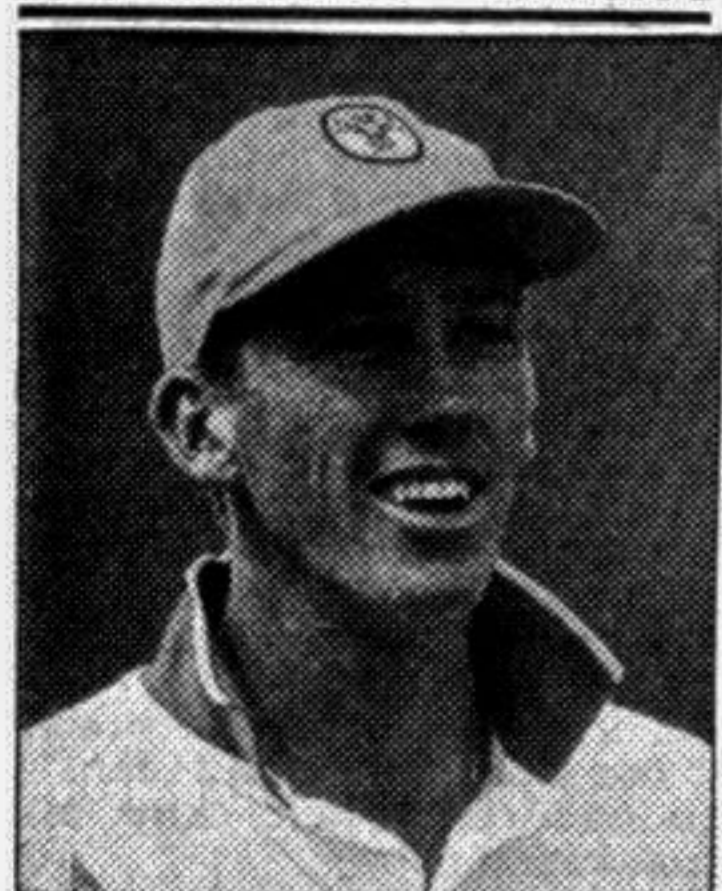


Column One SPORTS TALK



Glenn McGrath
(Australian fast bowler)
"To be named cricketer-of-the-year in a team like the Australian team at the moment is a pretty big buzz."
After he was named so by Wisden.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-123

Tick the Correct Answers.

Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm,
Nov 28, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

- How many Test wickets did Malcolm Marshall grab?
376 380 386
- Who won the Sirajul Islam Cup last month?
Pakistan W Indies S. Africa
- What is the name of Steve Waugh's son?
Austin Jacobs Larr
- Who is the vice-captain of India?
Dravid Jadhava Ganguly
- Who became champion in the Keya Premier League soccer league?
Abdullah Muktar Mohammedan

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

Asia Cup hockey BD-HK match today

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh will take on Hong Kong in the 5th Asia Cup hockey championship in Kuala Lumpur this afternoon.
A win in today's match will ensure Bangladesh a berth in the play-off for 5th position.
The winners between China and Japan will also qualify for the same play-off.

Nat'l youth hockey begins today

The Acme 18th national youth hockey championship begins today at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium with Narayanjan taking on Comilla in the opening match, reports UNB.
On the second day (Saturday), four matches will be held - Rangpur vs Sylhet 9 am, Gazipur vs Khulna 11 am, Patuakhali vs Munshiganj 1:30 pm and Rajshahi vs Mymensingh 3 pm.
Group A: BKSP, Jessore, Dinajpur, Barisal, Chittagong, Narayanjan, Comilla, Gopalganj and Faridpur DSAs.
Group B: Dhaka, Gazipur, Khulna, Rangpur, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Mymensingh, Patuakhali, Munshiganj DSAs and Dhaka Education Board.
Bangladesh Hockey Federation President and Air Force Chief Air Vice Marshal Jamal Uddin Ahmed will inaugurate the meet at 3 pm. The tournament has been organised by Bangladesh Hockey Federation.

Europa Cup b'ball

Dhaka earned an impressive 67-34 points victory over Gopalganj in the Europa Cup 22nd national basketball championship yesterday, reports UNB.
Dhaka dominated the first half 37-20.
Rinku scored 34 and Nahab 11 for the winners while Shuvra 10 for the losers.
In the day's another match, Khulna beat Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) 72-65.
Winners lead the first half 34-30 points.
Faisal scored 24 for Khulna while Sad 16 for the BUET.

Matches in 4 major divisions NFL mega deal done

Sports Reporter
The inaugural National Football League 1999-2000 will start simultaneously in four major divisions venues from the second week of January.

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) general secretary Harunur Rashid MP disclosed at a press conference after signing a 50-lakh Taka sponsorship and marketing deal with Leisure Sports Management Private Limited (LSM) at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday evening.

SS Das Gupta, managing director of LSM, BFF joint-secretaries Sirajul Islam Bachchu and Badal Roy, treasurer Shamuzzaman Basunia and other senior BFF officials were present at the time.
"This is a historic moment for Bangladesh football. After working nearly three years to achieve our goal its finally going to take shape now," said Harun.
He said that the deal however covered only the inaugural version of the league which is expected to conclude by the end of March.
"We have initially decided to hold matches in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna because of the availability of telecast facilities. In future more live matches are going to be shown. Also the number of venues will be expanded."
"We are yet to decide how many teams would take part in the opening league and how it would be conducted. The National League Committee will sit to finalise these details on November 28," Harun explained.
All the expenses of the league would be met from the sponsorship money.
"We intend to pay all the clubs who will take part and also the hosts," said Harun adding that there will be a special award for best media coverage.

Pakistan hit by injuries Third Test starts today

PERTH, Nov 25 (Reuters/AFP): Australia have resisted the temptation to experiment with new players as they chase a 3-0 series clean sweep in the third and final Test against Pakistan starting in Perth on Friday.

Meanwhile, the tourists' preparations were thrown into confusion Thursday by injuries to two key players.
Opening batsman Mohammad Wasim, 22, has a broken finger and will almost certainly be sidelined for the match.
Shock fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar, 24, is suffering from a groin strain.

Wasim broke the finger - on his left hand - while fielding in the slips in the second Test which ended in Hobart Monday.
Akhtar complained of groin soreness at training Thursday and was given a light workout at the WACA Ground nets.

While Wasim has virtually no chance of being able to take the field Friday, Pakistan captain Wasim Akram said Akhtar had good prospects of being able to play.

Australia's selectors had considered dropping promising paceman Brett Lee for the match but decided instead to stick with the more experienced Michael Kasprovicz, even though Lee appears a better long-term prospect.

"Michael's been bowling really well at the moment and deserves his chance," Waugh said.
"He's a proven Test match player and is a gutsy player who always gives 100 per cent."
"There's no doubt (Lee) will play Test cricket and it won't be that far away."
"He's really quick and he'll learn a lot just by being in the team as 12th man."
At just 23, Lee is already the fastest bowler in Australia but is short on big match experience whereas Kasprovicz has played 14 Tests.

TEAMS
AUSTRALIA: Steve Waugh (capt), Shane Warne (vice-capt), Greg Blewett, Michael Slater, Justin Langer, Mark Waugh.

Pakistan: (probable): Saeed Anwar, Wajahatullah Wasti, Jaz Ahmed, Inzamamul Haq, Yousef Youhana, Azhar Mahmood, Moin Khan, Wasim Akram (captain), Saqlain Mushtaq, Waqar Younis, Shoaib Akhtar.

ACB reduces TV replays!
PERTH, Nov 25: The Australian Cricket Board has introduced rules banning the repeated use of television replays inside cricket grounds, reports Reuters.

The ACB said it had instructed ground staff to limit the number of times they replayed controversial incidents on the giant television screens in an effort to stop the public humiliation of Test match umpires. The board said it would restrict the number of replays to one in slow-motion and one at normal speed.

The move was made after John Reid, the match referee in charge of last week's second Test between Australia and Pakistan in Hobart, complained at having to watch a number of controversial incidents.

Reid said the replays incited the crowds and put unnecessary pressure on umpires. He said he was particularly concerned by the repeated showing of Justin Langer's controversial edge behind off Pakistan fast bowler Wasim Akram on the final day of the Test.

Although Langer was given not out by Australian umpire Peter Parker, the large screen repeatedly showed a "snickometer" reading indicating he had hit the ball.
The snickometer is a delicate device that detects sound at the precise moment the ball passes the bat but it has been heavily criticised by players.
Langer, whose second innings knock of 127 helped to guide Australia to a remarkable victory, has steadfastly denied hitting the ball.
The snickometer is not used by umpires but is used by some television stations, including the Nine Network which broadcasts cricket in Australia.
Australia's players, including captain Steve Waugh, have

Gulshan Club tennis Double crown for Mashuk and Neaz

Sports Reporter
Shamsur Rahman Mashuk and his partner Neaz Ahmed won double crown in the annual Gulshan Club Tennis Championships held at the club courts last Tuesday.
In the doubles event Shamsur Rahman Mashuk partnering Neaz Ahmed easily defeated their opponents Wahed and Azmat 6-0, 6-4.
In the veterans doubles Mashuk, a compulsive tennis player in the club circuit and Mesbah came back brilliantly from a slump to defeat Zaman and Colonel Latif in a gruelling three-setter. Mashuk and Mesbah finally won 4-6, 7-5, 6-4.
In the singles final held on Monday Neaz beat Azmat in straight sets but not before Azmat put up a good fight. Neaz won 6-3, 6-4.

Damal Smriti cricket Wins for D'mondi, Lalmatia

Sports Reporter
Lalmatia and Dhanmondi Club won their respective matches of the 19th Damal Smriti cricket tournament at different city venues yesterday.
At the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Lalmatia Club edged past Jatrabari Krira Chakra by three wickets.
In a low-scoring affair, Lalmatia, chasing a modest Jatrabari total of 140 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs, reached 143 for the loss of seven wickets with 22 balls to spare.
Opener Shaan scored the highest 39 off 81 ball for the winners followed by Sumon (23) and captain Lal (22).
Earlier, the Jatrabari total was built around a defiant 33 from Safdar. For Lalmatia Firoze captured three wickets for 28 runs. He was ably supported by Alam and Aslam, who evenly shared four wickets among them.

BRIEF SCORES
Lalmatia vs Jatrabari
(Venue: Bangabandhu National Cricket Stadium)
Jatrabari KC: 140 for 9 wickets in 50 overs (Safdar 33, Jashim 23, Babu 23; Firoze 3/28, Alam 2/14, Aslam 2/21)
Lalmatia SC: 143 for 7 wickets in 44.4 overs (Shaan 39, Sumon 23, Lal 22)
Result: Lalmatia won by 3 wickets.
Dhanmondi Club Vs Bangladesh Boys
(Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)
Bangladesh Boys: 160 all out in 45.3 overs (Tinku 52, Titu 31, Monoje 26; Taj 2/7, Tushar 2/10, Imran 2/23)
Dhanmondi Club: 161 for 6 wickets in 43.1 overs (Hossain 56, Tushar 42, Taj 20, Azim 17 not out; Babu 2/23, Monoje 2/30)
Result: Dhanmondi Club won by 4 wickets.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Dhanmondi Club recorded a resounding four-wicket win over Bangladesh Boys.
The cricketers from Dhanmondi, set to score 161 for win, reached the target in 43.1 over with opener Hossain and one-down Tushar producing 90 runs for the second wicket. Hossain scored a polished 56 off 91 ball that included four hits across the rope.

Tushar, who had earlier captured two wickets giving away only 10 runs, chipped in with a power-packed 42 studded with seven boundaries.
Earlier, batting first after winning the toss, Bangladesh Boys were bundled out for 160 in 45.3 overs with opener Tinku notching a swashbuckling 52 off 68 balls. The right-hander hammered half a dozen boundaries.

"We feel like we're in the Truman Show," he said.
"Everywhere we go there's a camera. You go back to the hotel and there's a camera, you go out to dinner and there might be someone there, you're watching the game and there's a camera there."
"Waugh said the players had discussed the issue of microphones with the ACB and the television networks but nothing had been done about it."
"We've talked about it many times, every time we go into a series we say 'can we have these turned off in between balls or after the ball has been bowled?'" Waugh said.

"That's how it's supposed to be but it never happens."
"You can only ask so many times and nothing gets done about it so what can we do? We've already asked about it a number of times."

'Pakistan are better than India'
PERTH, Australia, Nov 25: Pakistan, who trail Australia 2-0 in their three Test series, are a better all-round side than India, who have just arrived for their tour here, Australian captain Steve Waugh believes, reports AFP.

"India are very tough at home, but away they have won very few Tests over the past 10 years," Waugh said Thursday on the eve of the third Test.
"To me, this says that Pakistan are a better all-round side in all conditions, but if you go to India you probably rate India as one of the top sides in the world at home."
"Away from home, it is a bit of a different story with India."

Australia are due to play India in a three Test series with matches at Adelaide (December 10-14), Melbourne (Dec 26-30) and Sydney (Jan 2-6).
India will also compete in a three-nation one-day tournament with Australia and Pakistan in a month-long contest starting January 9.
Waugh said he would rate it an outstanding achievement if Australia defeated Pakistan 3-0.

"It would be great, because this Pakistan side is a very fine team - as good as anyone else in the world, definitely in the top three, with South Africa," he said.

Donald, Pollock show

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 25 (AFP/Reuters): England collapsed under the onslaught of fast bowlers Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock as they were bowled out for 122 on the first day of the first Test against South Africa at the Wanderers Thursday.
Donald took six for 51 and Pollock four for 16. Donald's first three wickets were taken for no runs as England crashed to two for four in the first three overs of the match after being

Donald, who had been a doubtful starter because of a side strain, had figures of four for 28 from his opening spell of eight overs.
England's troubles started with the last ball of the first over when Donald sent Mike Atherton's off-stump flying as the England opener pushed forward tentatively against a fast in-swinging.
Six balls later England captain Nasser Hussain fended a lifting ball from Shaun Pollock to Lance Klusener at gully and was out for nought. England were two for two.

Worse was to come for the tourists as Mark Butcher edged a catch to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher off Donald and Alec Stewart was trapped lbw first ball by a full-pitched in-swinging.
New caps Vaughan and Adams staged a partial recovery, taking the total to 34 before Adams was caught off his glove down the leg-side by Boucher off Donald.
Vaughan and Flintoff scored at a run a minute as they took England past their lowest total against South Africa, 76 at Leeds in 1907.

A lunch break extended by 57 minutes because of rain enabled Donald and Pollock to come back with another devastating burst. Vaughan was out nine balls after lunch, caught by Boucher off an inside edge, and Gavin Hamilton and Flintoff followed within another ten deliveries.
Darren Gough and Alan Mullaly put on 19 for the last wicket, with Mullaly hooking Donald for six with what seemed an involuntary stroke against a lifting ball, before Mullaly was trapped lbw by Pollock.

It was Donald's 18th five-wicket haul in Tests but his first at the Wanderers, while Pollock reached 150 wickets in his 36th Test when Flintoff was his third victim of the innings. Pollock's 100th wicket came at the same ground against the West Indies one year and ten Tests ago.
England's total was the lowest by a visiting team at the Wanderers Stadium, the previous low being 143 by Australia in 1966-67.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of England's first innings on the opening day of the first Test against South Africa at the Wanderers on Thursday:
ENGLAND: First innings
Butcher c Boucher b Donald 1
Atherton b Donald 0
Hussain c Klusener b Pollock 0
Vaughan c Bacher b Pollock 33
Stewart lbw b Donald 0
C Adams c Boucher b Donald 16
Flintoff c Pollock b Pollock 38
Hamilton c Pollock b Donald 0
Gough not out 4
Caddick c Boucher b Donald 4
Gough not out 10
Mullaly lbw b Pollock 10
Extras: (lb-3, w-2) 5
Total: (All out in 41.1 OVERS) 122
Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-1; 3-2; 4-2; 5-34; 6-90; 7-91; 8-91; 9-103

INITIATING THE ROT: South African fast bowler Allan Donald, who took six wickets in England's first innings yesterday, is euphoric after uprooting Michael Atherton's off-stump at the Wanderers.

sent in to bat on a green-tinged pitch in overcast conditions.
The pair, ranked second and first in the latest world Test bowling rankings, were aided by five catches by wicketkeeper Mark Boucher.
New cap Michael Vaughan and the hard-hitting Andrew Flintoff shared England's only substantial partnership, putting on 56 for the sixth wicket. Vaughan, who made 33 off 84 balls with five fours, batted with impressive composure while Flintoff hit seven boundaries in his 38 off 48 balls.
Another new cap, Chris Adams, helped Vaughan start the early rot, making 16 in a stand of 32 after the pair found themselves together, neither having faced a ball, when four wickets were down after 17 balls of the match.

ASIA CUP SEMIS TODAY
KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 25 (AP/AFP): Asia's top-ranked team South Korea is bracing for revenge against India when the two clash in Friday's semifinal of the fifth Asia Cup men's field hockey tournament in Kuala Lumpur.

Korea, who are the reigning Asia Cup champions and the winners in 1986 and 1994 Asian Games, surged to the top of the Asian rankings by making the final of the prestigious Champions Trophy at Brisbane in June.
But last year's defeat at the hands of India in the Asian Games still rankles. India won its second Asian Games gold medal when it prevailed in a penalty shootout in the final in Bangkok last December, wresting the championship from South Korea.

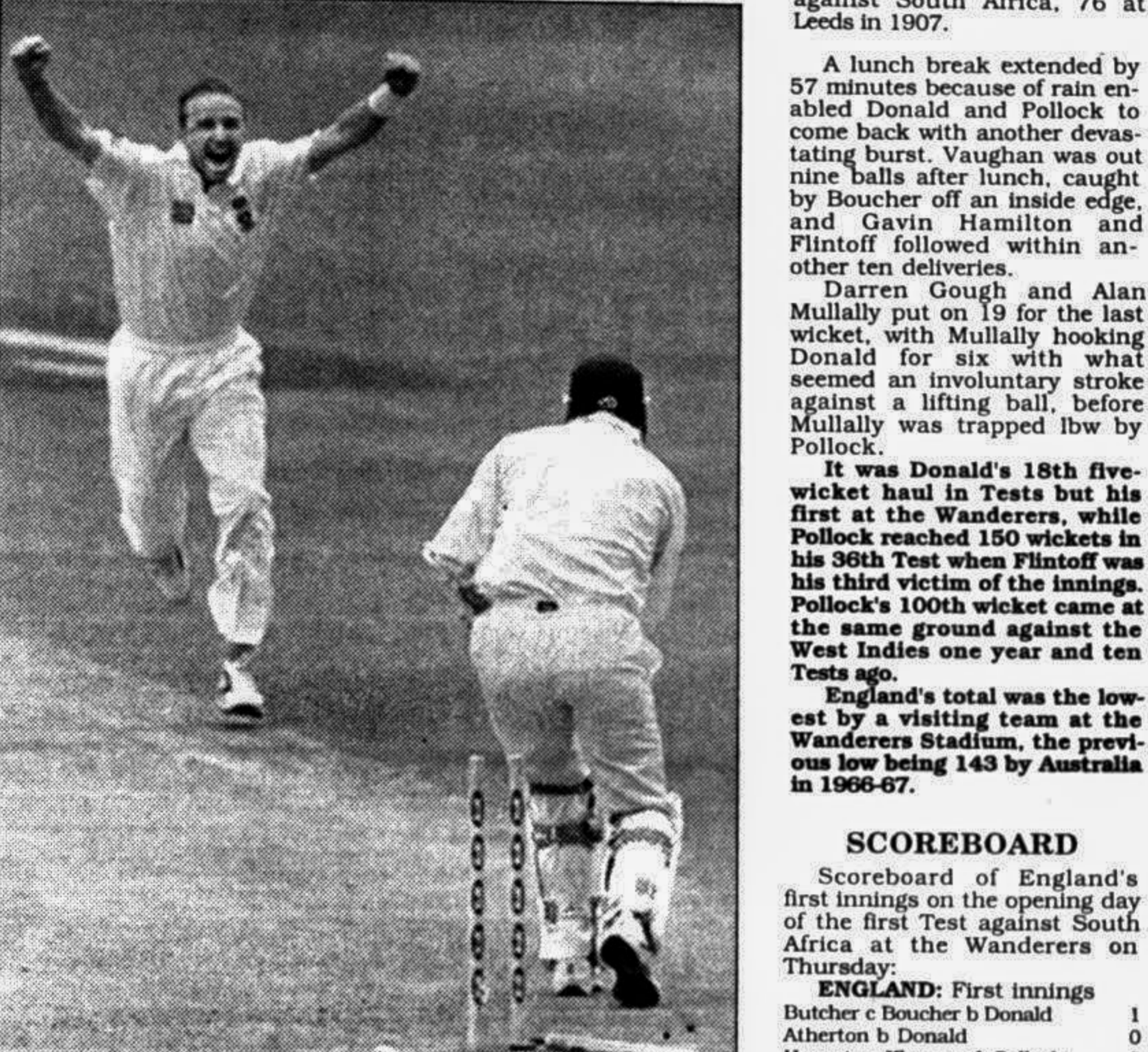
"We are looking forward to repeating the win over India in the final of the last Asia Cup at Hiroshima," Korean coach Kim Song-Ryul told reporters Thursday.
Kim said he was elated at his young team's performance and looking forward to defeating India as it did in 1993. Despite India's poor form this year, Korea's mood face a tough fight, he said.
Kim said India had brilliant ball players who could spring surprises.

"All the four semifinalists are almost of equal strength," Kim said. "Asian hockey has now changed a lot with Korea adopting a different style from the traditional Asian style that India, Pakistan and Malaysia play."
"But India and Pakistan are extremely tough opponents for us, they are very skillful and brilliant ball players," he said.
Korea favours the hard-tackling approach of the Europeans, which lays stress on packing the defence and depends on long passes and trapping up front to launch raids.

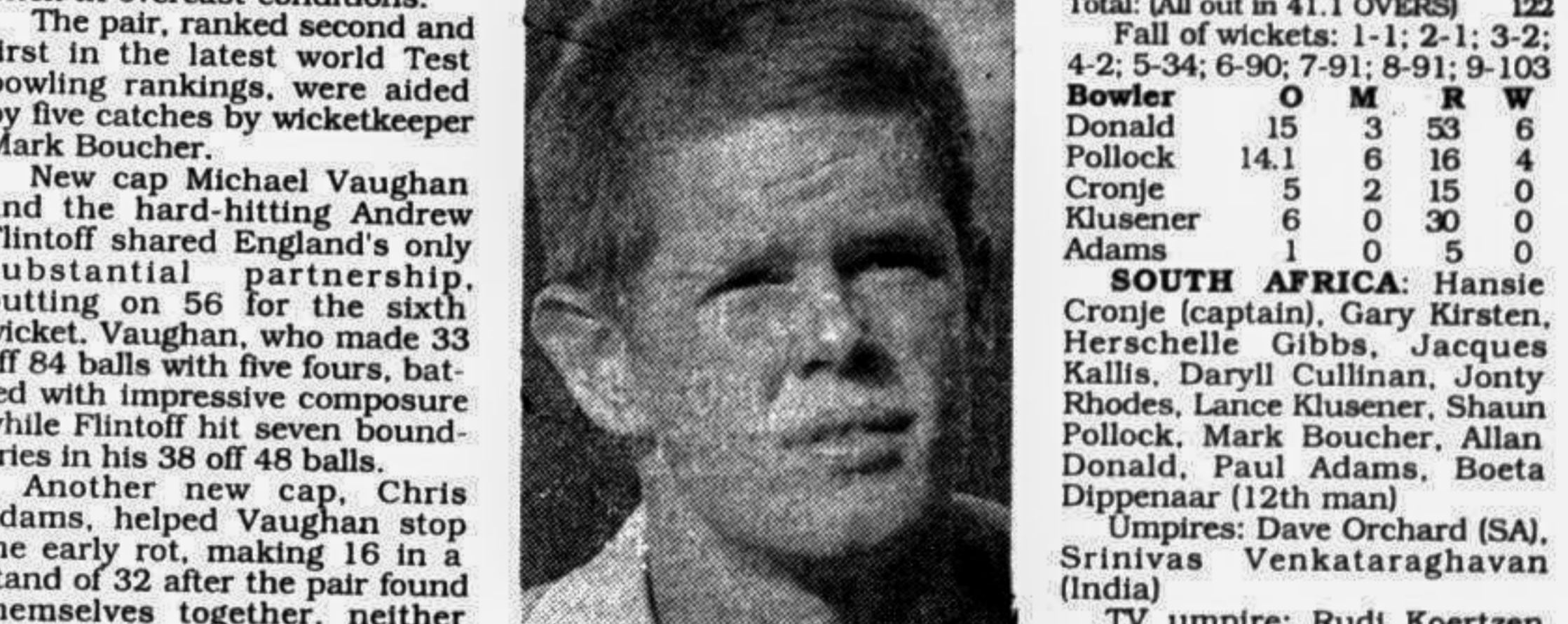
"Denying the Pakistani strikers space is the key to success, but the main question is how to stop Sohail," he said. "Even the best coaches in the world are pondering over this."
Pakistan's coach Shahbaz Sheikh said Abbas was Pakistan's main weapon.
"Malaysia is formidable at home but stopping Abbas' drag-flicks isn't easy. He's the best in the world," Sheikh said. "The powerful hits can sometimes be stopped, but Abbas' drag-flicks are difficult to intercept as they have a bigger target."

The traditional power-packed penalty corner drives have to strike the boards for the goal to be adjudged legitimate. But the push, or drag-flick, can go anywhere in the cage for a goal to be scored.
AGASSI ABASES SAMPRAS
HANOVER, Germany, Nov 25: Pete Sampras ran into a tennis buzzsaw when he squared off against world number one Andre Agassi on Wednesday at the 3.8-million-dollar ATP Tour World Championship.

Though fifth-ranked Sampras came up the loser 6-2, 6-2 in Red Group round-robin, the American wasn't wallowing in self-pity.
"I'm disappointed with the way it went today, but not discouraged," said the 28-year-old, playing only his third match in three months due to recent back problems, now resolved.
"I just ran into Andre, who's playing about as well as he's played against me in quite some time. I'm optimistic. I got through without hurting myself, so that's always a good sign," he said, only half-joking.
Tennis is nothing if not forward-skewed and Sampras need gaze no farther into the future than the next 48 hours.
In the White group, Swede Thomas Enqvist deflated some of the home hysteria around Nicolas Kiefer's first appearance at year-end wrap-up, beating the German crowd favourite 6-4, 7-5.



INITIATING THE ROT: South African fast bowler Allan Donald, who took six wickets in England's first innings yesterday, is euphoric after uprooting Michael Atherton's off-stump at the Wanderers.



POLLOCK ... 150 wkts



Andre Agassi in action against compatriot Pete Sampras during their ATP Tour World Championship match at Hanover on November 24.