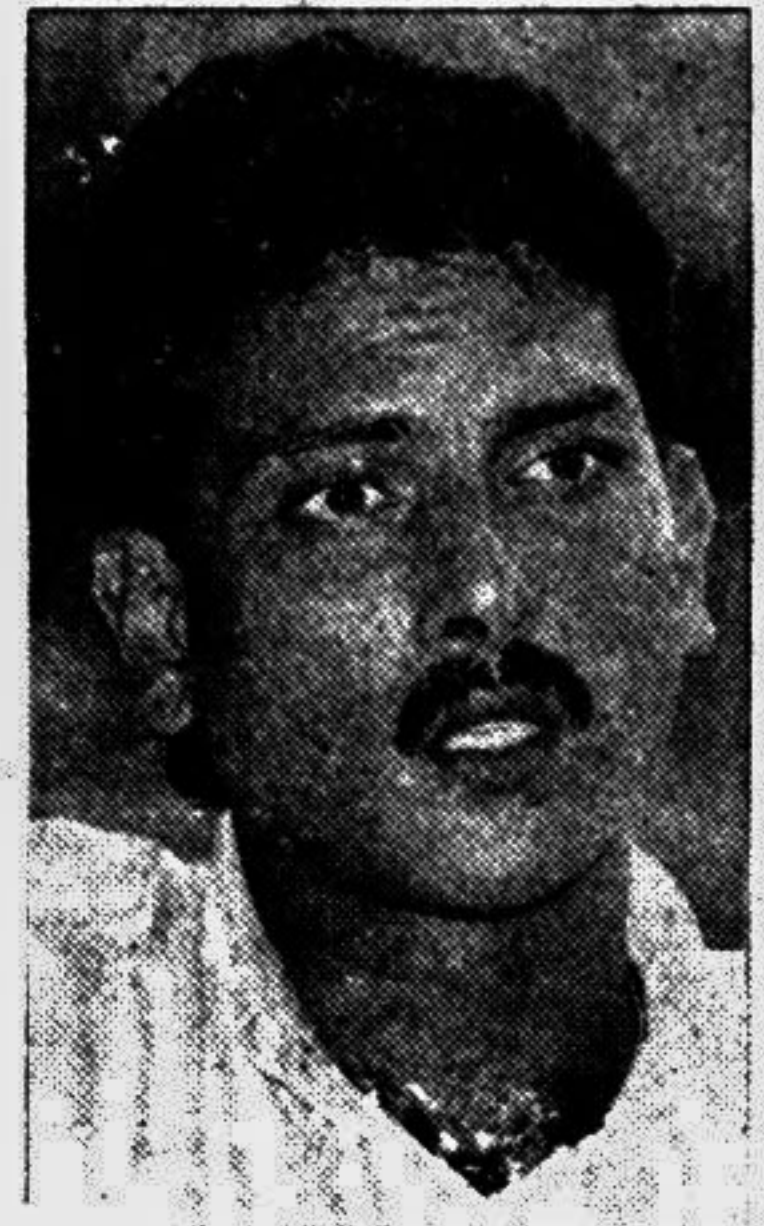


Column One

DID U' KNOW? (The Professor does)

THAT the largest margin of victory by runs is 223 when Australia beat Sri Lanka at Adelaide in 1985. Other plus-200 margins featured New Zealand beating Australia, also at Adelaide, a year later (206) and England having the better of India at Lord's in 1975 (202 runs).

SPORTS TALK



Ravi Shastri (Former Indian all rounder) At the end of the day one-day cricket is not about what you do, it's about what you do on the big day. Take the World Cup. Australia might have played brilliant cricket for one year and for 360 days they may have been the boss. In the World Cup, for three days if they screw up, they screw up totally.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-28 Tick the Correct Answer (Competition closes: 8 p.m. Mar 8, 1996)

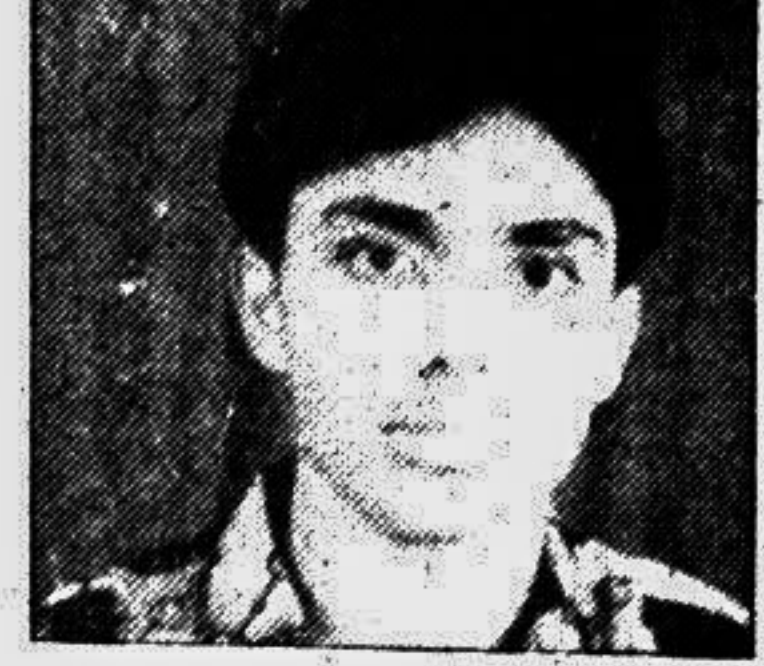
Table with 5 rows and 2 columns for sports trivia questions and answers.

Name: Roll No: School Address: Phone: (if any)

WHIZZ KID -26 winners



1. Syed Imtiaz Irtiza BAF Shaheen School Dhaka



2. Fakir Asheque Alamgir St Joseph School Dhaka

- 3. Jyoti Pul Mijra St Joseph School Dhaka
4. S M Walid Jehangir Green Herald Dhaka
5. Kashed Rafique Rupom Kakoli High School Dhaka
No. 3, 4, 5 pictures are not available.

Sujon shoos Wari away

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

MOHAMMEDAN SC: 220 in 49 overs (Sujon 108, Nasu 29; Munna 4/42)
WARI CLUB: 155 in 45.5 overs (Biplob 55, Adim 20; Sujon 2/20)



A brilliant all-round performance by Khaled Mahmud Sujon propelled Mohammedan Sporting Club to a 65-run victory over Wari Club in the inaugural Premier Division cricket super league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Coming in at number six with his side trailing on 46 for four in only the thirteenth over, Sujon played the sheet anchor role in Mohammedans' unimpressive innings of 220, all out in 49 overs.

The discarded national all-rounder, who rarely gets an opportunity to display his batting abilities, quietened his critics by scoring a responsible 108 off 121 deliveries inclusive of eight boundaries and a single hit over the ropes.

Sujon's second career century in top-flight league cricket deserved even more credit as the remaining members of the strong Mohammedan top and middle

order, which includes national stalwarts Aminul Islam Bulbul and Minhazul Abedin Nannu, and Youth team skipper Selim Shahed, crumbled under the Wari pace attack - none of the top five batsmen scoring more than 13.

Sujon went further in proving his all round abilities when he clean bowled dangerous Moniruzzaman Moni and also accounted for opposing skip-



SUJON, 108

per M Rahman Mukul as Wari wobbled to 155 runs before being bundled out in 45.5 overs.

Opener M Islam Biplob fought a lone battle for his side making 55 off 77 balls. Biplob hit five fours and a six in his rain attempt to turn the game around.

Pakistan spinner Shahed Mahmud claimed two wickets for 34 runs while Mustafizur Rahman returned with two wickets for 10 off his three overs.

Sujon, undoubtedly the unofficial man-of-the-match took two for twenty of his five medium pace overs.

Acme Div II cricket

Sports Reporter Brief scores of Acme Second Division cricket super league matches played at different venues in the city yesterday:

NABIN BANORA - 143 in 40 overs (Shams 24, Pavel 20, Zahid 20, Pappa 3/21)
UTTARA CC - 148/7 in 31-1 overs (Pijush 53 n.o., Masum 3/25)
Results: Uttara CC won by 3 wks.

ORIENT SC - 238/8 in 40 overs (Ujjal 60, Mahmud 42)
GANDARIA CRICKETERS: 174 in 38.4 overs (Litu 52, Naser 3/21, Shaheen 3/23)
Result: Orient SC won by 64 runs.

GMCC glide past Eskaton

Sports Reporter

Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club (GMCC) got off to a brilliant start in the Premier Division cricket relegation league when they thrashed a sub-standard Eskaton Sabuj Sangha by 9 wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

On the opening day of the second phase of the league, GMCC bowled out Eskaton to a paltry 97 runs in 34.5 overs with skipper Mizanur Rahman Babul and Manzurul Islam ripping through the opponents' batting line.

Babul took three for 21 while Manzurul accounted for four Eskaton batsmen giving away 31 runs.

Tawhid Hossain was the lone survivor among the Eskaton ranks hitting an unbeaten 33 off 62 balls inclusive of five boundaries.

In reply, GMCC mustered up the required runs in only 14.1 overs losing only one wicket.

Discarded national opener Javed Omar Belim remained unbeaten on 38 hitting five boundaries while Mahmud Hamid was the other net out batsman on 46. He hit seven fours and a six.

Brisk betting in Pakistan!

KARACHI, Mar 1: Betting is forbidden on religious grounds in Islamic Pakistan but illegal bookies say business is thriving because of the World Cup, reports Reuter.

"There is a tremendous interest," said one man operating in Karachi's Boulton market business district.

Speaking on condition of strict anonymity, he said most people wanted to bet on champions Pakistan as they fight to retain their title.

Before Pakistan's defeat by South Africa in Karachi on Thursday, the bookies had installed the home side as joint favourites with Australia at 3-1 followed by India (4-1) and South Africa (5-1).

The minimum bet accepted by the bookies is 1,000 rupees (\$29 dollars).

The Daily Star readers' poll

After Thursday's set back, the predictions were back on track again yesterday. Both Australia and the UAE won. But a tough game awaits today. Good luck to you fortune-tellers.

TODAY'S VENUE

NEW DELHI: The capital of India. The history of Delhi goes back to the Mahabharata, as this was the site of ancient Indraprastha.

Delhi, through the ages, was ruled by a series of Muslim dynasties, each of whom built forts, tombs, palaces of different artistic styles.

Amongst the Mughals who followed it was Shah Jahan who made Delhi his capital and embellished it. And it was from Delhi that Nadir Shah, the Persian emperor, took away the Peacock Throne and the famed Kohinoor diamond.

The British moved their capital from Calcutta to Delhi in 1911 making it the 8th city to be built on site. New Delhi was designed by Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker.

Today, Delhi is an amazing mix of the old and the new. The seat of the Government, Delhi is a city very conscious of its power and status.

India's capital does not have a modern cricket stadium. But the historic 30,000-seater Feroze Shah Kotla ground is a permanent Test venue. New dressing rooms and a media centre are being constructed for the today's India-Sri Lanka match.

WHIZZ KID - 27 winners

- 1. Nazifa Kareemina Holy Cross High School Dhaka
2. Sara Nowreen Eng. University School Dhaka
3. Anika Mariam Ahmed Sunnydale Dhaka
4. Sara Farheen Ahmed Holy Cross High School Dhaka
5. Rakibuzzaman Ganobhaban Govt High School Dhaka (please send your pictures)

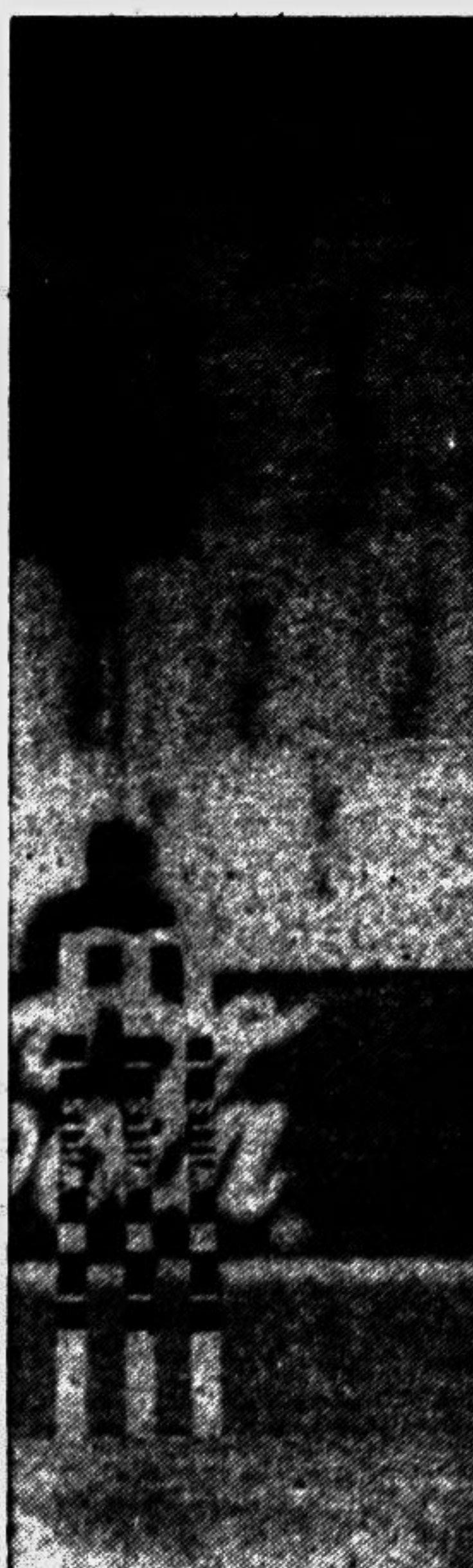
WHIZZ KID -27 correct answers

- 1. All three choices of question No 1 were incorrect. Winners were determined on the basis of four correct answers.
2. The 1974 Asian Games were held in Ans: Tehran.
3. The present West Indian cricket vice captain is? Ans: Courtney Walsh.
4. Tennis prodigy Martina Hingis is from? Ans: Switzerland.
5. The name of the captain of the UAE cricket team?

Emirates turn up heat



LAHORE, Mar 1: The United Arab Emirates, inspired by a "shopkeeper" and a could be Vivian Richards, stunned Holland here today by winning their World Cup battle of the minnows, reports AFP.



peppering the stands in small groups. Dukanwala, greeted by chants of "what have you got in your shop?" throughout the tournament, came up with the goods at last by taking five wickets for 29 of his ten overs to reduce the Dutch to 216 for nine.

Then Raza made sure he shared the man-of-the-match award by lashing Holland's hapless spinners all over the ground.

Holland's dejection was perfectly reflected by opener Nolan Clarke and all-rounder Roland Leferve. Clarke, the oldest man who has scored 36 centuries in Dutch cricket, was dismissed for a duck.

His previous tournament scores have been 14, 4 and 0. Lebevre, meanwhile, the Glamorgan player, came here with a barely recovered groin muscle and spent most of Friday grimacing in pain. He looks a certain non-starter for Holland's final game against South Africa.

Falvian Aponso and Peter Cantrell were Holland's top scorers with 45 and 47. The result left the Dutch, a non-Test playing nation like their opponents, rooted to the bottom of the table, with the Emirates leap-frogging them to end with two points from five matches.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Cup Group B match between the United Arab Emirates and Holland played in Lahore Friday.

Table with columns for player names and scores for Holland and United Arab Emirates.

Wasim's date with destiny

six World Cups has yet to face a ball in the tournament after Pakistan's easy early wins. Wasim, however, will have to make sure he keeps the rest of the squad - containing six former national captains -

KARACHI, Mar 1: Pakistan skipper Wasim Akram faces up to his worst World Cup nightmare here on Friday as he bids to refoat a side rocked by defeat and a double controversy, reports AFP.

Wasim has just two days to plug the holes after reports leaked out that veteran batsman Javed Miandad had made himself unavailable for Thursday's crucial defeat to Pakistan after a team row.

First he must reassure Miandad, reportedly unhappy batting at number six, of his importance in the Pakistan set-up.

Then he must refocus the side and get it playing back-to-basics cricket before Sunday's game here against England.

Another mystery is the late switch of umpire Ian Robinson from Thursday's game, allegedly because Pakistan were unhappy with him. But that will be the last thing on Wasim's worry list.

The captain, while denying the reports of a team rift, is likely to move Miandad up the batting order on Sunday since the 38-year-old veteran of all

WASIM AKRAM



happy at the same time, while also cracking the whip after Thursday's reverse.

Unfortunately for the skipper, his task will be made all the harder since he was himself one of the prime offenders.

Wasim admitted, "I didn't bowl well." Worse still, his tactical naivety was also badly shown up.

He said after the match: "Probably the next game we will come out with a different strategy (...) the players know what they did wrong."

Wasim made several crucial errors on Thursday. First he brought all three spinners into play before the 15th over, making them highly vulnerable to the rule allowing only two fielders outside the inner 30-yard circle.

Then he failed to reign in Waqar Younis, who grabbed three wickets but also gave away break-taking runs at key moments.

Waqar saw one over go for 17, while leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed cost 16 off his first. Wasim's authority on the field, however, was not helped by his own 9.2 overs costing 49.

The Pakistan captain may not be able to transform himself into a brilliant tactician overnight - although Hansie Cronje must have taught him a few lessons on Thursday - but he can get the side, spiced with such individual brilliance, playing back-to-basics cricket again.

Attack, Wasim will have to tell his squad, is all very well but pressure must also be built up by defence. As the flow of runs is stemmed, so batsmen are more likely to take risks.

Pinch-hitters to pounce



NEW DELHI, Mar 1: Both India and Sri Lanka are looking to take pinch-hitting to new heights when they clash in a key World Cup match here on Saturday, reports AFP.

The hard, barren wicket at the small Feroze Shah Kotla ground bodes well for a high-scoring thriller between two teams packed with strokeplayers.

Sri Lankan manager Duleep Mendis hinted at an explosive run-feast when he said his team will attempt to score "at least 100 runs in the first 15 overs."

"The conditions here suit our style. We will go for the runs from the start," Mendis said. "We must get at least 100 in the first 15 overs."

His Indian counterpart Ajit

suited to bowl on the slow wickets.

"He is on our main strike bowlers. Happily for us, Murali is not worried anymore about his bowling action since scientific tests have proved he does not throw."

Two Australian umpires no-balled Muralitharan 14 times for chucking earlier in the season. But a Hong Kong-based institute - whose decision carries no official weight - declared him legal after filming his action with slow-motion cameras.

TEAMS INDIA (from): Mohammad Azharuddin (capt), Sachin Tendulkar, Ajay Jadeja, Vinod Kambli, Sanjay Manjrekar, Manoj Prabhakar, Nayan Mongia, Javagal Srinath, Anil Kumble, Venkatesh Prasad, Venkatesh Raju, Navjot Singh Sidhu, Ashish Kapoor, Sali Arindia.

SRI LANKA (from): Arjuna Ranatunga (capt), Aravinda de

India could finish third if they lose to Sri Lanka on Saturday, but Azharuddin brushed aside any burden on his team.

There is no pressure, we don't worry about what will happen in the quarterfinals. It is important not to think of the future, but take each match as it comes," Azharuddin said.

Both teams will name their playing elevens before the toss on Saturday. Wadekar said India were contemplating playing off-spinner Ashish Kapoor to pin down the four left-handers at the top of the Sri Lankan batting order.

Left-arm spinner Venkatesh Prasad will face the axe if Kapoor is accommodated.

Sri Lanka's controversial off-spinner, Muttiah Muralitharan seems certain to play after Mendis said he was ideally

he was receiving treatment.

He added, "He is our main player, he is one of the best players we have in Pakistan."

But the mystery intensified immediately when Miandad, 38, a former national captain with a long history of rowing with national officials and fellow players, gave yet another version of events.

Miandad claimed, "I did not

Miandad is currently batting at number six and failed to get a bat in the side's first two games against the United Arab Emirates and Holland.

The player's absence infuriated his home fans at Thursday's game. When the fifth Pakistan wicket fell, Wasim appeared to be loudly heckled as chants of "Javed, Javed" rose from the stands.

The Miandad mystery, however, could have immediate effects on the pitch itself.

Miandad, the fourth highest Test run-scorer in history, was only included in the World Cup squad at the last moment, having just retired from a self-imposed two-year retirement. He had walked out in April 1994, claiming he had been insulted by the selectors.

Doubts were immediately raised about Pakistan team unity.

But Intikhab said last week: "It will not make any difference. All the players have decided what to do. They have to follow the game plan which Wasim Akram wants to implement. They have been told what to do and there is great understanding among all the players."

Miandad is known to have his supporters in the side. Several other players from Karachi are in the squad while others have played with him for Habib Bank.

Ironically, Thursday's defeat will mean that South Africa are guaranteed to return there for their quarterfinal while Pakistan will probably have to travel to India for the next round, depriving the Karachi faithful of a second chance to see Miandad play.

Miandad's dubious malady



KARACHI, Mar 1: Pakistan's World Cup campaign slid further towards total chaos here on Thursday after reports that star batsman Javed Miandad had walked out of the team after a bust-up over his role in the side, reports AFP.

The defending champions, who also found themselves embroiled in an umpiring controversy before losing Thursday's vital Group B encounter with South Africa, at first denied the reports, announcing the player had injured his back.

But skipper Wasim Akram then bungled a press conference as he came under intense questioning over why Miandad had not played in front of a 34,000-capacity crowd at his home stadium.

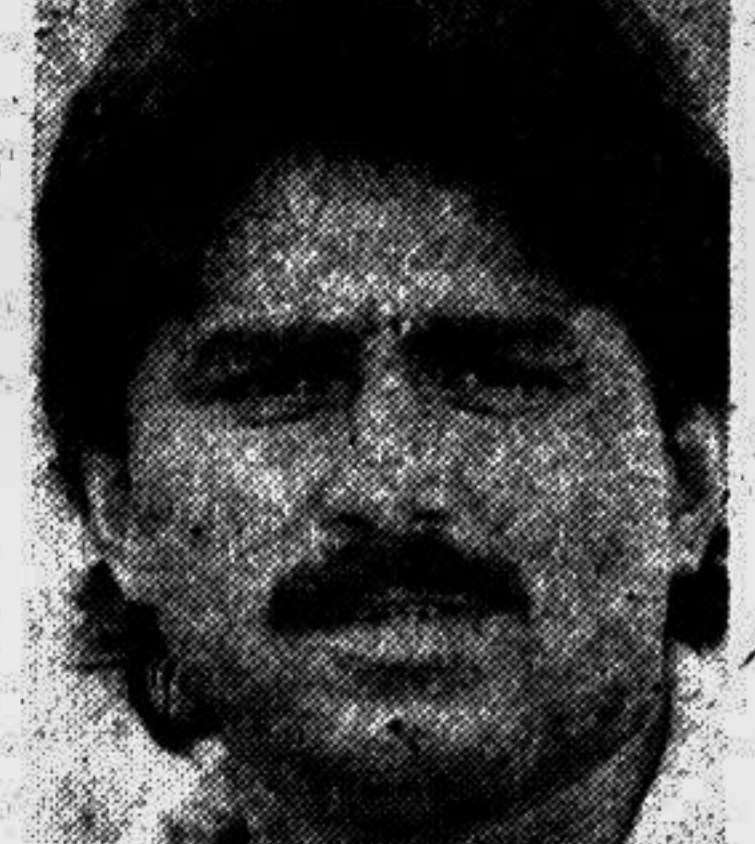
Wasim said, "Javed being dropped... Javed has been dropped. I mean he did not play this match."

"I think he did not because he has this... he has stressed his back a bit while fielding."

Sticking to that line, he explained that Miandad had not appeared for the national anthem before the game because

Pakistan to switch tack

KARACHI, Mar 1: Pakistan manager Intikhab Alam said here today his team had learnt a World Cup lesson against South Africa and would rely on a pace attack against England in this World Cup, reports



JAVED MIANDAD

play today because I was not feeling well. I had a tummy problem and was feeling weak. That's it."

Sources close to the team claimed Miandad, who has played in all six World Cup since 1975, infuriated Wasim and manager Intikhab Alam for turning up late to a function with a chief minister from South Sindh Province on Wednesday night.

He then made himself unavailable for the game, they said, suggesting Miandad wanted to play a more central role. With Wasim as captain and Aamir Sohail as his deputy, that can only mean a move up

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Cryptogram puzzle with grid and key: J N P K G U H I H Y D Y H P T C M V C N K N G J E V K T K L K M U K F T C M U G L H E G C K D Y J V L N I K E C Yesterday's Cryptogram: NOAH'S ARK A WHOLE-SOME CRUISE LINE KNOWN FOR ITS CREATURE COMFORTS. Today's Cryptogram clue: V equals G. The Cryptogram is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to