

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

#### Competition-113

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

April 9, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1	Who won the Asian Test Championship title?	India	Sri Lanka	Pakistan
2	Kevin Keegan is the manager of	England	Scotland	Wales
3	Warne is a	leg-spinner	off-spinner	medium-pacer
4	Who is the first Bangladeshi batsman to score an ODI century?	Mehrab	Shahriar	Hasibul
5	How many half-centuries has Akram Khan scored?	4	5	6

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

POWERED WITH

**EN-VITS**

ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK

Michael Atherton

(Former England captain)

"I think there could have been a more understanding approach from the England Cricket Board, delaying the fitness assessments, giving me an extra two weeks of more gentle rehabilitation in Cape Town with Lancashire."

After being dropped from the England WC squad last week on fitness ground.

Faridpur beat Chandpur

Faridpur earned an impressive 75-run victory over Chandpur in the final round of the 19th national youth cricket championship at the Sathkira Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Faridpur will take on BKSP in their next match on April 9-10 at the same venue.

On the last day of the two-day match, with overnight score of 34 for four in 17 overs, Chandpur were all out for 175 in 68.5 overs while chasing 250.

Bisu made highest 44 while Jamil and Nitul scored 25 and 22.

Monzur and Sohan picked up two wickets each.

Gold Flake Open results

MADRAS, Apr 6: Fifth seed Andrew Ilie of Australia and former champion Mikael Tillstrom of Sweden survived scares to win their first round matches Monday, the opening day of the Gold Flake Open, reports AP.

Ilie was stretched to three sets by Dutch player Dennis Van Scheepingen in his 6-3, 3-6, 6-2 victory. Tillstrom, who won the tournament in 1997 and was runner-up last year, came back strongly after being 2-4 down in the first set against Orlin Stanoychev of Bulgaria to win the match 6-4, 6-4.

Other winners included John Van Lottum of the Netherlands, who defeated Germany's Jens Knippschild 6-3, 6-4, and wild card entry Jonathan Stark of the United States, who shrugged off a second set tie-breaker loss to overcome Frenchman Manicolas Escude 6-2, 6-7 (7-2), 6-2.

Carlos Moya, briefly exposed to the glory of being No 1, has a chance to surpass Pete Sampras and regain the top spot in tennis during the tournament.

Moya, the only Spaniard ever to lead the ATP rankings, had just two weeks at the top last month before Sampras returned to his familiar slot. But Moya only needs to reach the final of the hard-court tournament in southern India to again dump Sampras, who has no tournament play this week.

## Karachi President's Cup

### BCB beat strong Pak Customs

Sports Reporter



Al-Shahriar slammed a brilliant half-century to remind the selectors at home and abroad that the return-pacer Aminul Islam Jr. returned with four wickets to design a thrilling seven-run win for BCB Eleven against Pakistan Customs in their second match of the President's Cup One-day Championship at the Karachi National Stadium yesterday.

The attacking right-hander scored 85 off 110 balls as BCB, sent in to bat by Customs, amassed a fighting 185 before being all out in 47.1 overs.

In reply, Customs were bundled out for 178 in 48 overs. Dubiously dropped from the England-bound 15-man Bangladesh squad, Al-Shahriar proved his worth as a match-winner when he fought a lone battle despite wickets falling at regular intervals at the other end.

Coming in to bat at number five with BCB reeling at 21 for three, the talented batsman shared 56 runs for the fourth wicket with Faruque, the former national captain preferred by the national selectors ahead of Al-Shahriar in the World Cup squad.

But Faruque, reduced to mediocrity as a player, who scored only ten in the first match, once again offered a middling performance before being bowled by Shahid for 21, leaving his young partner to carry the most demanding task of taking the tourists to a fighting finish.

Al-Shahriar, considered as the most exciting batsman, however, was not ready to resign without a fight. The man-of-the-match was eventually out in the 42nd over, but not before the second-string national side reached 175 on a difficult wicket.

The visitors, smarting from a 50-run defeat in the inaugural match against Karachi Cricket Association on Monday, not only turned the table on strong Customs but also rekindled

their hopes of advancing to the next round of the most colourful cricketing event in Pakistan.

Customs fielded as many as four players -- Hasan Raja, Fazal-e-Akbar, Aamir Wasim and Azam Khan, who donned the Pakistan cap.

Although Al-Shahriar stole the limelight, credit should also go to the BCB bowlers, who did a

splendid job in defence of a not-so-impressive total.

Medium-pacer Aminul Islam took four wickets for 37 runs in his spell of 10 economic overs. The right-arm seamer was also responsible for igniting an on-field celebration when he heralded the fall of Customs' number eleven batsman Nawab, who offered a straight-forward catch to the waiting hands of Faruque.

Aminul, who made the early inroads into the Customs innings by removing Azhar for a duck in the very first over, was ably supported by all-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman, who with his gentle medium-pace captured three wickets for 32 runs in his 10 overs. Besides, off-spinner Fahim Muntasir chipped in with two for 30.

For Customs, Hasan Raja, the youngest player ever to play a Test cricket match, scored a quick-fire 49 before being bowled by Fahim. Azam Khan made 30 off 53 balls.

BCB Eleven will take on

Pakistan National Shipping Corporation at the same venue tomorrow.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the President's Cup clash between BCB Eleven and Pakistan Customs played at the National Stadium in Karachi yesterday:

**BCB ELEVEN**  
Imran c H Raza b Akbar 13  
Ehsanul c A Bashir b Akbar 0  
H Bashir b Akbar 4  
Faruque b A Shahid 21  
Al-Shahriar run out 85  
Hasanuzzaman run out 15  
Mushfiqur lbw b A Wasim 12  
Fahim c W Yousuf b A Wasim 7  
Mortuza run out 2  
Aminul jr lbw b Akbar 0  
Mortuza not out 0  
Extras: (lb-7, nb-3, w-16) 26  
Total: (All out in 47.1 overs) 185  
Fall of wickets: 1-1: 2-12: 3-21: 4-97: 5-137: 6-169: 7-175: 8-183: 9-185.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Akbar 9 0 25 4  
Nadeem 7 0 40 0  
A Shahid 7 0 31 1  
Nawab 10 0 33 0  
Hasan Raza 4 0 21 0  
A Wasim 9.1 1 22 2

#### PAKISTAN CUSTOMS

Ameeruddin b Aminul jr 17  
A Shahid c Mushfiqur b Aminul jr 32  
Rana c Imran b Mushfiqur 40  
Hasan Raza b Fahim 39  
Azam Khan c Faruque b Mushfiqur 4  
A Bashir c Mortuza b Fahim 3  
A Wasim c Mortuza b Mortuza 12  
W Yousuf not out 19  
Akbar c b Mushfiqur 0  
Nadeem c Mortuza b Aminul jr 0  
Nawab c Faruque b Aminul jr 4  
Extras: (lb-1, nb-3, w-8) 12  
Total: (All out in 48 overs) 178  
Fall of wickets: 1-5: 2-74: 3-97: 4-111: 5-122: 6-145: 7-152: 8-153: 9-159.

**Bowler** O M R W  
Aminul jr 10 0 37 4  
Mortuza 10 0 40 1  
Mushfiqur 10 0 32 3  
Fahim 10 0 30 2  
Ehsanul 2 0 11 0  
H Bashir 7 0 24 0

Result: BCB Eleven won by 7 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Al-Shahriar (BCB Eleven).

Next match: BCB Eleven vs PNSC on Apr 8.

## Jessore book final berth

### Biman baffle Mymensingh

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Biman pulled off a sensational six-wicket win over Mymensingh yesterday to set up the final clash with Jessore in the 25th National Cricket Championship.

In a dramatic twist to the happenings, the national airline outfit, set to score 183 runs for an outright victory on the final day of the three-day semi-final at the Dhammondi Cricket Stadium, raced on to score 184 for six with Ziaur Rashid hammering an unbeaten 53.

The experienced right-hander, coming in to bat at number seven with Biman tottering at 229 for six, put on 55 runs for the undefeated seventh wicket with Saleh Ahmed to clinch an unlikely Biman victory. Saleh scored a priceless 21 not out.

The match, appeared to be going in favour of Mymensingh on the second day, experienced an exciting turnaround when Biman shot Mymensingh out for 107 in the second innings.

Mymensingh, who scored 225 in their first innings, were well on course to victory when they resumed their second innings on 72 for two and with an overall lead of 149 runs after restricting Biman to 149 in the first innings.

But once former national right-arm seamer Jahangir Talukder dismissed overnight batsman Jakir for 32, Mymensingh suffered a stunning slump, losing last eight wickets for the addition of 31 runs to their total.

Slow left-arm spinner Saifullah Khan, who did not have much of a success in the first innings, caused most of the damage to Mymensingh in the second and eventually returned with four for 25 runs. He was ably supported by Shariful Haq, the offie who took four wickets in the first innings finished with a match haul of 44 for six.

Meanwhile, in the other semi-final of the day at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Jessore emerged winner against Sylhet by virtue of having a first innings lead.

Resuming on 237 for six, Jessore went on to score a huge 279 for nine before exhausting their first innings quota of 100 overs.

#### BRIEF SCORES

**MYMENSINGH:** First innings 225 all out (Ashraf 53, Biplob Sarkar 36; Shariful 47/36, Saleh 3/26).  
**BIMAN:** First innings 149 all out (Rafiqul 27, Sanwar 27, Saleh 25 not out; Saiful 6/32, Nasim 2/45).  
**MYMENSINGH:** Second innings 107 all out (Nasim 36, Jakir 32; Saifullah 4/25).  
**BIMAN:** Second innings 184 for six (Ziaur 53 not out, Ahmed Faiyaz 41; Nasim 2/29).  
Result: Biman won by 4 wickets.  
Venue: Dhammondi Cricket Stadium.

**SYLHET:** First innings 197 all out (Parvez 103, Imran 27 not out; Jamaluddin 4/54).  
**JESSORE:** First innings 279 for nine (Jamaluddin 61, Biplob 40; Rupak 2/28, Imran 2/41).  
**SYLHET:** Second innings 93 for eight (Kajol 20, Aminul 3/15).  
Result: Jessore won by virtue of first innings lead.  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium.

In reply, Sylhet, who made 197 in their first innings, tried to accelerate things in a desperate attempt to compel Jessore to bat again. But they eventually ended up scoring only 93 runs for eight before the umpires called it all over.

The final between Biman and Jessore will be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium tomorrow.

**Nat'l youth v'ball from Apr 16**

The final round of the national youth volleyball championship, organised by Bangladesh Volleyball Federation, will begin on April 16 at the core adjacent to the Moulana Bhasani Stadium, reports UNB.

A total of 11 teams -- Defending champions Comilla, Gazipur, Rajbari, Sylhet, Chittagong, Jhenidah, Barisal, Narail, Khulna, Rangpur and Rajshahi -- will participate in.

Participating teams have been asked to report at the Mirpur Krira Palli by 6 pm on April 15, said a Federation press release yesterday.

#### Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent RAJSHAHI, Apr 6: Willow Krira Chakra defeated Ranigar Sporting Club by six wickets in the lone match of the First Division cricket league today at the Divisional Stadium.

## Mohammedan isolated, protest

Sports Reporter

Seven of the eight clubs involved in the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League will start playing the return-leg matches from today even if joint-leaders Mohammedan Sporting Club, who refused to play their opening return-leg clash against Azad Sporting last Monday do not take part, according to the League Committee secretary Habibur Rahman Yousuf.

The first match between Mohammedan and Azad Sporting is scheduled to start at 2:15 pm today while the second match of the day between Usha Krira Chakra and Farashganj Sporting will commence at 4 pm.

This was decided by the League Committee in a meeting on Monday night.

"We have to continue with the league for the greater interest of the clubs, who are spending a lot everyday and they can not wait anymore because of a certain team," said Yousuf yesterday.

"We have also over-ruled the umpires' report on Monday's two games and forwarded the



case along with other matters of the day to the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) executive committee," revealed Yousuf.

In a turnabout Yousuf, however, claimed in a rejoinder to The Daily Star yesterday that he did not say Mohammedan refused to play because of the non-availability of four foreign players.

When asked what then did he say to this reporter, Yousuf said that everybody knew about this (four foreign players) but as the League Committee secretary he should not have been quoted as having said that.

Meanwhile, Mohammedan hockey secretary and former player Sajed Aadel yesterday condemned the League Committee secretary for his comment on Mohammedan Club.

"This is highly objectionable. He can not say Mohammedan did not play for not having their four Pakistani players. Even if this is an open secret, as League Committee secretary he should not have commented in that way," said a visibly angry Sajed yesterday.

When asked whether his team would play in the league today, Sajed informed that they were to hold a meeting at the club last night and decide the matter by this morning.

Meanwhile, an emergency meeting of the BHF executive body has been called tomorrow at 5 pm to discuss the whole issue.

According to the BHF general secretary Shamsul Bari, the meeting is likely to take disciplinary action against the six umpires who submitted 'false' reports on Monday stating that the ground was unplayable.

Bari also informed that three Indian umpires were due in the city within a day or two to conduct important matches of the league.

## Inter-district kabadi from tomorrow

The Green Delta inter-district kabadi tournament begins at the ground adjacent to the Bangabandhu National Stadium tomorrow, reports UNB.

President of Bangladesh Amateur Kabadi Federation Habibur Rahman Molla, MP, will inaugurate the three-day tourney in the morning while president of Bangladesh Olympic Association and Army Chief Lt Gen Mohammad Mostafizur Rahman will be the chief guest at the closing function on Saturday.

Joyprakash will play the opening match with Tangail soon after the inaugural function.

The 16 participating teams are: Dhaka, Manikganj, Comilla, Mymensingh, Rangamati, Tangail, Moulvibazar, Khulna, Satkhira, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Rajshahi, Joypurhat, Rangpur, Kurigram and Dinajpur.

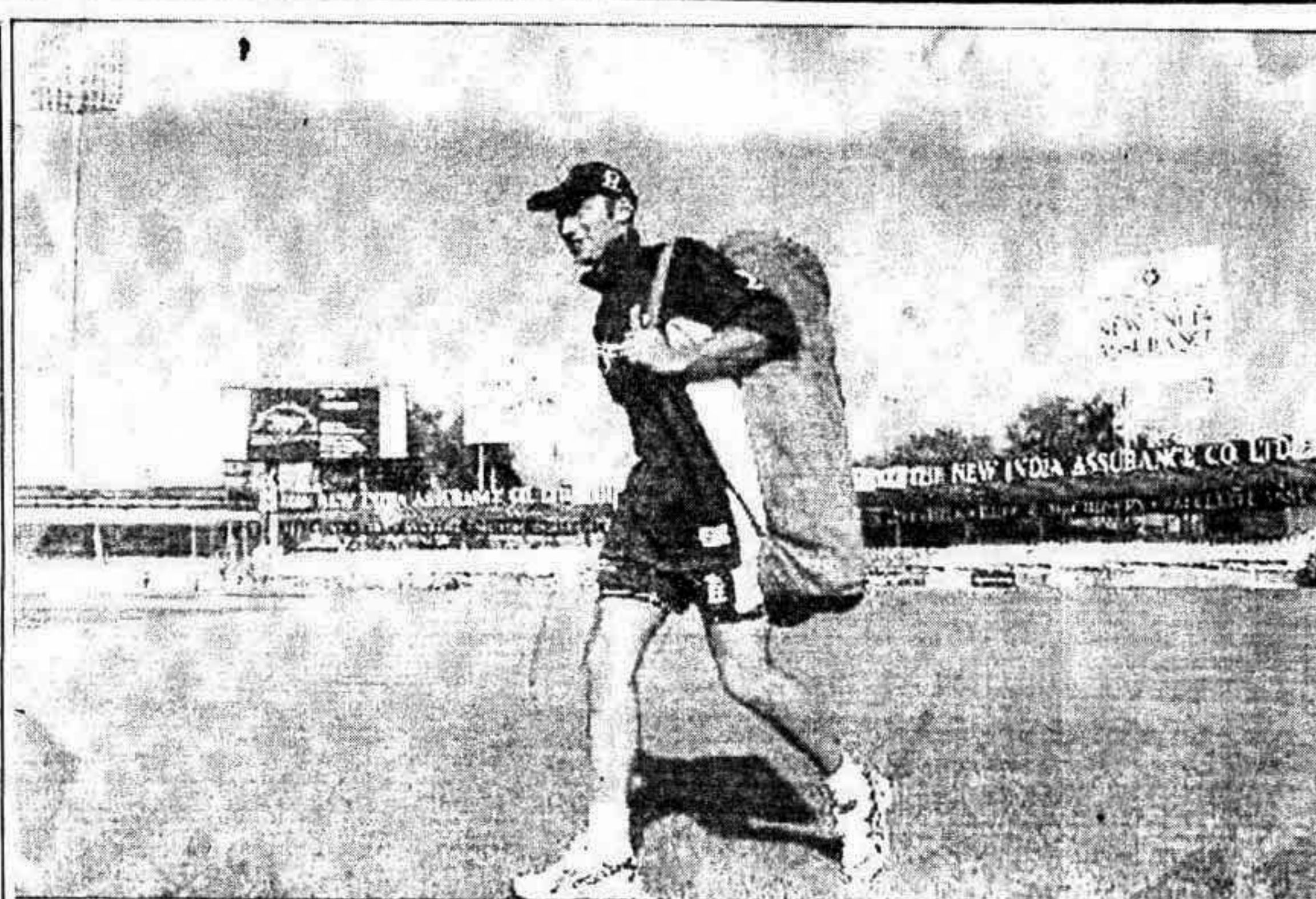
**SL to host U-19 WC**

COLOMBO, Apr 6 (AFP/Internet): Sri Lanka, the current world champions in one-day cricket, will host a mini World Cup of under-19 teams from 20 cricketing nations, officials here announced on Monday.

The Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka (BCCSL) said they will stage the one-day matches between the 20 countries starting in January next year.

The International Cricket Council is expected to partly finance the tournament which is aimed at encouraging youngsters to play cricket.

England won the last Under-19 world cup held in South Africa in 1998.



England's Nasser Hussain walks across the pitch of the Sharjah Cricket Ground during a practice session yesterday. England play Pakistan in the opening match of the Champions' Trophy today. —Internet photo

## Rusty England face Pakistan today

### Mercury goes up in Sharjah



SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Apr 6 (AFP/Internet): England get an early chance to test their strength against World Cup rivals India and Pakistan when the Champions Cup starts here on Wednesday.

The double-leg limited-overs tournament, which features England and Pakistan in the opening match, is the last international engagement for all three teams before the World Cup begins in England in a

its to this popular desert venue. England won the Sharjah Cup here in 1987 and, 10 years later, Adam Hoolioake's side created a sensation by defeating India, Pakistan and the West Indies in the Champions Trophy.

"It's a record to be proud of, but this is a new tournament where current form will count," Stewart said. "It's going to be very tough for everyone out there."

The stifling heat in Sharjah -- temperatures touched 41 degrees on Tuesday -- is a far cry

But they have won just one tournament in their last six appearances.

Akram was stripped of the captaincy after Hoolioake's Englishmen won the Champions Trophy in December 1997 on Pakistan's last visit here.

Now back at the helm, the gifted all-rounder is thirsting for blood. "I hope we won't disappoint our fans here this time," he said.

India, still reeling from the thrashing they received from Pakistan over the last two months, face an uphill struggle

#### FIXTURE

April 7: England v Pakistan  
April 8: India v Pakistan  
April 9: India v England  
April 11: India v England  
April 12: England v Pakistan  
April 13: India v Pakistan  
April 16: Final

from the cold and rain which World Cup teams will have to endure in England.

But everyone agrees a win here is important to keep the morale high ahead of the game's premier competition.

"It will be great to go into the World Cup with a victory in the last tournament," said Pakistani captain Wasim Akram. "Your confidence is that much more."

Akram's men are buoyant after a triumphant tour of India, where they won two of the three Test matches and the limited-overs series against the reigning World Cup champions Sri Lanka and India.

Having conquered India and the title of Asian Test champions in the bag, Akram has now set his eyes on settling an old score in Sharjah.

The venue was once considered a second home for the Pakistanis, who have won nine titles here including six in a row from March 1989 to February 1993.

## Malik, Younis recalled

former captain Aamir Sohail.

Local media had reported that government officials had called for the left-hander to be picked.

The Pakistan Cricket Board has denied Sohail's accusations that he was not selected for the provisional squad because he had accused some teammates of match-fixing in the ongoing Pakistani judicial inquiry.

Malik was one of the main players allegedly involved in the match-fixing and betting scandal. He has denied all charges.

The judge investigating the alleged match-fixing said on Monday that he may delay his report until after the World Cup because he was busy conducting a trial involving opposition

leader Benazir Bhutto.

**SQUAD**  
Wasim Akram (captain), Saeed Anwar, Shahid Afridi, Wajahatullah Wasti, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Ijaz Ahmad, Salim Malik, Yousuf Youhana, Mo'in Khan (vice-captain), Saqlain Mushtaq, Mushtaq Ahmed, Shoaib Akhtar, Waqar Younis, Azhar Mahmood, Abdur Raz-zak.

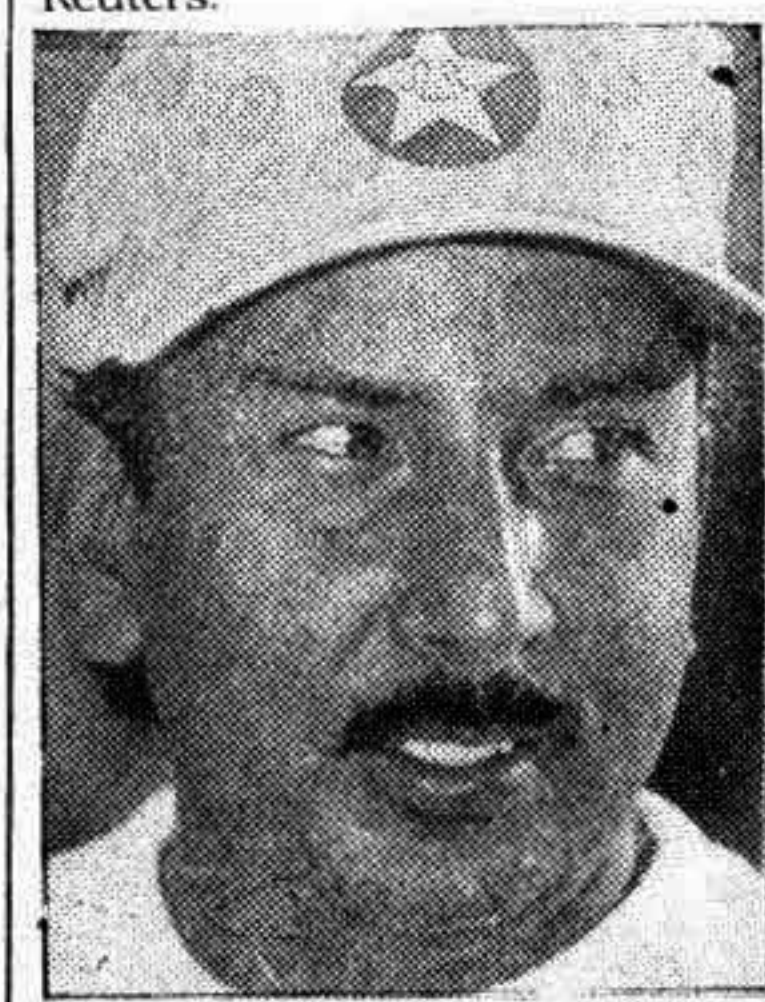
## 3rd umpire's own 'run-out' eye!

LONDON, Apr 6: Special "run out" cameras will be used in cricket's World Cup for the first time during the tournament in England from May 14-June 20, reports Reuters.

The cameras will be sited square with the wickets to enable the third umpire to make the most accurate decision from his slow-motion television replay.

The third official normally has to rely on cameras used by the broadcaster televising the match.

World Cup event manager Michael Browning said today: "While most decisions can be made using the output of the host broadcaster, we have always recognised the fixed (square-leg) camera option would add value to the tournament."



SALIM MALIK

Malik was not included in the 19-man provisional squad, but after a dismal performance by Pakistan's middle-order batsmen during the tri-nation series in India, Pakistan's selectors picked the former captain to play in his fourth World Cup.

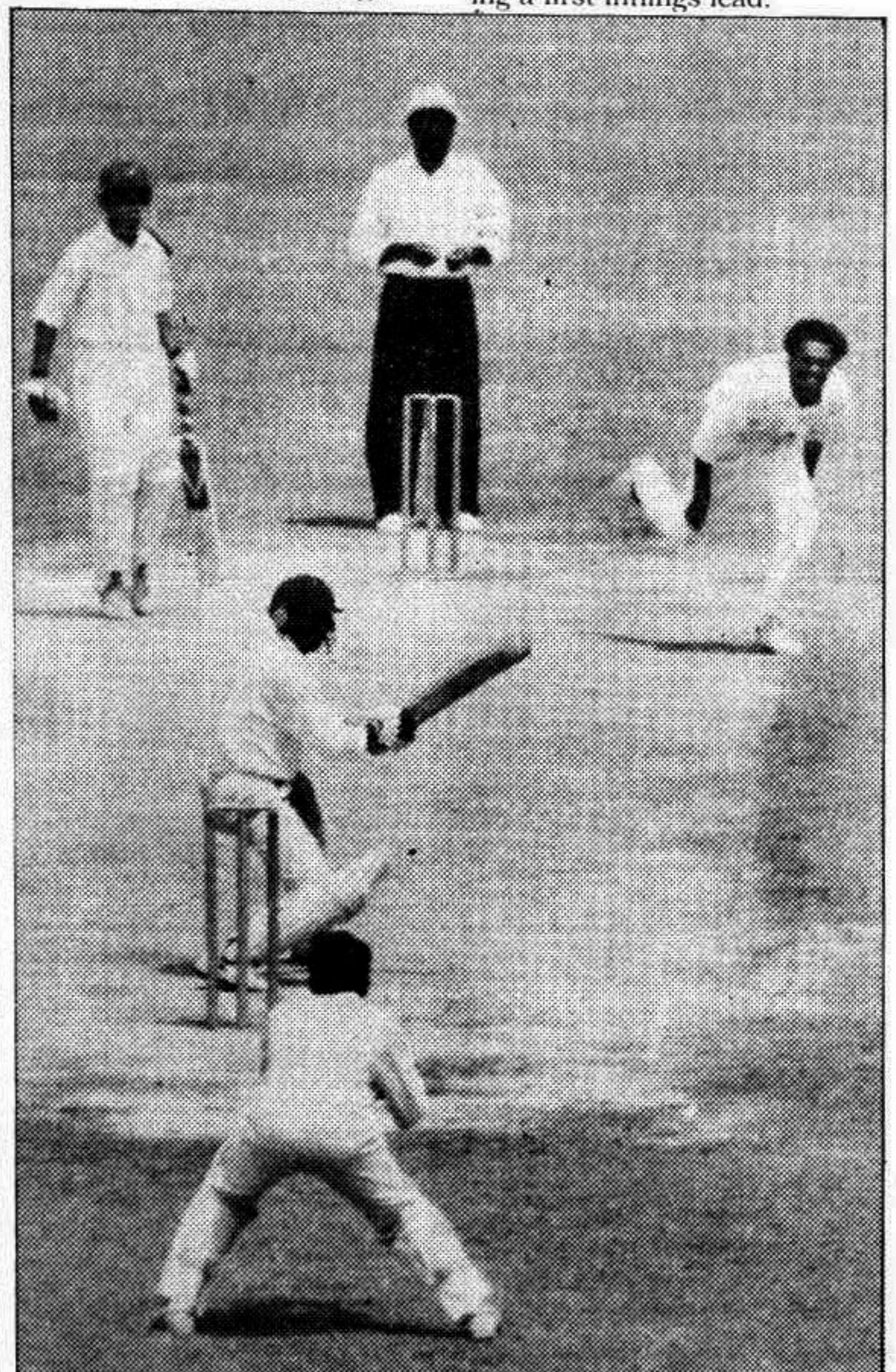
The right-hander is Pakistan's second-leading run-maker in limited-over interna-



WAQAR YOUNIS

tionals after Javed Miandad, the current national team coach, with 7,053 runs in 276 matches with an average of 33.11.

"I always had the feeling that I would play the World Cup," Malik said today before flying to the United Arab Emirates for the three-nation Sharjah Cup alongside India and England.



Action from the national cricket championship. Fixture between Sylhet DSA and Jessore DSA at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

—Star photo by Anisur Rahman