

The World Cup with Philips

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NZ not coming to Dhaka

Sports Reporter

New Zealand cricket team, who are playing in the Willis World Cup now, will not visit Bangladesh as it was hoped earlier.

As per the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board press release on Monday, New Zealand, who were supposed to tour Bangladesh from February 29 to March 4, have decided to turn down their proposed visit due to complications in getting permission from the World Cup authority and travel fatigue.

However, New Zealand have shown their interest to tour Bangladesh sometime in next November and December before or after their tour of Pakistan.

The New Zealand pullout means that the Premier Cricket super league will commence as schedule from March 1.

A Kiwi joyride in prospect

FAISALABAD, Pakistan, Feb 26: New Zealand face their toughest World Cup challenge against United Arab Emirates here on Tuesday when they must motivate themselves against the worst side in the tournament, reports AFP.

The Emirates, clearly out of their depth despite their dogged efforts, have so far only managed to put the fans in a deep slumber.

They did play an unfortunate part in one highlight — when South African opener Gary Kirsten got to within single of the one-day world record by scoring an undefeated 188 against them.

But the only other brief flurry of Emirates' excitement came when a Pakistani air force helicopter was called in to hover over the sodden Rawalpindi ground before the game against the South Africans.

The team's cricket, too, has been about as fascinating as watching a pitch dry.

At the start of the tournament, opposing team captains were doing Sultan Zarawani's side the courtesy of saying they were taking the game as seriously as any other.

Kiwi captain Lee Gerard, however, will be heard pressed to repeat that assurance with a straight face on Wednesday.

Gerard will probably limit his goals to giving some of his extras a run-out-avoiding injuries and coming away with two points to join the South Africans on six.

TEAMS

**NEW ZEALAND:** (from) Lee Gerard (capt), Nathan Astle, Chris Cairns, Stephen Fleming, Chris Harris, Robert Kerrison, Gavin Larsen, Danny Morrison, Dion Nash, Dipak Patel, Adam Parore, Shane Thompson, Roger Twose, Craig Spearman.

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:** (from) Sultan Zarawani (capt), Saeed Al-Saffar, Vijay Mehra, Saleem Raza, Shahzad Altaf, Shaikat Dukanwala, Ganesh Mylvaganam, Syed Azhar Saad, Mazhar Hussein, Arshad Laq, Mohammed Aslam, Johanne Samarasekera, Intiaz Abbasi, Ishaq Mohammed.

NEW ZEALAND-UAE MATCH-FILE

ISLAMABAD, Feb 26 (AFP): Match-file of New Zealand's World Cup match with the United Arab Emirates on Tuesday.

**Group B:** (With Pakistan, South Africa, England and Holland)

**Strengths and weaknesses:** New Zealand rely on a young, very exciting batting line-up which, however, got taught a harsh lesson by South Africa's excellent pace attack.

The Emirates' partimers have managed to bowl fairly neatly but their batting has yet to post a respectable score.

**Men to watch:** Chris Cairns, after two impressive first outings, made only nine last time out and must be aiming for his first major score if he gets a chance at the crease.

The Emirates will be looking to any of their top five batsmen to launch an innings worthy of the name.

**Cup head-to-head:** The sides have never met in the Cup, with the Emirates making their debut in the tournament.

**Previous records:** New Zealand three semi-final finishes in 1973, 1979, 1982.

**Form book:** New Zealand, who lost series 3-2 to India and drew 2-2 with Pakistan before the Cup, started well against England and Holland but were soundly beaten by South Africa.

The Emirates took part in a four-nation tournament in December without winning a game and have been thrashed here by South Africa, England and Pakistan.

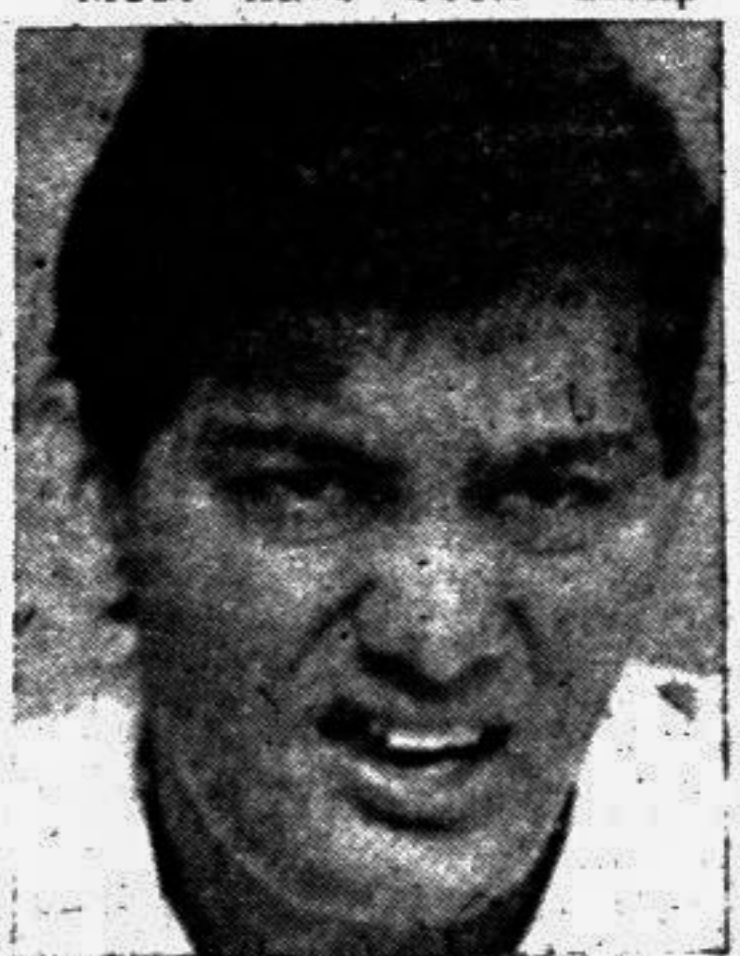
**Venue:** The Iqbal Stadium at Faisalabad in Punjab province.

Stage set for big show



BOMBAY, Feb 26: The lights are installed, the cameras in place and the action certain to be spectacular when Bombay, centre of the Indian film-making industry, stages its first match under lights on Tuesday, report agencies.

It is a prospect which has dazzled the city's cricket fans, who have been queuing day and night for elusive tickets to the clash between India and World Cup favourites Australia. Most have been disappointed.



AZHARUDDIN

pointed as only 7,000 of the 40,000 seats have been sold to the public, the rest going to members of local clubs whose allocation has been cut further by the installation of a giant electronic screen.

Black market prices inflated up to 10 times — the legitimate ticket prices range from 5,000 rupees to 200 (150, dollars to 6 dollars) — are being reported but head groundsmen Sudhir Naik is confident the fans will not be disappointed.

Naik, who played three Tests for India against West Indies and England in 1974, went to his boss a year ago with plans to transform the ground into an Indian field of

dreams. And this Bombay gets ready for big battle. Both teams are matched player to player, but the 45,000 fans who will pack the Wankhede stadium will be there for the cricketing quartet comprising batsmen Sachin Tendulkar and Mark Waugh and leg-spinners Shane Warne and Anil Kumble.

Boosted by victories in two previous matches against minnows Kenya and West Indies, India will be looking to maintain a 100 per cent record before entering the quarterfinal.

Australia, who also defeated Kenya, will try to compensate for giving a walkover to Sri Lanka. Mark Taylor and his men refused to travel to Colombo for the match fearing for their security.

Azharuddin said the toss will be crucial. The team that calls the coin correctly will bat first, make a total of about 250 and hope to get early wickets from pace bowlers aided by the evening sea breeze before the spinners take advantage of a drying wicket.

India's advantage is that Tendulkar and Vinod Kambli will be playing in front of a home crowd at their favourite stadium that faces the Arabian Sea.

"I think we need to get a big total on the board, but in a one-day match anything can happen," said Azharuddin, who had a light test session under lights on Sunday despite a sore throat.

The toss always plays a very important role, although the toss we lost against West Indies turned out to be a good toss to lose. I would have batted, but it turned out to be a very hard wicket to set a target on.

"I think if we can win this game it will give us a lot of confidence because this Australian side have played very well over the years," said Azharuddin, weary of reminding people that Sachin Tendulkar is not India's only threat.

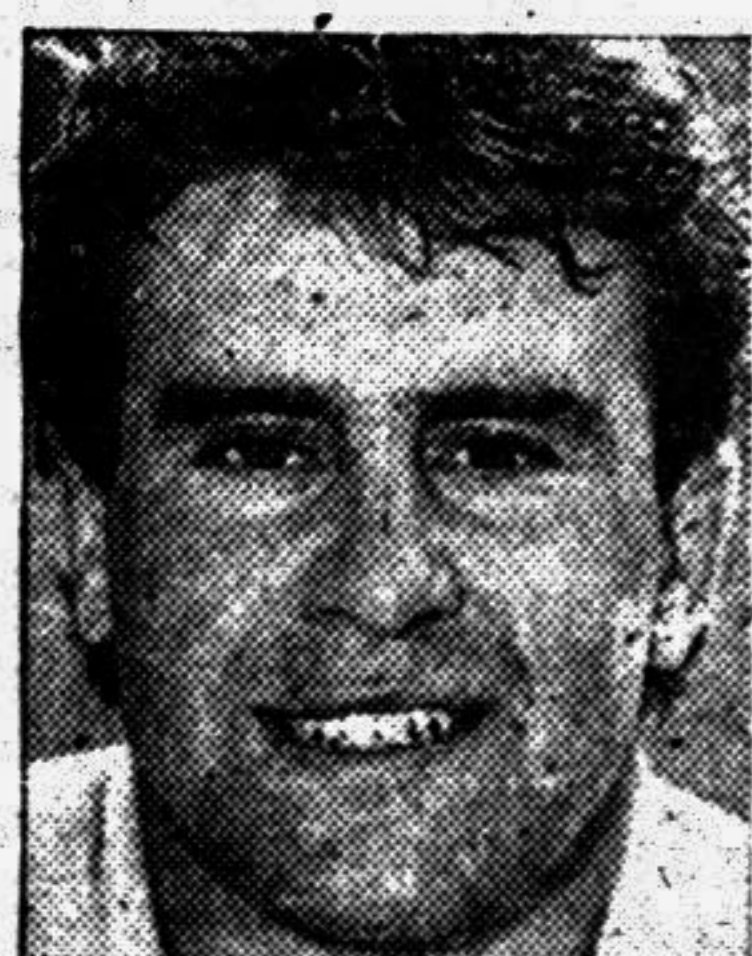
"He's not our only player, we have others, but he's playing well."

"We have 11 men and there is pressure on everybody... it's how well you cope with the pressure on the day that's important. The more you try to curb your natural instincts the more you get into trouble."

Sanjay Manjrekar is being considered for a place in the batting line-up and off-spinner Ashish Kapoor may again team up with Anil Kumble.

Apart from a couple of one-day games in Sharjah and New Zealand, India and Australia have hardly played against each other in the last four years and even the experienced Azharuddin has had limited exposure to Shane Warne.

But Azharuddin is relishing



MARK TAYLOR

the prospect of a big occasion under lights, which he hopes will be used in India's domestic cricket once the World Cup is over.

"It's going to be full, jam-packed. There are no tickets anywhere," he said. "The crowd play an important role but once you're on the field you have to do a job and you can't worry about what they're shouting in the stands. They're very emotional but you have to turn it into a positive thing. You have to be positive in your mind in any walk of life."

Victory would also help erase the memory of India's miserable tour to Australia four years ago when his side lost 4-0 in a five-Test series.

Bookies kept guessing



ISLAMABAD, Feb 26: Unbeaten India, South Africa, and Pakistan have come out with the biggest World Cup territorial gains as the smoke begins to clear following the tournament's penning salvos, reports AFP.

The three have moved up to join Australia as equal favourites for the title after their early showings, while lacklustre England, with two defeats to match two low-value wins, and the struggling West Indies, with one defeat one win and match forfeit, have lost ground.

South Africa's advance — now quoted at 5-2 by British bookmakers William Hill after starting at 11-2 — has been the most impressive, built upon some of the best combined bowling and fielding displays ever seen.

Hansie Cronje's pace battery, led by the "White Lightning" Allan Donald and supplemented by whipper Shaun Pollock and burly Brian McMillan — with four wickets to his name so far costing 54 from 21 overs — has been perfectly supplemented by the team's all-round athleticism.

In Jonty Rhodes, Cronje has the best fielder in the world, a rubber panther of a man worth a run-out, catch and 20 runs saved in the field every game. Against England he also chipped in with a run-a-ball 37.

Opener Gary Kirsten, meanwhile, did not waste his chance of a headline by recording an undefeated 186 against the United Arab Emirates, just a single short of Vivian Richards all-time one-day best.

India, also quoted at 5-2 by English bookmakers, have surprised some, though not their own packed followers, with their all-round quality.

Leg-spinner Anil Kumble, with three wickets against Kenya and another three against West Indies, was expected to bewitch Sachin Tendulkar, however, has astonished most onlookers by his dismissive authority at the crease, earning 197 runs in two innings.

His wicket has yet to be claimed by a bowler, his only completed knock ending in a run-out.

Javagal Srinath, Gloucestershire's seamer last season, gives the side punch with the wristy Mohammed Azharuddin is a big score just waiting to happen.

Pakistan, like Australia, have been limited in their op-

portunities thus far, with only cannon fodder to take pot shots at Mushtaq Ahmed, however, with three for 16 on his first outing against the United Arab Emirates, is clearly in prime form as is pace bowler Waqar Younis, a long saga of back problems behind him.

Australia's only game against Kenya gave Mark Waugh the chance to claim a one-day best 130, while twin Steve helped himself to 82.

England's campaign, meanwhile, can be summed up in one word — ghastly. The fielding has been comical, the bowling wildly erratic and the batting of Graeme Hick (85, 104 not out, 14) and Graham Thorpe (9, 89, 48) excepted — has been as flimsy as Michael Atherton's post-match excuses.

Crickets fans could have got 5-1 on England winning the tournament in December but the price has now drifted out to 8-1.

The defeat to India, with Brian Lara managing just two, aggravated things further although Curtly Ambrose's last World Cup fling has earned him five wickets for 69 this far. Not had for a dinosaur.

Anyone looking for an exciting outside bet, however, should look no further than Sri Lanka. Once considered a 33-1 long shot, the Sri Lankans, with Aravinda de Silva (91) and Asanka Gurusinha (87) to the fore, made short work of the Zimbabwean attack to reopen the wallets of a few punters. The small matter of four free points, courtesy of Colombo stay-aways Australia and West Indies did not do their cause any harm either.

Current prices being quoted by bookmakers William Hill: Australia, South Africa, Pakistan, India: 7-2, Sri Lanka: 8-1, West Indies: 9-1, England: 10-1, New Zealand: 25-1.



Michael Stich of Germany poses with the ECC tennis tournament trophy — a solid gold racket with a diamond logo — after outgunning Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia 6-3, 6-2, 7-6 (7/5) in the final in Antwerp Belgium on Feb 25.

TODAY'S VENUES

BOMBAY: The city's rise from the dowry of a Portuguese queen to the country's foremost sea port and commercial centre, is indeed, meteoric.

This city built on seven islands washed by the sea on three sides, throbs with a vitality, perhaps unequalled elsewhere in the country. The capital of Maharashtra, Bombay is the country's premier cultural centre besides being the centre of the Indian film industry.

The 45,000-capacity Wankhede Stadium is a regular Test venue since 1974. Has been equipped with floodlights and a giant video screen for today's day-night India-Australia match.

FAISALABAD: Situated southwest of Lahore in the Punjab province, this city is at the hub of the cotton belt.

Before the partition, Faisalabad was a small but beautiful town called Lyallpur. It has now mushroomed into being Pakistan's fourth largest city. It is now a sprawling city and is popularly known as the Manchester of Pakistan.

The industrial town is two hours by road from Lahore. The Iqbal Stadium, which seats 28,000, is a regular Test centre since 1982. It will hold today's World Cup match between New Zealand and UAE.

Cronje calls on Leghari

ISLAMABAD, Feb 26: South African cricket captain Hansie Cronje met Pakistani President Farooq Leghari on Monday and handed over a message from Nelson Mandela, reports Reuter.

The South African President's message said Cronje and his World Cup team enjoyed the support of the republic's people and had contributed much toward nation-building and reconciliation over the past two years.

Cronje, accompanied by team manager Cassiem Docrat and vice-captain Craig Matthews, spent 25 minutes with Leghari at the presidential palace in Islamabad.

The discussions included sport in developing countries and Cape Town's bid for the 2002 Olympic Games.

Leghari and the South Africans also discussed who might win the Group B match between Pakistan and South Africa in Karachi on Thursday.

"The President said he hoped the best side would win and that the best side would be Pakistan," said Cronje.

Sampras halts Martin's run

MEMPHIS, Tennessee, Feb 26: World number one Pete Sampras won his second title in as many weeks by stopping Todd Martin's incredible Memphis run at the Kruger Jude final on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Sampras put on a masterful performance from the service line to beat fifth seed and two-time defending champion Martin 6-4, 7-6(7-2).

Martin was playing the Memphis final for the fourth year in a row and took a 14-match winning streak in this event into Sunday's match, but had no answers for the top seed's serve.

Sampras, who earned 117,000 dollars for his efforts, lost just nine points in 11 service games. He had no double faults, did not face a single breakpoint and put 73 per cent of his first serves into play.

"When I'm serving that high a percentage, I'm pretty tough to beat," said Sampras, who increases his lead in the ATP rankings over Austrian number two Thomas Muster from 81 points to 331, by adding Memphis to last week's title in San Jose.

Stich stops Goran in his tracks

ANTWERP, Belgium, Feb 26: German Michael Stich snapped the winning streak of Croat Goran Ivanisevic by taking the European Community tennis championship title on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Ivanisevic, the pre-match favourite who had won the titles in Zagreb and Dubai in recent weeks, was beaten 6-3, 6-2, 7-6 (7-5) in 84 minutes by Stich, the sixth seed who was playing only his second tournament since tearing a ligament in his left ankle last October.

The 27-year-old German, ranked 13th in the world, dominated from the net in the first two sets in a battle between two big servers who together had hit more than 120 aces in their four previous matches here.

Third seed and world number nine Ivanisevic, who saw a winning streak of 14 matches halted, squandered most of this volley but recovered his poise after saving two breakpoint in the third game of the third set.

It was the first ATP title for Stich, the 1991 Wimbledon champion, since he took the Los Angeles title last August.

Essence of the Pollocks



RAWALPINDI, Feb 26 (Reuter): Shaun Pollock, proud inheritor of the best-known surname in South African cricket, is fast forging his own distinctive identity.

Pollock is the son of Peter Pollock, one of South Africa's greatest fast bowlers and now convener of the national selectors, while his uncle is Graeme Pollock, acknowledged as one of the finest batsmen in the history of the game.

The flame-haired 22-year-old made his international debut in the recent home Test series against England and then blazed his way with both bat and ball as South Africa swamped Mike Atherton's men 6-1 in the one-day series.

He was named man-of-the-series, taking 13 wickets and scoring liberally with the bat, including a match-winning 69 not out in his first limited overs international.

That performance secured an automatic berth for Pollock in the World Cup, where he has helped South Africa to win their first three games and been given the duty of opening the bowling his country just three years after making his first-class debut.

"It was a burden growing up with the family name," he said. "Obviously people expect a lot of a Pollock. For me to get there on my own was a relief."

Pollock had ambitions early last year of making the South African side for tours of both New Zealand and Zimbabwe but was convinced he had blown his chances after taking just

four wickets with South Africa's under-24 side in Sri Lanka in August. I went there to try and impress but I didn't have a good tour at all. It was disappointing for me. I didn't perform," he said.

But some impressive de-



SHAUN POLLOCK

mestic form, and an injury to Franke de Villiers opened the door for Pollock at the start of the England visit.

"It was a great experience and the one-day series was brilliant preparation for the World Cup," he said of South Africa's 1-0 win in the five Test series and the overwhelming limited-overs tri-

umph. Further doors have opened since with Pollock signing a one-year contract to play for Warwickshire in the coming English county season.

There, too, he will have to follow in some illustrious footsteps, taking over from West Indian Brian Lara and his own teammate Allan Donald.

"I've a tough act to follow, they've won the last two seasons and had players like Lara and Allan. I'm still young and I've got a lot of things to learn about the game of cricket."

A year's experience with Warwickshire will be great for me.

Pollock is also keen to earn a name for himself with the bat.

"I've always fancied myself as a batsman. I just haven't had the opportunity to play much with all the good batsmen around," he said.

"Obviously bowling is always going to be the thing that's going to establish me but I would like to try and work on becoming a genuine all-rounder."

Prompt apology from Atherton

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Feb 26: England captain Michael Atherton apologised on Monday for calling a Pakistani journalist a "buffoon" at a news conference after Sunday's World Cup match against South Africa, reports Reuter.

"During yesterday's press conference after the match with South Africa I am sorry if I caused offence to a local journalist and local journalists during questioning," Atherton said in a statement read out by England tour manager John Barclay.

**Dear READERS, this one's for YOU**

The BUMPER ROUND of The Daily Star-Philips Cricket World Cup Quiz begins from TODAY and will continue upto March 15, 1996.

The PRIZES ARE BIGGER! The questions are on your happy hunting ground—the World Cup. So, pick up a pair of scissors and cut away; a ball point pen and tick away.

Thanks to you, The Daily Star office has been inundated by your sporting response to Quiz 1, the Draw of which will be held SOON.

YOU will be invited to attend both the DRAWS; that's a promise.

For the moment, keep on sending entries to the BUMPER ROUND.

The very best to all of you.

The Daily Star PHILIPS Cricket World Cup Quiz '96

1. First Prize 29" Powervision Colour TV Tk. 47,800.00

2. 2nd Prize 20" Powervision Colour TV Tk. 22,850.00

3. 3rd Prize CD Player Tk. 7750.00X3= 23,250.00

All prizes courtesy: Transcom Electronics Ltd.

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

**Competition Information and Rules**

**Information**

A. 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, 1996 for Quiz 1 and from Feb. 27, March 15, 1996 for Quiz 2 which will be a Bumper Round. In the Sports Page.

B. For the Quiz Competitions the prizes will be as follows:

**Quiz 1**

1st Prize: Powervision 31" Colour TV

2nd Prize: Powervision 14" Colour TV

3rd Prize (three sets): Turbo Base Two-in-One

**Quiz 2**

1st Prize: Powervision 30" Colour TV

2nd Prize: Powervision 29" Colour TV

3rd Prize (three sets): CD Player

C. Any taxes or levies, as per rule, for all the above prizes, will have to be borne by the winners.

D. 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**

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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 s/he pleases.

4. 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.

5. 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, Dharmadani R/A, Dhaka: 1908.

6. 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.

7. Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.

8. 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 re-schedule any and all dates of the Quiz competitions under any circumstances.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. Incomplete forms will not be considered!

**Quiz 2: Bumper Round** Ends March 15, 1996

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

1. The first "duck" in the World Cup was by H R Shah  E D Solkar  A Knott

2. In the WC, the first over was bowled by V Holder  M Lal  J Snow

3. In the 1975 WC, the Sri Lankans were led by D Mendis  B Warnapura  B Tannekoon

4. In 1979 WC, the playing Chappell was Chris  Ian  Greg

5. The spinner who won two M-of-M awards in the 1983 WC was L Gomes  D Underwood  A Qadir

6. Australia won the 1987 World Cup beating England in the final by 7 runs  17 runs  27 runs

7. The maximum wides and no-balls bowled in the 1992 WC was by A Donald  W Akram  W Benjamin

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

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE: (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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. Send as many entries as you like.