

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-128

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
April 14, 2000 and draw  
shortly afterwards

1	Who is the number one women's tennis player?	Hings	Davenport	Seles
2	Who won the United Insurance Chess title?	Reefat	Zia	Aung
3	How many Tests did Walsh need to break Kapil Dev's world record?	114	115	116
4	Who was adjudged man-of-the-series in the West Indies-Zimbabwe Test?	Rose	Walsh	Adam
5	Who are the First Division cricket champions?	Dhanmondi	V Cricketers	Rhelaghar

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

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EN-VITS  
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## SPORTS TALK



Brian Lara

(Former West Indies cricket captain)

"I am not a great business, I am not a great golfer. I think I am a good cricketer, and I think I want to become a great cricketer."

### Dotcom cricket's dream debut

Cricketnext.com, India's latest and coolest cricket website, is proud to be associated with the International Cricket Week 2000 and the ICC Cricketnext.com Cup match between Asia Eleven and Rest of the World in Dhaka yesterday, reports BSS.

"It is our privilege to be the first dotcom venture to sponsor a cricket event at the global level," the executives of the site said in a release available here this afternoon.

Launched at a simple function in the hallowed CK Nayudu Hall at the Cricket Club of India in Mumbai on March 1, 2000, cricketnext.com has already registered over 8 million hits. Much of the traffic is expected, from the cricket crazy subcontinent and the United States of America.

The site prides itself in providing live coverage of all international matches — offering a simple desktop scoreboard that does not need any complicated software downloads. It includes news, features including columns by former cricketers like Dilip Vengsarkar, Dave Richardson and Geoff Lawson, umpire K T Francis and commentator Charu Sharma. MTV Vedjay Cyrus Broacha's passionate weekly column titled what Bradman Doesn't Know, has proved to be a big hit with the users.

The site also promotes interactivity with the users through a number of features like a daily polls question, discussion boards, chats, ask the star. It will soon put up a coaching manual on the site with former cricketers offering tips to the users. Besides, frequent contests make it attractive for the cricketizens to log into the site.

Cricketnext.com is promoted by Sanjay Jha and his wife Pallavi Jha's prime venture Walchand NetSoft Pvt Ltd. Last week, Australian media magnate Kerry Packer and his Indian partners in KVP Ventures Ketan Parekh and Vinay Malu, announced that they were picking up a 33 per cent stake in Walchand NetSoft Pvt Ltd.



Sri Lankan batting maestro Aravinda de Silva, starring for Asia Eleven, attempts a sweep shot.

— Star photo

## Cricket Week Crackers

Hasan Masood

Thousands of autograph-hunters had a field day yesterday leaving the cricketers of the Asia XI and the Rest of the World ducking and dodging all the time from the never-say-over fans at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The determined Bangladesh fans never allowed any cricketers to sit in front of their own dressing-rooms. Whenever someone came out of the dressing-room, the cricket fans, who parked themselves around the dressing room areas unlawfully, rushed towards them and pressed for their dream autographs.

At one moment, Jacques Kallis of South Africa walked out of the room and sat on a chair to watch the proceedings. But the dashing all-rounder soon realised the trouble of being a star cricketer. He almost beat American legendary athlete Carl Lewis as he jumped into dressing room in one attempt.

### CRICKET-LOVING COPS

Hundreds of police and civil personnel thronged the staircase that separated the media box from the commentary cubicle during the first innings of the exhibition match yesterday afternoon.

The staircase was supposed to be vacant during the match as it was adjacent to the sight screen. But no body could dare to send those guys away, as most of them were security men.

Having been failed by their own staffs, the BCB finally turned to the Bangladesh Rifles, who promptly sprang into action and drove them away.

Besides, some cricket-loving policemen were also seen crowding at the camera spot of TWI that was located at the rooftop of the stadium restricting the movement of the cameramen.

### ZEE SENT PACKING

Excepting TWI cameras, no TV lenses were allowed to enter the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. When a group of cameramen from ZEE News tried to get into the ground for their own footages, a group

of TWI crews rushed towards them and compel them to leave the field.

A series of hot talks were traded between the TWI crews and the ZEE News men before the latter stormed out of the field.

### NO CHEER FOR PRESS

Cheerleaders were flown in from India to add glamour to the high-profile match. The group starring by some striking girls was seen cheering the players throughout the match sitting in between the Club House and the Press box.

When this correspondent asked one of them about their identity, the eldest cheerleader refused to give her identity saying that they have been instructed to avoid the press.

"We are not even supposed to disclose our identity to the press and talk to them," she said.

### WHERE'VE THE TICKETS GONE?

Ticket touts had had a brisk business at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. Thousands of cricket-lovers, who failed to collect tickets from the Al Baraka Banks, found no other way but forked out on their passion for the game. But majority of the fans, who could not afford to pay the exorbitant sum asked by the blackers, were seen loitering around the arena. Some of them got over their fascination soon and left for their homes.

A ticket of Western Gallery of 125 taka was sold at 400 taka while an Eastern Gallery ticket of 100 taka was on offer for 300 taka.

It was alleged that some unscrupulous BCB officials made fortunes on handing tickets to black market. "Only ten out of thirty-seven thousand gallery tickets were given to the Al-Baraka for sale and no one can say where the other tickets went, said a BCB source, on condition anonymity.

### HATS-OFF TO HOMES GIRLS

Six hundreds girls of Bharateshwary Homes yesterday drew bemused the packed

Bangabandhu National Stadium with their spectacular acrobatic display before the match got underway.

The smartly dressed-up contingent of girls started their 12 minutes programme displaying the word "Welcome" to the cheers of the capacity crowd.

International cricketers, officials and visitors sang praises profusely for the little performers.

### Shoaib to take more rest?

ST. JOHN'S, Apr 8: Pakistan fast bowling sensation Shoaib Akhtar could be rested for the entire triangular 2000 Trophy limited-overs cricket series in the Caribbean, reports AFP.

Pakistan coach Javed Miandad revealed Shoaib is still not fully recovered from a groin injury he sustained in the final of the Sharjah Cup against South Africa late last month.

"I am not sure he will be played the limited-overs matches because he is still in bad shape and he is recovering," Miandad, a former Pakistan captain, told reporters.

"We are thinking he will be all right for the Tests series because it is more important than the triangular competition. We just brought him to the Caribbean to relax, look after himself and try to get 100 per cent for the Tests.

"We do not want to take any chances because we have other bowlers."

The 24-year-old Akhtar did not play against Zimbabwe in Wednesday's 2000 Trophy match which Pakistan won by five wickets at the Antigua Recreation Ground here.

It was first match of a two-month Caribbean tour for the Pakistanis. They face West Indies in the fourth match of the series in Kingstown, St. Vincent, on Wednesday.

"We have not got our top players, but they are going to join us later," Miandad said. "If they come, obviously we will have a good chance and I have full confidence in my team that they can take anything."



Cheer girls, who have been flown in to add colours to the Asia XI vs Rest of the World XI mega-match, at work at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman



### ASIA XI V REST OF WORLD XI SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Asia Eleven innings against the Rest of the World XI played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday:

ASIA XI					
Jayasuriya c Bevan b Hayward	12				
Tendulkar c Rose b Tufnell	80				
Saurav c Rose b Tufnell	67				
Aravinda c Gilchrist b Bevan	39				
Jadeja c Johnson b M Waugh	28				
Razzak b M Waugh	3				
Moin c b Hayward	34				
Akram b Hayward	15				
Kumble not out	14				
Vass run out	0				
Muralitharan not out	0				
Extras: (lb-9, nb-3, w-16)	28				
Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs)	320				
Fall of wickets: 1-49; 2-163; 3-183; 4-242; 5-248; 6-248; 7-291; 8-314; 9-319.					
Bowler	O	M	R	W	
Hayward	7	0	39	3	
Caddick	4	0	27	0	
Rose	6	0	44	0	
Cairns	4	0	22	0	
Tufnell	9	0	68	2	
Klusener	4	0	22	0	
Bevan	10	0	61	1	
M Waugh	6	0	28	2	

REST OF WORLD XI: Mark Waugh (captain), Phil Tufnell, Chris Cairns (Vice-Captain), Michael Bevan, Neil Johnson, Adam Gilchrist, Jacques Kallis, Lance Klusener, Nantie Hayward, Andrew Caddick and Franklin Rose, Andy Flower (12th man).

Umpires: S Venkataraghavan (India) and David Orchard (South Africa).

TV Umpire: Doug Cowie (New Zealand).

Referee: Peter Van Der Merwe (South Africa).

### ICC promises to go tough

Sports Reporter

The International Cricket Council president Jagmohan Dalmiya said that the ICC would take serious action against South African captain Hansie Cronje and three of his teammates if they were found guilty in a recent match-fixing allegation brought by Delhi police.

The world cricket boss said this in a television interview during the exhibition day-night match between Asia XI and Rest of the World at the Bangabandhu National Stadium last night.

"The ICC is awaiting the details of the criminal charges by the Delhi Police against Hansie and his three teammates," said Dalmiya.

"At the moment we are all going by news paper reports," he added.

"The ICC has decided to co-operate (with) the Delhi Police in their investigations," said Dalmiya.

When pressed more, Dalmiya said that the ICC took the matter seriously. "We will not sweep the matter under carpet."

### Wins for Rajshahi Collegiate, Masjid Mission

From Our Correspondent

### ANZ Grindlays National School Cricket

RAJSHAHI, Apr 8: Rajshahi Collegiate School and Masjid Mission Academy won their respective matches in the ANZ Grindlays Bank National Schools Cricket League played at Rajshahi District Stadium today.

In the first match of the day, Rajshahi Collegiate defeated Shaheed Mamun Mahmud High School by seven wickets.

The losers batted first and scored 83 runs for all in 24 overs. Sabbir made the highest 18.

In reply, the winners made 85 for three wickets in 21 overs. Sijar scored the highest 21 runs.

In the second match of the day played at the same venue, Masjid Mission defeated Agrani High School by 64 runs.

Winning the toss, Masjid Mission made 156 for six wickets in 18 overs. Shahid scored the highest 80 runs.

In reply, Agrani School were all out for 92 in the stipulated 25 overs. Shanju made the highest 21 runs.

### Barisal cricket

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Apr 8: Y2K Club defeated Bandhu Mahal Ekadash by 171 runs while Brothers Club outplayed Amritalal Day Mahabidyalaya by 138 runs in the First Division Cricket League here at the Abdur Rab Serniabat stadium today.

Battling first Y2K Club and scored 230 all out in 32 overs.

In reply, Bandhu Mahal Ekadash were shot for 59 in 14 overs.

## There are no Brian Laras in sight

One of the most familiar voices in cricket commentary, Tony Cozier hardly needs any introduction. The bespectacled 'Bajan' is a living encyclopedia on West Indies cricket and has been following the Caribbean game from the 1960's. Cozier's love for cricket was not limited only off the field. In his youth, he was a reasonably good opening batsman and wicket-keeper for the Wanderers Club in Barbados, where his Scottish ancestors emigrated in the 17th century.

Hugely respected worldwide for his knowledge and commitment to cricket journalism, Cozier is a popular tourist and travels extensively these days as a Trans World International (TWI) commentator.

Cozier is now in Dhaka for the 'International Cricket Week' celebrations. Rabeed Imam of Daily Star Sport had the pleasure of speaking to this accommodating and amiable gentleman during the Asia XI-Rest of the World match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

more popular. But I must criticize the timing of it.

You see, we had to take an unscheduled break in between the ongoing triangular series between the West Indies, Zimbabwe and Pakistan in the Caribbean. It's very demanding on the players who had to make long distance trips in the midst of a serious competition.

So many schedules have been disrupted for this. For example, the West Indies-Pakistan series will continue deep into the month of May and the Windies will leave for their tour

hassle.

DSS: What is your impression of the match so far? Has it got the desired competitive edge?

TC: Well it is after all an exhibition match. However, the players are all professionals and I'm sure they are serious about it. A full house is here to enjoy it and the atmosphere is great.

It is good for Bangladesh's Test status prospects also as the country is getting exposure.

It's interesting though, since some of these players were



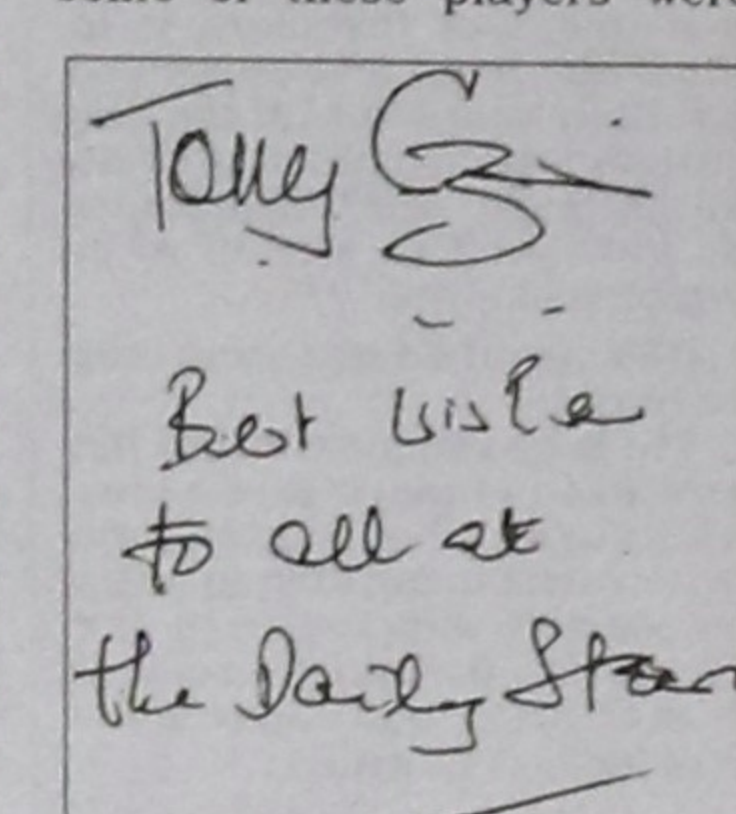
TONY COZIER

Daily Star Sport (DSS): How do you like the 'Cricket Week' concept?

Tony Cozier (TC): It is a good concept especially since the International Cricket Council (ICC) is trying to globalise cricket and make it

of England on May 29. Their first match of that tour is on June 2, there's hardly any gap.

The ICC should have made the 'Cricket Week' fixture well in advance to avoid this kind of



competing against each other just the other day and now they are here on the same side.

DSS: Let's shift our focus on the state of West Indies cricket. Obviously they are on a roll after winning four games on the trot. Do you see it as a turning point?

TC: Not exactly. It is too early to make that remark. You got to remember that the wins

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TENDULKAR CORNER? A section of the huge crowd at the Bangabandhu Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman

## Bangladesh's done already better

Hasan Masood

Mike John Procter is widely regarded the best all-rounder never to play in one-day cricket.

After making his Test debut in 1966 against Australia a promising career was interrupted when the ICC shut the door his country for its political system in 1970. During that period lasting the seven matches played all against Australia the right-handed batsman amassed 226 runs. He also captured 41 wickets at a formidable strike rate with either his right-arm off-breaks or pace bowling.

He also made a name for himself in England playing for Gloucestershire. Only a bad knee stopped him from completing a double-1,000 runs and 100 wickets in one particular season. Still his exploits around the county circuit were remarkable and well documented.

The legendary 55-year-old South African arrived in the city as member of the TransWorld International commentary team. During yesterday's exhibition match he

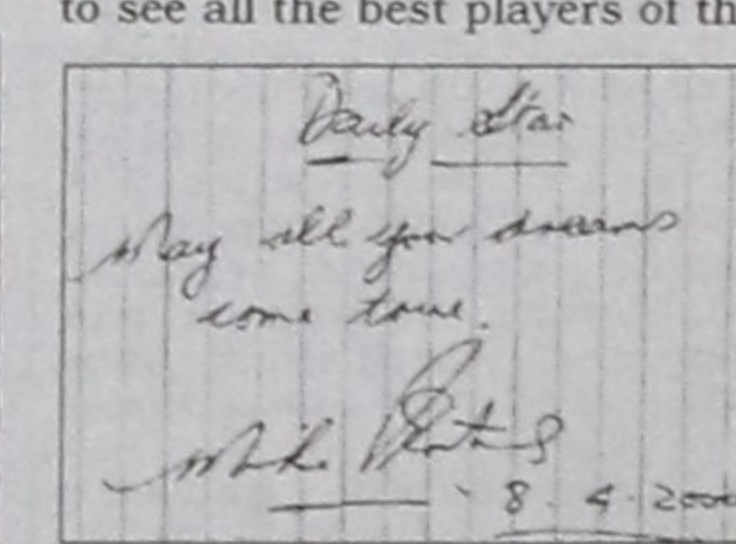
tween the Asia Eleven and Rest of the World at the Bangabandhu National Stadium here



MIKE PROCTER

spoke to the Daily Star Sport. Daily Star Sport (DSS): Welcome to Bangladesh Mike. How are you enjoying the match here?

Mike Procter (MP): Very nice. Very good match. It's great to see all the best players of the



world playing together.

DSS: How much do you know about Bangladesh cricket?

MP: Well I have got a little bit of an idea. I mean I saw them playing in last summer's World Cup in England while I was commenting for TWI. I had a chance to briefly chat with Eddie Barlow and he is very keen to develop Bangladesh cricket. But I haven't had much time to learn about the state of Bangladesh cricket. I'm sure Eddie will tell me more.

DSS: Express your opinion on Bangladesh getting Test status?

MP: Well I think Bangladesh is going to get Test status. You know a country like Sri Lanka which has been performing so well in the limited-overs game and have won the World Cup. Now they are certainly making an impact in the longer-version. After getting Test status not so long ago Zimbabwe has struggled a bit. But today they are playing well. So I think Bangladesh has done relatively better.

DSS: Do you support Bangladesh for Test status?

MP: Very much so.

DSS: Do you think too much one-day cricket is ruining the essence of Test cricket?

MP: I think there is too much one-day cricket being played these days around the world. But that's what the spectators want. Look at today's match, there is a fantastic crowd, great atmosphere. And that's what happens in one-day

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