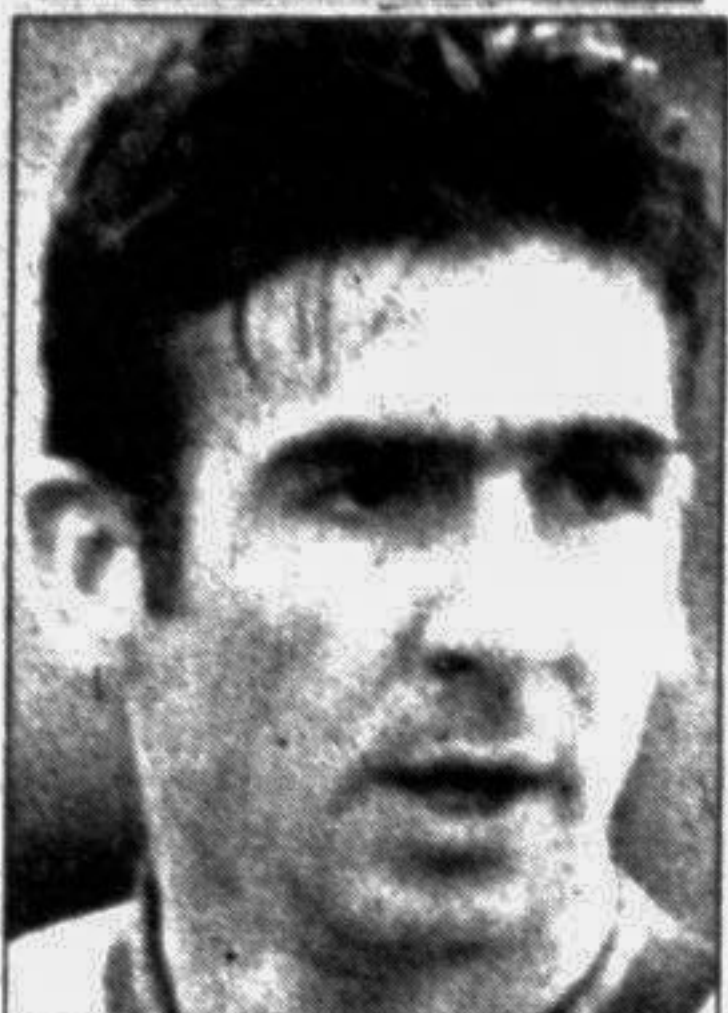


Column One SPORTS TALK



Eric Cantona (French footballer) "I am very proud and privileged. It is a tremendous honour for me and my country and a great tribute to the players at Manchester United."

DID U' KNOW? (The Professor does)

THAT it is important for sportsmen to have a sharp presence of mind. Peruse, if you argue with that, the following: The "running of the bulls" fiestas, common throughout Spain, are festive, raucous occasions, with uproarious atmospheres. Even the clergy have sometimes been infected by the heady nature of the events. At one such fiesta, a priest was seen joining in the laughing, bawling and running melee, attempting to keep out of the way of the stampeding bulls. But, his superiors were watching. Later, on being severely reprimanded by the bishop, the priest replied that he had seen someone fall and left it was his duty to administer the last rites. Wonder what he would say to St. Peter if one of the bulls got him.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-35 Tick the Correct Answers (Competition closes: 8 p.m. April 26, 1996)

1. Who won the Pepsi Cup at Sharjah in 1996?	Pakistan	India	South Africa
2. Bayern-	Hochal	Munch	Bay
3. Which of these is most modern?	Football	Cricket	Basketball
4. The swimming event combining all strokes is	Medley	Freestyle	Composite
5. A healthy diet means more	Uncertain	Sweets	Cereals

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

McNeeley pays the price

BOSTON, Apr 23: Heavyweight boxer Peter McNeeley has pleaded guilty in Boston Municipal Court to hitting a man in the face with a beer bottle at a night club, reports AP. Last year, McNeeley's trainer threw in the towel to stop the boxer's match with Mike Tyson after 89 seconds. Monday, Judge Herbert H. Hershfang imposed a suspended six-month sentence on McNeeley, placed him on probation for one year and ordered him evaluated for an alcohol problem. McNeeley, 27, of Midfield pleaded guilty to hitting Aldo Hernandez, 28, of Revere in the face with a bottle Nov 12 at The Roxy nightclub in Boston. The altercation occurred after Hernandez talked to a woman standing next to McNeeley. A bartender had said McNeeley drank at least six beers. "I hope not to see you in court again, Mr McNeeley, except perhaps as a visitor," Hershfang told him. McNeeley is scheduled to fight Saturday night at Whitman.

Sorry! Shaker

In our Nirman schools cricket report on Tuesday, Scholastica's opener Shaker's name was unintentionally published as Shakeb. However, it was not our fault because we got the name from the official scorecard. We are sorry Shaker. But let's hope that the BCCB will be more careful in providing the correct names.

Nirman schools cricket Salman turns a new leaf

Sports Reporter Residential Model School, Udayan Bidyalaya, Maple Leaf International School, Pallabi MI School and BKSP moved into their respective group finals in the qualifying rounds of the 14th Nirman Schools' cricket tournament on Tuesday. In a group 'C' semifinal, Residential Model School recorded a six-wicket victory over Loreto School at their home ground. Winning the toss, the home boys invited Loreto School to bat first and bowled them out in 22.5 overs with only 77 on the scoreboard. Model school's Galib captured four wickets conceding only eight runs while Tareq grabbed two for 15 runs. In reply, the winners reached home (81) in 27.1 overs losing four wickets. Opener Mehman scored 20 while Aqib added 16 to the Model school account who will take on National Bank High School in the group final tomorrow at the same venue. At the Mirpur Stadium, Udayan Bidyalaya ousted Gulshan High School by eight wickets in group D semifinal. Chasing Gulshan's 81 in 35 overs, Udayan boys took only 16.2 overs to sail with eight wickets in hand. Udayan's skipper Moinuddin hammered highest 30 n.o off 32 ball inclusive of two fours and a six while opener Mugtadir was not out on 22. Earlier put into bat, Gulshan were all out for 81 in 20.5 overs. Udayan's Moinuddin and Naveel captured four wickets each conceding 25 and 14 runs respectively. A brilliant all-round performance by Salman steered Maple Leaf International School to group E final as they defeated Badda Bidya Niketan by seven wickets at the Dhammond Cricket Stadium. After capturing three wickets in the first session which saw Badda being bowled for 93 in 29.1 overs, Salman also shone with his bat scoring highest 21 runs for Maple Leaf who reached home in 22.1 overs losing three wickets. Among others, Shamim (17 n.o) and Rashid (16 n.o) were the leading Maple Leaf scorers. They will take on Khilgaon Govt High School in tomorrow's group final at the same venue. At the Residential Model School ground (east), Pallabi MI Model School handed Sher-E-Bangla High School a huge 121 run defeat to book a berth in the group F final. Put into bat Pallabi piled up 209 for seven in the stipulated 35 overs with Sajal hammering highest 67 runs. Sumit (36) and Nayan (33) were the other leading scorers for Pallabi. In reply, Sher-E-Bangla School were bowled out for 88, in 29.3 overs. Pallabi's Mahin, Sajal and Johnny captured two wickets each. They will meet Willis Little Flower School in tomorrow's final at the same venue. In the day's other engagement at the City Club ground, Mirpur, BKSP registered a four-wicket win over Bangladesh Bank High School in a group G semifinal. Put into bat Bangladesh Bank High School were all out for 92 in 20.3 overs. Openers Nuruzzaman (19) and Zinnah (18) were the leading scorers for the Bank boys. BKSP's Moshir grabbed five wickets conceding only 14 runs in six overs. In reply, BKSP reached their target in 17.4 overs with four wickets in hand. Nasirul scored highest 16 off 26 balls while Mahfuz and Zakir added 15 runs each to the BKSP account. They will encounter Segun Bagicha High School in the group final tomorrow at the Residential Model School ground.

Reader's reaction BCCB can meet terms

KZ Islam I have read with interest your sports Reporter's article entitled "Of the Nuisance & Negligence" (23.4.96). Let me assure the Reporter that there are lot of people who are not only listening but actively doing something about it. I cannot agree with the contention of the writer that an individual organiser can be more influential than a body like BCCB. From the initial moves that have been made I can assure the Reporter that the response has been very favourable. The BCCB is extremely keen to hold an international tournament in Dhaka. Watching the Singer Cup in Singapore I felt that Singapore is hardly a suitable venue for a cricket tournament. The temperature is unbearable not only for the players but also for the handful of spectators. The daily rainfall constantly dislocates the games. The most logical and neutral venue for the Singer Cup is Dhaka. We have a beautiful stadium with a good wicket and a tournament like the Singer Cup is bound to attract over 50,000 cricket-mad spectators. I am sure BCCB can meet the terms of the Singer Cup organisers. I would request the writer not to under-estimate the BCCB and over-estimate the individual sports organiser. OUR RESPONSE In our report, there was no attempt to underestimate BCCB, particularly in comparison to any individual. We could not agree more regarding Dhaka's choice as a venue. — Sports Editor

Illy keeps faith in Mike

LONDON, Apr 23: Mike Atherton has been reappointed as England cricket captain for the forthcoming three test series against India, chairman of selectors Ray Illingworth announced on Monday, reports Reuter. Atherton will also lead England in the trio of one-day internationals against the Indian tourists next month. Despite his side's disappointing recent World Cup campaign in India and Pakistan. There remain few realistic captaincy alternatives to the Lancashire opening batsman, but Atherton has not yet been confirmed as skipper for the entire English summer, which also includes three Tests and one-day internationals against Pakistan in the second half of the season. Atherton, 28, has led England in 29 of his 56 Tests, but can only boast seven wins as captain. He was an increasingly downcast figure during the World Cup, yet insisted on Monday he is looking forward to the new season. "I'm delighted," said Atherton, who will work alongside the new selection panel of David Lloyd, Graham Gooch and David Graveney. "I feel full of running and refreshed. The World Cup was very hard and it's been a long winter for everyone. We had a bad World Cup, but I think the damage was done before that." Atherton believes the seven one-day internationals England played against South Africa in January proved detrimental to the World Cup campaign, which ended when they lost their quarterfinal to Sri Lanka. "I did feel down, but it didn't take long to get back up again," he said. "I still feel confident I can get the best out of the players and there are some new young faces around. I'm full of optimism and hopefully that optimism can be fulfilled."



Russia's Alexei Nemov performs on the vault during the finals of the World Championships in San Juan, Puerto Rico on Apr 20. Nemov won the gold in the event scoring 9.756 points. — AFP/UNB photo

Nat'l youth cricket Mymensingh in final round

Sports Reporter Mymensingh DSA qualified for the final round of the 16th national youth cricket championship when they pipped Tangail to the post of Group F champions with a shaky eight run win in the final at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. In a curtailed 25-over-a-side match due to wet ground, Mymensingh, set into bat in the morning, scored a fighting 144 for four with one-down Rashedul hammering a blazing 56 punctuated with a quartet of huge sixes and three hits to the rope. Skipper Sumit with a rapid-fire 33 was the other notable run-getter for the eventual winners. For Tangail new-ball bowler Zahid claimed two wickets for only 19 runs in his five overs. In reply, Tangail could muster 136 before being all out in 23.5 overs. Opeher Faisal with 33 and Sejan, who scored 21, were the only 20-plus scorers for the losers. Among the Mymensingh bowlers, Mosaraf, Sumon and Sumit, who had earlier dazzled with the willow captured two wickets apiece.

Biman soccer

Sports Reporter Bandarban, Brahmanbaria and Sathkira DSAs moved into the final rounds of the Biman National Under-14 football championship while three other district reached their respective zonal finals on Tuesday. At the Chandpur stadium, Bandarban emerged zonal champions, defeating Chittagong in a tiebreakers (4-3) after their scheduled 90-minute final ended in a goal-less draw. Uzzal Mong, Nazim and Sohel converted the spot kicks for Bandarban while Hasan, Anwar and Yousuf scored for Chittagong. Away in Moulvibazar, Brahmanbaria handed Habiganj a 4-0 defeat to clinch the zonal championship. Striker Qamruzzaman scored all the four goals for the winners. In Jessore, Sathkira won the zonal championship beating Jhenidah 4-2. Nazmul scored twice while Hari and Mustafiz added one goal each to the Sathkira account. On the other hand Basi and Mohan reduced the margin for Jhenidah.

In the day's other matches, Chapinawabganj reached Pabna zone final with a solitary goal win over Naogaon while Panchagarh beat Dinajpur 1-0 in the Nuphaman zone semifinal, while Shariatpur out-gunned Madaripur 4-2 in the Manikganj zone semifinal.

Div III soccer

Sports Reporter East End Boys Club and Prantik Kira Chakra ensured their berths in the Second Division next year with wins in their respective Pragati Insurance Third Division football league matches at the Rajuk ground yesterday. East End Boys Club recorded a 3-1 win over Dipalee Jubo Sangha while Prantik defeated Fire Service by the same margin. It was the sixth super league encounter for both the winners from which East End earned 16 points while Prantik trailed them by two points, at the top of the standings. However the league championship will be decided when both teams face each other in their last super league clash soon.

Brit walking on air

LONDON, Apr 23: England goalkeeper David Seaman on Monday pledged his future to premier league Arsenal for the rest of the century, reports Reuter. Seaman, 32, has been the mainstay of the Arsenal rear-guard since his 1.3 million pounds sterling (1.97 million dollars) move, from Queen's Park Rangers six years ago and has re-established himself as England's first-choice goalkeeper. Preparing with the England squad for Wednesday's friendly against Croatia at Wembley, he said he would stay with Arsenal until the end of the century. "I've agreed a two-year extension to my current contract and that would take me up to 2000," Seaman, set to earn his 23rd England cap, said.

Spaniard to officiate Champs' League final

NYON, Switzerland, Apr 23: Manuel Diaz Vega of Spain will take charge of the European Champion League final between defending champions Ajax Amsterdam on Juventus in Rome May 22, reports AP. UEFA also announced that Italy's Pierluigi Pairetto will referee the Cup Winners' Cup final in Brussels May 8 between Paris Saint German and Rapid Vienna. The first leg of the UEFA Cup final between Bayern Munich and Girondins Bordeaux May 1 will have Switzerland's Serge Muhmenthaler in charge while Vadim Zhuk of Belarus will referee the second leg in Bordeaux May 15.

Azhar stays in saddle

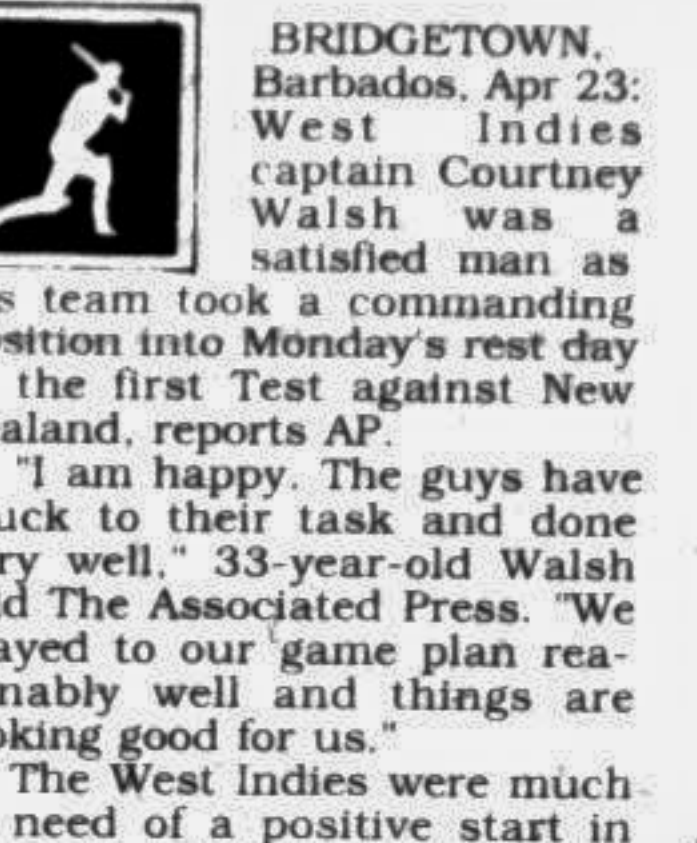


MD AZHARUDDIN ship of Azharuddin, Viswanath said there was no discussion on the captaincy issue. The team, which has 12 from the 14-member side retained, including the entire batting line-up, will have only one wicketkeeper in Nayan Mongia, both Sanjay Manjrekar and Dravid can keep wickets, he said.

NEW DELHI, Apr 23: Karnataka left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi and Bombay seamer Paras Mhambrey were selected and leg-spinner Narendra Hirwani and surprise-inclusion Saurav Ganguly recalled in the 16-member Indian cricket squad named today for the 72-day summer tour of England, reports PTI. The national selection committee chaired by GR Viswanath retained skipper Mohammad Azharuddin — under fire for his inadequate leadership — in his job with Sachin Tendulkar as his deputy in the squad which has five players who are yet to play a Test. Unimpressive Punjab off-spinner Ashish Kapoor and Bengal medium-pace Prashant Vaidya were axed for not being up to the mark in the two omissions from the side which played in the Singer and Pepsi Cup triangulars. Announcing the team after the meeting here, Viswanath said, Joshi's selection was based on his all-round abilities, which should stand in good stead in the one-day matches also. The panel which decided to retain young Rahul Dravid despite the orthodox batsman's failure in the one-dayers, decided to recall Narendra Hirwani, who had bowled brilliantly in the third and final Test against New Zealand at Cuttack late last year before going out of favour. "Hirwani bowled extremely well against New Zealand, and was chosen considering the English batsmen's weakness against leg-spin," he said. Mhambrey, overlooked despite good domestic performances, comes in as the third seamer. Viswanath justified the left-handed Ganguly's inclusion saying he is an all-rounder. He will also act as an extra seamer in England. The team which will assemble in Delhi on April 26 will have no conditioning camp and will leave for London on April 29. Asked whether there was any discussion on the leader-

THE TOUR ITINERARY NEW DELHI, Apr 23 (PTI): The fixture of India's 72-day summer tour of England as follows: April 30: Arrive in London May 1 to 4: Practice at Lord's May 5: vs Duchess of Norfolk's XI at Arundel May 6: vs England NCA at a venue close to London May 8 to 10: vs Worcestershire at Worcester May 11 to 13: vs Gloucestershire at Bristol May 16 to 18: vs Sussex at Hove May 19: vs Middlesex at Lord's May 21: vs Northamptonshire at Northampton. May 23: (Reserve day, May 24: first one-day international at the Oval May 25: (No reserve day): Second international at Headingley May 26: (Reserve day, May 27: Third international at Old Trafford. May 28 to 30: vs Essex at Chelmsford or Glamorgan or Somerset at Taunton (Depending on Benson and Hedges quarter-finalist). June 1 to 3: vs Leicestershire at Leicester. June 6 to 10: First Test at Edgbaston June 13 to 16: vs Derbyshire at Derby June 20 to 24: Second Test at Lord's June 29 to July 1: vs Hampshire at Southampton July 4 to 9: Third Test at Trent Bridge.

Windies sense Kiwi fall



COURTNEY WALSH left-hander from Guyana, also in his 10th Test, notched his best Test score. But he missed out on his first hundred, falling for 82.

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Apr 23: West Indies captain Courtney Walsh was a satisfied man as his team took a commanding position into Monday's rest day of the first Test against New Zealand, reports AP. "I am happy. The guys have stuck to their task and done very well," 33-year-old Walsh told The Associated Press. "We played to our game plan reasonably well and things are looking good for us."

The West Indies were much in need of a positive start in their first Test since the retirement of former skipper Richie Richardson and the sacking of coach Andy Roberts after a series of embarrassing defeats led to humiliation at the hands of rookies Kenya in the World Cup in India in February. The new West Indian regime, with Walsh and new coach Clive Lloyd at the forefront, need a moral-boosting victory. After three days, New Zealand, bowled out for 195 in their first innings, were 151 for 4 in their second. They still trail by 126 runs.

West Indies, behind a magnificent 208 by opener Sherwin Campbell, totaled 472. New Zealand were in deeper trouble Sunday afternoon at 57 for 4 before Nathan Astle and Justin Vaughan added 94 unbroken for the fifth wicket to regain some pride for the visitors. Astle, attacking anything loose, was undefeated on 82, with 15 fours and 2 sixes counting for 72 of his runs. In only his third Test, the 24-year-old from Canterbury hit his second half-century of the match, following his 54 in the first innings. Vaughan, resolute in de-

fense, scored just 10 runs in the stand. "We wanted five wickets (on Sunday)," Walsh said. "I am a bit disappointed we fell one short, but at the end of the day, I would settle for that." After the rest day, the guys can come fresh on Tuesday," Walsh added. The West Indies captain also gained satisfaction from the blossoming of two of his less-experienced players. For Barbadian Campbell, 25, it was his maiden Test century in his 10th Test. Shivnarine Chanderpaul, the 21-year-old, scored just 10 runs in the stand. "We wanted five wickets (on Sunday)," Walsh said. "I am a bit disappointed we fell one short, but at the end of the day, I would settle for that."

Parore's setback is the latest on New Zealand's injury-plagued tour of the Caribbean. Bailey receives his first international call after impressive performances for the New Zealand emerging players on their recent tour of Australia. He also enjoyed a fruitful domestic season in the Shell Trophy. The 25-year-old from Auckland will bat at No. 7 in New Zealand's second innings with a runner. Parore, who top-scored with 59 in the New Zealand first innings of the current first Test, injured himself fielding early in the West Indies first innings of 472.

Coach Glenn Turner, on Monday, a rest day, said his team is in a "dire straits situation." Off-spinning all-rounder Shane Thompson was the first to fall victim. An injury to his right shoulder meant he could not bowl and ended his tour after the five-match one-day international series. He was replaced by left-arm spinner Mark Haslam, who has not played a match since coming to the Caribbean. Talented all-rounder Chris Cairns, a key member of the team both as middle-order batsman and fast medium bowler strained his left side at practice two days before the first Test. He was also ruled out for the remainder of the series. Fast bowler Dion Nash is also on the injury list, but he is expected to recover from spasms in the lower back in time to be in contention for the second Test in Antigua starting Saturday.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40 Pantheon figures	41 Summer time	42 honoree
1 Discard	42 Stashed	43 style of	24 In the
6 Rascally	44 Portent	45 refresher	25 Entreat
12 Ostentatious show	46 Admitting	5 Base	26 Grating
13 Milwaukee 50	50 "—"	6 Gin	28 Pleasure seeker
14 Stupified	52 Tope	7 Intaglio's	30 Zip-a-Dee-Do-
15 Brunch	54 Let	8 Birthday	31 Stout
16 Entire	55 Com-	9 party	32 relative
17 Auto	56 subject	10 Get ready	33 Message from the
18 Duel tool	57 Coarse	11 Fast	34 Build on
19 Harvest	58 Wool cloth	12 Flyers, for	39 Choral composition
20 Tabula	59 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	41 Lustrous black
22 Un-	60 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	42 Aesopian also-ran
24 Stomach	61 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	43 Caesar's fateful day
27 Pruritus	62 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	44 Ancient Persian
28 Amneris' slave girl	63 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	45 Ancient Persian
32 Long	64 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	46 Sleeping music
33 Popular TV game show	65 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	47 Leftist
36 Farming: pref.	66 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	48 Depot: abbr.
37 "Shane" star	67 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	49 Take blades to blades
38 Doctrine	68 Tonsorial	23 Mid-June	50 Take blades to blades

Solution time: 24 mins.

CRYPTOQUIP

EZUAP YEVBVW LEGG- SESAP BV ICDP ZETDGCMD VAL YCJA EGG XEI, LA LAPA SGDJT UBPAX

Yesterday's Cryptquip: IF A RUBBY ELF TELLS YOU HIS OPINION, THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED A NORTH POLE.

Today's Cryptquip clue: P equals R

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.