Shuttlers off

ration general secretary Zahir

Ahmed, left for Malaysia ves-

terday to take part in the JVC

The meet begins at the

The team includes five shut-

Malaysian city of Kuala

tlers, a manager and an umpire

apart from Zahir who is sched-

uled to attend the annual gen-

eral meeting of the Asian Bad-

minton Council which will be

held simultaneously during the

The team is likely to return

SQUAD

Khurshid Alam, Elina Begum,

Ayesha Khatun, Shafiur Rah-

man (manager) and Sadequr

Nat'l carrom

from Oct 7

Sports Reporter

carrom tournament will be held

in the city from October 7 to 9

under the auspices of

Bangladesh Carrom Federa-

Interested players have been

asked to submit their entries -

men's singles, doubles and

women's singles, through their

respective clubs by the 30th of

Following are the rate of the

Worcs pledge

on McGrath

Tk 150

Tk 200

Tk 100

tion, says a press release.

this month.

entry fees:

Men's singles

Men's doubles

Women's singles

A three-day national level

Mahbub Rab, Russell Kabir,

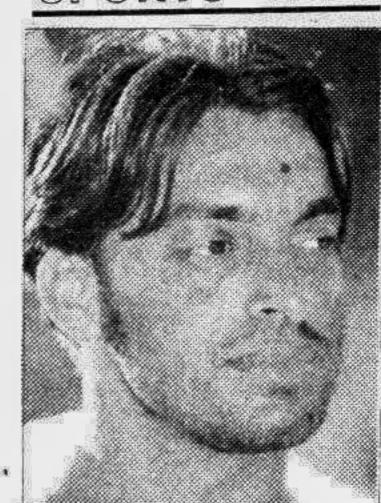
Asian Championships.

Lumpur tomorrow.

championships.

Rahman (umpire).

home on September 20.



### Shoaib Akhtar (World's fastest bowler)

"Imran Khan and Wasim Akram had always stressed upon playing county cricket because a player learns a great deal there."

After signing for Nottinghamshire.

# COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-120

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Baily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm Sept 24, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

Who won the Singapore Cricket Challenge?

Zimbabwe W Indies

Who lifted the 2nd Bangabandhu Ghana Japan Brazil

Who was the man-of-the-series in the Aiwa Cup?

Javasuriva | Gilchrist Dravid Where will the next ICC mini World Cup be held?

Kenya | Canada | Sharjah Who will captain Bangladesh football team in the SAF Games?

Jewel Rana | Alfaz | Masud Rana

\*

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

POWERED WITH ENERGY RELEASING VITAININS

### No fairytale farewell for Boon

LONDON, Sept 13 (Internet report): There was no fairytale farewell for Durham skipper David Boon on his last home appearance as Glamorgan won the CGU National League game at Chester-le-Street by 13 runs on Sunday. While Boon was making 32

off 44 balls. Durham were on course to pass Glamorgan's 202 for eight. But from 118 from two they slipped to 126-6 on his exit and were all out for 189 with seven balls unused.

The defeat confirmed that Durham will finish bottom of division two, but with a place in the top tier of the County Championship to play for this week they left out their best one-day bowlers, John Wood and Neil Killeen.

Boon put Glamorgan in and Durham formed a guard of honour for him as he took the field. Boon had made only three when he drove Cosker for a straight six but the left arm spinner snared him when a topedged sweep lobbed gently to

### Sachin having check-up

short fine leg.

ADELAIDE, Australia, Sept 13 (AFP): Injured Indian batting maestro Sachin Tendulkar and paceman Ajit Agarkar have been assessed by Australian doctors here over the weekend. Australian Cricket Board

media manager Brian Murgatroyd said Monday the pair was staying at the Australian Cricket Academy, which had links to the pace bowling academy in India led by Australian fast-bowling great Dennis Lillee.

Tendulkar and Agarkar will discuss their treatment at a

press conference here Tuesday, along with academy head coach Rod Marsh and Dr Peter Barnes. Tendulkar missed several matches earlier this year and was treated by a specialist in London just before the World Cup, won by Steve Waugh's Aus-

tralians. The problem recurred while he was preparing to lead India in a triangular series in Sri Lanka.

# Column One Wasim regains captaincy

LONDON, Sept 13 (Reuters/AP): Wasim Akram was ' in Akram's absence. reinstated as Pakistan captain today for a one-day series in Toronto after being given the all-clear to play by an inquiry into match-fixing.

Neither Akram nor the chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) ad hoc committee Mujeeb ur Rehman Khan, stated categorically that the captain had been cleared by the Pakistan inquiry, due to announce its findings as early as Tuesday.

But their comments left no room for doubt that the cloud cast by the allegations had

"The Pakistan Cricket Board pleased to announce that Wasim Akram has been appointed to captain the Pakistan team in the Toronto mini-series," said Rehman, reading a one-paragraph statement at the Pakistan High Commission in London.

The Pakistan team is gathering in London and flying to Canada on Tuesday.

Rehman said the judicial commission, while not divulging its findings, had posed no objections to allowing Akram, Salim Malik and Ijaz Ahmed to return to cricket. "They have, through our

lawyers, given us information that he (Akram) is not barred to play cricket," said Rehman.. "The others are also cleared to play by the board.

Akram, who captained Pakistan to the final of the recent World Cup, former captain Malik and Ijaz face allegations by colleagues of involvement in rigging results. They were suspended by the PCB in July following an 11-month investigation into the allegations. All three have denied the claims.

The high court judge investigating the match-fixing allegations announced last week he would hold a final hearing this week and then submit a report to the president of Pakistan.

However, Rehman said the report had been sent to the President already. He added the PCB intended to "come down very hard on those elements who have been trying to destroy the reputation of our country."

None of the trio were named in the Pakistan squad announced last Wednesday for the series against the West Indies and Akram is the only one to be

Council (ICC) is

keeping English

police informed

their players.

month.

reinstated. Wicketkeeper Moin Khan had been named captain

Rehman said Ijaz and Salim were also available for Toronto but had not been picked for reasons of form. But they would be considered for a forthcoming tour of Australia.

"Everyone knows Wasim is the top player in the world at the moment and we need him," he said of the left-arm paceman.

"For the last many years there's been a shadow of allegations over the Pakistan cricket team and my first job was to clear the names of my team and its members," said Rehman, who effectively suspended the players under suspicion two months ago.

"I took the decisions that,



WASIM AKRAM

have taken the personal decision with Wasim and I feel that he should be playing."

Rehman was asked whether there was any substance into claims that the Pakistan team. considered a very strong contender for the World Cup, deliberately threw the one-sided final against the Australians. who won comfortably by eight

"With regard to the World Cup final, there was nothing found during the World Cup," he said. "I am very clear on that. Nothing was there, 100 per cent. "With regard to allegations

which started in '94, I am very unhappy I must say. Our board members should have taken action then. The allegations should not have carried on for such a long time."

to Malaysia Sports Reporter An eight-member Bangla-The allegations arise out of claims by Australian cricketers desh badminton team led by Tim May, Shane Warne and Bangladesh Badminton Fede-

tain Malik in 1994 to perform poorly during a test series. During a year long inquiry, Wasim, Salim, Ijaz Ahmed, Mushtaq Ahmed and Saqlain Mushtaq all gave evidence and

Mark Waugh that they were ap-

proached by then Pakistan cap-

denied the allegations Wasim was asked how the allegations started in the first

"It happens when people get dropped from the Pakistan cricket team. They go to the newspapers," he said.

"The one thing that is positive, is that we can now go and play cricket without people accusing us of match-fixing. "I am very pleased with being

able to play and I am confident that I can put this thing behind "This was the first time that my side of the story could be

told and that's why I went back to Pakistan," he said. "It's very important not only for me but also for all the cricketers in Pakistan," Wasim said.

"People all over the world should now know that no one has done anything wrong. "The reputation of cricket

has been ruined because of this. Why did we have to wait for years for these allegations to come out?" Wasim said the decision to reinstate him as captain was

"very important, not just for me but for every Pakistani cricket player... Everything is coming into the right place now. The captain denied any knowledge of match-fixing,

saying he knew only what he

read in the papers. "I have not seen it. Nobody came up to me and offered me three and half thousand pounds or whatever. I don't think it happens but if it does, they have

to be very good at it." The reinstatement of Akram leaves a potentially explosive situation in the squad, which also includes former captain Aamir Sohail - who accused his teammates of match-fixing. Wasim and Rehman insisted

there would be no friction. "I have discussed with Sohail and the captain and we both feel that we should finish with this," said Rehman.

"As far as captain of Pakistan, I have to be neutral and the same with everyone," commented Wasim.

contracted players which re-

quires them to immediately re-

port any incident which could

possibly be construed as an ap-

The ECB, who denied reports

that Stewart and Mullally had

been questioned by police over

the allegations, launched its

own inquiry into the attempts

to bribe the England team fol-

lowing revelations of the ap-

proach from a betting syndi-

cate."

## workload LONDON, Sept 13 (Internet

report): Worcestershire have vowed not to over-bowl Australian pace star Glenn Mc-Grath when he begins a mega bucks two-year contract with the county next season.

The county will be looking to McGrath, regarded as the best quick bowler in the world, to help them regain their Division One status in the County Championship at the first attempt. Saturday's drawn encounter

with Essex at Chelmsford condemned the midlands county to finishing in the bottom nine. But the New Road outfit have pledged not to put too great a

workload on McGrath whose contract is reported to be worth around 100,000 pounds a sea-Worcestershire secretary Michael Vockins insisted: "As a

key player at Worcestershire, we wouldn't want to see him bowled into the ground and breaking down. "I am quite sure with the ca-

reer ahead of him that Glenn would not want to see that happen and I don't envisage any problems." Worcestershire skipper Tom Moody, who is being replaced by

McGrath as overseas player after nearly a decade at the ments. The Western Australian cap-

## Awesome Andre Agassi



NEW YORK, Sept 12: Andre Agassi withstood one of Todd Martin's finest efforts to capture his fifth Grand Slam title and second US Open crown, not losing a service

game Sunday to win a dramatic five-set final, reports AFP. French Open champion Agassi won 6-4, 6-7 (5/7), 6-7 (2/7), 6-3, 6-2 in three hours and 23 minutes in a matchup of 29year-old Americans to take

Slam title of the year. It was the first five-set US Open men's final since Mats Wilander beat Ivan Lendl in 1988 and only the third final here in a quarter-century to go the dis-

750,000 dollars and his second

"How can you ask for anything better than two Amerihonour for me to be out here. These are the greatest times of my life and I will never forget New York."

Second seed Agassi added the crown to his career Grand Slam, which includes the 1995 Australian Open, 1992 Wimbledon, 1994 US Open and this year's French.

Agassi is the first American man since Tony Trabert in 1955 to win US and French Opens in the same year. Agassi rallied from two sets down to beat Ukranian Andre Medvedev in five sets in June's French Open final.

Agassi, who had plunged to 141st in the world 22 months ago. replaces injured Sampras as world number one on Monday while Martin will reach a career-high fourth in the ATP rankings.

returner Agassi, firing 23 aces, hitting 60 per cent of his first serves (65 of 91), taking 62 of 97 points coming to the net and hitting 77 winners. Agassi collected the first service break since the opening game of the match to grab a 2-1 edge in the fourth set after Mar-

only six of 112 service games.

Martin gave Agassi his hardest match by far at the 14.5

million-dollar event, but going

"I didn't expect to go five sets

0-for-8 on break-point chances

without breaking his serve,"

Martin said. 'The biggest prob-

lem was I lost my legs a bit.

When that happens, the serve is

what goes. I still played some

good groundstrokes side to side.

But the work you do on those

points takes away from your

prior Slam final was a three-set

loss to Pete Sampras at the 1994

he had to do to challenge master

Seventh seed Martin's only

Big-serving Martin did what

doomed his upset bid.

Australian Open.

tin had his fifth double fault and sent a forehand volley long. Agassi saved two crucial break points in the eighth game when Martin sent forehands into the net and long and held thanks to two more netted shots by Martin whose best chance

had slipped away. Martin slapped a backhand long to surrender a break and the fourth set, then found himself broken at love in the second game of the final set as Agassi ran off nine points in a row.

Martin struggled to hold serve until being broken by Agassi again in the final game, with Martin sending a backhand into the net on Agassi's second match point. Agassi grinned and raised his arms in victory.

Agassi became the fourtholdest US Open champion after Ken Rosewall in 1970 at 35, Rod Laver in 1969 at 31 and Jimmy Connors at 30 and 31 in 1982 and 1983. Agassi, 10-5 against Martin, rose to 5-5 in Slam finals.

Martin fell to 3-14 against top-10 foes in Slams. He had lost nine in a row until rallying two points from a straight-set defeat to down Briton Greg Rusedski in five sets in the fourth round here.

## Windies back on terms

Agassi lost only three points

on his serve in the final set and

was not broken by Martin. For

the fortnight, Agassi dropped

-AFP photo



dies roared back to level the DMC one-day interna-

Newly-crowned world number one and US Open champion

Andre Agassi shows his affection towards his prize.

tional cricket se ries at 1-1 with a 70-run victory over India in Toronto on Sunday, reports Reuters.

cans in the final of the US Open

playing a great five-set match?"

Agassi said. "Win or lose today

it was truly a privilege and an

A devastating spell of sustained pace bowling by a fourpronged West Indian attack combined with aggressive and at times brilliant fielding to tear the heart out of the Indian batting line up.

Set what appeared to be a moderate total of 190 by the West Indies earlier in the day, India crumbled to be all out for just 120. The Indian innings began

batsmen were dismissed before they had scored by the end of the second over. Sadagoppan Ramesh was the first to go when he was caught

out scoring. Then partner Mannava Prasad was run out for the same score when he attempted a quick single but failed to beat a

13: The West In- Indian captain Saurav Gan- spectively, at the end. guly strode to the wicket to join Rahul Dravid and the pair set about the task or rebuilding the innings. But disaster struck again in the sixth over when Ganguly was sensationally caught off a full-blooded cut shot at backward point by Shivnarine Chanderpaul, who dived full length to snap up the

> ball inches above the ground. That proved the decisive point of the match. With India slumping to 3/12, the task of reaching the target was always going to be tough. Hrishikesh Kanitkar joined

Dravid but immediately came under pressure from the fierce West Indies pace attack. The fast bowling quartet of Reon King, Corey Collymore, Courtney Walsh and Mervyn Dillon were both penetrating and accu-

Colleymore and King were particularly menacing, at one stage restricting the Indians to one run off the bat in 28 balls as the 15th over loomed.

With the run rate slumping to just 1.56 an over, the pressure proved too much for India.

Kanitkar was caught slashing outside the off stump by wicketkeeper Jacobs off the bowling of Dillon for two then Dravid fell 1bw to Dillon for a battling 16, sending India reeling to five for 27.

Robin Singh became the sixth wicket to fall with the total on 42. He was run out attempting a second run after a great throw from Dillon on the boundary. With the match already out

of reach, the only real questions remaining were would India beat its lowest ever score of 63, set in a one-day international against Australia in Sydney in 1981, and could it reach its lowest ever score of 100 against the West Indies? The remaining Indian batsmen went about the task of building some respectability in the innings. Debutant Jacob Martin

made seven before he was comprehensively bowled by King and spin bowlers Nikhil Chopra and Sunil Joshi added 21 and 25, respectively, to lift the total past the century. Ventkatesh Prasad added a little fire at the end with 18 off

14 balls. He was the final wicket to fall, caught by Christopher Gayle at long on off the bowling of Walsh. Earlier, the West Indies

compiled 190 from their allotted 50 overs in an innings built on grit and determination. Sherwin Campbell, who score 62 in the first match of

the series on Saturday, was again the start with 59 off 85 balls, enough to win him the man-of-the-match award. He was capably backed up by captain Lara, who made a thoughtful 34 off 64 balls without displaying too much of his normal brilliance.

Jimmy Adams and fast bowler Dillon chimed in with 22 not out and 21 not out, re-West Indies captain Lara singled out Dillon for praise af-

ter the victory. "His 22 runs were valuable on a difficult wicket and his 2-8 off eight overs speaks for itself,"

Lara said he was particularly happy with his bowling attack but said the batsmen could still improve. "When we got 190 we thought it was a defendable total and we bowled well," he said.

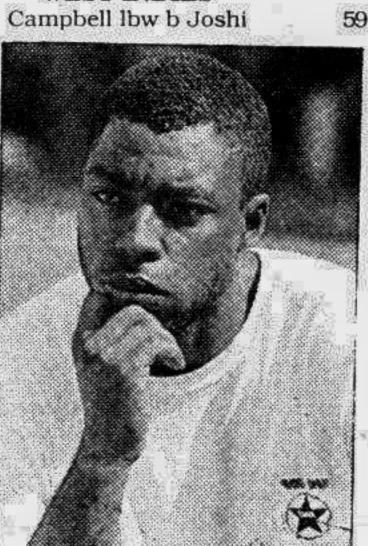
Ganguly said losing early wickets was crucial in deciding the outcome of the match. "We just didn't bat well," he said. "We lost wickets early then we couldn't hit boundaries in the middle stages, which put us under even more pressure."

played in Toronto on Tuesday. SCOREBOARD Scoreboard of second oneday international between India and West Indies at Toronto

The final game to decide the

three-match series will be

Cricket, Skating and Curling Club on Sunday: WEST INDIES



S CAMPBELL ... m-o-m

Jacobs b Chopra Chanderpaul c M Prasad b Ganguly Gayle lbw b Ganguly Lara c M Prasad b Ganguly Powell c M Prasad b Mohanty 6 Adams not out Dillon not out Extras: (lb-7, w-8) Total: (for 6 wickets in 50 overs) Fall of wicket: 1-43; 2-64; 3-89; 4-119; 5-126; 6-154

Bowler Prasad 36 Mohanty 36 Chopra 26 35 Joshi 0 Ganguly 37 Kanitkar Singh 0 INDIA

M Prasad run out (Lara) Ramesh c Powell b King Dravid lbw b Dillon Ganguly c Chanderpaul b Collymore Kanitkar c Jacobs b Dillon Singh run out (Dillon) Martin b King Chopra b Gayle

See page 7

#### proach made to Lewis. ECB chief executive Tim county, echoed Vockins senti-Lamb vowed to continue pass on disastrously. Both opening details of any future bribery attempts to the appropriate autain said: "If any county are thorities. smart with their ace bowler, Lewis' prompt action in rethen both parties can benefit. porting the alleged approach "The county will reap the refollowed guidelines laid down wards from the expertise of the by Riccardo Powell at slip off by ECB officials after Adam bowler who in turn will not be the bowling of Reon King with-Hollioake and Dougie Brown affected through having to do confirmed they had been also too much. asked to "throw" matches dur-"But if a county decide to over-bowl their star man then ing England's successful Champions' Trophy campaign they are not going to get the best in Sharjah two years ago. out of him. direct hit from a Brian Lara



Indian wicketkeeper MSK Prasad (R) starts to rush towards Nikhil Chopra (not seen) who clean bowled West Indies opener Ridley Jacobs in the second one-dayer in Toronto. —AFP photo

#### Fleming admits to bribery offer LONDON, Sept 13 Conduct Commission in Jan-"New Zealand Cricket has (AFP): The Interuary and we have informed its put in place a protocol for all its national Cricket chairman, Lord Griffiths, of all

relevant details. He has advised

that the commission will await

the outcome of the police invesit the new allegations about tigation. tempted bribery in Test "Any attempt at match-fixricket, specifically over the ing is totally unacceptable. It is recent England-New Zealand important that any person en-Test series.



STEPHEN FLEMING deavouring to corrupt players is brought to justice.

"Because the police investigation is continuing, we are not in a position to say anything more at this time." NZC chief executive Christo-

pher Doig claimed that Fleming was approached at the team hotel prior to the third Test. "A man offered him sums of money to become involved in

an Asian betting syndicate." Doig said. "Fleming immediately rejected the offer and reported the matter to the team manager John Graham, who advised New

## "ICC established a Code of Zealand Cricket. Lightning strikes for Lancs

LONDON, Sept 13 (AFP): One day specialists Lancashire collected their eighth oneday trophy this decade when Lancashire Light-

rounder Chris Lewis by a bet-

ting ring, who offered him

300,000 pounds to help fix the

third Test - the rain affected

asked to persuade Alec Stewart

and paceman Alan Mullally to

play badly, immediately re-

ported to the incident to the

England boards have kept the

ICC informed on a confidential

matter of recent alleged ap-

proaches to their players."

Lewis is the subject of a police

investigation and the ICC is

fully co-operating with the po-

Richards said.

"Both the New Zealand and

"The approach to Chris

Lewis, who claimed he was

match ended in a draw.

ning won the one-day league title on Sunday. Lancashire, who beat Kent Spitfires by five wickets, were assured of the title when rivals Worcestershire Royals went down by four wickets to Hampshire Hawks.

England reject John Crawley was in inspiring form for Lan-cashire as he stumped three Kent batsmen after he took over from injured wicketkeeper Warren Hegg - Kent were restricted to 198 for seven. Crawley, whose dominant form in county cricket has rarely been repeated on the in-

ternational scene, then hit an

unbeaten 85 to help his county

to victory with two overs to

Ironically, it was Hegg who helped Crawley clinch the crucial win, arriving at the crease with Lancashire needing 55 runs from the last 10 overs. Hegg hit an unbeaten 19 after

being dropped by wicketkeeper Steve Marsh off Dean Headley on eight. It was heartbreak for Worcestershire though, who

won the toss and racked up 236 for seven from their 45 overs at Southampton. They were restricted by fine bowling from veteran Peter Hartley, who has had a productive time since joining from Yorkshire, and West Indian

paceman Nixon McLean, who

took two wickets each.

And their title hopes were shattered by Hampshire's batsmen, who made a sturdy start with openers Jason Laney and Derek Kenway putting on 30 for the first wicket. See page 7