

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-75
✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm.

August 8, '97

1 Who is the soccer coach of AC Milan?
Sacchi Capello Tabarez

2 Who lifted the Legg Mason Classic tennis title this year?
Korda Chang Wheaton

3 Which is the new club of Roberto Baggio?
Bologna Atletico Vicenza

4 Who won the Ali Sports 7th schools kabaddi title?
Millat Rifles Nawabpur

5 Who scored the first hattrick in this year's Federation Cup football?
Iqbal Al-Amin Sohag

Name

Class

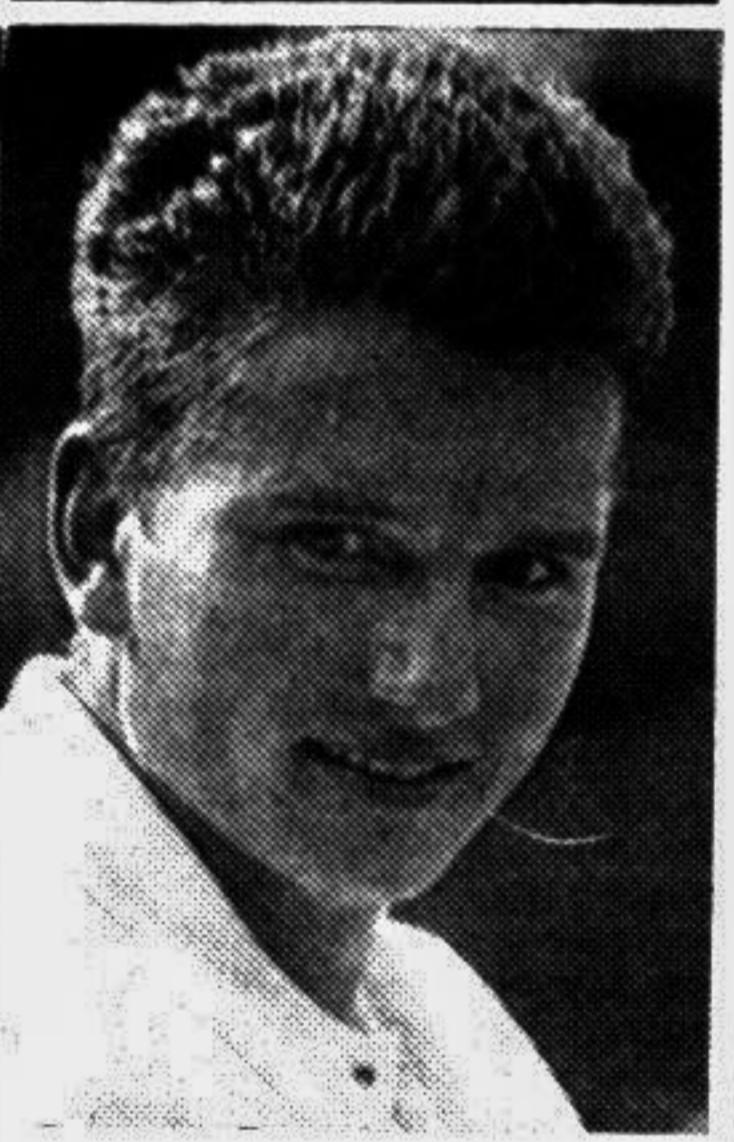
Roll No.

School Address

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SPORTS TALK



Richard Krajicek

(Dutch tennis player)

The one thing I do know is that I am not going to name my kid Tim. I hate that name.

After the 1996 Wimbledon champion lost to Tim Henman in the Round of 16 this year.

World athletics meet on

ATHENS, Aug 2: The Sixth World Athletics Championships opened at the ancient marble Panathinaikon Stadium Friday night with 200 countries and regions sending teams to compete in the largest single sport event ever in history, reports Xinhua.

The event has registered the best attended sport competition in history. The last year's Olympic Games had 197 participating teams and the 1995 World Championships had 199 delegations. A new record total of 1,957 athletes will take part in the 9-day contest starting tomorrow at the newly-built Olympic stadium.

After the International Amateur Athletics Federation's president Primo Nebiolo's opening remark, Constantinos Stephanopoulos, president of the Greek Republic, declared officially open the meet.

After the parade of the athletes, the organisers offered the world a spectacular audio-visual show to display the sacred spirit of the athletics.

The world famous Greek artist Vangelis — "The god father of electronic music" — used the latest technology from around the world to create a series of artistic elements at the Panathinaikon Stadium, venue of the first Olympic Games of the modern era in 1896.

Nebiolo honoured

ATHENS, Aug 2: The International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) president Primo Nebiolo was named an honorary citizen of Athens by mayor Dimitri Avramopoulos in a ceremony at Athens City Hall here Friday, reports Xinhua.

Nebiolo said: "I am honoured to receive this award. But I must emphasised that it has been given to me as a representative of the international athletics movement. So I would like to thank my colleagues from the IAAF council who are here with me and who work so hard for the sport."

After making the award, Avramopoulos joked: "Now you can vote me." Nebiolo replied: "Tell me the election date and I will come back. I think you are doing a very good job."

REGRETS

Due to space constraint our regular item CROSSWORD could not be accommodated.

— Sports Editor

Clouds over captaincy

BRIDGETOWN, Aug 2: The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) has reportedly ignored the recommendation of the selection panel and named Courtney Walsh to lead West Indies on their tours of Pakistan and Sharjah later this year, reports AFP.



COURTNEY WALSH

Newspapers in Trinidad claimed that the selection committee comprising Wes Hall, the chairman, Joey Carew and Mike Findlay had unanimously agreed that Brian Lara should captain the team on the tour.

Hall told the Trinidad Guardian: "What I would like to

say is that the West Indies selectors do not appoint or pick a captain. We only recommend a player. It's left to the executive of the WICB to accept or reject our recommendations."

The paper said that Hall, a former Barbados and West Indies fast bowler, suggested that a response from Stephen Camacho, chief executive officer of the WICB, or Andrew Sealy, the executive secretary, would be more appropriate because he would not like to involve himself in any controversy and mischief.

When contacted, Sealy remarked: "My only response is that the WICB has appointed Courtney Walsh as captain for the Pakistan and Sharjah tours later this year. I have no other comments to make."

The Guardian noted that Walsh was re-appointed by telephone conversations since no meeting of the executive was scheduled on the calendar for the period.

The captaincy of the West Indies team has been a hot topic over the last few months around the Caribbean.

With the 34-year-old Walsh in the twilight of his career, many felt that the temperamental Lara should have been appointed to the post for the Indian series following the West Indies' 2-3 loss to Australia in the preceding rubber.

When Lara, the gifted left-hand batsman, led the side to

an amazing come-from-behind victory in the third Test against India in Bridgetown last April the only match in the five-Test series that ended in a conclusive result, it further fuelled the call for his appointment.

There were rumours that Walsh would have announced his retirement from the international game prior to the Sri

Lanka flight recently, reports PTI.

"We are looking into the report of the incident and if prima facie it is found correct then it would be taken up by the disciplinary committee of the Pakistan Cricket Board," Waqar Ahmed, the PCB secretary told the agency over telephone from Lahore.

He said the board has asked team officials and some members of the team to submit a report on the incident after which the next course of action would be decided.

The incident occurred when the Pakistani team was returning home from Sri Lanka after participating in the four-nation Asia Cup cricket tournament.

Afridi, world record holder for fastest one-day international century, allegedly started misbehaving with three young girls who were sitting beside him and later when the brother of the girls objected to his behaviour, Afridi entered into a brawl with him.

PCB chief executive Majid Khan and skipper of Pakistan team Rameez Raja have already denounced the incident in separate statements to the media, also, the team manager Zaheer Abbas has submitted his report on the incident, according to a news report.

Lanka series in June, but that did not happen and he led the team to a 1-0 series win over the world champions.

Lara, whose erratic behaviour over the last two years has landed him in front of the WICB's disciplinary committee, might have stained his sheet even further, when he failed to arrive punctually for the first Test against the Sri Lankans in Sri Lanka.

He was subsequently fined 50 per cent of his match fee by the teams management.

Alongside Stuart Williams.

The squads which were announced on Friday contained a few surprises. Principally, Jimmy Adams has been named captain of the A team and Phil Simmons makes a return to the senior team. Both were overlooked for the series against India and Sri Lanka.

Another major surprise is that Rawi Lewis has been chosen the only specialist spin bowler in the senior team.

After being picked in the 13 for the duration of the Indian series without playing, he had been dropped for the two-Test series against Sri Lanka.

The 22-year-old from Grenada gained the place ahead of fellow leg-spin bowler Dinnath Ramnarine, who will be in South Africa like Adams.

The left-handed Jamaican, whose 29 Tests have yielded 1,991 runs at an average of 56.88, was expected to feature in the senior team but Adams has to be content with being one of four Test players in the A side that will play three four-day "Tests" and three limited-overs matches.

His form with the bat has declined in the last two years and he has looked a shadow of himself. This tour could ultimately decide his future.

So too, the Asian trip for Simmons.

However, the varied nature of the itinerary has made the selection panel look towards the 33-year-old Simmons, who is considered an all-rounder that can gather freely with his power-hitting, be very restrictive with his stiff medium-paced bowling, and is one of the safest pair of hands in any position when fielding.

"There are a few surprises in the two teams, but you will find they offer plenty options," Hall reasoned. "If we could pick 16 for both, their composition might have been different, but we were only told to pick 15 so we had to ask ourselves a few hard questions."

SQUADS

WEST INDIES: Courtney Walsh (captain), Sherwin Campbell, Stuart Williams, Philo Wallace, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Brian Lara, Carl Hooper, Roland Holder, Phil Simmons, David Williams, Ian Bishop, Curtly Ambrose, Franklyn Rose, Mervyn Dillon, Rawi Lewis.

WEST INDIES A: Jimmy Adams (captain), Robert Samuels, Leon Garrick, Suruj Ragoornath, Floyd Reifer, Laurie Williams, Wavel Hinds, Ramaresh Sarwan, Ricky Hoyte, Laurie Williams, Nixon McLean, Reon King, Nigel Francis, Cameron Cuffy, Pedro Collins.

Keeping Windies' worry

BRIDGETOWN, Aug 2: Surprisingly, neither Courtney Browne nor Junior Murray have been chosen in West Indies squads for winter tours to Asia and Africa, reports AFP.

Apparently at the end of their tether with the non-production of both Browne and Murray in front of and behind the stumps — the West Indies selection panel has recalled David Williams, the diminutive Trinidad and Tobago wicket keeper, to accompany the senior team to Pakistan and Sharjah.

They have also offered Ricky Hoyte, the grandson of the legendary Sir Everton Weekes and son of David Murray, a chance to prove his lineage on the West Indies A tour of South Africa.

"Some people will not agree with it but we decided to pick our best keeper in the senior team," Wes Hall, chairman of the selection committee, told the Barbados Advocate.

He added: "Hoyte was chosen because the players in the A team should be able to graduate into the senior team. So we had to make him the first choice wicketkeeper so he would have a good chance to prove himself."

Williams, who will turn 34 during the first week of the tour, is still considered the best wicketkeeper in the Caribbean. It will be the first time he stands behind the stumps for West Indies since he was replaced by Murray on the 1992-93 tour of Australia.

He has played three Tests and 29 limited-overs internationals and if his batting does not quite reach the lofty standards of his wicket-keeping, neither did Browne's — in particular — or Murray's.

All but 29-year-old opening batsman Suruj Ragoornath of the A team newcomers are either aged 21 or under. They are batsmen Leon Garrick and Ramaresh Sarwan, the youngest member of the side at 17, along with fast bowlers Pedro Collins and Reon King.

There is only one unfamiliar face in the senior team, Philo Wallace, the Barbados captain and opening batsman, will be making his first Test tour, although he travelled with Richie Richardson's side to Sharjah, Pakistan and Australia in 1991-92 for limited-overs competitions only.

Wallace, a tall, upright batsman with the penchant for striking the ball powerfully, celebrates his 27th birthday today. He will be the senior side's alternate wicketkeeper, particularly in the limited-overs matches, where he might be chosen to open the batting.



Fireworks light up the night sky over the Panathinaikon Stadium during the opening ceremony of the sixth World Athletic Championships in Athens on Aug 1.

— AFP/UNB photo

Afriди on a sticky wicket!

ISLAMABAD, Aug 2: Young Pakistani cricketer, Shahid Afridi may face disciplinary action for allegedly misbehaving with some women and entering into a brawl with a co-passenger in a Karachi bound Air-Lanka flight recently, reports PTI.

"We are looking into the report of the incident and if prima facie it is found correct then it would be taken up by the disciplinary committee of the Pakistan Cricket Board," Waqar Ahmed, the PCB secretary told the agency over telephone from Lahore.

Afridi, world record holder for fastest one-day international century, allegedly started misbehaving with three young girls who were sitting beside him and later when the brother of the girls objected to his behaviour, Afridi entered into a brawl with him.

Afridi, who has been a hot topic over the last few months around the Caribbean.

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