

Adnan

Table with columns: Adnan not out, Jackson b Suhan, Rustam lbw b Suhan, Yash b Shukri, Hashmi run out, Shayan lbw b Tamilarasan, Abbas b Vickneswaran, Riyami not out, Extras (b-2, lb-2, w-19), Total (for 8 wks in 45 overs), Fall of wickets: 1/11, 2/133, 3/187, 4/243, 5/302, 6/304, 7/309, 8/316.

Table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Includes Vickneswaran, Tamilarasan, Shukri, Azis, Mahyudin, Suhan, Arvindran, Rosman b Rustam, Zabir b Jackson, Azis c Gaurav b Jackson, Vickneswaran c & b Gaurav, Tamilarasan c Jackson b Yash, Suhan b Yash, Shukri run out, Saiful not out, Extras (b-6, lb-7, w-30), Total (for 7 wks in 45 overs), Fall of wickets: 1/5, 2/41, 3/62, 4/111, 5/118, 6/130, 7/189.

Man-of-the-match: Adnan Ilyas (Oman).

Mongia

FROM PAGE 13 John Wright. John spoke very highly of Hirwani, and even the selectors had a good look at him at the camp in Madras, he said. "He looks very keen and I am certain he will deliver."

Harbhajan, who made his debut against Australia in 1998, replaces his Punjab team-mate Sarandeep Singh, while Sanghvi was given the nod after his five-wicket haul against the tourists at Nagpur.

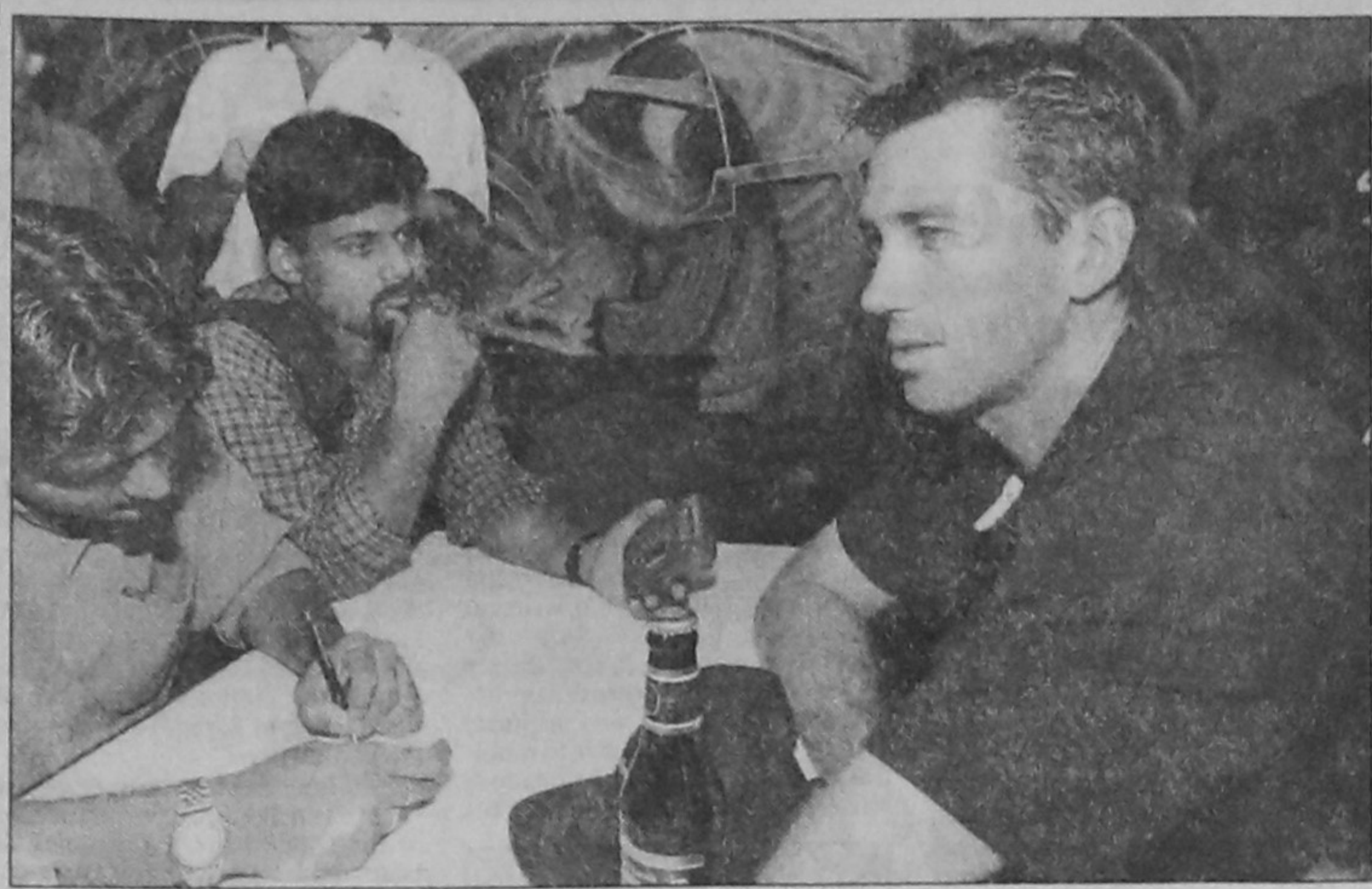
It, however, remains to be seen if Hirwani makes the final eleven as India, almost certain to play six specialist batsmen, attempt to find the right mix in the four-man bowling attack.

Borde said the team management will have a close look at the Wankhede wicket before deciding on whether to play two or three spinners.

Sachin Tendulkar and Ajit Agarkar, who were declared unfit to play for Mumbai against the tourists in the three-day match starting on Thursday, were named in the Test squad.

Australia, who have won a record 15 successive Test matches, are looking for their first series win on Indian soil in 31 years.

SQUAD Saurav Ganguly (captain), Sadagopan Ramesh, Shiv Das, Sachin Tendulkar, Rahul Dravid, Venkatesh Laxman, Hemang Badani, Javagal Srinath, Ajit Agarkar, Nayan Mongia (wicketkeeper), Narendra Hirwani, Harbhajan Singh, Rahul Sanghvi, Zaheer Khan.



Australia fast bowler Glenn McGrath speaks to reporters at a 'Meet the Press' session after the team arrived in Bombay from Nagpur yesterday. Australia meet Ranji Trophy champions Bombay in a three-day match starting February 22.

Buchanan not worried

Cricket

REUTERS, Nagpur

Australia have learnt vital lessons ahead of the Test series against India from their drawn three-day game in Nagpur, coach John Buchanan said.

Justin Langer hit a fluent 115 as Australia scored 365 for nine in their second innings as the game against India A finished in a time draw.

The tourists had been under pressure after struggling to 291 all out in their first innings while India A replied with 368.

Buchanan said: "I was a bit disappointed with the way we batted on the first day. But the last two days have been very fruitful and we've gained a lot from this match going into the Test series."

The visitors recovered through a six-wicket haul by off-spinner Colin Miller and a fluent century by Justin Langer which helped them reach 365 for nine in their second innings.

Buchanan told reporters that most of his players spent a fair amount of time at the wicket and there was a positive feeling in the dressing room.

"It's all a case of adjusting to pace of the pitch. Once you get in, you have to stay there and pile up a big score. The players are identifying their key shots in these conditions, which was visible in the second innings."

Indian pitches are largely slow and afford low bounce unlike Australia, where the wickets are hard and bouncy.

Buchanan said the second in-

nings showed the batsmen had begun to adapt to Indian conditions. "It shows most of the early faults have been identified and corrected."

He hinted the 37-year-old Miller could get the nod for the first test starting in Bombay on February 27 after returning six for

paid off. "I knew the conditions would be different from what I'm used to in Australia, so I decided to try and spend some time at the wicket and build a foundation for myself," he said.

"The key to playing on these wickets is being patient early on and adjusting to the pace. After that batting becomes a lot easier," he said.

Langer scored just six off the first 52 balls he faced but slammed some delightful boundaries and two towering sixes once he grew in confidence to reach his century in 139 balls.

The batsman said he had worked hard since his team's 5-0 sweep of West Indies in the test series last month and was fitter and playing better now.

"I personally did not have a brilliant series against the West Indies, so I needed to put some work in. But this knock here has given me a lot of confidence ahead of the tests."

Langer was engaged in an on-field argument on Monday with leg spinner Balaji Rao, whom he punished with a series of brilliant shots.

Balaji Rao earlier exchanged a few words with Australian captain Steve Waugh after dismissing him for 11.

"I was disappointed the leg spinner showed the Australian captain such little regard on his dismissal," Langer said.

"I was just telling him it was just a game and he should have a few laughs because I think he was getting a bit too serious out there in the middle."

Meanwhile, Ganguly's wife, Dona, has moved into her mother's house. Dona was not prepared to give much of a reaction, merely saying: "Ask them."

The claim made by Ganguly's father, that the photograph is a fraud, is not convincing, as Ganguly and Nagma were seen by hundreds of locals at the temple.

Saurav's father, Chandidas Ganguly, denies that there was ever such an incident. He claims that the photograph is "a clever work of manipulation. Saurav's face seems to have been superimposed."

Saurav neither confirmed nor denied the incident, but did state that he might take legal action against the newspapers concerned.

John Buchanan. He's performed very well for us every time he's come on to bowl, be it a test match or here in our first match in India. He's certainly thrown his name forward for a possible test selection.

He also praised tailenders Michael Kasprovicz and Jason Gillespie for their 155-run eighth wicket stand that rescued Australia in the first innings and left-hander Langer for his sparkling 115 earlier in the day.

Langer said it was patience that

has rocked Singapore's football league was himself charged in court Tuesday, a report said.

Sivakumar Madasamy, 28, faces six counts of corruption charges and two more counts for giving false information to the investigators, the Straits Times reported in its online edition.

He was the star witness into a probe that led to the conviction of two foreign players for match fixing in the Singapore league.

The freelance golf instructor allegedly made six deals with the pair in June and July last year to influence match results. He is now free on a 10,000 Singapore dollar (5,747 US) bail.

Last month, German footballer Lutz Pfannenstiel was jailed for five months for accepting 10,000 Singapore dollars in bribes to rig three S-league matches in Singapore.

The former Geylang United goalkeeper joined his flatmate Mirko Jurilj, an Australian, who was jailed in December on similar charges.

Madasamy had testified that he offered to place bets on behalf of both Pfannenstiel and Jurilj and they could collect any winnings.

He said he outlayed 22,000 dollars in three bets for Jurilj, but the money was lost when the results did not go as planned.

Jurilj, who played for Sem-

Int'l junior tennis

BSS, Dhaka

Sunil Kumar and Vinod Kumar Sewa of India. Hyun Joon Suk of South Korea and Chang Kai Lung of Chinese Taipei reached the semifinals of boys' singles in the 15th Bangladesh International Junior Tennis Championships at the National Tennis Complex here yesterday.

Sunil beat his compatriot Rohan Gajjar 6-4, 6-3; Vinod Sewa defeated Jong Guk Ho of South Korea 6-4, 6-0; Hyun Joon Suk overwhelmed Gusti Putu of Indonesia 6-4, 7-5 and Chang Kai Lung outplayed Seong Kwan Kim of South Korea 6-0, 6-0 in the quarterfinals.

Sunil will take on Hyun and Chang face Vinod in the semifinals today.

In the girls' singles Sania Mirza of India, Kim So Jung and Chui Yoon Hee of South Korea and Chen Yi of Taipei moved into the semifinals.

Sania crushed Wan Ting Wen of Taipei 6-1, 6-3; Kim So Jung eliminated Rebecca Dandenya of England 6-2, 6-1; Chui Yoon Hee beat Maya Rosa 3-6, 6-4, 6-3 and Chen Yi defeated Boda Nisehela Reddy of India 6-2, 6-0 in the quarterfinals.

Sania will meet Kim So Jung and Chui Yoon Hee will play Chen Yi in the semifinals today.

Besides, four quarterfinals of boys' doubles were held on the day.

Saurav in a stew

INTERNET, Mumbai

India cricket captain Saurav Ganguly has become embroiled in a controversy involving an Indian actress, leading to threats of legal action against newspapers. A report in thehaka says that Ganguly was seen visiting a SriKalahasti temple in Chittoor district, accompanied by the actress, Nagma.

Ganguly refused to be drawn into a conversation on the issue, saying only: "I will talk to you once I reach Kolkata."

There have been new reports suggesting a romantic link between Ganguly and Nagma. Rumours are further fuelled because the temple is often visited by soon-to-be couples.

Saurav's father, Chandidas Ganguly, denies that there was ever such an incident. He claims that the photograph is "a clever work of manipulation. Saurav's face seems to have been superimposed."

Saurav neither confirmed nor denied the incident, but did state that he might take legal action against the newspapers concerned.

Meanwhile, Ganguly's wife, Dona, has moved into her mother's house. Dona was not prepared to give much of a reaction, merely saying: "Ask them."

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Bangladesh

FROM PAGE 13

Nazmul Haque while Shamim Khan, Brigadier Jahangir Kabir, Brigadier A Azem and Mrs E H Lee captured third position.

The lowest round of the day was 69 by Rohtas.

The main event commences today with 79 professional golfers and a select group amateur players battling it over 72-holes in four rounds for prize money worth 25,000 dollars.



MAN-OF-THE-MATCH: New Zealand paceman Daryl Tuffey (2nd from R) is being congratulated by teammates after he effected the run out of Inzamamul Haq in the second one-day international in Napier yesterday.

Beijing ready

REUTERS, Beijing

With Tiananmen Square largely sealed off to thwart possible protests, Beijing has rolled out the red carpet on Tuesday for members of a team inspecting the city's bid to host the 2008 Olympics.

"We are ready," Mayor Liu Qi told delegates of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) inspection team on their arrival at dawn.

IOC delegation chief Henk Verbruggen said his group was "absolutely overwhelmed" by the reception and made it clear it was not the group's job to evaluate China's human rights record, which could undermine Beijing's bid for the Games.

"The executive committee has taken the decision that this is a purely sport and technical evaluation committee and any kind of political considerations are left up to the individual members of the IOC," he told Reuters.

But the city was taking no chances, closing off the main section of Tiananmen Square, where five members of the banned Falun Gong spiritual group set fire to themselves in a group suicide attempt last month.

Police flanking the plaza on Tuesday refused to say why the popular tourist site -- a five-minute walk from the hotel where the IOC delegation was staying -- was closed off.

Beijing has worked round the clock to prepare for the 17-member IOC delegation, which will inspect the city from Wednesday to Saturday in a survey that will help the IOC choose from among five candidates in a vote in Moscow on July 13.

China, making its second bid after just losing out to Sydney for the 2000 Games, believes its status as the world's most populous

nation and the strength of state and popular backing give it an edge over Osaka, Toronto, Paris and Istanbul.

Hosting the Olympics is "not only the aspiration of Beijingers, but also that of China's 1.3 billion people", the official China Daily declared in an editorial.

State media have highlighted an opinion poll showing that 94.9 per cent of Beijing's population wants the Games.

Vice Mayor Liu Jingmin told a news conference on Tuesday there was no possibility the inspection team would be kept away from opponents of the bid.

"We will try our utmost to create opportunities for contact with people with divergent views and not work to obstruct such communication," Liu said.

Verbruggen said his team was willing to talk to any "legitimate opposition groups related to the bid" if they asked to meet, but declined to say whether it had received any such requests.

IOC delegates spent Tuesday in meetings in the basement of their hotel in an area off limits to outsiders, where they will eat most meals and spend the majority of their spare time.

Beijing is still widely regarded as the frontrunner for the 2008 Games, helped by a haul of 28 gold medals at last year's Sydney Olympics and a high-profile anti-doping campaign. Asia has hosted the Games only twice, in Tokyo in 1964 and Seoul in 1988.

But China has struggled to keep the focus off its human rights record, one reason why Beijing lost its bid for the 2000 Olympics.

Mayor Liu, president of Beijing's bid committee, made a strong plea on Sunday for the IOC and the media to judge Beijing only on its sporting credentials and organisational skills.

China was "firmly opposed to any attempts to foil Beijing's bid on the excuse of human rights", he said.

But Beijing's bid, always shadowed by the 1989 massacre of pro-democracy protesters, is contending with a steady flow of images of police kicking and punching protesting members of the outlawed Falun Gong spiritual movement in Tiananmen Square.

Beijing saw a grim example of the kind of incident that could mar the IOC tour last week, when a man the government said was a Falun Gong adherent burned himself to death.

Human rights activists and aggrieved groups in China have urged the IOC to use its influence with Beijing to win freedom for political prisoners and a halt to harsh Chinese policies.

To counter China's assertion that politics and sports must not be mixed, activists cite the IOC code of ethics which enshrines the dignity of the individual.

The London-based Free Tibet Campaign said in a statement the Games were an "inappropriate reward" for China's 50-year occupation of the Himalayan region. It suggested Tibetan monks had been pressed to sign petitions backing Beijing's bid.

Human Rights in China warned the IOC in a public letter to watch for China's use of its decades-old "custody and repatriation" system to clear streets of beggars, street children and the homeless and detain them without due legal process.

"It is a virtual certainty that if Beijing hosts the Games and this system remains unchanged, large numbers of innocent people will be detained prior to the opening ceremonies," the New York-based watchdog group said.

Kuwait defeat Singapore

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Kuwait recorded their maiden victory in the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup. They defeated Singapore by four wickets in their last Group B match at the number one ground in BKSP yesterday.

Chasing a moderate Singapore total of 175 in 45 overs, middle-order batsman Ajesh Mathew scored an undefeated 51 as Kuwait reached 178 in 30.2 overs.

Opener Arnab (33) and lower-order Harmeet (28) were the other notable run-getters for Kuwait.

Earlier, put into bat, Singapore could muster 175 for nine in the stipulated 45 overs with middle-order Peter top-scoring with 39.

Kuwait finished fourth with two points. On the other hand Singapore collected no points.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard of the GrameenPhone

Under-17 Asia Cup match between Kuwait and Singapore at the number one ground in BKSP yesterday:

KUWAIT Arnab c Anand b Maxim 33

Karam c Tanik b Maxim 8

Siam b Ifekhar 1

Ajesh not out 5

Hamza c Eric b Muruthi 27

Adil c Tanik b Zeeshan 4

Harmeet c Zeeshan b Maxim 28

Abdul not out 5

Extras (w-21) 21

Total: (for 6 wks in 30.2 overs) 178

Fall of wickets: 1/26, 2/43, 3/55, 4/102, 5/114, 6/162

Bowler O M R W

Maxim 8 0 41 3

Daniel 3 0 22 0

Ifekhar 4.2 0 44 1

Zeeshan 6 0 39 1

Peter 7 2 19 1

Tanik 2 0 13 0

Result: Kuwait won by four wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Ajesh Mathew (Kuwait).

New Zealand draw level

FROM PAGE 13

secutive bouncers at Fleming, both no balls, and conceded 16 off his first over before suffering the injury.

Fleming and Astle cruised to their 50 partnership off just 55 balls but Astle departed soon afterwards off an edge to Akram.

Three overs later Roger Twose continued his average run when Razaq had him caught behind for five but New Zealand looked comfortably set at 66 for three after 15 overs.

The jitters didn't go away though, with McMillan dropped at square leg by Youhana on four.

Fleming reflected on a welcome change of fortune for his side, who lost the first match in Auckland on Sunday after suffering a 1-4 series loss to Sri Lanka.

NEW ZEALAND Parore c Farhat b Akram 0

Astle c Inzamam b Akram 20

Fleming c Youhana b Younis 28

Twose c Moin b Razaq 5

McMillan not out 31

Youhana c Fleming b Vettori 9

Vincent not out 33

Afridi c Astle b Harris 19

Moin c Fleming b Tuffey 1

Akram c Franklin b Vettori 8

Saqlain run out 10

Younis not out 22

Akhtar b Tuffey 3

Extras (lb-6, w-3, nb-3) 13

Total: (All out in 50 overs) 135

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-14, 3-21, 4-47, 5-60, 6-63, 7-79, 8-96, 9-121

Bowler O M R W

Tuffey 10 0 24 4

Martin 10 1 37 1

Franklin 10 1 27 0

Vettori 10 1 29 2

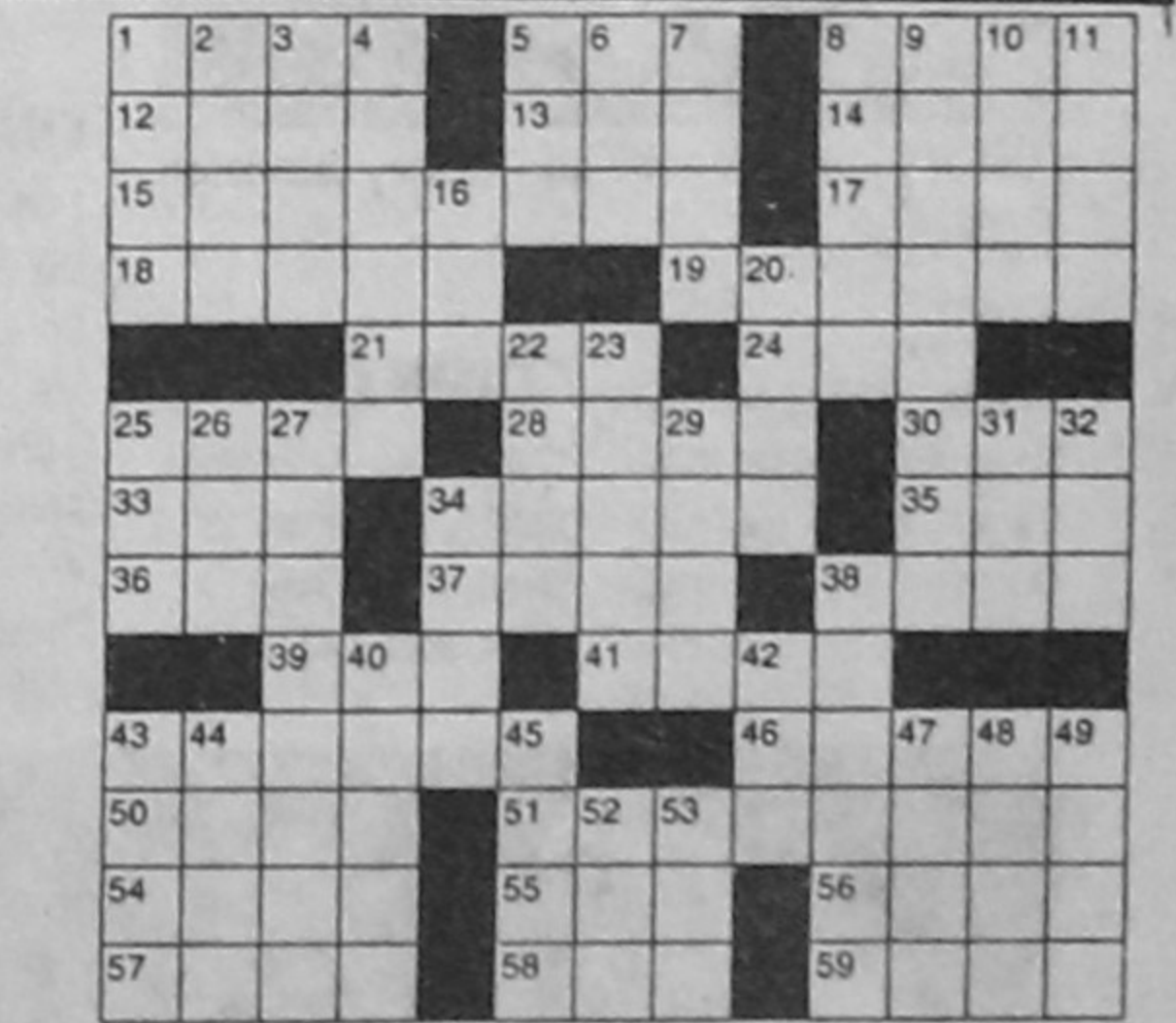
Harris 10 2 12 1

Result: New Zealand won by six wickets and levelled the series at 1-1.

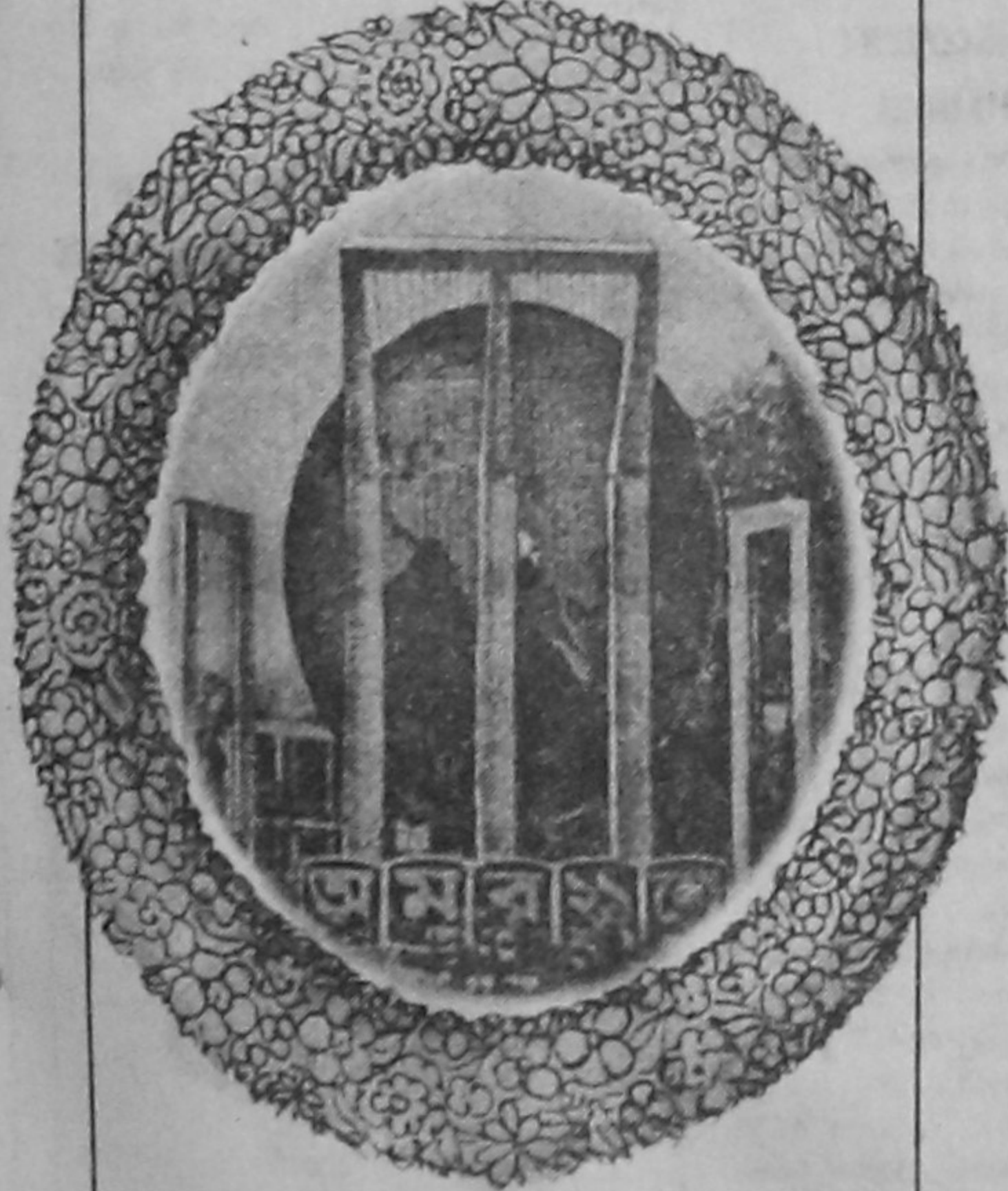
Man-of-the-match: Daryl Tuffey.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Old woman's pet 5 As well as together 12 Speedy steed 13 "Give break!" 14 Jump 15 Over-simplify 17 Re planes 18 Stick in the mud 19 Shelled gastropod 21 Calendar quota 24 Affirmative action? 25 Cushions 28 Unlit 30 German pronoun 33 Honshu wrap-around 34 Labyrinth 35 Old French coin 36 Writer's tool 37 Press agent?



CRYPTOQUIP Q Z J C Q J L W O C J T B W L L Z J M F Y Z L E B W O T S T Y J C J O S M M R M F H J T L B E S R. "LZSCHE S QSLLI" Yesterday's Cryptoquip: OF COURSE RAISING LITTLE GOATS ISN'T ALL THAT DIFFICULT: I THINK IT'S KID STUFF! Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals L



বাংলাদেশ কৃষি ব্যাংক গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশের সরকারী