

## Column One

**Boost sports WHIZZ KID**  
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
**Competition-110**

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm  
Jan 29/99 and draw shortly afterwards

- The margin of Australia's recent Ashes series win was  
3-1    4-1    4-0
- Who is the number one player in women's tennis at the moment?  
Hingis    Lindsay    Venus
- The final of the 1st Asian Test Championship will be held in  
Dhaka    Calcutta    Colombo
- The eighth SAF Games will be held in  
India    Sri Lanka    Nepal
- How many teams are taking part in the Janakantha Premier cricket league?  
10    12    14

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

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## SPORTS TALK



**Saeed Anwar**  
(Pakistan Test opener)  
"I have never played a Test match against India but now I desperately want to and score a triple hundred in that."

On his aspirations for the tour of India.

## India include two rookies

NEW DELHI, Jan 22: Indian cricket selectors unveiled a new-look squad Thursday to face Pakistan in the first Test in Madras next week, reports AFP.

Opening bat Navjot Sidhu and vice-captain Ajay Jadhava were dropped from the team that lost the recent Test series in New Zealand, while two new caps made it onto the 14-man squad.

All-rounder Laxmi Ratan Shukla and opening bat Sadagopan Ramesh were the fresh faces contesting a final place in skipper Mohammad Azharuddin's team.

"We thought youngsters should get a chance," said selector committee chairman Ajit Wadekar.

"We found Jadhava wanting against swing bowling and youngsters have shown good performances in the domestic cricket."

Fast bowler Ajit Agarkar, nursing an injury, has also been left out of the first Test.

## SQUAD

Mohammad Azharuddin (captain), Sachin Tendulkar, Saurav Ganguly, Rahul Dravid, VVS Laxman, Jagavaj Srinath, Nayan Mongia (wicket keeper), Harbhajan Singh, Sunil Joshi, Sadagopan Ramesh, Hrishikesh Kanitkar, Laxmi Ratan Shukla, Venkatesh Prasad, Anil Kumble.

## Tyson's next bout in April

WASHINGTON, Jan 22: Mike Tyson, who knocked down Francois Botha of South Africa on Saturday, is likely to fight Axel Schulz of Germany on April 24 in Las Vegas, reports Xinhua.

A showtime Television executive producer Jay Larkin confirmed the date Thursday but said an opponent would be selected next week.

Possible opponents for Tyson also include Michael Moorer, but the fight can be carried on only when Tyson can escape from jail sentence next month.

Tyson knocked down Botha in the fifth round but lost every round on the scorecards of two of the three judges.



LOOKING RELAXED: Pakistan captain Wasim Akram (L) and manager Shahryar Khan seem free of pressure during a press conference at their team hotel in New Delhi on January 21.

## Watertight security in Gwalior

# Pakistan open tour today

GWALIOR, Jan 22 (Reuters/AFP): A threat from Hindu militants behind them, the touring Pakistani cricketers finally get down to serious business on their Indian tour here Saturday.

The three-day opener against India's second-string provides Wasim Akram's tourists their only chance to tune up for the first of two back-to-back Tests starting in Madras on January 28.

Coach Javed Miandad said on the team's arrival in New Delhi on Thursday he would field a virtual Test-strength side for the first match so the players could get used to Indian conditions, crowds and security.

at this time but he is his guests and it is his duty to look after us."

Miandad, one of Pakistan's finest batsmen, made light of a suggestion that India would prepare slow wickets to blunt his team's feared pace battery of Akram, Waqar Younis and Shoaib Akhtar.

"Don't forget we also have some of the best spinners in the world," he said. "We have the power to counter any wicket."

On Thursday the 16-man squad, surrounded by gun-toting commandos, was whisked away from the airport to a downtown hotel, which resembled a fortress.

Pakistan, who last played a Test on Indian soil in March 1987, will play a two-Test series, the Asian Test Championship opener against the hosts and triangular one-day series also featuring Sri Lanka.

Akram, who played in the 1987 series, said he was happy to be back in a country where he had always enjoyed touring.

"I have some pleasant memories of India, but what I remember most the slow wickets, the lethal left-arm fast bowler said."

He brushed aside a question whether recent losses to Australia and Zimbabwe and a match-fixing scandal at home will affect his team's performance.

"I have left the controversy behind at home. I am here to do a specific job and that is to win

the series for Pakistan," said Akram, who took over from Amir Sohail as captain for this tour.

"As for losing to Australia and Zimbabwe, even India were beaten by New Zealand, so we should be starting the series on an even note."

Commenting on the Indian team, Akram said he respected a side that has players of the calibre of Sachin Tendulkar, Saurav Ganguly, Rahul Dravid and Mohammad Azharuddin.

The Indian team returned from its tour of New Zealand and landed in Calcutta, instead of Bombay as originally planned, in a cloak of secrecy and tight security.

It was prompted by the ransacking of the BCCI headquarters in Bombay on Monday forcing the Board to decide to shift its office to Calcutta.

## TEAMS

**PAKISTAN** (from): Wasim Akram (capt), Waqar Younis, Saeed Anwar, Mohammad Naved, Ijaz Ahmed, Salim Malik, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Younis Youhana, Mohi Khan, Waqar Younis, Shoaib Akhtar, Saqlain Mushtaq, Nadeem Khan, Mushtaq Ahmed, Azhar Mahmood, Shahid Afridi.

**INDIA**: Venkat Laxman (capt), Devang Gandhi, Sadagopan Ramesh, Jacob Martin, Mohammad Kaif, Aravind Khurasiya, Laxmi Ratan Shukla, Dadda Ganesh, Rahul Sanghvi, Harbhajan Singh, Saba Karim, Sitangshu Kotak, Jyoti Prakash Yadav, Virender Sehwag.

## 'Murali might never tour again'

CANBERRA, Jan 22 (Reuters/AFP): Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar said today he was very disappointed at the hostile reception controversial Sri Lankan bowler Muralitharan had received in Australia.

On Thursday, Sri Lankan cricket captain Ariyaratne Ranatunga revealed that Muralitharan may not tour Australia again because of the adverse publicity and crowd heckling the spin bowler had received as a result of his unusual bowling action.

Kadirgamar, a devoted cricket follower who is on an official visit to the Australian capital of Canberra, also called for an independent international body to be set up to rule on the legitimacy of bowlers' actions.

Ranatunga said he was not concerned that Muralitharan

would bowl Saturday in front of one of the umpires who had previously called him for throwing.

Umpire Ross Emerson, who no-balled Muralitharan in a one-day match in Brisbane three years ago, will officiate in Sri Lanka's day-night clash with England at Adelaide Oval on Saturday.

He will be joined by umpire Tony McQuillan, who also mentioned the bowler's action in his match report when Sri Lanka played Queensland state in Mackay in the 1995-96 tour opener.

It will be the first time this tour that Muralitharan has played in front of an umpire who has previously called him, after Darrell Hair stood down from Sri Lanka's games.

Murali has been cleared from all over the world and we are not worried about one or two umpires it's as simple as that. We are here to play proper cricket," Ranatunga said.



Arjuna Ranatunga, the Sri Lankan skipper, sweeps during the Carlton and United World Series Cup match against England in Melbourne on January 19.

## Keya to sponsor U-19 football

Sports Reporter

The Suhawardhy Cup National under-19 football championship will be sponsored by Keya Cosmetics Limited. The first major football tournament in a year begins with the qualifying round among 61 teams in eight zones from January 29. The hosts and the reigning champions will join the eight zonal champs in the finals.

The amount of sponsorship money could not be obtained from Bangladesh Football Federation officials last night.

Abdul Khaleque Pathan was named chairman and Md. Fazlur Rahman Babul Secretary of the 24-member tournament committee.

## SuperMax in Dhaka Sailab for WC 99

Sports Reporter

Sallab Hossain Tutul, a member of Bangladesh Cricket Board and the general secretary of Bangladesh Cricket Umpires Board, will officiate at the World Cup '99 as an umpire.



This was decided in a meeting of the executive committee of Bangladesh Cricket Board last evening. Chaired by the Deputy Minister for LGRD and BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury, the meeting, which lasted for more than four and a half hours, also decided to introduce SuperMax, an eight-sided cricket competition, among the 21 teams of Dhaka district this season.

## Korean Cup golf Raiyan robs Kazi, Cho best in ladies'

Sports Reporter

Raiyan Islam emerged men's winner and Moon San Cho the women's champ in the Korean Cup golf tournament-1999 played at the Kurmitola course yesterday.

Kazi Ekramullah, followed up his favourable last year, with the men's runner-up trophy. Hyun Sook Lee was ladies number two.

The other winners were: Best Gross — Raiyan Rab; front nine winner — Brig. Shahidul Islam Mondal; back nine winner — Maj. Gen (Retd) M Abdur Rab; nearest to pin — Brig (Retd) Anwarul Azeem Mallik; longest drive — Hee Yoon.

Vice president of the Kurmitola Golf Club, Maj Gen Hasan Mashud Chowdhury inaugurated the meet, participated by a large number of holiday golfer, and distributed the prizes.

## England cruise

MELBOURNE, Jan 22 (Internet): England thank to outstanding opening burst from Darren Gough and steady batting from Graeme Hick, picked up a comfortable seven-wicket victory in the sixth Carlton and United Series match at the MCG on Tuesday.

Hick was there at the end unbeaten on 66 and man-of-the-match Darren Gough had a sensational opening spell to really set Sri Lanka on the back foot early.

## BRIEFScores

**SRI LANKA:** 186 all out in 50 overs (Ranatunga 76, Chandana 50; Gough 4/28)

**ENGLAND:** 189 for three in 45.2 overs (Hick 66 n.o.)

(Result: England won by 7 wickets.)

Man-of-the-match: D Gough

## Ponting to be disciplined

HOBART, Jan 22 (Reuters/Internet): Ricky Ponting has been ordered to appear before the Australian Cricket Board's (ACB) disciplinary panel after being dropped from the team for fighting.

An ACB spokesman told reporters on Thursday that Ponting had been charged with breaching the board's code of conduct.

He said the hearing would take place in Melbourne next Monday.

Ponting faces a possible ban or fine if found guilty.

The 24-year-old batsman was dropped from the Australian limited-overs team on Wednesday after he was involved in a fight outside a Sydney night club in the early hours of Monday morning.

Ponting, who has been tipped as a future Australian test captain, said he had been drinking at the time and has promised to undergo counselling for his alcohol problem.

## Fleming has surgery

WELLINGTON, Jan 22: New Zealand cricket captain Stephen Fleming is likely to return to the team in six weeks after surgery to repair a groin injury, New Zealand Cricket said today, reports Reuters.

"That would enable Fleming to play in the second Test against South Africa in his home town of Christchurch."

Fleming has suffered groin pain for almost a year and was forced from the field during New Zealand's one-day international with India on January 9.

Orthopedic surgeon Paul Armour said in a statement that surgery on a small tear in a tendon in Fleming's right groin had gone well.

"The surgical procedure divides the tendon allowing healing to proceed."

"This morning, Mr Fleming is comfortable and walking without crutches. He will be discharged today," Armour said.



IN SEARCH OF A GROUND: Tiny tots indulge themselves to a game of cricket on board the back of a truck during the traditional Eid parade in the old parts of Dhaka where severe scarcity of playing fields might force youngsters to repeat this scene more in near future.

## Cairns carries New Zealand ODI honours finish even

CHRISTCHURCH, Jan 22: (AFP/Internet) Chris Cairns hammered the fifth fastest one-day century in history to guide New Zealand to an emphatic 70-run win over India here Tuesday.

Cairns, after surviving a very strong caught behind appeal on 51, hit 115 and helped New Zealand to 300 for eight off their 50 overs. India crashed from a promising start to 230 all out in 45.3 overs and the one-day series finished tied at 2-2.

Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin may now regret putting New Zealand into bat after winning the toss, especially after he was forced to leave Sachin Tendulkar out with an injured arm.

Playing in his 100th one-day match in front of 15,000 people, Cairns hit his second limited-overs century in 75 balls and 99 minutes and it included five fours and six sixes.

"I got a great reception when I came to the wicket and it was great to repay them," Cairns said.

"It was my day out there and I'm glad to have taken advantage of it. I got on a roll there and I got to 97 and I thought I would try and milk it and get the ton."

When he was finally dismissed for 115 he had played the significant hand in New Zealand scoring 121 off the last 10 overs.

Cairns was fortunate to escape being given out caught behind to what appeared a clear edge off medium pacer Robin Singh.

Azharuddin reacted by throwing the ball into the ground and the Indians did not applaud his hundred or when he left the field.

Azharuddin said they were not happy with the decision but did not want to make any other comment, though he added he congratulated Cairns afterwards-2C Cairns insisted he was unaware of any touch.

He had another let-off when dropped on 75 by Nikhil Chopra but after that went on the ram-

page.

New Zealand coach Steve Rixon was thrilled to square the series.

"I think we deserved to. There isn't much between the sides. I think the last 10 overs were crucial and I rate us as up there with the best sides in the world batting in that situation."

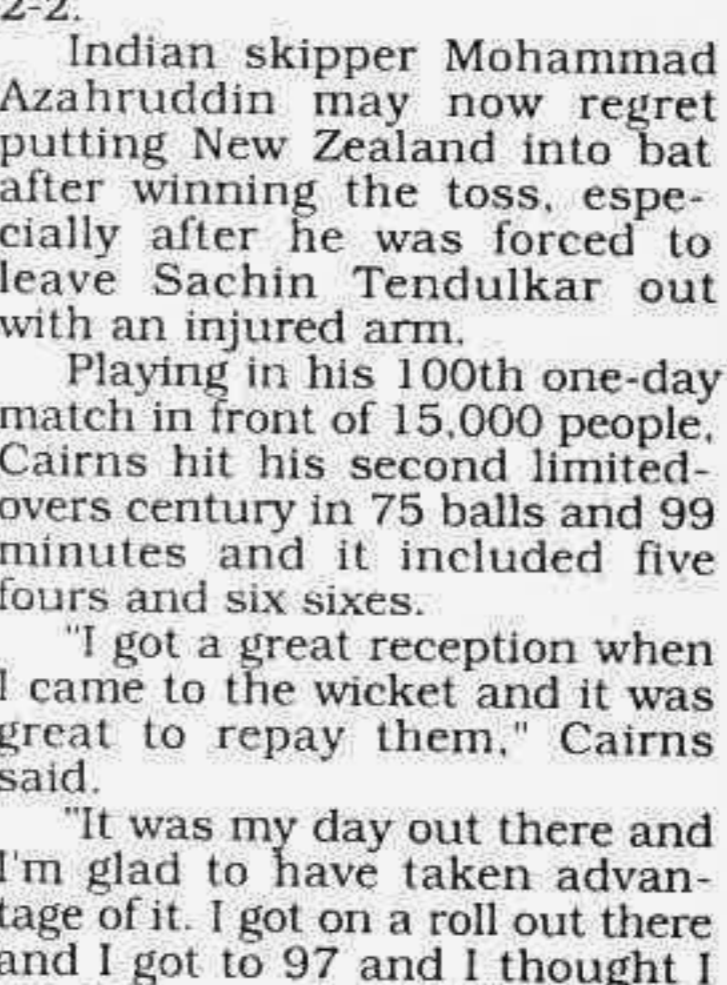
India momentarily threatened New Zealand's total when openers Saurav Ganguly and Ajay Jadhava added 50 in 47 balls.

But when Ganguly was out for 60 in 50 balls, the run rate

restricting the batsmen to singles and picking up the wicket of Jadhava for 25.

The series was deadlocked at 2-2 because one match was washed out.

New Zealand won the Test series 2-1 and now go on to face a home series against a powerful South Africa.



## CAIRNS... m-o-m

slowed and wickets fell at regular intervals.

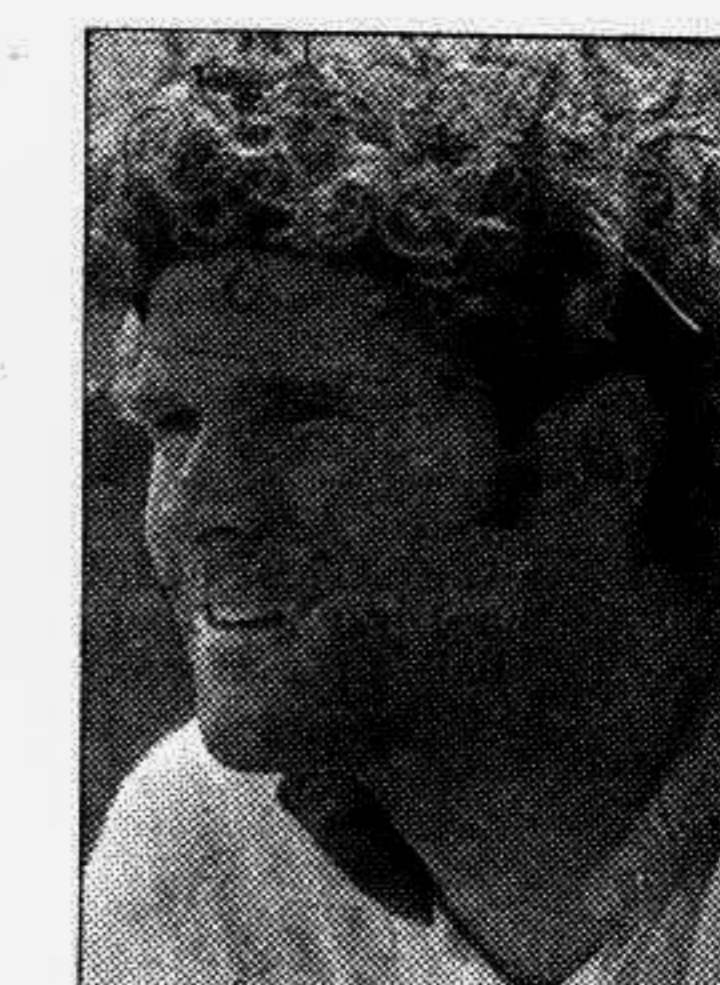
Azharuddin gave his side a glimmer of hope in the middle of the innings with a fine knock of 63 but he was unable to find the boundary on enough occasions.

When Azharuddin was seventh out for 63 with India's total on 202 the innings disintegrated.

Nayan Mongia, Anil Kumble and Venkatesh Prasad all fell cheaply leaving New Zealand comfortable winners.

Medium-pacer Chris Harris was the chief beneficiary in the closing overs picking up three late wickets to end with four for 40 off 93 overs.

The pick of the bowlers was veteran medium-pacer Gavin Larsen. The 36-year-old did a sterling job in mid-innings re-



## Steve Waugh sits out series

Fellow batsman Michael Bevan will sit out Sunday's match against Sri Lanka with a groin injury suffered early in the field on Thursday.

"Michael's is only mild but probably bad enough at this stage to warrant missing a game or two so that in the lead up to the finals he'll be 100 per cent fit," Alcott said.

Sri Lanka pacer Damien Fleming will have an ultrasound scan on Monday to determine the extent of tendonitis in his shoulder.

Alcott said despite the recent injuries, there was no common factor involved and nothing that could be done to prevent them.

Sri Lanka play England on Saturday and Australia on Sunday. Australia play England on Tuesday.

# Steve sits out series

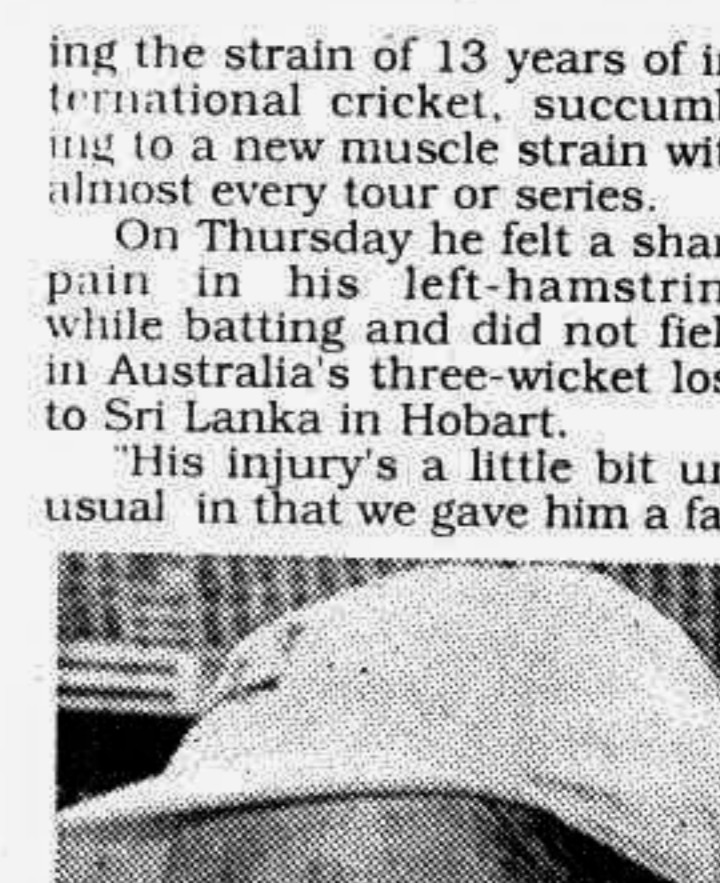


## Libyan IOC member quits

LAUSANNE, Jan 22: The International Olympic Committee delegate from Libya resigned Friday, the second member of the international body to step down in the Salt Lake City bribery scandal.

IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch told the Associated Press that Bashir Mohamed Atarabali submitted his resignation in person Friday morning.

The resignation came one day before a special IOC commission meets to conclude its inquiry into the Olympics' biggest corruption scandal.



## REGRETS

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

—Sports Editor