

Not just live. Alive.

Easier said than done.

Lot of discussions have

been held by cricket-lovers

and lot of abuse hurled at

Azharuddin for his decision to

bat last on the newly-laid turf

at the Eden Gardens Wednes-

day. Perhaps, most critic

believed an Indian win had

they batted first. But let us not

forget some of the facts that

come handy. First, in his pitch

report, former Test star and

commentator Ravi Shastri

clearly said the pitch had no

grass on it, was slow and was

expected to take turn later in

the day. He also emphasised

the most important point: It

was a brand new strip and no

match had been played on it.

In other words the pitch was

an unknown quantity. So, it

was only natural that Azhar

would invite his opponent to play on it first. Moreover,

records showed that Eden was

a happy hunting ground for In-

dia. To top it all they had two

very intelligent spinners in the

team - Kumble and Ashish

Kapoor and two slow medium

pacers in Sachin and Jadeja.

Ashish Kapoor was particularly

included keeping in view the

five left-handers in the Lanka

team. One should not also for-

CALCUTTA, Mar 14: Pres-

sure was mounting on Indian

captain Mohammad Azharud-

din today in the wake of his

team's stormy World Cup

semifinal defeat by Srt Lanka.

Azharuddin can scarely be

blamed for the crowd trouble

which forced Calcutta's Eden

Gardens showpiece to be

abandoned, but he has been

roundly criticised for his de-

after winning the toss.

cision to put Sri Lanka in

Groundsman Maheswar

Sahu insisted he had warned

Azharuddin the previous day

that the newly-laid wicket

was likely to crumble in the

second session, and many

were surprised India chose to

chase as target under lights

when batting conditions are

To make matters worse

Azharuddin failed with the

bat, dismissed for a duck

when he spooned a return

catch To Kumara Dharmasena

as India slumped dramatically

from 98 for one to 120 for

eight in pursuit of a victory

When security staff were

unable to restrain angry bot-

tle-throwing fans in the

stands, Sri Lanka were

been a team decision to bowl

first, but former Australian

captain Ian Chappell believed

it was always a foolhardy ven-

ture to insert the Sri Lankans.

even though they had proved

successful chasers in the

to a chase on a difficult pitch

and he paid the ultimate

"Azhar sentenced his team

Azharuddin claimed it had

target of 252

awarded the match.

generally less comfortable.

report agencies.

# Let's make things better



**PHILIPS** 

## SL leave Calcutta

NEW DELHI, Mar 14: Sri Lanka's cricket team left Calcutta amid tight security this morning to fly to the Pakistani city of Lahore to prepare for Sunday's World Cup final, reports Reuter.

"The team ... left early in the morning for the airport escorted by several security vehicles," the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported.

It quoted police sources as saying there were no incidents during the journey to the air-

PTI said heavy security surrounded the Indian and Sri Lankan teams during their stay in Calcutta

"Special security personnel have been guarding the hotel where both teams were lodged," it said.

The agency said some Indian players had already left the city for their homes while others were staying in their rooms until travel arrangements could be made.

## DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

T HAT although Prince Ranjitsinhji, a cricketer fit to be ranked amongst the top players of the world, never played for India, the National Cricket Championship of India (begun in 1934-35) is named the Ranji Trophy.

He was an Indian who played 15 times for England against Australia between 1896-1902. He did a lot to raise the prestige of Indians in the cricketing world.



Sports WHiZZ KID

competition-29 **V** Tick the Correct Answer

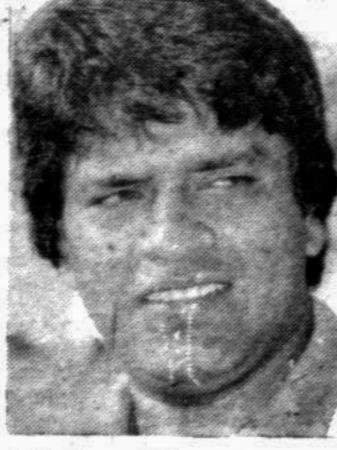
		15, 1996)			
1	In the first round of World Cup 1996. Zimbabwean leg-spinner Paul Strang captured				
	11 wickets	12 wickets	13 weekets		
2.	The highest that scored in an innings in one-day internationals is				
	360	375	39H -		
3.	South African Jordy Rhodes also represents his country in Hockey Rugby Football				
	Hockey	renderal i	Charles whether		
4.	Umpire Day				
4.	Umpire Day		t is from		
4.	Umpire Day	Australia	t is from England		

Robert Stefen

Name

Class Roli No School Address

Phone: (if any)



Arjuna Ranatunga (Sri-Lankan skipper)

"I guess it was a good toss After Sri Lankas semifinal victory over India. India's captain Md Azharuddin won the toss and had asked Sri Lanka to bat first. That decision proved a

## Suprianto sent packing

bad one.

first round.

BIRMINGHAM. England Mar 14: Top seed and former world champion Joko Suprianto was beaten in the second round of the all-England badminton championships on Wednesday.

The fndonesian, who also exited in the second round a year ago, lost 15-11, 15-2 to, little-known Chinese Lin Liwen, who is ranked only number five in his own country. Lin has appeared only once before at the championships.

in 1993 when he lost in the

# Why find a scapegoat?

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

get that Ranatunga himself expressed his desire to bat last on this wicket had he won the toss. So, why should all fingers point to Azhar for putting the ankans into bat?



ROSHAN MAHANAMA

As the Lankans lost their openers in four balls of the first over did not everybody think that Azhar had done the right thing by putting the Lankans in? When Gurusinha was caught by Kumble off Srinath at 35, a small total for the islanders was visualized.

But a little fighter by the name of Aravinda de Silva had some other ideas in his mind.

Azharuddin in an abyss

Sri Lankan manager Duleep

Mendis confirmed diplomati

cally that it had been a good

toss to lose, adding, "Frankly,

the boys were surprised when

Azharuddin asked us to bat

first. Past records have shown

that it is difficult to bat sec

ond at the Eden Gardens be-

cause of the heavy layer of

MD AZHARUDDIN

"I did not realise how true

that was till we saw Sanath

(Javasuriya) turn the ball

and won all the three previ-

ous day night internationals

under lights at the Eden Gar-

week's quarterfinal win over

arch-rivals Pakistan was for-

gotten on Wednesday. Lady

luck, however, which has

smiled on Azharuddin since

1993, could rescue him again.

ing axed after India suffered

heavy defeats on the tours of

He was on the verge of be-

The euphoria over last

Azharuddin had batted first

square."

smog and the wicket.

the Kenyans. De Silva played one of the finest innings of his illustrious career. At no stage of his innings in the face of tremendous pressure did he give the impression that he was in a rescue mission? Instead, he went on to play his natural strokes all around the wicket that reduced the Indian bowling to club level. His was

an innings worth all the trou-

Fresh from his exploits against

bles to see. The Lankan middle-order held brilliantly and took their total to a very comfortable position. Mahanama. Ranatunga, Tillekaratne and Vaas contributing generously, under the circumstances. It had been acknowledged by critics that bowling was not Lanka's forte. So, what held India from overtaking the Lankan total with their strong batting line-up? On a wicket where Kapoor and the highly

the last two were bowled round their legs. Let's face facts. On this particular day Sri Lanka played better than India and that's why they won. Give them their due. Why try to find scape-

rated Kumble could not suc-

ceed, part-timer like Jaya-

suriya accounted for Ten-

dulkar, Manjrekar and Jadeja,

I can see the smiling face of Sir Richard Hadlee. His predictions about Sri Lanka winning the World Cup are almost

But he saved his captaincy

and career with a monumen-

tal 182 against Graham

Gooch's Englishmen in the

first Test at the Eden Gar-

Since then India have been

dens in January 1993.

### SCORECARD Scoreboard in the World

**AUSSIE-WINDIES** 

Cup semifinal between Australia and West Indies at Mohali Thursday: AUSTRALIA

M Waugh lbw b Ambrose M Taylor b Bishop R Ponting Ibw b Ambrose S Waugh b Bishop S Law run out M Bevan c Richardson b Harper 69 I Healy run out P Reiffel run out S Warne not out Extras: (lb-11, w-5, nb-2) Total: (for eight wickets-50 overs) Did not bat: G McGrath, D Fleming.

Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-7; 3-8: 4-15; 5-53; 6-171; 7-186; 8-207. Bowling: Ambrose 26 33 13 0 Harper 0 47 42 0 Adams

Chanderpaul c Fleming b McGrath Browne c and b Warne Lara b S Waugh Richardson not out Harper lbw b McGrath Gibson c Healy b Warne Adams lbw b Warne Arthurton c Healy b Fleming Bishop lbw b Warne Ambrose run out Walsh b Fleming Extras: (lb-4, nb-2, w-2)

WEST INDIES

Fall of wickets: 1-25; 2-93; 3-165: 4-173: 5-178: 6-183: 7-187; 8-194; 9-202.

lowling:	O	M	$\mathbf{R}$	W	
1cGrath	10	2	30	2	
leming	8.3	0	48	2	
Varne -	9	0	36	4	
1 Waugh	4	0	16	0	
Waugh	7	0	30	1	
leiffel	5	0	13	0	
levan	4	0	12	0	
aw	2	0	13	0	
Overs: 49.3.	9 220		22 E	_	

Result: Australia won by five Man-of-the-match: Shane

Pak delight in Indian plight

ISLAMABAD, Mar 14: India's controversial exit from the World Cup following crowd trouble dominated the front pages in Pakistan here on Thursday.

the banner headline in the

"Disgraceful Indians" ran

daily newspaper The News. the story of India's abandoned semifinal against Sri Lanka in Calcutta taking up the top third of the page and relegating news of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's latest political meetings to a few paragraphs. The nation ran four separate front page articles on the

controversial end to the game. reporting Pakistani glee over the result under the headline "Pakistan celebrates Lankart triumph. It also dedicated half an inside page to Wednesday's inci-

dents which saw the 110,000 Eden Gardens crowd hugh missiles, bottles and rocks on to the pitch as India, chasing 251 for eight, slumped to 120 for eight. A comment piece accused

the Indians, who had asked for a slow pitch from their groundsmen to try and hamper Sri Lanka's batsmen, of using sleight of hand" to try and reach the final. It called the Indian tactics a "miserable game plan Islamabad daily The

ran. "Calcutta mob on rampage as Lankans thrash India. It reported: "It was the most gloomy, sad and disgra-

Muslim's front page headline

ceful end to a cricket match in the game's otherwise great history. It will take a long time and

a lot from India and its masses to undo the damage they have done to the game and to their image.

#### Muster falters

INDIAN WELLS, California, Mar 14: Austrian Thomas Muster lost his first match since reclaiming the world number one ranking when he fell in straight sets to unseeded Romanian Adrian Voinea in the Champions Cup men's tennis tournament on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Voinea, ranked 40th in the world, defeated Muster 6-3, 7-5 in a second-round match that was halted for three hours and 47 minutes by rain.

Top seed Pete Sampras. who conceded the world number one spot to Muster in the rankings released on Monday. reached the third round without hitting a ball when Spain's Alex Corretja withdrew in-

jured. Third-seeded American Andre Agassi also shrugged off a rain delay to beat 19-year-old Dutchman Sjeng Schalken 6-1, 4-6, 6-3.

This was the second time this year that Muster had grabbed the number one ranking and then failed in his next ATP Tour match. He lost his opening match in Dubai shortly after he became the first Austrian to reach number one.

# Eden falls from grace



CALCUTTA. Mar 14: Eden Gardens has long occupied a lofty position in the list of the world's great cricketing arenas but its future as a major international venue may be under threat following the abandonment of Wednesday's World Cup semifinal between India and Sri Lanka, reports Reuter.

Calcutta, otherwise known as the City of Joy, prides itself on possessing India's most knowledgeable sporting population and signs proclaiming "the way to Eden" are visible everywhere. An estimated 100,000

people crammed into the stadium for the match and when the lights came on to illuminate what looked set to be a fascinating game, its reputation as one of the game's most dramatic locations looked fully justified.

But as India began to struggle, all it took was a few plastic bottles to prompt a much more serious hail of missiles from the stands and ruin an occasion which was being seen live by millions of television viewers around the world.

It is this instant global exposure which has elevated Wednesday's events above arguably worse incidents on the sub-continent in the last three decades, and Pakistan-India-Lanka Organising Committee (PILCOM) convenor Jagmohan Dalmiya already fears the

"It will be difficult to get a big game in Calcutta again," said Dalmiya, also the secretary of the Indian Cricket Board of Control.

The city's image has been tarnished. It's extremely sad. This incident will have farreaching consequences.

"It has completely baffled me. I could never imagine that this kind of incident could take place in Calcutta which is known for its cricketing knowledge and sporting be-

Match referee Clive Lloyd and the umpires were left with no alternative but to award the semifinal to Sri Lanka, and Lloyd's report to the International Cricket Council (ICC) could easily recommend stiff punishment.

Lloyd was particularly concerned by the inaction of the security forces on duty, who generally performed on a par with India's middle-order batsmen

"I asked for an additional force and told them to mingle with the crowd, but I don't know if they were really disappointed.

there," said Lloyd. "I am very Calcutta hosted the 1987 World Cup final between Australia and England, and is credited with numerous attendance records including the four highest one-day crowds of

all time. Only the MCG in Melbourne compares for size and Wednesday's attendance may well have set a new high, although exact figures of paying spectators are notoriously elusive.

But while visiting countries complain about the among which can accompany the players on to the field, the real danger to Eden Gardens' future is more likely to come from inside India.

Seventeen different local associations have a staged matches on Indian soil during this World Cup, and half a dozen have now erected floodlights in the hope of attracting more matches in future.

Many will view an excuse to remove Calcutta from the equation, even on a temporary basis, as hard to resist. The consequences of Wednesday's events may haunt Eden lovers for some time.

## Press pummels India Indian Express. "It is impossi-

ble today to be an Indian and

scribed the crowd rioting as a

"sorry spectacle" and a " blot"

dens, once regarded as a

pilgrimage site for cricket en-

thusiasts, is today a syrionym

for ridicule," the Pioneer said.

fore....But never has the nation

had reason for collective ig-

nominy on this scale." it

added. "It is not about losing.

on the field Jul in the stands.

Eden Gardens will no longer

feature as the world's second-

most sacrosanct cricket arena

atone for Calcutta's sins is to

rise to a man and cheer Sri

Lanka on to a splendid victory

in Lahore," the Pioneer said.

"All that India can do to

The Indian Express said it

"India's real defeat was not

We lost to a better side.

after Lord's.

on India's cricket reputation.

The Hindustan Times de-

"The historic Eden Gar-

We have lost matches be-

not be ashamed."



Indian media came down heav ily Thursday on the crowd trouble at the World Cup semifinal which saw the game abandoned and awarded to Sri Lanka, report agencies. Newspapers unanimously

hailed Sri Lanka's win, saying Arjuna Ranatunga's men were deserving winners of the riotous match by a display of "classic team effort rather than individual brilliance. But none of the dailies

spared the 110,000-strong crowd that gathered at the Eden Gardens in Calcutta on "black Wednesday" to see their home team crash out of the World Cup. "It was a day — and night of disgrace for Indian cricket.

the Asian Age said. It began like a dream and ended like a nightmare. The events will

stain our memory for a long. long time." Double defeat for India. screamed the headline of the

could be some time before the World Cup returns to the sub-

It will now be a long time before the world's most cricket-crazed region wins an-

other vote at the International Cricket Conference to stage a World Cup," the daily said.

"Was it in the same city that people lined the streets in millions to greet the first South African team to visit India in 1991" the newspaper "Somewhere during the in-

tervening years, Calcutta lost its soul and character and the loser today is all of India "This black Wednesday." Calcuttans may have lost the

affections of the entire cricketing world." The Calcutta-based Statesman called it "one of the blackest days in the history of

Indian cricket." In a column in the Indian Express, former Indian star Kapil Dev expressed disappointment with the Calcutta

"I always thought that they were really a fantastic and sporting crowd with a lot of knowledge about the game," he wrote. "But they behaved differently today and it is shame-

fig leaf to cover the naked fan fury at Eden Gardens.

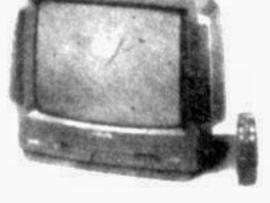
Editorial writers found no

# The Daily Star PHILIPS

# Cricket World Cup Quiz '96



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Information

Competition Information and Rules

Cly Bully 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 4.25, 1996 for Quiz 1 and from Feb 27-March 20 1996 for Quiz 2 which will be a Bumper Round in the Sports Page.

Powervision 29 Colour TV

QUIZ 1 lat Prize 2nd Prize

Powervision 21" Colour TV Powervision 14" Colour TV 3rd Prize (three nos) Turbo Bass Two-in-Ope

QUIZ 2: Bumper Round

For the Quiz Competitions the prizes will be as follows:

2nd Prize Powervision 20" Colour TV 3rd Prize (three nos) CD Player Any taxes or levies, as per rule, for all the above prizes. vill have to be borne by the winners.

Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in the Buly Star Winners will be responsible for collecting their prizes from the Dely Stor office after satisfactory authentication of their identity

Residents of Bangladesh will be eligible to participate in the Buly Star-Philips World Cup Quiz. Employees of By Bully 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 Thile Ster. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.

**Quiz 2 : Bumper Round** 

alongside the correct answer to the question. A person may send as many entries as one picases. 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

3. Participants are to put a tick [√] mark in the box

must bear the date and signature of the participant. All entries must reach the office of the Dolly Stor 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 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.

8. The Dolly Star authorities, in their absolute discretion, reserve the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reachedule any and all dates of the Quiz competitions under any

All participants agree to abide by all rules, instructions and guide-lines as may be issued from time to time by The Polly Ster. 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 Duly Stor In the conduct of the Quite Competitions (including the answers.selected as correct) shall be deened final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged

in any manner whatsoever. 11. In complete forms will not be considered.

Ends March 20, 1996

#### Read the information and rules carefully. Tick (V) the correct answer. The first "duck" in the World Cup was by E D Solkar A Knott 2 in the WC, the first over was bowled by J Snow 3. In the 1975 WC, the Sri Lankans were led by \*\* 4 In 1979 WC, the playing Chappell was The spinner who won two M-o-M awards in the 1983 WC was D Underwood 27 runs 6 Australia won the 1987 World Cup beating England in the final by The maximum wides and no-balls bowled in the 1992 WC was by A Donald NAME. ADDRESS. FATHER'S NAME. .SIGNATURE .... Write with a ball point pen in clear Block letters. Cut along the dotted lines and mail to or

# I drop in the Quiz Box in The Daily Star. Send as many entries as you like.

# ante, the president of the

Materrese called a special meeting for Thursday and Friday to discuss Sunday's planned players' strike, reports Metarrese has invited the president of the national Olympic committee Mario Pesc-

#### The reluctance to burden their best batsman with extra responsibilities may mean the selectors reprieve Azharuddin in the short-term But like his Pakistan counterpart Wasim Akram, whose house was stoned by angry fans after the quarterfinal loss to India, he is discovering

## Australia - including the World Cup - and South Africa scapegoats. Tyson, Bruno try off-ring tussle



LAS VEGAS. Mar 14: Mike Tyson and Frank Bruno, acting like a couple of spoiled kids, played

a waiting game with one another Wednesday before appearing for their final prefight news conference. reports AP. Bruno arrived at the hotel

showroom first, but refused to take his place on the dais until Tyson arrived. They went to the dais at the same time, and the news conference started 47 minutes late.

celled some interviews and on Tuesday he kalled off a public workout. Bruno did not appear at any of his scheduled interviews on Tuesday. Tyson went to Los Angeles the night before a news conference on March 6, but re-

ing to Los Angeles, where he was told Tyson had left. "I'm a professional and I'm doing it (the news conferencel." Bruno said. Bruno, who will defend the

WBC heavyweight champi-

onship against Tyson and

turned to Las Vegas when he

learnt Bruno would not appear.

Bruno was then talked into go-

Saturday night at the MGM Grand Garden, has complained that he is not being shown the respect due a champion. The champion from Britain is unhappy about his purse of 6 million dollars compared with

> will make. "I'm not happy in some ways with the promotion, Bruno said. One of his complaints was that his suite is not on the top floor of the hotel.

> the 30 million dollars. Tyson

Once the news conference began, it was about 43 minutes before Tyson was introduced. and he talked for 16 seconds. On Monday. Tyson can- Then Bruno talked for 32 sec-There then was a 20-

minute question-and-answer

period dominated by promoter Don King. "I'm fit and ferocious, Tyson said. 'That's all I have to say. I'm ready to get it on." Tyson was a 10-1 favourite.

He also was a 10-1 choice when he stopped Bruno in the fifth round in defense of the undisputed championship in Asked if he might bet on himself, Bruno said, "I don't

involve myself in betting be-

cause my money is too hard to

Subaru drivers maintain lead

Subaru Impreza 555 drivers Colin McRae. Kenneth Eriksson and Piero Liatti have maintained total control of the Rally of Thailand finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively, says a press release.

1996 Asia. Pacific Champidominated from the outset, the leaderboard. Italian soccer

chief's plan MILAN, Italy, Mar 14: Italian football president Antonio

coach's association Azeglio Vichini, and lawyer Sergio Campana, who announced the proposed strike.

unbeaten at home in both Test and one-day series. making Azharuddin India's most successful cricket cap-Intriguingly, there are already rumours the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) are to reconsider their appointment of Azhanıddin as captain for forthcoming oneday tournaments in Sharjah

and Singapore and a tour of England. Some officials apparently feel the appointment should not have been made until after the World Cup, and the situation has been complicated by the current turmoil

in Azharuddin's personal life. The captain, a Muslim, announced early in the World Cup that he was divorcing his wife in favour of Indian actress Sangeeta Biilani. Although he has pleaded for his privacy to be respected. the affair has prompted considerable debate around the

country Others feel his style of leadership is not tough enough. but the only real alternative. Sachin Tendulkar, is still just

22 years old.

that home defeats on the subcontinent in a high-profile tournament demand instant

Colin McRae, leading the 555 Subaru World Rally Team in the opening round of the onship in the Rally of Thailand. never once losing control of