

Pak club side due tomorrow

Sports Reporter A seventeen-member Karachi Airport Gymkhana cricket team, including two officials, will arrive in Dhaka on March 29, Monday to play five matches in and outside Dhaka from March 30 to April 6.

According to the players' list given by the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) yesterday, Rashid Khan, the former Pakistani Test pace bowler will lead the side. Rizwan-uz-Zaman, another Test veteran who had a rather undistinguished stint in the international arena, is also there in the team.

The full squad is: Rashid Khan, Rizwan-uz-Zaman, Zahid Ahmed, Asif Mohammad, Jafar Ahmed, Kaisar Rashid, Mohammad Javed, Parvez-ul-Hassan, Shahabuddin, Sajid Riaz, Tahir Nissar, Mohammad Ashraf, Omar Masud, Zulfiqar and Shabir Gangat. M Saitmullah and Si Haidar are the two officials accompanying the team.

The visitors will play their first match against Mohammedan Sporting Club, the runners-up of just-concluded 1992-93 the local league cricket on March 30 at the Dhaka Stadium.

The Pakistani club side will then go to Sylhet to play the second of the five limited over matches against the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board President's Eleven on April 1. The local side will be led by Faruque Ahmed, a national player who plays for league champions Abahani Krira Chakra.

The other members of the BCCB President's Eleven are Nurul Abedin Nobel, Harun-ur-Rashid Liton, Athar Ali Khan, Sanwar Hossain, Habibul Bahar Suman, Azhar Hossain Shantoo, Debashis Barua, Asif Omar Belim, Golam Nawshar Prince, Jahangir Alam, Joydev Basak, Javed Omar Belim Golla and Naimur Rahman Durjoy.

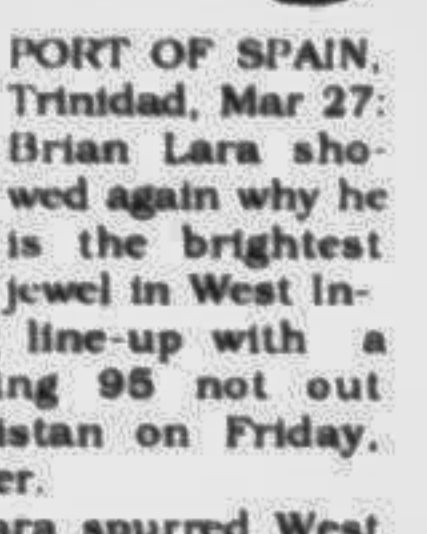
Abahani Krira Chakra will take on the touring team at the Dhaka Stadium on April 2. Gymkhana will play the BCCB Under-25 selection in Khulna on April 4. Aminul Islam Bubul, Mohammedan's national cricketer, will lead the local youngsters. The other 13 players of the squad announced by the BCCB are: Jahangir Alam, Sajjad Ahmed Shipon, Akram Khan, Khaled Mahmud Sajon, Shetkh Sahaluddin, Al-Shahriar, Khaled Masud, Sharfuddinowia Ibn Shaheed Saikat, Saiful Islam, Zakir Hassan, Naimur Rashid, Mizanur Rahman and Sajid Hassan.

The visitors' last match is scheduled on April 6 with a Navana Eleven — a medley of local and foreign players who played in the Navana Premier Division league.

Booters in Qatar

Sports Reporter A 22-member Bangladesh football team left Dhaka for Doha on March 25, Thursday, to play an exhibition match scheduled for yesterday.

Windies prove too good for Pakistan Lara again calls the shots



PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Mar 27: Brian Lara showed again why he is the brightest jewel in West Indies batting line-up with a match-winning 96 not out against Pakistan on Friday, reports Reuter.

Opener Lara spurred West Indies to a five-wicket victory in the rain-affected second one-day international at Queen's Park Oval.

Lara, who hit a brilliant century in guiding his team to a four-wicket win in the first one-day game on Tuesday, slammed 10-fours in his innings of 106 balls.

West Indies, whose victory was their ninth in the last 10 limited overs matches against Pakistan, scored 196 for five in 41 overs after their opponents made 194 for seven in their 45 overs.

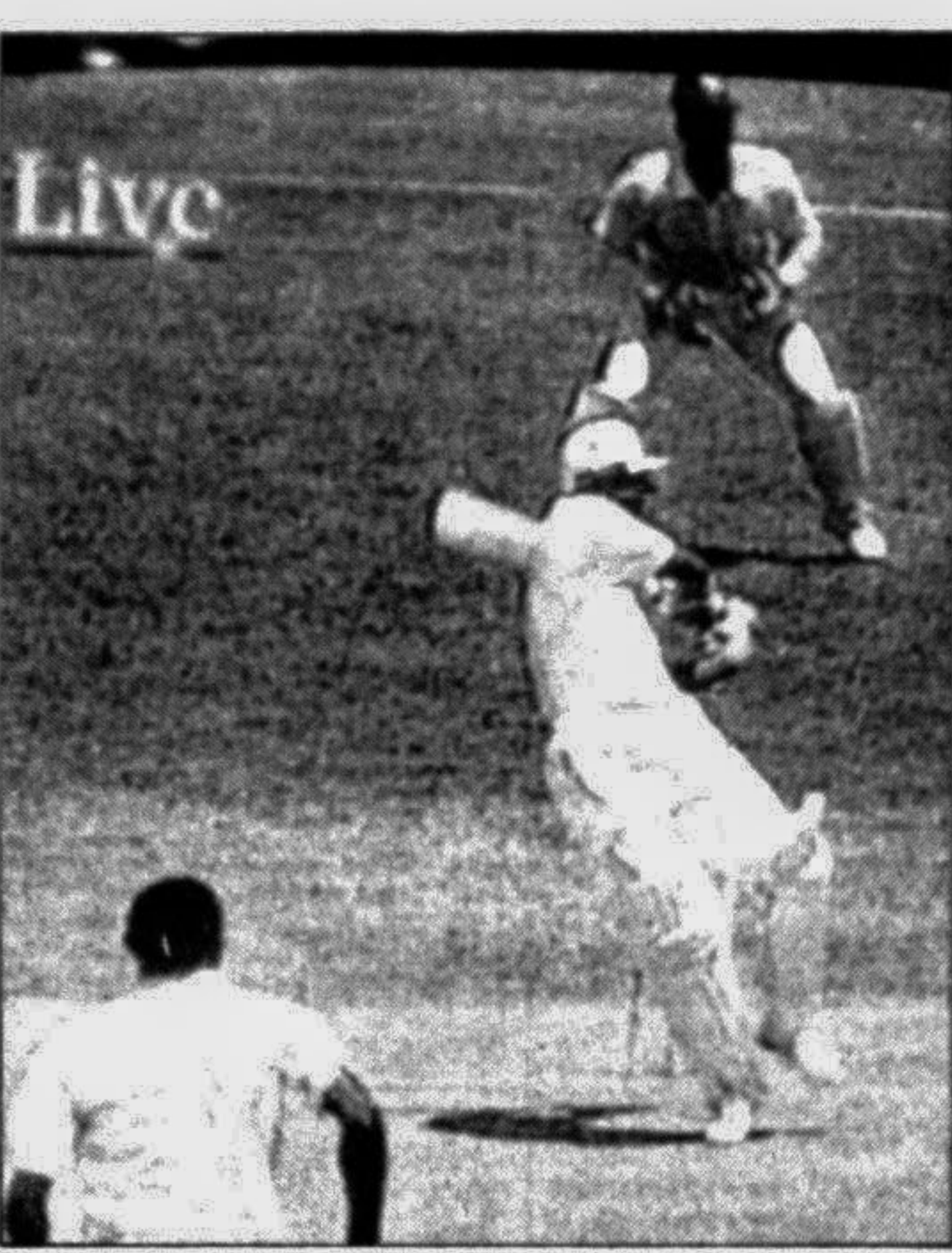
Trinidad-born Lara batted with a blend of aggression and sound defence while capitalising on two slices of luck.

He was dropped on four by Inzamam-ul-Haq at first slip, off captain Wasim Akram's second ball of the innings, and on 70 by wicket keeper Rashid Latif off debutant paceman Aamir Nazir.

Nazir, who ended with three for 43 from good swing bowling, threatened to halt the West Indian victory march with two wickets in consecutive deliveries.

Captain Richie Richardson and Lara appeared to be taking their side to an easy victory with a third-wicket partnership that added 64, before Nazir struck a double blow.

He yanked Richardson for 32 and trapped Carl Hooper leg before, offering no shot, with the total 133.



Inzamamul Haq pulls a Courtney Walsh delivery during the second one-dayer between Pakistan and the West Indies at the Queen's Park Oval, Trinidad on March 26. The West Indies won the match to lead the five-match series 2-0.

Inzamam-ul-Haq run out 11 Javed Miandad c Simmons 41 Wasim Akram run out 0 Basit Ali c Hooper b Walsh 34 Wasim Akram run out 0 Rashid Latif run out 10 Waqar Younis not out 4 Mushtaq Ahmed not out 0 Extras: (b-1, lb-6, w-20, nb-5) 32 Total: (seven wickets, 45 overs) 194

Fall of wickets: 1-56; 2-85; 3-108; 4-170; 5-170; 6-187; 7-188 Did not bat: Aamir Nazir, Ata-Ur-Rehman

BOWLING: O M R W Wasim Akram 9 0 36 1 Waqar Younis 8 1 39 1 Aamir Nazir 9 0 43 3 Ata-Ur-Rehman 10 0 42 0 Mushtaq Ahmed 5 0 25 0 Result: West Indies won by five wickets Man-of-the-match: Brian Lara

B LARA ... going strong one-day cricket international between West Indies and Pakistan at Queen's Park Oval on Friday.

PAKISTAN: Rameez Raja c Richardson b Bishop 15 Aamir Sohall c Richardson b Simmons 47

WEST INDIES: D Haynes c sub (Mujtaba) b Nazir 11 B Lara not out 95 P Simmons c Latif b Waqar 13 R Richardson b Nazir 32 C Hooper lbw b Nazir 0 A Logie c Latif b Akram 1 J Adams not out 15 Extras: (lb-11, w-9, nb-9) 29 Total: (Five wickets, 41 overs) 196

Fall of wickets: 1-35; 2-69; 3-133; 4-133; 5-137 Did not bat: J Murray, C Ambrose, C Walsh, I Bishop

Windies rattle up 259 for 4

Sports Reporter The West Indies were on course to taking a winning 3-0 lead over the touring Pakistanis in their five-match one-day series when they made 259 for four in 45 overs in the third match at the Queen's Park Oval, Trinidad Saturday night when reports last came in.

Unlike in the first two games, Richie Richardson chose to bat after winning the toss.

Despite the early departure of the brilliant in-form Brian Lara for just five—caught by keeper Rashid Latif off the new pace bowler Aamir Nazir—the home team flayed the tired Pakistani attack to post the biggest total of the series so far.

Desmond Haynes batted confidently to score 68 while skipper Richie Richardson made a murderous 46 off only 28 balls to take the game away from the Pakistanis who had initially bowled tidily to keep a check on the scoring rate.

Phil Simmons remained unbeaten on 81 while Carl Hooper made 34. There were 25 extras.

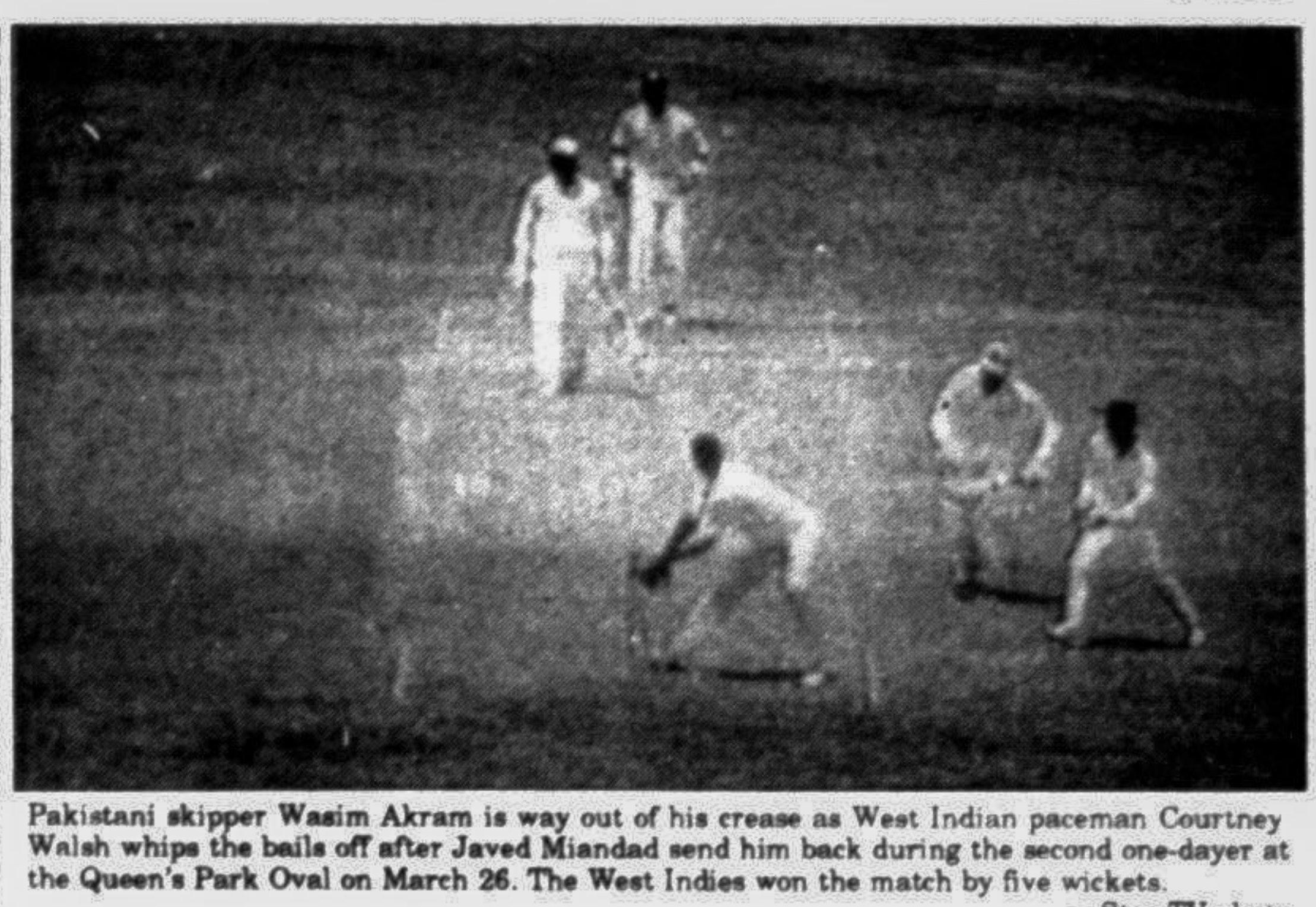
Aamir Nazir claimed two wickets for 52 off eight overs while Waqar Younis took one for 50 from his ten overs. Aamir Sohall picked up the wicket of Richardson in the only over that he bowled giving away ten runs.

Wasim Akram gave away 62 runs from his ten overs while Ataur Rahman's ten overs cost him 32 runs.

Windies cricket faces financial problems BRIDGETOWN, Mar 27: West Indies cricket could face serious financial problems within four years unless it implements swift reforms, a Barbados newspaper said on Friday, reports Reuter.

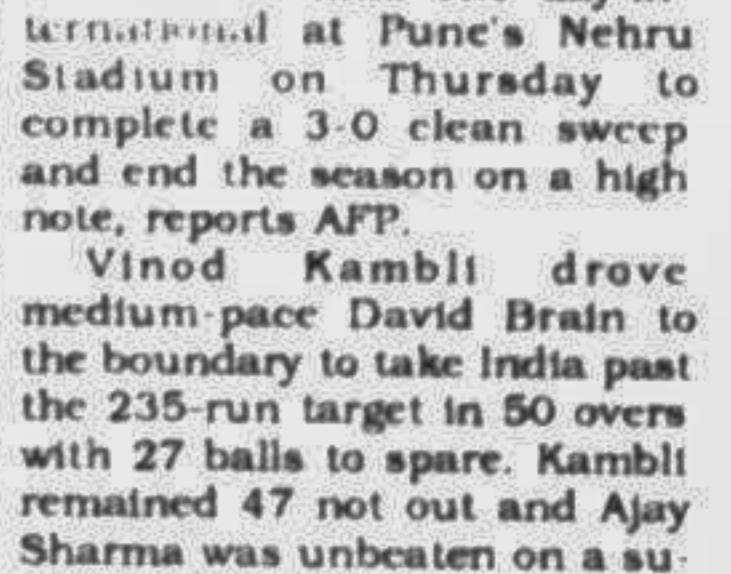
The Weekend Nation, quoted by the Caribbean news agency CANA, said a special committee appointed by the West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) warned of the problems in a confidential report last September.

Forecast deficits generated by home international series and interterritorial competitions and the high probability of the emergence of sustained negative reserves threaten the stability and well being of West Indies cricket, the newspaper quoted the report as saying.



Pakistani skipper Wasim Akram is way out of his crease as West Indian paceman Courtney Walsh whips the balls off after Javed Miandad send him back during the second one-dayer at the Queen's Park Oval on March 26. The West Indies won the match by five wickets.

India complete Zimbabwe's rout



PUNE, India, Mar 27: India whipped Zimbabwe by eight wickets in the third and final one-day international at Pune's Nehru Stadium on Thursday to complete a 3-0 clean sweep and end the season on a high note, reports AFP.

Vinod Kamblli drove medium-pace David Brain to the boundary to take India past the 235-run target in 50 overs with 27 balls to spare. Kamblli remained 47 not out and Ajay Sharma was unbeaten on a superb 59 off 53 balls.

The foundation for India's victory was laid by openers Woorkeri Raman (67) and Navjot Sidhu (45) after Zimbabwe, choosing to bat first on a wicket full of runs, were all out for 234.

Brothers Andy and Grant Flower launched the Zimbabwe innings off to a blistering start with 32 and 50 respectively but the middle-order failed to capitalise on the first-wicket stand. Skipper David Houghton hit 46.

India won the first two one-dayers at Faridabad and Guwahati and also beat Zimbabwe in a one-off Test after whitewashing England in a three-Test series.

SCOREBOARD Scoreboard in the third and final one-day cricket international between India and Zimbabwe on Thursday:

INDIA: W V Raman c G Flower b Traicos c G Flower b Traicos 66 N S Sidhu run out 45 V G Kamblli not out 47 A Sharma not out 59 Extras: (lb 8, w 10, nb 3) 21 Total: (for two wickets in 45.3 over) 238

Fall of wickets: 1-58; 2-122; 3-129; 4-154; 5-196; 6-199; 7-212; 8-215; 9-217

BOWLING: O M R W Brindes 10 0 31 0 Brain 9.3 0 47 0 G Flower 5 0 39 0 Crocker 8 1 39 0 Ali Shah 3 0 24 0 Traicos 10 0 50 1 Result: India won by eight wickets

Soccer result

Sports Reporter Padmanidhi Samaj Kalyan Sangshatha local Pratyasha Madak Biroshi Sangathan by a solitary goal in an exhibition soccer match at the Outer Stadium on March 26 to mark the Independence Day.

Munna scored the all-important goal from a penalty in the 24th minute of the second half.

Sydney's latest trick

HONG KONG, Mar 27: The head of Sydney's bid to win the 2,000 Summer Olympic Games pumped up the sales volume Saturday by highlighting the city's advantages over one of its chief rivals, Beijing, reports AP.

Rod McGeoch, chief executive of Sydney Olympics 2,000 Bid Limited, said at a press conference he felt strongly about the technical, environmental and intangible aspects of Australia's "Share the Spirit" campaign to host the Games.

Sydney and Beijing appear to be the favourites to host the 2,000 summer games over Berlin, Brasflia, Istanbul, and Manchester, England, the International Olympic Committee will announce the winner in Monte Carlo on Sept 23.

As part of a mounting publicity campaign by all bidders, McGeoch's visit to this British colony coincides with Hong Kong's annual Rugby Sevens tournament, which draws hordes of international sports writers, businessmen and sports officials.

Smith to have an operation

LONDON, Mar 27: England batsman Robin Smith is to have a shoulder operation but still hopes to be fit for the forthcoming Ashes Series against Australia, reports Reuter.

The long-standing injury grew steadily worse on the recent tour of India and, by the time England reached Sri Lanka, Smith was unable to throw overarm.

"We discouraged any type of press activity... and I think Beijing went the other way," McGeoch said. "It's an opportunity to promote your bid, but I'm not sure it's an opportunity, really, to gain the support of the Olympic Committee by way of Promotion."

Even so, McGeoch said he supported Beijing "in at least making sure that the Games come to the Asia-Pacific region rather than... to Europe."

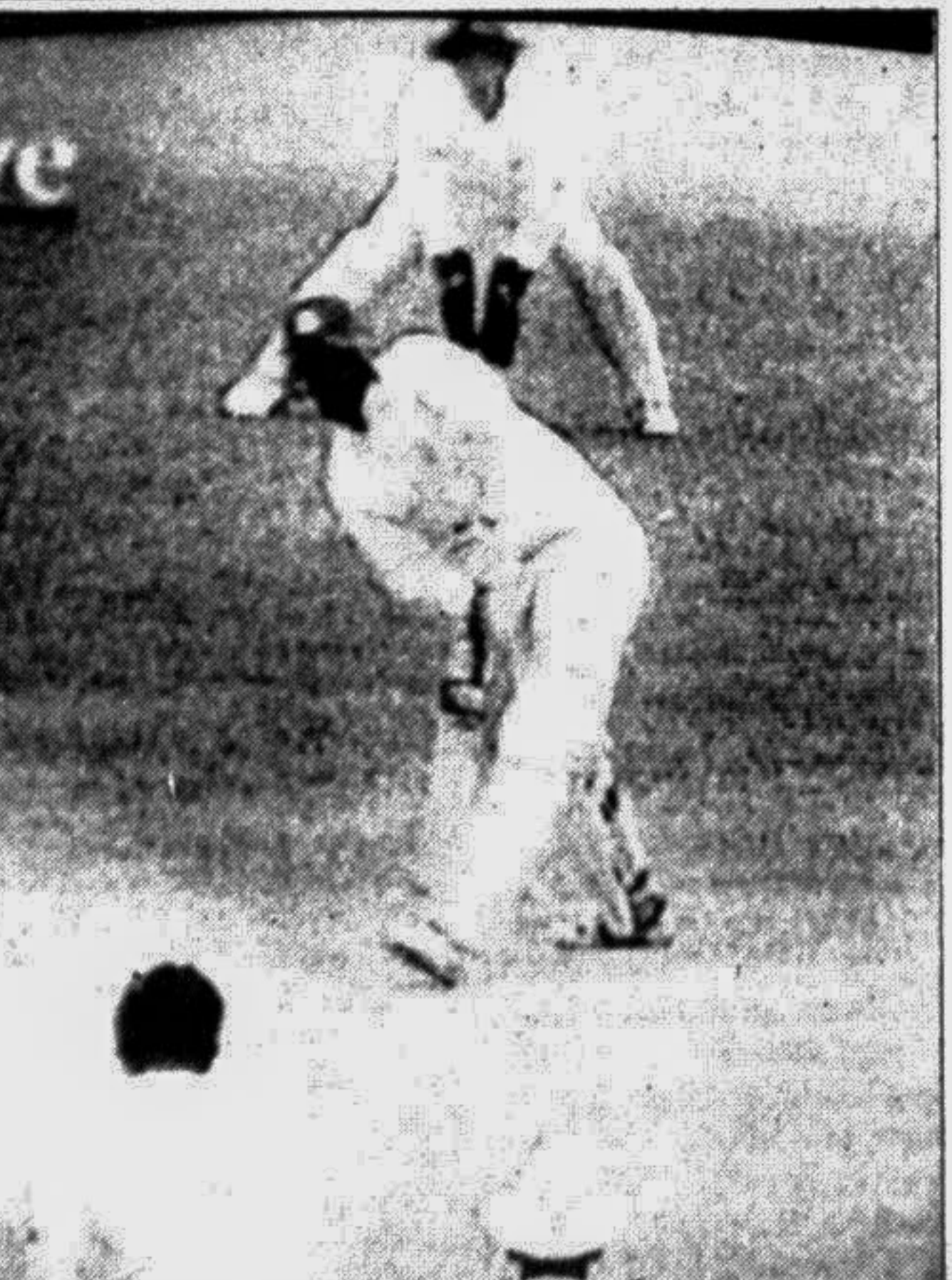
Don't take it for granted

SYDNEY, Mar 27: Football's governing body FIFA has decided to restrict the numbers of reporters and photographers at next year's World Cup in the United States and may later charge them to attend, FIFA media chief Guido Tognoni said here Wednesday, reports AFP.

"It's our intention to make the World Cup a top event for the media and we'll be asking national bodies to eliminate the media tourists," he said.

Tognoni, in Australia for this month's World Youth Championships, said FIFA had imposed a limit of 5,000 media for next year's World Cup—2,300 television reporters and crew, 2,200 print journalists and 500 photographers.

"We felt that after the cut-off figure of 2,300 we were looking at people without feeling for the game and who just wanted free tickets," he said.



Phil Simmons, the right-handed West Indian one-down batsman, plays a perfect defensive stroke against Pakistani medium-pace bowler Ataur Rehman during the third of the five-match one-day series at the Queen's Park Oval, Port of Spain, Trinidad yesterday.

Kasparov stripped of his crown



ZURICH, Mar 27: The world chess body FIDE in effect stripped world champion Garry Kasparov of his title on Tuesday by ruling that he and British challenger Nigel Short had forfeited their right to play for the title, reports Reuter.

It said it would now ask Dutchman Jan Timman and long-time champion Anatoly Karpov of Russia, both eliminated by Short on his way to the final, to play for the championship instead.

FIDE was responding to a bid by Kasparov and Short to stage the title contest outside its auspices to attract more prize money and give players more say in professional chess.

It has set a deadline of Tuesday afternoon for Short and Azeri-born Kasparov, who plays for Russia, to accept its terms.

The deadline has lapsed. Under FIDE rules Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short have forfeited their rights as world champion and challenger respectively, it said in a statement.

hindered rather than helped maintenance of a reasonable purse" through "continuous meddling" in the bidding process over the last year. And it accused Short of remaining deliberately incommunicado since February.

Two players who are clearly not the world's best. But FIDE said Kasparov and Short would also now be banned from taking part in the next three-year championship cycle. And it pointedly took note of Kasparov's comments on Monday that he had wanted to wrest the world title from FIDE for years.

Kasparov has never forgotten that Campomanes stopped his 1985 title bout against Karpov on the grounds that the players were exhausted, just at the moment when, at 22, he looked poised to end Karpov's 10-year reign.

If Karpov takes the world title again, which his consistent domination of Timman suggests he will, it will be the second time he has won it by default as the result of a political row.

He first became champion in 1975 when champion Bobby Fischer of the United States refused to defend the title against him after FIDE rejected Fischer's proposals for a new championship system.

The road to redemption BIRMINGHAM, Ala, Mar 27: A new wave of American boxers began the road to redemption after a dismal showing at the 1992 Olympics, routing a young Russian team Friday night, reports AP. The US squad, comprised of five national champions and one Olympian, won 11 of the 12 bouts for its first victory over the Russians since 1987.

The Russians have fallen from prominence in international boxing since the breakup of the Soviet Union and failed to win a medal as part of the Unified Team at Barcelona. The United States, meanwhile, is trying to restore its boxing reputation, after winning only one gold and three medals overall in last year's Olympics. It was the worst US showing since 1956.