

## Jemima cleared of smuggling charges

LAHORE, Pakistan, April 6: A Pakistani court Wednesday exonerated Jemima Khan, wife of cricket hero Imran Khan, of charges that she tried to smuggle antique tiles out of the country, officials said, reports AFP.

Judge Khalid Rehman of the Lahore High Court quashed the case which was launched against her in January 1999 under the government of ousted prime minister Nawaz Sharif.

Jemima, daughter of the late British tycoon Sir James Goldsmith, pleaded in her petition that the case was fabricated to harass and damage her husband, who is now a prominent politician.

The case was filed by the customs department after it seized a consignment of tiles, which the authorities alleged were antiques, that Jemima Khan was sending to London.

Pakistan has a long-standing ban against the export of antiques, an offence punishable by several years in prison.

Deputy attorney general Khwaja Saeed Zafar, representing Pakistan's new military-led government, told the court that the ministry of culture and archeology had verified that the tiles were not antiques.

Jemima, who had bought the tiles from a market in Islamabad, was not present for the court hearing.

Imran Khan entered politics in 1996 after launching his Tehrik-i-Insaf or Movement for Justice political party.

The party failed to win a single seat in the general elections in February 1997 in which Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League scored a thumping victory.

Khan has consistently attacked what he said was massive corruption and misrule under Sharif, who was overthrown in a military coup in October.

## ECB, players strike deal

LONDON, April 6: England's leading cricketers have finally reached agreement with the England and Wales Cricket Board over their contracts, the ECB said today, reports Reuters.

Simon Pack, the ECB's international teams' director, said 12 players had signed the new deals after weeks of negotiating over the details.

"We are pleased to have reached this agreement because central contracts represent an important step forward for English cricket," said Pack.

## Big wins

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recorded an identical win over AK High School.

Battling first, AK High School were all out for 147 in 33.4 overs.

In reply, Khiqan reached 149 for three in only 19.1 overs with Johnny notching an unbeaten 52.

In the other match of the day, Barnamala High School posted a two-wicket win over Rashid Adarsha High School at the City Club ground.

Chasing Rashid Adarsha's 149 in 35 overs, Barnamala reached 151 for eight in 22.5 overs with Robin scoring highest 38. Among others, Iqbal scored 18 while Rashid scored 17 for the winners.

Earlier, Rashid Adarsha batted first and scored 147 for seven in 23.4 overs. They had only eight players in their side.

## Wari fly

From page 13  
cause of tomorrow's high-profile exhibition match between Asia Eleven and the Rest of the World Eleven.

### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Premier Division Cricket League match between Agra Bank and Wari Club played at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday:

#### AGRA BANK

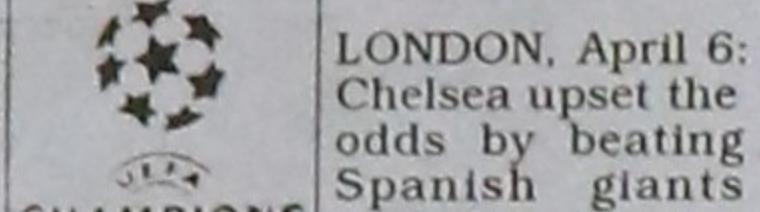
Jamal c Montu b Gamagee	17
A Hanif b Montu	37
Sajad c & b Mapatuna	6
S Malik c Rowan b Zakir	24
Mofizul b Montu	54
Mazhar b Zakir	46
Imran c Sharifuddowla b Zakir	30
Mofizul run out	20
Mizan run out	8
Mosaddek not out	6
Russell run out	1
Extras: (b-10, lb-10, nb-9, w-16)	45
Total: (All out in 50 overs)	294
Fall of wickets: 1-37; 2-66; 3-93; 4-132; 5-218; 6-259; 7-260; 8-284; 9-293	
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O M R W</b>
Gamagee	9 1 50 1
Zakir	9 0 48 3
Montu	9 0 46 2
Sharifuddowla	9 1 57 0
Halim Shah	7 0 35 0
Mapatuna	5 0 25 0
Sajid	2 0 13 0
<b>WARI CLUB</b>	
Anup b Mofizul	34
Ramanayakee not out	142
Mofizul c Mazhar b Imran	1
Halim Shah c Sajid b Mofizul	5
Sharifuddowla lbw b Russell	7
Mahbub c S Malik b Mosaddek	22
Mapatuna b Imran	16
Sajid lbw b Imran	11
Gamagee c Mosaddek b Mofizul	28
Rowan lbw b Mofizul	0
Zakir not out	0
Extras: (b-5, nb-10, w-14)	29
Total: (For 8 wkt in 48.2 overs)	295
Fall of wickets: 1-48; 2-49; 3-61; 4-98; 5-151; 6-198; 7-221; 8-292; 9-294	
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O M R W</b>
Imran	10 0 51 3
Mizan	1 0 14 0
Mofizul	8 0 42 4
Mosaddek	8.2 0 36 1
Russell	10 0 57 1
Mofizul	6 0 45 0
S Malik	5 0 43 0
Result: Wari Club won by one wicket.	



Chelsea's French international defender Marcel Desailly (R) tackles Barcelona striker Dani during their Champion's League fixture at Stamford Bridge in London on April 5.

— AFP photo

## Chelsea make Barca dizzy



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

LONDON, April 6: Chelsea upset the odds by beating Spanish giants and tournament favourites Barcelona 3-1 in the European Champions League quarter-final, first leg, at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday night.

Italian Gianfranco Zola opened the scoring for the Blues and Norwegian international Tore Andre Flo added two more goals before half-time in a pulsating first half.

Barca captain Luis Figo pulled one back for the visitors nine minutes after the interval. Chelsea coach Gianluca Vialli was happy with result but realistic about the task ahead.

"In the first half we managed to do the right things and then we were tired because our game was so demanding," he said.

"It was a good night for us but it's only the first half and we have won nothing. The job is not done yet.

"I think we were great and it just shows what we are capable of, but it will be a different game at the Nou Camp."

"We have to go there without a negative attitude and I think the guys will be up for it. I would like to play that game myself!"

Barcelona's Dutch coach Louis Van Gaal was disappointed with his team's performance but confident they would still progress into the semi-finals.

"It was a bad result for us but I still think we can go through," said the stone-faced Dutchman.

"It will be difficult because Chelsea are battling as hard as we are but we can do it."

Van Gaal hinted that Chelsea were perhaps a little fortunate to race into a three goal lead.

"They created little and made goals out of nothing," he added. But he was delighted with his team's response in the second half.

"We showed how we can play and that we are a threat going forward and if we play like we did after half time in the second leg we have a good chance of

success," he said.

Chelsea's giant Dutch keeper Ed de Goey pulled off a fantastic save to keep the Blues on level terms and had to be

going through."

Barcelona last won the European Cup in 1992 at Wembley. Chelsea coach Gianluca Vialli was in the Sampdoria side beaten 1-0 by the Catalans on that occasion and knew his side had to be at their best to overcome the in-form Spanish champions.

Barcelona arrived in good shape, unbeaten in the Champions League this season, scoring a record-breaking 36 goals in 12 games in their two qualifying group games.

In contrast Chelsea's success has been built on a rock solid defence. In 14 games in Europe including two qualifying play-off matches - they have conceded a meagre nine goals, two of those in the defeat by Lazio a fortnight ago.

Vialli opted for youth in midfield by starting with England under-21 international Jody Morris instead of Gianfranco Zola. Vialli was happy with result but realistic about the task ahead.

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