

Column One

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-68

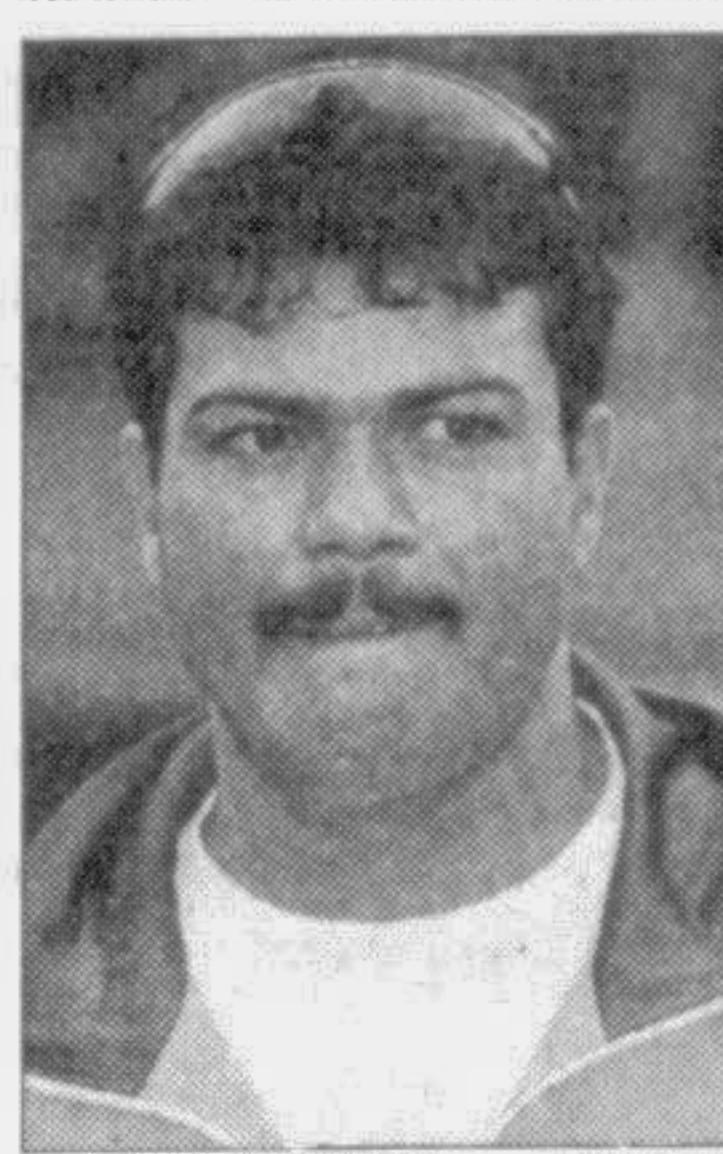
✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes 8 pm.

Apr 25, '97



COLOMBO, Apr 20: Ijaz Ahmed was 10 runs away from a second successive Test century as Pakistan took apart Sri Lanka's first innings score of 330, Pakistan raced to 200 for two by close of the second day's play on the



TILLEKERATNE ... 103 lifeless Premadasa Stadium wicket.

Ijaz, who hit 125 in his last Test innings against New Zealand at Rawalpindi in December, showed his consistent form by hammering 90 off 186 balls to near his seventh Test hundred.

The hard-hitting number three put on 102 for the second wicket with acting skipper Rameez Raja (50) and 98 in 112 minutes for the undefeated third with Salim Malik (47 not out).

Ijaz hit 10 boundaries to lead Pakistan's run-a-minute charge against the five-man Lankan bowling attack, which put to shade left-hander Hashan Tillekeratne's valiant 103.

Tillekeratne scored his sixth Test century and second in three matches against Pakistan to carry his team from their overnight 254 for five to 330.

Tillekeratne, who came in on Saturday at a shaky 90 for four, defied the Pakistani spinners for six hours before he was eighth out.

He added 89 for the sixth wicket with Romesh Kaluwitharana (57) and 42 for the eighth wicket with Chaminda Vaas (17).

Off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq was Pakistan's most successful bowler with a career-best five for 89 from 44.2 overs, while leg-spinner Mushtaq Alim took three for 123.

Pakistan, who began their reply soon after lunch, lost in-form opener Salim Elahi, first

Ijaz gums up SL works

ball as he padded up to Vaas and was declared leg-before by English umpire David Shepherd.

Raja, leading the side in the absence of the injured Wasim Akram, and Ijaz steadied the innings with their century stand for the second wicket.

Raja completed his half-century soon after tea, but then pulled a short ball from spinner Kumara Dharmasena to mid-

straight ball to Asif Mujtaba in the slips.

Mohammad Zahid then had Vaas caught behind for 17, the first wicket to fall to a seamer in the match.

Saqlain terminated the innings by trapping Nuwan Zoysa leg-before to surpass his previous best of 4-75 against Zimbabwe earlier in the season.

On Saturday, Tillekeratne and skipper Ranatunga led a batting revival on the opening day.

Tillekeratne made an unbeaten 65 and Ranatunga 49 as Sri Lanka, reduced to 64 for three after electing to bat on a slow wicket, recovered to post 254 for five by close.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the first cricket Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka on Sunday:

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 254-5)

Jayasuriya b Mushtaq 31

Arnold b Mushtaq 24

Atapattu c Elahi b Saqlain 0

De Silva st Moin b Mushtaq 23

Ranatunga c Elahi b Mujtaba 49

Tillekeratne c Mujtaba b Saqlain 103

Kaluwitharana b Saqlain 57

Dharmasena b Saqlain 1

Vaas c Moin b Zahid 17

Zoysa lbw b Saqlain 0

Muralitharan not out 8

Extras: (b-3, lb-9, w-1; nb-4) 17

Total 330

Fall of wickets: 1-61; 2-62; 3-

4-90; 5-179; 6-268; 7-280; 8-

322; 9-322.

Bowling: O M R W

Zahid 17 2 44 1

Nazir 18 6 37 5

Saqlain 44.2 10 89 5

Mushtaq 34 2 123 3

Mujtaba 8 2 23 1

PAKISTAN: First innings

Elahi lbw b Vaas 0

Raja c Ranatunga b

Dharmasena 50

Ijaz not out 90

Malik not out 47

Extras: (b-2, lb-2, nb-9) 13

Total: (for 2 wkts) 200

Fall of wickets: 1-60; 2-102

Bowling: O M R W

Vaas 12 1 33 1

Zoysa 10 0 55 0

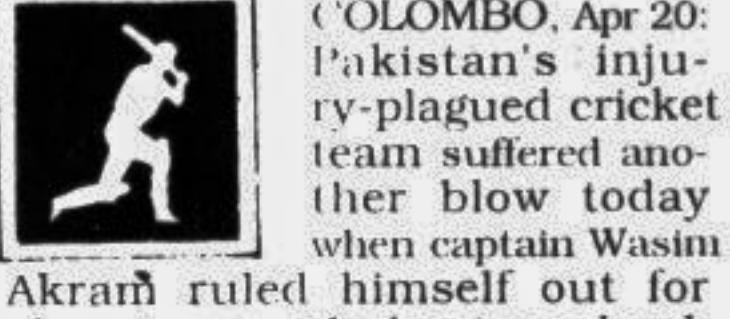
Dharmasena 17 4 38 1

Muralitharan 10 1 39 0

Jayasuriya 3 0 15 0

De Silva 4 0 16 0

Injury-hit Pakistan



COLOMBO, Apr 20: Pakistan's injury-plagued cricket team suffered another blow today when captain Wasim Akram ruled himself out for almost a month due to a shoulder problem, reports AFP.

Akram, who sat out of the ongoing first Test against Sri Lanka here, said he will not play in the second and final Test starting next Saturday.

"I cannot even lift my bowl-

ing arm," Akram said. "I don't know how long this will last, but I will not rule out a month's break."

Akram said his injury was similar to the one suffered by Indian seamer Jagaval Srinath at the start of the current West Indies tour and saw a long break from the game as the only option.

Srinath, who damaged the rotator cuff of his bowling arm, was advised a two-month rest by South African orthopedic surgeon Mark Ferguson.

Waqar Younis, the other half of the delayed Pakistani pace attack, is already out of action for six weeks after a stress fracture was diagnosed on his left leg on Thursday.

Team coach Mushtaq Mohammad said promising seamer Abdul Razzaq will be flown in before the second Test, but was unsure who the second replacement will be.

Both Akram and Younis, who are contracted to play for English counties Lancashire and Glamorgan respectively,

have already withdrawn from a four-nation tournament in India next month.

With star leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed also declining to tour India and opening batsman Aamir Sohail banned for two years, Pakistan will be without its best players for the Indian tournament.

They will be in a worse spot if dashing opener Saeed Anwar, down with a mysterious virus, and fast bowler Mohammad Zahid, contracted with Not-

tinghamshire, are also not available.

The Pakistan Cricket Board has approached the county to release Zahid for the May 9-28 tournament being organised to celebrate the 50th year of India's Independence. World Cup champions Sri Lanka and New Zealand are the other teams taking part.

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