

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Boris Becker (Germany's veteran tennis ace) 'I still believe I have a couple of big ones left in me. As long as I am not embarrassing myself in shorts, then I'm going to do it.' On his future.

SPORTS WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-31

Table with 5 questions about sports events like the 1996 World Cup, Wimbledon, and the WBC heavy-weight crown.

Name: Class: Roll No: School Address: Phone: (if any)

Donald skips Sharjah Cup

CAPE TOWN, Mar 22: Allan Donald has been left out of South Africa's 14-man squad for the Sharjah Cup from April 11-19, reports Reuter.

IAAF may stretch rules

CAPE TOWN, Mar 22: Athletics governing body is expected to change the Atlanta Olympic schedule to give Michael Johnson a shot at an historic double and give men's marathon runners a cooler starting time, report agencies.

SQUAD

Andrew Hudson, Gary Kirsten, Hansie Cronje (captain), Daryl Cullinan, Jacques Kallis, Jonty Rhodes, Brian McMillan, Dave Richardson, Shaun Pollock, Craig Matthews, Fannie De Villiers, Derek Crookes, Paul Adams, Pat Symcox.

Olympic qualifiers ROK, Saudis in semis

KUALA LUMPUR, Mar 22: South Korea and Saudi Arabia will join Iraq and Japan in Sunday's semifinals of the Asian Zone Olympic qualifying tournament after convincing wins in the quarterfinals, reports Reuter.

WHIZZ KID-29 winners

- 1. Nazmuseakib Ideal School, Motijheel Dhaka. 2. Ummehani Binte Arif YMCA Dhaka. 3. Nurat Pervin Nusrat Greens International Dhaka. 4. M. Rajib Chowdhury St Joseph High School Dhaka. 5. Quazi Fidia Farah Agrani School, Azimpur Dhaka.

Everlasting cricket obsession

Nizamuddin Ahmed back from Karachi



It is about a week since standing beneath a Coca Cola umbrella the Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto handed over the coveted Wills World Cup to the vanquishing Sri Lankan skipper at Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium.

As in the Punjab capital, cricket fever still grips Karachi, the largest of the Pakistan cities, as elsewhere in this cricket-crazy country.

Perhaps for fear of being at the wrong end of unexpectation in less than a month, few seem to show outward interest in the forthcoming Singer Cup starting in Singapore from April 1.

With Jaysuriya and Kaluwitharana falling for the third innings running (Eden, Gaddafi and MCG), there is a lot of palm-rubbing going on from the banks of Hooghly to the heights of the Khyber Pass.

In spite of everything, the English habit of interfering with the sub-continent has not abated over the years. Several British papers have called for a ban on matches at the Eden following the semifinal fiasco.

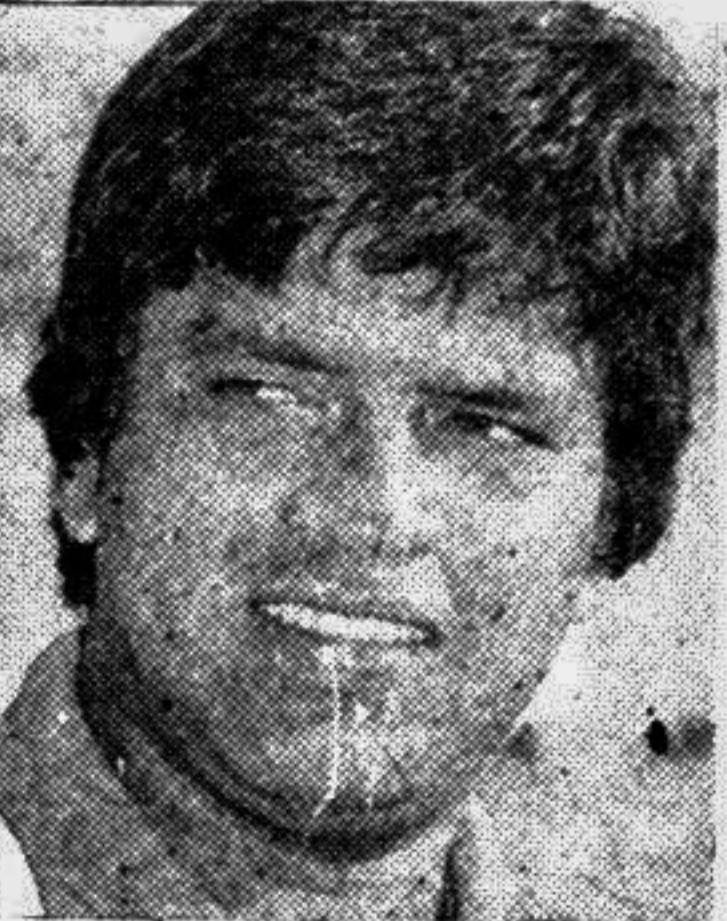
WHIZZ KID-30 winners

- 1. Mahbuba Afroze Zinia Lalmatia Girls High School Dhaka. 2. Sarwat Anjum Shaily Motijheel Govt High School Dhaka. 3. Saqeeful Huq Sunbeams Dhaka. 4. Shams Arefeen Oxford International Dhaka. 5. Afzana Ahmed Moon Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Girls High School Dhaka.

WHIZZ KID-30 correct answers

- 1. How many wickets did West Indian fast bowler Curtly Ambrose take in the World Cup? Ans: 10 wickets. 2. Where will the 1999 cricket World Cup be held? Ans: England. 3. Who scored the first hundred in the 1996 World Cup? Ans: Waale. 4. Who was the man-of-the-match in the 1975 World Cup final? Ans: Clive Lloyd. 5. The present South African cricket captain is? Ans: Cronje.

considered poor commercial draw and as such were not given a spot in any English summer before 2001. Ranatunga and his men have changed all that by roaring all the way before clinching one-day cricket's most coveted trophy after literally burying Australia at Lahore on March 17.



ARJUNA RANATUNGA

The English reason for sidelining the Lankans boils down to the last three Tests that they played in England proving not as lucrative matches against other teams.

To add to the English misery, none of the Sri Lankan stars will be seen in county gear this summer. Eight West Indians, five Australians, three South Africans and two New Zealanders complete the quota of foreign recruits of the 18 counties.

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police to lathi-charge 110 to 120 thousand spectators. Although there was no crowd disturbance at Lahore, what with the entire Gaddafi rooting for Sri Lanka and the home side not in the running, management was not at its best.

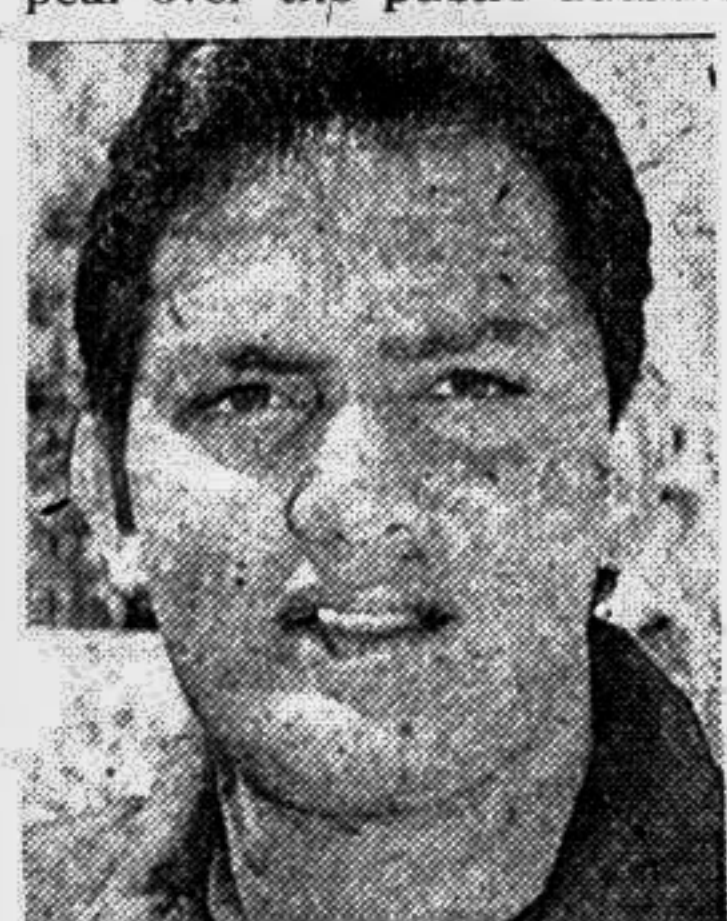


WASIM AKRAM

to use their position to smuggle in friends and paying-acquaintances into press boxes, media centres, VIP and other enclosures. A senior official of publicity management company Big Bang Communications Limited, Pervez Iqbal, who personally intervened to hinder such unwarranted entry into the press box at Lahore has been receiving threats from law enforcement and other agencies.

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scene, match referee Clive Lloyd certainly over-reacted and the security measures also left much to be desired. Although a section of the crowd showered water bottles and a few glass ones, the overall crowd behaviour was reasonable.

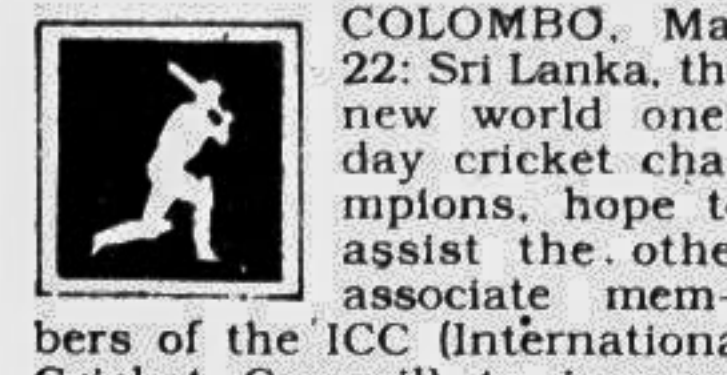


AZHARUDDIN

system to the agitating spectators. Many West Bengal leaders considered the Calcutta disturbances as the bankruptcy of Bengali pride, honour and-culture. Mrinal Sen dubbed it as a shame for Calcutta.

From the castle of glory after beating Pakistan, Azharuddin has been brought down to the gutter by the same so-called 'cricket lovers'. It is time that the departing manager Wadekar and his successor Patil, the all-too-eager-to-take-over Tendulkar and others should come out with a joint or individual statements to put the facts on record.

Lankans' lofty thinking



COLOMBO, Mar 22: Sri Lanka, the new world one-day cricket champions, hope to assist the other associate members of the ICC (International Cricket Council) to improve their standards, reports Reuter.

"One of the key factors that has emerged from our success is that we have given new hope to associate members because in just 15 years since our admission as full members we have risen to the top of one-day cricket," said Ana Panchihewa, president of the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka.

Cup Winners' Cup PSG ride on Rai

LONDON, Mar 22: Brazil's Rai scored from two penalties as Paris St Germain kept French interest alive in all three European club competitions by beating 1993 champions Parma in the Cup Winners' Cup quarter-finals on Thursday, reports Reuter.

Parma's defeat left Italy with only Juventus still in European competition. Should they not win the European Cup then Italy will be without any of the three trophies this season for the first time since 1992.

max to their rag-to-riches fairy-tale with one-day cricket's most prestigious prize. Sri Lanka had a dismal World Cup record prior to this year's tournament having won just four of the 25 matches played but they turned that form around to remain the only unbeaten team in the tournament.

This year, Kenya, still an associate member, caused the biggest upset in the history of the tournament when they beat former champions West Indies by 73 runs. Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe too had achieved similar feats whilst carrying the tag of associate members.

Capriati's rusty return

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida Mar 22: Jennifer Capriati shook off a nervous start in her return to tournament tennis in her native Florida to advance to the second round of the 4.1 million dollars Lipton Championships on Thursday night, reports Reuter.

Capriati, committing a multitude of errors, won just two points in her first two service games and quickly fell behind a seemingly insurmountable 0-5 in the first set.

to compete in more tournaments and help them raise their standards by sending our second string sides to tour these countries," said Panchihewa.

The Sri Lankans plan to maintain the momentum of their greatest triumph and extend their prowess to the Test arena as well. It will be back to the drawing boards soon for Ranatunga, team manager Duleep Mendis and coach Devnelli Whatmore as they set out to achieve more success.

WHIZZ KID-29 winners

The Sri Lankans will be seen in action again in Singapore when they join India and Pakistan in triangular one-day tournament starting on April 1. Singapore is an associate member of the ICC and is keen to develop the game there.



American Jennifer Capriati executes a backhand during her Lipton Championships first round encounter against Lea Ghirardi-Rubbi of France at Key Biscayne, Florida, on Mar 21. Capriati won 7-5, 6-1. -AFP/UNB photo

PHILIPS Cricket World Cup Quiz '96. Includes images of Philips products and prize details: 1st Prize 29" Powervision Colour TV Tk. 47,800.00, 2nd Prize 20" Powervision Colour TV Tk. 22,850.00, 3rd Prize CD Player Tk. 7750.00X3 = 23,250.00.

Quiz 2: Bumper Round. Ends March 25, 1996. Read the information and rules carefully. Tick (X) the correct answer. 1. The first 'duck' in the World Cup was by H R Shah, E D Soikar, 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 Wannapura, B Tannekoon. 4. In 1979 WC, the playing Chappell was Chris, Ian, Greg. 5. The spinner who won two M-o-M awards in the 1983 WC was J. 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.