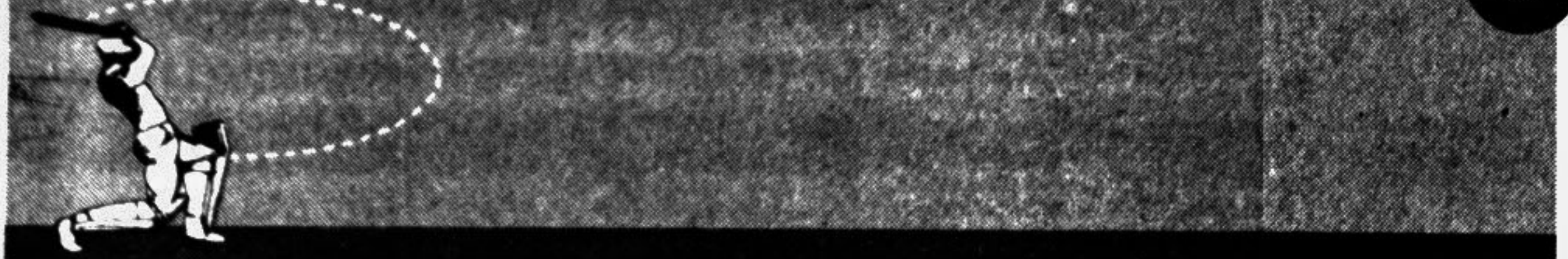


# The World Cup with Philips



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## WC cricket live on Star TV

The Hong Kong-based STAR TV network will broadcast 37 matches of the cricket World Cup, which begins later this month, officials said Tuesday, says a press release.

The channel will broadcast 400 hours of programming, 224 of them live. STAR TV officials said in Bombay. A familiar face on STAR TV and lead cricket anchorman, Sunil Gavaskar, will head a team of expert commentators for the World Cup which include Ravi Shastri, Richie Benaud, Ian Chappell, Tony Greig, Danny Morrison, Ian Smith, Grant Nesbitt, Tony Cozier, Michael Holding, Robin Jackson, Mike Haysman, Lee Irvine, Iftekhar Ahmed and Asif Iqbal.

And for the first time in the history of the STAR TV Network, Hindi commentary will be available for the broadcast of the World Cup.

Gene Swinstead, managing director, STAR TV India says, "It was four years ago when STAR TV first caught the eyes of Indian television viewers when the 1992 World Cup from Australia was broadcast in its entirety. With less than a week away from the opening ceremonies to the Will's World Cup 1996, we are all looking forward to first class cricket from some of the finest players ever to have graced the field. And STAR TV is delighted to present this hard-hitting action to millions of viewers throughout Asia."

Four years of anticipation ends on Sunday, February 11th at 18:30 (BST) with live coverage of the opening ceremonies from Calcutta. The first live coverage match can be seen from Ahmedabad, India with England vs New Zealand on Wednesday, February 14th at 9:30 (BST).

STAR TV's World Cup coverage will be hosted by Brian Langley with help at times from Jonathan Green in-studio from Hong Kong, Hindi commentators Syed Kirmani, Madan Lal, Farook Engineer, Dr Krishna Srivastava and by the one and only Sanjay Sharma will join Brian and Jonathan in the studio for a pre-match show and return during the lunch break for further analysis. Reports from Sunil Gavaskar, who will be on site at selected matches, will also be incorporated into the telecast.

STAR TV will also air a special World Cup preview programme on February 13 at 10:30 (BST). As this programme title indicates, it will be a preview of the upcoming World Cup, featuring interviews with top cricket personalities in the world giving their predictions of the upcoming tournament.

## Man United eyeing Fish

MANCHESTER, England, Feb 6: Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson confirmed on Monday he is trying to sign South African defender Mark Fish, reports Reuters.

The player was watched by Old Trafford director Sir Bobby Charlton as he helped the hosts win the African Nations Cup with a 2-0 victory over Tunisia in Johannesburg on Saturday.

"Sir Bobby has made an approach on our behalf," said Ferguson. "We are hoping that Mark will come over to Old Trafford."

"One or two other clubs are interested in him and we will have to see what develops."

Fish, 21, who plays for Orlando Pirates, was one of the outstanding players in the tournament and had a posse of foreign scouts and agents watching his performances.

He scored his first international goal in the quarterfinal win over Algeria last week and has played 17 times for his country.

Meanwhile Brazilian international Branco arrived in England on Monday for talks with Premiership Middlesbrough.

The 31-year-old World Cup full-back, who would not cost a fee as he has bought out his contract with Internazionale back home, is keen to join up with fellow countryman Juninho at the riverside stadium.

"Juninho is very happy here and said he would like me to come and play with him," said Branco after arriving at Heathrow yesterday with his wife Stella.

"We've played together before in the national squad and we are good friends, that is the main reason why I settled on Middlesbrough."

"I had a few offers from other English clubs and also from teams in Japan, America and Spain. But I decided I wanted to play with Juninho."

## Atherton in ascendant



LONDON, Feb 6: (Reuters) The last time England played one-day cricket on the sub-continent, Michael Atherton's contribution was such that he arrived home in Manchester having read more books than he scored runs.

England played six one-day internationals against India and two more against

mained distinctly unsettled, culminating in their disappointing tour to South Africa, but at least the selectors have agreed on the most reliable cure.

Atherton is the first name on the English team-sheet in every form of cricket, yet is now, ironically facing a tougher time in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka than on his previous visit.

The strain of propping up a struggling team is already showing before the World Cup starts. He admitted last weekend that "It's hard to keep on captaining a losing side" and even hinted his in-

but and Atherton, not a natural supporter of the short-ened game, is still looking forward to aspects of the challenge.

"It's the one place where you still see kids playing in parks and side streets. They're mad keen and the crowds will be immense."

"Our record's good. We've reached three of the last four World Cup finals. But in one-day cricket anyone can beat anyone."

Even before his mammoth 185 not out in Johannesburg in December, "Iron Mike" rated among the world's finest Test openers, and there was also evidence of a growing one-day pedigree before the disappointing end to the South African tour.

Prior to the seven-match one-day series in the republic, Atherton had played only 25 limited-over internationals, around half the number, for example, of his county teammate Neil Fairbrother.

Yet his last two limited-overs innings against West Indies in the 1995 English summer were 92 at the Oval and 127 at Lord's, a memorable first one-day international hundred.

It took him 27 balls to get off the mark, but by the end he was irresistible, hooking Ian Bishop for six and smacking the same bowler high over extra cover in time-honoured Caribbean fashion.

He subsequently described it as "one of those days when everything went right", but it enabled his team to win the one-day series 2-1 and establish a blueprint for England manager Ray Illingworth to follow in the World Cup.

That master-plan currently has a blurred look, but the top-of-the-order batting debate is now simply a matter of who will open alongside Atherton, who averages 41.86 in one-day internationals.

There is still the possibility of a lower-order "dasher" being elevated to make the most of the early-innings fielding restrictions, and the captain knows the road to World Cup glory will not be straight forward.

Winning the toss is not the least of a one-day captain's duties, yet Atherton knows from experience that things can still go disastrously wrong for the successful skipper.

"I remember the one-day international at St Vincent in 1994. Geoff Boycott advised me to field, while a local Rastafarian with a huge spiff told me to bat while the tide was out. I put West Indies in, and we lost by 165 runs."



M ATHERTON

Sri Lanka on their ill-fated 1992-93 tour under Graham Gooch, yet Atherton was deemed surplus to his side's requirements each time.

In the Test arena, too, England decided they could do without him. He was omitted from the first two Tests against India, even in Madras when Gooch was absent with food poisoning and the touring team were soundly beaten, to quoted wisdom, "by 11 men and a plate of prawns".

Through little fault of his own, Atherton became a frustrated, peripheral figure, and it was Alec Stewart who led England on the Sri Lanka leg of the tour after Gooch had returned home early.

Since those queasy days, English fortunes, have re-

ternational career would be over within five years.

"I can't see myself playing for England beyond 32 or 33," he said. "The international circuit is an endless treadmill."

Now 27 - he turns 28 the week after the final in Lahore - Atherton deserves at least one enjoyable World Cup memory in the coming weeks.

He missed the last tournament in Australia and New Zealand because of back surgery, and the previous competition in 1987 coincided with the Lancashire opener's "freshman year" at Cambridge University.

England's opening match against New Zealand on February 14 will thus represent a delayed World Cup de-

## Bodyguards for Aussies

BRISBANE, Australia, Feb 6: Two bodyguards watched over the Australian cricket team here Tuesday as they trained before their Friday departure for the World Cup in India, reports AFP.

After death and bomb threats in the lead up to the World Cup, the Australian Cricket Board has hired security guards to look after squad members before they leave for Calcutta.

Two bodyguards, formerly with the Australian Federal Police, watched over the training camp and while they may have looked like distant observers their duties were far greater.

The Australians are normally relaxed in their own country but Tuesday the cricketers left by the back door of the Gabba Cricket Ground. The two minders checked all exits before they left.

Another security guard was stationed in the dressing room door while the Australians trained.

Team manager Ian McDonald played down the extra presence.

"I've got no comment." McDonald said. "The thing about security is you don't talk about it."

McDonald said the side must try to forget the security concerns and concentration cricket, leaving protection up to the experts.

Several players looked tense even though most have downplayed the worries since the ACB decided not to travel to Sri Lanka for their scheduled opening World Cup against Sri Lanka on February 17.

## Benjamin belongs to Hampshire

LONDON, Feb 6: West Indian fast bowler Winston Benjamin has told Hampshire he will fulfill his contract as their overseas player this summer, reports Reuters.

Benjamin, sent home from last year's tour of England for disciplinary reasons, was omitted from West Indies' squad for the World Cup starting on February 14.

But Hampshire's commercial manager Mike Taylor said Benjamin has been in touch with the county to re-assure them that he will report for pre-season training under new captain John Stephenson.

Winston's had a few problems and now appears to be totally out of the picture with the West Indies," said Taylor. "But he is halfway through a contract with us and he intends to see it out."

"He has been playing for the Leeward Islands and was disappointed to be left out of the West Indies World Cup squad. He now sees Hampshire as his main outlet for cricket which could make things interesting."

## Hollanders riding high

NEW DELHI, Feb 6: Dutch Davis Cup captain Stan Franker on Monday predicted a 5-0 whitewash of India in their world group first round tie in Jaipur this weekend, reports AFP.

"We are aware of India's good record against strong countries in the Davis Cup, but we hope for a 5-0 result," Franker said, soon after the team's arrival for the February 9-11 tie at the Jai Club grass courts.

"We have not played on grass for some time, but the world class players in our ranks should not find it difficult," the visiting coach said.

World number 11 Vichard Krajcek leads the Dutch challenge, supported by Jan Siemerink and the crack doubles combination of Paul Haaruis and Jacco Eltingh, all ranked below 30.

Krajcek said he had recovered from back injury and was looking forward to playing on grass. "I love grass and so do the others. It should be a good outing for us," he said.

The squad arrived here armed with mineral water and have hired a special cook and a private security agency for their week-long stay in Jaipur, the capital of the western state of Rajasthan.

India's hopes rest again on Leander Paes, who upset Croatian Goran Ivanisevic during the world group play-off clash here in September. India won the tie 3-2.

Paes, who was forced to miss the Australian Open after about of malaria, said he was short of match practice. But he hoped to give the Dutch a tough fight.

The Netherlands are our toughest opponents in a long time, because all their four layers are ranked high. But it will not be a cakewalk for them," said the 22-year-old Paes, a self-confessed Davis Cup addict.

# Furore over the freak



at whichever venues the organisers had down up for them," team manager Harilal Shah said in Bombay on Tuesday.

While Sri Lanka's largest newspaper roasted Australia's cricketers on Tuesday for pulling out of their World Cup cricket match here saying

they had "chickened out" of the game.

"Shame, Shame, Shame, said a headline in the English-language Daily News about Australia's decision not to play their opening match in Colombo.

"Obviously the Australian cricketers are making the bomb blast their excuse not to come," the state-run newspaper said.

"But to even the deaf and the blind and the rabid Aussie supporters it is obvious that they have chickened out because of their dirty tactics used against Sri Lanka in the recently concluded series," it said.

From Rawalpindi, South African cricket captain Hansi Cronje said Tuesday he was satisfied with the security arrangements for the World Cup tournament.

Cronje said he was puzzled by both Australia and West Indies decision not to play in Sri Lanka saying they feared for their safety.

Cronje said they made the wrong decision.

"We would have loved to play in Colombo. We love Sri Lanka," he said. "We were there in 1993 and had a fantastic time... we do not have any fears playing there."



## Akram ready to assault

ISLAMABAD, Feb 6: Pakistan's skipper, Wasim Akram, whose deadly swing has already earned him a place in Pakistani cricket folklore, is all set to go for the cricket World Cup, reports AFP.

"We are more keen than any team to win the world title," says the left-handed paceman. It was partly Akram's feat that won Pakistan the World Cup in 1992 final against England.

Four years' later, Pakistan is expecting similar heroics from him.

Akram also has the distinction of claiming two hat-tricks, both earned in the desert sands of Sharjah.

The 29-year-old Akram warmed up for the World Cup by capturing 19 wickets in Pakistan's domestic Will's Kings Cup, leading his Pakistani International Airlines side to the title.

"It's a perfect gift for me on the eve of the World Cup," he said. "I'm perfectly tuned up for next month's tournament."

"I'm fully satisfied with my form and am now really looking forward to the World Cup, which I hope to make the storybook tournament of my career."

## Bad knee bothers Inzamam

KARACHI, Feb 6: Pakistan's prolific batsman Inzamam-ul-Haq is likely to leave for London within a couple of days for treatment of a knee problem as the World Cup competition draws near, team manager Intikhab Alam said Monday.

"His knee is troubling him but I cannot tell you what sort of problem he has," the manager told AFP from Lahore, where the Pakistan team is training.

"Inzamam will definitely be back in the squad and play in the World Cup," Intikhab said, adding "he is our leading batsman and a consistent scorer."

Inzamam, 25, was also troubled by the knee problem during recent tours of Australia and New Zealand.

He has been prescribed cycling and swimming and physiotherapists have reportedly advised a diet for the tall batsman, often criticised for putting on weight.

A veteran of 96 one-day internationals since his debut in 1991-92, Inzamam has 3,307 runs to his credit.

## The Daily Star PHILIPS Cricket World Cup Quiz '96

1. First Prize: 21" Powervision Colour TV. Price Tk. 25,450.00

2. Second Prize: 14" Powervision Colour TV. Price: Tk. 15,550.00

3. Third Prize (3 Nos.): Turbo Bass. Price Tk. 5500.00 each

**All prizes courtesy: Transcom Electronics Ltd.**

Official Licensee of PHILIPS Electronics N.V. for Lighting products, Radio and TV Sets.

## Aussies remain adamant



SYDNEY, Feb 6: The Australian Cricket Board (ACB) rejected on Tuesday a Sri Lankan offer of extra-light security for a World Cup cricket match in Colombo but said it still awaited a former answer to its request for a change of venue, report agencies.

The Australian Cricket Board Monday pulled out of

provide the Australian team with security normally reserved for a visiting head of state and they would have to remain in the country only as long as it takes to play the one-day match on February 17.

Sports minister S B Dissanayake also agreed to fly out the Sri Lankan cricket team to neighbouring India to play a scheduled practice match before the actual one-day game here.

The Australian Cricket Board Monday pulled out of

the match in Sri Lanka, citing security concerns.

The bombing occurred just a few blocks from the hotel here where the Australians had been scheduled to stay.

Lankan Foreign Minister Kadirgamar said the Australians could stay in India or the Maldives instead of Colombo.

Helicopters would fly them from the international airport to their hotel, 35 kilometres (21 miles) away, the day of the match and the route from the hotel to the Premadasa Stadium would be declared out of bounds.

The government was planning blanket security cover for the cricket grounds and the immediate neighbourhood while no spectator would be allowed to bring parcels to the stadium.

The minister also warned Australia that any attempt to persuade other three countries scheduled to play here - Kenya, West Indies and Zimbabwe - to join the boycott would be treated as a "hostile act".

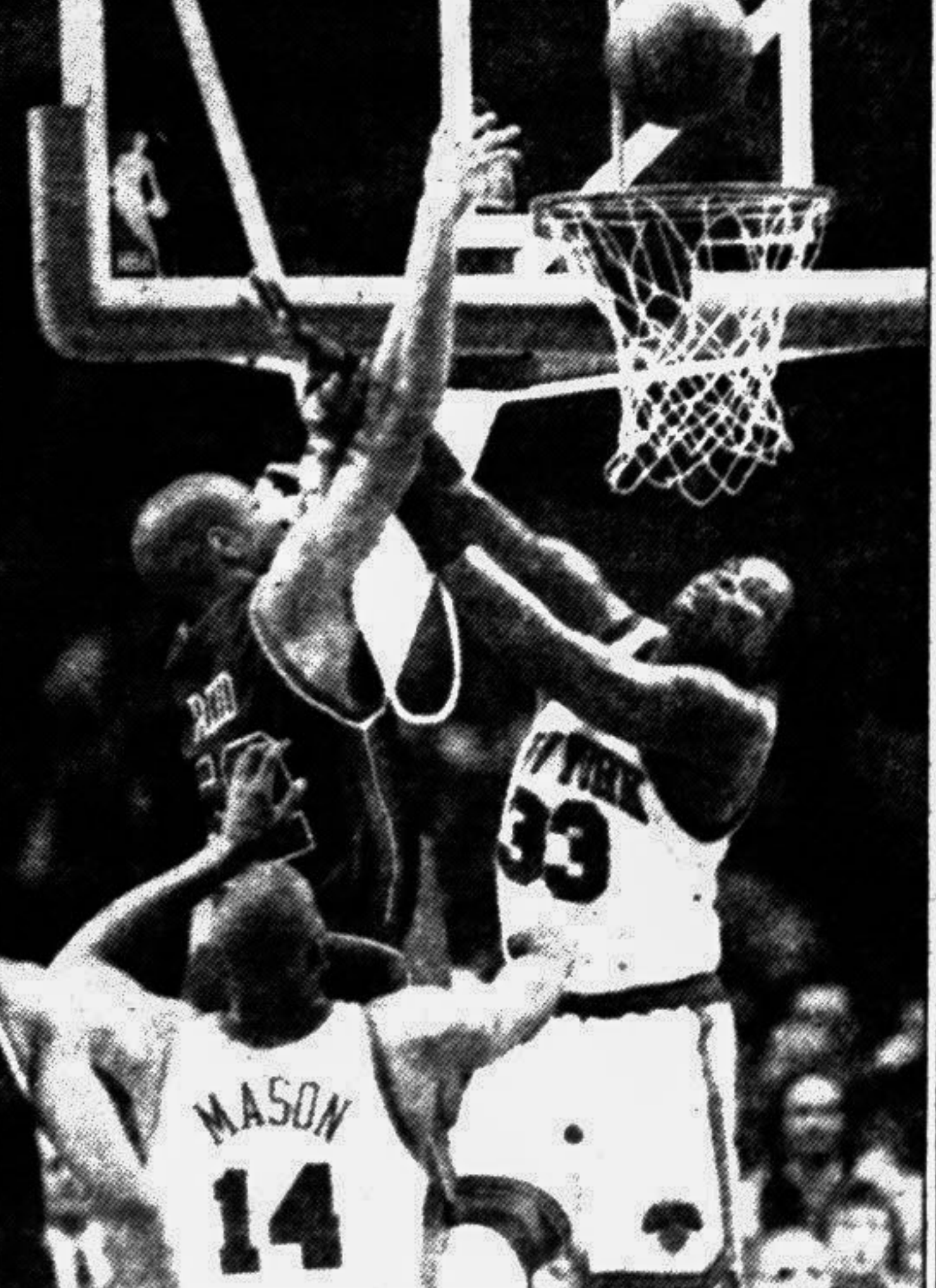
Meanwhile, from Sydney, Australia's Foreign Minister Gareth Evans Tuesday denied Australia was encouraging other countries to boycott World Cup cricket games in Sri Lanka and expressed surprise at a suggestion from there that such action would be treated as a "hostile act".

Evans said Tuesday that he was surprised by the "strength of that expression".

A latest ACB statement reaffirms the board's decision not to allow its players to compete in Sri Lanka and appeared to rule out any chance of compromise.

"A proposal received from Sri Lanka to transport the Australian team to the stadium in Colombo by helicopter under maximum security was considered and declined by the ACB today," the ACB statement said.

Signed by ACB chairman Denis Rogers and chief executive officer Graham Halbish, the statement said the ACB would make no further comment until PILCOM had ruled on Australia's request for the match to be moved to another venue.



Patrick Ewing (R), the New York Knicks' star, intervenes on a scoring attempt by Detroit Pistons' Don Reid during their NBA clash at Madison Square Garden, New York, on Feb 5. The Knicks won 97-91. — AFP/UNB photo

### Competition Information and Rules

**Information**

- The Daily Star-Philips World Cup Quiz is a series of 2 (two) Quiz Competitions on World Cup Cricket. Sets of questions will be published from Feb 4-17, 1996 for Quiz 1 and from Feb 25-March 15, 1996 for Quiz 2 which will be a Bonus Round, in the Sports Page.
- For the Quiz Competitions the prizes will be as follows:

1st Prize	Powervision 21" Colour TV
2nd Prize	Powervision 14" Colour TV
3rd Prize (three nos)	Turbo Bass Two-in-One

1st Prize	Powervision 29" Colour TV
2nd Prize	Powervision 30" Colour TV
3rd Prize (three nos)	CD Player

- Any taxes or levies, as per rule, for all the above prizes, will have to be borne by the winners.
- Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in the Daily Star. Winners will be responsible for collecting their prizes from the Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.

**Rules**

- Residents of Bangladesh will be eligible to participate in the Daily Star-Philips World Cup Quiz. Employees of the Daily Star and Transcom Electronics Ltd and their immediate family members shall not be eligible to participate in the Quiz competition.
- Participants are to cut the original form along the indicated dotted lines. All entries must be submitted on the original form printed in the Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.
- Participants are to put a tick (✓) mark in the box alongside the correct answer to the question. A person may send as many entries as one pleases.
- Each entry form should be clearly completed with a ball-point pen. Participant's name, address, father's name, etc must be clearly written. Each entry form must bear the date and signature of the participant.
- All entries must reach the office of the Daily Star on or before the closing date marked on the entry form. Envelopes of entries must be clearly marked "Star Quiz 1" or "Star Quiz 2" as the case may be. Entries may be hand-delivered or sent by post to The Daily Star, House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka: 1205.
- Entries will be placed in a sealed box for the lucky draw, to be held in public presence of invited guests and Quiz participants, if any, on a notified date.
- Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.
- The Daily Star authorities, in their absolute discretion, reserve the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or rescinded any and all dates of the Quiz competitions under any circumstances.
- All participants agree to abide by all rules, instructions and guide lines as may be issued from time to time by the Daily Star. Participants' entry in the Quiz competition shall be construed as their respective agreement to all such rules, instructions and guidelines.
- Any decision of the Daily Star in the conduct of the Quiz Competitions (including the answers selected as correct) shall be deemed final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged in any manner whatsoever.
- In complete forms will not be considered.

**Quiz 1** Entries close on 17-2-96

Read the information and rules carefully. Tick (✓) the correct answer.

- The final of the 1975 World Cup was held on June 14  June 21  June 27
- The 1979 World Cup was won by Australia  England  West Indies
- The man-of-the-match in the 1983 final was M. Amarnath  S. Gavaskar  Kapil Dev
- The 1987 World Cup final was held in Bombay  Calcutta  Lahore
- The highest scorer in the 1992 final was Graham Gooch  Imran Khan  Javed Miandad
- In the 1996 World Cup, Zimbabwe will be led by Grant Flower  D. Houghton  Andy Flower
- Bangladesh has been participating in the ICC Trophy since 1975  1977  1979

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

Write with a ball point pen in clear BLOCK letters. Cut along the dotted lines and mail to or drop in the Quiz Box in the Daily Star. You may send as many entries as you like.