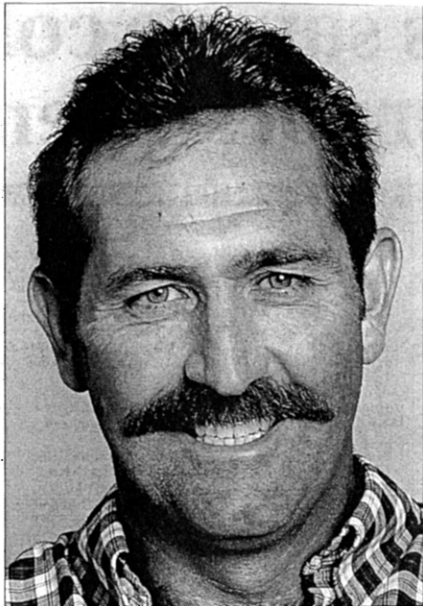


Head before wicket: cricketer's receding hairline



Cover drive: Gooch after a Russian hair transplant

## Gooch resorts to a little bald tampering

A REJUVENATED batsman called Graham Gooch offered himself for selection to the England cricket team yesterday, writes David Millward.

He bore a resemblance to the former England captain. There was the same luxuriant moustache and the same Essex vowels but, where the veteran of 118 Tests had displayed a rapidly-advancing forehead, there was hair. A lot of it.

This hair was not raised on the fringes of east London. It started life

somewhere in Russia, was sold to a middleman and finally, thanks to a £3,000 graft, appeared on the head of the 42-year-old cricketer.

The former England captain is being paid an undisclosed amount by Advanced Hair Studio to display his transplant around the country.

Gooch's Russian hair will be making personal appearances in Bromley, Reading, Birmingham, Manchester and Leeds over the next seven days.

In his case — at least judging by the

publicity photographs — Gooch not only got a new head of hair but an equally splendid set of teeth.

Traditionally one of the less media-friendly England captains, Gooch yesterday displayed a nice line in self-deprecating wit.

"If my hair starts going grey, I will keep it that way. If it gets really grey, I might become chairman of the England selectors." He even talked of a Test recall. "They picked John Emburey, and he is even older than I am."