

## Maynard leads by example

LONDON, May 29 (Internet report): Captain Matthew Maynard hit a superb century to steer Glamorgan to a commanding total in their rain-affected Benson & Hedges Cup semi-final against Surrey.

Resuming on 99 for two after rain and bad light restricted play to just 24.1 overs on Saturday, play finally began 45 minutes late.

The crowd were clearly frustrated by the weather, which caused the day's other semi-final between Gloucestershire and Lancashire to again be postponed.

When play eventually began, both Maynard and Michael Powell were looking to add to their undefeated 75-run partnership.

They did that and more on a slow pitch where runs were hard to come by and forged a 133-run partnership off just 166 balls to help Glamorgan reach 251 all out.

Maynard, who resumed on 34, dominated play and finally fell just five overs before the end of the innings, having reached his 109 off just 115 deliveries, hitting one six and six fours.

Powell played a key supporting role, reaching a career-best limited-overs score of 67 before being outwitted by Alex Tudor's slower ball and chopping on to his stumps.

Rival captain Adam Holloake ended Maynard's brilliant innings nine overs later when he attempted an ambitious smash over the top of the back foot and picked out Ian Salisbury at long on.

## Beyond the boundary

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kind of tourists. We are of course referring to two of the best sides in Asia and possible contenders for the title of the best team in the continent. Provided, of course, such a title means much at face value.

Then, venues had to be shaken and picked from the helmet. And finally decided upon. To no one's surprise Dhaka won the raffle, in what now appears to be a boring and familiar ritual in grabbing both the cake and Edith too.

Lastly, on a more philosophical plane, all things temporal do have a bearing on the path of normal lives of us, lesser mortals. What better time, Zarathustra, than end of May to stage this mother of all tournaments, bar one? As any Tom, Dick and Abdul in our Met office he could have told anyone who had cared to ask a year ago, it would be miserably wet and unholly for cricket at this time of the year. Unashamedly and shamelessly idiotic as I am, I had obviously missed the point.

My IQ, in all unblushing modesty, is dangerously below the poverty level. But, I would have thought, minds more qualified than mine, would have erred on the more professional side of sanity and reason.

Be that as it may we do have a tournament to play, and miles to go through waterlogged cover and extra cover (no pun intended) before we get to sleep. Nightmares cannot be cures for organisational insomnia.

At the moment the designer for the uniforms of the Bangladesh team is waiting with bated breath. What might he choose as the colours for the swimmers? Can Sanath Jayasuriya hope to get out of his lungi and walk the stately steps of Bangabandhu Stadium in the colours of his country? Or, will he be doomed to pace the length and breadth of the corridors of Sheraton? What of the reluctant coach of the Indian team? Will his team take him seriously and perform, knowing how dead against he had been on playing this tournament? Will Pakistan spent and jet-lagged and reeling from the shock of the Qayum report be able to give us our money's worth?

And speaking of money, what is the official stand on refund of tickets if, perch the thought, not a ball, or let's say, not enough balls are bowled in this competition? The President of the BCB did the right and bold thing by announcing that tickets would be refunded only to be contradicted by a lesser minion of the Board, that such a thought has definitely not crossed anyone's mind in that hallowed office. We wait and expectantly so, as we all did while the stock market crashed not so long ago. More importantly, will it be fair to expect the general public to pay good money for the privilege of watching matches curtailed to 25 overs or less? The answer must somewhere be blowin' in the wind.

Can Pepsi sell enough of the official drink in such wet and clammy conditions? Or, will my friend M. H. Murad who is perennially complaining of dwindling tea prices in the export market, finally make his move in the local market this week? Will the enthusiastic crowds of Bangladeshi cricket lovers finally expect some respect from those who sell the tickets for these sorts of *tamashas*, in the form of access to an adequate number of toilets in the stadium. I know that people relieved themselves on to the streets below, from the upper tiers back in 1970. In the year 2000 more people are still indulging in the same activity. The 20 or so thousands of women, who might be there for the cricket, during this week, may well be visiting their doctors with urinary problems.

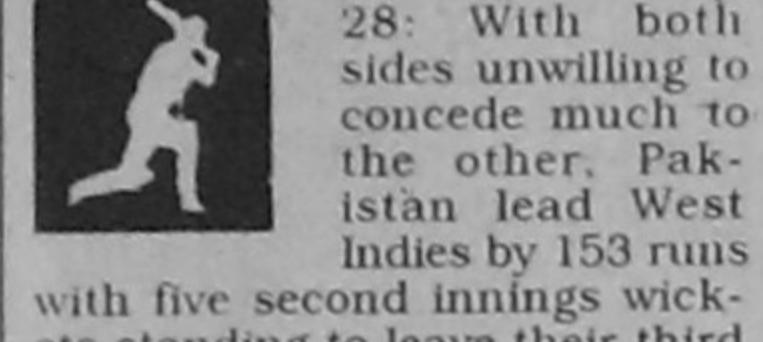
Whatever may be the outcome of this tournament, the Pepsi Asia Cup will certainly ask more questions than it can answer. Are we ready for them?



DIFFERENT CONDITIONS, DIFFERENT PLAYERS: With no cricket possible yesterday and the players understandably staying away from the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) supremo Saber Hossain Chowdhury took the centre stage while explaining the situation to the pressmen. — Star photo by AKM Mohsin

## Vintage Wasim wrecks havoc

## 3rd Test delicately poised



ST. JOHN'S, May 28: With both sides unwilling to concede much to the other, Pakistan lead West Indies by 153 runs with five second innings wickets standing to leave their third and decisive cricket Test dangling at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Saturday here, reports AFP.

Behind on first innings by four runs, Pakistan reached 157 for five at stumps on the third day thanks mainly to the efforts of their two in-form batsmen, Inzamamul Haq, who scored 68, and Younis Youhana, on 41.

Younis Akram had earlier put behind him the muddle of match-rigging allegations to bring Pakistan back into contention with six wickets for 61 runs from 26.2 overs, then Inzamam and Youhana shared 80 for the fourth-wicket to enhance their position after losing three early wickets.

Knowing full well they had to bowl tightly and penetratively to limit their opponents and keep themselves in with a chance to win the match, West Indies restricted Pakistan to 49 for three at tea.

World record holder Walsh moved to within one of an unprecedented 450 Test wickets, when opening batsman Imran Nazir, a century-maker in the second innings of the previous Test in Bridgetown, played a square drive straight into the lap of gully fielder Ramaresh Sarwan to be out for nought.

Three overs later, Curly Ambrose moved a little closer to joining the "400 Club", when Younis Khan's miserable form in the international matches was perpetuated.

Pulling at a short-of-a-length ball, he was adjudged lbw for two to leave Pakistan three wickets down.

Adams, the West Indies captain batted just over four hours, faced 180 balls and struck four fours, before Waqar trapped him plumb in front on the backfoot by a delivery which straightened on him.

Struck a painful blow by Akram on his right knee, Sarwan appeared a little tentative afterwards and was adjudged lbw to one moving back from the left-arm fast bowler, although he indicated to New Zealand umpire Doug Cowie he might have gotten an inside edge.

There was little resistance from the rest of the West Indies batting and Akram completed a five-wicket haul for the 23rd time in 95 Tests to move closer to the "400 Club".

He now has 393 wickets that puts him fourth behind Walsh (449), India's Kapil Dev (435) and New Zealander Sir Richard Hadlee (431).

Ridley Jacobs, whose form and confidence with the bat has been shot over the last two months, was lbw for nought to a

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close on the third day of the third and final Test between West Indies and Pakistan at the Antigua Recreation Ground on Saturday:

**PAKISTAN:** First innings 269 (Younis Youhana 103 not out; Courtney Walsh 5-83)

**WEST INDIES:** First innings (overnight 214 for three)

Campbell c Youhana b Mushtaq 31  
Griffith b Mushtaq 22  
Hinds run out (Mushtaq) 26  
Chanderpaul b Akram 89  
Adams lbw b Waqar 60  
Sarwan lbw b Akram 10  
Jacobs lbw b Akram 0  
Rose c Razzaq b Akram 15  
Ambrose c Youhana b Akram 0  
King c and b Akram 3  
Walsh not out 2  
Extras: (b-1; lb-10; nb-4) 15  
Total: (All out in 162 overs) 273

Fall of wickets: 1-40, 2-73, 3-84, 4-218, 5-235, 6-243, 7-254, 8-258, 9-269

**Bowler O M R W**

Akram 26.2 7 61 6

Waqar 21 8 41 1

Mushtaq 24 3 68 2

Saqlain 23 5 48 0

Razzaq 12 1 44 0

**PAKISTAN:** Second innings

M Wasim b King 21

Nazir c Sarwan b Walsh 0

Younis lbw b Ambrose 2

Inzamam c Jacobs b Rose 68

Youhana not out 41

Moin c Hinds b King 10

Saqlain not out 2

Extras: (b-2; lb-2; nb-9) 13

Total: (For 5 wkt in 64 overs) 157

Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-3, 3-49, 4-129, 5-150

**Bowler O M R W**

Ambrose 15 5 23 1

Walsh 13 2 30 1

Rose 15 3 47 1

King 15 4 35 2

Adams 6 1 18 0

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