

## Warne'd

MELBOURNE, Jan 12: Australian cricket's naughty boy Shane Warne was cautioned by police for throwing tennis balls back into the crowd during the opening one-day match of the summer here, police said Friday, reports AFP.

The incident occurred during Thursday's tedious, one-sided match in which some commentators said there was more action off the field than on it as the mercury soared, hitting 41 degrees Celsius at one stage.

Police Commander Leigh Gassner said an officer asked Warne to desist from throwing balls back into the crowd after they were hurled onto the turf of the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

It was Warne's first match after a long absence due to a broken finger, but he failed to take a wicket in a match in which Australia gave the West Indies a 74-run drubbing.

Police arrested 34 spectators, mainly for drunkenness, and evicted 186 people — almost three times the number of arrests and twice the number of evictions compared to the first one-day game last summer.

Few appeared to pay much attention to a plea for good behaviour by Australian vice-captain Adam Gilchrist.

Gassner said the high temperatures were a factor in the crowd behaviour.

"The hot weather and alcohol can tend to mix into a cocktail particularly when you're getting 41 degrees," he said.

He said the number of arrests and evictions was disappointing but it also showed police determination to crack down on unruly behaviour.

## Dev questioned by Madhavan

NEW DELHI, Jan 12 (Internet report): India's former captain Kapil Dev appeared before the national cricket board's match-fixing investigator on Wednesday and made some changes to statements he had given earlier to a federal agency, the inquiry official said.

"Kapil Dev made some additions, revealed a few new facts and made some minor amendments to what was mentioned in the government report," said K Madhavan, a former Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) joint director.

Madhavan declined to give exact details of his conversation with Dev.

Dev had been accused by former Test player Manoj Prabhakar of offering him money to perform below par during a one-day series in Sri Lanka. But he was exonerated by the CBI in its report on match-fixing released late last year.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had recently asked its anti-corruption investigator to question Dev and former India captain and coach Aji Wadekar as a follow-up to the CBI report. Madhavan met Wadekar on Monday.

Madhavan said he questioned Dev "in depth" about all the allegations against him and recorded his statements for almost four hours.

"Kapil was very helpful, communicative and cooperative and both of us were satisfied with the meeting," Madhavan said.

## Australia A abase Zim

BRISBANE, Jan 12: Australia's A side humiliated Zimbabwe in the tourists' opening Australian clash here Friday night, winning the one-day, day-night game by a massive 216-131 from 122 balls.

Queensland seam bowler Adam Dale had a picnic, claiming 4-31 and leaving the tourists in a daze just before they meet the West Indies here Saturday in their first match of the lucrative Carlton tri-nation one-day series.

The visitors will regain the services of key trio Andrew and Grant Flower and captain Heath Streak after they were rested from Friday's workout, but they still face a challenge to compete with the seemingly unstoppable Australian senior team whom they meet for the first time on January 21.

## Milo U-15

From page 13  
Rezamur 3/43  
Result: Rajshahi Titas won by 59 runs.

Metro Greens v Khulna Tiger Metro Greens: 164 all out in 45 overs (Arafat 59; Razul 5/37).

Khulna Tiger: 167 for 7 in 43.5 overs (Ripon 31; Iteza 2/24).

Result: Khulna Tiger won by 3 wickets.

## Azhar takes

From page 13  
being barred from the sport in December, Azharuddin asserted that he would challenge the ban in court.

"I am emphatic about my success in court which I am shortly approaching."

Besides Azharuddin, former Test player Manoj Prabhakar and stars Ajay Jadeja, Nayan Mongia and Ajay Sharma were handed various punishments for their role in bringing the game into disrepute.

## Can WI take a U-turn?



BRISBANE, Jan 12: West Indies' cricket captain Jimmy Adams showed signs of strain Friday as he fended off questions about his leadership in the wake of another inept display by his team against Australia, reports AFP.

The wobbly Windies — thrashed 5-0 by Australia in the just-completed Test series — stumbled to a 74-run loss to the home country at the Melbourne Cricket Ground Thursday night in the opening match of the summer's Carlton tri-nation one-day contest.

Batting second after Australia had compiled 267 for six, the West Indies grafted an unenterprising 16 runs of their first 11 overs and effectively killed the clash as a contest. They finished with 193 for seven from their 50 overs.

"Last night looked really bad," conceded Adams, who is at the mercy of his under-performing players, including the enigmatic Brian Lara, once regarded as the world's top batsman.

Players have a responsibility to accept roles that they are given and hopefully we won't have a repeat of last night for the rest of this series."

Today's match between West Indies and Zimbabwe will be shown live on ESPN from 9:30am (GST).

Adams said he did not con-

sider his leadership under threat despite the woeful Test results and the miserable early one-day form.

"It's not a case of me feeling the pressure," he said, rejecting suggestions the time had come to lay down the law to his players.

Unless Zimbabwe, who have been playing well, can at least be competitive against Australia, there are major concerns the triangular series could be a non-event costing the Australian Cricket Board vital revenue.

Twin losses by the Windies would see their spirits slump even lower. Despite the Windies' woes, Australian pace spearhead Glenn McGrath said Friday there would be no holding back.

"They're going through some tough times, but we won't be taking it easy on them," he said.

plot in the middle overs, while batting, as well," he said.

Improvement could be expected against Zimbabwe at the Gabba here Saturday and against Australia on the same ground Sunday.

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## TEAMS

WEST INDIES: Jimmy Adams (captain), Sherwin Campbell, Wavell Hinds, Brian Lara, Marlon Samuels, Ricardo Powell, Ridley Jacobs, Laurie Williams, Mahendra Nagamootoo, Nixon McLean, Cameroon Cuffy.

ZIMBABWE (from): Heath Streak (captain), Alastair Campbell, Stuart Carlisle, Andy Flower, Grant Flower, Trevor Friend, Angus Mackay, Trevor Madondo, Douglas Marillier, Bryan Murphy, Muleki Nkala, Henry Olonga, Gavin Rennie, Bryan Strang, Dirk Viljoen, Guy Whittall.

"I'm here to do a job in Australia and as far as the captaincy goes, we'll see what happens after that."

A number of factors had contributed to Thursday's below-par effort, in which at least five catches went to ground, he said.

"It's fair to say we had a poor outing in the field, we didn't back up the bowlers as well as we should have and we lost the

daughters as well as a host admirers to mourn his death.

His *namaj-e-janja* was held at Jimbukana ground after Juma prayers and was buried at Pikepara graveyard.

Selected for the All-India football team in 1946, Alauddin also toured South Africa in the same year.

During a chequered career spanning over 22 years, he played for football clubs AB Railway Sports Club, East Bengal Club, East Pakistan Gymkhana Club and East Bengal.

Alauddin won the National Sports Award for his services to the game in 1978.

## Alauddin no more

## Sports Reporter

Renowned footballer of the subcontinent and a member of the All-India football team, Alauddin Khan alias Mia Bhai, died at his Pikepara residence in Narayanganj on Thursday. He was 82.

Alauddin left behind his wife, three sons and six

daughters as well as a host admirers to mourn his death.

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Alauddin died in his sleep on Friday morning.

He was 82.

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