

Column One DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

HAT Sunil Gavaskar's 'Dream Team', picked before the World Cup 1996 was as follows: Saeed Anwar, Sachin Tendulkar, Brian Lara, Mohammad Azharuddin (Captain), Carl Hooper, Steve Waugh, Ian Healy (keeper), Wasim Akram, Curtly Ambrose, McDermott, Anil Kumble, 12th man - Jonty Rhodes.

SPORTS TALK



Ricky Ponting (Australia's exciting batting prodigy) Just being out there, realising you are batting with players like Mark Waugh would have been more daunting than it is for me now.

On how it feels to be in the Australian team.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-32 Tick the Correct Answer

Table with 5 questions about sports events and winners. Includes names like Andy Flower, Grant Flower, Robert Flower, Nathan Aspinall, etc.

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

Singapore for legalised betting

SINGAPORE, Apr 2: Deputy Premier Lee Hsien Loong has suggested that legalised betting on soccer be introduced in order to raise funds for the development of soccer in the city state, reports AFP.

Sohail dates with an incubus SL slaughter Pakistan



SINGAPORE, Apr 2: A record-breaking innings by Sanath Jayasuriya powered world champions Sri Lanka to a 34-run win over Pakistan in the opening match of the triangular Singer Cup today, reports agencies.

Four international one-day records were shattered in the match - three of them by Jayasuriya, who smashed 11 sixes in a scintillating 134 compiled from 65 deliveries.

Besides the fastest century - he reached it in 48 balls - Jayasuriya entered the record books for two other feats. He hit 11 sixes in his 134, the most in a one-day innings, and also made 29 runs in an over by Aamir Sohail, the highest ever made in one over in a limited-overs match.

Kaluwitharana raced to 24 in 10 balls but in the last ball of the third over, he was caught by Saqlain Mushtaq off

Waqar Younis. But the tone had been set. The run rate was then 15 an over. It later hovered at 10 while Jayasuriya - given much of the strike by Gurusinha - went on the rampage.

He was dismissed in the 21st over when, trying to drive Mushtaq, he edged the ball at deepish slip to Mohammad Akram.

The score then was 196 for 2. Gurusinha (29) was out in the same over and Sri Lanka began losing wickets regularly as Pakistan, freed of Jayasuriya's stranglehold, mounted pressure.

Pakistan made a good effort to reach their daunting target, but it always looked beyond them despite the superb batting boundaries and the inviting boundaries at Singapore's Padang cricket ground which is small by international standards.

Salim Malik and Inzamam-ul-Haq put on an entertaining 127 runs for Pakistan's third wicket.

But when Inzamam was bowled by Chaminda Vaas, which included one massive six, Pakistan's hopes were virtually over.



SALIM MALIK... 68 bowled by Chaminda Vaas, which included one massive six. Pakistan's hopes were virtually over.

Malik was dismissed soon afterwards for a fluent 68 and only a breezy 20, including two sixes, by tail-ender Aaqib Javed took Pakistan beyond 300.

But the hot, steamy day belonged to man-of-the-match Jayasuriya, who was unaware until he returned to the changing room.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the Singer Cup opening match between Sri Lanka and Pakistan in Singapore on Tuesday. Includes batting and bowling statistics for both teams.

Man-of-the-match: Sanath Jayasuriya.



PERHAPS THE ONLY WAY TO CONTAMINATE HIM: Sri Lanka's explosive opener Sanath Jayasuriya, who shattered three one-day records in his whirlwind 134 off 65 deliveries in the Singer Cup opener against Pakistan, looks on at an wide delivery by an unidentified opponents' bowler at the Padang, Singapore on April 2.

Booters censure pool system

Bangladesh Football Players Association has condemned the proposed national footballers quota system likely to be implemented in the Premier league from the forthcoming season.

Office cricket from April 15

The 1995-96 Office cricket league will commence in the capital from April 15 under the auspices of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB), says a press release.

H'ball training course for U-14

A junior handball training course organised by the Bangladesh Handball Federation for boys under 14 years will begin in Dhaka from April 15, says a press release.

Tele Santana won't quit

RIO DE JANEIRO, Apr 2: Brazil's former World Cup coach Tele Santana left hospital on Monday and vowed to return to his job in charge of the Sao Paulo club, reports Reuter.

Nantes' plea turned down

GENEVA, Apr 2: The European Football Union (UEFA) on Monday turned down an appeal by French champions Nantes to have a five-game suspension imposed last week on winger Reynald Pedros lifted, reports Reuter.

Singapore sees records tumble like nine pins

The diminutive opener reached his century off just 48 balls - including seven sixes and nine fours - smashing the previous 62-ball one-day record held by India's Mohammad Azharuddin.

Seeds sail to Round Two

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina, April 2: Fifth seed Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria celebrated her 21st birthday with a victory and a smile as the US clay court season got underway at the Family Circle Cup tennis tournament on Monday.

Steffi off the hook

MANNHEIM, Germany, Apr 2: Steffi Graf will not be charged with fraud, for which her father Peter is still in prison, Mannheim prosecutors revealed on Monday, reports AFP.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer. Includes clues for across and down words.

CRYPTOQUIP. A word puzzle with a grid and clues. Includes a solution key at the bottom.

Jaya - the fiery sunrise

centurion in the bracketed version of the game topping Mohammad Azharuddin's 100 off 62 balls - the previous best mark.

He does not possess the stereotype build-up of an explosive cricketer. He is rather introverted and shy in and off the field.

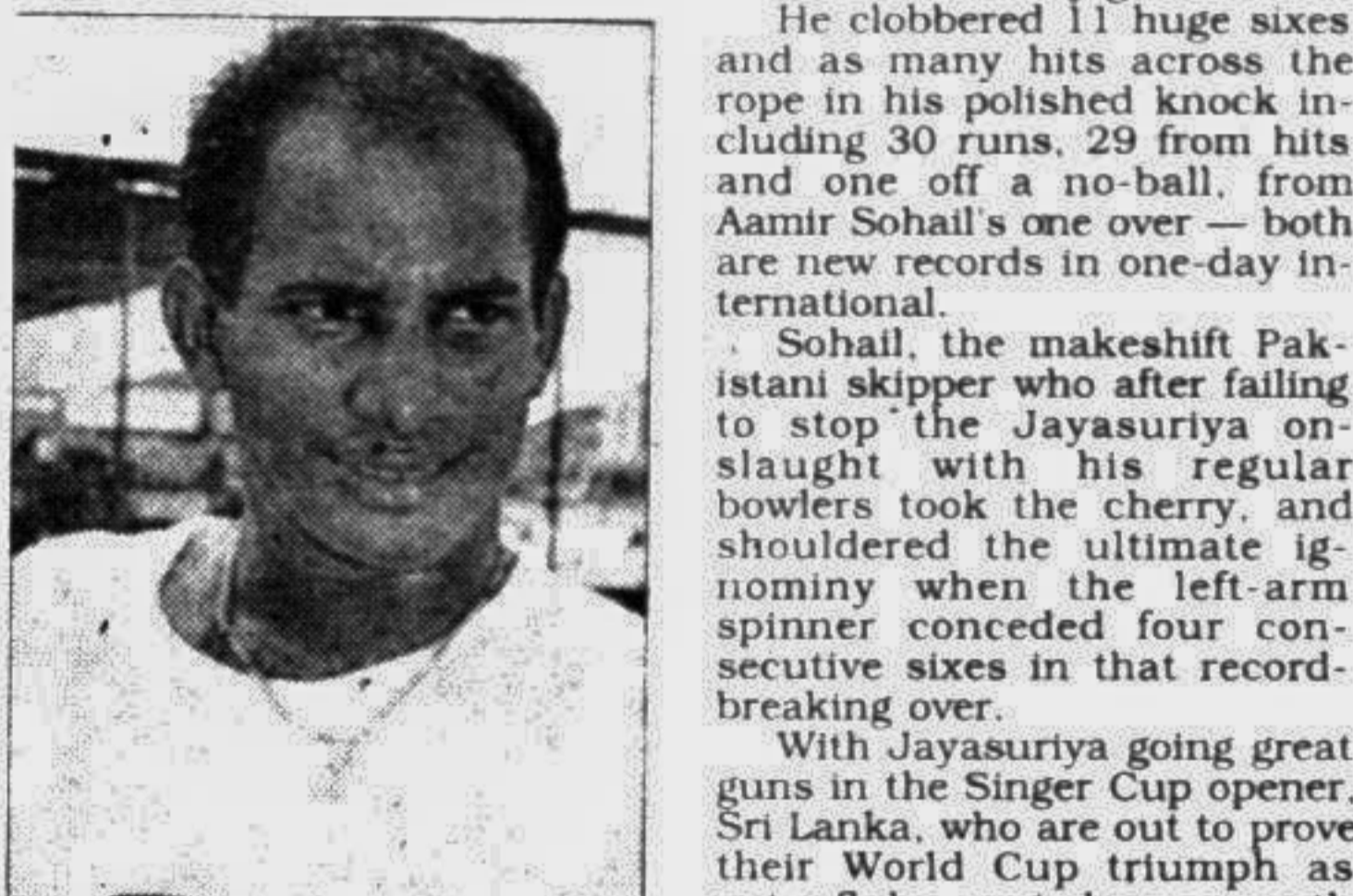
The free-lancing left-hander, who was in the thick of things for his side's World Cup triumph only a couple of weeks ago, yesterday eclipsed three records in the limited version of the game with a mastery 134 off only 65 balls.

Miles to go ere Ma rests

BEIJING, Apr 2: China's mercurial supercoach Ma Junren, in hospital for the last two weeks with intestinal bleeding, has vowed not to rest until the "Ma family army" of runners win Olympic gold in Atlanta, assistants and Chinese media said on Tuesday, reports Reuter.

WTA rankings

- ST PETERSBURG, Florida, Apr 2 (Reuter): Women's tennis rankings as issued by the WTA Tour: 1. Steffi Graf (Germany), 2. Monica Seles (US), 3. Conchita Martinez (Spain), 4. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (Spain), 5. Iva Majoli (Croatia), 6. Anke Huber (Germany), 7. Gabriela Sabatini (Argentina), 8. Chanda Rubin (US), 9. Kimiko Date (Japan), 10. Lindsay Davenport (US), 11. Brenda Schultz-McCarthy (Netherlands), 12. Mary Joe Fernandez (US), 13. Mary Pierce (France), 14. Jana Novotna (Czech Republic), 15. Amanda Coetzer (South Africa), 16. Martina Hingis (Switzerland), 17. Julie Halard-Decugis (France), 18. Natasha Zvereva (Belarus), 19. Amy Frazier (US), 20. Nathalie Tauziat (France).



SANATH JAYASURIYA The adored ved of millions of sports lovers and arguably the coolest predator of top-class bowlers, awakened television viewers of the sub-

"Ma is still in our hospital, but he doesn't need to stay in bed every day."

"I told the doctor to tell me if my illness was cancer, so I could make arrangements for my remaining days," Ma was quoted as saying in the Hainan daily, seen in Beijing on Tuesday.

Ma in the interview kept up his characteristic secrecy about his training programme for Atlanta.

"How can I reveal these secrets, especially to foreign journalists, some of whom are athletics spies?" he said.

Ma has been rebuilding his once-formidable army, which broke up in late 1994 after double world champion Wang Junxia led a mutiny of members who could no longer stand what she called Ma's brutal, unhealthy and humiliating training regime.

Ma, whose public spat with Wang soured many Chinese fans, said the real reason behind her mutiny was different, but added "You won't hear it from my mouth."

"I've done nothing to wrong Wang Junxia, to put it rudely, she has wronged me," he told the newspaper. "Wang Junxia has not mentioned coming back and I don't welcome her back."