

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-131

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

1	Who is the number one women tennis player at the moment?	Flings	Perce	V Williams
2	Who won the European Champions' League?	M United	Real Madrid	Lazio
3	Who won the UEFA Cup?	Valencia	Galatasaray	Florentina
4	Who lifted national schools cricket title?	St Joseph	M Singh Zila	Cig Khastagtr
5	Who is the coach of Bangladesh football team?	Harrison	Van Gaal	Shakir

Name

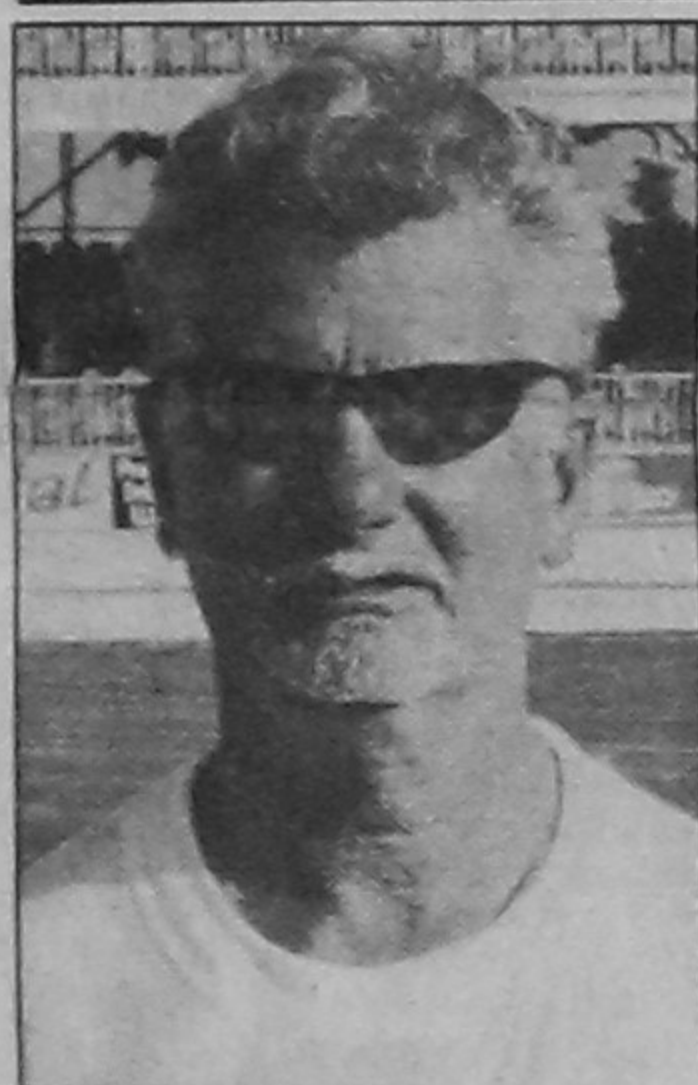
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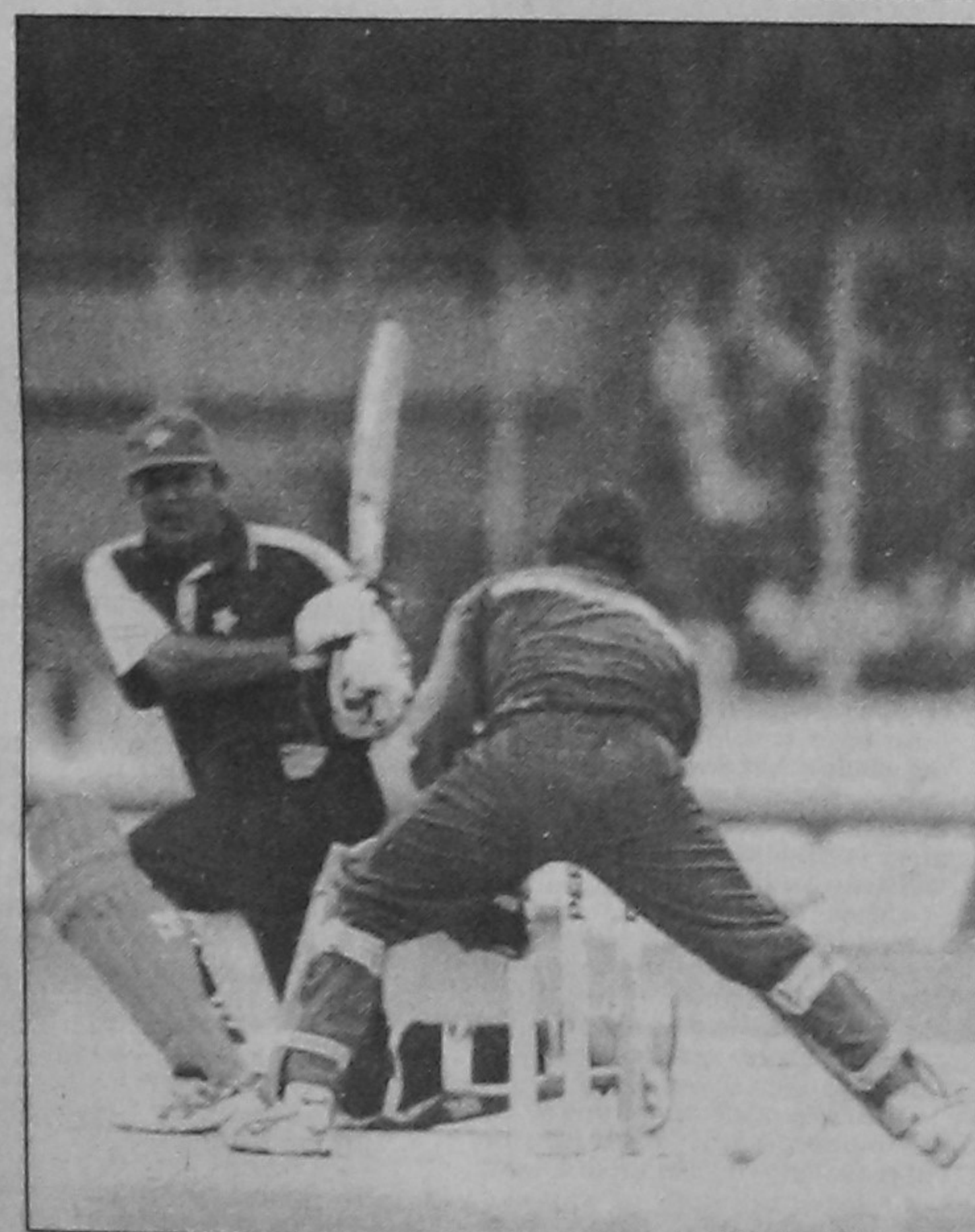
Dan Kiesel

(Pakistani cricket team doctor)

"In order to be durable one has to be talented and also motivated. And may be the motivation can come from watching Wasim Akram in action. Even when there are days when he is under tremendous pressure, on or off the pitch, he will perform. The reason being because he is motivated and extremely talented and there is a lot of expectation whenever Wasim comes on."

Sylhet cricket

SYLHET, June 7: Srirampur Cricket Eleven defeated Amra Naton Hilalpur by 30 runs while Tikorbari Cricket Eleven beat Sylhet Fighter Cricket Eleven by one run in the Mustafa Allahura Gold Cup jubo cricket tournament held at the MC Academy Ground, Golapganj, Sylhet today, says a press release.



Inzamamul Haq sweeping during his majestic 72 yesterday.



Saeed Anwar playing a paddle-sweep yesterday.

—Star photo by Amran Hossain

Waqar part of SL tour party

Moin intends to win

Hasan Masood



Moin Khan hopes to restore Pakistan's pride during the five-week tour of Sri Lanka. Pakistan are expected to fly to Colombo today. The Pakistan skipper was talking to the Daily Star Sport at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The tourists will play three Tests and take part in a triangular tournament against the hosts and South Africa.

"The Lankans beat us 3-0 in one-day series and 2-1 in the Test series the last time they visited. So we are determined to do better," said the Karachi-based wicketkeeper and versatile middle-order batsman.

"The morale in the team is high. And selectors have made the right choices on Tuesday," said Moin adding that veteran fast bowler Waqar Younis would also be available.

"I think there is a confusion somewhere because as far as I know, he (Waqar) is in the team. I will have a meeting with our board president Gen Zia this evening to discuss this issue. Waqar is probably going with us."

"It might be a 17-member team touring Sri Lanka where the first Test is scheduled to begin next week in Colombo.

"It's a balanced side. We have taken two off-spinners (Arshad Khan and Shoaib Malik) considering the number of left-handers Sri Lanka have. Hopefully, they will do well after Wasim (Akram) and Waqar open the bowling attack," Moin said.

"Our main objective is to win both the Test and triangular series and that's why there will be a change again in the side when we play the one-dayers. Shahid Afridi will return for the one-day matches."

About newcomer Kaiser Abbas, a teenage middle-order batsman who plays with Imran Nazir in the same domestic club in Pakistan, Moin said that he is yet to see his new teammate.

"I haven't seen him. But what I have heard is that he is a very talented batsman," Moin said.



About the present squad, the Pakistan skipper termed his



MOIN KHAN

unit as the best after the 1992 World Cup winning squad led by legendary Imran Khan.

"A team is rated after how it finishes in a season. I think, after we lost to Sri Lanka at home, we did pretty well in Sharjah and West Indies. And if we can win here and in Sri Lanka, then we will be rated as good team," Moin said.

"He also had words of praise for Bangladesh. 'I think Bangladesh will obviously come up in international cricket. What you need is more exposure and experience. That will automatically come when you start playing Test matches,'" he said.

He was also impressed by the crowds in Dhaka.

"They supported us a lot when we played here in the league matches."

Bangladesh Cricket Team

We wish you success!



PAKISTAN-SRI LANKA SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Pepsi Asia Cup final between Pakistan and Sri Lanka at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday:

PAKISTAN	R	B	4s	6s
Anwar c Muralitharan b Jayasuriya	82	115	6	1
Nazir c & b Zoysa	3	12	-	-
Afridi c Arnold b Zoysa	22	27	2	-
Youhana c & b Chandana	25	54	-	-
Inzamam not out	72	66	5	1
Moin not out	56	31	3	4
Extras: (b-3, lb-7, w-2, nb-5)				17
Total: (For 4 wickets in 50 overs)				277
Fall of wickets: 1/17; 2/56; 3/124; 4/173.				

Did not bat: Abdur Razaq, Wasim Akram, Mohammad Akram, Arshad Khan and Azhar Mahmood.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Vaas	8	0	52	0
Zoysa	8	1	44	2
Weeraratne	6	0	23	0
Muralitharan	10	0	42	0
Chandana	10	0	43	1
Jayasuriya	8	0	63	1

SRI LANKA	R	B	4s	6s
Jayasuriya c & b M Akram	22	25	3	-
Kaluwatharane run out	0	0	-	-
Vaas b M Akram	10	14	1	-
Atapattu c Moin b Wasim	100	124	10	-
A de Silva c Youhana b Arshad	20	43	-	-
Arnold c Afridi b Arshad	41	44	4	2
Jayawardene run out (Afridi)	0	1	-	-
Chandana b Wasim	24	16	2	1
Zoysa not out	6	4	1	-
Muralitharan c sub (S Malik) b Razaq	0	2	-	-
Extras: (lb-8, w-5, nb-2)				15
Total: (For 9 wickets in 45.2 overs)				238
Did not bat: Kaushalya Weeraratne.				

Fall of wickets: 1/6; 2/21; 3/46; 4/117; 5/196; 6/202; 7/220; 8/237; 9/238

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Wasim Akram	8	0	38	2
Mohammad Akram	8	0	50	2
Abdur Razaq	7.2	0	40	0
Azhar Mahmood	10	0	42	1
Arshad Khan	10	0	42	2
Shahid Afridi	2	0	20	0

Result: Pakistan won the final by 39 runs.
Man-of-the-match: Moin Khan (Pakistan).
Man-of-the-series: Yousuf Youhana (Pakistan).

Sher-e-Bangla Cup

Bhola beat Jessore

Bhola made a good start in the 21 Sher-e-Bangla Cup National Football Championship beating Jessore by a solitary goal at the Shaheed Bhulul Stadium, Noakhali yesterday, reports UNB.

Shohag scored the match-winner in the very third minute.

Earlier in the day's first match, Narsingdi shared points with Pabna in a 4-4 draw at the same venue. The match was locked in 1-1 goal during the first half.

Shoaib, Bashir, Bulbul and Sudan scored one each for Narsingdi while Rabi struck twice. Tajul and Altaf netted the remaining goals for Pabna.

Bangladesh Army will play Rajshahi at 2 pm while Khulna will encounter hosts Noakhali at 4 pm today.

Side strain sidelines Shoaib

NOTTINGHAM, England, June 7: Leading Pakistani pace bowler Shoaib Akhtar was on Wednesday forced to delay his debut for English county side Nottingham after failing a fitness test, reports AFP.

Akhtar, who will be 25 next Tuesday, has earned the sobriquet of the 'Rawalpindi Express' as he is reputed to be the fastest bowler in the world, was named in the squad of 13 for Wednesday's County Championship match with Worcestershire.

But a side strain, which ruled him out of last week's match against Warwickshire, has once again kept him out of the starting line-up.

Akhtar admitted recently that he almost gave up the sport when he was temporarily suspended after the legality of his bowling action was questioned during the 1999 tour of Australia.

However, he was initially reinstated for the triangular one day series with Australia and India and then totally cleared by an ICC enquiry in February this year.

Hectic days await India

MUMBAI, June 7: Indian cricketers, who have a two and a half months' break now, will be in the thick of action once again from September commencing with the annual five-match series against Pakistan at Toronto, reports PTI.

The Toronto series, which was originally to end with this year's edition, would be held next year too following last year's rescheduled series against the West Indies in the aftermath of the Kargil crisis when the government advised the cricket board not to play against Pakistan.

The Toronto series would be followed by a visit to the desert venue of Sharjah in the last week of October for the tri-series featuring India, New Zealand and Zimbabwe, board secretary Jaywant Lele informed this news agency from Baroda yesterday.

India will then play hosts to a two-Test and five-match limited-overs international series against Zimbabwe in November-December before taking on Australia at home in a three-Test series followed by a five-match limited-overs series in February-March, 2001, according to Lele.

The series against Australia will be followed by a visit to Sharjah in April for another tri-series featuring India and Pakistan as two of the three teams. "The third team is as yet undecided, but in all probability it would be the West Indies," Lele added.

"In between the home series against Zimbabwe and Australia, India may visit Pakistan for a Test and one-day international series too, if the board gets the green signal from the government," Lele said.

Singles from the Stadium

Hasan Masood

SHAMEFUL CROWD BEHAVIOUR

The Bangabandhu National Stadium became mini-Pakistan yesterday. It seemed as if everyone present was supporting the Pakistanis.

For some reason, the crowd cheered every Pakistani run while there was a complete hush even when the Lankans were hitting boundaries.



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A confused foreign photographer asked, "Why is everybody supporting Pakistan? Are they a partisan crowd or a sporting crowd?"

There was no answer.

A local pressman, also a supporter of Pakistan, was also taken aback by the crowd reaction. "I feel ashamed to be a Bangladeshi today. We don't appreciate good cricket. We are totally partisan. They (The Pakistanis) don't get this kind of raw support even in Pakistan," said the frustrated journalist.

NO SLOWING MIANDAD

Javed Miandad has left playing competitive cricket. But the

Pakistan coach still wants to keep himself physically fit.

The former Pakistani master batsman now in his mid-forties, was seen jogging with young fast bowler Sabbir Ahmed at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday before the final started.

They ran two rounds with Miandad keeping the same pace with the youngsters.

NOSTALGIC KALU
Romesh Kaluwatharane has made a lot of friends in Bangladesh during his stint as a club cricketer in Dhaka.

The little Sri Lankan keeper played in the late eighties for PWD and Brothers Union.

Although Kaluwatharane is now a prominent figure in the world cricket, he still remembers his friends and always has time to spare for them.

He was seen busy meeting some of his old acquaintances at the Bangabandhu National Stadium before the match and taking snaps with them.

DAV TALES

Dav Whatmore had a little batting practice at the Bangabandhu National Stadium nets yesterday before the final.

The portly-built Sri Lanka coach was almost looking like former Australian opener David Boon from the gallery and seeing that one crazy fans shouted at him, "Here comes Boonie."

It could not be confirmed whether Whatmore heard that or not but obviously he was not in a good mood after Sri Lanka dropped seven catches in the final.

When the team was taking dinner in the break, the balding Sri Lankan coach was sitting outside the dressing room alone and furiously puffing away.

Tennis ball does the trick

Al-Amin



potential of a bowler, who deserved a far better figure than that he actually got.

Seeing his blunders on the TV afterwards, Sri Lankan umpire Ashoka de Silva might feel sorry that he had deprived the poor chap of an ideal exposure. Two genuine appeals, that too against Rahul Dravid and a phenomenal Sachin Tendulkar were turned down in the second match. His misery continued when Mohammad Wasim dropped Attapattu at mid-



MOHAMMAD AKRAM

wicket on June 5.

A pious young man in every aspect of life, Akram believes the good days are just round the corner. As the famous Ws are not getting younger, the new

kids like Akram, Sabbir and Shoaib are going to spearhead the fearsome Pakistani pace attack in near future. On the eve of the final on Tuesday, Akram had a lengthy talk with The Daily Star Sport at the Sheraton Hotel.

DSS: One wicket in three-match can not be encouraging. Couple of bad decisions cost you dearly?

MA: Yes, it's a bit disappointing. But there was morale encouragement as well because you have earned them (appeals) at least, you know. These things happen in cricket. You can't help it. I can't do better than this. I mean, what you can is just try your best and the rest is up to Allah.

DSS: You have been in and out of the Pakistan team like other youngsters. Isn't it demoralising to play only eight Test matches in five years?

MA: It is indeed. But things are changing now. They (Board) have decided to give chances to the youngsters, regularly and things are getting better. It is good for us, and the more we get exposure the more we can do better. I will do much better if I play on regular basis.

DSS: What's your plan about the forthcoming Sri Lanka?

MA: If I get chance, I just hope to work hard and do well. You can only work hard. Whoever is playing cricket tries to perform well. Some time you perform well, some time you don't.

DSS: Do you follow Wasim Akram or Waqar as your role model?

MA: Well, the world role model is totally a different thing. No doubt, Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis are very good bowlers...they really are. But as a role model, you have to select someone very very special. I mean, for us, the role model should be our Prophet Mohammad (SM).

Cricket-wise, obviously I like Michael Holding very much...and I do like Wasim Akram. He is a very very good bowler. There is no doubt about that. I think, he is the best left-arm fast bowler the world has ever produced. So they are my role models as well.

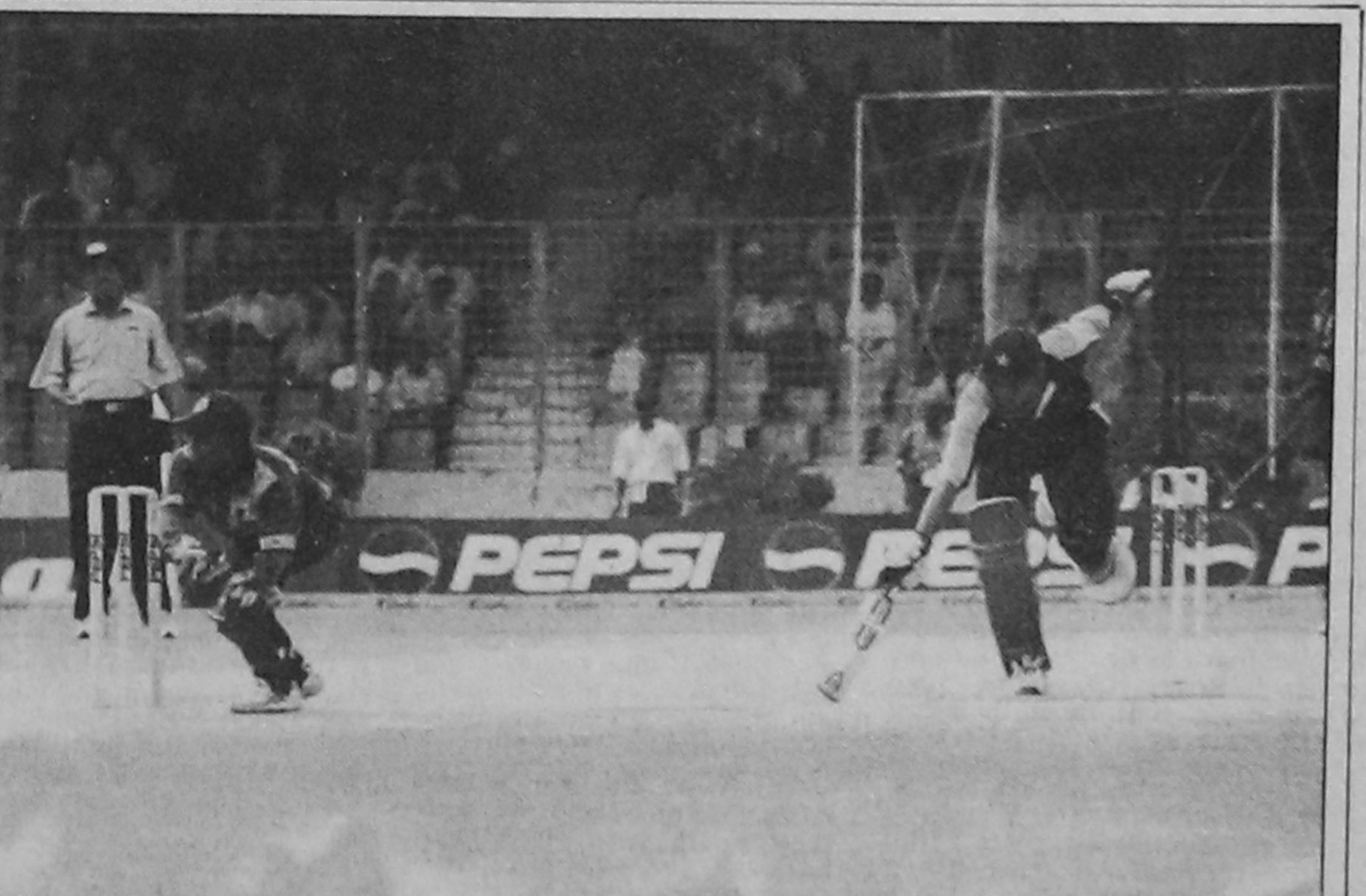
DSS: What is the secret behind Wasim and Waqar's success?

MA: It's basically the excellence and the experience. But now age is really catching up with them. They won't be in the team for more than a year. I think, youngsters will now get more chances because someone has to replace them. They can't play for whole life.

DSS: Are you ready to get into the shoes of Wasim or Waqar?

MA: Yes, we are ready to do that. It's just matter of giving us the confidence that you are going to play...you are going to be the main member. If you get confidence, you will be doing the same things (that Wasim and Waqar are doing?).

DSS: Wickets are not bowler-friendly in the sub-continent. Still, Pakistan is producing a lot of fast bowlers. What is the mystery?



Pakistan batsman Shahid Afridi (R) at full stretch to avoid being run-out in the Pepsi Asia Cup final yesterday.

—Star photo by A K M Mohsin