

# Column One

## DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

**T**HAT the first-ever cricket whitewash occurred in 1921. In the month of February fog and gloom shrouded Britain. News from Australia did little to help. England had been 0-5 in the Test series.

Of course, since then, we have had blackwashes and brownwashes as well as white-washes.

## SPORTS TALK



**Henry Blofeld**  
(Noted English cricket commentator)

The World Cup will undoubtedly be an unforgettable experience for all who are involved in it, in whatever capacity. The subtleties, its fascinating, frustrating, infuriating and fulfilling in just about equal part and the memories will come as much from off the cricket field as they do from on it.



## Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

### Sports WHIZZ KID competition-28

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Mar 8, 1996)

- In the World Cup Kenya beat...  

Kenya	8	Wines
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- World Cup Holland and Netherlands...  

Holland	1	Beer
---------	---	------
- The official 1996 WC drinks...  

Pras	1	Beer
------	---	------
- A champion is a left arm...  

Off-spinner	1	Center
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- You can square out a ball to...  

Straight	1	Keep
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

## Yamaha Div I cricket

**Sports Reporter**  
Gopibagh Friends Association posted a 32-run win in the Yamaha First Division cricket super league when they defeated Dhammond Club at the City Club ground in Mirpur yesterday.

### BRIEF SCORES

**GOPBAGH FA:** 220 for eight in 45 overs (Tuhin 46 n.o., Azim 30, Bipul 3/39)  
**DHAMMOND CLUB:** 188 for eight in 45 overs (Anis 55, Hira 32, Nadeem 4/30)

## The Daily Star readers' poll

The run of bad luck continues for our readers but few will be unhappy about yesterday's entertaining match which Sri Lanka won. Well, better luck next time!

### TODAY'S PREDICTED WINNERS: Pakistan.

## Minnows' plea

**LAHORE, Pakistan, Mar 2:** World Cup minnows Holland and the United Arab Emirates teamed up to make a direct appeal to the "big voices" of the International Cricket Council (ICC) here on Friday, reports AFP.

Dutch skipper Steve Lubbers, speaking after his loss to the Emirates by seven wickets in Group B here, said: "I know it's a point of discussion but if you really want to open up the world of cricket you have to take the pain for a few years."

"Every development has its problems, giving the chance is important. It's now up to the big voices in the ICC to see if they really want to promote the game."

Emirates skipper Sultan Zarawani added: "What we need is more international exposure."

Holland's manager David Trist has already appealed during this tournament for more funds from the ICC to expand the game in the country, where the sport is played by around 6,000 people and where games are played on batting wickets rather than grass.

# Kalabagan oust Biman

## BRIEF SCORES

**KALABAGAN KC:** 244 for 8 (Faruque 39, Selim 38, Atiar 36, Shahid Sayeed 31; Anis 5/37)  
**BANGLADESH BIMAN:** 161 for 8 (Shaheer 55 n.o., Tomal 28; Shahid Sayeed 5/19)

**Title aspirants** Bangladesh Biman were virtually thrown out of the top flight when Kalabagan

Krira Chakra handed the national airlines outfit a crushing 83-run defeat in their Premier super league opener at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Kalabagan's Pakistani all-rounder Shahid Sayeed, instrumental for his side's comprehensive victory, claimed five wickets in a devastating spell of eight overs as Biman, facing a fighting Kalabagan total of 244, managed only 161 for 8 in their share of 50 overs. Shahid Sayeed, who contributed a modest 31 off 42

## Sports Reporter

balls in his side's modest total, with his all-round performance overshadowed yet another brilliant show by Biman's national left-arm seamer Anisur Rahman who had also finished with a five-wicket haul.

After new-ball bowler Zakir Hossain struck in the ninth over to remove opener Atiar Ali Khan (5), Sayeed the Pakistani first-changer in the Kalabagan attack, ripped through the middle order with his off-cutters reducing rusty Biman to a precarious 57 for seven in 24 overs.

But, thanks to a gritty unbeaten 55 from a bearded lower-order bat Ahmed Faiz Shaheen, Biman's humiliation was much diluted.

Earlier, the Kalabagan innings was built around a couple of watchful knocks from their middle-order bats.

Skipper Faruque Ahmed with a patient 39 off 66 deliveries was the top scorer for his side followed by Mahabubur Rahman Selim, who hammered a rapid-fire 38 off 33 balls, and young Atiar Rahman with 36.

Besides, a staggering 32 extras including a mind-boggling 14 wides and five 'no balls' were the other notable contributions to the Kalabagan total.

For Biman, this sort of sloppy bowling not only cost them the match, but also evaporated their hopes of sticking on the top flight. Their Pakistani international Zafar Iqbal, who lived up to the reputation of his more illustrious compatriots of allowing too many extras, bowled six 'no balls' and as many wides.

Anisur Rahman, the only successful Biman bowler, also followed the pedestrian way of Zafar Iqbal conceding four wides and a 'no ball'.

With this defeat Biman were rooted to their previous collection of 16 points from 12 matches while Kalabagan raised their tally to 14 from as many outings.

League leaders Mohammedian Sporting Club, who finished the first phase with a four-point lead from their nearest rivals, now lead the table with 22 points from 12 matches.

# ROQUIBUL ON THE ROCKER

## Lankans explode in Delhi



An explosive start by the Sri Lankan openers - Jayasuriya and Kaluwitharana - helped Sri Lanka, the dark horse of the meet, to inflict a six-wicket defeat on favourites India in a high-scoring encounter yesterday.

The wicket at Ferozshah Kotla, a batsmen's paradise, more than worth the crowd expectation by the high class batting from both the teams. Inviting India to bat first, the Lankan skipper Arjuna Ranatunga revelled the simple fact that in recent times Sri Lanka, with a hosts of exciting batsmen, can chase anything set by their opponents.

After a relatively slow start, India, led by the great little master Sachin Tendulkar, skipper Azharuddin and Manjrekar, set a big target of 272.

Tendulkar, who is having a fabulous time in this World Cup, once again unearthed his genius blasting a swashbuckling almost run-a-ball 137, his second century in the competition. Sachin's innings can easily be termed as one of the best in the annuals of instant cricket. Captain Azhar (72 n.o.) and Sachin's aggressive 175-run partnership for the third wicket was the main feature in the Indian innings.

The last eleven overs of their innings produced 105 runs, mainly because of Sachin's electrifying batting. Among the Sri Lankan bowlers, Vaas and offie Muralitharan earned some respect from the two.

In their run chase, the Sri Lankan frontline batsmen did exactly what their manager and former national captain Dulip Mendis had predicted about their pyrotechnics during the first fifteen overs - scoring more than 100 runs.

Kaluwitharana and Jayasuriya, who fired their all four cylinders, tore apart the Indian bowling throwing anything and everything out of the ground with vindictive intent. The pair put up 53 in just five overs before Kalu fell to a brilliant catch by Kumble scoring 26 of 16 balls.

At one for 117 in the 15th over and with man-of-the-match Jayasuriya going great guns, the stage was well set for the incoming Lankan batsmen to have a great go.

To stop the onslaught, cap-

tain Azhar employed every-thing possible to contain the run-hungry Sri Lankans and succeeded in bringing India back into the game with his trump card Kumble who picked up the wickets of dangerous Aravinda De Silva and Jayasuriya in quick succession after Gurusinha was brilliantly run out by Prasad.

At four for 131 in the 23rd over, the match was evenly poised. But captain Ranatunga (46 n.o.) and crisis master Tillekeratne (70 n.o.) batted very sensibly picking up ones and twos and occasional boundaries. They thoroughly dominated the proceedings with a true sense of professional batting and coasted their side home with an unbroken partnership of 131. A great victory indeed.

However, going through the X-ray of the high-voltage drama, I must blame the Indian for using only one spinner on a slow turning wicket.

Azhar, however, realised and had to call upon his part-timer Sachin, who did well, and even asked new-ball bowler Prabhakar to bowl off-spin. But it was too late for India.

And for Prabhakar, who conceded 33 runs in his first two overs and punished for another 14 after switching to off-spin, it will be a living nightmare.

On the other hand, the emergence of Kaluwitharana and Jayasuriya as real pinch-hitters, only proved that how much strong they are at this moment and no score can make them bothered about to chase.

At last I must say that it was a fabulous cricketing day at Kotla and the real run for the money.

## MATCH ANALYSIS

### Needed: A match-winner

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

**I**t is said that matches are won by bowlers. And, if that be the case, then India desperately need a match-winning bowler - in other words, a strike bowler. The only trump card that she holds at the moment is leggie Anil Kumble. But what happens if he fails - India loses, as she did Saturday against Sri Lanka. It is not always possible for a bowler to strike within the limit of ten overs, whatever may be the expectations of him. This also puts him under undue pressure which in turn may work as a spanner in the wheel. India had a respectable total to defend and there was hardly anything frightening in the wicket. Both captains preferred to bat last on a wicket which, they thought, would help the seamers in the morning. But it was soon evident from the batting of Sachin Tendulkar, Manjrekar and Azharuddin that nothing was wrong with the wicket except that it was a bit slow. Both Azharuddin and Ranatunga knew it would be a high-scoring match and it was true. A total of 543 runs were scored for the loss of only 7 wickets.

When Sachin and Azhar were on a rampage in the morning, aided by some sloppy fielding by the Lankans which was unbecoming of them, one could hardly visualise what was coming in the afternoon. Tendulkar once again plundered the Lankan bowling and proved to the world that he was second to none.

But the diminutive dynamite Kaluwitharana along with the southpaw Sanath Jayasuriya set the Ferozshah Kotla afire as the capacity crowd held its breath. Not even notorious Nadir Shah would have imagined such a slaughter - 53 in 28 and 100 in 83 deliveries. The pace was set and it was now left to the middle order to complete the job. Gurusinghe and De Silva were indiscreet - De Silva in particular paid the price for his exasperation as Azhar hemmed him in with close-in fielders. Ranatunga, a cool customer and Hashan Tillekeratne survived some close calls. And after they overcame the initial hiccups it was easy going for them. Azhar's clever manipulations notwithstanding.

It was nice to see a big Bangladesh flag among the Sri Lankan crowd. The islanders once again proved they were a force to reckon with.

The spectacular run chase overshadowed a brilliant 137 from India's wonder batsman Sachin Tendulkar - his sixth one-day century and second in four World Cup matches.

The in-form 22-year-old, who made 127 not out, 70 and 90 in the first three games, slammed five sixes and eight boundaries before being run out in the final over attempting a sharp single.

Skipper Mohammad Azharuddin contributed an unbeaten 72 off 80 balls - his first major score in the tournament - during a brisk 175-run stand off 26.3 overs for the third wicket with Tendulkar.

India smashed 62 runs in the last five overs to reach a score which Azharuddin said before the match was defensible against the free-stroking Sri Lankans.

The prophecy went out of the window as the Sri Lankans bettered manager Duleep Mendis' orders to get 100 runs in the first 15 overs, racing to the three-figure mark off just 13.4 overs.

Openers Jayasuriya and Romesh Kaluwitharana launched into the bowling from the start, putting on 43 by the third over. The pair took 33 off seamers Manoj Prabhakar's first two overs. They brought up 53 by the fifth over before Anil Kumble provided the much-needed break by holding a brilliant diving catch in the covers to remove Kaluwitharana for 26.

Asanka Gurusinha did not let up, making 25 in a 76-run second wicket stand with Jayasuriya to take the score to 129 for one by the 19th over.

Venkatesh Prasad saw the back of the dangerous Gurusinha with a low throw from the long-on boundary that beat the batsman who was attempting a second run.

Jayasuriya himself perished two overs later, lofting Kumble down Prabhakar's throat at long-on to make it 137 for three.

In his next over, Kumble had star batsman Aravinda de Silva stumped by wicket-keeper Nayan Mongia. But the experienced Ranatunga and Tillekeratne settled in to defy the Indians.

The pair ran quick singles and two's but did not hesitate to punish the lose balls for a boundary.

The effort earned the Sri Lankans a rousing ovation from some 30,000 Indian fans, who earned their money's worth by seeing 543 runs being scored in an enthralling day's cricket. It was not the first time the Sri Lankans had defied a vic-



**ENTHRALLING... BUT NOT ENOUGH.** The sparkling Sachin Tendulkar sweeps during his swashbuckling knock of 137 against Sri Lanka in Delhi yesterday. The wonder boy's majestic exploits were however not sufficient as Sri Lanka dazzled their way to victory with six wickets to spare.

## Jayasuria fades Tendulkar's thunder

# Lankans India's incubus



**NEW DELHI, March 2:** Sri Lanka elevated the art of attacking strokeplay to dizzy heights today with a six-wicket victory over India in a high-scoring World Cup thriller here, reports AFP.

Chasing India's seemingly impregnable 271, the brilliant Sri Lankans went all out for runs on the pocket-sized Ferozshah Kotla ground before cruising home with eight deliveries to spare.

Opener Sanath Jayasuriya led the way with a smashing 79 off 76 balls, before skipper Arjuna Ranatunga (46 not out) and Hashan Tillekeratne (70 not out) saw their team home with a match-winning stand of 131 for the fifth wicket.

The impressive victory lifted Sri Lanka to the top of the table in Group A with full points from four matches and a game in hand against Kenya.

India, who have a 2-2 record, appear certain to finish third in the Group behind Sri Lanka and Australia.

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Mendis said he had asked his batsmen to go for their shots from the start. "Our plan was to get 100 runs from the first 15 overs, because it would have been difficult to score off the Indian spinners on the slow wicket."

"It was to our advantage that India went into the match with just one spinner and played four seamers instead."

Mendis said Jayasuriya, who smashed 79 off 76 balls, played in his usually aggressive manner. "He is always like this, and it is good that he clicked today."

"Once we got off to a good start, I had no doubts that the experienced Arjuna Ranatunga and Hashan Tillekeratne would take us through."

Indian captain Mohammed Azharuddin complimented the Sri Lankans, saying "They played better than us and deserved to win."

"It was not that we played badly. You don't get 271 on the board every day. But the Sri Lankans paced the innings well."

"I always knew it would be difficult to defend anything less than 270-plus, but even that was not enough today."

Azharuddin did not agree it was a tactical error to go in with four seamers and just one spinner.

## SCOREBOARD

**World Cup Group A scoreboard between India and Sri Lanka in New Delhi Saturday:**

**INDIA**  
 Prabhakar c Gurusinha b Pushpakumara 7  
 Tendulkar run out 137  
 Manjrekar c Kaluwitharana b Dharmasena 32  
 Azharuddin not out 72  
 Kambli not out 1  
 Extras: (b-4, lb-7, w-11) 22  
 Total: (3 wks, 50 overs) 271  
 Did not bat: A. Jadeja, N. Mongia; J. Srinath; A. Kumble; S. Ankoala; V. Prasad.

Fall of wickets: 1-27; 2-93; 3-268  
**Bowling**  
 O M R W  
 Vaas 9 3 37 0  
 Pushpakumara 8 0 53 1  
 Muralitharan 10 1 42 0  
 Dharmasena 9 0 53 1  
 Jayasuriya 10 0 52 0  
 Ranatunga 4 0 23 0

**SRI LANKA**  
 Jayasuriya c Prabhakar b Kumble 79  
 Kaluwitharana c Kumble b Prasad 26  
 Gurusinha run out 25  
 De Silva at Mongia b Kumble 8  
 Ranatunga not out 46  
 Tillekeratne not out 70  
 Extras: (b-4, lb-9, w-3, nb-2) 8  
 Total: (4 wks, 48.4 overs) 272  
 Did not bat: R. Mahanama, K. Dharmasena, C. Vaas, R. Pushpakumara, H. Muralitharan.

Fall of wickets: 1-53; 2-129; 3-137; 4-141  
**Bowling**  
 O M R W  
 Prabhakar 4 0 47 0  
 Srinath 9.4 0 51 0  
 Prasad 10 1 53 1  
 Ankoala 5 0 28 0  
 Kumble 10 0 39 2  
 Tendulkar 10 0 41 0

**Result: Sri Lanka won by six wickets.**  
**Man-of-the-match: Sanath Jayasuriya (Sri Lanka)**



Sri Lanka's poorly left-hand bat Ashanka Gurusinha shows his displeasure after being run out by Indian leggie Anil Kumble in a high-voltage encounter in Delhi yesterday. The fiery islanders shushed the Indians with a scintillating six-wicket victory. — AFP/UNB photo

## WILLS WORLD CUP DIARY

**ISLAMABAD, Mar 2 (AFP):** World Cup diary here today:  
**INTIKHAB LASHES OUT**  
 Pakistan manager Intikhab Alam took a swipe at former Pakistan players-turned-media pundits following comments made about his side after the Group B defeat to South Africa. He said some of them, whom he would not name, had played under him and should support the team rather than attack it.

**STEVE WAUGH NO ALLROUNDER, SAYS KAPIL DEV**  
 Kapil Dev, one of the game's all-time greats, believes Australia's Steve Waugh is not a genuine all-rounder. Despite having over 4,000 one-day runs and 165 wickets to his name, Kapil's yardstick: "Only those with 200 wickets and 2,000 runs can be classified as all-rounders. Waugh is a good support man, but you can't call him a genuine all-rounder."

**CHARITY STARTS AT SQUARE LEG**  
 Batsmen sweeping to the square leg boundary during India's game against Sri Lanka today were unwittingly initiating a 5,000-rupee (around 140 dollars) donation to charity. "Hit this billboard," said an advertising sign, and the money would be pledged to save the children. A risky policy, with the likes of Sachin Tendulkar and Aravinda de Silva around.

**BOSS LIVES UP TO HIS NAME**  
 Pakistan manager Intikhab Alam had his name cleared when he was accused of having hit for six over long on.

## It's party time in Colombo!

**COLOMBO, Mar 2:** There were scenes of Jubilation on the streets of Colombo and Sports Minister S. B. Disanayake said Sri Lanka's World Cup hopes were strengthened with today's nailbiting victory over India, reports AFP.

The news of the thrilling victory was received with the setting off of fire crackers. Some were opening bottles of arrack, the main local liquor.

"We were confident of winning although the Indians did very well at the initial stages of the game," Disanayake told AFP. "We are now on top of the points table in Group A and I am sure we can win the World Cup."

He said Sri Lanka would have preferred to play against cup favourites Australia and the West Indies who forfeited their games here after staying away, citing security concerns and gifting four points to Arjuna Ranatunga's team.

"Even if we played against Australia and the West Indies, I am sure we would have won those matches," he said. "We are facing this World Cup to win."

He said President Chandrika Kumaratunga was sending a message of congratulations to the Sri Lanka team.

## ICC stands by PILCOM's position

**ISLAMABAD, Mar 2:** The International Cricket Council (ICC) gave the World Cup organisers their backing on Friday over switches to the umpire schedule.

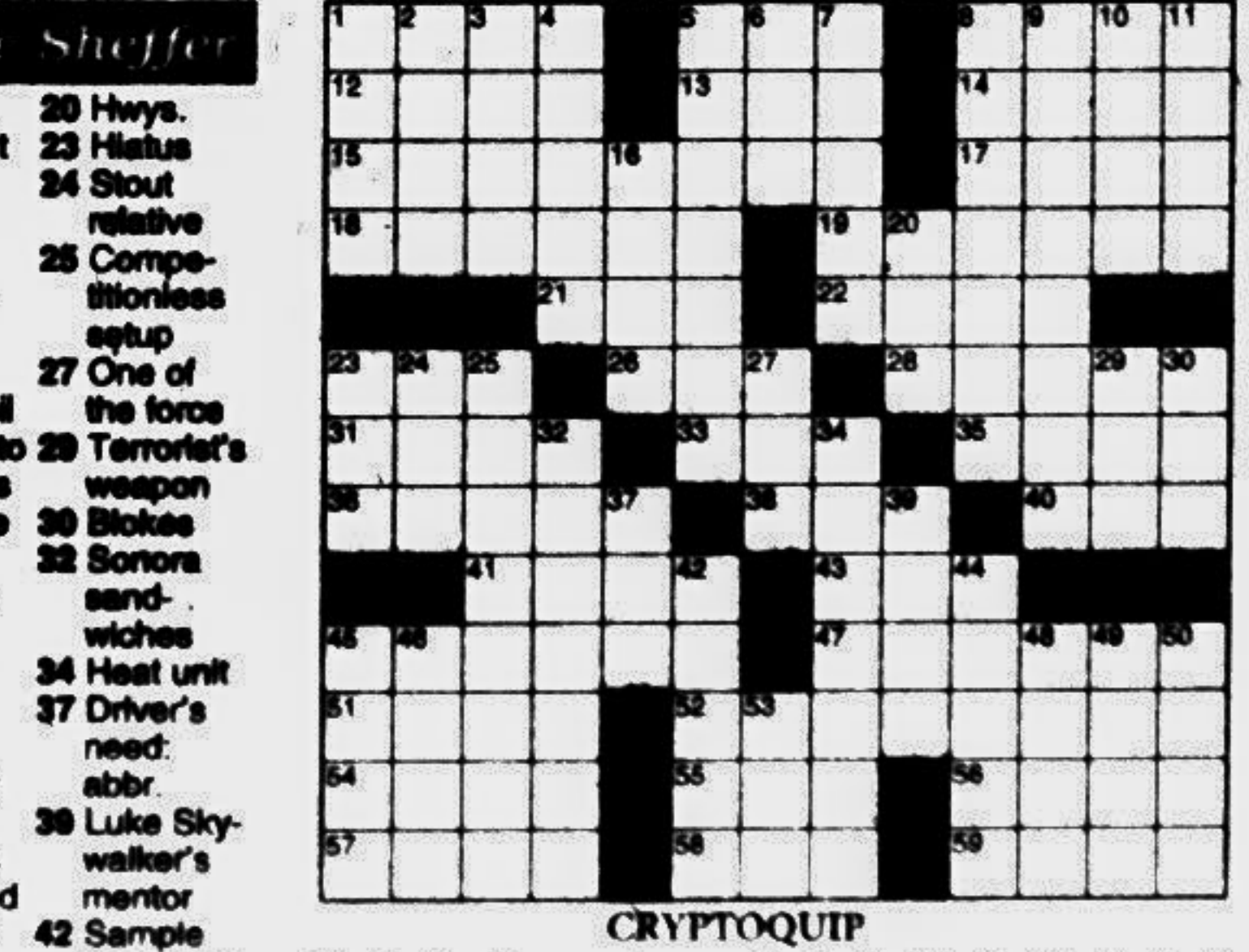
ICC administration manager Clive Hitchcock, speaking from the sport's governing body headquarters in London, told AFP: "We have no problem with what they have done."

Ian Robinson of Zimbabwe was replaced by West Indian Steve Bucknor for Pakistan's crucial game against South Africa in Karachi on Thursday. Local news reports claimed the switch had been made because Pakistan had objected to Robinson after a clash between the umpire and Salim Malik last year in Harare which ended with the former team captain being fined.

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**  
 1 A little lower? 38 Punishment-related 59 Bum a bit DOWN  
 2 Shell out 39 Shell out 1 Skipper: abbr. 25 Competitive 2 Wingless 27 One of 43 Diary 4 Insects n/d 5 Isabella, to 29 Terrorist's 6 Timetable 30 Bizarre 32 Sonora 34 Heat unit 37 Driver's need: abbr. 39 Luke Skywalker's mentor 42 Sample the recipe 44 "27" star 45 Place of worship? 46 Timber: wolf 48 Reed instrument 49 Radius: neighbor 50 Crystal: center

**Solution time: 21 mins.**  
 RASA AMY TAMP  
 TORR WOO QMPO  
 LEIT BARK PICKLE  
 LEBE BASK ABDEY  
 LEBE BASK ABDEY  
 CAROL CORNICE  
 OBIT EON AWAY  
 QUOTING GNOME  
 ODD ODD ODD  
 WHIRLWINDS BIG  
 HESB RIGH TARM  
 OAHU AVE POLLO



**CRYPTOQUIP**  
 WSYO J ZOEWRHNV  
 NG JYKJOG EHRJRNVA  
 KZJI ZV EHVJRZVG  
 -JAJNSGI  
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IT WAS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT SIR GALAHAD CALLED HIS HORSE A KNIGHT MARE.  
 Today's Cryptoquip clue: A equals G

The Cryptoquip 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 phrases are the key to solving the puzzle.