

Sport

The World Cup with Philips

Let's make things better

PHILIPS

Not just live. Alive.



LAHORE, Mar 19: The BBC weather forecast five days back hit middle stump with rains watering the greens of Lahore from the early hours of the day of the grudge match. There could not be more befitting a finale.

The Aussies accused the Lankans of ball-tampering, followed it up with 'no-balling' Muralitharan 14 times in Down Under, refused to play the World Cup group match at Colombo fearing a repeat of the Tamil bomb attack which killed more than 80 people, and clinched the three-nation World Series trophy beating Sri Lanka in the final not without some help from home-side umpires.

The Lankans were cleared of violating the ball-tampering rule. Muralitharan's arm was naturally bent, tried to convince the world that their island was safe which was doubled by the Tamils' pledge to keep the World Cup out of civil war and did not like one little bit the biased nature of Aussie umpiring. So, this is being seen not only as final where two teams have beaten the field to reach but as a match of revenge. Although Ranatunga and his men have a lot to avenge, the burly master of pitch-craft has pointed out that words like revenge should not be used in a sporting contest. One cannot expect any more deserving candidates to vie for the title in what has been the most controversial World Cup.

Pakistan may not have qualified for the final but the manner in which the city has prepared herself for the biggest one-day match since Imran Khan held the trophy at the cost of England four years back justifies its nomination as the venue. Every roundabout, important and unimportant roads, various buildings have been decorated and topped with lighting which belies the hosts not going to the final.

Pakistan may not have qualified for the final but the manner in which the city has prepared herself for the biggest one-day match since Imran Khan held the trophy at the cost of England four years back justifies its nomination as the venue. Every roundabout, important and unimportant roads, various buildings have been decorated and topped with lighting which belies the hosts not going to the final.

Bruno himself wasn't making any immediate commitments about his future when he got off the plane at Heathrow Airport, still wearing dark glasses to conceal the cut over his left eye. "I'm not too sure," he said when asked whether he planned to retire. "I'll answer that in a couple weeks' time. I'm going to try to spend some time with my family, relax, just chill out, and recharge my batteries."

Frank falls from grace

LONDON, Mar 19 (AP): Quit now, Frank. That was the message from Frank Bruno's supporters and critics alike Monday when Britain's favourite sportsman returned home after losing his WBC heavyweight title to Mike Tyson.

Bruno himself wasn't making any immediate commitments about his future when he got off the plane at Heathrow Airport, still wearing dark glasses to conceal the cut over his left eye. "I'm not too sure," he said when asked whether he planned to retire. "I'll answer that in a couple weeks' time. I'm going to try to spend some time with my family, relax, just chill out, and recharge my batteries."

"This is all a bit of the unknown for us, since none of us have been here before, but we are fairly confident after a reasonably decent World Cup," Germon said on Monday. "We are going to treat the one-dayers and the Tests as separate issues. Our strategies will probably be very different," he added.

NEW ZEALAND SQUAD
Lee Germon (captain), Nathan Astle, Craig Spearman, Stephen Fleming, Roger Twose, Chris Harris, Adam Parore, Chris Cairns, Dipak Patel, Dion Nash, Robert Kennedy, Gavin Larsen, Danny Morrison, Shane Thomson.

Hall slams WICBC

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Mar 19: Outgoing West Indies manager Wes Hall has criticised the West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC) for announcing management changes while his team were still involved in the World Cup, reports Reuters.

Following West Indies' loss to Kenya in the group stages, the WICBC said that Hall and coach Andy Roberts would be replaced for the forthcoming two-Test series against New Zealand.

Captain Richie Richardson also announced he would retire after the Cup. Although he later said he might consider playing as a batsman only. "Throughout the sub-continent and indeed in Australia and in England, the word had gone out that the entire management team had been sacked," Hall told reporters on Sunday.

From Nizamuddin Ahmed

The razzle-dazzle may convince the buffs that perhaps Pakistan has won the Cup.

The entire city is involved in the final. Schools and shops and boulevard, roads and restaurants, all reflect the festivity that Lahorites have taken it to the hearts. The day of finale was declared a local holiday, meaning everything was shut, except of roads and the gates to the stadium and television sets.

The Sri Lankans have united the sub-continent. The Indians have put their weight behind the Lankans, put in writing in a letter of apology initiated by Joyti Basu in Calcutta. Bangladeshis would be backing the islanders. And the entire Gaddafi Stadium put their solid support, a boisterous crowd of 35,000 behind Ranatunga and his men. The Lankans actually felt like playing on home ground.

The sky remained overcast all day, bringing down the mercury to 20 degree Celsius. The six towers, each with 112 bulbs, were put on long before sunset. The chill kept the crowd on their seats till De Silva and Gurusinge began to strike lighting on a wet and cloudy evening. It was enough to send ripple in the stands and the Mexican waves were just around the corner.

Blackmarketeters again had a hay day. Tickets of Rs 750 went at twice the face value while the Rs 5000 VIP tickets were sold from between Rs 7 and 10 thousand. Spectators sat on stairs and in aisles, indicating many ticker case 'patrons'. There were also a few scuffles as more than one person claimed the same seat.

For once the Pakistan flag was outnumbered on home soil. Everywhere one looked were one colour of the subcontinental hopes, the lion fluttering in the Indus winds, a lone Bangladeshi flag keeping company.

The crowd never settled down. With only official coke being served there was a constant flow of people going out and coming in, temporarily stopping around the students, catering to whims from pizzas

to chicken fry, rise curry to 'halua'.

In spite of the slogan 'Wills and Cricket go together,' the PCB failed to put together a decent scoreboard worthy of a World Cup final. It indeed was pathetic. It reminded one of similar contraptions in Dhaka twenty years back. Whereas the present one at the Dhaka Stadium would beat the Lahore version by a wide margin, the Eden Electronic digital would win by an innings.

The inaugural formalities were a shambles. Protocol was violated with the Sri Lankan and the Australian flags at the official stand flying lower than the Pakistani one. The ceremonies began with the national anthem of the hosts, followed by that of those from Down Under and then the Tanzanian anthem was played. To the relief of the other finalists, the Lankan anthem was echoing around the stands after officials discovered the blunder.

With 74 runs required from 79 Aussie deliveries for the subcontinent to erupt, a colourful kite bearing the portrait of former Pak Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif flew onto the ground. The flyer being outside the stadium, there were some futile attempts for the kite to take off before an official intervened to act as a shredder.

With the end of magical Share Warne's quota's and eight overs to go, the crowd sensed victory. Celebrations found the tempo in the galleries. Ranatunga and De Silva played to it in perfect harmony. The waves again took off, the crowd prepared for the revelry. Ranatunga lit the fire with a towering sixer off Shane; the warning coming too late for the Aussies.

The Lankans had a lot against them. The afternoon wicket gave nothing to their bowlers, the evening dew made the outfield slow. But, they had the crowd and the Australian fielding in their favour. It was befitting that Ranatunga should nudge the winning four. The lions shall roar for the next four years.

"He was on me like a harbor shark," said Bruno, who suffered a worse thrashing than when Tyson stopped him in five rounds in 1989. It was his fifth defeat and fourth in world title bouts.

The British media was unanimous in its verdict. Bruno was no match for Tyson and should retire immediately.

"Bruno, The End" blared The Sun.

"Destroyed" headlined the Daily Mail.

"End of the Road" proclaimed the Daily Express.

"My World is in Ruins" said the Daily Mirror.

The consensus was that Bruno should stick to the other less hazardous activities that made him so popular with the British public: acting in Christmas song-and-dance productions called 'pantomimes' and pitching HP sauce in TV ads.

"Do us all a favor, Frank, and spare us any more agony," The Sun said in an editorial. "You've been one of our greatest sportsmen and everyone admires you — whether you're in panto or fronting HP sauce ads. We don't want to see you on the ropes again."

The Times said Bruno, who was badly beaten up in all four of title losses, should quit for his own safety.

Asian football on Star Sports

Tune in to Star Sports for more of the best in soccer action from around Asia with the 1996 Olympic qualifiers, featuring national teams from eight Asian nations. Teams will travel to Shah Alam stadium in Selangor, Malaysia to play in a round-robin tournament with the top three finishers earning the right to compete in the Summer Olympic Games, says a press release.

The 1996 Olympic qualifier tournament is all about survival of the fittest and that's before any Asian team arrives in Atlanta. It is one of the biggest football tournaments in Asia. The tournament started with 25 Asian teams participating in regional knock-out competitions. The eight teams who won their qualifying rounds have now advanced the final round of the Asian Olympic qualifying tournament.

Broadcast Schedule — BST

20 Mar/Wed @ 18:00	A2 Japan v A3 UAE	Live
20 Mar/Wed @ 20:00	A1 Iraq v A4 Oman	Live
21 Mar/Thu @ 18:00	B2 PR China v B3 Korea Republic	Live
21 Mar/Thu @ 20:00	B1 Kazakhstan v B4 Saudi Arabia	Live
24 Mar/Sun @ 18:00	A Winner v B Runner Up	Live
24 Mar/Sun @ 20:00	B Winner v A Runner Up	Live
27 Mar/Wed @ 18:00	3rd & 4th Place Playoff	Live
27 Mar/Wed @ 20:00	Finals	Live

SL heroes in the money

COLOMBO, Mar 19: The victorious Sri Lankan cricket team arrived in Sri Lanka Monday, to be greeted not only by mere cricket-crazy fans, but also by luxury cars, paid vacations and millions of rupees, reports AP.

After convincingly beating Australia by seven wickets in the cricket World Cup final in Lahore, Pakistan on Sunday, most Sri Lanka players will go home merrier and that much more richer.

Many Sri Lankan and foreign businessmen had offered rewards to the team, if they won the coveted cricket World Cup. And now that the team had kept to their promises.

Captain Arjuna Ranatunga and Aravinda de Silva will each receive a brand new car worth 20,000 dollars.

Asanka Gurusinge and De Silva will receive 8,000 dollars each for scoring over 50 runs in the final.

Every run in the final was worth 20 dollars and every wicket, 400 dollars.

For the players, each sixer would be worth 180 dollars and every other boundary, 120 dollars.

Wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana will receive 400 dollars as he stumped Shane Warne.

Man-of-the-tournament Sanath Jayasuriya is in line to receive 1,000 dollars.

Each player will also receive at least 1,250 dollars in addition to all the other goodies.

And to cap it all up, Maldivian President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom has invited the Sri Lankan team for an all-expenses paid holiday in the Maldives islands.

Bucknor to officiate in three odi's

BRIDGETOWN, Mar 19: World Cup final umpire Steve Bucknor of Jamaica has been selected to officiate at three of the five limited-overs internationals between the West Indies and New Zealand, which opens next week, the West Indies Cricket Board of Control announced here Monday, reports AFP.

Outrageous!

BHUBANESWAR, Mar 19: India's semifinal loss against ultimate World Cup cricket champions Sri Lanka at Calcutta's Eden Gardens on March 13 has claimed yet another life, reports PTI.

A 20-year-old computer student, Sunil Kar of Kusumpur village in Jajpur district, was in a state of shock for two days and then on March 15 he ended his life by consuming poison, the police said.

A suicide note, left behind by the student, said that he wished to be reborn in 2012 as another Sachin Tendulkar.

Kasparov's disgust

PARIS, Mar 19: Russian Grand Master Garry Kasparov said Friday that the staging in Baghdad from June 1 of the World Championship of the International Chess Federation was "a crime against chess," reports AFP.

Reached by phone at his training centre at Podolsk, near Moscow, Kasparov made no other comment on the decision announced in Paris on March 7 to stage the championship by federation president Kirsan Ilyumjinov, who is president of the autonomous republic of Kalmykia.

Politics take a back seat



welcome usually reserved for visiting heads of state and the players drove straight to have tea with President Kumaratunga.

COLOMBO, Mar 19: Sri Lanka's scintillating World Cup win has overshadowed domestic political scandals and the cricket-crazy nation today continued to celebrate.

Allegations that a minister took bribes from Pakistan's Tawakkal Group to push a deal made front page headlines before the Cup victory on Sunday but was relegated to inside pages afterwards.

A parliamentary debate on the scandal began today but a senior journalist said it was "getting pushed into the background because cricket was the only thing on people's minds."

"Throughout the World Cup, cricket dominated the news. Now that we have lifted the Cup, it will be like that for some time."

Congratulatory messages pouring in from Asian and other cricketing nations made it to the front pages of all dailies while the much awaited parliamentary debate on the bribery scandal was given brief treatment.

Opposition legislators welcomed the Cup win as Sri Lanka's cricket coming of age but also described it as a God-send for a government plagued by charges of corruption and economic stagnation.

The government of President Chandrika Kumaratunga lost time in rushing half a dozen ministers to watch Sri Lanka thrash the Australians and win the coveted Cup by seven wickets on Sunday at Lahore.

On arrival at the airport here Monday, the national team was given the kind of

said the main political and economic issues faced by the country had been pushed to the background by cricket mania.

Lanka being wise

COLOMBO, Mar 19: Sri Lanka turned down public appeals for a national holiday to mark the country's spectacular cricket World Cup victory and said the nation should follow the cricketers example of hard work, reports AFP.

"It should be noted that our cricketers achieved this feat by working hard through constant and dedicated effort without any concern for holidays," public administration minister Ratnasiri Wickremarajayake said.

He said Sri Lanka already held the title for the highest number of holidays in the world and it was time to kick the holidaying habit.

Sri Lanka's 1996 calendar shows that employees can look forward to nearly six months of holidays during the year thanks to an unprecedented number of days off declared to commemorate religious and other occasions.

There are 30 bank and public holidays in 1996, including one in memory of President Chandrika Kumaratunga's Prime Minister father Solomon Bandaranaike who was assassinated in September 1959.

Although the country is essentially a Buddhist nation, Christmas as well as Hindu and Muslim festivals observed by minorities are also holidays for the entire country.

Despite the continuing ethnic bloodshed which has claimed more than 44 lives since Saturday alone, street dancing and singing to celebrate the Cup victory spread throughout the country.

Tamil legislator Dharmalingam Siddharthan advocated using the good offices of cricket skipper Arjuna Ranatunga to try to bring ethnic peace to Sri Lanka where more than 50,000 people have died in the bitter homeland struggle since 1972.

"There is a happy mood everywhere," Siddharthan said. "This euphoria will not last very long. But we hope it will develop into something that will bring political and ethnic unity."

Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar, the only member of the minority Tamil community in the Sri Lankan cabinet, said the historic win made all Sri Lankans feel the same sense of "exhilaration, buoyance and optimism."

Cricket fever extended to Sri Lanka's tiny stock exchange where trading volume dropped by 65 per cent on Monday as brokers were obsessed with Arjuna Ranatunga and his deputy Aravinda de Silva.

"It was the only thing on the minds of our brokers," senior broker Elton Ebert said. "We had to remain some that Arjuna Ranatunga is not a quoted company."

The Daily Star-Philips Cricket World Cup Quiz runs till Mar 25. Due to disrupted communications countrywide the last entry date of The Daily Star-Philips World Cup Cricket Bumper Round Quiz-2 has been extended further to March 25. The draw of the Bumper Quiz will be held on date to be announced soon. So, dear readers, don't miss the chance. Rush your entries!

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.

Competition Information and Rules

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 4-5, 1996 for Quiz 1 and from Feb 27-March 25, 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

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 to participate in the Quiz competition.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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, Dharmandi R/A, Dhaka: 1205.
6. 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.
7. Winners will be decided on the basis of correct entries drawn out from the box.
8. 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 reschedule any and all dates of the Quiz competitions under any circumstances.
9. 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.
10. Any decision of the Daily Star in the conduct of the Quiz competitions (including the answers selected as correct) shall be deemed final and binding on all participants and shall not be called in question and/or challenged in any manner whatsoever.
11. Incomplete forms will not be considered.

Quiz 2 : Bumper Round Ends March 25, 1996

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

1. The first 'duck' in the World Cup was by H R Shah E D Solkar A Knott

2. In the WC, the first over was bowled by V Holder M Lal J Snow

3. In the 1975 WC, the Sri Lankans were led by D Mendis B Wanapura B Tannekoon

4. In 1979 WC, the playing Chappell was Chris Ian Greg

5. The spinner who won two M-C awards in the 1983 WC was L Gomes D Underwood A Qadir

6. Australia won the 1987 World Cup beating England in the final by 7 runs 17 runs 27 runs

7. The maximum wickets 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.

Michelle Kwan of the United States displays her spectacular skills on the floor during a practice session for World Figure Skating Championships at the Edmonton Coliseum, Canada, on Mar 18. The championships began yesterday. — AFP/UNB photo