

The World Cup with Philips

Let's make things better

PHILIPS

Not just live. Alive.

Pakistanis jive with SAARC beat

LAHORE, Mar 17: It may not have been the hometown crowd, but cricket-mad Pakistan threw its full support behind Sri Lanka during the World Cup final Sunday against mighty Australia, reports AP.

Despite a menacing sky and the threat of a rain delay, more than 30,000 people packed into Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium — the vast majority of them decidedly behind Sri Lanka.

"We are with Sri Lanka this time," said local cricket fan Anwar Mahboob. "These are our favourites and we want this nation to win." When Australian opener Mark Waugh was caught out, a roar echoed through the stadium. Dozens of brown, yellow and green Sri Lankan flags were raised up by dancing fans. The crowd's partisan mood was partly due to Pakistan's proximity to South Asia neighbour Sri Lanka, but also because of ongoing squabbles Australia has raised with both Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

First Australia accused Pakistan's Salim Malik of trying to bribe his way to victory. A charge later dismissed. Then Australia accused Sri Lanka during the recent World Series tournament of ball tampering, throwing and using delay tactics.

Rather than travel to Colombo, Australia forfeited their group pay match in Sri Lanka, claiming several players had received death threats from Sri Lankan fans.

For both Sri Lanka and Pakistan, the World Cup was an opportunity for vindication.

"The Sri Lankans are already celebrating," said Shiam Fernandes, who like more than 400 other Sri Lankans came to Lahore for the final match.

The diehard fans flew in Sunday morning from the Sri Lankan capital Colombo.

Sri Lanka, in its first World Cup final, has already won the hearts of its fans by coming this far.

"Either way, there will be celebrations in Sri Lanka," Fernandes said.

Australia was not without their own supporters. Fans garbed to match the yellow uniform of the Australian team stood by their squad.

A banner, playing on the name of Australian cricket star Mark Taylor, "Sri Lankans Are Taylor-made for Defeat."

Despite the festive atmosphere throughout the stadium, Pakistan authorities were on the watch for trouble.

The disputes with Pakistan and Sri Lanka had the Australians watching their backs during the World Cup.

Several players expressed concern for their safety in the Asian subcontinent, and at one point they were contemplating pulling out of the tournament.

Security throughout Lahore was stepped up in the days leading up to the World Cup and more than 1,000 police officers were positioned in and around the stadium.

"We have taken fool proof security measures," said police Superintendent Haq Nawaz Baluch.

Bad omen for Japan's 2002 WC bid

TOKYO, Mar 17: Japan's bid for the 2002 World Cup entered its final stretch Tuesday as officials described as "doubtful" the possibility of South Korea co-hosting what would be the first ever finals in Asia, reports AP.

"Change Japan with the World Cup. Give us support," a giant banner read as it was hung by the Japanese bidding committee on one side of a major department store in Tokyo's trendy Ginza district.

On Monday, vice foreign minister Hajime Ogawa hosted a reception at a plush hotel for 41 soccer writers from 20 countries who have been on a week-long tour of Japan at the invitation of his ministry and the Japanese Football Association.

"The idea of co-hosting the World Cup remains a possibility as it could smooth bilateral ties," Ogawa said.

He was commenting on a report that South Korea might bring up the idea again before the International Football Federation (FIFA) voting on the 2002 venue on June 1.

"We have always been in contact with the Republic of Korea but the idea has not been revived in any concrete form," Ogawa said. "It is also doubtful if FIFA would approve of such plan."

In July, football officials and politicians in Japan and South Korea, the only candidates for the 2002 finals, suggested the co-hosting of the World Cup as an ideal solution to the hot rivalry between the neighbouring nations.

But the idea has stirred public antipathy in South Korea.

Last week, the Japanese weekly Asahi reported that South Korea would possibly revive the idea if Japan becomes certain to win the bid.

WC FINALE SCOREBOARD



Scoreboard of the World Cup cricket final between Sri Lanka and Australia at Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore Sunday.

Table with columns for batsmen and their scores. Includes names like M Taylor, M Waugh, R Ponting, S Waugh, S Warne, S Law, M Bevan, I Healy, P Reffel.

Extras: (10-1b, 1-nb, 11-W) 22 Total: (For seven wickets) 241

Table with columns for bowlers and their figures. Includes names like Muralitharan, Wickremasinghe, Dharmasena, Muralitharan, Jayasuriya, De Silva.

Overs: 50

Fall of wickets: 1-36; 2-137; 3-152; 4-156; 5-170; 6-202; 7-205.

Did not bat: D Fleming, G McGrath

Fall of wickets: 1-12; 2-23; 3-148

Did not bat: H Tillekeratne, R Mahanama, K Dharmasena, C Vaas, M Muralitharan, P Wickremasinghe.

Table with columns for batsmen and their scores. Includes names like Jayasuriya, Muralitharan, McGrath, Fleming, Reffel.

Overs: 46.2

Result: Sri Lanka won by seven wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Aravinda de Silva.

Man-of-the-tournament: Sanath Jayasuriya.

Table with columns for batsmen and their scores. Includes names like Waugh, M Waugh, S Waugh, Bevan.

Overs: 46.2

Result: Sri Lanka won by seven wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Aravinda de Silva.

Man-of-the-tournament: Sanath Jayasuriya.



Australian skipper Mark Taylor executing a delicate late glance during his side's final of the sixth World Cup against Sri Lanka at Lahore yesterday. Taylor scored a dazzling 74 but De Silva with a magnificent century took the Lankans to lift the coveted trophy for the first time.

Dhakais join the Lanka's bandwagon

Star Report City's cricket lovers took the streets last night chanting and cheering the victory of Sri Lanka over the favourites Aussies in the sixth Wills World Cup final in Lahore.

Right after the Ranatunga men lifted the coveted trophy for Sri Lanka, residential students of Dhaka University came out in jubilation from their dormitories. They were dancing, hugging each other and drumming utensils.

On Elephant Road, Nikhet, Mirpur Road, TSC, Shahbagh and Dhanmondi areas many students and residents were seen exchanging pleasantries and walking down the city streets in groups.

Students of the varsity halls made fun of fire works and shouted 'Sri Lanka! Sri Lanka!'

Rao hails Lankan triumph

NEW DELHI, Mar 17: Indian Prime Minister, P V Narasimha Rao, tonight felicitated the Sri Lankan cricket team for winning the Wills World Cup at Lahore in Pakistan and displaying sportsmanship and team spirit, reports PTI.

In a message to the Sri Lankan President Chandrika Kumaratunga, Rao said the cricket-loving people from different parts of the world witnessed an exhilarating display of fine cricket by the participating teams from the commonwealth and outside for the last several weeks.

Floodlights play fast and loose

LAHORE, Mar 17: Power failures at the Gaddafi Stadium briefly threatened to play havoc with the day-night World Cup final between Australia and Sri Lanka on Sunday, reports Reuter.

During the break between innings the floodlights dimmed to half their normal power and then nearly went out altogether less than 10 minutes before the two sides were due to resume play.

The lights, however, quickly returned to full strength and the game was able to restart just seven minutes late with Sri Lanka replying to Australia's 241 for seven off 50 overs.

Ironically, the game was almost switched to a day-time affair because of the likelihood of power cuts which frequently plague Lahore.

As tension mounts!

COLOMBO, Mar 17: Pre-World Cup final tension at one of Colombo's top hotels nearly caused two members of staff, an Australian and a Sri Lankan, to come to blows, reports Reuter.

A discussion about which of their countries would win Sunday's match became heated and ended with both men holding each other by their shirt collars as early evening diners looked on.

"It got bad when the Sri Lankan told the Australian his team were cheats," said a witness to Friday night's incident.

"But when the Australian finally left, he shook hands. He didn't say anything but he shook hands."

Many Sri Lankans relished the prospect of seeing their team beat Australian in the final because of the ill-feeling that has been brewing between the two countries in recent months.

Australia refused to play their opening World Cup match in Colombo because of security fears after more than 80 people were killed in a bomb blast in the Sri Lankan capital on January 31. Before that there were controversies on and off the field during a Sri Lankan tour to Australia.

Hopkins' fury

LAS VEGAS, Mar 17: Bernard Hopkins unleashed a flurry of punches to spectacular fourth-round knockout over the previously undefeated and 1 American Joe Lipsey in second successful defence his IBF middleweight title.

The sudden end to fight at 2:50 of the fifth round came after Hopkins nicknamed 'The Executioner' landed a hard uppercut to Lipsey's jaw centre of the ring that left the challenger staggering nearly out on his feet.

Doctors quickly jiu into the ring to tend to Lipsey who was on his back for a minute before managhi get to his feet. About five ules later, Lipsey went down to his knees in the before getting up again, corner blamed it on an as attack.



The students of Dhaka University, fore-runners of many a successful movement, brought out an early victory procession on behalf of Sri Lanka in the afternoon yesterday. They were not failed by the Lankans, who wrested the trophy of the sixth Wills World Cup defeating Australia by 7 wickets in the final at Lahore late last night.

Cricket calls off the war



COLOMBO, Mar 17 (Reuter): The World Cup cricket final between Sri Lanka and Australia today offered the islanders a rare chance to forget a Tamil separatist war which has ravaged the country for the past 13 years.

Troops deployed to fight the ferocious Tamil Tiger rebels were also cricket fans and those in camps with television sets would be glued to their screens to watch the final in Lahore, Pakistan, a military officer said.

"But at the same time, troops are also very vigilant," he added. "We have a struggle which is bigger than cricket."

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam rebels killed five policemen in an overnight raid on their post at Alinchipotana, in northeastern Welikanda district, security officials said.

Ten policemen were wounded in the raid, part of an intensified campaign by the rebels who are fighting for an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the north and east.

Staff officers in the armed forces reported a noticeable slackening of the paper flow during World Cup tournament matches.

Several senior officers have come down to Colombo from their battle stations in the north to watch the final, they said.

Cricket-crazy Sri Lankans

have been testing television sets and stocking up on food and drinks since Saturday.

"When the match is on everybody forgets about the economy. Everything comes to a standstill. It's crazy," said Mahathun, a taxi driver.

Residents in north-central Anuradhapura said people had even cancelled weddings to watch the match.

"The women finished their cooking for the day early in the morning so that they can watch the match," a resident said.

Ranjith Fernando, a security guard in a Colombo firm, said Sri Lanka had a chance to win fame and honour if it won the Cup final and overcome bad

publicity generated by the war

"Sri Lanka has become one of the poorest nations in the world because of terrorism," he said. "But Sri Lanka is good at cricket and will be famous if we win. The tigers' plan is to prevent tourists and foreign aid coming to the country with their bomb attacks."

A rebel suicide bomb at a school on the central bank on January 31 killed 90 people and devastated part of the financial core.

It also scared off the Australians, who along with the West Indies, forfeited their match in Sri Lanka due to security fears.

The tigers, who have denied responsibility for the attack, said they were torn on which team to support today.

Lawrence Thilankar, Paris-based spokesman for the tigers, said all Tamils in the north and east loved cricket.

"It's part of their lives in school. All the school children love cricket and football," he told Reuters.

Thilankar said he thought Sri Lanka were a capable team and he could not wish Australia to win.

"At the same time it's difficult to wish Sri Lanka also to win," he added. "We look at the game as outsiders but have a mental block on wishing Sri Lanka to win."

Independent analysts said the vast majority of Tamils backed the national team. But others said Tamils who fell victimised by the majority Sinhalese government and security forces were reluctant to support it.

WORLD CUP DIARY

ISLAMABAD, Mar 17 (AFP): World Cup diary here today:

SARFRAZ NAWAZ TO SUE IMRAN

Former Pakistan Test player Sarfraz Nawaz has announced he will sue former captain Imran Khan for defamation. Sarfraz said the suggestion that he was paid by the government to defame Imran was nonsense and counter-attacked with a counter-claim.

That it was Imran who had introduced gambling to the national side. He said Imran, who led Pakistan to the 1992 World Cup, had once wagered 20,000 dollars on a Pakistan win, adding "Imran is the man who introduced gambling in Pakistan cricket and he confessed this openly on many occasions for which he is answerable."

Sarfraz also said he had been asked to investigate Pakistan's World Cup defeat by the Prime Minister. He said that players found to have gambled on results should be punished, adding "This step is necessary to rid Pakistan cricket of the betting evil and save the game's future."

WAQAR HITS BACK

Pakistan pace bowler Waqar Younis has hit back over the continuing criticism of the team after it was knocked out of the tournament by India in the quarterfinals. He said defeat should not be made "a matter of life and death."

BAT FIRST, SAYS LAHORE GROUNDSMAN

Lahore groundsman Mohammad Bashir advised the captain who won the World Cup final toss to bat first. Bashir, who has been working at the stadium since 1959, said: "There should be 275 runs in this wicket, perhaps 300. But the ball will swing and seam in the evening," Bashir added. "It's a fine batting pitch. It's as smooth as my hand. I know this wicket better than I know my own son."

Serie A in turmoil

ROME, Mar 17: Italians reacted with anger on Friday at the prospect of a weekend without major soccer as the players stage an unprecedented strike in the elite Serie A on Saturday and Sunday, reports Reuter.

Sergio Campana, head of the players union, confirmed the strike action on Thursday and raised the spectre of a prolonged stoppage if a series of demands are not met by the soccer federation.

Mario Pescante, chairman of Italy's Olympic committee, said on Friday. "In all the history of the trades union movement there has never been a strike called with less reason."

The players' union has made numerous demands. They include calling on the federation to pay into a guarantee fund to ensure that players receive their salaries.

In a bid to stave off the strike, which could cost the sport millions of dollars in lost revenue, federated president Antonio Matarrese offered the union a package of concessions during the week.

These included admitting the leaders of the players and coaches unions to the sport's ruling body, as well as topping up the guarantee fund. But the offers were dismissed by Campana.

Even La Repubblica, the only leading daily to have backed the strike, said the reasons for stoppage now appeared less pressing.

"The strike is unpopular because, on the face of it, Campana has got everything he asked for," the paper commented.

One of the few voices raised in support of Italy's players, who are among the best paid sportsmen in the world, came from Argentine Diego Maradona, who played for Napoli in Serie A in the 1980s.

"I'm very proud of the courageous decision by Italian players and their president

union and the affiliate coaches' union, were locked in a bitter power struggle with the federation which could only damage the country's number one sport.

"The public have been made a mockery of and the principles of solidarity have been made a mockery of and the common good of football trampled over," commented the Gazzetta Dello Sport, Italy's biggest circulation newspaper.

Mario Pescante, chairman of Italy's Olympic committee, said on Friday. "In all the history of the trades union movement there has never been a strike called with less reason."

The players' union has made numerous demands. They include calling on the federation to pay into a guarantee fund to ensure that players receive their salaries.

In a bid to stave off the strike, which could cost the sport millions of dollars in lost revenue, federated president Antonio Matarrese offered the union a package of concessions during the week.

These included admitting the leaders of the players and coaches unions to the sport's ruling body, as well as topping up the guarantee fund. But the offers were dismissed by Campana.

Even La Repubblica, the only leading daily to have backed the strike, said the reasons for stoppage now appeared less pressing.

"The strike is unpopular because, on the face of it, Campana has got everything he asked for," the paper commented.

One of the few voices raised in support of Italy's players, who are among the best paid sportsmen in the world, came from Argentine Diego Maradona, who played for Napoli in Serie A in the 1980s.

"I'm very proud of the courageous decision by Italian players and their president

Oman outplay Emirates

KUALA LUMPUR, Mar 17: Oman, who had two players sent off, stunned the United Arab Emirates with a 3-1 victory in the Asian Olympic football qualifying final here Saturday, reports AFP.

The UAE shot into the lead in the third minute through Haassan Saeed Rashid Ahmed.

Oman, searching for the equaliser, went on the offensive and leaving their defence vulnerable to the counter-attack of the UAE forwards, who were searching for the second goal.

The Daily Star PHILIPS

Cricket World Cup Quiz '96



All prizes courtesy: Transcom Electronics Ltd.

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 20, 1996 for Quiz 2 which will be a Bumper Round. In the Sports Page. For the Quiz Competitions the prizes will be as follows:
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 N.V. for Lighting products, Radio and TV sets.
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 4-8, 1996 for Quiz 1 and from Feb 27-March 20, 1996 for Quiz 2 which will be a Bumper Round. In the Sports Page. For the Quiz Competitions the prizes will be as follows:
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
B. For the Quiz Competitions the prizes will be as follows:
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
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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka: 1205.
5. 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.
6. Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.
7. By Daily Star authorities, in their absolute discretion, reserve the right to amend, modify or substitute any of the above rules and/or change or reschedule any and all dates of the Quiz competitions, under any circumstances.
8. 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.
9. Any decision of the Daily Star authorities shall be final and binding on all participants.

কাগজ খরাপ