

Star Sport

DHAKA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 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?	
Hungs	Pierce	V Williams
2	Who won the European Champions' League?	
United	Real Madrid	Lazio
3	Who won the UEFA Cup?	
Valencia	Galatasaray	Fiorentina
4	Who lifted national schools cricket title?	
St Joseph	Msingh Zila	Cig Kastagr
5	Who is the coach of Bangladeshi football team?	
Harrison	Van Gaal	Shakir

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Merv Hughes

(Former Australian fast bowler)

"When Australia lose, we look for reasons. When England lose, they look for excuses."

Quader hosts reception for reporters

PEPSI ASIA CUP

Chairman of the National Sports Council (NSC) and State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader yesterday hosted a reception in honour of the journalists covering the Asia Cup here, reports BSS.

Journalists from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and local journalists from different dailies and news agencies attended the reception.

President of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Saber Hossain Chowdhury, and NSC and BCB officials were also present on the occasion.

Asian women's jr h'ball from July 25

Hosts Bangladesh will play China in the inaugural match of the 6th Asian Women's junior handball championship which will start here on July 25, reports UNB.

Seven teams, split in two groups, will compete at the Mirpur Shaheed Shuhrawardy National Indoor Stadium.

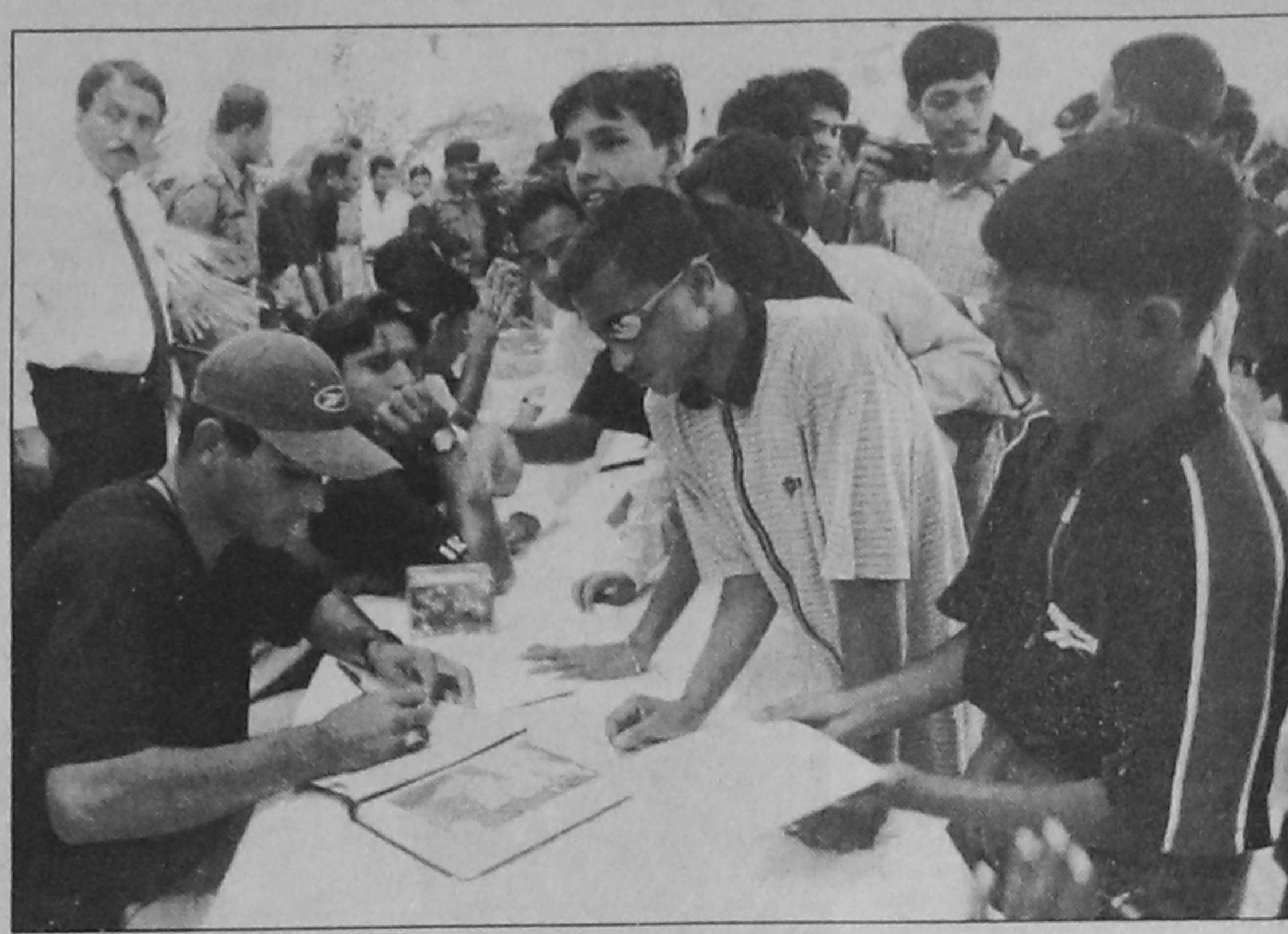
Four top teams will qualify for the World Junior Championship to be held in Hungary from July 29 to August 12 next year.

The Group A team consists of four-time champions South Korea, Kazakhstan, Chinese Taipei and India while Group B comprises of China, Japan and hosts Bangladesh.

The Nepalese team, which confirmed their participation in late, may also be included in the meet subject to the approval of the Asian Handball Federation.

If Nepal gets the permission, they will be placed in the three-team Group B.

Meanwhile, an organising committee headed by Commerce Minister M Abdul Jalil has been formed.



Pakistan all-rounder Abdur Razzaq obliging autograph hunters at the Sheraton Hotel —Star photo by Amran Hossain

Woolmer behind Cronje



JOHANNESBURG, June 6: Former South African cricket coach Bob Woolmer has come out in support of sacked captain Hansie Cronje, saying he should be allowed to play international cricket again, reports said on Tuesday, according to AFP.

Hansie should be brought back into the fold as quickly as possible. He has admitted that he has done something wrong and that should be taken into account," The Pretoria News quoted Woolmer as telling reporters in Cape Town on Monday.

Woolmer said he believed Cronje, who was fired on April 11 for taking money from an Indian bookmaker for information and forecasts on matches, should not be treated more harshly than Australian cricketers who had done the same.

Mark Waugh and Shane Warne were convicted of the same offence by the Australian Cricket Board and given a monetary fine," he said.

"If Hansie has done the same as them why should we be any different?"

Woolmer, who coached the Proteas from 1994 to 1999 and is now with English County Championship side Warwickshire, is due to testify before the King Commission which is probing the Cronje scandal and will start holding public hearings on Wednesday.

Woolmer was Monday added to a list of 43 witnesses who will testify at the Commission.

Woolmer is in South Africa to promote his autobiography and said he was keen to testify, particularly about an offer to the South African team to "throw" a match in Mumbai, India, in December 1996.

Commission secretary John

Bacon said Monday that he had issued 42 subpoenas. But he cancelled plans to hold a press conference to announce the order of witnesses. "We now expect to make the announcement at the start of the hearings on Wednesday," said Bacon.

Woolmer has indicated that he will testify about an offer to the South African team to "throw" a match in Mumbai, India, in December 1996.

He said the team turned it down and he was sure Cronje would never have thrown a match.

"Hansie was up and down in his mood swings, but he is a wonderful person, and would never throw a match," Woolmer said.

"From 1994 to 1999 he stepped onto the field with only one goal and that was to win."

The comments mark a departure for Woolmer who, when the scandal broke, was one of the first to declare Cronje's career over.

He Monday blamed Cronje's behaviour on the former captain having enjoyed too much power, and a perverse sense of humour.

"My view is that he fooled around with the bookies, when I say that I mean that he would tease them."

"I just reckon that he dabbled too much and got caught. I would perceive that he got too much power and felt invulnerable," he told The Star newspaper.

Cronje was international cricket's longest-serving skipper and the most successful one in South Africa's history.

The King Commission is mandated to investigate the period between November 1 last year and April 17, and the 1996 tour of India and will hear testimony from some 43 witnesses.



HANSIE CRONJE

On the basis of the evidence collected when the South African team were in India earlier this year, Indian police announced that charges had been filed against Cronje, Herschelle Gibbs, Nicky Boje and Pieter Strydom. All four players have been subpoenaed to testify before Judge King.

Commission secretary John

Some solace for Zimbabwe

England clinch series

NOTTINGHAM, England, June 6: The second and final Test between England and Zimbabwe ended in a draw here on Monday, leaving England one-nil series winners, reports AFP.

Only Mike Atherton's 30 held up the Zimbabwe advance. He batted at number seven, not allowed to open after spending over two hours off the field on Sunday.

He could only watch as England, 60 for four at lunch, lost further wickets in the afternoon.

Fellow Lancastrian Andrew Flintoff hit 'Pomme' Mbawanga were 25 for one at the close. Guy Whittall 12 not out and Murray Goodwin one not out.

But the tourists could look back on a clear moral victory after bowling England out for 147 following their declaration before the start of play.

Zimbabwe's bowlers swung the ball far more than their England counterparts as well as finding more life from the pitch than the home pacemen.

What should have been a straightforward day's cricket for England threatened to become an all-too familiar embarrassment as they were reduced to 44 for four.

Not for the first time Graeme Hick looked unsettled in a pressure situation. Having received a peach of a delivery the ball before from Neil Johnson, Hick, on 30, then needlessly chased a wide one to give captain Flower another routine catch.

Even leg-spinner Brian

Murphy got in on the act, inducing an edge from opposite number Chris Schofield that Alastair Campbell took at slip to leave England 110 for seven.

Fortunately for England, Atherton showed just enough

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keeper's poor display at Lord's.

This brought Atherton to the crease and with his second run he became the first man to score 1,000 Test runs at Trent Bridge.

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England's Michael Atherton plays a sweep shot on the fifth and final day of the second Test against Zimbabwe at Trent Bridge on June 5. —AFP photo

Nat'l soccer

Easy wins for Noakhali, Army

Hosts Noakhali and Bangladesh Army made flying start in the 21st Sher-e-Bangla Cup National Football Championship which began at the Shaheed Bhulabhai Stadium in Noakhali yesterday, reports UNB.

General Secretary of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) Harun-ur-Rashid, MP, inaugurated the 12-team final round of the 11-day meet.

In the opening match, Army outplayed Tangail 4-0 after dominating the first session by a solitary goal scored by Nasiruddin in the 34th minute.

Shahidul Islam struck twice in the 59th and 75th minutes while Rashidul Hassan netted the other goal in the 65th minute for the winners.

Nasiruddin of the Army was adjudged the player-of-the-match.

In the day's other match, Noakhali earned a facile 3-0 goals victory over Comilla at the same venue after leading the first half 2-0.

National stars Ifaz Ahmed, Rakib Hossain and Sourav Majumder Raju scored for the hosts in the 31st, 44th and 58th minutes respectively.

Parvez of Noakhali was named the player-of-the-match.

Narsingdi will meet Pabna at 2 pm while Jhansi encounter Bhaluka at 4 pm today at the same venue.

Rookie gets nod

Pakistan name team for SL

Pakistan included new batsman Kaiser Abbas for their tour of Sri Lanka beginning next week, the top official of Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said here yesterday.

They will play three Tests against the islanders followed by a triangular tournament involving Pakistan, South Africa and hosts Sri Lanka. Shahid Afridi, who is now touring Bangladesh with the Asia Cup team, will be given rest during the Tests. But he will re-join the team during the triangular tournament, PCB president Lt General Tauqir Zia told his news agency at his hotel suite.

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