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more sport news

Star Sport

DHAKA FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-121

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Oct 15, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1	Who won the DMC Cup in Toronto?	
India	W Indies	Pakistan
2	Where will the next SAF Games be held?	
Maldives	Pakistan	Bhutan
3	How many Test wickets has Kapil Dev taken?	
432	433	434
4	Who is the fastest man in South Asia?	
Anil	Bijayan	Bimal
5	What is the name of Tendulkar's daughter?	
Diva	Sarah	Nisha

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
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SPORTS TALK



Shamir Sakir

(Bangladesh football coach)
"I have only one request to you guys. Give me the gold."

Talking before the SAF Games final.

Wadekar wishes Dev the best

COLOMBO, Oct 7: The former head of the national cricket selection committee has said the Indian team will prosper under their new coach Kapil Dev, who was expected to push the players to greater fitness, a newspaper said today, reports Reuters.

The state-owned Daily News quoted Ajit Wadekar as saying that Dev, who holds the record for taking the highest number of wickets in Test cricket, will emphasise team fitness as well as guide the young emerging fast bowlers.

Wadekar was replaced by Chandu Borde and Dev took over as coach from Anshuman Gaekwad recently as part of an overhaul in cricket administration following India's poor showing at the World Cup in England.

"At the moment what we (India) lack is fitness and good fielding, that's exactly what Kapil will harp on," Wadekar told the newspaper, adding that bowlers like Ajit Agarkar, Debashish Mohanty and Laxmi Prasad Shukla will also benefit from Dev's experience.

The team seems to be quite good, but unfortunately they have not clicked together in all three departments — batting, fielding and bowling ... but under the leadership of (captain) Sachin (Tendulkar) and the guidance of Kapil I think they will be able to do really well," Wadekar said.

He said Indian should retain former captain Mohammad Azharuddin in the team as he was a useful middle-order batsman, especially when the team played at home.

The selectors on Wednesday announced the team for the first Test against New Zealand starting in Mohali on Sunday, but Azharuddin was overlooked.

"We considered him like the others but thinking of the future we would like to give new players a chance," Borde said in Bombay.

Azharuddin, who was severely criticised for his captaincy during the World Cup, has not played since June when he underwent surgery for a shoulder injury.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presenting outgoing national football team captain Jewel Rana with a bouquet during the mass reception at Paltan Maidan yesterday afternoon.

— Star photo

Pybus deal draws flak



KARACHI, Oct 7 (AFP): Pakistan's decision to hire English-born Richard Pybus as coach of its cricket team was opposed Thursday by a former Test cricketer and also by an official from a local cricket association.

Ex-Test cricketer and selector Salahuddin Ahmed Sallu alleged Pybus had hurt the religious sentiments of the Pakistani players during the recent World Cup in England.

Pybus was assistant coach of the Pakistan team beaten by Australia in the World Cup one-day final in June.

Sallu claimed in a statement that after the semi-final victory against New Zealand in a World Cup match Pybus showed disrespect by walking around naked while the Pakistani players were offering thanks-giving prayers.

He said he witnessed the behaviour and reported the incident to the team manager who according to Sallu gave Pybus a

strong dressing down.

Sallu said at time only the people inside the dressing room were aware of the incident but now with the board going to appoint Pybus he had no option but to make it public.

He urged the ad-hoc committee of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) not to hire Pybus.

The secretary of the Karachi Cricket City Association (KCCA), Siraj-ul Islam Bokhari, said there was no need to hire the services of a foreigner when the country's former Test cricketers could do the job.

"If we have a Pakistani coach then it will be a natural combination. He would know the language, traditions and culture which is not the case with a foreigner coach," Bokhari said.

Pakistani captain Wasim Akram is known to have a good relationship with Pybus.

Sources said he believed Pybus would be a great help to the team in the forthcoming tough series against Australia, Sri Lanka and the West Indies. PCB officials said a final de-

cision would be taken in the best interests of national cricket.

Pybus is due to arrive in a couple of days to negotiate terms, the board's media coordinator Mirza Iqbal Beg told the news agency on Wednesday.

If terms are reached there were "bright chances" Pybus would initially take over as assistant coach for the Sharjah tournament starting October 13, he said.

From Sharjah, Pakistan will leave for a three-Test series in Australia with Pybus as coach, Beg said. Pakistan will also participate in a one-day series there, involving Australia and India.

Pybus, the former Minor Counties player for Suffolk moved to South Africa in 1991 and coached Selborne College, a leading cricket school in East London.

Before the World Cup in May, Pybus coached the previously unrated Border province to the finals of both South Africa's major domestic competitions this season.

Brawl over Miller move



SYDNEY, Oct 7: (Internet report): The Australian Cricket Association will meet Tasmanian cricket officials tomorrow in bid to resolve the dispute surrounding the playing future of Test bowler Colin Miller before the start of the domestic season.

Miller has moved from Hobart to Melbourne for personal reasons and remains intent on playing for Victoria in this year's Sheffield Shield and Mercantile Mutual Cup competitions, despite having failed in two legal attempts to dissolve his existing contract with the TCA.

Under Australian Cricket Board rules, Miller could lodge a fresh transfer application when the Australian touring party returns from Zimbabwe under a provision established for players who return from overseas within three months of the shield season.

Miller's initial transfer application was denied by Tas-

mania and the ACB. His subsequent appeal was dismissed in August by an independent panel headed by Victorian County Court Judge Gordon Lewis.

ACA chief executive Tim May, who will represent Miller in tomorrow's negotiations in Hobart, is hopeful further legal action can be avoided.

"We can go through this whole process again," May said. "The question is, do we really all want to go through that again ... and waste a hell of a lot of time and a hell of a lot of money when perhaps things can be resolved across a table?"

What we are trying to do is say: 'Okay, let's put all that stuff on hold, let's sit down over a table and try to resolve the matter in the interest of cricket and cricketers'.

Miller is seen as a potential test challenge to the ACB's longstanding transfer rules, which May argued were inconsistent with the State-based player contracts introduced last season.

Miller's initial transfer application was denied by Tas-

The ACA earlier this year

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he's ever experienced. "It's as bad as it gets," said Agassi. "But by now I should be used to it."

Nestled on the border with Graf's native Germany and France, there's been no escape from the paparazzi's prying eye in Basle.

Blick, Switzerland's biggest

selling tabloid let their readers know where Agassi dined on Tuesday, what he ate (chicken wings) and who was with him (not Graf).

But if Agassi didn't have much to say about his relationship he had plenty to say about almost everything else.

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Everything except Graf



BASLE, Switzerland, Oct 7: World number one Andre Agassi expertly avoided the burning question on Wednesday, failing once to mention Steffi Graf, reports Reuters.

In a rambling, wide-ranging interview, Agassi displayed some fancy footwork of his own, side-stepping leading questions about the hottest tennis romance since Jimmy Connors and Chris Evert were stealing headlines in the 1970s.

On a day off at the Swiss Indoor championships, the French and US Open champion offered insight and glimpses into almost every other aspect of his life but refused to shed any light on his relationship with Graf, who has apparently replaced actress Brooke Shields as the woman in his life.

The 30-minute talk revealed Agassi the philosopher and Agassi the philanthropist. There was Agassi the psychic and Agassi the tennis player.

But at no time was there any mention of Agassi's boyfriend. While the name Steffi Graf has been on everyone else's lips, never once did it fall from Agassi's mouth.

"It's been incredible, like I'm living a dream," smiled Agassi, when asked to describe his life. "If I wake up ... I'm going to go back to sleep."

Earlier in the tournament a slightly more talkative Agassi would say only that the scrutiny he's under because of his relationship is the worse

he's ever experienced. "It's as bad as it gets," said Agassi. "But by now I should be used to it."

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Blick, Switzerland's biggest selling tabloid logo.

Bridge WC qualifiers

Bangladesh earn third spot

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh men's bridge team earned the third position of the 10th Bridge World Cup qualifying round of Africa, Asia and Middle East zone now being held in Colombo, according to a Bangladesh Bridge Federation press release yesterday.

Bangladesh collected 93.5 points out of 118 points at the end of Wednesday's play. South Africa and India were in the first and second place with 108 and 103 points respectively.

A total of nine countries took part in the qualifiers from which top two teams will get the tickets of finals.

Nat'l rowing postponed

Sports Reporter

The 24th national rowing championships, which was scheduled for a October 16 start, have been postponed temporarily for unavoidable circumstances, according to a Bangladesh Rowing Federation press release yesterday.

The fresh date will be announced soon.

Randell learns harsh truth

HOBART, Oct 7: Former international cricket umpire Steve Randell, convicted of sexually assaulting two of his students while he was a teacher, has been attacked by fellow jail inmates, officials said Thursday.

Three prison guards were injured in the incident Wednesday at Hobart's Risdon Jail. Randell, 43, who was not injured, was jailed for four years in August on 15 counts of sexual assault against schoolgirls.

Prison officials said he will now be segregated from other prisoners for his own protection.

Nat'l carom

Sports Reporter

The three-day national carom championship began at the NSC gymnasium yesterday.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader inaugurated the meet.

A total of 73 teams from all over the country are participating in the three-day competition organised by Bangladesh Carom Federation.

Twenty-two doubles, 43 singles and eight women's singles events would be held during the competition.

Dr Sheikh Abdus Salam, president of the Bangladesh Carom Federation, gave a welcome address at the inaugural function.

FAI extends McCarthy's contract

DUBLIN, Oct 7: The Football Association of Ireland has extended national team manager Mick McCarthy's contract until February 2002, reports Reuters.

"We believe that considerable progress has been made in the past four years and we want Mick to continue the development of this young team," Pat Quigley, president of the FAI, said in a statement on Wednesday.

McCarthy, who took over from Jack Charlton as Ireland boss in 1996, welcomed the extension.

"It has always been my ambition to lead Ireland to the finals of a major championship. Now we have got the best opportunity we could have hoped for and we have got to grasp that chance," McCarthy said.

Ireland's final Euro 2000 group eight qualifier on Saturday. They are second a point behind Yugoslavia and need a win to either qualify for the finals or to earn a play-off spot as runners-up.

And if Ireland does well in the tournament, they argue, it could quicken its chances of becoming a Test nation by the time the 2003 World Cup is held in South Africa.

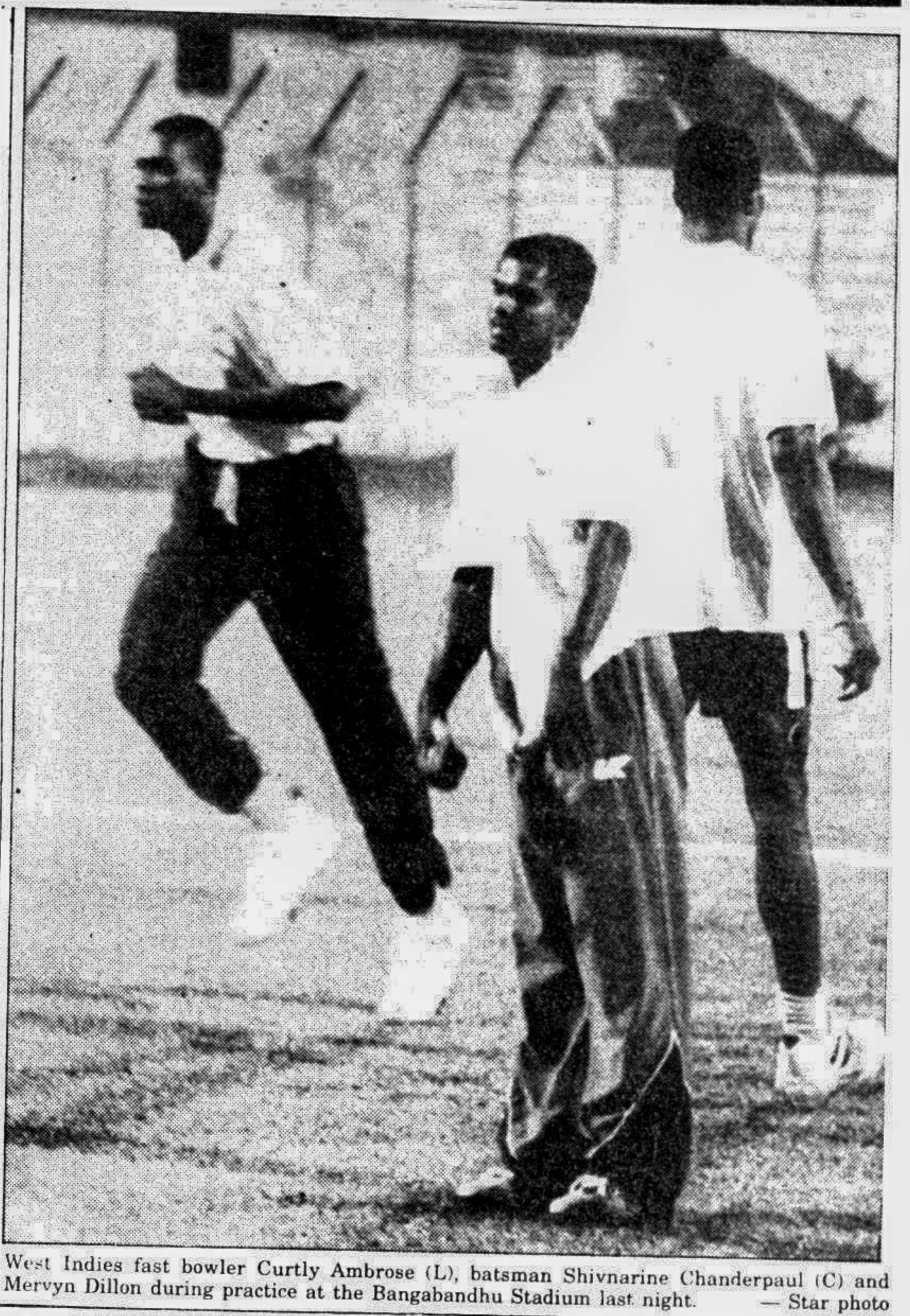
Many hope it will give a major boost to Kenyan tourism, which has suffered recently from political instability, car-jackings and armed robbery. Thousands of cricket fans are expected to visit the country to watch the tournament.

Other benefits include ICC-financed improvements to the Nairobi Gymkhana pitch, installation of floodlights and upgrading of practice grounds. The terraces will be refurbished and expanded to accommodate 15,000 spectators and the construction of an ultramodern media centre, complete with television editing facilities and broadcasting studios.

Kenya is the top-rated ICC associate member but has been advised to improve some aspects of its game if it wants to make an impact in international competitions.

"There still remains room for improvement," said Rose Turner, and Australian development manager at the ICC in London. "You need to go out there in the countryside to improve cricket to the same levels of the city; Kenya needs to improve its bowling and do a little more to consolidate its cricket infrastructure."

Kenya has a highly developed cricket system with the game played predominantly by native Africans. But the man-



West Indies fast bowler Curtly Ambrose (L), batsman Shivnarine Chanderpaul (C) and Mervyn Dillon during practice at the Bangabandhu Stadium last night. — Star photo

Cricketing dream spurs a row

By Barrack Otieno from Nairobi</