

Star Sport

DHAKA, SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-131

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
June 9, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

1 Who is the number one women tennis player at the moment?

Hings Pierce V Williams

2 Who won the European Champions' League?

M United Real Madrid Lazio

3 Who won the UEFA Cup?

Valencia Galatasaray Fiorentina

4 Who lifted national schools cricket title?

St Joseph M Singh Zila Ctg Khastagir

5 Who is the coach of Bangladesh football team?

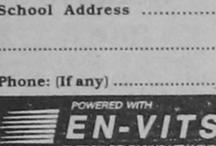
Harrison Van Gaal Shakir

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)



SPORTS TALK



Jimmy Adams

(West Indies captain)

"His ability is beyond question. He obviously hasn't been playing any cricket for a few months so there might be a mental hurdle for him to get over."

On Brian Lara's return to cricket.

Magura cricket

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, June 3: Rising Star Club outplayed Surjatarun Club by ten wickets in the Econo Cricket League match at the Magura Stadium today.

BRIEF SCORES

SURJA TARUN CLUB: 98 for all in 23.4 overs.

(Mamun 18, Farhad 6, Mona 5, Sabuj 4/7, Tuhin 2/13, Patashi 2/10).

RISING STAR CLUB: 101 in 7.3 overs (Palash 34 not out, Tuhin 14 retired hurt, Rezaul 13 not out).

Rajshahi hockey

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, June 3: Friends Sporting Club defeated North Bengal Sporting Club 11-2 in the Rajshahi First Division Hockey League at local stadium today.

The match was highlighted with hatricks made by Mamun and Rajon. Mamun netted in the 1st, 4th, 6th and 9th minutes while Rajon scored in the 15th, 25th and 27th minutes respectively. Ripon and Tulib slammed home one goal each in the 2nd and 43rd minutes.

Kajirgan Sporting Club beat Sostitola Sporting Club 2-1.



Exultant Pakistani duo of Yousuf Youhana (L) and Azhar Mahmood after the former had reached his hundred with a six off the last ball of the innings.



Pakistan captain Moin Khan attempting to sweep yesterday. — Star photo by Amran Hossain

Local media moans



The Bangladesh cricket team was under fire from the cricket-crazy country's press on Saturday over what was dubbed a "shameful" defeat by Pakistan, reports AFP.

In a Pepsi Asia Cup one-day tournament in Dhaka on Friday, Bangladesh were beaten by a world record margin of 233 runs.

Chasing a huge Pakistan score of 320 for three, Bangladesh were dismissed for only 87 runs in 34.2 overs, after losing also to India and defending champions Sri Lanka.

It was a "disaster", said the Independent newspaper. "No amount of consoling was of any avail."

The paper said Pakistan had taken "sweet revenge" -- a reference to Bangladesh's upset victory against Pakistan in last year's World Cup.

"Bangladesh outclassed", said one commentator, adding that the fans wanted a "repeat of the World Cup feat against Pakistan... with a hope that the Royal Bengal Tiger would once again roar in front of them."

The anger and frustration of the holiday crowd, which packed the stadium despite high temperatures finally, gave way

to jokes and merrymaking to cope with the humiliating situation unfolding in front of them.

"We are now having great fun. The match is too much, so what is the point of spoiling our time?" asked a philosophical fan, Nazrul Islam.

But commentator Athar Ali Khan, a former member of the

wanted to play Test cricket. "The other need is the piking of new players, youngsters," Athar said.

The Bhorer Kagoj and the Daily Janakantha newspapers echoed the Independent, saying: "Pakistan avenged its World Cup defeat against Bangladesh merrily."

The Prothom Alo daily went

"I have my own personality which, I like to think, remains the same irrespective of which post I hold. I like to think of myself as being consistent in whatever I do."

According to the developers, Roke Manor Research, the technology, called Hawk-Eye, will help commentators provide an in-depth visual and verbal analysis of the game.

A brainchild of former amateur cricketer Paul Hawkins, the ground-breaking technology is also aimed at aiding the third umpire in tough leg before wickets decisions and close-in catches.

Currently only catches and run outs are referred to the television umpire when the two umpires in the middle are in doubt.

"It is quick and doesn't slow the game. A decision can be made in as little as two seconds," Hawkins told The Associated Press Friday. "It won't undermine the umpires' decisions in any way."

Hawkins said the game's governing body, the International Cricket Council, was aware of the trial and would watch developments before deciding whether to adopt it.

"We have trialled it for six months and hope to put it through an extensive credibility trial before selling it," Hawkins said.

The technology can predict the future flight path of the ball with virtual replays produced from any angle. That means it would be easier to tell whether a ball that hits the batsman's pad would have gone on to hit the wickets.

The project is funded by Siemens (UK) has the potential to be adapted to other ball sports like soccer and baseball. It can be used to track the soccer ball's path to goal or hitting habits of a baseball player.

"Channel 4 does not wish to compromise its ability to cover, fully and fairly, an issue of such fundamental importance to the game, nor does the channel wish to distract attention from this summer's series against the West Indies."

"In these circumstances, after consultations with Channel 4, Wasim Akram has decided it would be inappropriate for him to be part of the channel's commentary team this summer and has asked to be released from his contract in order to concentrate on his playing career."

Wasim was one of seven players named in Justice Maik Mohammad Qayyum's report, published last month, which followed an inquiry into allegations of match-fixing involving Pakistani players.

He was cleared of an allegation that he paid paceman Aatur Rehman to bowl badly during the 1993-4 tour to New Zealand and given "the benefit of the doubt" over a claim that he tampered with the batting order during the 1997 Sharjah Cup.

But Wasim was fined 3,700 pounds and the report recommended that he should never captain Pakistan again. Justice Qayyum concluded: "He cannot be said to be above suspicion."

He is currently playing for Pakistan in the Asia Cup one-day tournament, also featuring Bangladesh, India and Sri Lanka.

Lara 'doing the right things'

LONDON, June 3 (Internet report): West Indies tour manager Ricky Skerritt has dismissed speculation that former captain Brian Lara is out of sorts just four days into their tour of England.

Skerritt, who saw Lara last only four balls against Worcestershire at New Road, said: "This was Brian's first match for nearly six months and understandably this was a little bit of a stutter but it can only get better from here on."

"Brian has been saying all the right things and so far he's also been doing the right things. It's obviously up to Brian whether he's going to sustain this and whether he's going to regain his momentum."

"But it was never going to be easy for him being out of cricket for this long. He's just got to concentrate hard and get back on top of his game."

Skerritt's view was echoed by captain Jimmy Adams, who told Radio 5 Live: "Making predictions isn't my forte, but I will say that Brian is here, he's hungry for cricket and he's determined to get his international career back on track as quickly as possible."

Adams said that he viewed "being consistent" as one of the key tasks in his first overseas tour as skipper.

"I have my own personality which, I like to think, remains the same irrespective of which post I hold. I like to think of myself as being consistent in whatever I do."

Both, accompanied by their respective spouses, went to the big bowl in the evening to watch India and Pakistan do battle.

Although they had seats reserved at the Western Club House, but on arrival the cou-

ple found them occupied. However, this came as a blessing in disguise for them. After a friend of the cricketers noticed them roaming around aimlessly, he was generous enough to welcome them into his hospitality box.

A meeting of the proposed Asian Cricket Foundation (ACF) will be held at Hotel Sheraton this afternoon under the auspices of Asian Cricket Council (ACC).

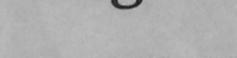
The meeting will be presided over by International Cricket Council president Jagmohan Dalmiya who is due to arrive from Calcutta this morning.

The foundation will be formed to develop cricket in the region.

Four members of the preparatory committee of ACF -- ACC chairman Lt Gen Tauqir Zia, former Pakistan Test captain Asif Iqbal, Bangladesh Cricket Board general secretary Syed Ashraf Huiq and Emirates Cricket Board chairman Abdur Rahman Bukhair -- will attend the meeting.

The chairman of the ICC's marketing and finance committee Ehsan Mani, who is already in the capital, will also attend the meeting.

Singles from the Gallery



Bangladesh cricket players turned into mere spectators of the Pepsi Asia Cup. They became the first team to quit the four-nation fray as well as the host Hotel Sheraton after they had lost all three preliminary games.

Bangladesh went down in their opening match by nine wickets to Sri Lanka and then suffered an eight-wicket mauling at the hands of Indians in their second match. In the third, Bangladesh were just thrashed by 233 runs by Pakistan on Friday.

"We did not want to leave the hotel in this way," said all-rounder Naimur Rahman.

"I'm totally disappointed with our batting against Pakistan," he added before leaving the hotel.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Even while Wasim Akram was engaged in the "mother of all matches" the giant electronic scoreboard at the Bangabandhu National Stadium did not forget to display the familiar words wishing the cham-

pean fast bowler as he walked out to bat.

The left-arm sultan of swing from Lahore returned 34 yesterday.

Unfortunately, it didn't bring much luck as he was out for nine after facing 11 balls.

BLESSING IN DISGUISE

There was no place for Akram Khan and Athar Ali Khan to sit at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

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Tech to make it tougher for batsmen

NOTTINGHAM, June 3: A technological innovation which tracks the flight of a cricket ball to within five-millimetre accuracy could revolutionise cricket viewing and umpiring from next year, reports AP.

According to the developers, Roke Manor Research, the technology, called Hawk-Eye, will help commentators provide an in-depth visual and verbal analysis of the game.

A brainchild of former amateur cricketer Paul Hawkins, the ground-breaking technology is also aimed at aiding the third umpire in tough leg before wickets decisions and close-in catches.

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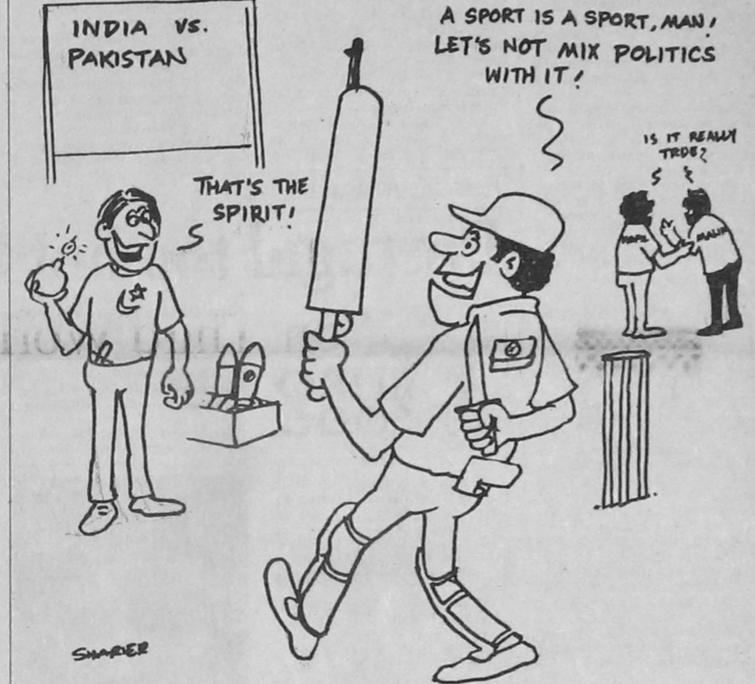
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Wasim quits C 4 job

NOTTINGHAM, Jun 3 (AFP/Internet report): Cricket's match-fixing scandal has forced Wasim Akram to give up a lucrative job as a TV commentator.

The Pakistan all-rounder was due to do the commentary for UK-station Channel 4 on the forthcoming Test series between England and West Indies.

He asked to be released from his contract with Channel 4

and is set to be replaced by former South African Test batsman Barry Richards.

The former Test opening batsman, who played county cricket for Hampshire, is already commenting for Channel 4 on the current series between England and Zimbabwe.

A statement from the company read: "We have studied the findings of the Judicial Commission in Pakistan into match-fixing allegations.

"With further investigations into match-fixing allegations ongoing in a number of Test playing countries, the issue is set to dominate the cricketing agenda throughout the summer."

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Former skipper Salim Malik and fast bowler Aatur Rehman were banned for life as a result of the inquiry.

Wasim is now playing for Pakistan in the Pepsi Asia Cup one-day tournament in Bangladesh, but will spend much of the summer with Aston Unity, a Birmingham League club.

There were other rumblings yesterday, as broadcasting company Zee TV responded to allegations that they are preparing to set up a breakaway tournament along the lines of Kerry Packer's 1970s World Series.

"Zee TV has no intention of planning a rebel cricket tour," they announced. "However, Zee shall support new and creative forms of the game, as conventional forms of cricket like Tests and one-day internationals are no longer enough to satiate the public's thirst for sport."

In practice, a spokesman said, this could mean exhibition matches in Kathmandu, where Zee TV own a ground, and a revamped form of domestic Indian cricket.

Zee TV also refuted suggestions that their bid for television rights for the next two World Cups had benefited from a link with Jagmohan Dalmiya, president of the International Cricket Council.



Bangladesh national team, told the news agency: "I feel they (Pakistan) had possibly the revenge thing in their mind and they played to prove that point."

"I can tell you that not only Bangladesh, but any other team facing the attack Pakistan launched yesterday (Friday) from the very start would not be in good shape," he said.

"I did not see the skill I hoped the team would display against Pakistan and we lost miserably."

He said the match clearly told the Bangladesh team that they had a lot to learn if they

a step further: "This time the Bangladesh team gifted us shame."

The Daily Star said: "There could not have been a more pathetic sight before than the one that was enacted at Dhaka on Friday."

"The players, supposed to be the best that this country has produced a chain of poor shows, that too, on their home ground."

"There cannot be any greater tragedy for Bangladesh."

Bangladesh skipper Aminul Islam told reporters: "Pakistan is among the best in the world, but we could never imagine the way it turned out."

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Bangladesh Cricket Team

We wish you success!



First Class All the Way

INDIA-PAKISTAN SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Pepsi Asia Cup match between India and Pakistan at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday:

PAKISTAN

Anwar c Kumaran b Kumble 43 35 8 -

Nazir c Agarkar b Kumble 29 44 6 -

Youhana not out 100 112 9 1

Inzamam b Agarkar 1 2 - -

Afridi c Tendulkar b Kumble 21 26 1 1

Moin c Mongia b Agarkar 46 46 4 -

Razaq c Agarkar b Bhandari 21 22 1 -

Wasim c Dravid b Bhandari 9 11 - -

Mahmood not out 9 4 - 1

Extras: (lb-4, nb-4, w-8) 16

Total: (For 7 wkts in 50 overs) 295

Fall of wickets: 1/74; 2/74; 3/75; 4/103; 5/195; 6/245; 7/277.

Did not bat: Arshad Khan and Mohammad Akram.

Bowler

Agarkar 10 1 47 2

Kumaran 10 0 86 0

Bhandari 10 0 74 2

Kumble 10 1 43 3

Tendulkar 10 0 41 0

INDIA

Ganguly c M Akram b Wasim 8 18 1 -

Tendulkar lbw b Razaq 25 30 4 -

Dravid lbw b Razaq 26 32 3 -

Azharuddin c Nazir b Razaq 1 3 - -

Jadeja st Moin b Nazir 93 103 8 4

Robin run out 21 38 2 -