

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Lothar Matthaeus
(German football star)
"The attitude I have is that soccer is my hobby, not a job."

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-123

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
Nov 26, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. How many Test wickets did Malcolm Marshall grab?	376	380	396
2. Who won the Sharjah Cup last month?	Pakistan	W Indies	S Lanka
3. What is the name of Steve Waugh's son?	Austin	Jacobs	Larry
4. Who is the vice-captain of India?	Dravid	Jadeja	Ganguly
5. Who became champions in the Keya Premier Division soccer league?	Abahani Muktioddha	Mohammedan	

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH

EN-VITS

ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

CWAB sticks to its guns

Sports Reporter



The Cricketers' Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB) reiterated its demand for an early inter-club transfer ahead of their all important meeting with Sabir Hossain Chowdhury, the president of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), last night.

"We have given our revised proposal to the BCB president in our previous meeting. We are going to meet him again tonight and hopefully we will come to an acceptable solution for all parties," said the general secretary of the CWAB, Faruque Ahmed, after the secluded meeting of the players' association at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

"We want to play cricket. But until the board meets our rightful demand we will continue to boycott the domestic cricket."

"We have requested the board president to start the inter-club

transfer by December 15. Now, it is his turn to come up with a feasible solution.

"We are not going to meet the president with any fresh proposal. We will meet again on Tuesday, which I think would be very crucial for us."

When the rebel players, who are continuing to boycott the domestic cricket including the

ITF tourney begins today

RAJSHAHI, Nov 21: The ITF second leg Alpha men's future tennis tournament begins tomorrow at the Rajshahi Tennis Complex, reports UNB.

A total 73 players from 23 countries will compete in the week-long second leg matches that conclude on November 28.

Four Bangladeshi players including two from Rajshahi — Collins (second seed) and Sakib (fourth seed) — will directly play in the main draw.

National League, appear adamant to realise some sort of concession on transfer BCB has stuck to its 'go slow' attitude in ending the impasse.

With the leading cricketers staying off, the BCB is already facing a lot of difficulties to run the domestic cricket. They had to suspend the Damal Smriti Cricket Tournament for three days, terming the reason for the deferment as due to 'unavoidable circumstances'.

But many felt that the traditional season's curtain-raiser was abruptly suspended to keep the first-ever National League going. It was learnt that the six divisions were struggling to field even eleven players in the wake of CWAB's non-cooperation.

Meanwhile, the Board incurred a loss of considerable sum when sponsor Bangladesh Tobacco chose to withdraw from the deal, reportedly citing the absence of leading cricketers in the National League.



A section of players belonging to the newly formed Cricketers' Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB) discuss their next course of action before meeting BCB supremo Sabir Hossain at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. The CWAB members reportedly censured players active in the National League. — Star Photo by Anisur Rahman

Atapattu's dogged double



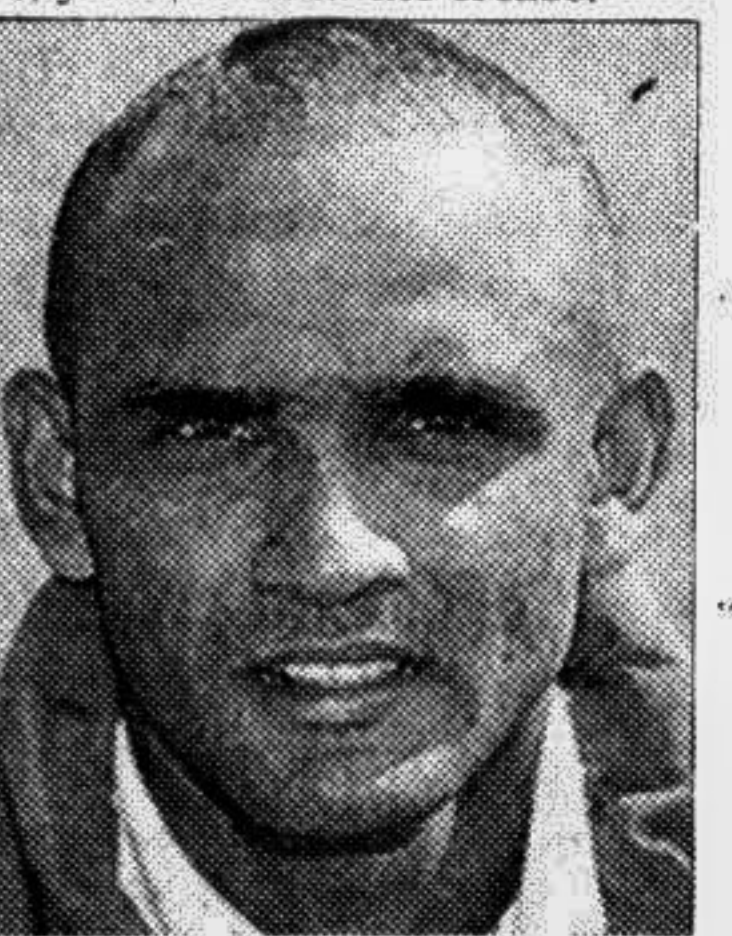
BULAWAYO, Nov 21 (Reuters/AFP): Sri Lanka were all out for 428 in reply to Zimbabwe's first innings score of 286 on the fourth day of the first Test today.

Earlier, Marvan Atapattu, the Sri Lanka opening batsman, completed his second double century here in the morning.

Both of them have been against Zimbabwe. He reached the landmark in nine hours 25 minutes and he faced 414 balls, scoring 22 boundaries.

At the lunch interval 13 minutes later he was on 205 and Sri Lanka were in command, reaching 405 for the loss of eight wickets, a lead of 119 over Zimbabwe, who made 286 in their first innings.

Atapattu came to the wicket on 178 after play had been delayed an hour because some water had got on to a small area of the wicket after heavy rain fell on Bulawayo Saturday. But that small area was on a length at one end and had to be completely dried.



ATAPATTU ... 216 n.o.

Both were dismissed by Bryan Strang.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the end of the

Sri Lankan innings on the fourth day of the first Test between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka Sunday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings 286 (A Flower 86, M Goodwin 61, P Wickremasinghe 6-60)

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 358-6)

Atapattu not out 216

Jayasuriya lbw b A Whittall 49

Arnold c A Flower b Olonga 7

Jayawardene lbw b Brent 17

Dilshan lbw b Olonga 9

De Saran c A Flower b Brent 30

Vas c Campbell b Strang 3

Gallage c G Flower b Strang 9

Wickremasinghe c A Flower b Strang 13

Muralitharan c G Flower b Olonga 6

Extras: (b-13, lb-10, w-1, nb-6) 30

Total: (All out) 428

Fall of wickets: 1-85; 2-98; 3-141; 4-159; 5-238; 6-345; 7-372; 8-390; 9-417

Bowler: O M R W

Olonga 32 6 103 4

Strang 30 9 91 3

Brent 32 12 55 2

A Whittall 35 6 105 1

G Whittall 14 3 48 0

G Flower 4 2 3 0

Kirsten, Gibbs recalled

Cronje captain until April



DURBAN, Nov 21 (Internet report): Hansie Cronje's doubts over his future as South African cricket captain are over.

National selection committee convenor Rushdi Magiet said the 30-year-old, who scored two consecutive Test half-centuries against Zimbabwe recently, would remain at the helm of the side until the end of the season in April when all player contracts are re-negotiated.

Cronje was put on probation at the start of this season, his captaincy guaranteed only for the two-match home-away series against Zimbabwe and the first two games of the five-Test series against England.

"Cronje has declared himself available to play for South Africa for the full term thus wiping out any doubts that had existed after the last selection media conference," Magiet said on Sunday after announcing the team to play England in the first Test at the Wanderers starting on Thursday.

Cronje had been in negotiations with English county team Glamorgan to take up a coaching post next year — a move which would have put pressure on his duties as captain because he would probably have been ruled out of SA's scheduled month-long tour of Sri Lanka in August next year.

Selectors on Saturday

meanwhile made two changes and an addition to the side which beat Zimbabwe by a record innings and 219 runs in Harare for the Wanderers Test.

Recalled to open the innings are the Western Province duo of Gary Kirsten and Herschelle Gibbs, who were both ruled out of the two-Test series against the Zimbabweans by early season injuries.

The men who make way are Gauteng's Adam Bacher and Free State's Boeta Dippenaar.

The addition to the squad is Gauteng seamer David Terbrugge who was forced out of the Test arena by an ankle injury after a successful debut against the West Indies last

summer.

While Dippenaar and Bacher didn't exactly excel against Zimbabwe they didn't do that badly either. They put on 43 in Bloemfontein and 20 in Harare. Dippenaar scored 20 and 33, Bacher 42 and 8.

But it was always on the cards that as soon as they were fit the established pairing of Kirsten and Gibbs would slot back into the squad.

Kirsten, who turns 32 on Tuesday, has played in 53 Tests and has an average of 40.41. Gibbs (25) is averaging 33.25 from 14 Tests.

Just how captain Hansie Cronje is going to resolve a ticklish down-the-order problem, however, is going to be interesting.

Blessed with an abundance of all-round riches, Cronje is going to have to decide who bats at 7 and 8.

With strike bowler Allan Donald currently resting a slight strain, the selectors have taken the extra precaution of placing E.P. Speedster, Morantau Hayward on stand by.

SQUAD

Gary Kirsten, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Daryll Cullinan, Hansie Cronje (captain), Shaun Pollock, Lance Klusener, Mark Boucher, Allan Donald, Paul Adams, David Terbrugge. 12th man: Boeta Dippenaar.

Shamir set to do the same?

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh national football team coach Shamir Shakir is likely to quit his job after the ongoing Asian Cup qualifiers being held in Abu Dhabi.

Shamir, who inspired Bangladesh to lift the first-ever SAF gold in Nepal this year, is reported to have made up his mind and would not return to Bangladesh on completion of his Abu Dhabi assignment.

Sources say, the volatile Iraqi coach is not happy with the approach of the National Sports Council (NSC) and will fly back to Baghdad from the desert kingdom.

The ruling body of country's sports is learnt to have promised a two-year contract with a monthly salary of 3000 US dollars, along with some fringe benefits. NSC chief Obaidul Quader had made promise to Shamir at the start of November.

But that contract was not signed even before Shamir left Dhaka with the national team on Thursday.

Shamir however had a history of impromptu departure. From Kathmandu, the moody Iraqi refused to return to Dhaka along with his victorious boys after a bitter row with the tour management.

Upon persuasion of Quader, the State Minister for Youth and Sports, he returned on October 28 to take over the job. While coaching at club level in Dhaka, Shamir had also left Abahani, Krira Chakra and Mohammedan Sporting Club in the lurch.

Shamir meanwhile received Taka three lakh from the government-sponsored award for winning the SAF gold. He also collected his dues worth 5,000 US dollars from the NSC.

"This will be very unfortunate if Shamir does not return," said State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader when contacted yesterday.

Mixed day for Sylhet

Sports Reporter

Sylhet Division, aided by some excellent bowling from Shafiqullah and Mistu Das, bowled hosts Rajshahi out to an attainable target. But the hopes of taking a crucial first innings lead got an initial blow when the tourists plunged to 39 for three at close of first day's play at the Rajshahi Stadium yesterday.

On a day where cherry ruled over willow, Rajshahi, batting first after winning the toss, were bundled out for paltry 160 in 80.4 overs, with Shafiqullah and Mistu bowling their hearts out.

Two Sylhet bowlers evenly shared eight wickets among them. Shafiqullah ripped through the Rajshahi top-order to finish with four for 34 in his 32 economical overs while Mistu gave away 54 runs in 23.4 overs.

For Rajshahi, only Suja, who scored highest 41, and opener Rashed (34) offered some sort of resistance. Together they put on 76 runs for the second wicket.

But Sylhet, who had gained batting points on the first innings lead in their away match against Chittagong, failed miserably to cash in on the brilliant work by Shafiqullah and Mistu, losing three quick wickets playing only 18 overs.

The opening pair of Hadi and Paplu departed even before reaching the double figure mark. One-down Tushar scored a brisk 13 before becoming the second victim of Saeed, who finished the day with two for 20 runs in his seven overs.

Showing great powers of concentration, Langer was saddled with the responsibility of marshalling the remnants of Australia's second innings following on from his first innings 59.

The West Australian pair had stalled the Pakistani charge and at stumps had put on an unbroken 62-run partnership for the sixth wicket.

First innings destroyer Saqlain Mushtaq snared the key wicket of batting mainstay and Australian captain Steve Waugh midway through the final session to send Australia's victory odds tumbling.

Saqlain, who claimed a Test-best 6-46 in the first innings, deceived the anchoring

stumps on the fourth day the odds favoured Pakistan — if forecast rain stayed away Monday.

At the close, Australia were 188 for five — 181 runs away from what would be a favours win — with gritty No 3 Justin Langer on his 29th birthday unbeaten on 52 with his 10th Test half-century and fellow left hander Adam Gilchrist not out 45.

Langer, on four, was struck a painful blow from a misdirected full toss by tearaway Shoab Akhtar, forcing him to seek treatment before continuing.

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All-rounder Azhar Mahmood (C) is the toast of his teammates after dismissing Mark Waugh leg before wicket yesterday. — AFP photo

Australia on the ropes



HOBBART, Australia, Nov 21: Pakistan had Australia fighting for survival with predicted overnight rain threatening to deny Wasim Akram's tourists victory in the second cricket Test at Bellerive Oval here today, reports AFP.

Australia had to defy history to prevent Pakistan from leveling the three-Test match series and were banking on a resolute stand between Justin Langer and Adam Gilchrist to salvage the match.

Until they came together, Pakistan, displaying uncharacteristic patience, had unhinged the champion Australian batting lineup.

Pakistan left Australia to score 369 runs off a minimum 163 overs in the fourth innings on a batters' pitch, but at

Waugh in flight and coaxed a false shot to have him caught and bowled for 28.

Upon Waugh's departure, Australia were 125 for four and 244 runs adrift of beating Pakistan.

Ricky Ponting further plunged the Australian camp into despair when he lashed five balls before he was lbw to Wasim Akram for his third consecutive Test duck — a total of 15 balls without a run. He left his home ground to deathly silence.

Earlier it was allrounder Azhar Mahmood who set Pakistan on their way with a double wicket breakthrough and a great slips catch.

Mahmood caught Michael Slater and then was on a hat-trick in his third over to put Australia on the back-foot.

The pendulum swung Pakistan's way when Mahmood

ond innings on Sunday morning with Mark Waugh taking a blinding catch to dismiss centurion Inzamam-ul-Haq for 118 off Shane Warne and wicket-keeper Gilchrist making a direct hit at the bowler's end to run out Waqar Younis for 0.

But skipper Wasim Akram and Akhtar put on 34 valuable runs for the last wicket to frustrate Australia's attempts to wrap up the innings.

Akram scored 31 before he skied to Blewett at backward point to give Waugh 5-110 off 45.4 overs — the 16th time in Tests the Champion leg-spinner has taken five wickets. Waugh now has 342 Test wickets.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close of play on the fourth day of the second cricket Test between Australia and Pakistan at Bellerive Oval on Sunday:

PAKISTAN: First innings 222

AUSTRALIA: First innings 246

PAKISTAN: Second innings (overnight 351-7)

Anwar b Warne 78

M Wasim c McGrath b Muller 20

Saqlain lbw b Warne 8

Ijaz c S Waugh b McGrath 82

Inzamam c M Waugh b Warne 118

Yousaf c M Waugh b Fleming 2

Mahmood lbw b Warne 28

Moin c Gilchrist b Fleming 6

W Akram c Blewett b Warne 31

Younis run out 0

Akhtar not out 5

Extras: (lb-6, nb-7, w-1) 14

Total: (128.4 overs) 392

Fall of wickets: 1-50; 2-100; 3-122; 4-258; 5-263; 6-320; 7-345; 8-357; 9-358; 10-392.

Bowler: O M R W

McGrath 27 7 87 1

Fleming 29 5 89 2

Warne 45.4 11 110 5

Muller 17 3 63 1

S Waugh 4 1 19 0

M Waugh 2 0 6 0

Ponting 2 1 7 0

Blewett 2 0 5 0

AUSTRALIA: second innings

Slater c Azhar Mahmood 27

b Shoab Akhtar 29

b Azhar Mahmood 29

Langer not out 52

M Waugh lbw 0

b Azhar Mahmood 0

S Waugh c and 28

b Saqlain Mushtaq 28

Ponting lbw b Wasim Akram 0

Gilchrist not out 45

Extras: (lb-3, nb-4) 7

Total: (for five wickets in 70 overs) 188

Fall of wickets: 1-39; 2-81; 3-81; 4-125; 5-126

To bat: S Waugh, D Fleming, G McGrath, S Muller

Bowler: O M R W

W Akram 10 1 28 1

Younis 8 2 25 0

Akhtar 13 5 36 1

Saqlain 30 7 76 1

Mahmood 9 2 20 2

England suffer collapse



PRETORIA, Nov 21 (AFP/Internet): Nassar Hussain's England lost five wickets for just nine runs in 12 overs in a dramatic second innings collapse before bad light stopped play on the third day of their four-day fixture against a Northerns/Gauteng XI at Centurion Park near Pretoria on Saturday.

With a first innings lead of 102 runs after dismissing the Combined XI for 201, the tourists were still well-placed with an overall lead of 238 after closing on 136-7.

At 88 without loss at tea, they might even have been forgiven for thinking they were strolling down victory lane — but then wheels came off.

Andrew Flintoff lifted the gloom of a disappointing England batting display by giving a timely boost to their Test strategy.

Flintoff, who was not expected to bowl until the final day after being sidelined with

back trouble since the start of the tour, not only managed to turn his arm over but the results had such a devastating impact that it gives England hope of him making a major contribution in the Test series.

The breakthrough came when Atherton stepped down the pitch in an attempt to drive the off-spinner back over his head, but instead edged to Daryll Cullinan at slip — sweet revenge for Eksteen, who bowled 52 overs without success four years ago at the Wanderers during the Lancastrian's epic unbeaten 185.