

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-112

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
March 27/99 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who is the new Real Madrid soccer coach?
Hiddink Tashack Sacchi
- Pakistan won the hockey series against India by
5-1 6-3 4-3
- Who is the first woman referee to officiate a First Division soccer match?
Danielle Carolina Janet
- Who won the boys' singles title in the ITF tourney in Rajshahi?
Chang Weaver Wala
- How many players are taking part in the United Insurance GM chess tourney?
10 13 20

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Notice

Due to unavoidable reasons draw of the WHIZZ KID competition 112 could not take place yesterday. The draw will be held on March 27.

SPORTS TALK



Alex Ferguson

(Manchester United manager)
"Our general play was excellent and our defence was outstanding. We deserved the result."

After his team beat Inter Milan in the Champions' League quarterfinals.

Indian WC squad to be named on April 5

MUMBAI, Mar 19: The final 15-member Indian cricket team for World Cup would be announced here on April 5, reports PTI.

According to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) officials here today, Mar 31 was fixed as the deadline to announce the final fifteen from the existing nineteen players.

However, the India board had taken special permission from the organisers of the World Cup, England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), to announce the team at a later date.

Inter-varsity h'ball from today

By JU Correspondent
The inter-university handball tournament begins at Jahangirnagar University today.

Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Alauddin Ahmed will inaugurate the tournament at 8 am at the central playground.

Six men's and four women's teams, split into four groups, are taking part in the competition.

Jahangirnagar, Dhaka and Agricultural are taking makeup Group A while Rajshahi, Chittagong and Shahjalal Science and Technology are in the Group B.

Dhaka, Jahangirnagar, Rajshahi and Agricultural are involved in the women's competition.

The final of the tournament will be held on March 24 at 3.30 pm.

On the opening day, the hosts will take on Agricultural and Rajshahi will take Shahjalal in men's competition while Jahangirnagar will take Agricultural in women's competition.

Bangladesh-Kenya Meril match today

Aminul wants to play the final

Hasan Masood

Bangladesh will try to regain some of their lost pride when they take on Kenya in their day-night Meril International Cricket Tournament '99 opener at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.



AMINUL ISLAM

"We want to win this match and that's not only to revive the confidence of the team but also for our country's cricket. This win is very important for us and we will try and perform as best as possible after going out there," said a confident Bangladesh captain Aminul Islam after his team had a three-hour long nets at the venue yesterday morning.

In the practice session, the 19-member World Cup squad mostly concentrated on batting. "As far as I'm concerned, we are slightly ahead of the Kenyans in batting and spin. I just want to go out and play positive cricket," said Aminul, who till then did not know his final eleven.

About injuries, Aminul informed that four players, including middle-order and former national skipper Akram Khan, were having problems. Faruque Ahmed, Mahbubur Rahman and Aminul Islam Junior were also nursing injuries.

Aminul, however, said that if Akram felt okay with his left wrist in the morning, he would be in the first eleven. "Our main aim is to play the final and we are going to do everything possible for that," said Aminul.

"We have our home crowd behind us, which is both a bonus and a pressure. If we play well, we will be inspired by them. But, if we play bad, they will put us under pressure," said Aminul.

Aminul's Kenyan counterpart Asif Karim said it would be a serious match for them. "Bangladesh is a good team. But we always played hard cricket against them and they also did the same. We are looking forward to play them at their home," said Karim.

This will be the fifth one-day match between Bangladesh and Kenya since the two countries were awarded ODI status on June 16, 1997. Kenya, the ICC runners-up, enjoy an upper hand over ICC champions Bangladesh, having won three and lost once.

Kenya beat Bangladesh by big margins in the first two meetings held in Kenya in a triangular series in October 1997. Zimbabwe, the other team featuring in that tournament, eventually emerged unbeaten champions.

The next two matches were held last year in May when India, Bangladesh and Kenya played in a three-nation meet in India. Bangladesh won the first match against Kenya by six wickets and then lost the next one by 27 runs.

Overall, Kenya's ODI record is more impressive than that of Bangladesh as they won five of their 21 matches. Apart from their three wins against Bangladesh, Kenya also defeated mighty West Indies in the last World Cup and beat India in India last May.

On the other hand, hosts Elliott best in Sheffield Shield

MELBOURNE, Mar 19: Victoria State opening batsman Matthew Elliott was named today as Australia's Sheffield Shield player-of-the-year, reports Reuters.

Elliott, who also won the award three seasons ago, became only the fifth player to win the award more than once since its inception in 1975/76, joining Ian Chappell, Greg Chappell, Allan Border and Mark Waugh.

"I'm honoured to get this award again because it's chosen by the umpires who watch every play at close quarters," said Elliott, who is currently in the West Indies with the Australian Test side.

"It's very rewarding to get a measure of personal recognition for the work we have put in this summer," he said in a statement released by the Australian Cricket Board.

Elliott scored 925 runs, including five centuries, at an average of 84.09 during the recent Shield season. He polled 21 points to clinch the award ahead of Tansman's Jamie Cox (18) and Western Australia's Simon Katich (18).

Bangladesh have won only one of their 26 outings.

Today's match will start at 2 pm BST. Bangladesh Television will telecast the match live while Radio Bangladesh will provide ball-by-ball commentary.



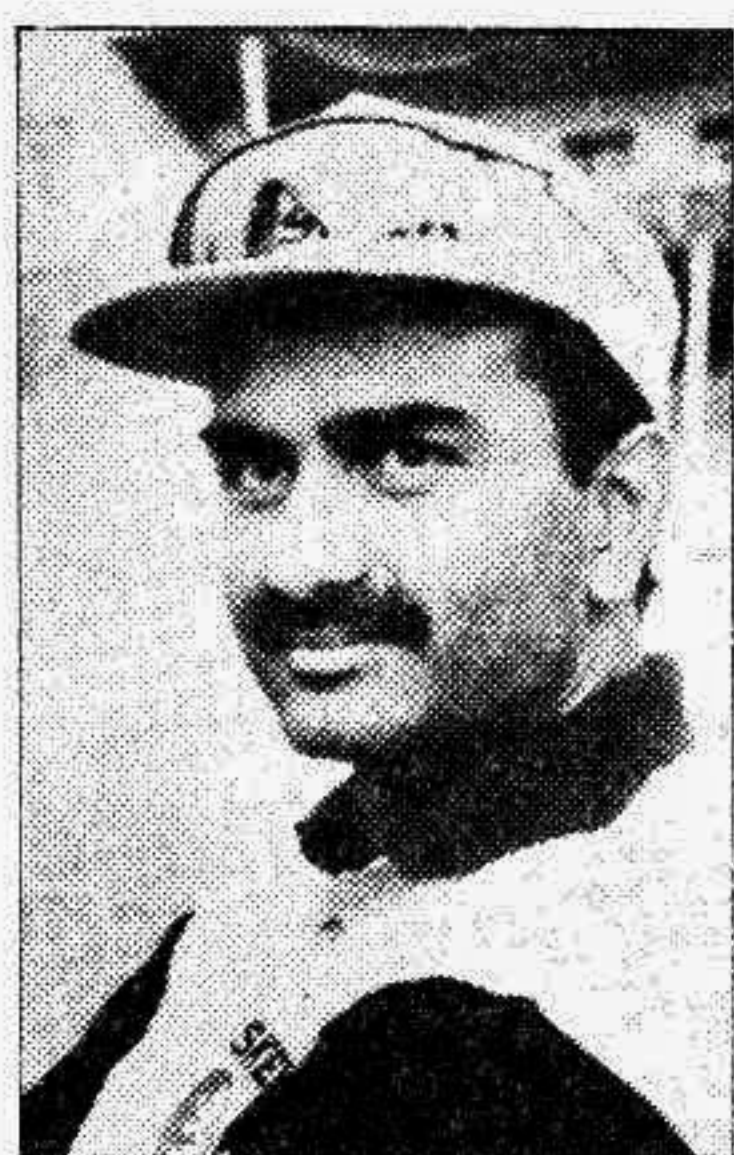
VK Ramaswamy of India and Pakistan umpire Javed Akhter will officiate today's match. Sri Lankan umpire Peter Manuel will be the third eye. Both Bangladesh and Kenya will announce their team before the match.

SQUAD

Bangladesh: Aminul Islam (captain), Khaled Mashud, Javed Omar, Mehrez Hossain, Al-Shahriar, Akram Khan, Khaled Mahmud, Mohammad Rafique, Naimur Rahman, Hasibul Hossain, Manjurul Islam, Shahriar Hossain, Shafiuddin, Enamul Haque, Faruque Ahmed, Niamur Rashid, Jahangir Alam, Mahbubur Rahman and Aminul Islam Junior.

Kenya: Asif Karim (captain), Maurice Odumbe (vice-captain),

Ravindu Shah, Steve Tikolo, Sandeep Gupta, Martin Suji, Tony Suji, Alpesh Vadher, Hitesh Modi, Kennedy Otieno, Deepak Chudasama, Joseph Angara, Muhammad Sheikh and James Kamande.



ASIF KARIM

Bangladesh's in 26 previous ODIs				
Opponents	Matches	Won	Lost	Tied
Australia	1	0	1	0
India	7	0	7	0
Kenya	4	1	3	0
New Zealand	1	0	1	0
Pakistan	6	0	6	0
Sri Lanka	5	0	5	0
Zimbabwe	2	0	2	0
Total	26	1	25	0



ZIMBABWE-KENYA SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the first match of the Meril International Cricket Tournament between Zimbabwe and Kenya played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday:

ZIMBABWE				
Johnson c Odumbe b Oduyo	15			
G Flower c & b T Suji	22			
Goodwin run out	12			
A Flower b Oduyo	83			
Campbell c T Suji b Karim	37			
Brands run out	37			
G Whittall not out	5			
Carlisle not out	22			
Extras: (b-1, lb-5, nb-4, w-6)	19			
Total: (For 6 wickets in 50 overs)	272			

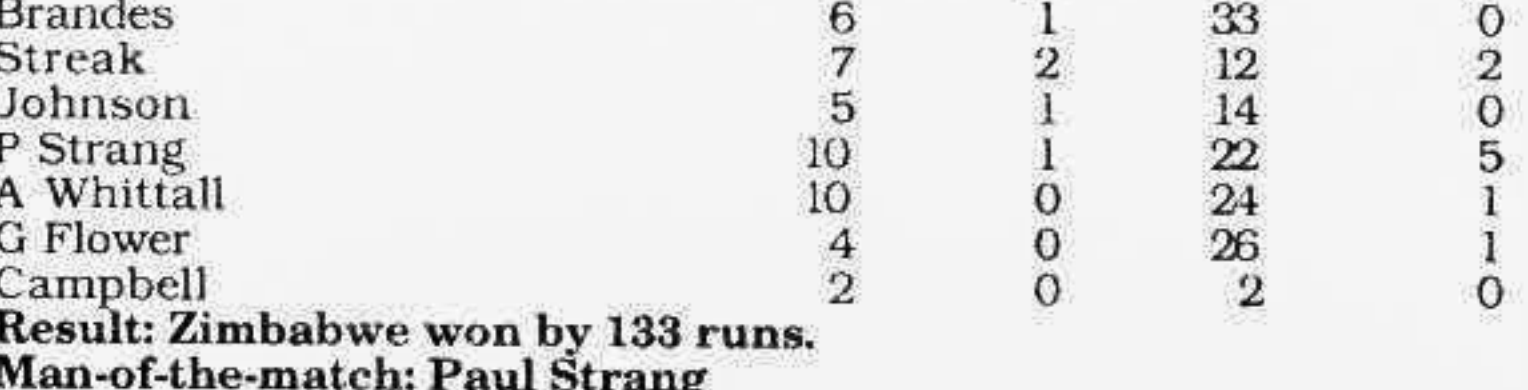
Did not bat: Paul Strang, Andy Whittall and Heath Streak.
Fall of wickets: 1-44; 2-52; 3-63; 4-169; 5-222; 6-264

Bowler	O	M	R	W
M Suji	9	0	70	0
T Suji	10	1	51	1
Oduyo	10	2	26	2
Odumbe	10	0	45	0
Karim	8	0	46	1
Tikolo	3	0	25	0

KENYA
Otieno c Campbell b P Strang 24
Ravindu c & b P Strang 28
Tikolo run out 3
Odumbe c Carlisle b A Whittall 13
Modi c Campbell b P Strang 4
Gupta c A Whittall b P Strang 0
Alpesh c A Flower b P Strang 0
Oduyo lbw b Streak 25
T Suji c Campbell b G Flower 16
Karim not out 16
M Suji b Streak 0
P Strang 1
Extras: (b-1, lb-5, nb-4, w-6) 13
Total: (All out in 44 overs) 139
Fall of wickets: 1-54; 2-64; 3-65; 4-72; 5-72; 6-84; 7-92; 8-101; 9-135

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Brands	6	1	33	3
Streak	7	2	12	2
Johnson	5	1	14	0
P Strang	10	1	22	5
A Whittall	10	0	24	1
G Flower	4	0	26	1
Campbell	2	0	2	0

Result: Zimbabwe won by 133 runs.
Man-of-the-match: Paul Strang



Kenyans celebrating the fall of a Zimbabwean wicket.



Kenyans celebrating the fall of a Zimbabwean wicket.

—Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Nat'l athletics

Two new records on Day 2

Two new national records were established on the second day of three-day Hossaf Metre 25th National athletics championship at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation athletes set both records in men's and women's hurdles and dominated the meet securing 10 gold, 11 silver and 5 bronze medals so far.

Army followed with seven gold, five silver and four bronze medals while Navy bagged four gold, two silver and four bronze medals to finish third.

Delwar Hossain grabbed the first one in the 110-metre hurdles clocking 14.42 seconds to improve the previous mark by 0.13 seconds.

H V Solaiman Majumder of Army finished second in 14.45 seconds while Corporal Israfil Hossain of Air Force was placed third in 15.70 secs.

Kaniz Farhana Shammil smashed the women's 100m hurdles with a timing of 14.50 seconds to better the previous record of 15.30.

Ruma Majumder of BKSP won the silver clocking 15.91 secs while Mollika Kar of BJMC bagged the bronze with a timing of 16.10 secs.

RESULTS

Long jump (men):
First: Manzur Morshed (Army)
Second: Tazul Islam (BJMC)
Third: Atur Rahman (BJMC)

110 hurdles (men):
First: Delwar Hossain (BJMC)
Second: Solaiman Majumder (Army)
Third: Israfil Hossain (BAF)

Marathon (men):
First: Hemayet Kazi (Army)
Second: Aslam Khan (Navy)
Third: Faruque Hossain (Army)

400m sprint (men):
First: Bipaluddin Bhuiyan (BDR)
Second: Farid Khan (BJMC)
Third: Habibur Rahman (BJMC)

Discus (women):
First: Jyotsna Afroz (BJMC)
Second: Saheen Azad (BJMC)
Third: Sabina Khatun (Tangail)

Javelin (women):
First: Akherunnessa (BJMC)
Second: Nargis Akhter (BJMC)
Third: Lutfunnahar (DU)

100m hurdles (women):
First: Kaniz Farhana (BJMC)
Second: Ruma Majumder (BKSP)
Third: Malika Kar (BKSP)

400m sprint (women):
First: Nazmun Nahar (BJMC)
Second: Khurshida Begum (BJMC)
Third: Mumtaz Begum (Khulna)

Windies back at No. 1

UNDATED, Mar 19 (Inter-Net): West Indies have rejoined their old foes Australia at the top of the all-time World Championship of Test cricket.

This according to CricketWorld, an Australian firm of cricket software specialists who are the latest to acclaim the Caribbean players in the wake of their astonishing victory earlier this week.

The computer generated tabulation take into account the quality of the opposition and the winning margins among other factors to create current and all-time World Championship tables.

According to CricketWorld, the comprehensive 10-wicket victory by the Windies over Australia at Sabina Park on Tuesday was enough to propel them back to the top of the all-time world ratings.

Both Australia and West Indies are locked on 128 points according to CricketWorld with England third (116) and Pakistan fourth (112). South Africa, despite their late re-entry after the apartheid era are fifth with 95 points.

West Indies, trounced in the First Test of the Cable and Wireless series in Port of Spain staged one of the most remarkable comebacks in Test cricket to outplay the unofficial world champions in the Second Test.

The Caribbean cricketers, whitewashed in South Africa earlier this year, bounced back with captain Brian Lara leading the way with a match-winning innings of 213.

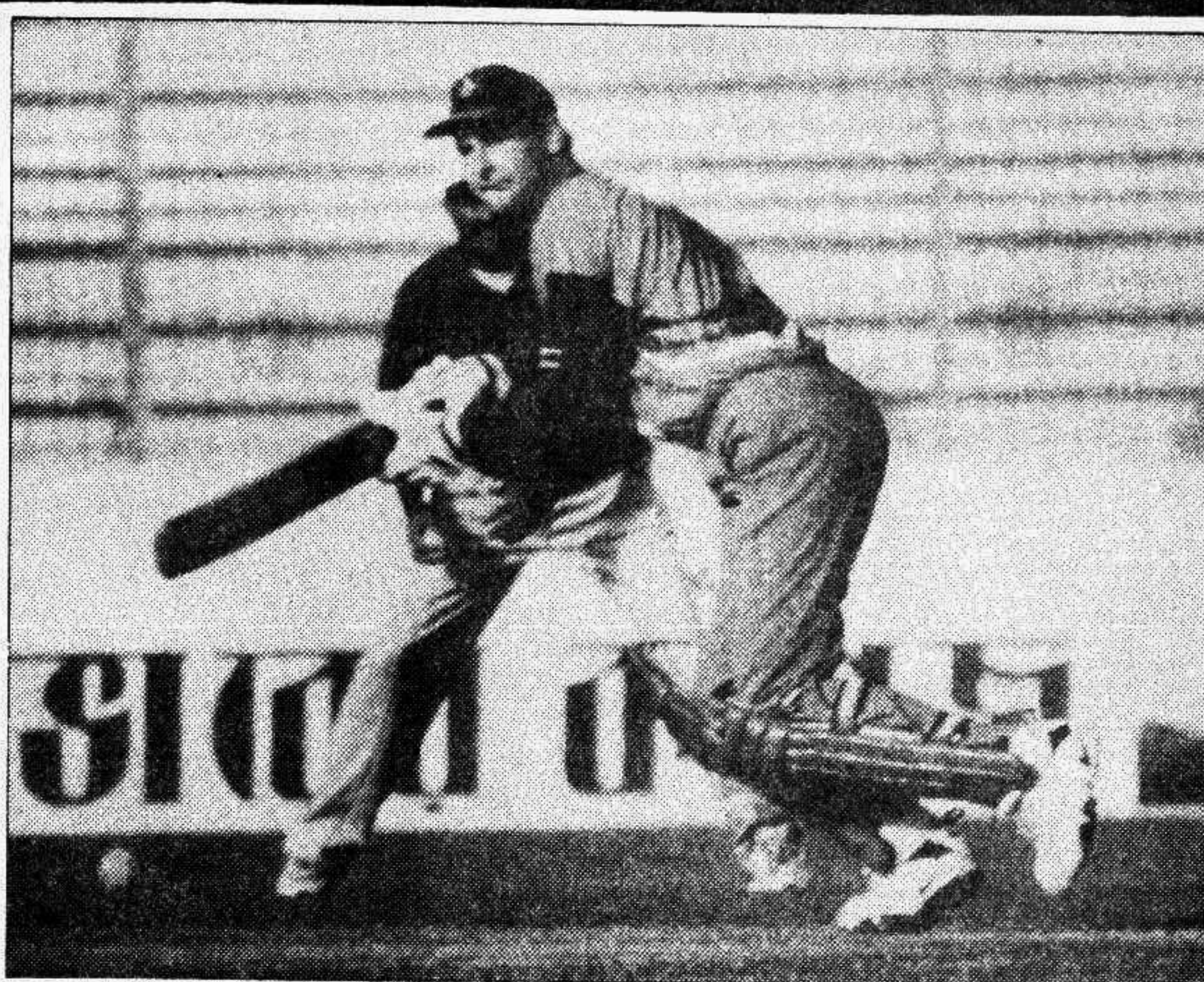
This innings helped Lara regain the top spot in the Pricewaterhouse Coopers world batting rankings on Wednesday, a position he last held in 1995.

Australia are the current holders of the Sir Frank Worrell Trophy, symbol of cricketing supremacy between the old rivals.

While the West Indies are locked with Australia on the all-time list, the men from Down Under continue to hold on to the top spot among the current Test playing countries.

The Aussies have 136 points, more than South Africa who are second. Pakistan, recently crowned Asian champions are third, one point adrift.

West Indies are close to the bottom of the table, in eighth place, bettering only lowly Zimbabwe the newest member of the Test playing countries.



Zimbabwe captain Alistair Campbell sets off for a cheeky single.

—Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Pakistan leave it till late



JAMSHEDPUR, India, Mar 19: Pakistani captain Wasim Akram continued his hold over Sri Lanka batsmen to fashion his team's nine-run win in the first one-day international here today, reports AFP.

The left-arm seamer grabbed three wickets in five balls as Sri Lanka, chasing Pakistan's 246-9 from 50 overs, were shot out for 237 despite a valiant 81 from Aravinda de Silva.

The World champions lost their last seven wickets for 20 runs after being well-placed at 217 for three in the opening match of the three-nation tournament also featuring hosts India.

Akram, one-day cricket's most successful bowler with 367 wickets came good again after his sensational hat-tricks in successive Asian Test matches against Sri Lanka over the last two weeks.

The 32-year-old clean bowled Ruwan Kalpage, Marvan Atapattu and last man Pramodaya Wickremasinghe with deadly yorkers to earn the man-of-the-match award.

De Silva put on 104 for the second wicket with Mahela Jayawardena (60), while Hashan Tillekeratne brought Sri Lanka closer to Pakistan's target with an unbeaten 39.

Earlier, Pakistan caved in after a blazing start to be curtailed to 246-9 in perfect batting conditions at the Keenan Stadium.

Openers Saeed Anwar and Shahid Afridi smashed 148 by the 20th over before Pakistan lost six wickets for 12 runs in a dramatic middle-order collapse.

Wickremasinghe grabbed four of those wickets, but Pakistan recovered from 201-8 with the help of 45 valuable runs from the last two wickets.

Saqlain Mushtaq made 23 not out and Arshad Khan 20.

"These are good times for me but can't hog all the credit for this win," Akram said.

"I was delighted the way Anwar and Afridi batted, but we will have to do something about the middle order."

"It's good we kept the pressure on the Sri Lankans in the field and it paid off in the end."

Sri Lanka captain Arjuna Ranatunga said his team needed to lift its performance in the next match against India at Nagpur on Monday.

"We came near to winning, but it was not enough," Ranatunga said. "We have to learn to finish it off after being in a sound position."

Anwar and Afridi took a heavy toll on the depleted Sri Lanka attack, which was without the injured spin duo of Muttiah Muralitharan and Sanath Jayasuriya.

The pair raced to 71 in 10 overs and 155 in 15 as the Sri Lankans struggled to contain the batsman with the mandatory field restrictions.

Left-hander Anwar, who

de-order in his second spell. Pakistan's woes increased when Azhar Mahmood ran out both Yousuf Youhana and Akram and then himself fell in similar fashion for 21.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the opening one-day three nation series match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka at Jamshedpur on Friday:

PAKISTAN				
Anwar c and b Chandana	72			
Afridi c Vaas b Wickramasinghe	71			
Ijaz c Tillekeratne b Wickramasinghe	7			
Inzamam c De Silva b Wickramasinghe	1			
Yousuf Youhana run out	2			
Moin lbw b Wickramasinghe	0			
Mahmood run out	21			
Akram run out	14			
Saqlain not out	23			
Arshad c Kalpage b Chandana	20			
Shoaib not out	4			
Extras: (b-4, w-4, nb-3)	11			
Total: (For nine wickets in 50 overs)	246			

Fall of wickets: 1-148; 2-153; 3-155; 4-160; 5-160; 6-160; 6-191; 8-201; 9-237

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Vaas	9	0	56	0
Wickramasinghe	10	1	48	4
Hathurusinghe	10	0	39	0
Kalpage	10	0	46	0
Chandana	10	0	9	2
De Silva	1	0	4	0

SRI LANKA
Gunawardane c Akram b Mahmood 19
Atapattu b Akram 22
Jayawardena c Akram b Akhtar 60
De Silva run out 81
Ranatunga c Akram b Afridi 1
Tillekeratne not out 39
Chandana c Youhana b Saqlain 0
Kalpage b Akram 2
Hathurusinghe run out 0
Vaas b Akhtar 0
Wickremasinghe b Akram 0
Extras: (b-3, lb-1, nb-5, w-4) 13
Total: (All out in 49.3 overs) 237
Fall of wickets: 1-51; 2-155; 3-158; 4-217; 5-219; 6-231; 7-231; 8-232; 9-237; 10-237

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Akram	8.3	1	34	3
Akhtar	9	0	44	2
Mahmood	6	0	26	1
Saqlain	9	0	45	1
Arshad	9	0	43	0
Afridi	8	0	41	1

Result: Pakistan beat Sri Lanka by nine runs.
Man-of-the-match: Wasim Akram

Next match: India v Sri Lanka at Nagpur, March 22.

Draw for European Cup & UEFA Cup semis