

Column One SPORTS TALK



Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario
(Spanish tennis star)
"Champion"
When asked to describe Steffi Graf.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-120
Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 24, 99 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the Singapore Cricket Challenge?	Zimbabwe	W Indies	India
2. Who lifted the 2nd Bangabandhu Cup?	Brazil	Ghana	Japan
3. Who was the man-of-the-series in the Awa Cup?	Jayasuriya	Gilchrist	Dravid
4. Where will the next ICC mini World Cup be held?	Kenya	Canada	Sharjah
5. Who will captain Bangladesh football team in the SAF Games?	Jewel Rana	Alfaz	Masud Rana

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)

Seeds tumble at Tashkent

TASHKENT, Sept 15: Italian Laurence Tielemans stunned second-seeded Briton Greg Rusedski with a straight sets victory in the first round of the President's Cup here on Tuesday, reports AFP.

Juve without Zidane, Oliseh

TURIN, Sept 15: Juventus' French star Zinedine Zidane and new Nigerian midfielder Sunday Oliseh will both miss their team's opening UEFA Cup tie on Thursday, reports AFP.

Ba moving to Perugia

PERUGIA, Italy, Sept 15: Italian champions AC Milan are loaning out their unsettled French winger Ibrahim Ba to Serie A rivals, Perugia, it was announced on Tuesday, reports AFP.

BOA unhappy over SAF football draw

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) has expressed its dissatisfaction over the handling of the draw for the SAF Games football competition and accused the All Nepal Football Association (ANFA), of arranging it on behalf of the SAF Games Organising Committee.

Bangladesh have been slated in Group B along with Sri Lanka and Maldives for the first round while the other group comprises holders India, Pakistan, Bhutan and hosts Nepal.

According to BOA secretary general Zafar Imam the draw was scheduled to be held tomorrow.

"I had a conversation with ANFA president Ganesh Thapa earlier this month after the chief de missions meeting in Kathmandu. When I enquired about the football draw he said it would be held on September 17 and our ambassador to Nepal was scheduled to attend," said Zafar yesterday.

"But on September 5 the ANFA performed it without informing us," he added.

"The fixture was supposed to go straight to the organising committee for approval and later sent to the respective national Olympic Councils. Instead the ANFA faxed it directly to the BFF. This is totally a farce," said an angry Zafar.

On whether they would seek an explanation from the ANFA, Zafar said they replied saying

that the draw was made with the consent of all the chief de missions on August 31.

"This is also a false statement because our chief de mission doesn't even know.



8th SAF GAMES
7th Sept - 20 Oct, 1999
KATHMANDU

Zafar, however, admitted that there was hardly any chance of rectifying the situation.

Meanwhile, BFF general secretary Harunur Rashid MP also voiced disappointment over the issue.

"Only champions India and runners-up Bangladesh deserve to be seeded to head the groups while the other teams could have gone through a lottery," said Harunur while talking to The Daily Star.

"They have also seeded

weaker sides and placed them in Groups B and A which is unfair, said Harunur.

"The draw ensured that we will meet either fancied India or the hosts in the semifinals," He added.

The seven-nation football competition will begin from September 24, a day before the official opening of the Games. On the opening day, Sri Lanka will take on Maldives in their Group B opener, Bangladesh will play their first match against Maldives on September 27 and face Sri Lanka September 29.

A 20-member Bangladesh team led by defender Jewel Rana, has already been announced for the biggest sporting extravaganza of the South Asia.

TWI team due September 29

Sports Reporter

The production team of Trans World International (TWI) which will telecast the two one-day internationals between West Indies and Bangladesh from the Bangabandhu National Stadium on October 3 and 4, will reach the capital on September 29.

The matches will be shown either on ESPN or Star Sports channel.

The TWI team will come by road from the south Indian city of Bangalore.

Singapore shocked

SINGAPORE, Sept 15 (AFP): Singapore cricket authorities have criticised a leading South African umpire for failing to tell them he was approached by a bookmaker before last week's India-West Indies clash here.

Singapore Cricket Association secretary Anil Kalaver told Wednesday's Straits Times that he had only learned of the approach to umpire Rudi Koertzen after it was revealed by South African cricket supremo Ali Bacher.

"We have absolutely no idea of anything of this nature having taken place," Kalaver said. "This is the first time I am hearing about it."

Bacher said in Cape Town Tuesday that Koertzen had been called in his hotel room by a man claiming to be a bookmaker on the eve of the final of the Singapore triangular tournament.

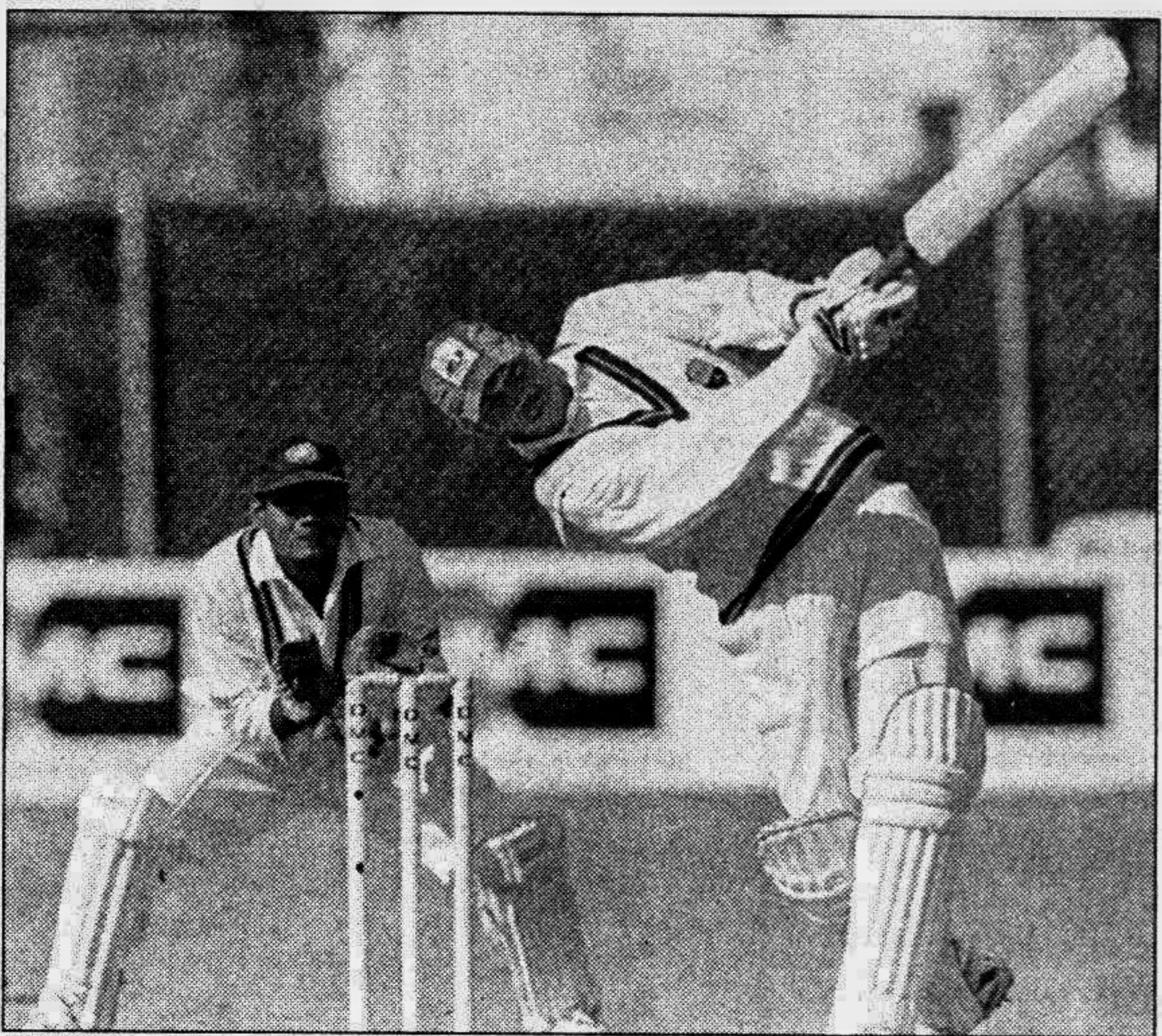
The umpire put down the phone before establishing the identity of the caller, Bacher said.

Kalaver said he felt that Koertzen should have told Singapore officials about the approach.

"At least, I think Koertzen should have informed the match referee Ranjan Madugalle about the incident," he said.

West Indies beat India by four wickets to clinch victory in the Singapore tournament, in which Zimbabwe also took part.

Kalaver said he was confident the outcome of the match had not been influenced by any off-the-field activity.



RICARDO POWER: The sensational Ricardo Powell clobbering the Indian bowling during his swashbuckling 76 on Tuesday.

Powell can't stop India

TORONTO, Sept 15 (AFP/Reuters/AP): Despite a late scare, India scored a relatively easy 88-run victory over the West Indies on Tuesday in the third and final DMC Cup one-day international, to win the series 2-1.

India scored 225 for seven in 50 overs and the West Indies replied with just 137 all out in 34.2 overs.

A couple of times, for extended periods, it looked as if India would have a virtual walkover.

But Ricardo Powell gave them a major scare with an impressive 76 which included

both of the previous matches, obviously intended to make it three in a row.

But Debashish Mohanty's opening ball sent the middle stump flying.

Campbell's opening partner, Ridley Jacobs, was out eleven minutes later, also for a duck, caught by Dravid off Venkatesh Prasad, to leave the West Indies 0 for two.

Dravid went on to catch three more players - Shivnarine Chanderpaul captain Brian Lara and Jimmy Adams.

Just as many of the few fans present (organizers said 2,700 turned up at the 5,000-seat Toronto Cricket, Curling and Skating Club) were preparing to go home in mid-afternoon rather than see the West Indies make a total disgrace of themselves Ricardo Powell arrived and looked as if he might even save the day.

His seven sixes were spectacular, with five of them going way out of the club grounds.

His record 84-run partnership for the eighth wicket with Corey Collymore -- whose contribution was just three -- was due in large part to Collymore's ability to score the occasional quick single to give Powell every opportunity to pile on the agony. The previous high was 65 between Carl Hooper and Winston Benjamin also against India at Nagpur in 1987/88.

But in the 33rd over the dream of a miracle comeback for the West Indies was over as Powell was caught by Robin Singh off Nikhil Chopra.

India now fly home with the winners' trophy of 20,000 dollars plus the man-of-the-series award, presented to skipper Saurav Ganguly as Pakistan arrive for a similar three-day tournament for the DMC Trophy.

The Pakistan-West Indies matches are scheduled for Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the DMC Cup third and final one-day international between India and West Indies at the Toronto Cricket, Skating and Curling Club ground on Tuesday:

INDIA
M Prasad c Jacobs b Walsh 2

WEST INDIES
Campbell b Mohanty 0

Jacobs c Dravid b B Prasad 0
Chanderpaul c Dravid b B Prasad 12
Gayle c Ganguly b Mohanty 7
Lara c Dravid b Chopra 26
Adams c Dravid b Chopra 3
Powell c Singh b Chopra 76
Dillon b Chopra 0
Collymore lbw b Chopra 3
King c Kambl b Singh 0
Walsh not out 0
Extras: (lb-2, w-4, nb-4) 10
Total: (All out in 34.2 overs) 137
Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-6; 3-20; 4-20; 5-49; 6-52; 7-52; 8-136; 9-137.

Bowler:
Mohanty 9 2 35 2
Prasad 8 1 30 2
Ganguly 1 0 16 0
Chopra 6.2 2 21 5
Joshi 7 1 21 0
Singh 3 0 12 1

Result: India won by 88 runs and the DMC Cup series 2-1.
Man-of-the-match: Rahul Dravid.
Man-of-the-series: Saurav Ganguly.

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Tendulkar not going to Nairobi

MUMBAI, Sept 15: Sachin Tendulkar today officially informed the cricket board that he needed three or four weeks time to fully recover from his lower spine injury and was not available for the four-nation tournament commencing at Nairobi on September 25, reports PTI.

Board chief Raj Singh Durgapur said that the Indian skipper informed him from Adelaide that he was confident of overcoming his back problem and returning to full fitness after consulting specialists at the Australian Cricket Academy.

"He sounded very relaxed when I spoke to him. He said he needed three to four weeks to become fully fit. Sachin intends to stay at the academy for a couple of days more and then leave for Sydney to consult another specialist there before returning home. Ajit Agarkar too has been shown some exercises," the board president said.

Pace-maker Agarkar accompanied Tendulkar to Adelaide and received treatment for the hamstring injury he sustained at Chennai during the team's conditioning camp late last month, which forced him to miss India's first three engagements after the World Cup.

The Indian squad for the four-nation event is to be selected at Baroda on September 17. Tendulkar's deputy, Ajay Jadhav, is expected to be named the captain if he reports fit from the calf muscle tear sustained at Singapore during the September 2-8 tri-nation event.

Camp in BKSP Aminul's Red beat Green

Sports Reporter

The Red led by skipper Aminul Islam recorded a comprehensive eight-wicket win over the Green in a practice match away at the BKSP conditioning camp in Savar yesterday.

In a low-scoring affair the Reds, chasing a paltry Green total of 140 all out in 42 overs, overhauled the target with eight wickets in hand.

But the trail match between the two selections of the national team gave the newly appointed South African coach Eddie Barlow an opportunity to assess the strengths and weaknesses of his available players.

The conditioning camp, which started on Sept 1, could not get into full swing as 12 of the selected players are yet to report to Barlow. With the permission of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), Brothers Union club took those players to India to play in the Moin-Ud-Dowla Gold Cup invitational tournament, from which they made an early exit.

However, in the yesterday's match, Selim Shahed, the experienced top-order batsman, scored highest 41 runs for Green while young off-spinner Fahim Muntasir made 25.

But with a gangling stroke-

maker Al Shahriar and a doughty opener Javed Omar living up to their usual self, the Red looked never in trouble to make the match into a one-sided affair.

Javed scored a patient 52 to lay the foundation before an itchy-footed Al Shahriar hammered a breezy unbeaten 37 off 28 balls to throttle his side to victory with fifteen overs to spare. Skipper Aminul remained not out on 8.

The Green team was led by Mahbubur Rahman.

Earlier on Tuesday, cricketers played another trial match. Mahbubur-led Reds defeated Aminul-led Green by 14 runs in that 45-over-a-side match.

Barlow, who stepped into the shoes of Gordon Greenidge, is preparing a national team, which will play a series of matches against the touring West Indies and the England A.

West Indies led by Brian Lara will arrive in the city on October 1 to play a couple of one-day matches and a three-day against the national team. On the other hand, the second string England side will fly in Dhaka in the second week of October to play a series of exhibition matches against different local selections.

Pace war begins today

Star Sport Desk

A bleary-eyed Pakistan team led by Wasim Akram, a very late inclusion for the Pakistani team for the DMC trophy, arrived in Toronto on Tuesday.

The betting controversy-battered Pakistan team will feature in their first match of the three-match one-day series against Brian Lara's West Indies

today.

Lara will lead an unchanged West Indies squad that lost to India 2-1 in the first leg of the Toronto cricket festival.

Wasim, who was suspended by the Pakistan Cricket Board ad hoc committee in allegations of fixing matches along with Salim Malik and Ijaz Ahmed,

has been reinstated as captain on Monday after wicketkeeper Moin Khan was named as skipper for the Toronto series earlier this month.

The mercurial all-rounder, who is yet to be cleared formally by the one-man inquiry commission in Pakistan, refused to comment on the controversy surrounding his side's defeat in the World Cup final and the lingering match-fixing charges.

"We have come here to play good cricket and win the series," he said. The Pakistan team, being coached by newly appointed Wasim Raja, also includes Wasim's main accuser and former skipper Aamir Sohail.

On the other hand, Lara's team had a disappointing World Cup. The magic returned in Singapore as it downed Zimbabwe and India (twice) to take the Coca-Cola Challenge Series but they have shown signs of weariness so far in Toronto. The team's batting rarely got started in three matches against India and the team which they had so easily defeated in the Asian tournament, whipped them to capture the DMC trophy.

The two sides last met early in the World Cup, when an outstanding bowling display from Pakistan knocked West Indies out 27 runs short of their target. In the last three years, though, honours are even. They were the top teams in the 1996/97 Cable & Wireless Series in Australia. Although West Indies won three times in the group stages, Pakistan swept the best-of-three fi-

nal.

The Toronto crowd will however look forward to watch the battle between the two captains. Having been gone through the probe ordeal for so much so that it is now a question whether Wasim's mind will be completely on this tournament. But even his harshest critic would not dare to raise question about his ability both as player and leader. Lara

meanwhile leads with his bat. But his man-management skills have been questioned regularly during his time at the helm, most often during a disappointing tour to South Africa last year.

But pace merchants Shoab Akhtar of Pakistan and Courtney Walsh of West Indies are seen page 7 col 1

No World Chess C'ship match

CHENNAI, Sept 15 (PTI): The much-awaited rival World Championship match between Indian Grand Master Viswanathan Anand and chess wizard Garry Kasparov has been put off due to lack of sponsorship.

Kasparov's Microsoft-backed ongoing Internet chess match against the world, has provoked original sponsors -- a Silicon Valley Mega-Corporation -- to pull out of sponsorship following conflict of interests.

The 16-game championship match, scheduled for this October, has been put off by a year following pulling out of the sponsor, a press release from TNQ sponsorship, which represents Anand in India, said here today.

Unofficial world champion Kasparov is playing an Internet match against the 'best chess brains' of the world and it is being played on Bill Gates' Microsoft backed environment.

As a consequence, the promoter of the Kasparov's World Chess Council (WCC) Serge Griem, was unable to finalise an alternative sponsor within the deadline prescribed by the formal agreement signed between the parties involved.

Anand, who had kept away for the FIDE World Championships in Las Vegas due to his contractual obligation to this event, stated it is sad that the championship will not happen this year.

It would have meant a big boost for committed commercial sponsorship of chess, he said.

Sydney parties

SYDNEY, Sept 15: Thousands of Sydney residents celebrated at downtown Darling Harbour on Wednesday during a 16-hour day of festivities to mark one year to the opening ceremonies of the 2000 Olympics, reports AP.

Darling Harbour will be the site of Olympic volleyball, weightlifting, boxing, wrestling, fencing and judo. Crowds watched demonstrations of those sports and met athletes from many of the 28 sports to be contested next year in between live entertainment.

In the evening, a live cross was made to the International Olympic Committee in Lausanne, officially inviting the athletes of the world to compete in Sydney next year beginning September 15, 2000.

In Canberra, a meeting of 60 indigenous leaders convened by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) decided not to jeopardise the success of the Games next year through protest action.

"Basically, because we're a sport-loving people ourselves, we want to be at the Games, we want a successful Games, we want to see Cathy Freeman reach her full potential and get gold," former ATSIC chairwoman Lowitja O'Donoghue said.

Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation Chairwoman Evelyn Scott said the success of Australian athletes was paramount.

"We're not about to jeopardise the livelihood of our Australian athletes, they are indigenous or non-indigenous," she said. "They've worked all their lives for this, to win gold in their own country."

Australians received good news on Wednesday when it was determined that although 11 track and field finals have been moved to different days than those of originally advertised in the ticket order form, Freeman's 400-metre final will still be on the same day.



BRIAN LARA



WASIM AKRAM