

Syed Kirmani (Former Indian wicketkeeper)

"An opener is a specialist batsman and having makeshift openers never helps."

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-127

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Competition closes at 8 pm March 24, 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

Who won the tri-series down India Pakistan | Australia How many Test matches has Shepherd officiated in till the Bombay Test?

What is the name of Sir Stanley Matthews' father? Stephen

Who is FIFA's world player-of-theyear? Raul Who is the captain of Biman cricket

Faruque Athar

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

NERGY RELEASING WIANG

Premier League Cricket holiday

Sports Reporter The Premier Division Cricket League will enjoy a twoweek break from today for the Eid-ul-Azha. This was decided by the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) in a meeting last night.

The League will resume on March 28.

Meanwhile, yesterday's both Premier League matches were postponed because of soggy outfield caused by overnight rain.

Mohammedan Sporting Club were scheduled to meet Surjo Tarun Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium while Brothers Union were due to face City Club at the BKSP ground.

Warne levels with Lillee

AUCKLAND, Mar 13 (AP/Internet): Shane Warne joined Dennis Lillee as Australia's most successful Test bowler but he was forced to wait for his record-breaking moment as New Zealand fought back in the first cricket Test.

Warne took his 355th wicket, equalling paceman Lillee's record, when he bowled Nathan Astle for 35, but he was unable to get another wicket in his final six overs on a gripping third day.

Warne produced a beautiful behind-the-pads leg-break to spreadeagle Astle's stamps at Eden Park.

Warne was not available to discuss his feat, but wicket keeper Adam Gilchrist said: "It was another of his great deliveries, one of those balls that had drift, pitched in the rough and turned back, one where I lose sight of it momentarily and then hear the thud. It was a great ball."

Steve Waugh brought on Warne in the 17th over of NZ's second innings, by which time Glenn McGrath and Colin Miller had reduced the Black

Caps to 3-31. Warne was an nervous as a kitten and went for 11 runs in his first over. He beat Astle with a wrong 'un, but Waugh watched him for five overs and replaced

Ashraful for major soup-up Saurav selected for Dhaka tie!

Bangladesh cricket is now going through a crucial period. Country's cricketers, organisers, fans are bubbling with the exciting prospect of getting Test status in the June meeting of the International Cricket Council (ICC) at Lord's. Standing in betwixt and between of the world cricket, it is very significant for us to set the modus operandi before we are baptised as the tenth Test playing nation.

Although the general feeling was that things would be adjusted and adopted in the process of growing-up of cricket. But for those, who consider the game as a medium to a world of possibility, we need to take some major decisions before we enter the real and flercely competitive cricket world.

It is true that Bangladesh had performed reasonably both on and off the field. They have reigned supreme against mediocre teams but have also proved a point or two against established forces of cricket. Still, to survive at the highest level of cricket we face a monumental challenge in future.

Recently, our Senior Reporter Al-Amin had a lengthy talk with BCB general secretary Syed Ashraful Huq, who is well known to the cricket world as Ash. Following is the excerpt of that interview:

DSS: You are very confident the challenge at the moment?

better team to for Test matches than what Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka had when they played their first Test. Some people believe that we had better teams we get the Test status our inand better players than the present set. But to me Aminul, Akram, Mehrab, Shahriar are hundred times better than what we had in the past. I was a

player and I still remember how badly we lost to Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe. There was a time when we struggled for survival against teams like MCC even. But now things have changed and our present generations are taking the attack to all their opponents.

DSS: You require a qualified ground to play Test matches. But presently the Board does not have a single venue of its own. Critics claim that the Board has given a false impression to the ICC inspection team about the existing infrastructure of our cricket. Do you have anything to say in defence? Ash: When Sri Lanka were

awarded Test status, they had a lone stadium in Colombo. We have an established Test venue in Dhaka, which has already hosted nine Test matches. And, I'm confident that the 10th Test match will be played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Some may argue but I think this is a cricket stadium. declare it as an ideal cricket ground. Besides, we can also play Test matches at the BKSP

Ash: The present Board is a Ash: I think we have got a most successful one as far as our achievement in international arena is concerned. I have total respect to all the present Board members. But once volvement and accountability will become ten times more than what we have now. And to respond gallantly to that we need to have a professional attitude for running cricket. We are desperately in need of three executives to run the Board smoothly. You can not think of running a Board professionally without a chief executive, a development director and a marketing and finance director. And they must have enough authority.

> **DSS**: It means that you want three paid executives in the Board. But do you think that the trio would be able to work independently under the existing constitution of the Board?

Ash: It is true that the existing constitution would not permit them to run independently. Rather they will be glorified administrative officers, which I think would not be healthy for our cricket.

DSS: In that case do you suggest a change in the Board structure or are you in favour of only the recasting of characters in Ash: It is a competitive

world. If we want to survive at If you bring two separate ICC the highest level of cricket we and FIFA inspection teams to must recast the constitution. give their independent verdict. I'm always in favour of elec-I'm sure that both parties would tion, but the Board should be concise and I'm against more than 15 representatives in the executive committee (EC). We can take the queue from ICC

DSS: You were talking about and the Australian Cricket ganisers and the cricketers. Esabout Bangladesh getting the the players. But do you think Board (ACB). It would be better pecially after the World Cup, Test status in June. Do you that the BCB itself is adequately if the EC consists of six repre- our cricket heroes turned vilthink we are ready to take up equipped to face the challenge? sentatives from the six divi- lain overnight and were facing sions, a maximum three from Dhaka-based clubs, a representative from the universities, the three executives and a government nominated president.

The Daily Star Sport has met three top-notch cricket organisers of the country in a bid to know their opinions about some burning issues that need to be addressed immediately. Their views will appear in the Star Sport in phases. We want our knowledgeable readers to let the organisers know about their observations on the betterment of the game. We therefore request you (readers) to contribute your views, advises and criticisms by just sending a write-up or an email to dssports@bdonl -Star Sport

DSS: It seems that you are against the existence of a general secretary, a treasurer and a vice-president in your desired board. If so, how do you see things running in the Board?

Ash: During the World Cup we failed to get a reasonable sponsor for our national team. But if we had a professional marketing man that time I believe he could have fared much better. I'm not an ideal general secretary. I have my own business to run, so are the other members in the Board whose involvement in cricket is a love affair rather than a professional responsibility

playing nations, a healthy relationship exists between players and organisers. But our cricket confrontation between the or- to put everything into shape.

Jayasuriya hit three fours

Russel Arnold, who made 99

and a six during his 27-ball in-

runs with Tillekeratne Dilshan

for the fourth wicket to repair

before lunch when debutant

pacer Irfan Fazil forced him to

edge an outgoing ball to first

slip where Younis Khan took a

eight boundaries and lasted 109

hit out of the attack by Romesh

Kaluwitharana who hit him for

witharana then hit three fours

off Wagar to post Sri Lanka's

150 in the 31st over. He added a

quickfire 54 for the fifth wicket

boundaries in his 29-ball 42

and was unluckily run out, fail-

ing to beat Mohammad Na-

veed's throw from deep square

leg in his attempts for a second

then chipped in with the wick-

ets of Indika de Saram (5) and

Dilshan (31) to reduce the Sri

some defensive batting taking

102 balls and hit three bound-

Pushpakumara (1) and Wick-

remasinghe (0) in his 16th over

and Muralitharan added 21 in-

valuable runs for the last

wicket to bring Sri Lanka to within 29 runs of Pakistan's

up the innings dismissing Mu-

ralitharan for 14. The Sri

of 3-52 while Waqar and Afridi

beatable 2-0 lead in the three-

SCOREBOARD

second day of the third and fi-

nal cricket Test between Pak-

istan and Sri Lanka here Mon-

256 (I Haq 86, S Afridi 74; M

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Muralitharan 4-89).

Atapattu Ibw b Wagar

(overnight 10-0).

Scorecard at close on the

PAKISTAN: First innings

SRI LANKA: First innings

Lankan hit three boundaries.

Mohammad Akram wrapped

Akhtar returned with figures

The tourists enjoy an un-

to take the tourists to 206-9.

first innings total of 256.

took two wickets apiece.

match series.

day:

Dilshan held one end with

Akhtar removed Ravindra

However, Chaminda Vaas

Leg-spinner Shahid Afridi

Kaluwitharana hit nine

Pocket-sized dynamo Kalu-

five boundaries after lunch.

Arnold's 48 was spiced with

The 19-year-old Fazil was

Arnold fell in the last over

the early damage.

minutes.

with Dilshan.

Lankans to 188-7.

aries.

ban when they expressed certain desires. How do you look at players' movement?

Ash: It was a misunderstanding between the two parties. Had the players and organisers sat across the table, it could have been easily solved. The row only served the obnoxious desires of a vested quarter. The players are our biggest as-.sets. When they perform we talk big things. Players and organisers are complimentary to each other. We can not hate each other. I'm all for the players' association. But it has to be a registered legitimate organisation. They have to have a constitution of their own. They have to have elected representatives. There should be players' representative in every sub committee of the Board. Apart from their involvement in the selection committee, they can be included in other sub committees. They are part of the

whole development procedure. DSS: Your president made several announcements that the national player's will be brought under the pay roll of the Board. But that promise is yet to see light. When can we expect something concrete on that issue?

Ash: The national cricketers' main affiliation will be with the Board. But the cricket Board does not have enough money at the moment to contract the national cricketers. We are now in a peculiar situa-DSS: In most of the Test tion. If we do not get the Test status we are likely to take a major step backward. But if we get it then I'm sure we can get recently has seen a very sad strike deals with big companies



DSS: Your president Saber Hossain Chowdhury recently said that he wants to part with club cricket. Do you reserve the

same notion? Ash: We are more concerned about our club cricket than the real development of our national cricket. Clubs should not play under the banner of BCB but under the regional bodies The Board should only concentrate on national events like national championship, age group events and international

DSS: Among the international cricket boards, which one do you rate as the best? Do you want the BCB to follow any of those boards?

Ash: I am not against following if it does good to our cricket. However, I will not suggest taking the examples of the boards of the sub-continent. I would like the BCB to take the queue from efficient organisations like the ACB, the ECB or the South African Board.

DSS: There is a criticism of you that you are not half as serious about domestic cricket as you are about international

Ash: I think I am misunderstood. As I said earlier that I'm pre-occupied with my business and others. I don't have the time to watch club matches regularly. But, in case of national level cricket I'm doing what I've been asked to do.

DSS: Thanks for obliging.

Sports Reporter

ptain Saurav Gan- Saeed Anwar. guly may play exhibition limited-overs match

at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on April 8, said a highly-placed source at the Bangladesh Cricket Board. The source, preferring anonymity, revealed yesterday that the southpaw, who was not

included in the 12-man Asian squad announced by the ICC on March 7, has been retained as one of their three reserves along with Sri Lankan wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana and Pakistan off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq. He further added that the

'Prince of Calcutta' might find himself in the final eleven if Sri Lankan master batsman Aravinda de Silva does not make himself available.

De Silva, who developed hamstring problems, did not play in the ongoing third Test against Pakistan in Karachi. The Asian Eleven will be led

by former Pakistan captain and one-day-cricket's highest wicket-taker Wasim Akram while ex-West Indies skipper Brian Charles Lara will lead the The match is a part of the In-

ternational Cricket Council's 'Cricket Week' which will be observed worldwide in April. Earlier Saurav's exclusion

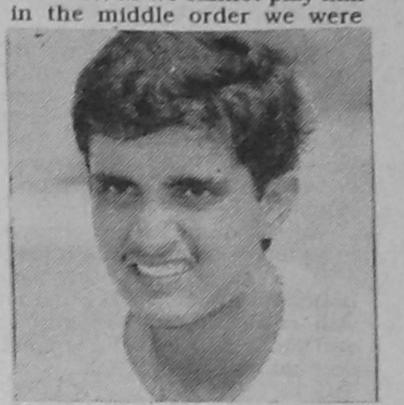
kicked up an uproar in the Indian media, with the Calcuttan himself publicly expressing his shock. It was reported that even though Sunil Gavaskar wanted him in the side, the other four selectors felt that Saurav did not deserve a place in the side. Gavaskar's proposal was turned down by 1-4 votes by Ian Chappell, Mike Procter, Asif Iqbal and Tony Greig.

The convenor of the selection meeting Ravi Shastri tried his best to include Saurav in the side stating that his inclusion would be an added attraction at Dhaka. Shastri however did not have the necessary powers to enforce Ganguly's selection. Our Calcutta correspondent

added that Ganguly was not included simply because of his slow strike rate compared to

Indian cricket ca- that of Sanath Jayasuriya or

"We had talked about Ganafter all in the guly at length in the meeting. He Asia Eleven whi- deserved a place in the Asian XI. However, as we cannot play him



forced to leave the opener out, said one of the selectors to this correspondent.

SQUADS

ASIA ELEVEN: Wasim 'Akram (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya (vice-captain), Moin Khan (wicketkeeper), Saeed Anwar, Sachin Tendulkar, Aravinda de Silva, Ajay Jadeja, Abdur Razzak, Robin Singh, Anil Kumble, Muttiah Muralitharan and Shoaib Akhtar.

REST OF THE WORLD ELEVEN: Brian Lara (captain), Mark Waugh (vice-captain), Adam Gilchrist (wicketkeeper), Jacques Kallis, Michael Bevan, Neil Johnson, Lance Klusener, Chris Cairns, Daniel Vettori, Curtly Ambros, Allan Donald and Andrew Caddick.

Premier Division matches washed away

Sports Reporter

Two Premier Division cricket league matches which were scheduled to be played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium and BKSP grounds respectively yesterday, were postponed because of over night

Mohammedan Sporting Club were scheduled to meet Surjo Tarun Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium while Brothers Union were due to meet City Club at the BKSP

Hosts slightly ahead

KARACHI, Mar 13: The third and final cricket Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka

was evenly poised after the second day's play at Karachi's National Stadium Monday, reports AFP. With the series already out of

reach. Pakistan were 88 for three at stumps, derailed after they looked set to build a winning lead. Pakistan are ahead by 117 runs with seven wickets intact.

nightwatchman Shoaib Akhtar was yet to score on a day when Pakistan's bowlers produced their best performance of the series by dismissing Sri Lanka for 227 in their first innings. Pakistan had a brisk and

Naveed who put on a stand of 70. Pakistan's best in the series.

the initiative. The openers reached 50 in

his instincts.

Inzamamul Haq had 12 and

confident start to their second innings with Shahid Afridi and But then the home team lost three quick wickets and with it

just 8.2 overs with Afridi in his shot down and was caught at typical attacking mood. He was point by Ijaz for 24. caught off a no-ball from Pramodya Wickremansinghe when on 21 but that did not curb nings lasting 49 minutes.

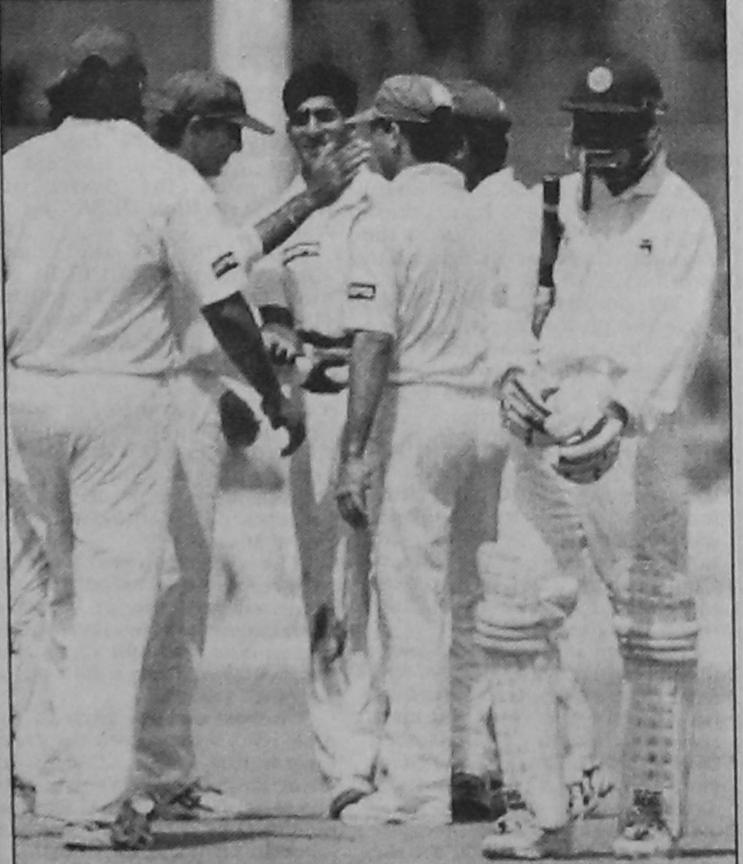
At 70, Afridi missed the line in the second Test, added 54 of a Pushpakumara delivery and was bowled for a 34 which included six fours. Naveed became off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan's 250th

Test scalp when he fell leg before wicket for 27. Muralitharan, who is playing his 51st Test, then won a bat pad decision against Ijaz

Ahmed for 3 when the ball looked to have beat the whole face of the bat. Earlier resuming at 10-0, Sri Lanka lost four wickets in the

first session adding 90 runs. Paceman Waqar Younis struck twice by sending Marvan Atapattu (3) and Mahela Jayawardene (1) in his first spell of the day.

In between expressman Shoaib Akhtar removed skipper Sanath Jayasuriya when the batsman failed to keep a cut



Debutant Pakistan paceman Irfan Fazil (C) being congratulated by teammates after getting his first Test wicket [Russel Arnold (R)] in Karachi yesterday.

- AFP photo

Nitol-Tata League

Farcical finish at Rajshahi

Sports Reporter

The last first round match of the Nitol-Tata National Football League between Abahani Krira Chakra of Dhaka and Sylhet Chaturanga Sangha ended abruptly yesterday at the Rajshahi District Stadium as the latter refused to play protesting a penalty kick deci-

sion awarded against them. Chaturanga were leading 1-0 through a 26th minute goal. But they staged a walk-out as soon as the referee rewarded Abahani with a 78th minute spot

Bangladesh Football Federation later announced Abahani the winners 2-0 according to the bye-laws of the League.

Reefat extends his solo lead

Sports Reporter



INTERNATIONAL MASTERS

CHESS TOURNAMENT 2000

International Master Reefat Bin Sattar of Biman remained ahead of the race in the 5th United Insurance International Masters Chess Tournament maintain although he drew with Suvrajit Saha of India yes-

terday. On completion of 8th round, Reefat managed 7 points. Other two IMs of Biman, Ziaur Rahman and IM Abdullah Al Rakib, International Master Vakhidov Tahir of Uzbekistan, Htun Lynn Kyaw of Myanmar and Suvrajit are sharing the crowded second spot, having collected 6 points each. Suvrajit however earned a 9-game IM norm.

Enamul Hossain Razib and Dipanjan Das of India meanwhile occupying the third position with 5.5 points each.

In the 9th round-- Zia beat Sakil, Kyaw beat Roktim, Razib beat Ebeneger Joseph, Pollab beat Saifuddin Lovlu, Aung beat Aminul Islam Pollash, Moniruzzaman Khan beat Dewan Shahidul Amin Tipu, Rezaul Haque beat Monir Hossain and Abul Kashem Bhuiyan beat Syed Ejaz Hossain while Rakib drew with Tahir, Amin

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Anwar next to go

Moin made Pak captain



KARACHI, Mar 13 tain for these assignments but (AFP/Reuters): Pakistan's offfield cricket problems grew a step worse Monday as

captain Saeed Anwar stepped down from captaincy after just five matches in charge. "Anwar came to us and told us that due to health problems and pressure he wants to step down from captaincy and would

like to concentrate on his bat-

ting," Yawar Saeed, director of

operations at the Pakistan

Cricket Board told reporters.

Wicketkeeper Moin Khan was handed the captaincy. The appointment of Moin completes a double change in the running of the team after Javed Miandad took over as coach from Intikhab Alam on the eve of the current third and

final Test against Sri Lanka on Saturday. "Moin has been appointed captain until July 13," PCB chairman Taugir Zia said. "Inzamamul Haq will be his

deputy." Moin Khan will lead Pakistan in the Sharjah tri-series starting from March 22 until Pakistan's return trip to Sri Lanka in June. They will tour the West Indies after the Sharjah tournament.

Zia said last Sunday that nose injuries. Anwar would continue as cap-



MOIN KHAN cent results against Sri Lanka

and blamed Anwar for the fail-"Anwar will retain his place in the team if he is fit." Zia said here on the second day of the

third Test, from which Anwar is absent because of neck and

If Anwar had kept the cap-

taincy it would have put him in a close working relationship newspaper reports said the PCB with Miandad, who resigned was disappointed with the relast April after a previous spell as coach following disagreements with a number of players, including Anwar. Opening batsman Anwar had taken over as captain from Wasim Akram, who stepped

> six out of 10 one-day internationals. Pakistan's squad for a triangular series against India and South Africa in Sharjah is to be named later on Monday, but Zia confirmed Akram was not be-

down after a disastrous 1999-

2000 tour of Australia where

Pakistan lost three Tests and

ing considered. "He is too valuable a player to be risked. He is not only out of Sharjah, he will not be considered for the (subsequent) one-day series in the West Indies," Zia said.

Akram bowled just 13 deliveries in the first Test against Sri Lanka before suffering a groin injury that has kept him out of the rest of the series. Anwar is in Pakistan's pre-

liminary squad of 18 for Sharjah but a final decision will be taken on Tuesday. "There was no pressure on Anwar from the Pakistan board and we honoured his decision.

The management has discussed

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Roktim Bandyopadhyay of India (R) and Htun Lynn Kyaw of Myanmar during the United Insurance International Masters' chess tournament engagement at the NSC yesterday. -Star photo