

Star Sport

DHAKA, THURSDAY MAY 25, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID Competition-130

Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm May 26, 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

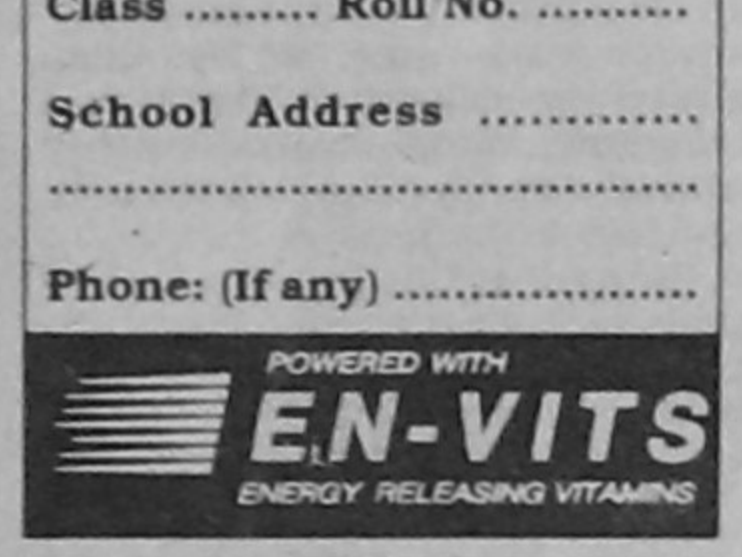
- Who replaced David Lloyd as England cricket coach?
Fletcher Woolmer Richardson
- Which country will host the Euro 2004 Championship?
Portugal Germany Spain
- Which Kiwi batsman hit 214 on his Test debut against West Indies?
Sachin Fleming Crowe
- Which country won the foundation football tourney in Maldives?
Sri Lanka Bangladesh India
- Who won the national chess title this year?
Rezaul Zia Tipu

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)



SPORTS TALK



Martina Hingis
World No 1 tennis player
If you play well and get the results, ranking comes automatically.

After regaining the No 1 spot this week.

Delhi's police inquiry ends

NEW DELHI, May 24: Police in the Indian capital said Wednesday they had completed their local investigation into match-fixing allegations against former South African cricket captain Hansie Cronje.

The New Delhi police said they were requesting authenticated tapes of Cronje's voice from South African authorities to compare with recordings of alleged mobile telephone calls Cronje is accused of having with a London-based bookie.

The police said they would also probably be travelling to South Africa and Britain to complete their probe.

Incensed Dynamo fan threatens bomb attack

KIEV, May 24: An irate fan has threatened a bomb campaign against reigning Ukrainian champions Dynamo Kyiv to stop the club selling its top players to English Premiership sides, reports said Wednesday, reports AFP.

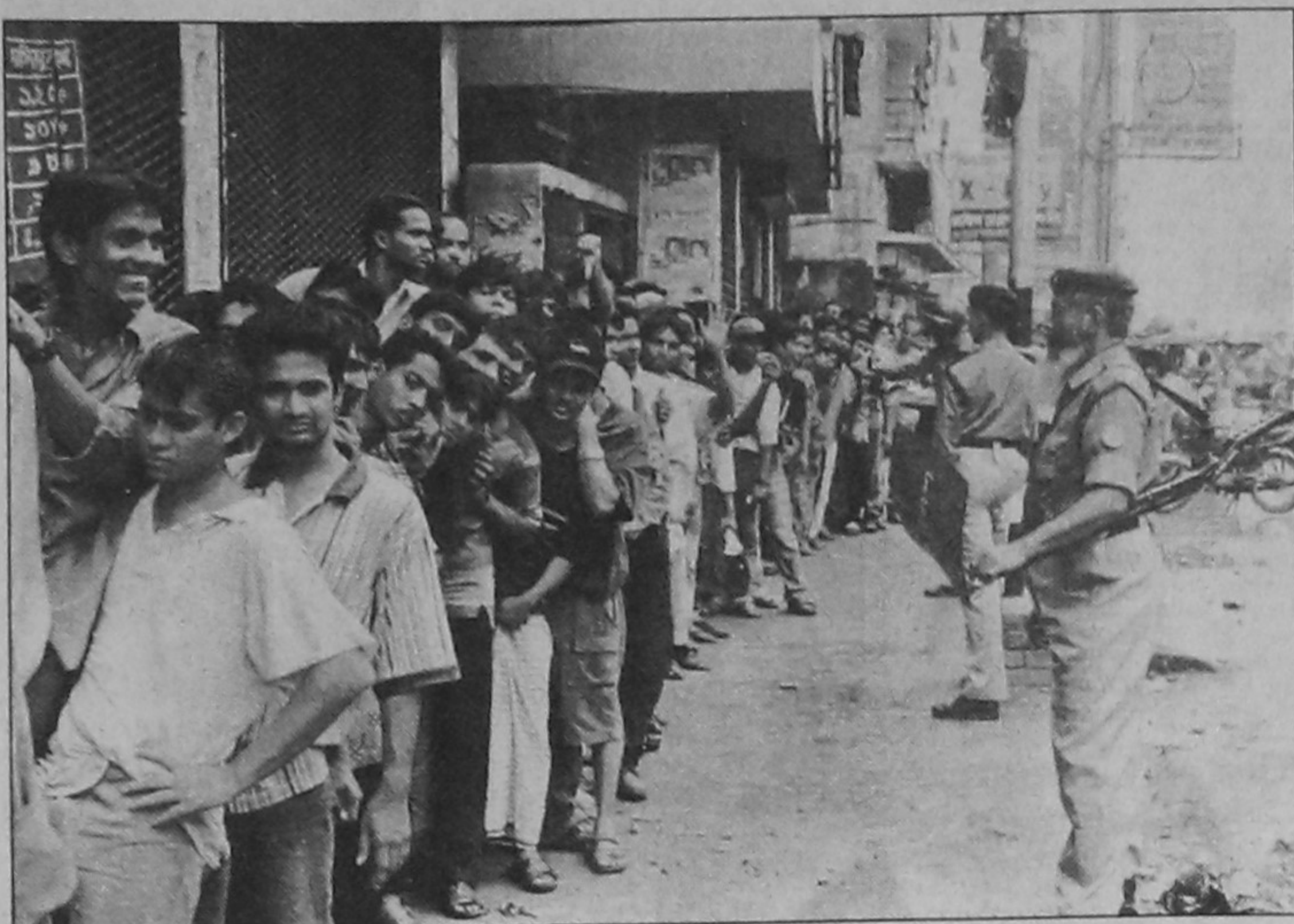
Police are hunting for the fan who called the club's headquarters Sunday threatening to blow up the stadium and Dynamo facilities if it pursued a "stupid" policy of selling star players.

The fan was apparently angered by rumours that English Premiership side Liverpool have recently held talks about signing Dynamo defender Vladislav Vashchuk and Alexander Holovko.

The Merseyside giants are also thought to be interested in Dynamo's Georgian international midfielder Kaha Kaladze.

However, Dynamo denies it is involved in talks on selling its key players, although the club recently sold leading striker Sergiy Rebrov to another Premiership club, Tottenham.

Bomb squad officers searched Dynamo's team bus following the fan's call, after it was mentioned as a possible target. No explosive device was found.



Cricket fans line up in front of the Naya Paltan branch of Al Baraka Bank to buy tickets of the Pepsi Asia Cup yesterday. — Star photo

Tickets go on sale

Fans frustrated at BCB's buy-all policy

Tickets of the Pepsi Asia Cup went on sale yesterday through seven city branches of Al Baraka Bank amidst controversy.

Thousands were seen queuing for the much cherished tickets ignoring the inclement weather. Cricket followers started gathering at the relevant branches from early hours of the morning and the bank authorities had a difficult time in maintaining order.

There were reports of clashes between ticket-seekers and security personnel at various parts of the city. Fans fought policemen in a lengthy scuffle at the Islampur branch of Al Baraka.

However, a bizarre action on part of the tournament's ticket committee has overshadowed all other incidents and left many fans in utter frustration.

The committee did not leave any provisions of selling tickets for every match separately.

Rather they have given the fans a totally unfair option — either buy tickets for all the seven matches or forget about going to the Bangabandhu Stadium. This meant many disappointed fans had to return home empty-handed. The idea would however pave the way for the ticket touts to reign supreme at around the stadium arena.

"I had planned in advance to watch the matches that didn't clash with my exam schedule. Now I don't know what to do."

BCB's tickets committee secretary Mozammel Haque however wasn't available for comments when contacted over telephone last night.

This is not the first time that the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has got itself into a questionable position. Just one month ago, irregularities were alleged in distribution of tickets for the Asian XI versus Rest of the World XI match in Dhaka.

The following branches of Al Baraka bank are selling the tickets: VIP Road, Gulshan, Mirpur Road, Islampur, Karwan Bazar, IDB Bhaban (Argargaon) and Dilkusha.



Enraged cricket-lovers called the Daily Star Sport to complain about this lack of sensitivity on the part of the organisers.

"This is outrageous. They (the organisers) can't make us go to games that we don't want to watch. The BCB is too busy counting the money, leaving us

Reassurance from Pakistan

Pakistan reiterated its support for Bangladesh's admission as the tenth Test-playing nation ahead of the next annual general meeting of the International Cricket Council (ICC) at Lord's.

The cricket's world ruling body will meet in London next month to give its verdict on Bangladesh's application for Test status, Bangladesh, who applied for Test status in 1998, need to win seven out of nine votes of the Test-playing nations. ICC opted to re-evaluate Bangladesh's case in June this year when they fell short of two votes in the 1999 meeting.

However, the reassurance of Pakistan, who proposed Bangladesh's bid for a full membership two years back, appeared to be an icing on the cake after a dramatic development in Test cricket's highly conservative world for the last few days. World's top two Test-playing nations — Australia and South Africa — threw their weights behind Bangladesh's bid for the Test tag. Noticeably, the two influential Boards, who voted against Bangladesh last year, disclosed it in joint declarations with the BCB (Bangladesh Cricket Board).

"We will continue our strong support towards Bangladesh's cause for Test status," said the Minister for Youth and Sports of Pakistan Derrick Syria yesterday.

The Pakistan sports boss said this while talking to his Bangladesh counterpart Obaidul Quader, who is now in Pakistan as part of the last minute campaign before the all important ICC meeting.

Quader, who is accompanying BCB general secretary Syed

Antigua Test starts today

Last shot at a result

ST. JOHN'S, May 24: Stymied by the rain in Georgetown and the pluperfect pitch in Bridgetown, West Indies and Pakistan move to the Antigua Recreation Ground looking for the elusive win in the third and final cricket Test starting on Thursday, reports AFP.

Neither side has been able to take a lead in the previous two Tests through no fault of their own, so both will be going all out to complete a win in the final match of the three-Test series to give them an unbeatable 1-0 lead.

After three action-packed days in Georgetown, the rain drenched the Guyana capital and play was not possible over the last two days of the gripping match.

Then Pakistan's cautious approach in the second innings effectively killed the prospects of an exciting finish on the last day in Bridgetown, where the pitch produced 1,202 runs, three centuries and five half-centuries.

Though the Antigua Recreation Ground pitch is usually docile, the last three Tests here have all produced winning results for West Indies over Sri Lanka in 1997 and England in 1998, and Australia over West Indies last year, so another absorbing contest is expected.

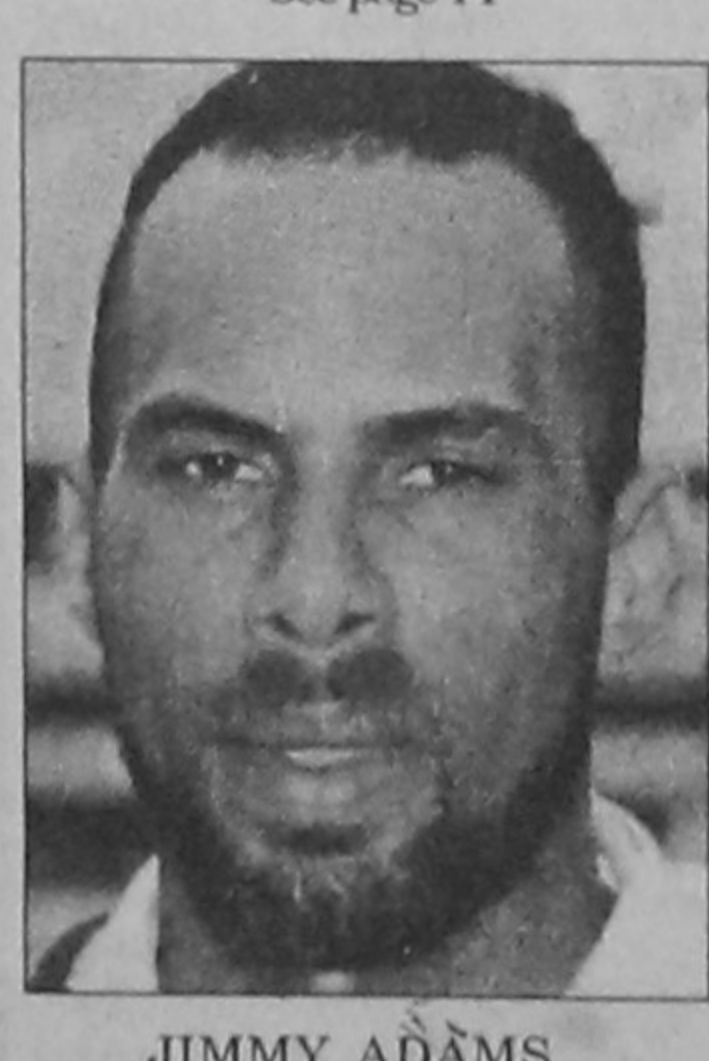
With so much riding on this Test, like the previous match, team selection will be one of the key things for the two sides.

For West Indies, they will have to decide if they are happy with the production of opening batsman Adrian Griffith and fast bowler Nixon McLean, and for Pakistan, they will have to find a replacement for all-rounder Abdur Razaq.

Left-hander Griffith, the success story for West Indies on



MOIN KHAN



JIMMY ADAMS

Sher-e-Bangla Cup Rajshahi in zonal final

Sports Reporter
Rajshahi moved into the zonal final of the 21st Sher-e-Bangla Cup National Football Championship with a 4-0 win over Bogra at the Naogaon Stadium yesterday.

Alam scored two goals in the 13th and 19th minutes while Pavel and Kamal added one apiece in the 33rd and 47th minutes.

Rajshahi will face hosts Naogaon in the zonal final tomorrow. The winners will qualify for the 12-team final round to be held in Noakhali from the second week of June.

Away in Barguna, the zonal final between Barisal and hosts Barguna was postponed for the second consecutive day for heavy rain. The match will now be played today.

Besides, Sylhet, Kushtia, Sirajganj and Sherpur won their respective matches at different zonal venues on Wednesday.

Sylhet, aided by a hatrick from Nasir, blanked Habiganj by four goals to nil at the Mouli Bazar Stadium.

In a one-sided affair, Nasir struck in the 21st, 65th and 67th minutes while Manoj added the other in the 53rd minute.

In Gopalganj, Kushtia recorded a 4-3 win over hosts Gopalganj in a see-saw encounter.

Towhid scored two goals while Sohrab and Mizan added one goal each for the winners.

On the other hand, Mehdi scored two goals and Kalu struck the other for the home side.

In the other two matches, Sherpur registered a 3-1 win over Jamalpur at the Jamalpur Stadium while Jhenidah and Rajbari played a 3-3 draw at the Gopalganj Stadium.

M'singh in final BKSP shown the door

Sports Reporter
Favourites Bangladesh Krira Shikha Protishthan (BKSP) were knocked out of the ANZ Grindlays Bank National School Cricket Championship when Mymensingh Zilla School handed them a three-wicket defeat in a tense low-scoring match (BKSP) at the Mymensingh Stadium yesterday.

Chasing a paltry BKSP total of 81, the home side scored 84 for seven in 29.1.

Liton scored 19 runs for the home boys who will now meet Collegiate High School of Rajshahi in the final.



It's completely baseless," said the PCB chairman, adding that Bangladesh were the deserving victors. They outplayed Pakistanis in every department of the game at Northampton on that day (May 31, 1999).

Quader however invited Derrick to watch the Pepsi Asia Cup. The championship involving defending champions Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan and hosts Bangladesh will commence in Dhaka on May 28.

BRIEF SCORES

BKSP: 81 all out in 29.1 overs (Shoeb 3/16, Rajib 2/5).

MYMENSINGH ZILLA SCHOOL: 84 for 7 in 29.1 overs (Liton 19, Bashir 2/4).

Result: Mymensingh Zilla School won by three wickets.

Rajshahi v'ball

From Our Correspondent
RAJSHAHI, May 24: Green Star Club and Morning Star Club won their respective matches of the Rajshahi First Division. Hasan Imam, All Imam, Pintu Smith volleyball league at the local stadium today.

Green Star beat Ambagan by 3-0 (25-17, 25-19 and 25-20) while Morning Star defeated City Club by 3-0 (25-16, 25-22 and 25-21).

Nabarun Sangha will take on Jagarata Sangha and Bright Star will meet United Sporting Club tomorrow.

KB Rai Memorial cricket finals tomorrow

The final matches of different groups of the 3rd KB Rai Choudhury Memorial Under-13 cricket tournament will be held at the Kalabagan Club ground in the city on May 26, reports agencies.

In all 40 teams took part in the preliminary round in three groups on knock-out basis.

Speaking at a news conference, former national cricketer and coach Dipu Rai Choudhury, said, "We have initiated the tournament with the help of Kalabagan Krira Chakra to open up scope for the budding cricketers in the competitive game as well as to boost them up."

Kalabagan Cricket Academy will take on Cricket Coaching School in the Masters Group final in a 20-over-a-side match starting at 7 am. It will be followed by Plate and Cup Group finals.

Cricket Board President Saber Hossain Chowdhury will attend the prize distribution ceremony at 4:30 pm.

Lankans due today

Sports Reporter
A 14-member Sri Lanka cricket team, led by explosive opener Sanath Jayasuriya, will arrive in the capital today to take part in the Pepsi Asia Cup scheduled for a May 28 start at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The defending champions will begin their campaign to retain the 'Noor Khan Trophy' when they face hosts Bangladesh in the inaugural match. They will take on India in their next match on June 1 before meeting Pakistan in the last robin league match on June 5.

They are scheduled for a practice session at the Bangabandhu National Stadium later in the afternoon.

THE SQUAD
Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Mahela Jayawardena (vice-captain), Aravinda de Silva, Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Tillekeratne Dilshan, Indika de Saram, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Chaminda Vaas, Muttiah Muralitharan, Upul Chandana, Nuwan Zoysa, Sanjewa de Silva and

Officials: TB Kabelegamuwa (manager), Dave Whatmore (coach), Alex Kountouris (physio) and Trevor Chappel (fielding coach).

NO POWER FAILURE
Bangabandhu National Stadium will have uninterrupted power supply during the Pepsi Asia Cup.

Three government agencies — Rural Electrification Board (REB), Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA) and Power Development Board (PDB) — will jointly take necessary measures to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the venue for the mega event.

Two sub-stations and a government power plant at Haripur will be kept as standby for instant power supply in case of any failure in the original system.

Profit shrouded in question

LONDON, May 24 (Internet report): A storm is brewing over the distribution of profits from last year's Cricket World Cup, with nations other than the hosts England expected to complain of a raw deal.

Disputes over the split of the 30 million pounds profit has led to an impasse which is still preventing the accounts from the tournament from being finalised, almost a year since Australia won the final.

England's Daily Telegraph reported on Tuesday that the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) would, according to its annual report, receive 13.7 million pounds of the profits. The other eight Test-playing nations would pocket 1.425 million pounds, while non-Test nation Bangladesh would receive only 225,000 pounds.

The ECB is also in hot water for failing on its sponsorship target — forecasting eight major sponsors to bring in a combined 16 million pounds, but securing only four who contributed 11 million pounds.

The matter had led to a dispute between the ECB and the International Cricket Council, as had England's overspending. The ECB had forecast expenditure of 3-4 million pounds, but the figure blew out to almost 8 million pounds, the paper said.

The Telegraph quoted a senior international cricket administrator as saying, "England may grow about the profits they have made but the overall figures show the World Cup of 1999 made no more money than the 1996 World Cup and that we did not improve on four years says it all."

ECB marketing director Terry Blake said: "We have not yet finalised the World Cup accounts. ICC have got one or two concerns about our costs. But in the overall context of things they are not particularly important or significant."

Cronje in fresh controversy

Waugh calls for proof or silence
game but, really, South Africa folded so badly, it was embarrassing. I believe this match is one that needs investigation," he said.

South Africa batted first at the Sydney Cricket Ground after Cronje won the toss and fresh allegations concerning his team selection and tactics during a Test match against Australia in January 1998.

The Australians won the game at the Sydney Cricket Ground by an innings and 21 runs despite Cronje's 88 in South Africa's first innings.

But former Australian spinner Ashley Mallett, who acted as an advisor for South Africa during the tour, has revealed his concerns about the team's performance.

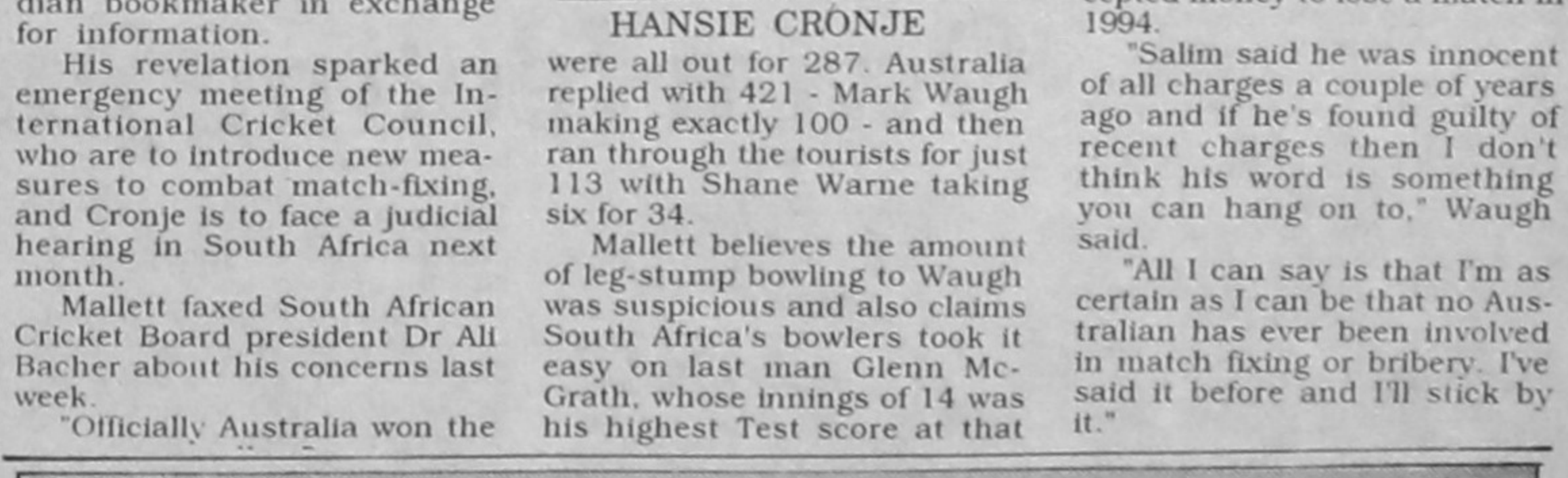
He told the Sydney Morning Herald: "At the time I sensed something was wrong. In the light of recent revelations, lots of little things began to add up."

Cronje lost the captaincy last month after admitting that he received money from an Indian bookmaker in exchange for information.

His revelation sparked an emergency meeting of the International Cricket Council, who are to introduce new measures to combat match-fixing, and Cronje is to face a judicial hearing in South Africa next month.

Mallett faxed South African Cricket Board president Dr All Bacher about his concerns last week.

"Officially Australia won the



HANSIE CRONJE

PRESS CONFERENCE
3rd K.B. RAI Choudhury Memorial Under-13 Cricket Tournament
Sponsored by: World Trade Promotion Center, Inc. USA
Organised by: Kalabagan Krira Chakra

IT'S NOT PRESS CONFERENCE! A press conference was organised by Kalabagan Krira Chakra in connection with the third K.B. Rai Choudhury Memorial under-13 cricket tournament at the club premises yesterday.

WEATHER CAUSES A CONCERN

With only four days left before the Asia Cup starts, the organisers and fans are now more concerned about the prevailing weather.

What will happen to the Asia Cup if it rains? ... was one of the many questions that were boggling the minds of local cricket fans.

BSS says citing director of the Met Department Ershad Hossain that a few matches are likely to be affected due to the early monsoon rain.

Meanwhile, the met office in the capital forecast that the sky would be cloudy while showers might grip the capital from May 25 to 31.

The met office also forecast that it might be raining almost every evening from May 28 to June 7.

Magura cricket

From Our Correspondent
MAGURA, May 24: Mohammaddan Sporting Club and Surjamukhi Club won their respective matches in the Econo Cricket League at the Magura Stadium today.

Mohammaddan beat Lutash Sangha by four wickets while Surjamukhi beat Jeon Club by 23 runs in the second match of the day.

BRIEF SCORES

LUTASH SANGHA: 110 for eight in 25 overs (CI 20, Mehedi 14, Zahid 10; Sagar 4/13, Shanto 2/21, Bishnu 1/18).

MOHAMMEDAN SPORTING CLUB: 111 for six in 24.4 overs (Roni 26, Sagar 22, Shahid 15; Tauhidul 4/20, Nanor 2/23, Shakil 1/20).

Result: Mohammaddan Sporting Club won by 4 wickets.

SURJAMUKHI CLUB: 109 for nine in 25 overs (Bindu 41, Sinik 13, Niloy 10; Makhon 3/24, Rabat 2/15, Mahidul 2/23).

JEON CRICKET CLUB: 86 all out in 21 overs (Shakimur 22, Miraj 12, Ishraq 9, Uzzal 2/8, Niyor 2/11, Budar 2/26).

Result: Surjamukhi Club won by 23 runs.