

**Sport**

**Nat'l cricket final round from today**

**Sports Reporter**  
The ten-team final round of the 19th Gold Leaf National cricket championship begins today at two city venues.  
Defending champions Chittagong take on the Khulna Zonal champions Jessore at the Dhaka Stadium, while last year's runners-up Sylhet play the Rajshahi zonal champions Rajshahi at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.  
The other teams in the knockout meet are Kushtia, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Narayanganj and Bangladesh Biman and Dhaka University—the last two being the Services zone champions and runners-up respectively.  
The two-day semifinals will be held on April 17 and 18 simultaneously at the Dhaka Stadium and Dhanmondi Stadium.  
The final, to be played over three days, will begin on April 20 at the Dhaka Stadium.  
Two matches have been scheduled for tomorrow. At the Dhaka Stadium former champions Dhaka University will face Mymensingh while Bangladesh Biman will meet Faridpur at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

**BSWA meet ends**

**Sports Reporter**  
Naquib Ahmed Madvi, SB Chowdhury Shishir and Kamrunnahar Dana won double crowns in the indoor sports championships of the Bangladesh Sports Writers' Association (BSWA) which concluded yesterday, says a press release.  
Following are the results of the indoor sports competition: Carrom (singles): Shishir (champ), Mohiuddin Pintu (runner-up); Carrom (doubles): Manzur Milky and Shishir (champions) and Kazi Alam Babu and Mohiuddin Palash (runners-up); Badminton (singles) Kamrunnahar Dana (champion) and Mohiuddin Pintu (runner-up); Badminton (doubles): Dana and Dulal Mahmud (champs) and Mostafa Kamal and Pintu (runners-up); Table tennis (singles): Madvi (champ) and Utpal Shuvra (runners-up); Table tennis (doubles): Madvi and Utpal Shuvra (champs) and Pintu and Anwarullah (runners-up); Chess: Pintu (champ), Tohabin Huq (runner-up).  
The prize giving ceremony will be held on April 16 at 4:00 pm at the National Sports Council conference room.

**Schools kabaddi from Apr 16**

**Sports Reporter**  
The fourth schools kabaddi championship under the auspices of the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation (BKF) will start from April 16 at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court, says a press release.  
Twenty city schools in four groups will participate in the robin league with the group champions and runners-up moving into the quarterfinals.  
The teams are Maniknagar Primary School, Gandaria High School, Notre Dame High School, KL Jubilee School and College, Haider Ali High School, Bangladesh Rifles High School, CA Staff Welfare High School, Dholairpar High School, Ramkrishna Mission School, Bangladesh Rifles Primary School and College, Dipshikha Primary School, Kamalapur High School, Motijheel Govt High School, Wari High School, Segun Bagicha High School, Maniknagar Junior High School, Motijheel Model High School, Dhaka Residential Model School and Bangladesh Ansars and VDP School.  
Secretary in-charge of the Youth and Sports Ministry M Azeul Huq, who is also the BKF president, will inaugurate the tourney as chief guest.

**Pioneer soccer**

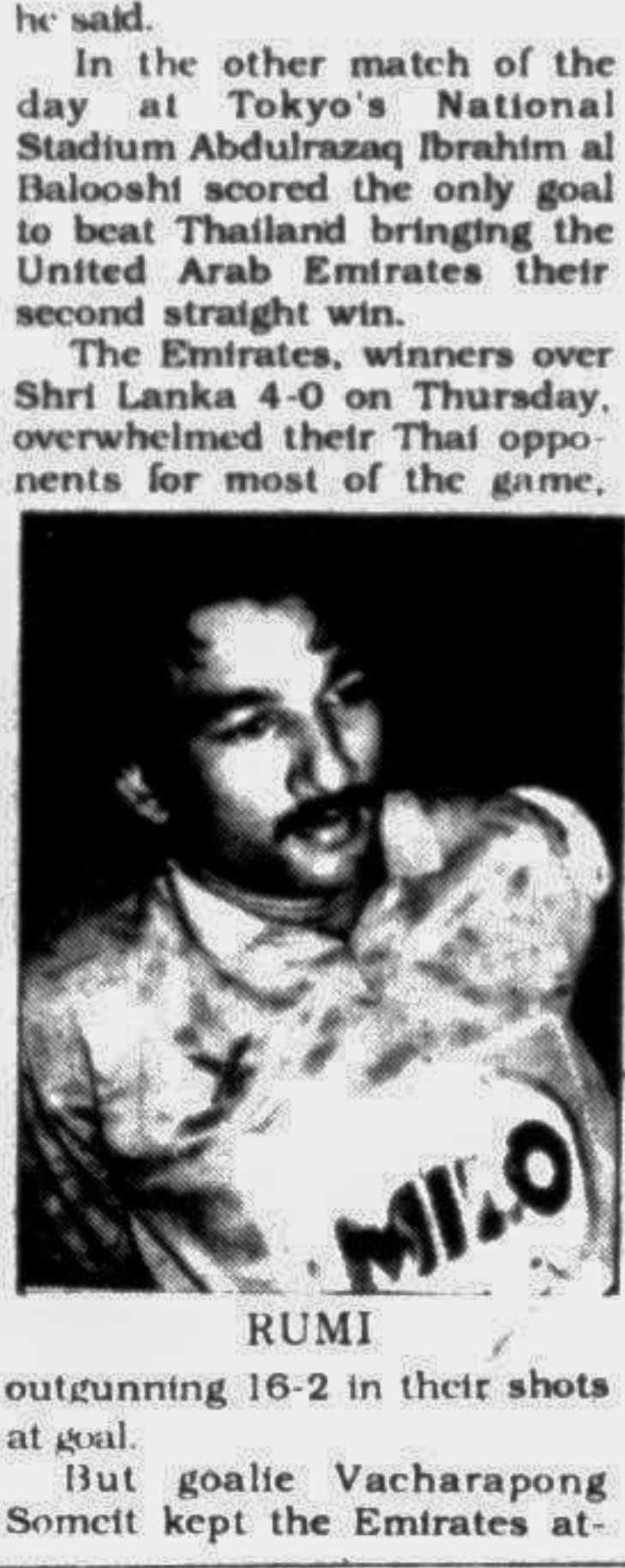
**Sports Reporter**  
Mirpur Sports, Physical and Cultural Centre edged past Motijheel T&T Club by a solitary goal in the Janata Bank Pioneer football league at the Outer Stadium yesterday.  
Md Babul scored the decider in the 26th minute of the first half.  
Soon after the match the players and officials of Motijheel T&T Club manhandled referee Ibrahim Nasar and his associates.

**Chess coaching**

**Sports Reporter**  
A year-long cricket and chess coaching programme will begin at the end of this month in the city, says a press release.  
Interested players have been asked to contact the Mouchak Biponi Bitan on Raja Srinath Street, Lalbagh.

**Bangladesh edge Shri Lanka**

**YOKOHAMA, Apr 13:** Bangladesh edged Shri Lanka 1-0 Tuesday through a goal by Mohammad Rumi Rivi Karim in the Asian Group F first leg qualifying meet for the 1994 soccer World Cup, reports AP.  
Playing at the Mitsuzawa Stadium in Yokohama, near Tokyo, Mohammad Rumi scored in the 69th minute from a pass by Mohammad Ataur Rahman Khan, who dribbled close to the goal.  
In scoring their first victory against one defeat, Bangladesh outshot Shri Lanka 11-7.  
Shri Lanka are winless in their three games so far in the preliminary qualifying round.  
"We are happy for the victory," said Bangladesh head coach K M Salahuddin. "We need more training. I am sure Bangladesh will become a strong team in the future."  
Shri Lankan head coach Jorge Ferreira said his young team also needed more work.  
"We are participating in this tournament partly to gain experience in international games. Bangladesh were better than we were in technique," he said.



**RUMI** outgunning 16-2 in their shots at goal.  
But goalie Vacharapong Somett kept the Emirats at-

tacks at bay saving all the middle and long shots hit at him.  
With only four minutes left, the 23-year-old midfielder finally broke through the Thai defence to flick in the decider.  
"Japan scored eight goals out of 16 shots against Bangladesh, but our team was inefficient today. We must adjust our passes and shots near the goal," said Emirats' coach Antoni Plechniczek of Poland.  
"Now we have two wins, anyway. It'll be exciting to play against Japan on the 18th."  
After three days of competition, Japan have a 2-0 win-loss record, Thailand 1-2, Shri Lanka 0-3 and Bangladesh 1-1.  
On Thursday, Japan will play Shri Lanka at the National Stadium, while the Emirats will take on Bangladesh at the Mitsuzawa Stadium in Yokohama.  
**STANDINGS**  
Standings after Tuesday's games in Asian Group F qualifying matches for the 1994 soccer World Cup:  

Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Japan	2	2	0	0	9	0	4
UAE	2	2	0	0	5	0	4
Thailand	3	1	0	2	12	2	2
Bangladesh	2	1	0	1	8	2	2
Shri Lanka	3	0	0	3	0	6	0

**Mohammedans' new year sans joy**

**Sports Reporter**  
Usha Krtra Chakra earned themselves a lummy gift for the Bengali new year when they forced Mohammedan Sporting Club, one of the two most popular clubs of the sporting arena, out of the Independence Day hockey tournament with a 4-1 defeat in tie-breaker.  
The incident led to a walk-out by the Mohammedan players who left the field at the beckon of their officials, but good sense prevailed and after a lapse of eleven minutes the match resumed again.  
With neither side failing to rob the match of its vexatiously virgin character, the match crawled into tie breaker.  
Sadek gave Usha the lead when he converted the first penalty stroke and his name sake, in the Mohammedan outfit, national player restored parity.  
But while Mitu, Mitul and Jamal of Usha kept on sounding the board Alam and Zahid of Mohammedans were frustrated by a brilliant Tushar Kanti Halidar, the Usha custodian.  
State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka is expected to watch tomorrow's final as chief guest.



Litu of Mohammedans watches anxiously as Kismat of Usha weaves his way through in yesterday's semifinal encounter of the Independence Day hockey tournament at the Hockey Stadium. Usha beat MSC 4-1 in tie-breaker.

Chaitra did nothing to relax the taut nerves of the players of both sides and good, entertaining hockey was non-existent.  
The only notable feature of the day as far as the game is concerned was goal-keeping of the two custodians with Tushar, the Usha custodian Rabi committed a nasty tackle on Chapat that left the national player unfit for the rest of the match.  
Rabi, who received a yellow card from the umpire, was again in the thick of action when he tried another cynical charge on Nixon but last second res raint still left Zahid angered by Stephenson's remarks. Rafi said it amounted to taking over the role of the prosecution.  
"We have not forgotten the ICC's attitude in the ball doctoring controversy against Pakistani pace bowlers," Rafi said, adding, "This is not cricket."  
Pakistani cricket circles here believe that the ICC's attitude was influenced by Pakistan, India and Shri Lanka's successful bid to stage the next World Cup.  
**Khoka rewards coach Jhantu**  
State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadek Hossain Khoka yesterday lauded the rare courage of Dhanmondi Club's football coach Ali Yakub Jhantu who risked his life to grab fleeing Fazlur Rahman Tommy, the alleged killer of industrialist Humayun Zahir in the city last Thursday, reports BSS.  
The State Minister, in a message, said that Ali Yakub Jhantu's bravery would serve as an example to resist terrorism in the society. He said this incident had once again reaffirmed the commitment of people related with sports towards society.  
Sadek Hossain Khoka, on behalf of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, announced an award of Taka 25 thousand for Ali Yakub for his bravery.  
**Ctg PDB sports meet begins**  
CHITTAGONG, Apr 13: The two-day long 22nd annual sports meet of Chittagong Power Development Board Recreation Club began at the Chittagong Stadium here today, reports BSS.  
Minister for Energy Dr Khandakar Mosharraf Hossain inaugurated the meet as chief guest.  
Dr Mosharraf in his inaugural speech urged the PDB employees and officers to take more interest in sports and games to keep the body and mind healthy. He also called upon them to discharge their responsibilities with sportsman's spirit and help increase PDB's revenue earnings and reduce system loss.  
About 250 participants including 50 women are participating in the meet.

**Biman mini-marathon on Apr 23**

**Sports Reporter**  
The Biman mini-marathon will be held on April 23 under the joint aegis of Biman Bangladesh Airlines and the Bangladesh Amateur Athletic Federation.  
The marathon will be organised to mark the Bangla new year 1400 and the 1993 Independence Day.  
Mini-marathon races in seven groups—three for men, two for women and one each for boys and girls under-14 years of age—will start simultaneously at 6:30 am from two city points and end at the south plaza of the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban in Sher-e-Bangla Nagar.  
The men's marathons will start from the Zia International Airport while the other races will begin from the Army Stadium at Banani.  
The seven groups are men's veterans (above 45 yrs), men under-45, male athletes and players, women (open category), women athletes and players, boys under-14 and girls under-14 years.  
The champions in the first five groups will receive Dhaka-Hongkong-Dhaka air tickets while the runners-up will go

with a stain of potential bruise.  
The incident led to a walk-out by the Mohammedan players who left the field at the beckon of their officials, but good sense prevailed and after a lapse of eleven minutes the match resumed again.  
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the races would prove the national airlines' growing interest in the development of the country's sports.  
In case the races fell through owing to inclement weather on April 23 the programme would be staged on April 30.  
Interested participants including foreigners have been advised to complete the registration formalities by April 20 with the following persons: Raisuddin Ahmed, Farukul Islam, Director, NSC; secretary of the Bangladesh Amateur Athletic Federation (BAAF); officer in-charge (sales), Bangladesh Biman, Hotel Sonargaon and, Zahir Ahmed, Chief Trainer, Biman Training Centre, Zia International Airport.  
Zahir Ahmed and the BAAF secretary also spoke on the occasion.  
**Army b'ball ends**  
RANGPUR, Apr 13: The Anti-Aircraft Artillery team won the Army basketball championship which concluded at the Rangpur Cantonment yesterday, reports BSS.

**BCCP welcomes Grenada's decision**

**KARACHI, Apr 13:** Pakistani cricket officials have welcomed the decision by Grenada authorities to drop drug charges against four Pakistani players, reports AFP.  
"It has vindicated Pakistan's point of view that our boys had committed no such offence," said Shahid Rafi, secretary of the Board for Control of Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP), here today.  
"We are naturally very happy that the charges have been dropped before the players had to appear in the court," he added.  
Pakistan team captain Wasim Akram, his deputy Waqar Younis, Aaqib Javed and spinner Mushtaq Ahmed were charged with "constructive possession" of marijuana last Thursday.  
Officials here said the cricketers had been framed and threatened to call off Pakistan's tour of the West Indies.  
"The incident had upset cricketers circles and we are looking into modalities to repair the damage done by it," said Rafi.  
"It will require tremendous effort on the part of the team management and players to shrug it off before the commencement of first Test."  
Rafi was highly critical of colonel John Stephenson, secretary of the International Cricket Council (ICC), for his "unwarranted and partisan" comments on the affair.  
Stephenson reportedly said: "If the four were found guilty they should be suspended and sent back."  
"If they are guilty, we must persuade Pakistan management to take action and if they don't, we'll stamp our feet and lay it on the line."  
Angered by Stephenson's remarks, Rafi said it amounted to taking over the role of the prosecution.  
"We have not forgotten the ICC's attitude in the ball doctoring controversy against Pakistani pace bowlers," Rafi said, adding, "This is not cricket."  
Pakistani cricket circles here believe that the ICC's attitude was influenced by Pakistan, India and Shri Lanka's successful bid to stage the next World Cup.

**A moral booster for Pakistan**

**ST GEORGE'S, Grenada, Apr 13:** Pakistan gained a psychological boost ahead of the first Test with a 111-run win over a West Indies under-23 side on the final day of their three-day match on Monday, reports Reuter.  
Manager Khalid Mahmood said the charges have been dropped before the players had to appear in the court, he added.  
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**Case against Pak players dropped**

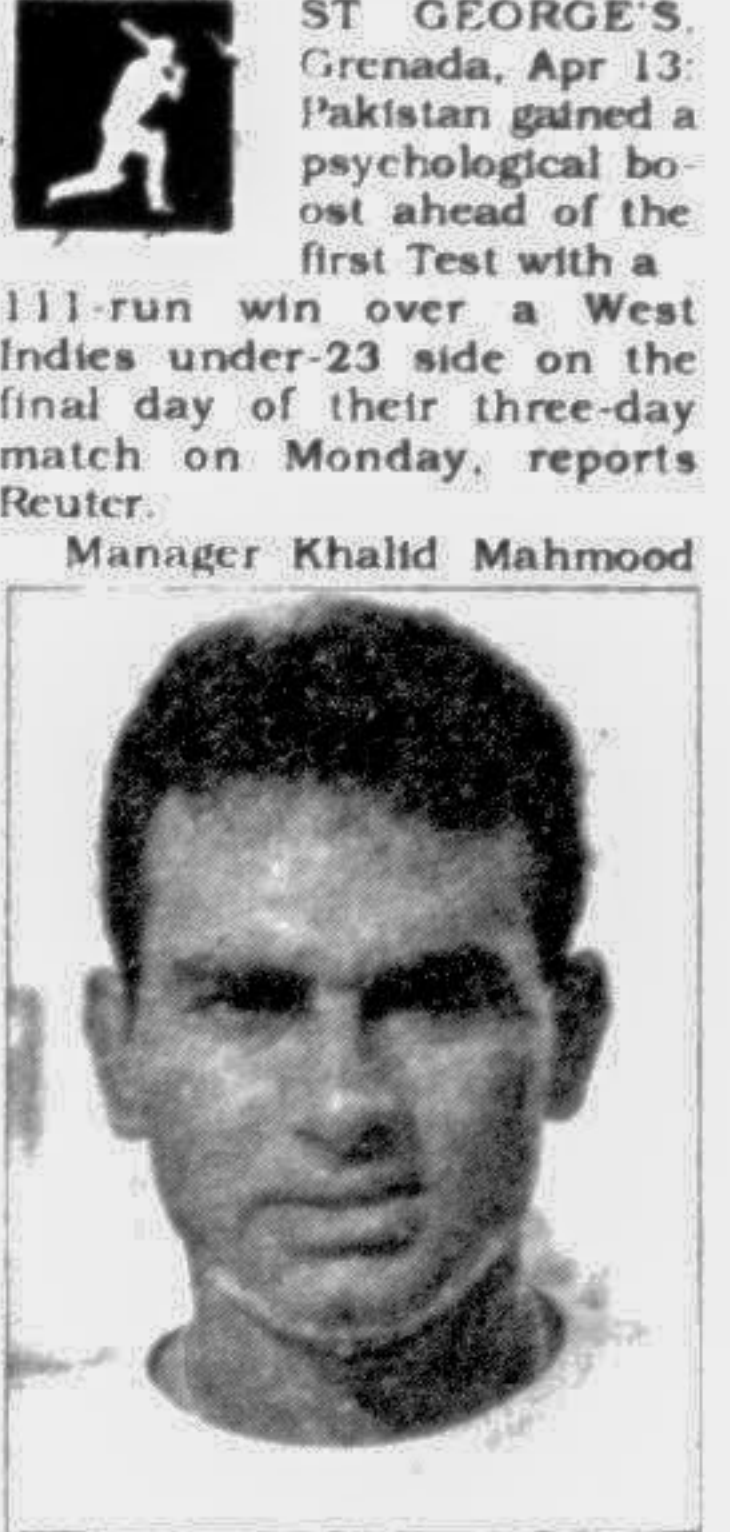
**ST GEORGE'S, Apr 13:** Grenada has dropped a marijuana-possession case against four Pakistani cricketers a day before their scheduled court appearance, freeing them to continue their Caribbean tour, the team manager said on Monday, reports Reuter.  
The drug case had been brought against the four players, two British women tourists, and a local Grenadian who were arrested after about eight suspected marijuana cigarettes were found near them on a beach one night last week.  
They ultimately decided to drop the charges, team manager Khalid Mahmood, elated both by the prosecutor's decision and by his team's victory, told Reuters by telephone from his hotel.  
According to the Caribbean News Agency, state-run Radio Grenada quoted public prosecutor Keith Friday as saying he had reviewed the evidence and decided to discontinue the case against all seven defendants "for the time being."  
Friday was not available for further comment. But Manager Mahmood quoted from a document given to him by Friday, saying the case had been dropped permanently.  
The court appearance had been scheduled for today, placing the Pakistanis' Caribbean tour in doubt.  
Pakistan, playing the final warm-up in Grenada before this week's first Test against West Indies in Trinidad, defeated a West Indies Under-23 side in a three-day match that ended on Monday.  
The tour has been regarded as the ultimate test to find the

**Controversy dogs 'em always**

**LONDON, Apr 13:** As inevitably as night follows day, controversy stalks the Pakistan cricket team, writes Reuter.  
Monday's decision by the Grenada authorities to drop a marijuana possession charge against skipper Wasim Akram and three of his teammates was greeted with a huge sigh of relief throughout the Caribbean.  
Pakistan meet West Indies at Port-of-Spain on Thursday in the first of a three-Test series between the world's two strongest sides.  
Until Monday the future of the tour was in jeopardy after Akram, vice-captain Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed and Aaqib Javed were arrested after police said "they had been in the vicinity of some smoked drugs." Pakistan's last tour of the Caribbean in 1987-88 provided some riveting cricket during a drawn series, but it was marred by an unsavory incident in the third Test in Bridgetown.  
At the height of a gripping match, leg-spinner Abdul Qadir became involved with a 21-year-old spectator, Albert Auguste.  
After a verbal exchange, Qadir threw a punch at Auguste, hitting him on the arm.  
The Pakistani later received a summons from the police but the matter was decided out of court for a settlement of 1,000 and Auguste did not press charges.  
There have also been incidents involving Australia and New Zealand—most notably a confrontation between Australia's Dennis Lillee and Javed Miandad which ended with Lillee kicking the Pakistani—but the real acrimony has been reserved for matches between Pakistan and England.  
In 1982 Pakistan captain Imran Khan blamed the umpiring for his side's narrow defeat in a three-Test series and during their successful tour five years later relations between the two sides quickly deteriorated when England manager Micky Stewart queried the number of substitutes used by the tourists.  
Imran was quick to respond. "We get slagged and called cheats and I object to that," he said.  
Pakistan manager Haseeb Ahsan added: "We've been labelled as cheats."  
A smouldering fuse had been laid which was to result

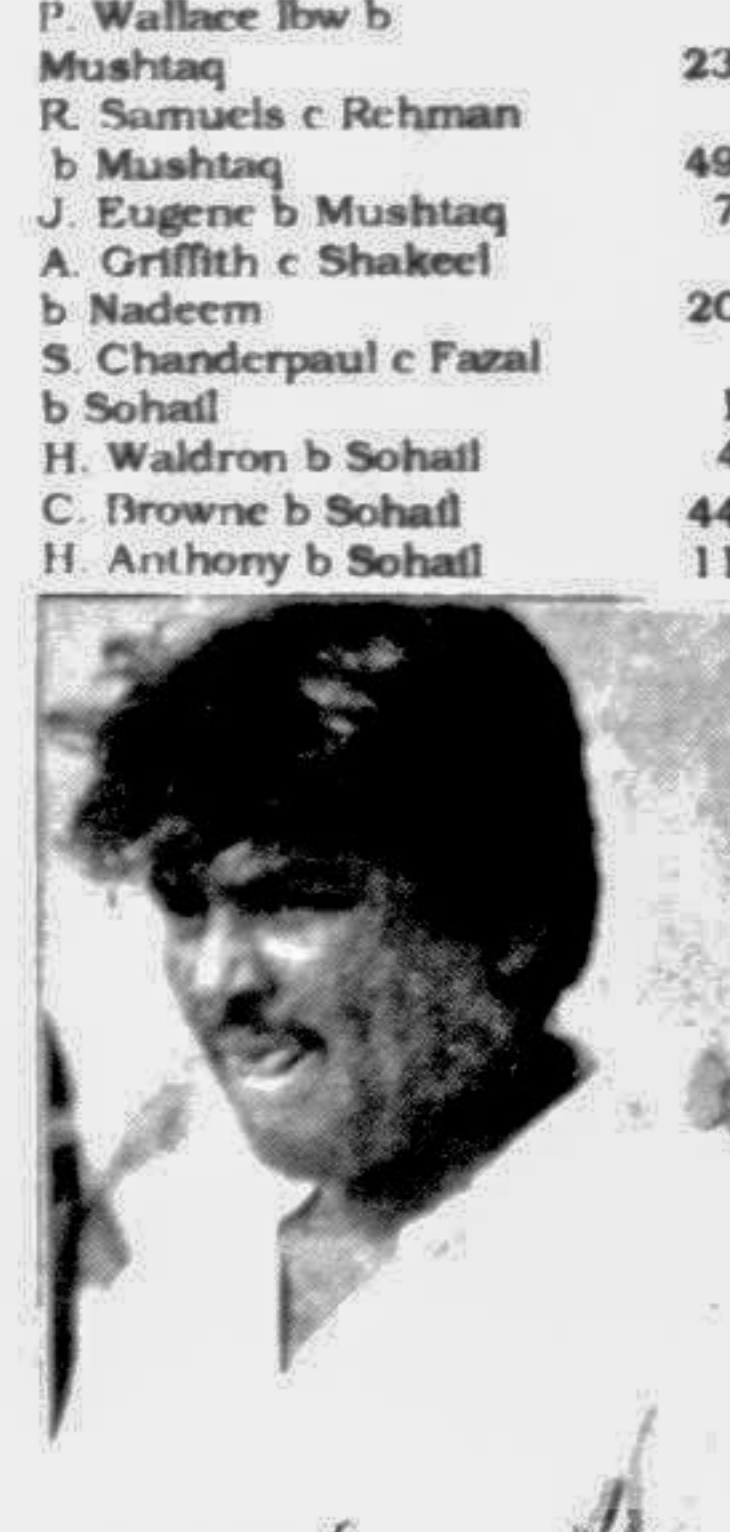
**Swimming record**

**SHEFFIELD, England, Apr 13:** American Jeff Rouse set a men's 100 metres backstroke short-course world record with a time of 51.43 seconds at an international swimming meeting on Monday, reports Reuter.  
During the fourth one-day international at Lord's, the ball was changed by match referee Derryck Murray, the former West Indies wicket-keeper and vice-captain.  
Murray refused to say why the ball had been changed but England batsman Allan Lamb told a tabloid newspaper: "They gouge the damaged ball with their nails, then smear the surface to fool the umpire."  
Nothing was resolved one way or the other but the bitterness remains. The English believe Pakistan are guilty of sharp practices while the Pakistanis are convinced they are the victims of cultural and religious arrogance.



**AAMIR SOHAIL... 5 for 50** had called on the Pakistan squad to concentrate on the cricket and forget the charges of possessing marijuana levelled at Akram, fellow fast bowlers Waqar Younis and Aaqib Javed and spinner Mushtaq Ahmed.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard on the final day of the three-day cricket match between a West Indies under-23 side and Pakistan on Monday:  
**PAKISTAN:** First innings 284-2 declared (Shakeel Ahmed 132 not out, Asif Mujtaba 102).  
**WEST INDIES UNDER-23 XI:** First innings 184 (Nadeem Khan 4-21).  
**PAKISTAN:** Second innings (overnight 178-6)  
Aamir Sohail c Griffith 25  
B Cuffy 25  
Zahid Fazal run out 80  
Rashid Latif lbw b Drakes 19  
Wasim Akram lbw b Drakes 0  
Shakeel Ahmed c Eugene b Cuffy 23  
Waqar Younis b Chanderpaul 14  
Asif Mujtaba b Rose 4  
Nadeem Khan not out 25  
Ataur Rahman not out 9  
Extras: (lb-6, B-1, W-1, nb-14) 22  
Total: (for 7 wickets, declared) 221  
Fall of wickets: 1-29, 2-67, 3-68, 4-118, 5-166, 6-176, 7-186  
**Bowling**  
O M R W  
Rose 13 1 59 1  
Drakes 11 0 45 2  
Cuffy 9 1 20 2  
Anthony 10 3 30 0  
Chanderpaul 15 1 60 1  
**West Indies Under 23:** Second innings  
**Bowling**  
O M R W  
Akram 4 1 20 0  
Rehman 4 0 24 0  
Mushtaq 6 2 7 3  
Sohail 19 5 50 5  
Nadeem 17 2 76 1  
Younis 6.4 1 25 0  
**Pakistan won by 111 runs.**



**MUSHTAQ... 6-2-7-3** V. Drakes run out—3  
F. Rose c and b Sohail 3  
C. Cuffy not out 6  
Extras: (b4, lb-4) 8  
Total: 210  
Fall of wickets: 1-67, 2-72, 3-81, 4-82, 5-86, 6-139, 7-166, 8-169, 9-189

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