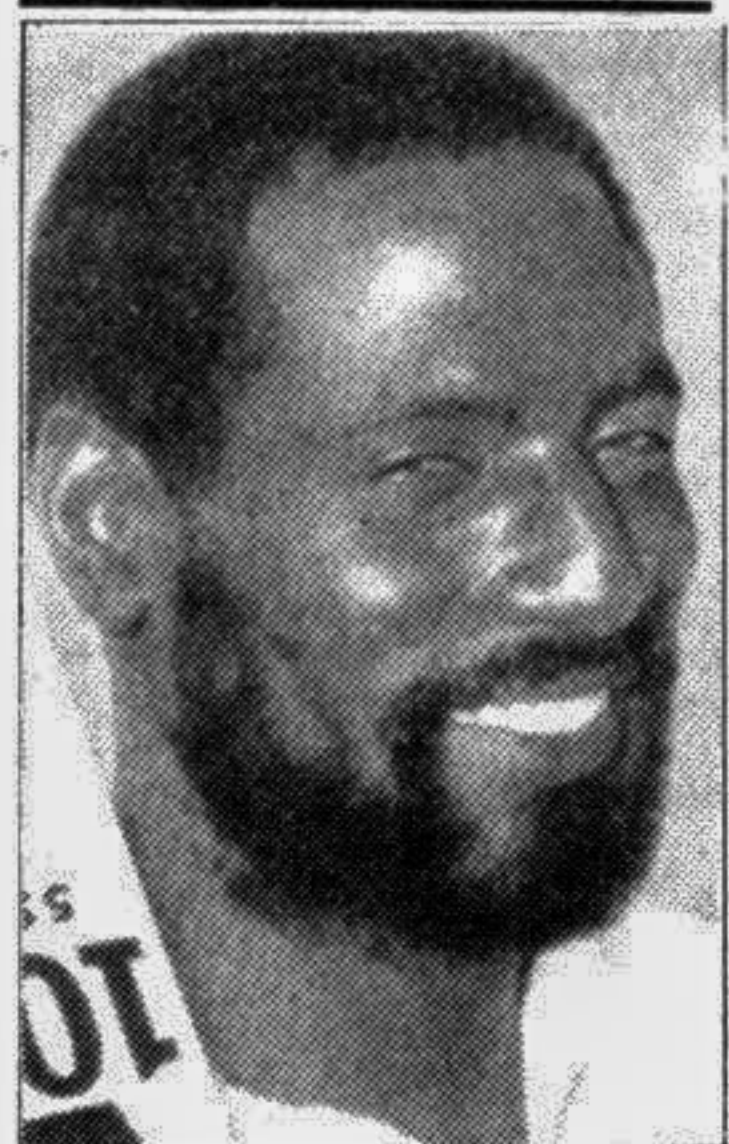


Column One SPORTS TALK



Vivian Richards
(West Indies cricket coach)
The team has not been performing the way other West Indies teams in the 80s performed.

On the current team.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-124

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Dec 10, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. Argentine soccer star Batistuta plays for Serie A club
Lazio AC Milan Fiorentina

2. Which country will host the 12th Asian Cup football finals?
Lebanon Kuwait Thailand

3. How many Test double hundreds has Sri Lankan batsman Marvan Atapattu scored so far?
One Two Three

4. Where will the ninth SAF Games be held?
Delhi Karachi Peshawar

5. How many teams are playing in the National Cricket League?
Ten Eight Six

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

Hasibul spells Khulna's doom
Sports Reporter

A telling spell by Hasibul Hossain helped leaders Sylhet to take command over Khulna in their National Cricket League at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday.

On the inaugural day Hasibul, the right-arm Bangladesh seamer captured four for 34 as Khulna, sent into bat were bundled out for a meagre 123 in 78.4 overs.

Hasibul was assisted by right-arm medium-pacer Iqbal Hossain who claimed three wickets conceding only 11 runs from 17 overs.

Middle order Hasanuzzaman scored highest 41 runs while Sohail Islam (31) and Selim (17) were the other Barisal batsmen who reached double figures.

Sylhet in reply were on 31 for one in 15 overs at stumps.

Opener Alok Kapali (12) was the only wicket to fall. He was trapped leg before by Khulna medium-pacer Khairuzzaman Babu.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the first day of the three-day National Cricket League match between Sylhet and Khulna at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday.

Khulna: First innings
Mahir ibw b Hasibul 1
Selim b Neezamur 17
Jamaluddin ibw b Hasibul 1
Hasanuzzaman b Shaifulah 41
Sajid c Parvez b Hasibul 4
Asadullah b Imran 7
Sohel c Nasirul b Hasibul 32
Nuruzzaman ibw b Iqbal 0
Monirul ibw b Iqbal 0
Tanvir b Iqbal 1
Khairuzzaman not out 1
Extras: (b-4, lb-2, nb-4) 19
Total: (All out in 78.4 overs) 123
Fall of wickets: 1/2: 2/16; 3/37; 4/45; 5/68; 6/104; 7/111; 8/111; 9/111

Bowler O M R W
Hasibul 16.4 5 34 4
Iqbal 17 10 11 3
Rafique 16 7 15 0
Neezamur 8 1 22 1
Shaifulah 14 3 19 1
Imran 7 4 7 1

Sylhet: First innings
Parvez batting 8
Alok ibw b Khairuzzaman 12
Rajin batting 7
Extras: (b-4, lb-2, nb-3) 9
Total: (For 1 wkt in 15 overs) 31
Fall of wicket: 1/20

Bowler O M R W
K'zaman 8 3 12 1
Tanvir 5 1 12 0
Asadullah 2 1 1 0

Chittagong score at ease Minhaz, Azam hit tons

Sports Reporter

Minhazul Abedin and Azam Iqbal cracked centuries as title-chasers Chittagong got off to a flying start in their fourth round National Cricket League clash against Barisal at the Comilla Stadium yesterday.

On the first day of the three day match, Minhazul, the former national skipper, scored 113 while opener Azam slammed 105 as Chittagong, electing to bat after winning the toss in the morning, reached a commanding 367 for nine in 97 overs at stumps.

Minhazul's decision to bat was vindicated after Chittagong's batsmen toyed with the toothless Barisal attack.

Barring the wicketkeeper, Barisal skipper Habibul Bashar employed ten bowlers in an effort to check the flow of runs.

The hosts made a positive start scoring 57 runs inside the first 15 overs with opener Ehsanul Haque in sparkling form. The partnership broke when Ehsanul was out for 33 off 41 balls. One down Jahangir (15) was the next to go in the 31st over with the scoreboard on 100.

Minhazul, who made a polished 45 and 47 against Dhaka in the previous round, joined Azam to share in an invaluable

139-run stand for the third wicket. It came off just 30.1 overs.

The Barisal skipper and occasional off-spinner then introduced himself into attack and enjoyed instant success trapping the aggressive Azam leg before wicket for 105.

Azam's four-hour stay at the crease lasted 186 balls and contained a six and eleven fours.

Minhazul next added 75 runs for the fourth wicket with burly former national teammate Akram Khan, before becoming Bashar's second victim.

Minhazul's 158-ball 113 featured magnificent 13 boundaries.

Akam, the hard-hitting right hander and long-serving ex-Bangladesh captain, kept the scoreboard ticking hammering a belligerent half-century.

During his 68-ball blitz Akram

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the first day struck a huge six and two fours before being run out.

NATIONAL LEAGUE CENTURIONS

| Player | Team | Runs | Against | Date |
|------------------|------------|------|------------|--------|
| Shafiqullah Maki | Sylhet | 173 | Chittagong | Nov 16 |
| Nafees Khan | Chittagong | 126 | Sylhet | Nov 17 |
| Tareque | Rajshahi | 104 | Barisal | Nov 17 |
| Azam Iqbal | Chittagong | 105 | Barisal | Dec 3 |
| Minhazul Abedin | Chittagong | 113 | Barisal | Dec 3 |



Players and officials of the Arambagh Krira Sangstha, who emerged champions in the Sheetal First Division women's handball league yesterday.

Akram's tour analysis

KARACHI, Dec 3: Pakistan cricket captain Wasim Akram has lashed out at Australian queries over str-

like bowler Shoaib Akhtar, accusing the world champions of mounting a deliberate campaign to unsettle the star, reports AFP.

Akram, speaking after returning from Pakistan's tour of Australia, said complaints over Akhtar's bowling action had been planned from the outset.

"It's their strategy to start off like this," said Akram, who is feeling the pressure after his team's 3-0 series defeat to the Australians.

"They tried to have a go at our star player, leaked it in the press and then apologised. It was all planned."

"It's all nonsense. Instead of praising his talent they have come up with a crape like challenging the legality of his bowling action," Akram added.

Akhtar - dubbed the Rawalpindi Express - failed to fire during the Australian tour and struggled to trouble the powerful Australian batting line-up.

Akram also complained about his team's touring itinerary in Australia, saying his side had not been given enough match practice.

"Our tour itinerary was improper. We had to play the first Test after just one game," added Akram, who refused to admit the whitewash had been a one-sided series citing the second Test in Hobart as the turning point.

"We did our best in Hobart. All the boys were gunning for

the last five wickets but (Justin) Langer and (Adam) Gilchrist made history against us," he said, referring to the duo's amazing stand which saw Australia successfully chase the third highest winning total in far better side," he said.

Akram is now hoping to score revenge over Australia when Pakistan play in next year's triangular series in Australia, scene of Pakistan's 1992 one-day World Cup victory.

"We've won there before and we will repeat our feat. One day cricket is an altogether different ball game," he said.

V-Day golf
Sports Reporter

The Victory Day golf tournament was held at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

The day-long event was inaugurated by KGC President and Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen M Mustafizur Rahman BB. He gave away the prizes.

WINNERS LIST
Winner: Sadiq Qudus; Ladies winner: Shaheen Khan; Senior winner: Manzoor Mursheed; Junior winner: Salman Khan.

Champion team: Shawkat ul Zaman, Mrs Elani Zulkifly, Mrs Shaheen Khan, Sadiq Qudus.

Runner-up team: Gul Naim Park, Young Bae Kim, Choung Soo Kim, Young Kee Lim.

Men's runner-up: Young Bae Kim; Ladies runner-up: Elani Zulkifly; Second runner-up: Choung Soo Kim & Brig Abdul Mannan; Front nine winner: Lt Col Zainul Abedin; Back nine winner: Pervaz Rashid; Most birdies: M Sabir Afzal; Most Par: Sadiq Qudus; Nearest to pin: Brig Anwar Farid; Longest drive: M Baten.



Participants of the Victory Day golf tournament, which was held at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

Fisher, Le lift doubles

Sports Reporter

Australian Ashley Fisher and American Minh Le clinched the doubles title of the ITF men's futures F-2 tournament at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.

In the final, Fisher and Le posted an easy 6-3, 6-4 win over South African pair of De Vost Ric and Willem Meyer.

Meanwhile, top seed Aisam Qureshi of Pakistan reached the singles final defeating Fisher 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Qureshi will take on Slovakian Viktor Bruthans in today's final.

Bruthans beat Donovan September of South Africa 6-4, 7-5 in the other semi-final.

Sheetal h'ball Arambagh's

Sports Reporter

Favourites Arambagh Krira Sangha clinched the Sheetal First Division women's handball league title with a 26-15 win over Dikusha Sporting Club in the final 'super-four' clash at the Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex in Dhanmendi yesterday.

The winners led the first half 14-7.

Akherun struck highest ten goals for the winners while Shahida and Irina scored 6 and 3 respectively. Sharna scored five goals for Dikusha.

State Minister for Shipping Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya BB witnessed the final as the chief guest and distributed prizes. Bangladesh Handball Federation president MA Hamid and general secretary Asaduzzaman Kohinore were present among others.

ROLL OF HONOUR

| Year | Champions |
|------|--------------|
| 1992 | Ansars |
| 1997 | Ansars |
| 1998 | Jatrabari KC |
| 1999 | Arambagh KS |

Dhaka in command

Sports Reporter

Mehrab Hossain and Javed Omar propelled Dhaka into a winning position against Rajshahi in a National Cricket League match played at the Faridpur Stadium yesterday.

National opener Mehrab and his national teammate Omar made 87 and 81 respectively as the hosts opting to bat, were 276 for six in 86 overs at the end of the first day.

Dhaka lost their first wicket with one run on the board when opener Harunur Rashid fell for a duck. But Mehrab and Javed saw off the new-ball threat sharing in a 154-run second wicket stand off 49 overs before Nayan brought Mehrab's 142-ball innings to an end.

Dhaka lost their third wicket on 167 when experienced skipper Aminul Islam was bowled by medium-pacer Aminul Islam Junior for five.

Javed then added 33 runs for the fourth wicket with Sanwar before being caught behind off a Nayan delivery on 81 which came from 164 balls.

At stumps Sanwar was not out on 37 and lower middle order Khaled Mahmud was batting on 33 off 36 balls.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the three-day National Cricket League match between Dhaka and Rajshahi began at the Faridpur Stadium yesterday.

DHAKA: First Innings
Mehrab c K Masood b Nayan 87
Harun c Mushfiq b Aminul 0
Javed Omar c K Masood b Nayan 81
Aminul b Aminul 5
Sanwar run out 37
Mahub b Nayan 3
K Mahmud batting 33
Atiar batting 3
Extras: (lb-8, nb-11, w-2) 21
Total: (For 6 wks in 86 overs) 276
Fall of wickets: 1/1: 2/155; 3/167; 4/200; 5/210; 6/245

Bowler O M R W
Aminul jr 14 4 35 2
Mishfiq 12 3 35 0
Nayan 20 3 47 3
Ripon 7 0 31 0
Tareque 12 2 44 0
Saifulah 7 1 16 0
Litu 14 2 31 0

Pybus axed

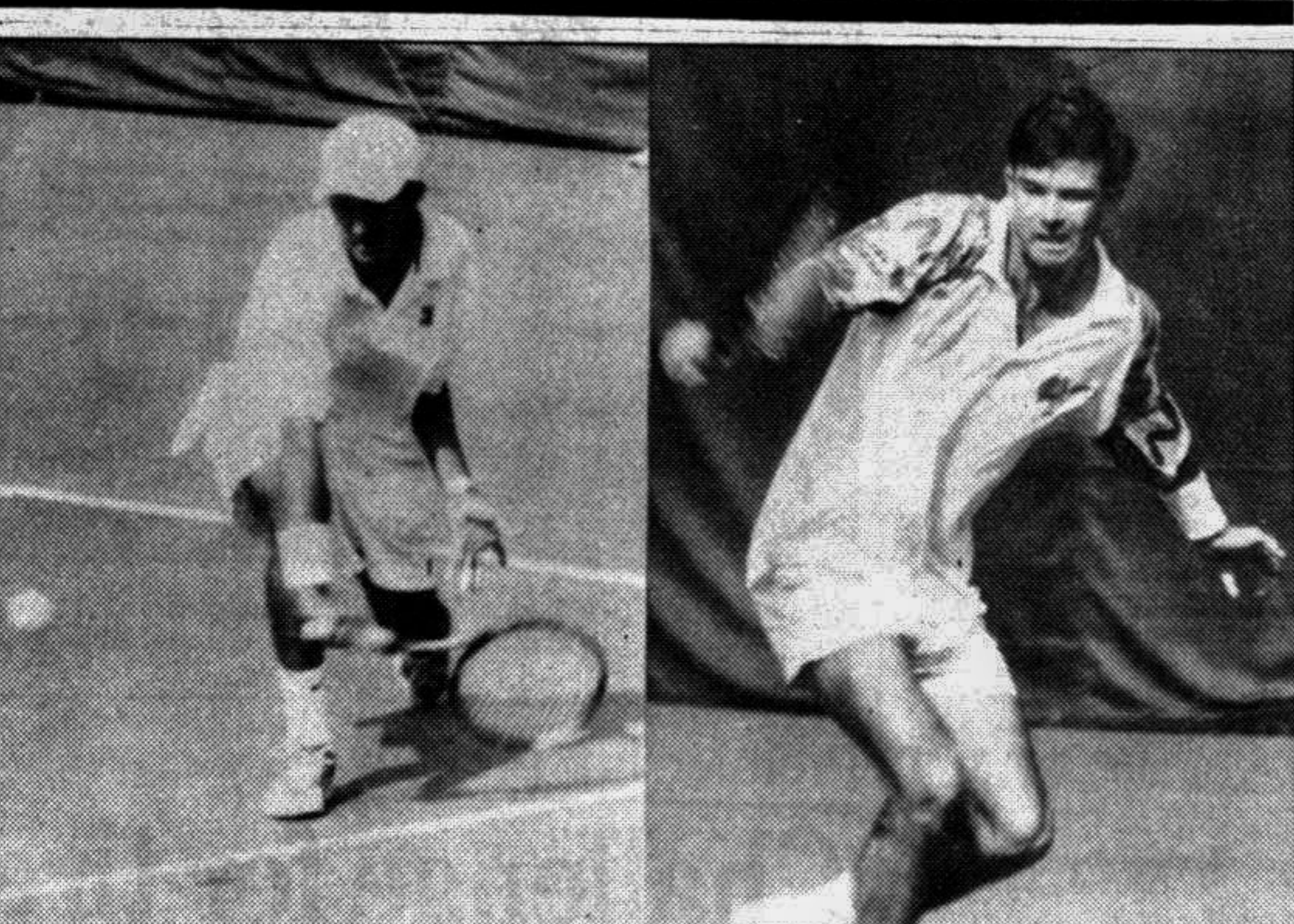
KARACHI, Dec 3: Barely two days after returning from Australia where Pakistan suffered a 3-0 whitewash, Pakistan cricket officials Friday sacked their English-born coach Richard Pybus, officials said, reports AFP.

"Pakistan Cricket Board has released coach Richard Pybus after the conclusion of the first leg of the Australian tour," said the board's secretary Shafiq Rana in a statement.

"A decision on Pybus' replacement will soon be announced," he said. Officials refused to give more details.

Pybus, 35, was first hired as assistant coach during the World Cup in England in May-June this year and was elevated to coach after former Test star Wasim Raja fell out with the previous set-up in October and resigned.

Pybus left his job at Border, a South African provincial side and joined Pakistan in October and was reportedly getting paid 100,000 dollars a year.



Pakistan's top seeded Asian Qureshi (L) and Ashley Fisher of Australia in action in the ITF men's futures F2 tournament at the Ramna National Tennis Complex yesterday.

Barlow's clarification

The two reports published in Star Sport on December 2, 3 under the titles 'Coaches course not going smoothly' and 'Star article eats coaches' have drawn the attention of Eddie Barlow, director of development for the Bangladesh Cricket Board.

Following is his faxed response in its entirety:

Dear Sir,

I refer to the two reports by your staff reporter on December 2 and 3 in The Daily Star regarding the coaching course held at the National Stadium.

This course was entirely voluntary and the coaches that attended could have left at any time if they so wished. This principle will remain during any future coaching courses which I organise.

Your report with regard to complaints of accommodation etc, was brought to our attention and we will handle this complaint in the usual administrative way.

I have no objection to your reporters speaking to the delegates about anything and never will have. It is however usual and good manners to speak to the course leader with regard to any problems.

If the reporter concerned had come to me with his questions he would have received the following:

1. A full list of all forty-four delegates who attended the course.
2. The full programme outlining the five clear objectives.
3. All the handouts which are normally supplied on this type of course including a video, translated into Bengali on fitness and the necessary exercises for cricketers, and an audio tape explaining how to ascertain the level of fitness of sportsmen.
4. A coaching manual translated into Bengali for easy reference for coaches and future Bangladesh cricketers.

Should you require these, please contact me and I will be only too pleased to supply them, as I would have, had the reporter taken the time and trouble to speak to me.

Mr Manu would not have had this information simply because he wasn't running the course. The list of delegates is in my possession waiting to be typed and filed for future reference and future planning.

With regard to the press release by the delegates at the course I view it in the same light as their right to inform me of any deficiencies or otherwise which they bring to my attention and should eight or ten or twelve choose not to sign a petition it is indeed their right not to. However, the possibility exists that due to the fact that many delegates were from out of Dhaka, they might well have already left.

Practical demonstrations are always beneficial and are usually a major part of coaching programmes.

It was our intention in this course not to have practical demonstrations because as you so rightly said in your first report, Gordon Greenidge had in fact done this in his previous coaching course. Once again, had I been contacted, I would have explained in detail what the goals of this course were.

I would like to make it absolutely clear that any information required on anything about the development of Bangladesh cricket, now or in the future, will be supplied to any sports reporter in Bangladesh or for that matter, in the world. All that is necessary is a phone call to ascertain where and when I will be available to answer any queries. Should any reporters wish to attend future coaching programmes, they will be most welcome. Any criticisms, contributions or suggested improvements which will assist the coaching staff in future programmes in Bangladesh will be most welcome.

Eddie Barlow
Director of development

Kumble, Ramesh respond

SYDNEY, Dec 3: Leg-spinner Anil Kumble and India's openers led a fightback against New South Wales here today to raise the tourists' hopes a week out from the first cricket Test against Australia, reports AFP.

Kumble, with 259 wickets from 56 Tests, is second only to Shane Warne on the all-time list of Test leg-spinners and boasts taking 32 wickets in four Tests against Australia.

While all those wickets were taken on the subcontinent, Kumble has the knack of breaking partnerships and gives fresh batsmen no time to settle in.

Shane Lee (39) and NSW wicketkeeper Brad Haddin (60 off 62 balls) were the only ones to master Kumble today.

Lee struck 10 runs from successive Kumble deliveries before lunch and Haddin, who hit 10 fours and a six, also swept the Indian spinner over the midwicket fence.

Haddin and 18-year-old debutant Michael Clarke put on 47 in 34 minutes after lunch before Kumble fired one through Clarke's defences after an impressive cameo.

Kumble had Gavin Robertson smartly held at short cover two balls later and when Brett Lee fell for a duck NSW were barely in front at 195 for eight.

Haddin hit out, pulling Javagal Srinath three times for four in one over, to notch the third half-century of his debut season and add 36 with leg-spinner Stuart MacGill.

Seamer Venkatesh Prasad grabbed 2-44 and captain Sourav Ganguly 2-26 for the tourists.

Aussies warned over sledging

KARACHI, Dec 3 (Internet report): Pakistan manager Yawar Saeed on Thursday said the Australian team was severely reprimanded for sledging by match referee John Reid during the three-Test series that concluded on Sunday.

Saeed said Pakistan management officially complained against Glenn McGrath, Ricky Ponting and Steve Waugh.

"John Reid didn't tell me which player he reprimanded during the Hobart Test but he confirmed that he warned the Australians in the home team's dressing room," he said.

Saeed said there was no disciplinary problem but admitted that Wasim Akram's statement that he has to call his wife every time Pakistan loses was totally uncalled for.

Wasim was but I believe it was unnecessary. But I agree with the captain's first statement that Pakistan would win the series. These statements are given to boost the morale of the team," Saeed said from Islamabad on telephone.

Courtesy: The Dawn

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the second day of the four-day tour match between New South Wales and India at the SCG on Friday.

INDIA: First Innings 185 (S Ganguly 38)

NSW: First Innings (overnight 35-1)

| Bowler | O | M | R | W |
|-----------|----|---|----|---|
| MacGill | 11 | 2 | 22 | 2 |
| Nash | 6 | 2 | 16 | 0 |
| S Lee | 9 | 3 | 27 | 0 |
| Robertson | 5 | 3 | 5 | 0 |
| MacGill | 9 | 1 | 28 | 0 |
| Mail | 2 | 0 | 10 | 0 |

Dalmiya dams match-fixers

JAMSHEDPUR, Dec 3: President of International Cricket Council, Jagmohan Dalmiya, has said cricket is the only game played with spirit and rule and anybody involved in match-fixing should not be allowed to go scot free, reports PTI.

"March-fixing is a heinous crime and anybody involved in it deserves severe punishment," he said here yesterday while speaking as the chief guest on the occasion of diamond jubilee celebration of picturesque Keenan Stadium and the first Ranji Trophy match in Bihar.

Dalmiya said: "Match-fixing is like selling ones motherland and for a few people the gentleman's game of cricket cannot be maligned."