

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

#### Competition-128

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The 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?	Hingis	Davenport	Seles
2	Who won the United Insurance IM 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?	Dhamondi	Y Cricketers	Khelaghar

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

POWERED WITH  
**EN-VITS**  
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

### 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 my 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 bits. Much of the traffic is expectedly from the cricket crazy sub-continent 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 Veejay 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 cricketfans 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-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 bowlers.

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 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 them and compelled 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.

### WHERE'VE THE TICKETS GONE?

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 in the limited-overs matches because he is still in bad shape and he is recovering," Miandad, a former Pakistan captain, told reporters.

"We are not going 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

Jayasurya	c	Bevan	b	Hayward	12
Tendulkar	c	Ross	b	Tufnell	80
Saurav	c	Rose	b	Tufnell	67
Aravinda	c	Gilchrist	b	Bevan	39
Jadeja	c	Johnson	b	Waugh	28
Razzak	b	Waugh		Waugh	3
Moin	c &	b		Hayward	34
Akram	b	Hayward		Waugh	15
Kumble	not out			Vass	14
Vass	run out			Muralitharan	0
Muralitharan	not out			Extras: (lb-9, nb-3, w-16)	28
Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs) 320				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.				Fall of wickets: 1-49; 2-163; 3-183; 4-242; 5-248; 6-248; 7-291; 8-314; 9-319.	
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>W</b>	
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 Franklyn Rose, Andy Flower (12th man).

Umpires: S Venkataraman (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 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."

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## There are no Brian Laras in sight

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

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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