

## Column One

### SPORTS TALK



**Nicky Boje**

(South African all-rounder)  
"If a night-watchman could stay, it eases the pressure of the main batsmen."

After his heroics in the Bangalore Test.

## Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
**Competition-127**

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
March 24, 2000 and draw  
shortly afterwards

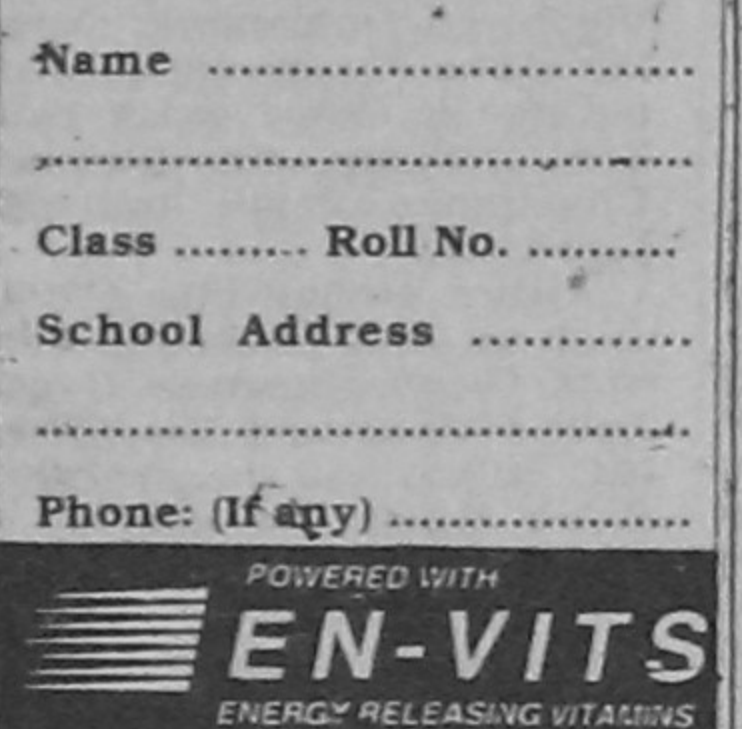
- Who won the tri-series down under?  
India Pakistan Australia
- How many Test matches has Shepherd officiated in till the Bombay Test?  
49 50 51
- What is the name of Sir Stanley Matthews' father?  
Jack Stephen Bill
- Who is FIFA's world player-of-the-year?  
Rivaldo Raul Vieri
- Who is the captain of Bangladesh cricket team?  
Aminal Faruque Athar

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



## Ladies badminton tourney begins today

Sports Reporter

The Bashundhara Open Women's badminton tournament will start at the Sultana Kamal Sports Complex in Dhanmondi today under the auspices of Bangladesh Women's Sports Federation (BWSF).

A total of fifty eve shuttlers from Tangail, Jessore, Joypurhat, Chittagong, Bogra, Pabna, Manikganj, Sirajganj, Chuadanga, Patuakhali, Munshiganj, Meherpur, Rajbari, Gaibandha, Shariatpur, Rajshahi, Khagrachari and Dhaka will take part in the meet which is scheduled to conclude on March 30.

A press conference regarding the competition was held at the National Sports Council auditorium yesterday with tournament committee head Farida Khanum Saki in the chair. Former national champion and secretary of the tournament committee Kamrunnabha Dana, BSWF general secretary Sultana Ferdous Ara Doly and Sadat Sobhan, the vice-chairman of the sponsors Bashundhara Group, were present.

A budget of Tk 1,00,000 (one lakh) have been estimated for the tournament out of which Bashundhara Group will provide Tk 50,000.

## Asian Kho Kho Thai team in city

Sports Reporter

A 14-member Thailand kho kho team arrived in the capital yesterday to take part in the 2nd Asian Kho Kho championship to be held at the Suhrawardi National Indoor Stadium from tomorrow.

The team, which will face hosts Bangladesh in the inaugural match tomorrow, includes 10 players and four officials.

India, Sri Lanka, Japan and Nepal were also scheduled to reach the capital last night.

Pakistan is the other team in the seven-nation meet which will conclude on April 1.

# League resumes today

Sports Reporter



The Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League resumes today after a 15-day recess due to the breaks for the Eid-ul-Fitre and the Malaysian tour of Bangladesh A.

The most exciting event of the domestic calendar, which was suspended on March 13, begins with a big match between Mohammedan Sporting Club and Surjo Tarun Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Brothers Union will take on City Club in the other match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. Both the matches commence at 9.30 am.

## Mohammedan v Tarun Venue: Bangabandhu

Although Brothers will be up against a trifling challenge from promotes City Club, the heat of the day would certainly be felt at the big bowl, where a defeat for either Mohammedan or Surjo Tarun means a vital blow in the title race. Both have already lost one match against four wins in their previous five games.

Mohammedan however appear very focused before the match as they have already retained the services of their Sri Lankan duo of Hashan Tillekeratne and Ruwan Kalpage, who arrived in the city yesterday. But the popular Motijheel outfit seemed to have lost their faith in Kumara Dharmasena, the

other Sri Lankan off-spinners who failed to impress the Mohammedan supporters. Dharmasena, who took only two wickets in four matches, did not

## Brothers v City Club Venue: Dhanmondi

arrive with Tillekeratne and Kalpage.

Surjo Tarun on the other hand is likely to live with a fragile top-order as their Pak-

istani batsman Mohammed Ramzan, who scored a century (105) against Victoria, is yet to return to Dhaka. The new levitans was however expecting former Indian Test cap Rajesh Chauhan to join the most balanced local side.

Meanwhile, defending champions Bangladesh Biman and Abahani Krira Chakra, who are leading the table with six straight wins, will enjoy another couple of days rest before resuming their impressive run.

## POINTS TABLE

Teams	M	W	L	Pts
Abahani	6	6	0	12
Biman	6	6	0	12
Mohammedan SC	5	4	1	8
Surjo Tarun	5	4	1	8
Kalabagan KC	5	4	2	8
City Club	5	3	2	6
Brothers	5	2	3	4
Victoria	5	1	4	2
Gopibagh FA	5	1	4	2
S Bina	5	1	4	2
Wari Club	5	0	5	0
Agrani Bank	6	0	6	0

## FIRST WEEK'S FIXTURE

Date	Match	Venue
MARCH 28:	Mohammedan SC v Surjo Tarun Club	BNS
	Brothers Union v City Club	DCS
March 29:	Biman v Agrani Bank	BNS
	Victoria SC v Gopibagh FA	DCS
March 30:	Surjo Tarun Club v Brothers Union	BNS
	Sadharan Bina v Wari Club	DCS
March 31:	Abahani KC v Mohammedan SC	BNS
	Kalabagan KC v Gopibagh FA	DCS
April 1:	Victoria SC v Wari Club	BNS
	Sadharan Biman v City Club	DCS
April 2:	Biman v Mohammedan SC	BNS
	Agrani Bank v Gopibagh FA	DCS
April 3:	Surjo Tarun Club v City Club	BNS
	Kalabagan KC v Wari Club	DCS

# Eddie disagrees readily



I read with interest the article 'Captain -- not in your shoes.' I think I am correct in assuming that Mr (Nizamuddin) Ahmed concludes that people believe Mr Roquibul Hasan would be biased and pick his own son Sajid for the Bangladesh side.

There have been instances in World cricket where a father has been a selector and the son a player. Mickey Stewart, the England coach and selector, and his son Alec. More notable was Peter Pollock, Convenor of South African Selectors and his son Shaun. Shaun Pollock even became Vice-Captain. Neither of these circumstances created even a murmur of criticism as a time-honoured procedure is followed in Selection Committee meetings. If and when the name of a son or close relative of a selector comes up, the Selector excuses himself. That means he leaves the room and does not participate in the discussions or hear his other selectors' criticisms or otherwise. That was asked of Roquibul and he complied equally honourably.

I would like to add that



depending entirely on whether he performs or not. He would want it no other way. Nor would the National Selectors which would include Roquibul Hasan. There is too much at stake.

*Eddie Barlow*

(Eddie Barlow)

Roquibul Hasan has arguably the most astute cricket brain in Bangladesh and is highly respected by those who played with and against him. Mr Ahmed's deep respect is evident in his article.

Roquibul Hasan's value to Bangladesh cricket in these times as we seek Test status, far outweighs any suggestion of bias. As for Sajid, he will or will not play for Bangladesh

Eddie Barlow, the Director of Development of the Bangladesh Cricket Board, promptly disagrees with the observation of Nizamuddin Ahmed (published in his column 'Partisan View' on March 25, 2000). Like our other columnists, Nizamuddin Ahmed has the privilege of expressing his very own views. We also welcome the former South African Test player on the liberal pitch of Star Sport to have his views exchanged.

—Sports Editor

# India on the way out



SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Mar 27: India were facing elimination from the three-nation Sharjah Coca-Cola Cup after being shot out for 164 by South Africa here on Monday, reports AFP.

The Indians, who need a win to keep aloft in the tournament, struggled for runs after electing to bat in overcast conditions.

Brilliant South African fielding, which ran out two

premier batsmen Sachin Tendulkar and Mohammad Azharuddin, added to India's woes.

Tendulkar and Azharuddin put on 70 for the second wicket after skipper Sourav Ganguly was caught behind off Mornantau Hayward for six in the fifth over.

Azharuddin made 36 when he was caught short of his ground by a direct hit from Neil McKenzie.

Tendulkar, who faced 68 balls to score 39, attempted a quick single only to see Her-

schelle Gibbs hit the stumps from close range.

The dismissal of the two batsmen saw India slump from 80-1 to 124-5 in the 39th over as tight South African bowling checked the flow of runs.

Fast bowler Mornantau Hayward, generating hot pace even on the slow wicket, returned with four for 31. Lance Klusener claimed two wickets and Makhaya Ntini and Steve Elworthy one each.

A win for South Africa will ensure their place in next Friday's final even before their first league match against Pakistan on Tuesday.

Both Pakistan and India are currently on two points, but Pakistan enjoy a superior run-rate which could decide the second finalist.



**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard of the Indian Innings in the Sharjah Coca-Cola Cup one-day international against South Africa on Monday:

INDIA	Runs
Sachin Tendulkar run out	39
Saurav Ganguly c Boucher b Hayward	6
Mohammad Azharuddin run out	36
Ajay Jadhav lbw b Elworthy	0
Rahul Dravid c McKenzie b Klusener	26
Robin Singh c Boucher b Hayward	28
Saba Karim c McKenzie b Hayward	12
Anil Kumble b Klusener	2
Nikhil Chopra not out	1
Ajit Agarkar lbw b Hayward	4
Venkatesh Prasad c Boucher b Ntini	1
Extras: (lb-5; w-4)	9
Total: (All out in 48.5 overs)	164
Fall of wickets: 1-10, 2-80, 3-80, 4-93, 5-124, 6-154, 7-157, 8-159, 9-163	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hayward	10	2	31	4
Kallis	10	2	30	0
Ntini	8.5	0	25	1
Elworthy	8	1	28	1
Klusener	10	1	35	2
Boje	2	0	10	0

Tomorrow's match will be played between Pakistan and South Africa

## BCB plans big for Cricket Week

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has drawn up an elaborate programme to celebrate the ICC (International Cricket Council) Week that will be observed from April 2 to 8 across the world.

The extensive programme of BCB begins with a colourful rally on April 2. The rally, starting from the Ramna Tennis Complex at 8 am, will end at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, the venue for an exciting exhibition match involving a galaxy of star cricketers. The match, a day-night affair between Wasim Akram led Asia Eleven and Brian Lara's Rest of the World Eleven will be held on April 8. If elements do not permit, the match will be played next day.

While elaborating the week-long programme Roquibul Hasan, the co-ordinator of the BCB working committee, said that the tiny Kalabagan ground will host a series of matches among the under-10 boys on April 3.

A quiz competition involving eight selected city schools will be held at the Conference Room of the National Sports Council (NSC) on April 4.

A seminar with a message 'cricket, patriotism and globalisation' will be held at the same venue on April 5. Shahidul Azam, the general secretary of the Bangladesh Sports Writers Association, will present the keynote speech.

There would be an extensive programme in six divisional headquarters on April 6. A painting competition will also take place at the NSC Gymnasium on April 7.

## Cricket feast for fast track countries

Sports Monitor

The Emerging Nations Tournament is set to accelerate the transition of nominated fast-track countries to one-day international level, says a Internet release.

Four European countries, namely Denmark, Holland, Ireland and Scotland, join Kenya and Zimbabwe 'A' in a 15-match round robin tournament, which is to be hosted by the Zimbabwe Cricket Union.

The Emerging Nations Tournament presents an opportunity for fast track countries to prepare for the ICC Trophy in Canada in 2001, where three countries will ultimately qualify for the 2003 World Cup in South Africa.

## D'mondi Div I cricket champs

Dhanmondi Club emerged as champions of the Metropolis First Division Cricket League outplaying Young Cricketers by nine wickets in the play-off match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday, reports AFP.

The play-off match was needed as both the teams finished joint top of the table securing 24 points from 16 matches.

However, both teams were promoted to next year's Premier Division Cricket League.

In the day's match, Young Cricketers were bundled out for 131 in 41.2 overs after winning the toss.

Turjo wrecked the opposition batting line-up claiming five wickets for 22 runs in 9.2 overs while Tareq Aziz picked up three for 17.

N M Poltu was the top scorer for Young Cricketers making 40 off 55 balls that featured five boundaries and a six while Adil Hossain scored 37 runs off 35 balls with five fours.

In reply, Dhanmondi Club easily reached 134 for one in 25.1 overs.

Anisul Hakim played a captain's knock remaining 75 not out. He faced 87 deliveries belting 14 hits across the rope while his opening partner Shetu added a 35-ball 33.

Rajon took the only wicket of Shetu giving away 37 runs in 10 overs.



South Africa's Lance Klusener (L) is euphoric after seeing the back of Anil Kumble during yesterday's Sharjah Cup match against India.

— Internet photo

## ANZ Grindlays National Schools qualifiers

# Nabakumar win in style

Sports Reporter



A swashbuckling half century from opener Roni guided Nabakumar Institution to a comprehensive seven-wicket win over Mirhazaribagh High School in one of the four Dhaka Metropolitan Zone qualifying matches of the ANZ Grindlays Bank 18th National Schools cricket championship at the Dhanmondi Club ground yesterday.

Roni hammered 58 off just 29 balls to help Nabakumar, chasing a commanding Mirhazaribagh total of 184 in 35 overs, reach 190 in only 20.2 overs with seven wickets to spare.

Roni along with opening partner Faisal(23), took Mirhazaribagh bowlers to the sword and put on 89 runs in just eight overs before the former was out having clubbed two sixes and nine boundaries.

Earlier, electing to bat first, Mirhazaribagh were all out for 184 in 34.3 overs with Rezaul scoring the highest 39.

Pinu was the most successful bowler for Nabakumar with figures of four for 35.

Away at the Uttara Club ground, Ideal High School beat South Breeze School by 15 runs.

Ideal School managed 165 for eight in the stipulated 35

**BRIEF SCORES**

**Mirhazaribagh High School:** 184 all out in 34.3 overs (Rezaul 39, Tareque 21, Sohail 21, Sagar 19, Pinu 4/35, Partho 2/37)

**Nabakumar Institution:** 190 for 3 in 20.2 overs (Roni 58, Faisal 23, Mitu 32, Mahbub 29, Ershad 14)

**Result:** Nabakumar Institution won by seven wickets.

**Ideal High School:** 165 for 8 in 35 overs (Shuvo 40 n.o., Babu 25, Mishu 13, Extras 50, Yasir 3/28, Shaiyaz 2/15, Imrose 2/32)

**South Breeze School:** 150 all out in 27.3 overs (Imrose 38, Bakhtiar 32, Yasir 29, Ronnie 4/22, Imran 2/16)

**Result:** Ideal High School won by 15 runs.

**West End High School:** 142 all out in 27.5 overs (Saiser 30, Nayeem 30, Liton 15, Saad 3/15, Baker 3/22, Mahin 2/19)

**Green Herald International School:** 145 for 6 in 29.4 overs (Rozario 31, Sajid 30, Baker 18, Ashiq 12)

**Result:** Green Herald International won by four wickets.

overs after opting to bat first. Middle order Shuvo scored an unbeaten 40 followed by Babu who added 25.

In reply, South Breeze were bundled out for 150 in the face of some fired up bowling from Ronnie who returned with four for 22 in his four-over spell.

Green Herald International School handed West End High School a four-wicket defeat at the Uttara Police Lines ground.

Chasing a paltry 142 in 35 overs, the winners reached 145 in 29.4 overs with opener Rozario scoring 31. Sajid (30) was the other notable run getters.

In the other match of the day, Maple Leaf International School earned a walkover against London Grammar School.

## Rifles lift title

Bangladesh Rifles clinched the title of the Independence Day Kabadi competition beating Bangladesh Police 9-4 yesterday, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Army earned third position defeating Dilkusha Sporting Club by 18-11 points in the day's first match.

President of the Bangladesh Kabadi Federation Habibur Rahman Mulla, MP, distributed the prizes as the chief guest.

# Historic Australians



WELLINGTON, Mar 27: The Australian cricket juggernaut proved unstoppable as they swept to their record ninth Test victory with a comprehensive six-wicket win over New Zealand with a day to spare in the second Test at the Basin Reserve here Monday, reports AFP.

Steve Waugh's Australians also clinched their Trans-Tasman series 2-0 with the final match against the Kiwis to be played at Hamilton, starting Friday.

The Australians made it a triple triumph by also bettering the previous national record of eight held by Warwick Armstrong's team since the 1920-21 season.

"It's a good side and I said once before it would be competitive with anyone," Steve Waugh

said. "I keep reading that I said it was the best side but I'll stick to what I really said -- we would compete with any side."

Should Australia win the third Test they will face the tantalising prospect of playing the West Indies at home next summer for the record of 11 consecutive wins held by the great West Indian team of the 1983-85 era.

Australia set up the victory by dismissing New Zealand for 294 in their second innings just after lunch and needing 174 runs to claim victory.

They lost Michael Slater (12), Greg Blewett (25), Justin Langer (57) and Steve Waugh (15) along the way, but the target was always comfortably within their reach.

Mark Waugh hit a four off Nathan Aspin for the winning runs in lengthening shadows to

remain 45 not out with Damien Martyn on 17. It was Australia's first series win in New Zealand since Greg Chappell's team won in 1977.

Waugh said he had told his jubilant team to savour the good times.

"One of my statements was 'don't ever take winning for granted' because I was here 15 years ago when we got bowled out for 103 as a 20-year-old wondering if I was ever going to win a Test," he said.

"If you can pass things on like that and make sure the guys are aware it is a big achievement (to win a Test) then you can't relax and you can't become complacent."

Slater was officially named man-of-the-match for his influential 143 in the first innings, although New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns had his supporters with a majestic 109 and six sixes in his thunderous 69 in the second innings along with taking 3-110 in Australia's first innings.

Other notable achievements were Steve Waugh's 22nd Test century with an unbeaten 151 in the first innings and leg-spinner Shane Warne's seven match wickets to take him to 363 Test wickets and past Pakistan's Imran Khan as the eighth all-time leading wicket-taker.

New Zealand's efforts to put pressure on Australia were hamstrung by spinner Daniel Vettori's inability to bowl after

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# Rose blooms at Kingston



KINGSTON, Mar 27: West Indian captain Jimmy Adams and tailender Franklyn Rose put on an unbroken, record-equalling eighth-wicket stand of 124 here on the third day of the second cricket Test between the West Indies and Zimbabwe on Sunday, reports AFP.

Adams and Rose, who came together when the hosts were struggling at 171 for seven, pulled the West Indies, who lead the series 1-0, right back into the match -- when bad light stopped play they were 295 for five, replying to Zimbabwe's first innings total of 308.

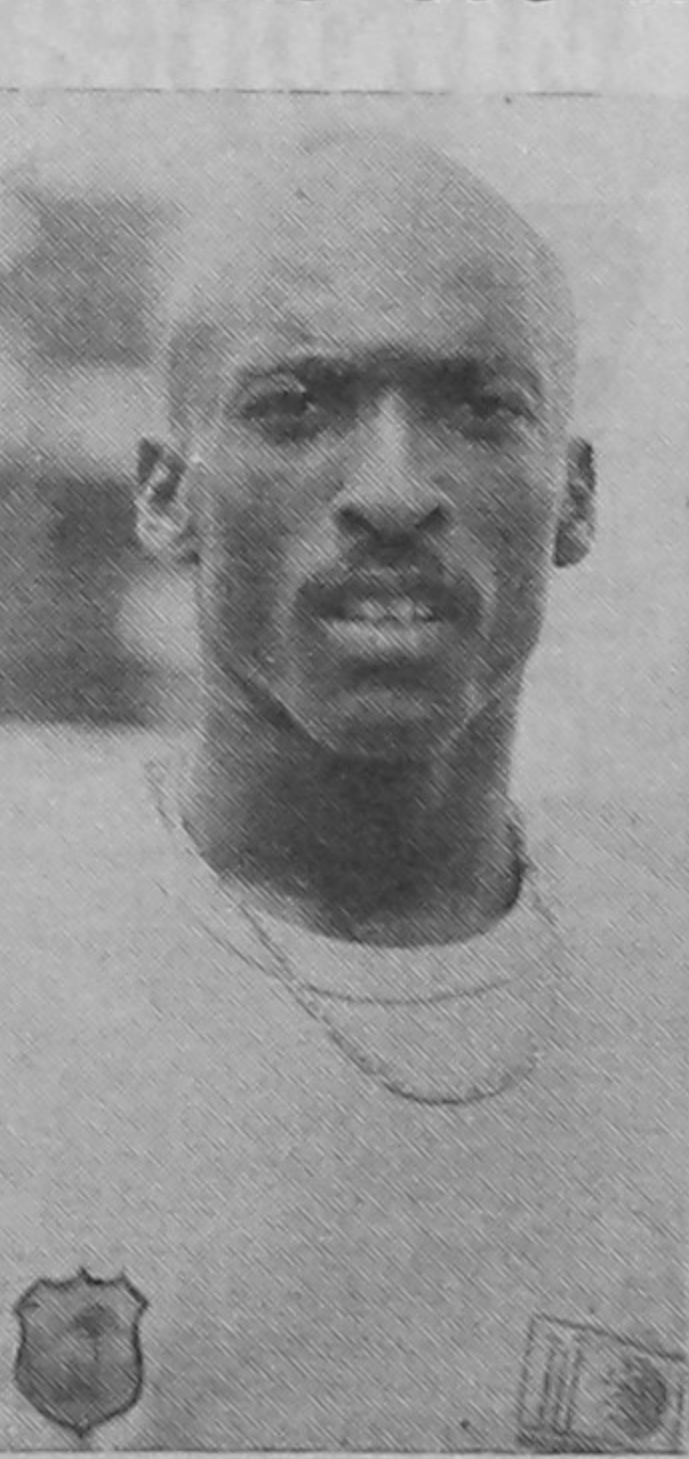
Before a packed, noisy Sabina Park, Adams, unbeaten on 87, and Rose, not out on a Test career best of 53, thrilled their compatriots with some lively cricket.

For nearly 3 1/2 hours, Adams and Rose thrilled their compatriots with some lively cricket which equalled the West Indies eighth-wicket stand of 124 between Sir Vivian Richards and the late Keith Boyce against India at Delhi in the 1974-75 series.

Rose brought his usual provocative approach to the wicket and it seemed to influence his captain, who had batted doggedly through from the final hour the previous evening. Dropped when 35 by Neil Johnson at second slip off Bryan Strang, Adams began to bat a little more attractively and with Rose's brand of 'calypso cricket', things began to happen for West Indies.

Adams, eyeing his sixth Test century and first since his unbeaten 208 not out against New Zealand in St. John's, Antigua, four years ago, has batted just over seven hours and faced 263 balls to strike five fours.

All but 17 of Rose's highest



ROSE ... 53 not out

Test score were in boundaries. He has faced 152 balls to eclipse his previous highest of 34 against India in Port-of-Spain three years ago.

At the end of the Port-of-Spain Test, Adams had spoken about Test matches being transformed in the short space of one period.

He might have recalled his comment at the end of the day which started with the West Indies' brittle batting once more cruelly exposed.

Adams and Wavel Hinds started cautiously for West Indies in the first hour of the day, but Hinds was caught at slip by Alistair Campbell off leg-spin bowler Brian Murphy for 14 in the 11th over of the day to leave his side 1