

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-125

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Jan 21, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

1 Who was the man-of-the-series in the Australia-Pakistan Tests?

Langer Ponting Inzamam

2 Who was the highest wicket-taker in the Australia-Pakistan Test series?

Akram Fleming McGrath

3 How many Test hundreds has Mark Waugh scored to date?

15 16 17

4 Who became champions in the Keya Premier soccer?

Muktijodha Mohammedan Arambagh

5 Who lifted the Expatriates' Open chess title?

Refaat Zia Tanveer

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
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SPORTS TALK



Brian Glanville

(Noted English soccer columnist)

"Had it not been for an appalling series of injuries, Ronaldo would surely still be what he not long ago was - the best in the world today."

On Brazilian superstar Ronaldo.

National Women's Chess

Crowded at the top

Sports Reporter

Eight players-Syeda Afsana Parveen Nira, Afroza Khanum Babby, Masuda Begum, Nazrana Khan, Eva, Farzana Khan, Aya, Jahan Ara Haque Runu, Mahmuda Haque Chowdhury and Samia Sharmin Simmi-were jointly leading the 21st National Women's Chess Championship qualifiers at the end of the second round held yesterday at the NSC chess room.

Nira beat Peroza Begum, Babby beat Peroza Haque Chowdhury, Masuda beat Hamida Mahmud, Eva beat Sayema Almas, Aya beat Afroza Haque Chowdhury, Runu beat Shamima Akhter, Mahmuda beat Sahrin while Simmi beat Faria Zaman.

All the eight have two points each.

The third round will begin at the same venue today at 10 am.

Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAH, Jan 19: Jatir Janak Smriti Sangha defeated Sabuj Sangha Sporting Club by 102 runs in the Shaheed Zia Smriti tournament at Rajshahi Government College ground today.

The winners made 198 for four in stipulated 25 overs after winning the toss. Rajel (65) was the topscorer for the winners. Biddut followed him with 55.

In reply, Sabuj Sangha collected only 92 for seven in allotted overs. Nazmul (26) was the topscorer for the losers.

Meanwhile, Bright Star Club defeated Upashar Cricket Club by 82 runs in the First Division Premier League at a local stadium today.

Bright Star batted first and were all out for 136 in 39.4 overs.

Murad (30) was the topscorer for the Bright.

In reply, Upashar were bundled out for 54 in 21.4 overs.

Tony (14) was the highest scorer for the loser.

M'singh soccer

MYMENSINGH, Jan 19: Surjomukhi Jubo Mela crushed Friends Eleven by 4-0 in the Beg Tyre First Division league at local stadium today, reports UNB.



Former national captain Kazi Salahuddin (C) shows the card containing Mohammedan Sporting Club's name during the draw of the Nitol-Tata National Football League at the NSC yesterday.

— Star photo

Nitol-Tata National Football League

MSC against three Abahanis

Sports Reporter

Premier Division Football League champions Mohammedan Sporting and runners-up Abahani Krira Chakra have been placed in group One and Two respectively in the draw for the Nitol-Tata National Football League held yesterday evening at the National Sports Council auditorium.

Six star footballers of the yesteryears - Kazi Salahuddin, Wasim Iqbal, Mohammad Mohsin, Abdus Salam Murshed, Sheikh Md. Aslam and Kaiser Hamid - conducted the draw at a colourful ceremony.

The inaugural national league involving eight teams, including the top three sides from Dhaka - Mohammedan Sporting, Abahani Krira Chakra and Muktijodha Sangsad Krira Chakra - is likely to start either from Jan-

uary 26 or February 1 depending on Bangladesh Television, which would provide live coverage of all the matches.

The other five teams are Rajshahi Abahani, Chittagong Abahani, Khulna Abahani, Netrokona Mohammedan and Chaturanga Sangha of Sylhet.

The eight teams have been slotted into two groups for the first round. The top two sides from each group will qualify for the final round.

The most interesting aspect of the draw was the three Abahanis (Rajshahi, Khulna and Chittagong) being drawn in the same group with Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting.

The followings are the groups:

Group One: Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting, Chittagong Abahani, Rajshahi Abahani and Khulna Abahani.

Group Two: Abahani KC (Dhaka), Muktijodha Sangsad KC, Netrokona Mohammedan and Chaturanga Sangha of Sylhet.

State Minister for Information Prof. Abu Sayeed was present at the draw. He was accompanied by State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader and BFF general secretary Harunur Rashid MP.

Chairman of the league committee and BFF vice-president Anjan Chowdhury Pintoo, league committee secretary Sirajul Islam Bachchu, chairman of sponsor Nitol Group Abdul Motlub Ahmed and MD of BFF's marketing agent Leisure Sports Management SS Das Gupta were also present among others.

Akram crosses 400-wkt barrier

MacGill mazes Pakistan

Sports Reporter

SYDNEY, Jan 19: Pakistani captain Wasim Akram became the first bowler to claim 400 one-day wickets, but could not prevent his team crashing to a 81-run defeat against Australia here on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Australia piled up 286 in 49.4 overs and then shot Pakistan out for 205 to virtually assure a place in the tri-series finals with their fourth successive win.

Akram, the prolific left-arm seamer with 383 Test wickets under his belt, reached the 400 mark in one-day cricket in his 285th match. Next best on the all-time list is his teammate Waqar Younis, who has 290 wickets from 179 appearances.

The 33-year-old's feat was, however, overshadowed by a spirited batting display from both teams before a sell-out crowd of 40,000 at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The SCG wicket, a fast bowlers' haven for the last one month, underwent a remarkable transformation in a matter of five days as excessive rolling toned down its venom.

It was on the same strip last week that Australia shot India out for 100 and themselves slipped to 59-5 before crossing the modest target.

This time, Australia achieved the highest total in the series so far as Michael Bevan hit 77 and Damien Martyn 50, before Andrew Symonds thrashed 47 off 26 balls.

Pakistan made a gallant bid for victory, racing to 100-2 in just 12.1 overs, before leg-spinner Stuart MacGill stemmed the tide in his maiden one-day appearance.

MacGill, given a chance only because Shane Warne was recovering from a rib cage injury, grabbed a wicket in his first over before finishing with 4-19 from his 10 overs.

The New South Wales spinner was later named man-of-the-match.

Pakistan were given only 49 overs to bat after being penalised one over for slow over-rates by West Indian match referee Cammie Smith.

Ijaz Ahmed, sent in as opener, smashed 23 off 11 balls and Abdur Razaq plundered 40 off 38 balls in a blazing start.

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World Youth C'ship

NAMIBIA-BD SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the World Youth Championship match between Namibia and Bangladesh at the Uyanwatta Stadium in Matara on Wednesday.

NAMIBIA				
J Burger	b Hannan	3		
S Sweeney	b Bikash	3		
V Merwe	c M Kabir b Anwar	3		
B Mburgh	lbw b Hannan	3		
J Nel	c Salim b Hannan	4		
S Gericke	c M Kabir b Hannan	8		
B Root	c Salim b Anwar	1		
S Ludik	b Hannan	4		
T Wey	run out	4		
W Slabber	not out	1		
M Greef	lbw b Mosaddek	1		
Extras: (lb-1, lb-2, w-18, nb-1)		22		
Total: (All out in 28.3 overs)		57		
Fall of wickets: 1-14; 2-16; 3-22; 4-24; 5-30; 6-31; 7-38; 8-50; 9-56				

Bangladesh				
Nahidul Haq	c Myburgh b Root	16		
Ashrafal	c Nel b Root	0		
Rajin	not out	14		
Hannan	c Merwe b Burger	8		
Salim	not out	10		
Extras: (lb-1, w-9)		10		
Total: (For 3 wickets in 11.1 overs)		58		
Fall of wickets: 1-20; 2-22; 3-34				

Did not bat: Kuntal, Kalim, Mahfuz Kabir, Bikash, Anwar and Mosaddek Hossain.

Bowling O M R W
Stephan Ludik 5 0 19 0
Burton van Rooy 3 0 15 2
JB Burger 2 0 12 1
Wilber Slabber 1 0 8 0
Michael Griff 0 1 0 3

Result: Bangladesh won the match by 7 wickets.
Toss: Namibia won the toss and decided to bat.

Super League gets underway

Al-Amin from Matara, Sri Lanka

India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Australia will start their respective Super League matches played at different venues across the country on Wednesday.

India breeze past Nepal to register an eight-wicket victory at Katunayake. Chasing 99, they romped to 105 in 25.2 overs.

Colombo, Pakistan thrashed New Zealand with six-wicket defeat. With a meagre 90 needed to win, Pakistan reached 94 for the loss of four wickets in 31.4 overs. The architect of Pakistan's comfortable victory was their pace bowler Zahid Saeed. In helpful conditions, Saeed was quite unplayable and none of the batsmen were able to cope with his pace.

The tall fastie knocked the backbone of the Kiwis and finished with five for 13.

At Colombo, hosts Sri Lanka comfortably beat England by seven wickets.

At the SSC ground, a six off the fifth ball of the penultimate over by T Welsford off M Samuels gave Australia a four wicket victory over West Indies.

Opting to bat, West Indies were off to a fine start with openers B Parchment (25) and Zaheer Ali (29) putting on 71 runs from 24.3 overs. But Australia could restrict them to 199 for six in 50 overs.

Patel, the left-arm spinner, took five wickets for 64 runs as the inexperienced Dhaka Metropolitan side, in reply to the MCC's first innings total of 268, were shot out for 173 in 80.3 overs.

MCC, in their second innings, were eight for no loss at stumps on the second day.

The shaven-headed Kent all-rounder gave his team the much-needed breakthrough when he dismissed opener Ashraf Hossain in the 14th over with the ball reading 31.

Patel then removed one-down Rezaul (5), middle-order Raju Parvez (32) and two lower middle-orders Salaudin (30) and Zahir (12) to complete his five-wicket lading in 34 overs, which included 12 maidens.

Patel was ably helped by Lancashire offie Gary Yates, who captured four wickets for 58 from his 25 overs.

Middle-order Raju Parvez top-scored for the locals with 32 off 59 balls, inclusive of two fours while number six batsman Salaudin Ahmed added 30 off 73 balls.

It was, however, opener Mahfuz, who hammered six boundaries in his short and sweet innings of 27, much to the delight of a few hundred crowd, who were allowed entry into the gallery free of cost. From day one BCB kept all the gates of the

Asian Men's Chess

Reefat in spot 2

Sports Reporter

International Master (IM) Reefat-bin-Sattar moved to the second position in the 2nd Asian Men's Chess championship with a win in the 8th round held at Udaypur, India on Tuesday.

Reefat posted an easy victory over Uzbek IM Dimitri Kayamov to raise his tally to five points out of a possible eight. Reefat, with this win, joins Chinese Grand Master Wixxin and Indian IM Shashikaran in the second spot of the table.

IM Ziaur Rahman was in the crowded third spot along with four others after he drew with Indian Harikrishnan in the eighth round clash.

Three Chinese Grand Masters--Peng Xiaomin, Jhung Jhung and Xun Xan--and Vietnam Grand Master Dao Dien Hai are sharing the top spot with 5.5 points each.

In the 8th Asian Women's Chess, International Women Master Rani Hamid beat Sri Lankan Vineta Vijesuriya while Tanima Parveen got a bye in the eighth round. Both Rani and Tanima have equal four points.

N'singhdi soccer

NARSINGDI, Jan 19: Sher-e-Bangla Club beat Nababitan Club by a solitary goal in the inaugural match of the Shaheed Maizuddin District football tournament here today, reports UNB.

National winger Rakin netted the all-important goal in the 39th minute.

Earlier, Science and Technology Minister Gen (rtd) Nuruddin Khan inaugurated the tournament as chief guest.



Three ICC fact-finders (R-L) Nasimul Ghani, Graham Dowling and Andy Pycroft called on Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. BCB Director of Coaching Eddie Barlow was present. The ICC inspection team arrived in the city on Tuesday to assess the latest state of Bangladesh's claim for Test status. They also witnessed the second day's proceedings of the MCC-Dhaka Metropolitan Eleven match.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Cricket impasse

Quader remains positive

Sports Reporter

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader is still hopeful of a peaceful solution to the squabble between players and organisers that led to the cricketers' boycott of the ongoing four-day match against the visiting MCC.

Quader spoke his mind impromptu to a host of reporters at the stairway of the National Sports Council building last evening.

"I was out of town for the last two days. I am not aware of the latest development. Let me talk to both the parties and then I will do whatever is required," said Quader.

"I took an initiative last week when they refused to play at Rajshahi. They played the Rajshahi match following my intervention. The board has already lifted the ban on the seven cricketers on my request," he said.

The State Minister refused to comment when asked whether he agreed with the BCB's stand that only the players were responsible for the whole mess.

He, however, was concerned that the situation had turned worse and believed that it would take quite some time to resolve the issue.

"I don't say they (cricketers) have betrayed, but they should have played for the prestige of the country after the ban was lifted," Quader added.

When reminded that although the embargo was lifted, yet three of the seven banned cricketers -- national captain Aminul Islam, vice-captain Khaled Mahmud and all-rounder Enamul Haque -- were not named in the 39-man selection against MCC, Quader said that inclusion of the three cricketers in the national team was not their (cricketers) demand.

The board can very well say that I requested them only to lift the ban on the seven cricketers and said nothing about whom to include and whom not to. I have no comment to make on this point because they (BCB) can very well claim now that they have conceded to my request," said the minister.

There is no problem on earth which cannot be solved through discussion. Let me talk to both the parties. I hope this problem will be over soon," said Quader before proceeding to his NSC office.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Cricket Board yesterday issued 'show cause notice' on the cricketers who did not report for the four-day match against MCC. According to the notice, the cricketers have been asked to give their reply within 72 hours.

Thirty-one of the 39 cricketers summoned, did not report to BCB in an expression of loyalty with the Cricketers Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB), which called for a boycott of the MCC match at Dhaka in protest of deferring the inter-club cricketers' transfer and also for not including three prominent cricketers in the selection.

When a group of reporters tried to talk with the BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury at the Bangabandhu yesterday, the cricket boss declined saying that he would meet the media in a day or two.

MCC take first innings lead

Sports Reporter

Skipper Min Patel returned with a five-wicket haul to take the visiting Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) to a commanding position against Dhaka Metropolitan XI yesterday on the second day of the four-day match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Patel, the left-arm spinner, took five wickets for 64 runs as the inexperienced Dhaka Metropolitan side, in reply to the MCC's first innings total of 268, were shot out for 173 in 80.3 overs.

MCC, in their second innings, were eight for no loss at stumps on the second day.

The shaven-headed Kent all-rounder gave his team the much-needed breakthrough when he dismissed opener Ashraf Hossain in the 14th over with the ball reading 31.

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It was, however, opener Mahfuz, who hammered six boundaries in his short and sweet innings of 27, much to the delight of a few hundred crowd, who were allowed entry into the gallery free of cost. From day one BCB kept all the gates of the

MCC wicketkeeper Paul Nixon shouts for joy after the dismissal of Dhaka Metropolitan Eleven opener Ashique Hossain yesterday.

Bangabandhu open to get some crowd as no spectator was apparently willing to lighten his pocket to see a match devoid of local stars. The national cricketers, under the banner of Cricketers Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB), are boycotting the match as part of their ongoing movement aimed primarily at holding early the lucrative club transfer.

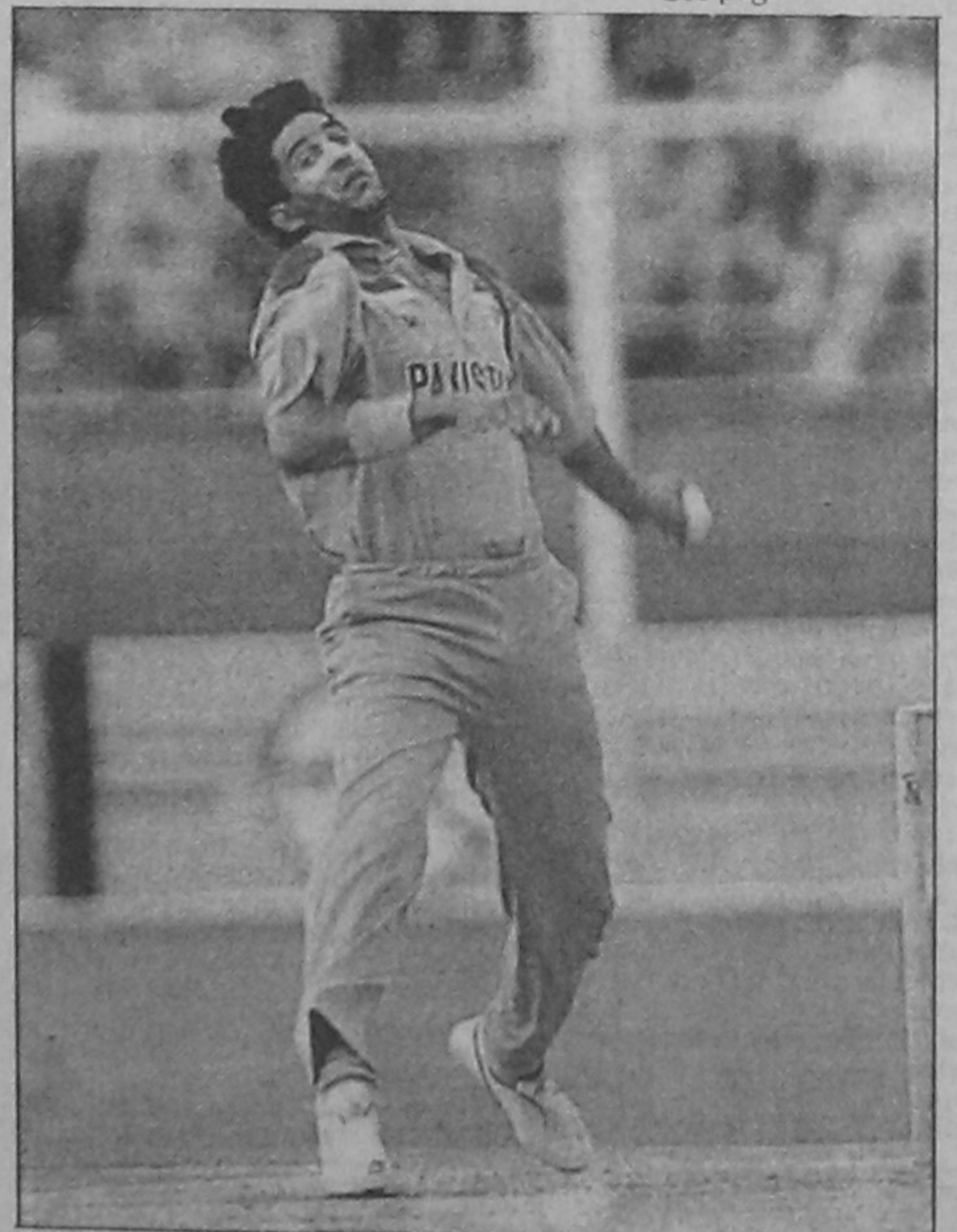
The tourists, resuming the day on 259 for 9 in 90 overs, added another nine runs to their total in 4.5 overs before being all out.

Centurion Anthony McGrath, who was unbeaten on 131 overnight, was the last man to go, trapped leg-before on 139

Scoreboard on the second day of the four-day match between MCC and Dhaka Metropolitan Eleven at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday:

MCC: First innings (overnight 259 for 9 in 90 overs)				
B Athey	b Ashfaq	4		
M Wood	c & b Zahir	15		
B Smith	c Jashim b Zahir	31		
A McGrath	lbw b Ashfaq	139		
P Nixon	c Nadim b Zahir	11		

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WASIM AKRAM

FACTFILE

Wasim Akram
Born: 03 June 1966, Lahore.
Major Teams: Pakistan, Lancashire, Pakistan International Airlines, Pakistan, National Shipping Corporation, Pakistan Automobiles Corporation, Lahore City Cricket Association.

Known As: Wasim Akram
Pronounced: Wasim Akram
Batting Style: Left-hand bat.
Bowling Style: Left-arm fast.
ODI Debut: Pakistan v New Zealand at Faisalabad, 2nd ODI, 1984/85.

Latest ODI: Pakistan v Australia at Sydney, Carlton & United Series, 19/1/2000.
Wisden Cricketer of the Year 1993.

STATISTICAL RECORDS

One-day Internationals (including 19/01/2000)

Batting	M	I	No	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct	St
255	225	39	2950	86	15.82		6	78		

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Ave	Best	4w	5w	Sr	Econ
244.2	181	9385	400	23.53	5/15	16	6	36.7	3.84	

Participants of the second SAARC Golf Championship at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.