

Bradman baffled!

SYDNEY, Apr 6: Sir Donald Bradman, in a rare public statement, said he was humbled to learn he had been chosen as Wisden's cricketer of the 20th century, reports Reuters.

The semi-reclusive Australian, whose Test batting average of 99.94 has stood unchallenged since he retired in 1948, released a brief statement today to show his appreciation of the award.

"I am very honoured to be recognised by Wisden in this way," Bradman said in the statement issued through the Bradman Museum in Bowral, New South Wales.

Bradman, who lives alone in his suburban Adelaide home, said he was just as thrilled to learn England's Sir Jack Hobbs had also been selected as one of the top five players.

"I am very pleased that Jack Hobbs was also chosen as he was one of my boyhood heroes," Bradman said.

Bradman was the clear winner of Wisden's poll to decide the top five players of the last century, and the only players chosen by each of the 100 panelists.

West Indies captain Sir Garfield Sobers finished second with 90 votes ahead of Hobbs, 30. Australian leg-spinner, Shane Warne, 27, and Sir Vivian Richards, former West Indies captain, with 25.

Warne was also chosen as the only specialist bowler as well as the only current player to make the top five.

Like Bradman, Warne, who broke Dennis Lillee's Australian Test record of 355 wickets against New Zealand a fortnight ago, said he was thrilled by the recognition.

"It's a huge honour to be included while I'm still playing and it's hard for me to wrap my head around it," Warne said.

"I'm very shocked because I didn't know about it. Even if I had known about it I wouldn't have expected to be chosen."

Unlike the other four greats, all knighted by the British monarch on the nomination of their governments, Warne is unlikely to become Sir Shane — Australia and its state governments no longer nominate people for British honours.

Tyson to fight in Helsinki

HELSINKI, Apr 6: Former world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson will fight in Helsinki in August against an unnamed opponent, Finnish daily Ilta-Sanomat (IS) said on Wednesday. It said Tyson's manager Shelly Finkel had agreed on Monday with Helsinki-based Monte Young for a fight on August 19 at the new outdoor Finland Stadium, reports Reuters.

No other details were given. It said Young would be in Helsinki next week with further information about the fight.

IS said the bout would mark a return to Finland for Tyson, who as an 18-year-old fought in a tournament in Tampere in 1984.

Tyson will fight American Lou Savarese in Milan on May 20 and his handlers want to stage further bouts in Europe.

AFC announce awards for 1999

Ali Daei on top of Asia



KUALA LUMPUR, April 6: Iran's Ali Daei was named Asian player of the year for goals against top European teams "unrivalled in the history of Asian footballers," reports AFP.

The Kuala Lumpur-based Asian Football Confederation (AFC) said Ali Daei, who plays for his national side and Germany's Hertha Berlin, brought "unrivalled positive publicity" for Asian soccer in 1999.

He was scheduled to receive the award from AFC president Sultan Ahmad Shah at a ceremony in Beirut Thursday evening.

China's Sun Wen, the first woman to be nominated for player of the year, was named Asia's most valuable women's player of 1999.

China's women's team, which she captained in the finals of the Women's World Cup in the United States last year, bagged the award for Asian national team of the year.

The AFC in a statement singled out Ali Daei's goals in the



ALI DAEI

European Champion's League against Chelsea and AC Milan.

"Against Chelsea he twice outfoxed two members of the French World Cup-winning defence in Marcel Desailly and Frank Leboeuf," the AFC said.

"He followed that by scoring in one of the great stadia in world football, the San Siro."

Ali Daei had been challenged for the top award by Sun Wen, Japan's Hidetoshi Nakata, twice Asian player of the year, Hwang Sun Hong of South Korea, Kuwait's Bashir Abdullah, and Japan's Masashi Nakayama.

The AFC said the achieve-

ment of the Chinese women in finishing runner-up in the Women's World Cup "brought much respect for Asian football."

"Defeat only came on a penalty shootout to an American team who had the partisan support of 90,000 fans."

The Chinese women were also named Asian women's team of the year.

Despite missing out on the top Asian award, Japan won three others. The Under-20 team which reached the finals of the FIFA World Youth tournament in Nigeria was named youth team of the year.

Jubilo Iwata, which won the Asian Super Cup and the Asian Club Championships in 1999, was named club team of the year. Japan also took the fair play award.

Uzbekistan's Mahmood Rakhimov, who died in a car crash in December, was named Asian coach of the year. He masterminded his team's qualification for the Asian Cup in Lebanon this October and moved Uzbekistan up 24 places in the FIFA rankings.

Qatar's Waleed Hamzah, a star performer in the FIFA World Youth Under-17 Championship in New Zealand, is youth player of the year.

Abdul Rahman al-Zeid of Saudi Arabia is Asian referee of 1999 and Youssef Berjaout of Lebanon was named football writer of the year.



Brazilian superstar Ronaldo training with club-mates at Appiano Gentile on April 5.

— AFP photo

Pakistan begin

From page 13

into the innings, but leg-spin bowlers Mushtaq Ahmed and Shahid soon snuffed them out in the space of seven balls to leave the score 108 for four.

When Viljoen was run out by Younis' throw to wicketkeeper Moin in the 32nd over, Zimbabwewere 118 for five and it looked like they would die a painful death.

The rest of the batting tried very hard to get them back into the match. Pakistan's bowlers however, were unwavering in line, length and commitment, and the Zimbabwean batting struggled through to the end.

Only veteran Guy Whittall with a patient 31 off 64 balls offered any kind of prolonged resistance in the bottom-half of the batting as Zimbabwe declined from 151 for six in the 42nd over.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard in the third match of the triangular limited-overs international cricket series between Zimbabwe and Pakistan at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Wednesday:

ZIMBABWE

Johnson c Nazir b Arshad	20
G. Flower c Younis b Razzaq	36
Carlisle c Youhana b Mushtaq	30
Goodwin c Nazir b Afridi	17
A. Flower c Nazir b Afridi	16
Viljoen run out (Younis)	5
Whittall b Akram	31
Straik c Moin b Akram	1
Niaz c Youhana b Waqar	1
Murphy not out	1
Brent not out	23
Extras: (b-9; lb-2; w-9; nb-3)	4
Total: (For 5 wks in 50 overs)	199
Fall of wickets: 1-59, 2-61, 3-100, 4-108, 5-118, 6-151, 7-188, 8-191, 9-195.	

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Waqar	7	0	26	1
Akram	8	0	31	2
Razzaq	9	0	40	1
Arshad	10	3	26	1
Mushtaq	10	1	30	1
Afridi	6	0	35	2

PAKISTAN

Nazir c Carlisle b Johnson	6
Afridi c Johnson b Viljoen	60
Younis lbw b Straik	6
Inzamam c Nkala b Viljoen	32
Youhana run out (Johnson)	21
Moin not out	25
Razzaq not out	28
Extras: (lb-1; w-10; nb-2)	13
Total: (For 5 wks in 47.1 overs)	200
Did not bat: Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Arshad Khan, Mohammad Akram	
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-41, 3-109, 4-136, 5-153.	

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Straik	9	0	33	1
Johnson	3	0	23	1
Brent	7	0	29	0
Nkala	3	0	24	0
Murphy	10	0	30	0
Viljoen	10	1	30	2
G. Flower	6	1	30	0

Result: Pakistan won by five wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Shahid Afridi.

Next match: Pakistan vs West Indies, Kingstown, April 12.

POINTSTABLE

Standings in the triangular limited-overs international cricket series in the West Indies after match played on Wednesday (played, won, drawn, lost, points):

India	2	2	0	4
Pakistan	1	1	0	2
Zimbabwe	3	0	3	0



Pakistani players gather after the fall of a Zimbabwe wicket during their one-day international in the tri-series at St John's in Antigua on April 5.

— Internet photo

County scene starts anew



LONDON, Apr 6 (AFP): The start of a new era in English county cricket begins on Friday with promotion and relegation introduced to the Championship for the first time, coinciding with an influx of some of the world's top players.

The hard-championship spectators will be able to see the talents of Australia's Shane Warne and Glenn McGrath and Pakistan's Shoaib Akhtar for the first time in county cricket.

With tough penalties being introduced for sub-standard pitches and a loan system for English qualified players under the age of 25 unable to gain a regular first-team place, it adds up to a fascinating new season.

Derbyshire will remain an unknown quantity following their relegation into the Championship's Second Division.

They have lost the vast experience of Phil DeFreitas but have replaced him with Warwickshire's Tim Munton. Australian batsman Michael Di Venuto, recruited after a successful season with Sussex last year, takes over from Australian Michael Slater as their overseas player.

Securing Durham's status in the championship's top division will be David Boon's legacy in his final season. But the challenge of keeping them there passes among others to the Tasmanian's overseas replacement Simon Katich, who has been recruited from Western Australia to add some Australian guile to their challenge.

Essex's ability to bounce back from a thoroughly disappointing season last summer will depend on whether they can overcome the loss of Nasser Hussain, who will be absent for most of the year on England duty.

Glamorgan's recruitment of left-handed Australian opener Matthew Elliott as their new overseas player and Jeff Hammond — who established an excellent reputation at both South Australia and Eastern Province in South Africa — as their overseas

coach, should help overcome the loss of Jacques Kallis and Duncan Fletcher.

Gloucestershire could find it difficult to hit the one-day heights of last season when they won both knockout trophies yet won only two championship matches all last summer. Australian all-rounder Ian Harvey returns this summer and they will need a greater contribution from him in the first-class game.

The Shane Warne factor should not be underestimated both on and off the pitch, and if he can work his magic in Southampton, Hampshire could be a good bet to land their first silverware in eight years.

The addition of left-arm seamer Alan Mullally should help their pace bowling resources.

Kent chose India's Rahul Dravid, one of the finest players of spin in the world, as their overseas player to replace Australian all-rounder Andrew Symonds.

Lancashire's decision to go for Indian batsman Sourav Ganguly, their first batting overseas player since Clive Lloyd, make Lancashire an unknown quantity, despite last year's runners-up spot in the championship for the second successive season.

Leicestershire are another county disrupted by the comings and goings during the close season, with both Mullally and Paul Nixon moving on. They have responded by bringing back veteran all-rounder DeFreitas and Kent batsman Trevor Ward, while Indian spinner Anil Kumble will add class to their attack.

Mark Ramprakash's decision to stand down from the captaincy should help provide a little more continuity for Middlesex, especially because he is likely to be absent most of the summer with England. Middlesex have opted for Australian Justin Langer to replace him.

Two of their youngest talents will carry the hopes of a Northamptonshire revival on their shoulders, with off-spinning all-rounder Graeme

Swann and batsman David Sales both appearing to have bright futures.

Notts have scoured the world and other counties to strengthen their squad and introduced seamer Andy Harris and David Mills to supplement the talents of Pakistan's Akhtar, who is unlikely to arrive until May. Captain Jason Gallian also has Darren Bicknell and John Morris to strengthen his batting line-up, and in Paul Franks possess one of the most talented young all-rounders in the country.

How Somerset overcome the loss of Andrew Caddick to England after he has claimed 176 championship wickets in the last two seasons will be the main dilemma occupying coach Dermot Reeve this season.

Surrey, deserved champions for the first time in 28 years last summer, should be among the front-runners again this time having lost only Alec Stewart to the England set-up.

Having made significant progress under Chris Adams' captaincy and secured the talents of Australian all-rounder Michael Bevan for the coming season, Sussex should be in the running for at least one of the one-day trophies. Condemned to the second division on the final day of last season, Warwickshire, the team of the early 1990s may struggle to recapture their place in the championship's top division. South African Allan Donald can be relied upon to take his share of wickets, fitness permitting, but a vast improvement is needed in the batting if they are to mount a challenge for silverware.

Worcestershire are another county likely to suffer with England's central contracts capturing captain Graeme Hick, depriving them of his consistent run-making. Steve Rhodes is vice-captain and will deputise in Hick's absence but will at least have the vast talent of Glenn McGrath to call upon.

TV Guide

Friday 7th April

(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

BBC

6:00 BBC World News 6:30 Talking Movies (Presenter: Tom Brook) 7:00 BBC World News & Asia Today Inc World Business 9:00 World News 9:30 HardTalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 Click Online (Presenter: Stephen Cole) 11:30 Panorama 12:00 World News 12:30 Moneywise (Presenter: Sucharita Ghosh) 1:00 World News 1:30 Top Gear 2:30 Panorama 3:30 HardTalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 Talking Movies (Presenter: Tom Brook) 5:00 BBC World News 5:30 BBC World News 6:00 Moneywise (Presenter: Sucharita Ghosh) 7:00 BBC World News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 Talking Movies (Presenter: Tom Brook) 8:30 HardTalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian) 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Asia Today 10:15 World Business Report 10:30 World Living: Question Time India (Presenter: Dr. Pran Roy) 11:00 World News 11:35 World Business Report 11:45 World Sport 12:30 HardTalk (Presenter: Tim Sebastian)

CHANNEL V

7:30 [V] Hit Machine 9:30 Virtual [V] 10:00 [V] Hit Machine 12:30 [V] Jungle Jukebox 1:00 [V] First Day First Show 1:30 [V] Line Lagoo 2:00 [V] Hit Machine 2:30 [V] Hit Machine 3:00 [V] Hit Machine 3:30 [V] Launch Pad 4:00 [V] Hit Machine 4:30 Tea With [V] (Back To Back Vids) 5:00 Virtual [V] / Tea With [V] (Back To Back Vids) 5:30 Tea With [V] (Back To Back Vids) 6:00 [V] Style Police 6:30 Tea With [V] (Back To Back Vids) 7:00 [V] Line Lagoo 7:30 [V] Hit Machine 8:30 [V] The Ticket 9:00 [V] Jungle Jukebox 9:30 [V] First Day First Show 10:00 [V] Hit Machine 10:30 [V] Late Night 11:30 [V] Late Night 12:30 [V] Hit Machine

STAR PLUS

6:30 Ninnad 7:30 Good Morning India (News, Business & Entertainment)

tainment News) 9:15 The Trial Show — Film Trailer 9:30 TVC Shopping 10:00 Good Morning India — Rpt. (News, Business & Entertainment news) 12:00 Shock TV! 12:30 TVC Shopping 1:00 Film Based: Hit Ya Fit 1:30 Daily Sope: Saahil 2:00 Zindagi. Com 2:30 Daily Sope: Swabhimani 3:00 Antaraal 3:30 Friday Tea Time Cinema: Aapas Ki Baat (Rajesh Khanna, Poonam Dhillon) 6:30 Daily Sope: Maal Hai To Taal Hai 7:00 Film Based: Hit Ya Fit 7:30 STAR News (Hindi) 8:00 Kuchha Paapad Pucca Paapad 8:30 Zara Hai Zara Bach Ke 9:00 Dhund 9:30 STAR News (English) 10:00 Muster Card: Family Fortune 10:30 Star Talk 11:00 Aaj Ki Baat 11:30 Kabhie Kabhie 12:00 Star News 12:30 Daily Sope: Swabhimani 1:00 Daily Sope: Sansar 1:30 Aaj Ki Baat 2:00 Daily Sope: Maal Hai To Taal Hai 2:30 Aur Phir Ek Din (Kiron Kumar, Soni Razdan) 3:00 Pal Chinn (* Manohar Singh, Prabha Singh, Arun Govil, Gaurang Singh, Silpa Tuladkar) 3:30 Movie: Family Fortune 4:00 STAR Talk 4:30 Kabhie Kabhie 5:00 Ninnad 6:00 Kuchha Paapad Pucca Paapad

STAR WORLD

6:30 Hollywood Squares 7:00 Martin Short Show 8:00 Home Improvement 8:30 Happy Days 9:00 Series: Walker Texas Ranger 10:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 11:00 World's Wildest Police Video 1:00 Ooh La La 1:30 The Bold And The Beautiful 2:00 Martin Short Show 3:00 The New WKRP in Cincinnati 3:30 Happy Days 4:00 Hollywood Squares 4:30 Home Improvement 5:00 Star News Asia 5:05 Fox World Business Report 5:30 Daily Sope-Friends 6:00 Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman 6:55 Asian News Update (5 mins) 7:00 Strange Luck 8:00 Series: Murder Call 9:00 Daily Sope-Friends Ep-The Princess Leia Fantasy (Jennifer Aniston, Courtney Cox, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlane, Matthew Perry, David Schwimmer) 9:30 Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman 10:30 Strange Luck 11:30 Series: The Simpsons Ep-The Secret War 12:00 3rd Rock From The Sun 12:30 Daily Sope-Friends Ep-The Princess Leia Fantasy (Jennifer Aniston, Courtney Cox, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlane, Matthew Perry, David Schwimmer) 1:00 Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman 2:00 Strange Luck 3:00

Jerry Savile Ministry 3:30 Exalted Word 4:00 Series: Creflo Dollar, Changing Your World 4:30 Sky World News 5:00 Lasseie 5:30 Kid Says The Darndest Things 6:00 Batman

STAR MOVIES

7:30 Family: Big Green (*Olivia D'Abbo, Steve Gutterberg, Jay O. Sanders, Patrick Renna) 9:30 Thriller: Love Thy Neighbour (12) 11:30 Comedy: To Much Trouble (15) 1:15 Romance: A Life Less Ordinary (*Ewan McGregor, Cameron Diaz, Holly Hunter, Dan Hedaya) 1:15 Action: Crimson Tide (PG) 3:15 Thriller: Poison Ivy (15) 7:15 Drama: What's Eating Gilbert Grape? (*Johnny Depp, Leonardo DiCaprio, Juliette Lewis) (15) 9:30 Bhaskar Ghosh Show 10:00 Friday Night-All Stars: Fled (15) 12:00 Friday Fury: One Armed Boxer 2:00 Action: Mortal Combat-2 (15)

PTV-2

8:00 Tilawat Aur Tarjuma/Hamid Naat 8:20 Bolay Haath 8:35 Sada-e-Kashmir 9:10 Dastarkhwaan 9:35 Karb (Serial) 11:00 Aap Ke Farmatosh Pop 11:30 Fakir-E-Alam Game Show 12:30 Sports Prog 2:02 Bismillah 2:15 Fehm-Ul-Quran 2:40 Natak Rang 3:25 Ek Raat Ek Kahani 4:40 Sehat Aur Sukoon 5:25 Biology for 10th 5:55 Uffag 6:25 Aloo Course 7:20 Full House 7:45 English News 8:10 Fun Time Poppet Show 8:30 Tiffin 8:45 Paal Do Paal (Serial) 9:00 Break for Headlines News 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News 10:35 Lollywood Top Ten Countdown Film Music 11:35 Serial: Pinjira 12:00 Friday Night Classic Cinema & Khas Khabrain/Close Down

ZEE INDIA TV

7:30 Zee News: Hindi 8:00 Zee Morning Show 8:30 News In English 9:00 News Outlook 7:00 Business News 7:30 Zee News: Hindi 8:30 Business News 9:00 News in English 10:00 Zee Prime Time Show 11:30 News in English 12:00 Business News 12:30 Am to 06:30 AM Every Half Hour — Zee News: Hindi

MTV INDIA

8:00 MTV Classic VJ Sarah / Rahul 9:00 MTV Non-Stop Hits 11:00 MTV Most Wanted VJ Shehnaz 12:00 MTV Non-Stop Hits 12:30 MTV Hit Film Music 1:00 MTV Houseful V Nafisa 1:30 MTV Cinemascope 2:30 MTV Non-Stop Hits 3:30 MTV Love Line VJ Nafisa 4:00 MTV Bakra 4:30 MTV Select VJ Nikhil 5:30 MTV Most Wanted VJ Shehnaz 6:30 MTV Chill Out VJ Cyrus/Asif/Nikhil 7:30 MTV Kenwood Hit List 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 MTV House Full VJ Nafisa 10:30 MTV Non-Stop Hits 11:00 MTV Lovelife 11:30 The Grind 12:00 MTV Chill Out VJ Cyrus/Asif/Nikhil 1:00 MTV Non-Stop Hits

MUSIC ASIA

7:30 Aalaap 8:00 Ta Ra Rum 9:00 Brake Fall 10:00 Rangeen Tarane 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Colgate Zig Zag Best Of The Day 11:30 Ponds All Time Romantic Hits 12:00 Bajaj Music Box 12:30 Saare Ga Ma Classic 1:00 Himani Gold T. Jharokha 2:00 Super Vasmol Old Is Gold 2:30 Dail M 3:30 Brake Fall 4:30 Bajaj Music Box 5:00 Jhakaas 5:30 Hit Mix 6:00 Saare Ga Ma Classic 7:00 Ponds All Time Romantic Hits 7:30 Total Recall 8:00 Disco Mein Kisco 8:30 Music Asia Live 9:00 First Take/ Next Gen 9:30 Bajaj Music Box 10:00 Sizzlers 10:30 Himani Gold T. Jharokha 11:00 Dil Se 11:30 Shabab 12:00 Brake Fall 1:00 Colgate Zig Zag Best Of The Day 1:30 Himani Gold T. Jharokha 2:00 Bajaj Music Box 2:30 Disco Mein Kisco 3:00 Ta Ra Rum 3:30 Music Zone 4:30 Brake Fall 5:30 Total Recall 6:00 Sizzlers

DD7 BANGLA

10:25 Janmadin 10:35 Daily Sope: Shree Ram Krishna 11:00 Daily Sope: Dropadi 11:15 Classical/Folk Songs 11:30 Parliament Hour/ Musical 12:30 Daily Sope: Kunja Villa 1:00 Daily Sope: Aakash Chaoa 1:30 Daily Sope: Rupkatha 2:00 Daily Sope: Kanakanjali 2:30 Daily Sope: Shree Ram Krishna 3:00 Daily Sope: Maha Prabhu 3:30 Daily Sope: Mohini 3:55 Daily Soap: Bhul Thikanay

4:20 Nepali Prog 5:05 Drama 5:30 News 5:40 Gaan 5:50 Palti Katha 6:10 Sopner Gaan 6:40 Khas Khabar 6:50 Jannabhum 7:30 Bangla Sambad 8:00 Pandit Mashti 8:30 East Backland Road (Serial) 9:00 Daily Sope: Jannabhum 9:30 Daily Sope: Dropadi 10:00 Khas Khabar 10:10 Bengali Movie

ZEE TV

6:00 Yaadon Ki Pal-B/W Songs 6:30 Zee News (Rept) 6:50 Jhalak-Trailor 7:30 Jagran 8:00 Guldasta 8:30 Zara Has Ke Hai Zindagi 9:00 Zara Has Ke Film Chakkar 9:30 Disney Hour (Cartoon) 10:30 Ek Nazar 11:00 Bajaj Super 7:00 Mahabla 1:30 O Daddi 12:00 Raahi 12:30 Khana Khazana 1:00 Bournvita Quiz Contest 1:30 Naye Nazare 2:00 Daily Sope-Hum Pauch 2:30 Saath Saath 3:00 Kartavya 3:30 Cinema Hits- HF Film: 6:30 Ek Nazar 7:00 Discovery Hour 8:00 Public Demand 8:25 Close Up Antakshri 9:00 Ashirwad 10:00 Tejaswini 10:30 Gadbad 11:00 Aangan 11:30 Kartavya 11:55 Jhalak 12:00 Haad Kar 12:30 Suspense Hour 1:00 A. Nichakha 2:00 Zee News 2:30 Zee Arabia 3:00 Hindi Feature Film:

DD METRO

7:00 Anhad 7:15 Bhakti Sagar 7:45 Subah Aaj Tak 8:30 Women At Work 9:00 The First Edition 9:30 Rang Birang Phool 10:00 Serial: Saba 10:30 Tele Shopping 11:00 Daily Sope: Naya 11:30 Flop Show 12:00 Tele Shopping 12:30 Geet Gata Chal 1:00 Baaje Payal 1:30 Serial: Khali Haath 2:00 Daawat: Cookery Show 2:30 Daily Sope- Bandhan 2:55 News in Urdu 3:00 Serial: Zindagi Is Pal Zindagi Us Pal 3:30 Hindi Cinema Show: 6:00 Defenders of Thr Earth 6: