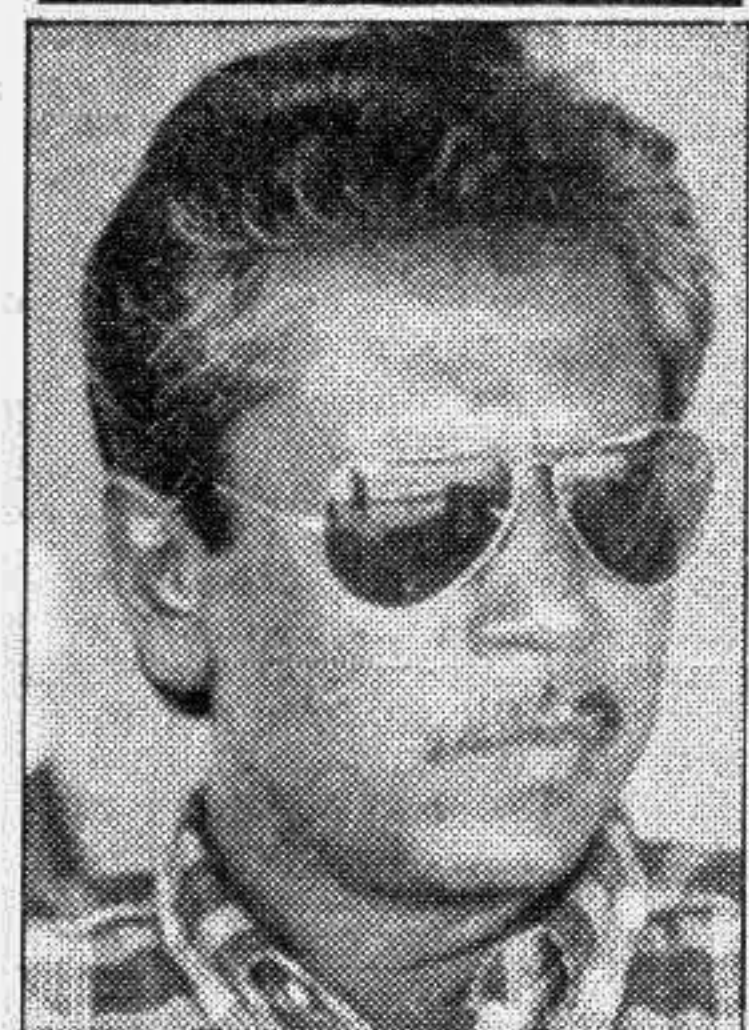


Column One

SPORTS TALK



Aunshuman Gaekwad

(Indian cricket coach)
"We need at least 24 players to have separate Test cricket and one-day international teams. But we don't have so much talent."

Roost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-119

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 3, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

1 Who are the current FA Cup champions?

Man United Arsenal Liverpool

2 Who is Sri Lanka's cricket coach?

Whitmore Yardley Fernandez

3 Who won the Confederations Cup title?

Brazil Mexico USA

4 Who is the Bangladesh cricket captain?

Mirhazul Akram Aminul

5 Which stadium will host the final of 2002 World Cup?

Yokohama Suzaki Nagoya

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Star bridge columnist passes away

Sports Reporter

Dr. AK Sayeedul Haque, a popular bridge columnist of the Daily Star, died of cardiac failure at his Baridhara residence on Tuesday. He was 63.

Haque, president of the Dhaka House of Consultants Limited and the chairman of Information Services Network, left behind his wife, a son and daughter.

Born in Noakhali, Haque obtained a PhD in Economics from Oxford University. His 'Six No Trump' column, gained tremendous popularity among the readers of the Daily Star.

The quikhwani of the deceased will be held at his Baridhara residence (House-20, Road-13) after Asr prayers on Friday.

Yorke honoured

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago, Sept 1: Trinidad and Tobago honoured one of its most famous sons, Manchester United soccer star Dwight Yorke, in its Independence Day awards yesterday, reports Reuters.

Yorke, the 1998-99 English Premier League player-of-the-year whose goals helped United to a prize-winning treble last season of the league, the English FA Cup and the European Championship Cup, was awarded the Chaconia Gold Medal, his country's second highest honour.

Yorke, 27, was born on the island of Tobago.

Onus on Japan, Ghana

Sports Reporter

The second Bangabandhu Cup International Football Tournament resumes today after a day's break with Japan and Ghana as clear favorites to reach the semifinals.

Both Japan and Ghana require only a draw against Kuwait and Uzbekistan in their respective final group league matches to advance into the last four of the 12-team meet.

The matches will be held at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur instead of the Bangabandhu National Stadium. The organisers Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has taken the decision of switching the venue for the second time in a desperate bid to bring its damaged original ground back into some sort of shape.

The BFF have come under severe criticism from all the participating teams for forcing them to play at the muddy and under-prepared Bangabandhu National Stadium.



spirited Nepal side by the odd goal in three.

The Uzbek side too, had a disappointing start against Nepal. They won the match by a

lone goal, but it were Nepal who played the better brand of soccer than their more colorful Asian counterparts.

Although both Ghana and Uzbekistan attributed the poor ground condition as cause for their dismal performances, Japan, surprisingly, had a happy harvesting at the same venue.

The JFL, a semiprofessional side from Japan who made a wonderful start with a 5-0 thrashing of Indonesia in their opening Group D match, will take on Kuwait in the second fixture, billed for a 6 pm start.

The Kuwait Olympic team, however, were lucky enough to play their opening game on a far superior ground of the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur where they blanked Indonesia 2-0.

But the inexperienced booters from the desert kingdom are expected to have a tough time against a spirited Japanese side.

Truants order of Barlow's camp

Sports Reporter

Twenty-five out of the 38 cricketers called up in the selection trial for the national team have joined the residential camp at BKSP yesterday.

Among the 13 absentees, three cricketers—Mihazul Abedin, Athar Ali Khan and Mohammed Rafique—had announced their retirement after they were called in the national camp. The rest have skipped the opening session of training under the tutelage of the newly appointed South African coach Eddie Barlow.

Skipper Aminul Islam was one of the notable absentees. The dapper right-hander is reported to have sought a seven days leave from the board to play league cricket in the United States.

Off-spinner Naimur Rahman, who turned up to report at the BCB office yesterday, did join the camp but is also planning to unite with his captain in the USA soon.

Akram Khan also turned up at the BCB office, but reportedly have sought a couple of days' rest before joining the camp.

Sajid Hassan, called in the national team after a long time, is now in the United States along with national opener Mehrab Hossain and left-arm spinner Enamul Hoque.

Besides, left-arm seamer Anisur Rahman and Jahangir are now in the UK to play in the minor counties.

This scenario of so many cricketers missing a national camp owing to personal reasons is unprecedented.

Bangladesh will play a couple of ODI's and as many three-day matches against the visiting West Indies team, who are scheduled to arrive in the capital on October 1. Besides, the second string England team will also tour Bangladesh in the second week of October.

Aminul blow for Bangladesh

Sports Reporter

The celebration of the national footballers after their 1-0 victory over the Malaysian

Olympic team turned sour to some extent when doctors ruled custodian Aminul out of action for not only this tournament, but also for the forthcoming SAF Games.

The dependable national goalkeeper, who sustained a severe injury in Bangladesh's opening match on Tuesday, has been advised to take at least a six-week rest by panel of renowned doctors yesterday.

An X-ray report confirmed two broken fingers on Aminul's right hand. The tall goalie, who had a wonderful domestic season under the bar for Abahani, is also a doubtful starter for the remaining part of the Premier League, which is likely to resume after the SAF Games.

Aminul's absent will be a great loss for Bangladesh in the SAF Games, which will begin in Katmandu later this month.

The manager of the Bangladesh team Abdul Gaffar said that apart from Aminul central defender Rajani had also sustained injury in the game against Malaysia. Rajani had cuts around his left eye, which required two stitches. But he is expected to play in Bangladesh's next match against Kerulet FC of Hungary tomorrow.

Indian squads for Toronto, S'pore

BOMBAY, Sept 1: India have dropped left-spinner Anil Kumble and left-hand batsman Vinod Kambli from its 14-member squad for a three-match one-day tournament against West Indies in Toronto starting on September 11, reports Reuters.

Chief selector Ajit Wadekar told reporters on Tuesday strike bowler Jagavallab Singh is being rested for the series ahead of a hectic domestic schedule with New Zealand, followed by South Africa, tour India later this year.

Left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi will replace Singh in the Toronto series starting on Thursday. All-rounder Hrishikesh Karkar has been recalled to the squad for Toronto.

But Kumble and Kambli were included for the tri-nation series between India, West Indies and Zimbabwe in Singapore.

Indian squad for Singapore tournament: Sachin Tendulkar (captain), Ajay Jadeja, Sourav Ganguly, Sadagopan Ramesh, Rahul Dravid, Amay Khurasia, Vinod Kambli, Robin Singh, M S K Prasad, Anil Kumble, Laxmirattan Shukla, Venkatesh Prasad, Nikhil Chopra, Debashish Mohanty, Sunil Joshi.

Indian squad for Toronto tournament: Sachin Tendulkar (captain), Ajay Jadeja, Sourav Ganguly, Sadagopan Ramesh, Rahul Dravid, Amay Khurasia, Robin Singh, M S K Prasad, Laxmirattan Shukla, Venkatesh Prasad, Nikhil Chopra, Debashish Mohanty, Sunil Joshi, Hrishikesh Karkar.

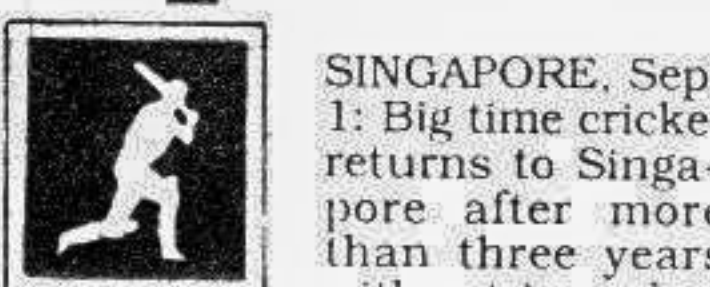


KNOWING ME KNOWING YOU: New national cricket coach Eddie Barlow (standing R) being introduced to his charges by vice-captain Khaled Mahmood (standing L) at the dining room of the trainees' hostel in BKSP yesterday.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Windies-Zimbabwe opener

S'pore tri-series starts today



SINGAPORE, Sept 1: Big time cricket returns to Singapore after more than three years with a triangular tournament involving India, Zimbabwe and the West Indies starting at the Kallang ground on Thursday, reports AFP.

India arrived here after their not-too-successful trip to Sri Lanka but the other two teams are playing their first international matches since the World Cup in May-June.

Indian captain Sachin Tendulkar dismissed his back problems but acknowledged that he was "not yet one hundred per cent fit."

"I am not here to sit in the dressing room and watch the action, I am eager to play," he said.

The nucleus of the team has been there for the past few years and now we have started winning matches. This tournament is our first since the World Cup and we are keen to make a good start to the season," he said.

Campbell said some of his players had stayed back in England to play club cricket and that the team had a pre-season camp to "get into shape."

"Both as a professional sportsman and we are looking forward to giving of our best here," he said, as his team prepared to get into the thick of action in the inaugural game against the West Indies on Thursday.

The West Indies too are coming back after a long lay-off, having been eliminated from the World Cup at the first stage.

But skipper Brian Lara felt his team was ready to go and put the disappointment of the World Cup behind them.

The West Indies-Zimbabwe opening clash will be followed by the India-Zimbabwe and India-West Indies matches on September 4 and 5. The final is scheduled for September 7, with

Shukla, who must be given a chance to prove their mettle at the highest level.

"One or two failures should not be seen as the end of the road for them."

India failed to book a berth at the just completed tri-nation tournament in Sri Lanka, where the home side notched a surprise victory against World Cup champions Australia in the final.

Zimbabwe skipper Alistair Campbell agreed that expectations were high after his team's fine performance in the World Cup in England.

We have to prove that Zimbabwe cannot be taken lightly," he said.

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a reserve day in case of rain.

Two points will be awarded to the winner of the league matches, while in case of a tie or drawn match, where both sides have not had an opportunity to play at least 25 overs, each team gets a point. If teams are tied on points after the league phase, the finalists will be decided on better net run-rate.

The umpires for the tournament are Darrell Hair of Australia, Rudi Koertzen of South Africa and Riazuddin of Pakistan. Former Sri Lankan batsman Ranjan Madugalle is the International Cricket Conference match referee.

The tournament winner collects 30,000 dollars and the runner-up 20,000 dollars while the third placed team will take home 10,000 dollars.

A CAMPBELL FIXTURES

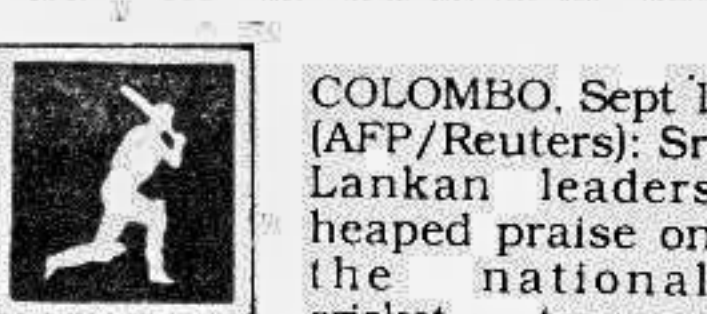
Sept 2: West Indies v Zimbabwe

Sept 4: India v Zimbabwe

Sept 5: India v West Indies

Sept 7: Final

Colombo over the moon



COLOMBO, Sept 1 (AFP/Reuters): Sri Lankan leaders heaped praise on the national cricket team as the country celebrated a shock victory over Australia in a tri-nations tournament as if it were a replay of their World Cup triumph three years ago.

President Chandrika Kumaratunga thanked Australian coach Dav Whitmore and skipper Sanath Jayasuriya for delivering a morale-boosting victory that ended an year-long drought of tournament trophies.

The victory for Sri Lanka came following a series of changes in the team after the side's dismal performance at the World Cup tournament in England. Sri Lanka had also lost 18 of the 25 one-day internationals played since last October.

Opposition leader Ranil Wickremesinghe said radical changes which included the dropping of former skipper Arjuna Ranatunga and his deputy Aravinda de Silva had paid dividends.

Whatmore and team manager Chandra Schaffer said they had been confident of victory despite being the underdogs.

"Deep down I was silently confident that we will win,"

Whatmore said, adding that the success was due to young players trying to prove they were worthy of the national squad.

Parties continued into the early hours of Wednesday after Jayasuriya scored a massive six to complete an eight-wicket victory over Australia, who suffered their first defeat since their World Cup triumph in June.

There were several angry exchanges. Fast bowler Glenn McGrath erupted at Kaluwitharana as he conceded 47 runs in his seven overs. One over cost 20 runs.

Both Whatmore and team manager Schaffer played down the exchanges in the middle and said there were no complaints by the players.

Victory eased the pain of Sri Lanka's humiliating exit from the World Cup in England in which they did not play Australia.

"A resurgent Sri Lankan team had terminated Australia's World Cup euphoria and raised the side's morale to a new level with a well acclaimed eight-wicket victory," the independent Midweek Mirror reported.

"Lanka bring world champs Aussies down to earth with a thud," read the headline of the state-owned Daily News. "Sri Lanka strike like thunder and dethrone World Camps Aus-

tralia," said the Mirror.

"For those critics who still think that Sri Lankan cricket cannot survive or win without the former 'big guns,' yesterday's performance was a clear eye opener that the talent is there and if given the opportunity they can perform to expectations," the Daily News said.

Newspapers stopped the presses to report the home team's victory in the day-night final in the tri-nations contest that also included India.

"Sri Lanka got off to a flying start. There was no pulling them back thereafter," said Australian captain Steve Waugh.

The 34-year-old Waugh, however, achieved a personal milestone when he equalled Allan Border's Australian record for the most number of one-day appearances. Tuesday's match was his 273rd.

Australia were also in line to equal the record for the most number of consecutive victories in one-day cricket before Jayasuriya and his rejuvenated team upset them. Victory would have given them 12 straight wins since the World Cup.

Sri Lanka will now meet Australia in a three-test series, the first of which begins on September 9 in the central hill town of Kandy.



WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS: Sri Lankan skipper Sanath Jayasuriya holds the Aiiwa Cup as other teammates start celebrating.

Lankans lift Aiiwa Cup



COLOMBO, Sept 1: Underdogs Sri Lanka thrashed world champions Australia to record a stunning victory in the Aiiwa Cup tri-nation one-day final played under lights at the R Premadasa Stadium here Tuesday, reports AFP.

Wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana pulverised Australian bowling despite visibly angry exchanges in the middle as the home team took off to a comfortable start on the road to a monumental victory.

Glenn McGrath who appeared to be involved in exchanges with Kaluwitharana from the start bowled expensively conceding 47 runs in his seven overs. One of his overs cost Australia 20 runs.

Kaluwitharana later judged the man of the match knocked 95 not out off 116 balls with 11 fours.

"Sri Lanka took off to a flying start," admitted Australian skipper Steve Waugh. "There was no pulling them back thereafter."

The victory was sweeter for Sri Lanka who suffered a hu-

millating exit and failed to defend the World Cup earned in 1996 after beating Australia in the final.

Sri Lanka failed to qualify for the Super Sixes in May and never met Australia who went onto grab the championship.

On Tuesday, Sri Lanka went into the game as underdogs but with a younger team determined to put on a good show but with little hope of an upset against the new world champions.

Sri Lanka reached Australia's total of 202 all out off 50 overs, in the 40th over replying with 208 for two. Skipper Sanath Jayasuriya ended the match hitting Darren Lehmann for six over wide mid-on into the stands.

The crowd burst into song and dance and outside the 30,000-packed stadium fire crackers burst and shattered the night calm in the capital Colombo while people took to the streets reminiscent of the country's 1996 World Cup victory.

Jayasuriya finished on 26 not out scored off 23 balls.

"We had a young team and everyone wanted to play well," Jayasuriya said. "I hope we can do well in the test series with Australia."

Kaluwitharana gave credit to the team's reinstated Australian coach Dev Whatmore. "I didn't have to rush," Kaluwitharana said. "As my coach told me, I wanted to play my innings sensibly."

Kaluwitharana dominated the innings with an entertaining knock sharing partnerships of 64 for the first wicket with Marvan Atapattu (24) and 110 for the second with Russel Arnold (47).

Kaluwitharana took the man-of-the-match award. The man-of-the-series award went to Australia's Adam Gilchrist.

Sri Lanka gave themselves a good chance of winning the final when they bowled out Australia for a modest 202 in 50 overs on a slow wicket.

Backed up by excellent field-

ing Sri Lanka spinners strangled the Australian batsmen on a slow pitch to leave themselves with an asking rate of 4.06 to win.

Australia choosing to bat after winning the toss raced 37 off the first six overs, with Adam Gilchrist contributing an aggressive 21 off 16 balls.

Skipper Steve Waugh made a top score of 43 off 68 balls with three fours and twin borders Mark Waugh made 32 off 52 balls with four fours.

Both were bowled by off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan who finished with figures of 2-36 off 10 overs.

Steve Waugh and Darren Lehmann shared the highest partnership of the Australian innings when they put together 51 for the fourth wicket.

But leg-spinner Upul Chandra ended the stand by having the left-handed Lehmann hitting back an easy return catch at 21, and then bowled Michael Bevan for a duck off the next delivery as he tried to drive and missed the line.

Russel Arnold and skipper Sanath Jayasuriya picked up the last four wickets as Aus-

See page 14



KALUWITHARANA ... m-o-m



A GILCHRIST ... m-o-s