantik Sangha, Amanatganj Eleven, Shaheed Muktojodha Ashis Pathagar and Club, Chandrasekhar Pathagar and Club, Friends Society and Kallol Pathagar and Club.



The Junior Challenger Tennis Series being inaugurated yesterday

## Lillees wait for Pak feast



DENNIS LILLEE

PERTH, Australia, Aug 12 (AFP/AP): Pakistan's batsmen will have to grapple with an attack including fast bowling legend Dennis Lillee and his speedster son when they open their Australian tour in October.

Lillee, 50, and son Adam, 25, will team up for the first time when they play for an Australian Cricket Board Chairman's XI in a one-day tournament festival match against the tourists on October 26.

It is likely to be the farewell appearance by Dennis Lillee. He retired from first-class ranks more than 10 years ago, but has made a brief comeback each summer to appear in the traditional festival clash at Lilac Hill Park, Caversham, in the heart of Western Australia's Swan Valley wine-growing district.

Lillee said today the match provided the ideal opportunity for him to play alongside Adam, a pace bowler with a fluid action similar to his father's.

"It will be a nice way for me to bow out of the game," he said. "I just hope that my ageing

knees will hold out, and that the crowd will not put too much pressure on the lad."

Adam Lillee's cricket career has been severely hampered by leg problems, which he has now overcome.

He showed promising form



DENNIS LILLEE

at the end of last season with the Claremont-Nedlands second and third-grade sides in the Perth District competitions.

Lillee senior, who took a then-record 355 Test wickets for Australia as he terrorised batsmen in the 1970s and '80s, is the only player to have turned out in all nine Lilac Hill games.

"I always said I'd try to play in them for as long as I felt I could and with a bit of luck the old knees will hold out for a final fling," Lillee told the West Australian newspaper.

"When the opportunity arose to play in this year's game with Adam I thought it would be a nice way to finish."

Lillee's last competitive outing comes against a country he enraged during his Test career. He kicked former Pakistan captain Javed Miandad when they clashed at the WACA Ground in 1981.

The Lilac Hill match could also be the last time the famous words "caught marsh bowled Lillee" appear in a cricket scorebook, with Dan March, the son of Lillee's great partner behind the stumps, Rod, set to play.

Marsh senior and Lillee remain the best of friends, but Marsh turned down an invitation to play as he felt his body wouldn't handle the strain.

World Cup 2006

## SA believe they're the best bet



IRVIN KHOZA

PARIS, Aug 12: South African officials, confident of the quality of their bid, revealed on Wednesday why they think they should host the 2006 World Cup, reports Reuters.

They see England and Germany, not necessarily in that order, as their main rivals and are aware they must overcome a possible stumbling block in a rival African bid from Morocco.

But the delegation that officially presented the bid to world body FIFA in Zurich on Monday believe they do not only comply with all FIFA's requirements but exceed them in many areas.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter would like to see the World Cup go to Africa for the first time provided they can meet tough conditions on security and telecommunications.

"Our view is that other than South Africa, Germany and England are very strong contenders and we respect their bids," Danny Jordaan, chief executive officer of the South African bid, said.

Asked where he saw weaknesses in these rival bids, Jordaan said: "We're not going to win on the basis of the perceived weaknesses of other bidders."

"If we are to win the right to host the World Cup, the weak-

nesses of others will not help us."

Jordaan said the South Africans would be writing to their Moroccan counterparts with a view to discussing the best way forward for Africa, which has never hosted the World Cup.

"The important thing is that we present a united front. We need to engage in a dialogue as to how best to secure an African World Cup."

Irvin Khoza, chairman of South Africa's bid committee, said: "The matter is with the Confederation of African Football (CAF), who accepted both bids. They must decide which to support."

Khoza said he did not know when the CAF would make this decision.

Jordaan said he knew little about the bid of four times world champions Brazil, the other bidding nation.

"Of course, Brazil has a special pedigree as the first nation in football. They have the most recognisable commodity, the

highest number of great players, their own unique selling point.

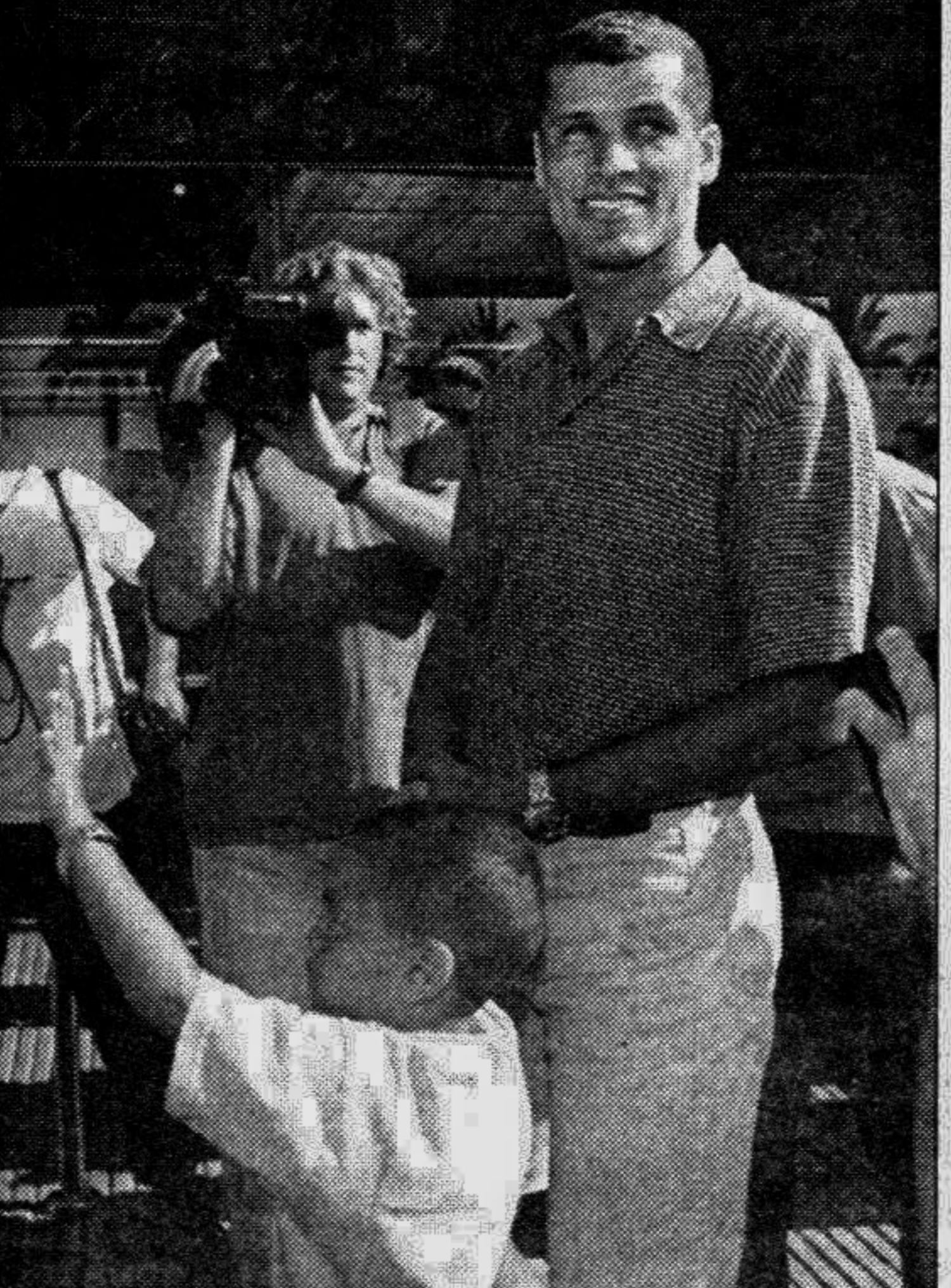
"But the capacity to organise the World Cup, is the issue and I don't know how Brazil looks in this area," he said.

Jordaan was speaking after he had formally given a resume of South Africa's bid, highlighting the main points in a huge dossier of more than 1,500 pages handed to FIFA on Monday.

He said South Africa had the experience and expertise of holding numerous sporting events including the 1995 Rugby World Cup since the country's return to the international community.

"The strength of the bid is that we have the infrastructure," he said, pointing to stadiums, tourism, transport, telecommunications, technology and security, for which 10.

There are 11 stadiums that already meet requirements and two more in the planning stage. The seating capacity ranges from 43,000 to 110,000.



Barcelona's Brazilian superstar Rivaldo arrives at El Prat International Airport near Barcelona on August 10 to begin the new European season with the Spanish giants. — AFP photo

## India sacrificed Brazil, Hungary, Ghana, Japan head groups

Sports Reporter

Hosts Bangladesh have been drafted in group A along with Hungary and Malaysia for the first round of the 2nd Bangabandhu Cup which begins at the Bangabandhu National Stadium from August 27.

Twelve teams will be split into four groups for the first round. The four group winners will qualify for the semifinals. This was decided by the Tournament Standing Committee at a meeting held last night. Chaired by Abdul Mueyed Chowdhury, the committee chairman, the meeting was attended by secretary of the committee Sirajul Islam Bachchu and other members.

Although 12 foreign teams accepted the BFF invitation, the Tournament Committee yesterday discarded India from the meet.

Brazil have been placed in group B along with South Korea and Thailand, while Ghana will feature in group C with Uzbekistan and Nepal. The fourth group comprises of Japan, Kuwait and Indonesia.

## Rain plays foul

Sports Reporter

The lone Keya Premier Division Football League match yesterday between Badda Jagarani Sangsad and Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society was postponed after 29 minutes of play due to heavy downpour.

The teams were locked 1-1 at the time.

Rahmatganj went ahead through their Nigerian recruit Onyeka in the fifth minute while prolific Badda striker Khokon equalised after 14 minutes.

The full match will be replayed today at 3:30 pm before the Brothers Union and Farashganj Sporting encounter.

## Engineers Club junior tennis

Sports Reporter

The first phase of the Junior Challenger Tennis Series, organised by Engineers Club, Dhaka, began at the Institution of Engineers yesterday.

Prof. M A Hannan, president of the Institution of Engineers, inaugurated the meet. Seventy-five boys and girls, including 24 from BKSP, are taking part.

The next three phases will begin from September 9, October 7 and November 11.

## BFAAME bridge

Dhaka Club Blue emerge champs

The Dhaka Club Blue team became unbeaten champions in the selection trial for the 10th BFAAME zonal bridge championship to be held in Sri Lanka from October 2-15 '99, says a press release.

The tournament will select two teams for the 50th World Cup (Bermuda Bowl) Championship to be held in Bermuda in January.

The Dhaka Club, seven time national champions, started with a handicap of having only 5 players instead of usual 8.

Four qualified teams — Dhaka Club Blue, Aces Alpha, Kamal's team and M A Samad's team participated — in a 3 tier (9 round) robin league of 16 boards each. The champions scored 181.5 victory points out of a possible 225.

The final standing was : Dhaka Club Blue 181.5 Aces Alpha 144.5 Kamal's Team 126.5 Samad's team 73.5

The Dhaka Club team was represented by A K Feroze Ahmed (captain), M Waliul Haque, ATM Moazzem Hossain, Jahirul Haque and Naimul Hasan Tapu.

## Shearer's red for 'persistent misconduct'

LONDON, Aug 12: The English Football Association confirmed on Thursday that Newcastle United striker Alan Shearer was dismissed for "persistent misconduct" by referee Uriah Rennie during Saturday's opening Premiership game against Aston Villa, reports AFP.

The England captain appeared bemused by the Sheffield official's decision after a challenge with Colin Calderwood.

"The referee has confirmed that the second caution for Alan Shearer was for persistent misconduct," an FA spokesman said.

The FA added that both Newcastle and Villa managers, Ruud Gullit and John Gregory, had been mentioned in Rennie's report for "comments made to match officials."

The FA will now consider the report before taking any further action.

## Ranatunga in the soup



ARJUNA RANATUNGA

COLOMBO, Aug 12 (AFP): Sri Lanka's new cricket management has banned former skipper Arjuna Ranatunga from training pending a disciplinary hearing against him, officials said Thursday.

Ranatunga, 35, who was dismissed as captain of the national team last month, was asked to explain why he left for Canada to participate in an exhibition match earlier this month, the state-run Daily News said.

New cricket manager Chandra Schaffter said he was yet to receive a satisfactory explanation from Ranatunga.

"He has this morning given me a letter of sorts that I suppose tries to explain himself but I am awaiting a proper explanation from him," Schaffter told AFP. "He can join practices after giving a satisfactory explanation."

"So far, the status quo remains unchanged."

The latest controversy has prevented Ranatunga from practising for the three test series against Australia.

A disappointed Ranatunga, 35, returned to Colombo on Tuesday without being able to play in the friendly match. He

was supposed to play for Asian Eleven against World Eleven. But when he arrived, the organisers of that tournament told him he could not play because he had not sought permission from his Board.

Last month, Ranatunga lost the captaincy after Sri Lanka's World Cup debacle in England. Selectors dropped him from the one-day squad to play against India and Australia later this month. He has, however, been named in the in the Test squad that will play three matches against Australia in September.

"I have written to Ranatunga and asked him to clarify the matter with me," Schaffter said. "Until then, he cannot attend practices."

Ranatunga was not reachable for comments on Thursday. But he has said there is a conspiracy by unnamed politicians and sports officials who want to see him fall. Several Sri Lankan cricket experts blamed lack of discipline for the team's poor showing at the World Cup. The former champions did not qualify for the second stage.

The Board is viewing discipline as an important issue and has changed the captain, team manager and coach.

Ranatunga's deputy, Aravinda de Silva, had a spat with press photographers recently when he tried to hit a photographer with a bottle. De Silva was also sacked as deputy and dropped from the one-day squad.



Participants of the Bangladesh Olympic Association course pose with Sports Secretary ASM Shahjahan

## Aussies aware of SL unrest



ACB GENERAL MANAGER BRENDAN MCCLEMENTS

MELBOURNE, Australia, Aug 12 (AFP): The Australian cricket team will be fully briefed Friday on the latest bomb blast in Sri Lanka which killed nine policemen.

But despite the increased tension on the island -- and having refused to play a World Cup match in Sri Lanka in 1996 -- the one-day squad is still due to fly to Colombo on Monday.

The Australian Cricket Board has been kept informed of developments in Sri Lanka and will pass on its security report to the players at their training camp in Brisbane on Friday.

At least nine police officers were killed Wednesday when suspected Tamil Tiger rebels detonated a bomb as a convoy of buses left Batticaloa, 200 kilometres east of Colombo.

The ministry said 10 Tiger rebels were killed and another five wounded in fresh fighting with troops in the north of the country on Wednesday.

Following the attack on the military convoy suspected Tiger gunmen shot dead a member of a rival Tamil group also in Batticaloa.

A similar attack last week killed 12 police commandos and two civilians in the northern town of Vavuniya while last month a rebel suicide bomber killed a moderate Tamil lawmaker.

There was no reaction from the Tamil Tigers to the upsurge in attacks blamed on them by the government.

Local authorities expressed fears on Monday there could be more violence, amid police reports the Tigers had sent out 10 bombers on suicide missions.

The LTTE is fighting for independence in the island's north and east. More than 55,000 people have been killed in the past 27 years.

Australia pulled out of a World Cup match in 1996 after a bomb killed more than 100 people in Colombo.

ACB general manager for public affairs Brendan McClements said the board was watching latest events in Sri Lanka through the Australian High Commission there and the Department of Foreign Affairs in Canberra.

"We're trying to get an idea of what the implications are for us, if any," McClements said.

He said the attacks had occurred in areas which were considered war zones and from where tourists had been banned for several years.

"Two attacks in a week is certainly unfortunate but it is not unexpected," he said.

"At the moment they are attacking military targets. From our point of view it's just a case of continuing to monitor the situation and talking to all the experts."

"The players will be given a full briefing at their training camp tomorrow. We've been keeping the players informed as these incidents have happened."

The tour opens with the first of the one-day internationals on August 22 while the first Test will be played from September 9-13. The team flies on to Zambabwe for one Test and three one-day internationals.

## Middlesex shock Kiwis



MARK RAMPRAKASH

LONDON, Aug 12 (Internet report): Middlesex secured a comfortable 39 run victory over New Zealand at Southgate although the tourists' sights were obviously set on loftier targets.

The eclipse delayed proceedings by nearly an hour but the game struggled to live up to pregame entertainment in the sky.

New Zealand showed little spirit for a fight with the crucial Oval Test just over one week away as the county side

ran out easy winners. Mark Ramprakash made some amends for his recent England disappointments with a crucial 85 that steered the hosts towards a respectable 239 for seven from their 50 overs.

But the Middlesex captain still looked inhibited against the bowling of New Zealand off-spinner Daniel Vettori who, on a slow and damp wicket, should have been an easy target for the Middlesex top order.

With Justin Langer recalled back to Australia for international duty, the hosts' batting also seemed to lack the backbone he has so often provided this season.

Owais Shah showed promise but his habit of losing his wicket after working hard to establish himself continues to frustrate.

Richard Kettleborough looked comfortable at the crease until he was superbly caught by Kiwi captain Steve Fleming on 28 whilst David Nash seemed in control only to be left stranded on an unbeaten 15 at the end of innings.

In fact with extras top-scoring behind Ramprakash it showed the scant regard the tourists paid to match with nothing at stake.

Their batsmen fared little better as Middlesex comfortably managed to avoid their third one day loss in four days. Richard Johnson returned to competitive action after a lengthy lay-off with a groin injury and made an immediate impact. Five years ago he was her-

alded as Test star of the future when he became the second youngest bowler to take all 10 wickets in a first class match and against the tourists he showed flashes of that promise.

He claimed the crucial scalps of Fleming and Roger Twose and his ten over spell managed to extract some hostility from a lifeless pitch.

Chris Cairns provided some resistance before he was eventually lobbed Paul Weekes to a grateful Kettleborough, eight runs short on his half century.

Andrew Penn did his harm with class 39 to add to his four wicket haul but his dismissal triggered the collapse which saw the tourists eventually whimper to 200 all out.

Cuba keen to host 2008 Olympics

HAVANA, Aug 12: Having suffered defections and a drug scandal, Cuban sports officials called the Pan Am Games in Canada "the worst in history and vowed Wednesday to restore their pride by aiming to host the 2008 Olympics, reports AP."

The president of the Cuban Olympic Committee, Jose Ramon Fernandez, said in a televised discussion that Cuba soon would begin work on the bidding process.

He praised Cuba's sports culture and its record of hosting events, such as the 1991 Pan Am Games.