

Sport

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-92 Tick the correct answers

Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm on April 17, 1998

Table with 3 columns and 5 rows of quiz questions and answers.

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SPORTS TALK



Martina Hingis (World No 1 tennis player) I was pretty thrilled to come here and win the whole thing. After winning the Evet Cup

Dreerkmann dumps Chang

TOKYO, Apr 16: Michael Chang failed to clear the third round hurdle when he crashed out of the Japan Open tennis here today to Hendrik Dreerkmann of Germany, reports AFP.

The second-seeded American and world number 13, who showed no ill effects on Wednesday after recovering from a knee injury, found himself in trouble against the 113th-ranked German, losing 2-6, 7-5, 4-6.

The loss followed the elimination of top seed Patrick Rafter of Australia on Wednesday, leaving Tim Henman of Britain as the highest ranked player in the field at 15th in the world.

"I saw him playing last week in Hong Kong, losing to my friend," said Dreerkmann, whose teammate Christian Winck pulled off a major upset victory over Chang.

The 1989 French Open champion injured his left knee a month ago at Indian Wells and it was only his first match after his comeback in Hong Kong, where he suffered his first-ever first round defeat in Asia.

"I think he was playing better today, but he's still not 100 per cent anyway, you have to beat him and that's what's counted. And I'm happy about it," said Dreerkmann.

Business Report 6:30 BBC News Followed by Weather 7:00 Asia Today 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 BBC World News

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Followed by Weather 7:00 Hardtalk 7:30 BBC World News Followed by Weather 8:00 Question Time India 9:00 The World Today 10:00 Hardtalk 10:30 BBC World News

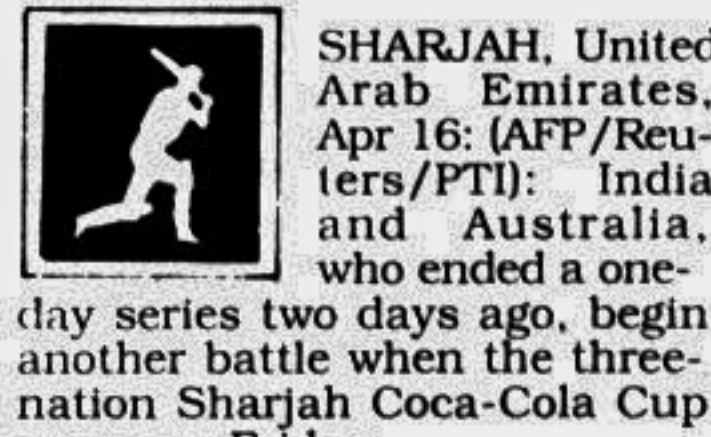
Followed by Weather 11:00 World Focus: Correspondent 11:30 BBC World News 11:40 World Business Report

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Followed by Weather 10:00 Hardtalk 10:30 BBC World News Followed by Weather 11:00 World Focus: Correspondent 11:30 BBC World News 11:40 World Business Report

Rixon's boys ready for Indians Desert duel begins today



SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Apr 16: (AFP/Reuters/ZD) India and Australia, who ended a one-day series two days ago, begin another battle when the three-nation Sharjah Coca-Cola Cup opens on Friday.

The only change is that New Zealand replace Zimbabwe in the day-night event where each team plays the other twice in the preliminary league with the top two advancing to the final on April 24.

The tournament, worth 40,000 dollars to the winners, comes just three days after Australia completed a gruelling seven-week tour of India comprising three Tests and a one-day series.

No wonder rest rather than revenge was on the minds of the Indians, who lost the final to Australia in New Delhi on Tuesday after four successive wins in the league.

"Another day, another series. It just goes on," said Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin, who last week termed the schedule drawn up for his team as "too tough."

Azharuddin and his Australian counterpart Steve Waugh came down heavily on the hectic itinerary across India in energy-sapping heat and humidity.

There is, however, no respite as each team plays four matches in six days here, before

a day's rest prior to the final. The only relief is that all matches will be played under lights and at one venue, the Sharjah Cricket Stadium.

New Zealand's Australian coach Steve Rixon was, not surprisingly, upbeat about his team's chances in the series.

"Our boys are fresh after a month's rest and raring to go. I don't think the Indians and Australians feel the same way," he said ahead of Friday's opener against India.

The last time the Kiwis won a one-day series abroad was in 1983-84 against the still fledgling Sri Lanka. But they entered the final on their previous visit to this popular desert venue in 1997.

Rixon, peeved at New Zealand being rated below Zimbabwe in Wisden's latest rankings, said his team was determined to prove a point.

"This whole business of rankings is irrelevant and we can prove them wrong by winning," said Rixon, whose contract was recently extended till next year's World Cup in England.

Rixon revealed his team had studied videos of India's Sachin Tendulkar and Ricky Ponting of Australia, two in-form batsmen whose performance will have a bearing on the tournament.

The Indians are, however, confident they can overcome fatigue to make a winning start.

"We had one bad day in the tri-series in India, unfortunately it was in the final," Azharuddin said.

"One day cricket is like that. All three teams here have a chance," said the Indian captain, a veteran of a record 278 one-day internationals.

Australia, who take on New Zealand on Saturday, were boosted by star leg-spinner Shane Warne's decision to stay with the team despite a shoulder injury.

"I am here and I will bowl," the blond sensation said. "I did not get many wickets in India, but I hope to make up here in Sharjah."

The wickets in India are not spinner-friendly as is the general impression. They are too slow. Something specially crafted for the Indian spinners," he said.

"But, must admit it is not easy to bowl at the Indian batsmen on their home pitches. They all can read variations well."

Meanwhile, Victorian all-rounder Ian Harvey, son of yesterday's star Neil Harvey, has cut short his Maldives holiday to bolster the team in which all-rounder Tom Moody is nursing a hamstring strain.

Skipper Steve Waugh and his teammates though tired after the Indian leg are determined to prove themselves as one of the most successful one-day sides in the world and will be ready to battle it out.

But Graeme Hick, who will lead Worcestershire until Tom Moody returns from international duty with Australia, may beat Gatting to that target. He has 96 centuries to his credit.

Surrey's batting looks as strong as any, but they will suffer more than most from international calls as players representing England in Tests and one-day internationals are unlikely to appear in more than

one or two matches. The club first heard he was unwell would be delaying his flight by 24 hours but chief executive Dennis Amiss later revealed the West Indies Test captain had caught an earlier flight from Barbados and would be at Edgbaston later today.

The first we knew he was in London was when he called us from the airport, it has taken as a little by surprise," he said.

The return of prolific run-gatherer Lara gives an added zest to the new English county championship which gets underway on Friday.

It has also prompted bookmakers and commentators alike to make Warwickshire firm favourites to lift the title for the third time in five years.

Lara takes over as his captain after leading West Indies to victory in the recent Test series and one-day internationals against England in the Caribbean.

Against Durham in 1994 he battered the county for a world record first-class score of 501 not out.

But Lara will need to make friends in the dressing-room as well as runs if Warwickshire are to return to the sort of success they enjoyed in 1994 and '95. There were reports that team spirit was not all it might have been during his previous period at Edgbaston.

Warwickshire's other new recruit is Ed Giddins, the pace-maker sacked by Sussex in 1996 and barred for 20 months for taking cocaine.

Bookmakers make the Midlands county 9-2 favourite to regain the title, ahead of 1996 winners Leicestershire (13-2) and the four teams in and around London, Kent (13-2), Essex (7-1), Middlesex (15-2) and Surrey (8-1).

Kent, runners-up in three of the four domestic competitions last season, should be strengthened by the return of Lara's West Indies colleague Carl Hooper.

Middlesex have a new Australian coach in John Buchanan and have replaced Jacques Kallis, who will be touring England for South Africa, with Western Australian left-hander Justin Langer.

Former England captain Mike Gatting, playing a final season for Middlesex, will be desperately keen to score eight more centuries and become the 24th player in history to reach 100 hundreds.

Other new overseas recruits

Pakistan face SA today

Pakistan will be in a do or die battle when they take on South Africa in the penultimate league match of the Standard Bank triangular tournament in Pretoria.

After Wednesday's defeat against Sri Lanka at the Willowmoore Park, Rashid Latif's Pakistan team is desperate to win their final pool match to keep their hopes alive of playing in the final.

Sri Lanka, who bounced back in the tourney with two consecutive wins, will play their last match in Cape Town on April 19.

South Africa captain Hansie Cronje will enjoy the prospect of losing both matches and this weekend and then going into the final on a superior run rate.

"We need to work hard and be more disciplined in our game," he said in Port Elizabeth on Monday after Sri Lanka earned the first of what have been two shock victories.

And Pakistan, apart from looking too powerful for Sri Lanka last week, first in Kimberley and then Paarl, have rarely pushed South Africa in either of their two games. They have batted indifferently and their bowling, once Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis was set off, the bowling has lacked punch and penetration.

In fact the way Waqar bowled Wednesday must be cause for concern in the Pakistan camp; he went for 86 in his 10 overs and mainly because he bowled too short on a ground where the boundaries square of the pitch are on the short side.

INDORE, Apr 16: Bailable warrants have been served on the captain of Sri Lanka cricket team, Arjuna Ranatunga, match referee of Zimbabwe Ibrahim Ahmed and officials of the Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) in connection with the abandoning of the one-dayer between India and Lanka on December 25 last, reports PTI.

Serving the warrants of Rs 5,000 yesterday to the embassies of Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe, the First Class Judicial Magistrate, KS Tomar has asked Ranatunga and Ahmed to be present in the court on April 28.

The bailable warrant against Indian skipper, Sachin Tendulkar, has been sent to Mumbai police to be served on him.

A case was registered under Section 420 and 406 of the IPC. The match was abandoned by the International Cricket Council referee Ahmed due to 'unplayable pitch conditions'.

Opener Alec Stewart is clear favourite for the post but Hussain, the current vice-captain, is not ruling himself out of the running.

"It is a job I would love to do, it's one of the best jobs in British sport but the decision is in the hands of the selectors," said the Essex player.

"They have a difficult decision to make and if I don't get it, it wouldn't be the end of the world."

"But it is a challenge I feel up to tactically, and I also understand the players. I've grown up with many of them who are currently in the England squad and know how to handle them and how to get the best out of them."

Asked if he would be disappointed if the England selectors did overlook him for the captain's job, Hussain said "If you don't get something you want you are bound to feel disappointed."

But as I said it won't be the end of the world if I miss out. My main concern is that I am scoring runs for England and if the captaincy comes along I would regard it as a bonus — and a great honour."

LONDON, Apr 16: Nasser Hussain admitted Wednesday he would relish the challenge of succeeding Mike Atherton as England captain, reports AFP.

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LONDON, Apr 16: The origin of cricket's most famous trophy — the Ashes — has been called into question after claims that the urn contained the remnants of a burnt veil, not a cricket ball, reports AP.

The new version comes from Rosemary, Dowager Countess of Darnley. She told the London Evening Standard that her mother-in-law created the Ashes in 1882 when she burned her veil to get the attentions of then England cricket captain Ivo Bligh.

She says the story was recounted to her by her mother-in-law, Florence Bligh, later to become Lady Darnley.

My mother-in-law told me that the Ashes were a burned veil she wore while Ivo was playing. The countess was quoted as saying: She believed the confusion arose from a simple mis-hearing — ball for veil.

Her son, the current Lord Darnley, said he could corroborate her account.

"The story is quite possible," he said. "I have heard the story about the veil before. I can remember asking my uncle Colonel Bligh about it and he said that grandfather had said the ashes were probably from something that burned quite quickly. So it would have been something flimsy."

"It was something burned by the women, and I think it was

The coaches of France '98

The importance of coaches in any competitive sport, specially those demanding physical as well as mental excellence, can not be over-exaggerated. The position of a coach in a team game such as football, is unique. He has to mould the heterogeneous elements into a cohesive unit and bring out the best combination and the desired result. It has never been an easy job and often a very talented coach with a superb team fail to deliver. Conversely, a mediocre team under an average leader can work miracles. The responsibilities of an modern coach are very demanding and at times nerve-shattering. The success or otherwise of the team is always linked with the coach and the job these days has become too hot to handle. Since all eyes will be on France '98 from 10 June we have compiled thumb nail sketches of all the 32 coaches bound for France.

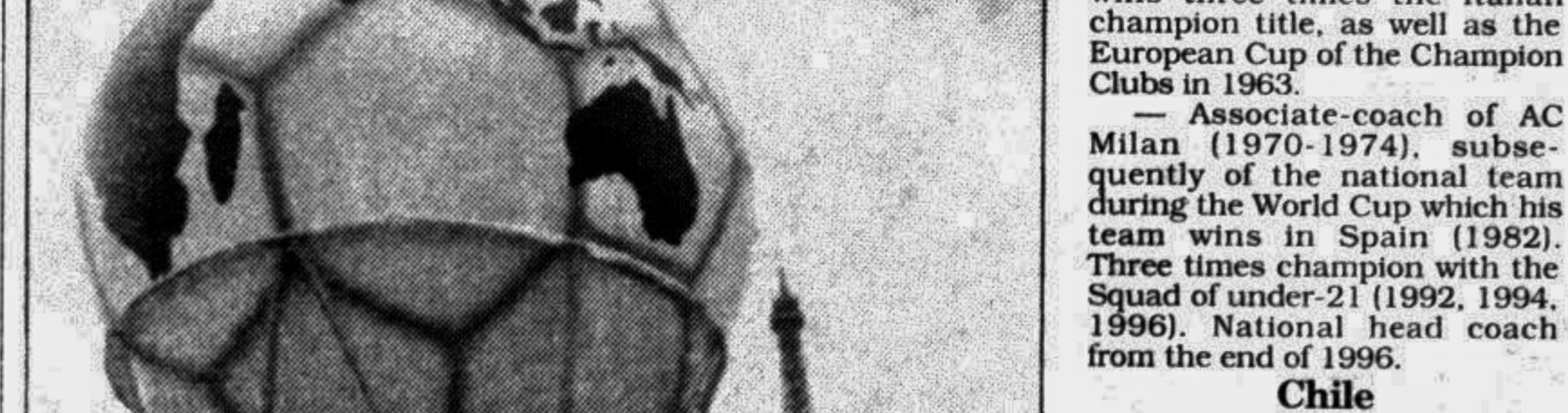
Group A Brazil Zagallo Mario Jorge Lobo (BRA) — Born 9 August 1931 in Macao, Brazil. — Player of the teams: Rio America, Flamengo and Botafogo. Selected 37 times for the national team where he scored 6 goals. Twice world champion as member of the Brazilian selected squad in Sweden (1958) and Chile (1962), further as coach — still of the Brazil squad — in Mexico (1970).

Group B Italy Maldini Cesare (ITA) — Born 5 February 1932, in Trieste. — Player of AC Milan from 1954 to 1966, with which he wins three times the Italian champion title, as well as the European Cup of the Champion Clubs in 1963. — Associate-coach of AC Milan (1970-1974), subsequently of the national team during the World Cup which his team wins in Spain (1982). Three times champion with the Squad of under-21 (1992, 1994, 1996). National head coach from the end of 1996.

Chile Acosta Nelson (CHI) — Born 12 June 1944 in Paso de Los Toros, Uruguay; naturalized Chilean citizen. — Player in the Uruguay clubs Huracan Buceo (1961-1971) and Penarol (1972-1976). Emigrates to Chile and develops his talents in the Everton (1977), O'Higgins (1978-1980), finally in Fernandez Vial (1981-1983). — Coach of Fernandez Vial (1984-1987), of O'Higgins (1988-1991), further of Union Espanola (1992), Cruz Azul of Mexico (1992), once more Union Espanola (1993-1996). Manager of the Chilean Selected Team as of June 1996.

Cameroon Manga Onguene Jean — At the time of writing, it was not sure whether coach Mr Manga Onguene would lead his team to the World Cup.

Austria Prohaska Herbert (AUT) — Born 8 August 1955 in Vienna. — Player of the club Austria (1974-1980 and 1983-1989) where he wins seven times the Austrian Championships, as well as three Austria Cups. — Reaches the finals in the European Champions League in 1978. Bags the Cup of Italy (1982) as a guest-member of the Inter Milan (1980-1982), as well as the Transalpine Championships (1983) playing in the AS Roma (1982-1983). Prohaska boasts of being selected 83 times for the Austrian Eleven with which he also participates in two World Cups (1978-1982). — Coach of the Vienna-based club Austria (1989-1992). He achieves two titles (1991 and 1992), as well as two Austria Cups (1990 and 92). Manager of the national squad since 1993. — Source: International Sport (To be continued)



THE WORLD CUP POST BOX: This giant mailbox has been installed in Paris by the French postal authorities as a promotional campaign for the 1998 football World Cup.

— AP/UNB photo. — As of 1965 he acts as coach, first of the Botafogo Juniors and advances to the job of the Brazilian national squad as of 1970, until the elimination of his team in Germany, in 1974. Re-appointed to the command of the national team following his fourth success at the US World Cup in '94.

Scotland Brown Craig (SCO) — Born 10 July 1940, Glasgow. — Player of Glasgow Rangers and Dundee FC, in which he wins the title of national champion and lands in the semi-finals of the European Cup of the champion clubs. Brown completes his career in the Falkirk without having ever worn the yellow dress of

three times (1973, 1977, 1980), as well as the Cup of France once. Chosen 58 times for the French national squad. — Manager of the gold-winning Olympic Team at the Los Angeles Games (1984). Succeeds Michel Hidalgo at the head of the national team (1984-1988) and finishes third in the World Cup in Mexico (1986).

Norway Olsen Egil (NOR) — Born 22 April 1942 in Frederikstad. — Player of the club Paris Saint Germain (1990-1991), further of the Cameroon Team (1994), the Saudi Arabian club Annars (1995), and finally of the Moroccan national squad (1996).

Warrants on culprits! INDORE, Apr 16: Bailable warrants have been served on the captain of Sri Lanka cricket team, Arjuna Ranatunga, match referee of Zimbabwe Ibrahim Ahmed and officials of the Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association (MPCA) in connection with the abandoning of the one-dayer between India and Lanka on December 25 last, reports PTI.

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All eyes on Lara's county

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The club first heard he was unwell would be delaying his flight by 24 hours but chief executive Dennis Amiss later revealed the West Indies Test captain had caught an earlier flight from Barbados and would be at Edgbaston later today.

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Former England captain Mike Gatting, playing a final season for Middlesex, will be desperately keen to score eight more centuries and become the 24th player in history to reach 100 hundreds.

Other new overseas recruits

include the West Indian fast bowlers Nixon McLean (Hampshire) and Franklyn Rose (Northamptonshire) and Australian batsman, Michael Slater (Derbyshire).

Prize money for the championship winners has been raised to 100,000 pounds (168,000 dollars), while the top eight countries will qualify for a new knock-out cup in 1999.

But proposals for radical changes to the county championship, including splitting it into two divisions to encourage greater competition have been thwarted.

That was voted down by the counties, some of whom fear they would lose their best players and even go bankrupt if they become stuck in a lower division.

The intention behind the proposals was to strengthen the national team, who remain among the lowest ranked of the 'Test-playing countries'.

On the international front England host South Africa for a five-Test series beginning on June 4, and then have a one-off Test against Sri Lanka.

The three countries will also play a triangular tournament and with the World Cup due in England next year, supporters will be looking for signs they will be serious contenders for a title they have never won.

But what the country's cricket lovers would most like to see in the meantime is an improvement in their Test match fortunes.

4-nation hockey Double blow for India MELBOURNE, Apr 16: Indian captain Baljit Singh was taken to a hospital here after he was hit on his head by a New Zealand player during the Colorado Cup hockey tournament league match which was tied 2-2 here today, reports PTI.

New Zealand player Beban Hari dangerously swung at the ball just after the whistle was blown for stoppage of play and whacked Baljit on the side of his head in the follow through.

Coch Baskaran was furious as the umpires took no action against the New Zealand player for the controversial incident, which occurred five minutes before the final whistle.

The worst thing to come out of it is that the New Zealand player was not shown any sort of card at all. Baskaran was quoted as saying by Australian news agency AAP.

Walsh county Glamorgan win last season's championship by four points from Kent, who regularly lost paceman Dean Headley and all-rounder Mark Ealham.

The England selectors ignored Glamorgans' Steve James (1,775 runs in the season) and Matthew Maynard (1,170), picking only off-spinner Robert Croft for the Ashes series against Australia.

Pakistan's Waqar Younis was often Glamorgan's match-winner, but he has had another trying year on the international circuit.

Sussex, bottom of the table last season amid an internal power-struggle, have failed to recruit Australian leg-spinner Shane Warne, but are confident of improving after signing compatriot Michael Bevan and Derbyshire's Chris Adams.

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Friday 17th April

(All programmes are in local time but subject to last minute change)

Morning Session 9:00 Opening announcement, Al Quran, Programme summary 9:05 Patriotic song 9:10 Khabar 9:15 Alor Disharee 9:40 Sports World 10:00 News in English 10:10 Cartoon Film 10:35 Manier Katha 11:00 Musical programme