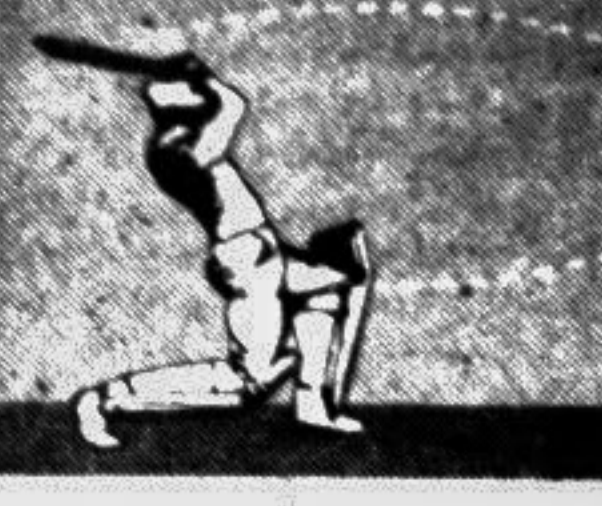


The World Cup with Philips



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Aussies act their age

SYDNEY, Mar 18: Australian Prime Minister John Howard, beary-eyed and disappointed after watching Sri Lanka's crushing World Cup final victory, today praised captain Mark Taylor for his sportsmanship in defeat, reports Reuter.

"Bad luck -- the last one got away," the cricket-loving Howard said in a statement addressed to Taylor, after Australia's seven-wicket defeat in Lahore, Pakistan.

"You and the team have given a lot of pleasure to millions of Australians this season, and there are many beary-eyed people at work throughout our nation, myself included," Howard said in the statement released to the media.

"You all fought tenaciously during the game... and your (Taylor's) gracious comments about Sri Lanka's victory displayed the best traditions of Australian sportsmanship. You all have our continuing admiration," he said.

Australian newspapers reacted to the defeat with a mixture of shock, pain and bewilderment after almost universally predicting a comfortable victory for Cup favourites Australia.

"World Cup agony," "Lankans revenge" and "End of the world" screamed the headlines in two of the country's highest-selling tabloid newspapers after Sri Lanka secured their victory in the early hours of the Morning Australian Time.

"The might of Australian cricket was humbled by upstarts Sri Lanka," Sydney's Daily Telegraph said in its late-morning edition. But while the headlines reflected the pain of defeat, the match reports praised the Sri Lankans for their "fairytale graduation" as champions of one-day cricket.

The newspapers labelled Sri Lanka vice-captain Aravinda de Silva, who smashed 107 off 124 balls, as the "architect" of Australia's defeat. The Sri Lankan players will return to their strife-torn country as national heroes.

"Because of the early Morning Australian Time finish of the match, newspapers have not yet had time to begin the inevitable self-assessment and recrimination of the Australian team.

"That will start tomorrow (Tuesday)," a sports sub-editor on Melbourne's Herald-Sun told Reuters.

Newspapers simply told readers that Australia's fielding, the cornerstone of its one-day success, "crumbled" with players missing six catches and that their top-order batsmen "covered themselves with mediocrity."

Of the Lahore colloquy

LAHORE, Mar 18: Victorious skipper Arjuna Ranatunga declared Sunday's World Cup final victory over Australia as the greatest moment of his life -- and the start of a new era for Sri Lankan cricket, reports AFP.

Ranatunga, who had to escape a mob of fans who rushed onto the pitch as the game ended, said: "This is the biggest moment of my life. I'm very happy and very proud.

"It is a new era in Sri Lankan cricket."

Man-of-the-match Aravinda de Silva, who made 107 not out as well as taking three wickets and two catches, stressed the game had not been about revenge.

"It was not about sweet revenge. But it will boost the game back home and it's a day I will never forget. I worked hard today. I preserved everything for this occasion," he said.

Australian skipper Mark Taylor confirmed the lack of bitterness on Sunday, saying: "There's always an atmosphere of friendliness between the two sides, as far as I'm concerned."

"He said he had 'mixed emotions' about losing, explaining: 'Some people said we should have been thrown out of the tournament after not going to Colombo, so to make the final was a fantastic achievement for us.'

He added: "Sri Lanka's win was tremendous for cricket, as was Kenya's performance in the World Cup."

"We were just outplayed. I thought Arjuna's men played very well. They pegged us back after we made a good start. They deserved to win. They held their catches, which we didn't."

"They have a good game plan. They bat and bowl positively. They don't try to bowl sides out but restrict and then chase."

While the Sri Lankans celebrated, a distraught Shane Warne had to be consoled by Australian manager Bobby Simpson. But he got a huge cheer when he answered calls from the memento hunters by throwing his pads into the crowd.

De Silva vs Australia

MATCH ANALYSIS by Tawfiq Aziz Khan



Victory has many feathers, defeat none, so goes the saying.

WHEN Azharuddin won the toss and put the Lankans into bat many eyebrows were raised. Two quick wickets in the first over gladdened the hearts of many. But the eventual loss of the match made him the scape-goat.

Ranatunga won the toss and put the Australians in to bat. No quick success though. Pressures mounted. Finally a great victory, Ranatunga had many colourful feathers in his cap.

The high drama normally associated with a match that takes place every four years, was almost absent and reduced the final of World Cup Cricket 1996 to a mundane routine.

Ranatunga's decision to field first caused consternation in the Lankan camp and his 'love' for chasing the opponents total appeared sour.

The expectation of millions of supporters took a severe jolt but lot of tension was diffused because Jayasuriya and Kaluwitharana did not appear in the middle with their murder weapon. Instead, Mark

Taylor and Mark Waugh much to their surprise found themselves accosted by the gentle pace of Vaas and Wickremasinghe.

This had a soothing effect on the nerves but unfortunately it did not last long. Taylor and Ponting made the attack highly vulnerable and merrily went on until the part-timer De Silva accounted for both with his



ARAVINDA DE SILVA

gentle off-spin. Thereafter it was a runaway total by the Aussies vanquished with Steve Waugh. The former champions looked distinctly tried and over wrought after their match

with the West Indies and fell to irresponsible batting rather than good bowling. If Taylor, who was in good nick, had played sensibly Australia might have reached a good total on the easy wicket.

But it was distinctly a day for the little dynamo Aravinda de Silva. Coming in at an early stage of the innings De Silva carried his but till the end and in the process cracked one of the best centuries with masterly strokes. He had a very fruitful partnership with Gurusinghe and saw the team through to their first World Championship with the captain Ranatunga.

The Sri Lankans proved beyond doubt about their class, capability, grit and determination. De Silva's sterling feats in this tourney, particularly in the all important final should have earned him the 'Player of the Tournament' title. With two hundreds and four 'Man of the Match' awards he was the clear winner.

His personal achievements in the final will be hard to surpass in years to come. It was virtually a match between De Silva and Australia. Three vital wickets, two important catches and a splendid unbeaten hundred, only the third in a World Cup final, was a good enough achievement to be in the record books for a long long time.

Indian media joins Lankan party

NEW DELHI, Mar 18: The Indian media had Sri Lanka's upset World Cup victory on Sunday, saying Arjuna Ranatunga's men were deserving winners over Australia, reports AFP.

Sri Lanka's seven-wicket win at Lahore got front-page treatment in all newspapers.

"For Lanka, it's sweet revenge," screamed a front page banner headline in The Pioneer, referring to Australia's decision to forfeit their league match in Colombo for security reasons.

"The sub-continental player was answered on Sunday," the newspaper's cricket correspondent wrote. "Nothing - not rain, not history and certainly not the combined will of pre-tournament favourites Australia - could deny the Lankans their tryst with destiny."

"Lankans are lions in Lahore," said the Hindustan Times. New Delhi's biggest daily, reflecting an opinion widely shared in India. "Sri Lanka did proud the game of cricket in the sub-continent."

Indian newspapers and sports commentators were mostly sympathetic to Sri Lanka, because of Australia's earlier boycott of Colombo and to make up for the rioting crowd at the semifinal in Calcutta last week.

Indian Express ran its front page headline "Lankan juggernaut mauls Aussies" - besides getting former cricket stars to air their views.

Ian Chappell said the Sri Lankans had "come of age in 21 years." New Zealander Sir Richard Hadlee's views were headlined: "Sri Lanka defy odds and history," while Kapil Dev said: "Ranatunga revived memories of India's 1983 triumph."

All the papers paid glowing tributes to man-of-the-match Aravinda de Silva, who took three wickets, held two catches and smashed an unbeaten 107 to guide the Sri Lankans home.

"Lanka wins Silva Cup," said a front-page display in the Asian Age above a second headline which proclaimed: "Warne smashed out of shape."

Islanders aiming higher

LAHORE, Mar 18: Sri Lanka plan to use their world cup triumph over Australia as a springboard to a brighter Test future at home and abroad, reports Reuter.

Amid the celebrations which greeted his side's seven-wicket victory in Sunday's final, captain Arjuna Ranatunga said it was important for Sri Lanka to adapt their one-day skills to the stricter demands of five-day cricket on a consistent basis.

"Give us a little more time," he smiled. "I think in one-day cricket we have achieved this about four years ahead of schedule, in Test matches, we still have to work pretty hard."

Since being granted Test status 15 years ago, they have had difficulty persuading longer-established member countries they possess sufficient box-office appeal for a full-length series.

England, in particular, have never played more than a solitary Test against them, despite suffering a heavy defeat in their last meeting in Colombo three years ago.

Manager Duleep Mendis, attributing his side's rise to the team spirit within the squad, said, "now hopefully they will take note and we will get some more Test matches."

The supreme irony is that Australia are scheduled to tour Sri Lanka in August, having raised hackles on the island during the World Cup when they refused to play in Colombo because of security fears.

"We are looking forward to it very much. Any country is welcome, the invitations are there," said Ranatunga.

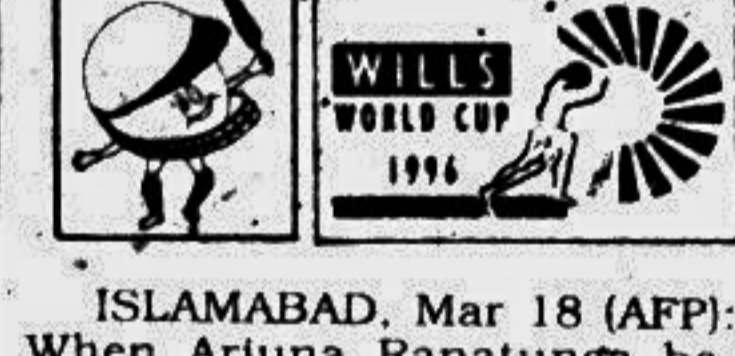
Australian captain Mark Taylor would not commit himself in public, clearly anxious not to say anything which might come back to haunt him.

Sri Lanka's next team assignment will be the Singer Cup in Singapore, but they also have to start thinking about a new captain.

Ranatunga is only 32, yet has led his country on and off since 1989-90 and is ready to hand over the reins.

"I think I have done okay for the country, the old man needs a break now," he laughed. "We have to groom someone to take over the job."

Ranatunga gets the nod



ISLAMABAD, Mar 18 (AFP): When Arjuna Ranatunga became the first Sri Lankan to lift the World Cup, he also confirmed his new status as a top-class individual talent.

Ranatunga is about as athletic and ferocious-looking as a child's teddy bear. He would be the automatic choice to captain any World XI however.

Sri Lanka's seven-wicket victory over Australia in Lahore on Sunday was based on his excellent analytical brain as well as his left strokeplay.

His 47 not out took him to an unparalleled tournament average of 120, surpassing even Mark Waugh and Sachin Tendulkar.

A world one-day team selected after the tournament would probably run something like: Mark Waugh, Sachin Tendulkar, Brian Lara, Aravinda de Silva, Arjuna Ranatunga, Brian McMillan, Ian Healy, Curtly Ambrose, Waqar Younis, Shane Warne and Anil Kumble.

The 12th man would be South African Jonty Rhodes, for his spectacular fielding, while the manager's cap would be won by the lap-topped Bob Woolmer, an Englishman in South African clothing.

That selection would give Australia three, selections ahead of Sri Lanka, the West Indies and India with two, and one each for Pakistan and South Africa.

England and New Zealand would be the two quarterfinalists.

ists relegated to carrying on the interval drinks and polishing boots.

Ranatunga would get the leadership role just ahead of Mark Taylor of Australia, whose highpoint came when he masterminded the West Indies semifinal downfall when only 48 runs were needed off 10 overs with eight wickets in hand, and the excellent Hansie Cronje of South Africa.



A RANATUNGA

The wicketkeeping gloves go to the Healy just. His expertise standing up to Waugh is a crucial factor, although the missed chance of a De Silva in the Cup final counts against him.

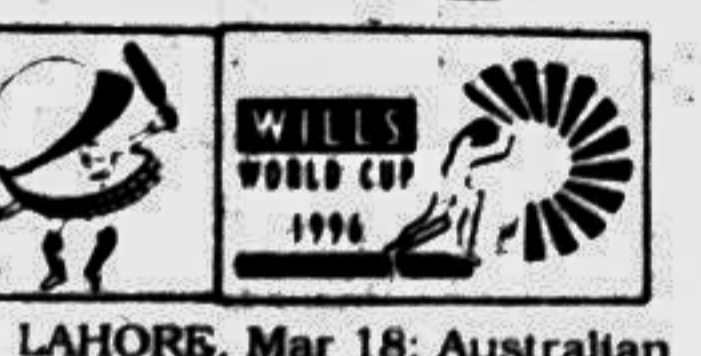
Warne -- who would be given time to get over his spinning finger injury -- and Kumble would present the perfect spin partnership, the former a turner and the latter, with an unmatched 15 wickets during the tournament, a cunning top-spinner.

His ball to dismiss De Silva, a flipper that cut back through the gate with such velocity that it knocked the middle stump out of the ground, was on a par with Steve Waugh's delivery of the tournament that dismissed Lara in the semifinals.

The team is completed by Pakistani pacesman Waqar Younis, on the strength of his devilish yorkers, and Curtly Ambrose, perhaps the hardest bowler to score off in the world.

He cost over three runs on over just once -- against India -- and ended the tournament with 10 wickets at 17 runs apiece and at an economy rate of three an over. Not bad for a 32-year-old who said he was sick of playing cricket just before the World Cup.

Being discreet in defeat



MARK TAYLOR

LAHORE, Mar 18: Australian captain Mark Taylor has warned cricket's rulers that they must act decisively or risk the game sliding into chaos before the end of the century, reports Reuter.

Taylor believes the sport is facing an uncertain future at international level unless controversial subjects such as ball-tampering are addressed by the International Cricket Council (ICC) without delay.

There have been a variety of incidents around the world in recent years, including bribery allegations against Salim Malik when he was Pakistan captain and a London court case in 1993 involving Sarfraz Nawaz and Allan Lamb which -- dragged the thorny issue of ball-tampering into the public domain.

The ICC's Australian chief executive David Richards has admitted the world body lacks disciplinary powers.

The ICC met in Lahore on Monday to frame recommendations for its annual meeting in London during the English summer, and Taylor feels it is increasingly time for action not words.

"Someone has got to put their hand up. All the various countries in the world have got to give someone the power. If that means the ICC, then let it be the ICC," he said.

"Someone's got to do it because we can't sweep these things under the carpet any longer. It's going to break the game down to the detriment of everyone."

"We've got to make sure that some of the things that happened at the start of the tournament don't happen again," Taylor said the captain's meeting before the World Cup had been an important step in the right direction.

"We have to get things off our chest. If everyone does that and gets everything out on the table we can right the wrong and get on and make this a better game."

"I certainly hope the ICC listen to us. If we don't do anything about it, the game will break down and people won't want to watch it any more."

Australia's decision not to play their World Cup group game in Sri Lanka for security reasons made them a target for abuse the moment they arrived on the sub-continent, and Taylor admitted it had made his side's job more difficult.

"We came over here under a real cloud of controversy. There were various former Test cricketers telling us we should be banned for a year, there were others saying we shouldn't be allowed to play in the tournament."

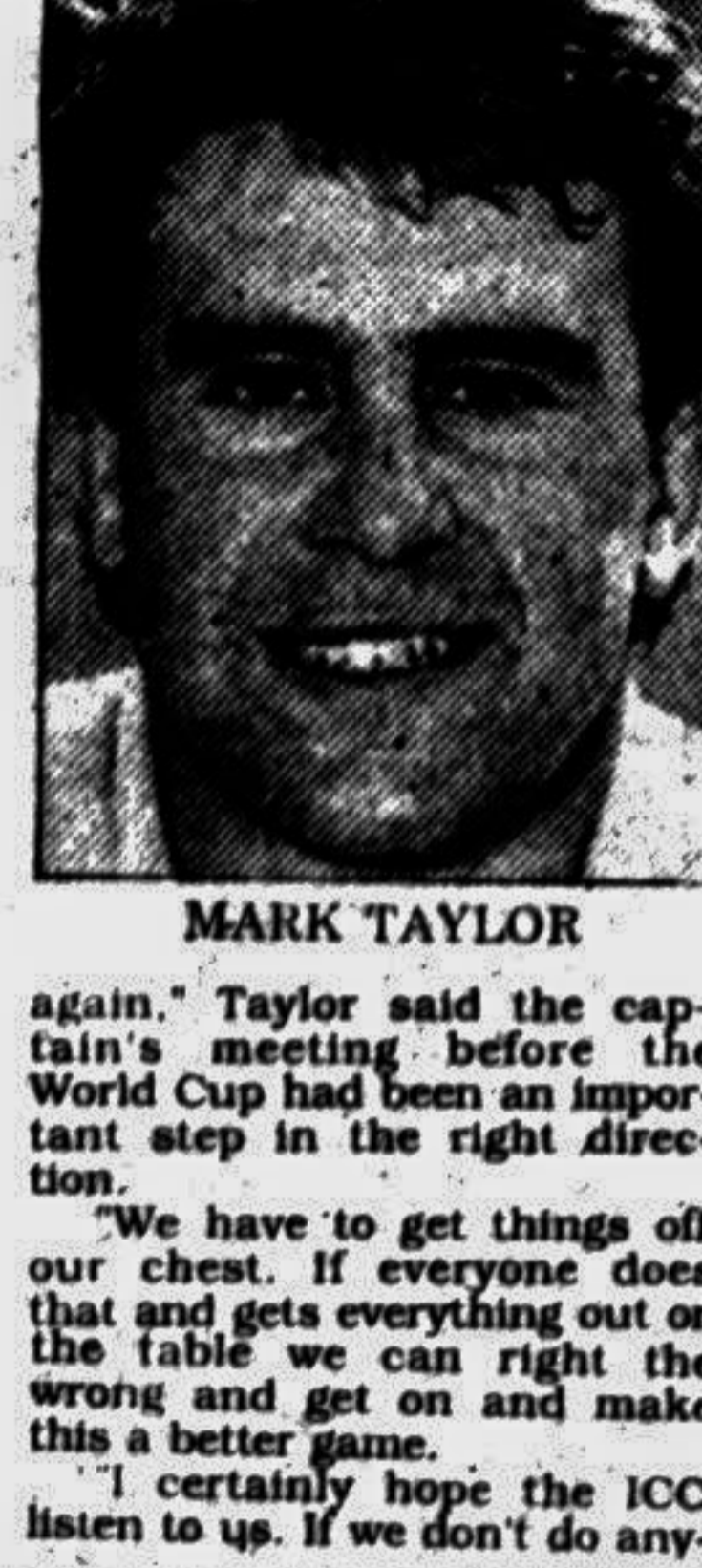
"I'd like people to try and look at things from both sides. A decision was made at the start of the tournament not to go to Sri Lanka and that was always going to create controversy. I just hope people who don't like it can put themselves in our shoes and look at the way we live in Australia compared to the way other people live in the sub-continent."

As for the final, Taylor insisted there had been no significant problems between the sides. "I always shake hands after the game. Whatever gripe I might have I always shake hands," he said.

Taylor agreed Sri Lanka's win was good for the world game. "In one-day cricket, they've improved a hell of a lot. They've now got a game plan which is based on positive batting and defensive bowling and they do a very good job of it."

gentle off-spin. Thereafter it was a runaway total by the Aussies vanquished with Steve Waugh. The former champions looked distinctly tried and over wrought after their match

with the West Indies and fell to irresponsible batting rather than good bowling. If Taylor, who was in good nick, had played sensibly Australia might have reached a good total on the easy wicket.



MOMENT OF GLORY: Sri Lankan skipper Arjuna Ranatunga holds aloft the coveted Wills World Cup trophy while Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto (R) applauds during the presentation ceremony after Sri Lanka's memorable triumph over Australia in Lahore on Mar 17.

Champions Cup Chang's

INDIAN WELLS, California, Mar 18: Fifth seed Michael Chang ended the upset run of Dutchman Paul Haarhuis on Sunday to claim the Champions Cup title and boost his ranking to number four in the world, reports Reuter.

Chang was briefly tested by the 68th-ranked Haarhuis before rolling to a 7-5, 6-1, 6-1 victory worth 320,000 dollars.

"I think it's a great confidence booster for me, winning a big tournament and good victory for me," said Chang, who also won this event in 1992.

Haarhuis had picked off three top-10 scalps -- ninth-ranked Thomas Enqvist, number six Goran Ivanisevic and top seed Pete Sampras -- en route to the final. But his luck ran out with the feet-footed Chang.

"Michael had every answer to my shots and then you start forcing things and you feel you have to do more and better and closer to the lines," said Haarhuis, who has beaten Chang just once in six meetings.

"It's all part of what Michael's game does to you," added Haarhuis, who collected 169,000 dollars as runner-up.

Chang, ranked fifth in the world entering the tournament, will move ahead of Boris Becker into the fourth spot when the new ATP rankings come today. Austrian Thomas Muster, Sampras and Andre Agassi remain in the top three spots.

Nigeria, Ghana, Tunisia on way to Atlanta

JOHANNESBURG, Mar 18: Nigeria, Ghana and Tunisia will fill the three places reserved for Africa at the 1996 Olympic Games football tournament in the United States, reports AFP.

A first-half goal from Dutch-based Tijani Babangida before a crowd of 45,000 in Lagos gave Nigeria a 1-0 victory over Zimbabwe, and a two-goal aggregate success.

Ghana, third behind Spain and Poland in the previous Olympics in Barcelona, forced a goalless draw in Cameroon to retain a three-goal advantage.

Guinea defeated Tunisia 2-0 in Conakry through a goal in each half from Wandel Soumah, but it was not enough as they lost 6-2 in North Africa two weeks ago.

The African qualifiers will join five European, three Asian, three Central American and two South American countries at the Olympics from July 20 to August 5.

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. Official Licensee of PHILIPS Electronics S.V. for Lighting products, Radio and TV Sets.

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 4-5, 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:
- QUIZ 1**
- 1st Prize Powervision 21" 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
- 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 line. All entries must be submitted on the original form printed in the Daily Star. Photocopies or reproductions in any form will not be accepted.
 - In complete forms will not be considered.

Quiz 2: Bumper Round Ends March 20, 1996

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

- The first 'duck' in the World Cup was by HR Shah ED SoKar A Knott
- In the WC the first over was bowled by V Holder M Lal J Snow
- In the 1975 WC the Sri Lankans were led by D Mendis B Waranapura B Tarnakoon
- In 1979 WC the playing Chappell was Chns Ian Greg
- 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.