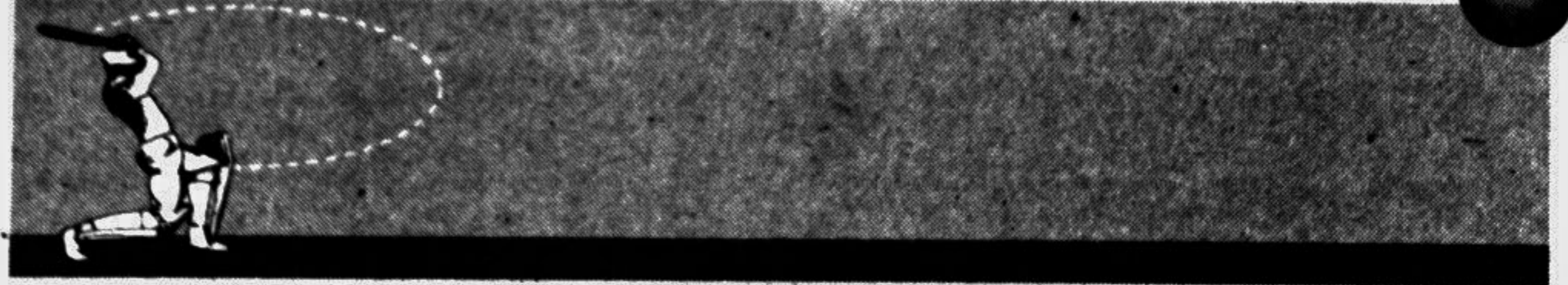


The World Cup with Philips



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Not just live. Alive.

Sorcar spells doom for Sri Lanka!

CALCUTTA, Mar 11: PC Sorcar, India's new Houdini, warned Sri Lanka here today there was no escape from defeat against India in Wednesday's World Cup semifinal, reports AFP.

"In cricket matches like these, more than the game itself, magic or illusion works," Sorcar, India's best known professional magician, wrote in the Asian Age today.

"As a friend of Sachin Tendulkar, I have already given him my magical works. I am definite he will use that magic till the final day.

"During that big match, you will see two magicians in action in the same body. Sachin and myself," the Calcutta-based Sorcar wrote.

Sorcar will be among 100,000 home fans cheering Mohammad Azharuddin's men against Sri Lanka at Eden Gardens.

It is India's first semifinal since their appearances in 1983, when Kapil Dev's side went on to take the crown, and in 1987 when they went down to England.

Sorcar, whose magician father enthralled audiences across the world in the 1950s and 1960s, said he could pull off some magic of his own if he was allowed on the pitch... but he was not expecting a late call-up.

Muster's double delight

MEXICO CITY, Mar 11: Austria's Thomas Muster swept aside Czech rival Jiri Novak to win the Mexican Open title on Sunday and regained the world number one rating, reports Reuter.

After taking a close 7-6 victory in the first set, Muster turned on the power to win the second 6-2 for his fourth consecutive title at the Club Aleman. It was his 28th straight victory in Mexico.

Muster took the world number one rating from Pete Sampras, who pulled out of a 750,000 dollar indoor tournament in Rotterdam on Friday because of an ankle injury.

Mexican officials confirmed the victory put Muster on top in the international ratings, but he was reluctant to celebrate until the ratings were made official.

"I don't know about that (ranking), my calculations are different," Muster told Mexican television network Televisa.

From his 43,200-dollar prize money, Muster said he would donate part to a Mexican children's fund.

Martinez makes shaky start

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. Mar 11: Conchita Martinez of Spain, the second seed in the 550,000 dollar Evert Cup, briefly unravelled on Sunday but survived to chalk up a victory over Argentina's Florencia Labat, reports Reuter.

Martinez, the world's second-ranked player, dominated early, wavered, then took control again to defeat the unseeded Labat 6-1, 2-6, 6-2 in their second-round match.

Jennifer Capriati, looking like the player who stunned audiences with her power and skills at 14, proved that the talent has not disappeared in the last five years. Capriati blew unseeded opponent Shi-Ting Wang of Taipei off the court 6-0, 6-0 in 43 minutes.

Temperature soared to 47 Celsius during a second-round match between eighth-seeded Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States, the defending champion, and unseeded Anna Smashnova of Israel.

Fernandez seemed in control against a nervous Smashnova, winning the first set 6-0, but the fleet-footed Israeli recovered to win the second set 6-2 before Fernandez closed out the match 6-1 in the third set.

Ferreira's 12th

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona, Mar 11: Top seed Wayne Ferreira of South Africa, earning a reputation as a slow start but a strong finisher, beat sixth-seeded Chilean Marcelo Rios 2-6, 6-3, 6-3 in the final of the 328,000-dollar Franklin Templeton tennis classic Sunday, reports Reuter.

Ferreira, 24, dropped the first set but went on to claim his 12th ATP Tour title and the 43,000-dollar winner's prize while capturing the ninth consecutive final he has reached, dating back to August 21, 1994.

Ferreira made numerous unforced errors in the first set as the left-handed Chilean controlled the play from the baseline.

The 10th-ranked Ferreira, however, began to find the range on his booming serve and explosive ground game to take the second set. In the third, he used to breaks to close out the one-hour-29-minute match against the 20th-ranked Rios.

MATCH ANALYSIS Strengthen middle-order

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan



WEST Indies once again proved that they were no pushovers in top-class cricket.

With a depleted team that was short of even a regular fifth bowler, they managed to surprise the pre-tournament favourites, according to pundits. South Africa at the Na-



JIMMY ADAMS

tional Stadium in Karachi on Monday.

After all that has been said and projected against Richie Richardson and his men, particularly after their defeat to Kenya, two important wins against two favourite teams would definitely lift their

moral and make them further determined to do even better in the semifinal. The winning of the toss came in handy and the change in batting order paid rich dividends as Browne and Chandernaul gave a sound start to their side.

But the arrival of Brian Lara on the scene was very unsettling for the efficient South Africans. Rejuvenated on a couple of times, Lara went on to record his first hundred of the tournament in great style that took the West Indians past the 200 mark. Strangely enough the South Africans, known for their brilliant fielding, fumbled and wilted under pressure which made runs easy for the Caribbeans.

The South African attack did not look particularly menacing and the justification to ignore Donald on this beautiful wicket could not be understood. True, both teams knew each others' weaknesses against spin, but there was no substitute for a top-class pace attack in limited overs matches.

As expected, young Paul Adams played his second match of the tournament along with experienced off-spinner Pat Symcox. Cronje must have regretted his decision not to have given more exposure to Adams.

Brian Lara despite this victory. Once again the middle-order of the West Indies cut a sorry figure. Richardson himself was a nervous hen and looked like playing his debut inning. Holder, Arthurton and Harper failed once again and, among them, they put on only 25 runs. Richardson must give his attention to this aspect if West Indies were to reach the

final. Whatever tag the South Africans carried, personally I thought they were a bit over-rated. They were an efficient and talented outfit all right but they did not possess the edge or the determination to win.

A good series at home against a mediocre England side was no indicator of their prowess. In the five-Test series against England only Kirsten, Cullinan and McMillan did well with the bat. Hudson,



ROGER HARPER

Rhodes, Cronje, Pollock had very poor showing. So vulnerable were the South Africans against spin, that on a reasonably good wicket, part-timer Jimmy Adams accounted for 3 wickets.

Could it be that the law of averages caught up with South Africa?

Benazir being philosophical

ISLAMABAD, Mar 11: Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said losing captain Wasim Akram and then the toss had not helped Pakistan in their losing World Cup quarterfinal against India on Saturday, reports Reuter.

Akram was forced to pull out of the match, won by 39 runs by India, because of injury.

"It was a chance that we lost the toss and then captain Wasim Akram was not well," Bhutto was quoted by the official APP news agency as saying. "That's why it is called a game of chance."

A game is a game and we should accept the results with grace."

Pakistani cricket fans smashed television sets and one committed suicide amid national gloom over Pakistan's defeat, newspapers reported on Sunday.

WC's dream final in Singapore!

SINGAPORE, Mar 11: Singapore today set up the enticing possibility of the new world one day cricket championship meeting the old in a triangular tournament next month, reports Reuter.

The Singapore Cricket Association (SCA) said Pakistan, the reigning champions who crashed out of the current World Cup on Saturday, would meet India, who beat them in a quarter final on Saturday, and Sri Lanka in the 70,000 dollars Singer Cup between April 1 and 7.

India and Sri Lanka, whose blistering batting has been the revelation of the World Cup being held on the sub-continent, meet in the semifinal in Calcutta this week, ensuring that one of them has a shot at becoming the new champions.

"Barring injury, all three sides will be sending their teams presently competing in the World Cup," the SCA said of its April tournament.

That means Pakistan, beaten by 39 runs in Bangalore on Saturday without captain Wasim Akram, should be at full strength for a revenge tilt at arch rivals India.

The SCA said each side would play the others once with the top two teams contesting the final.

Spinners put Trinidad on track

POINTE-A-PIERRE, Trinidad and Tobago, through the efforts of their two wrist spinners Rajindra Dhanraj and Avidesh Samaroo, fought their way into contention on Sunday, the third day of the Red Stripe Cup cricket final against the Leeward Islands, reports AP.

Dhanraj and Samaroo both captured four wickets as Trinidad and Tobago, with a first innings deficit of 70, limited the Leewards to 230 all out in their second innings.

Chasing a victory target of 301, Trinidad and Tobago were 10 without loss by the close with two days remaining. Dhanraj started the Leeward Islands slide with the wicket of opener Stuart Williams, the West Indies discard, caught and bowled after a first wicket stand of 46.

The right-arm leg-spinner also added the vital middle order wickets of captain and first innings century-maker Dave Joseph (13), Merlin Liburd (13) and Ridley Jacobs (1) as the visitors slumped to 99 for five.

Colin Cannonier and Ronald Powell revived the innings with a stand of 64 for the sixth wicket before Samaroo removed Powell for the top-score of 43.

The 18-year-old left-arm chinaman bowler finished off the lower order to end with four for 44 off 13.4 overs. Dhanraj ended with figures of four for 68 to stretch his record-breaking season tally to 48.

Cannonier, who has struggled in his debut first-class season, chose an appropriate time to play his best innings. The 22-year-old's 41 not out was a personal high and lasted three and a half hours, spanned 143 balls, and included just one boundary.

Earlier in the day, fast bowler Lesroy Weckes collected his first-ever five-wicket haul as Trinidad and Tobago, overnight 327 for nine, added just three runs to its total.

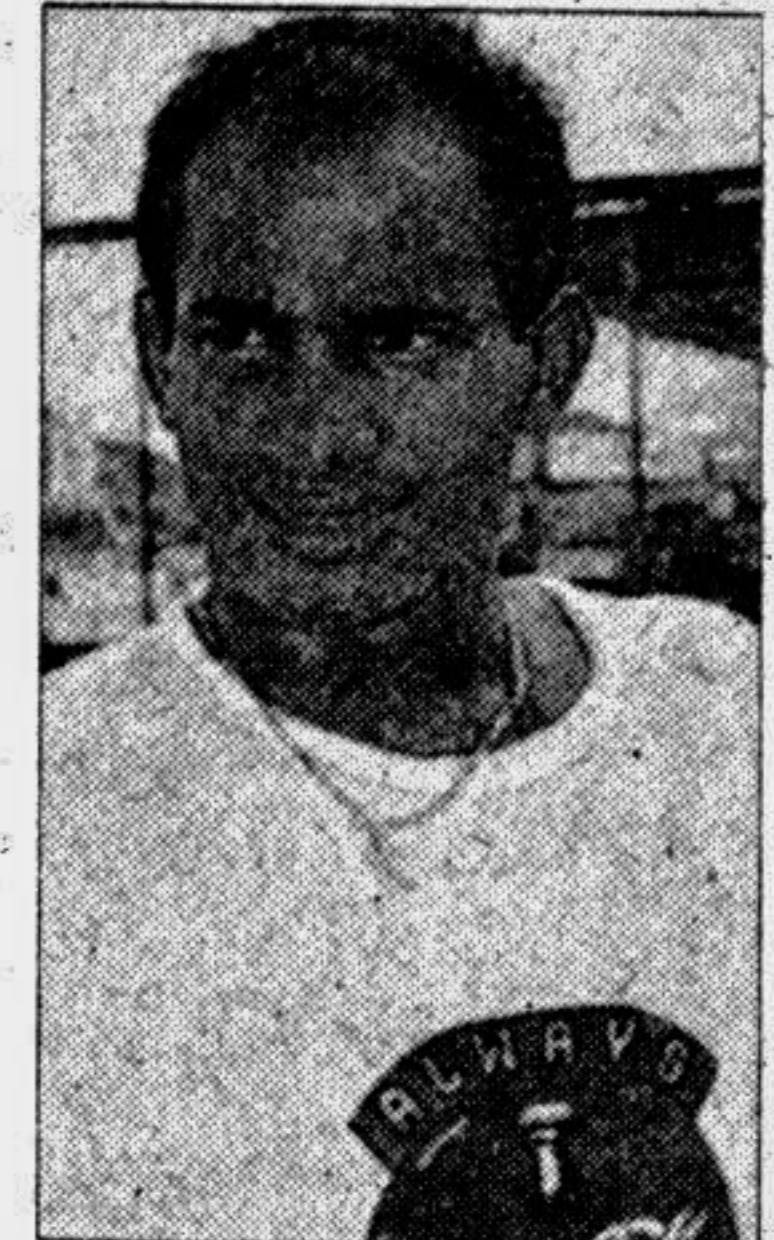
Leeward Islands 400 and 230 (Lanville Harrigan 36, Colin Cannonier 41 not out, Ronald Powell 43; Rajindra Dhanraj four for 68, Avidesh Samaroo four for 44). Trinidad and Tobago 330 (Andre Lawrence 44, Phil Simmons, Richard Smith 99, Mahadeo Bodoo 65; Lesroy Weckes five for 82, Ronald Powell three for 68) and 10 without loss.

Beauty in his brutality



the occasional classical cut or pull, but more often opens the face and blazes the ball over the infield.

Bowl just short of a length on middle, and he will block with the fullface as if he were



SANATH JAYASURIYA

trying to save a Test match with four days still to go.

A stunned England captain Mike Atherton said of Jayasuriya and Kaluwitharana: "They play the first 15 overs as if they were the last 15. I think

Sri Lanka have taken the game to new levels. It's so difficult to bowl at them."

England, however, made it hard for themselves by bowling badly to a man who has worked out the perfect method, particularly on flat, undeviating pitches tailor-made for batsmen.

Like any player, he is vulnerable to the good ball - Peter Martin had him dropped off an open-bladed chip-cut and several times almost induced him to play on with late inswing.

But, buoyed with the confidence provided by docile surfaces, he's poor deliveries to the boundary almost without exception.

Cricket fans know plenty about Sachin Tendulkar, Brian Lara and Mark Waugh, the World Cup's 'other batsmen'. All we know about Jayasuriya is that he was born in Matara, he is 5ft 6ins (168 cms), he has played over 20 Tests and that he bowls unexceptional left-arm spin.

He also seems to be allergic to running between the wickets... and, of course, he doesn't say much.

Asked if he could be brought to the post-match news conference after the quarterfinal carve-up at Faisalabad, Sri Lankan manager Duleep Mendis very generously gave the matter some thought before answering in a flash: "No way."

A PILCOM success story



veloping cricket nations would now try harder to qualify for the World Cup.

"And that would only help the growth of cricket."

Mathur went on: "Cricket has to battle with such established sports as golf, tennis and soccer for media attention. We are still a long way away from competing with them, but at least a start has been made."

"I don't see the cricket World Cup expanding to 32 teams in the near future, like it's happened in football. Not in the next 20 years at least."

"But who knows what many happen in future. Maybe the cricket World Cup will surpass everything else."

The event has not been without hitches, however.

First there was the security concerns which led to unprecedented match boycotts by Australia and the West Indies.

Then South Africa and Zimbabwe called for a change in the format, arguing - despite the success of Kenya in particular, who beat the West Indies in one of the biggest shocks in the Cup's 21-year history -

that many early games against the qualifiers were devoid of drama.

The huge geographical distances needed to be covered by sides have also been unappreciated, while the lack of reduced support in Pakistan reduced most games to including the host country to a deathly hush - including the quarterfinal between England and Sri Lanka at Faisalabad.

The inclusion of the United Arab Emirates, who had clearly gone backwards since winning the ICC Trophy, was also a failure, the side having neither the batting nor bowling to mount a credible challenge.

On the plus side, however, the Cup has largely been seen as well-organised, with flat, slow pitches offering some unprecedented batting exploits and some magical spin bowling.

The Kenyans success has given the sport an exciting shot in the arm, while Holland's respectable showings have led to calls for the country to get more financial help to try and broaden the same abroad.

Sizes that matter much



his 82 off 44 balls against England - boasts a pocket-sized 5ft 6 inch (1.67m).

All, of course, are batsmen. Curtly Ambrose - well over one foot (30.5cm) taller than Tendulkar at 6ft 7 ins (2.00m) - and Anil Kumble, at 6ft 2ins (1.88m) - are doing what they can for the reputation of men of full stature, but Asia's pitches are conspiring against them.

For every supportive example - Sir Donald Bradman, regarded as the very best of the all, was 5ft 6 ins (1.67m) while Allan Border, the highest runs scorer in Test history, was a shade taller - there is one to contest the idea.

What about Gary Sobers and Barry Richards from the past - no mid-gets, they - or Clive Lloyd (now a match referee) and Tony Greig (now a com-

mentator)?

And today's Graem Hick, another six-foot-plus man, is no mug with a willow in his hands either.

Hick's case, however, may hold the answer to the conundrum.

His batting, despite a disappointing end to this tournament, is said to have been improved by England batting coach John Edrich's suggestion that he take up skipping.

The idea? To make Hick, whose foot work has always been pedestrian, a bit lighter on his feet. The idea is to make him nimble... as nimble as a short man.

Watch the likes of Tendulkar and Lara, and you will see men dance into position, forward or back, in a split second.

English great Richard Hudson clearly knew the answer to the problem years ago when he suggested tap dancer Fred Astaire would have made a perfect batsman.



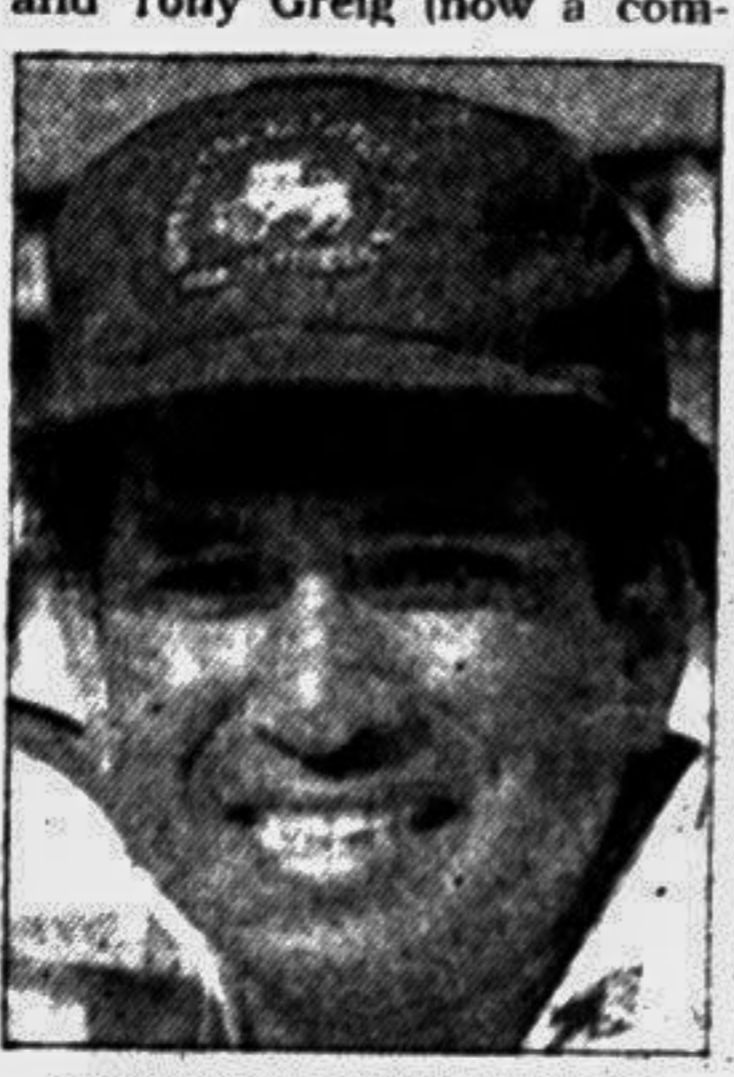
BRIAN LARA

Former Pakistan great Hanif Mohammad - the former record holder for the highest first-class individual score until Lara came along - has not overlooked the fact.

Hanif, no physical giant himself and once known as "the little master," says, "I've noticed that most of the great players are of short height. John Aldrich, myself, Lara, Sunil Gavaskar and Sachin Tendulkar. All short-heighted players."

India's Tendulkar, with 458 runs so far in five innings including scores of 127 not out against Kenya and 137 against Sri Lanka, stands at 5ft 5 inch (1.65m) in his heavily-sponsored socks - a huge inch-and-a-half (3.8cm) taller than De Silva.

Lara is three inches (7.6 cm) taller than Tendulkar, while De Silva's Sri Lankan teammate Jayasuriya - perhaps the most explosive performer of the tournament to date* with



SACHIN TENDULKAR

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Omar's outrageous claim

SYDNEY, Mar 11: Former Pakistan Test cricketer Qasim Omar said on Australian television on Sunday that he had been involved in bribery during his career and claimed that authorities had turned a blind eye to the problem, reports Reuter.

Omar, said that he had "thrown" his wicket in the 1984 series in Australia after being offered a bribe.

He claimed he had allowed himself to be bowled by Australian pace bowler Geoff Lawson during the drawn Boxing Day Test in Melbourne in return for an undisclosed sum from bookmakers.

he was ashamed of his actions but claimed his dismissal had not put Pakistan in danger of losing the match.

"Of course, I did wrong," Omar said. "But I can't say I shouldn't have done it at the time. I was doing it thinking my team wasn't in danger. I was going to accept the money and carry on."

But when I see the situation today, when I hear the stories that lots of money is taken to lose games, that's where I think I'm wrong."

Omar told the programme he had been an agent for bookmakers who wanted him to bribe top Australian batsman Greg Chappell during Pakis-

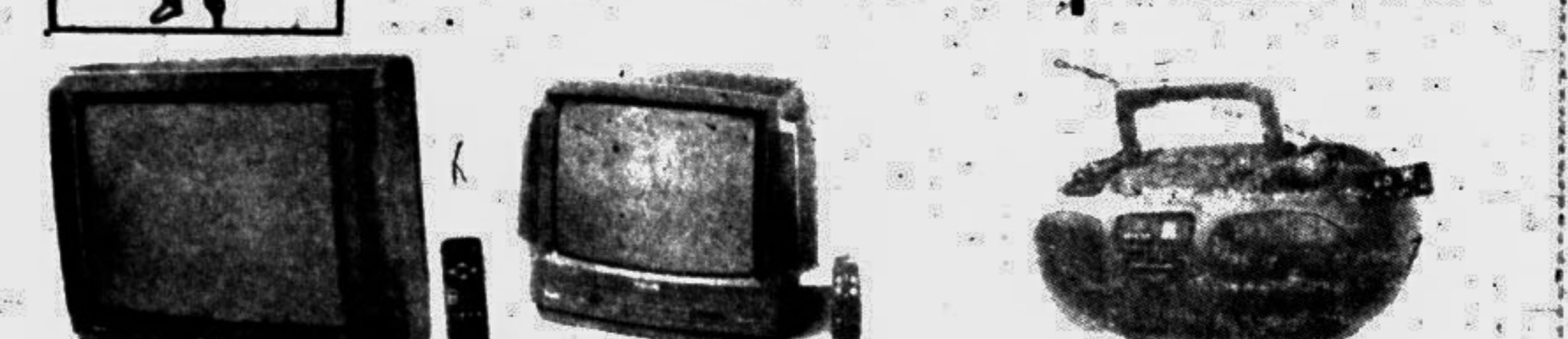
tan's 1984 tour of Australia. He said he had been unable to bring himself to do it because Chappell was his idol.

"I was told by a bookmaker there's a big chance that Greg Chappell is going to smash our bowling and is going to score lots and lots of runs. (The bookmaker said) so is there any way you can go and tell him that in each innings he fails, or at least in one Test match, he's going to be paid 25,000 US dollars."

"But I couldn't. When I saw him I just lost the courage to talk to him because he was my idol," Omar said.

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.

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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 4-8, 1996 for Quiz 1 and from Feb 27-March 15, 1996 for Quiz 2 which will be a Bumper Round. In the Sports Page.
 - For the Quiz Competitions the prizes will be as follows:
- Quiz 1: Bumper Round**
- 1st Prize: Powervision 31" Colour TV
 - 2nd Prize: Powervision 14" Colour TV
 - 3rd Prize (three sets): Turbo Bass Two-In-One
- Quiz 2: Bumper Round**
- 1st Prize: Powervision 29" Colour TV
 - 2nd Prize: Powervision 20" Colour TV
 - 3rd Prize (three sets): CD Player
- Rules**
- 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.
 - 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. Participants' 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 "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: 1206.
 - Entries will be placed in a sealed box for the lucky draw to be held in public in 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 rescind 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 entering 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 as set out) 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 2: Bumper Round Ends March 15, 1996

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

- The first "duck" in the World Cup was by H R Shah E D Solkar A Knott
- In the WC, the first over was bowled by V Holder M Lai J Snow
- In the 1975 WC, the Sri Lankans were led by D Mendis B Warnapura B Tannetoon
- In 1979 WC, the playing Chappell was Chris Ian Gary
- The spinner who won two M-O-M awards in the 1983 WC was L Gomes D Underwood A Qadir
- Australia won the 1987 World Cup beating England in the final by 7 runs 17 runs 27 runs
- 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.