

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Bishan Singh Bedi

(Former Indian captain)
"I don't know. I am not an expert. It is for the administration to decide. The ball is in their court. They must come clean."

When asked to give a solution on how bookies can be kept away from Indian cricket.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-131

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
June 16, 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

1	Who is the number one women tennis player at the moment?
Hings	Pierce
JOHANNESBURG, June 14 (Reuters/ AFP): South African cricket boss Ali Bacher has rejected an allegation in a newspaper that he fixed a match during a rebel tour by a West Indies side in the 1980s.	
2	Who won the European Champions' League?
United	Real Madrid
3	Who won the UEFA Cup?
Valencia	Galatasaray
4	Who lifted national schools cricket title?
St Joseph	MS Singh Zila
5	Who is the coach of Bangladesh football team?
Harrison	Van Gaal

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Hockey squad leaves for S'pore today

A 20-member Bangladeshi youth team leaves here for Singapore today to participate in the Asian Hockey Federation Cup Under-16 tournament, reports UNB.

The eight-team first ever Asian junior hockey meet will be held at the Delta Complex in Singapore from June 16-25.

Bangladesh captain Hedayetul Islam Rajib, a left wing back of BKSP and Abahani told the news agency "Our first target is to play in the semifinal."

"This time our team is a balanced side ... I hope we'll be able to beat Japan and Oman in the group engagements if we are able to display our usual performance," he said.

Rajib added, "we'll try our best at least to share points with giants India."

Bangladesh have been placed in Pool B along with India, Japan and Oman while the Pool A consists of Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka and hosts Singapore.

In the group matches, Bangladesh will play Japan on Saturday (June 17), meet giant neighbour India on Monday (June 19) and Oman on Wednesday (June 21).

TEAM

Hedayetul Islam Rajib, Mahbubullah Chowdhury, Golam Shahriar, Yamin Hossain, AKM Shamsuddin, Golam Sarwar, Rajib Hasan, Abidul Haq Shahid, Ahsiq Abedin, Rahil Kanti Roy, Shawkat Ali, Mazharul Islam, Ashraful Islam, Maksud Alam, Russeluddin and Hosne Mobarak.

Officials: Manager — Haji Manwar Hossain, Asst Manager — Younus Ali, Coach — Nurul Islam and Asst Manager — Kowsar Ali.

Masudur Rahman will also accompany the team as umpire.

Board for elected boss

Al-Amin



The much-anticipated reconstitution of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) finally got a shape following an emergency board meeting yesterday.

The most interesting outcome of the meeting, chaired by BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury, was the proposal for an elected chairman rather than a government appointed president in the revolutionary draft constitution.

"We have agreed to form a fully elected board. A chairman will head a board of directors, which will not have more than 25 members. The chairman will be elected by the board of directors," Saber told the reporters late last night on conclusion of the marathon meeting that lasted for more than three hours.

The committee will consist of elected representatives from the cricket clubs based in Dhaka, members from the six divisional headquarters, a representative from the soon to be launched Bangladesh Cricket Foundation and a nominee of the chairman and the CEO," said Saber. He however did not disclose the ratio of representation from the Dhaka-based clubs.

"But this is only a recommendation. Things would be finalised only after the AGM (Annual General Meeting AGM), the BCB boss said. The first AGM, scheduled for June 15, has now been shifted to September 2. Interestingly, the AGM will be held in the tranquil settings of Cox's Bazar, the country's premium sea resort.

The continued absence of any evidence to substantiate this serious allegation, BCB has no option but to reject the claim and reiterate its firm belief that Bangladesh won its match against Pakistan as the better team on the day.

BCB is committed to the cause of eradicating any unfair means designed to influence the normal course of a game which it believes should always be played in its true spirit.

The four-team super league matches of the Metropolis Second Division Kabadi begins today at the Outer Stadium Kabadi ground, reports UNB.

Matuail Milan Smriti Sangsdar will play Maniknagar Unnayan Samity at 3:30 pm while Hazl Surizamal Smriti Sangsdar will meet Isaque Master Smriti Sangsdar at 4:30 pm in the opening day fixture.

Bacher himself fixed match?

by Johannesburg lawyer Peter Soller to the King Commission of inquiry into match-fixing in South Africa.

Commission secretary Peter Bacon said the commission had received Soller's statement which was published in the Afrikaans-language daily Beeld.

Bacon said the commission was investigating the allegations but would not comment further.

Soller's document has mystified cricket officials and a sports promoter involved with

the two tours by the West Indian teams, in 1982/83 and 1983/84. UCBSA spokeswoman Bronwyn Wilkinson told AFP Bacher remembered a dispute over payment during the second tour in 1983/84 but was upset at any suggestion the players were paid to lose.

The West Indians had in fact won both their one-day matches at the Wanderers, where Soller claimed he had been with Bacher when a deal was struck for the tourists to "blow the match".

Soller claimed he was called to the Wanderers Stadium by Richard Tessel, who he named as a sports promoter involved with the tour, before a one-day international when the West Indians were refusing to play because of a pay dispute.

The row was only defused, according to Soller, when Bacher, Tessel and Soller agreed to pay the West Indians extra money provided if they lost.

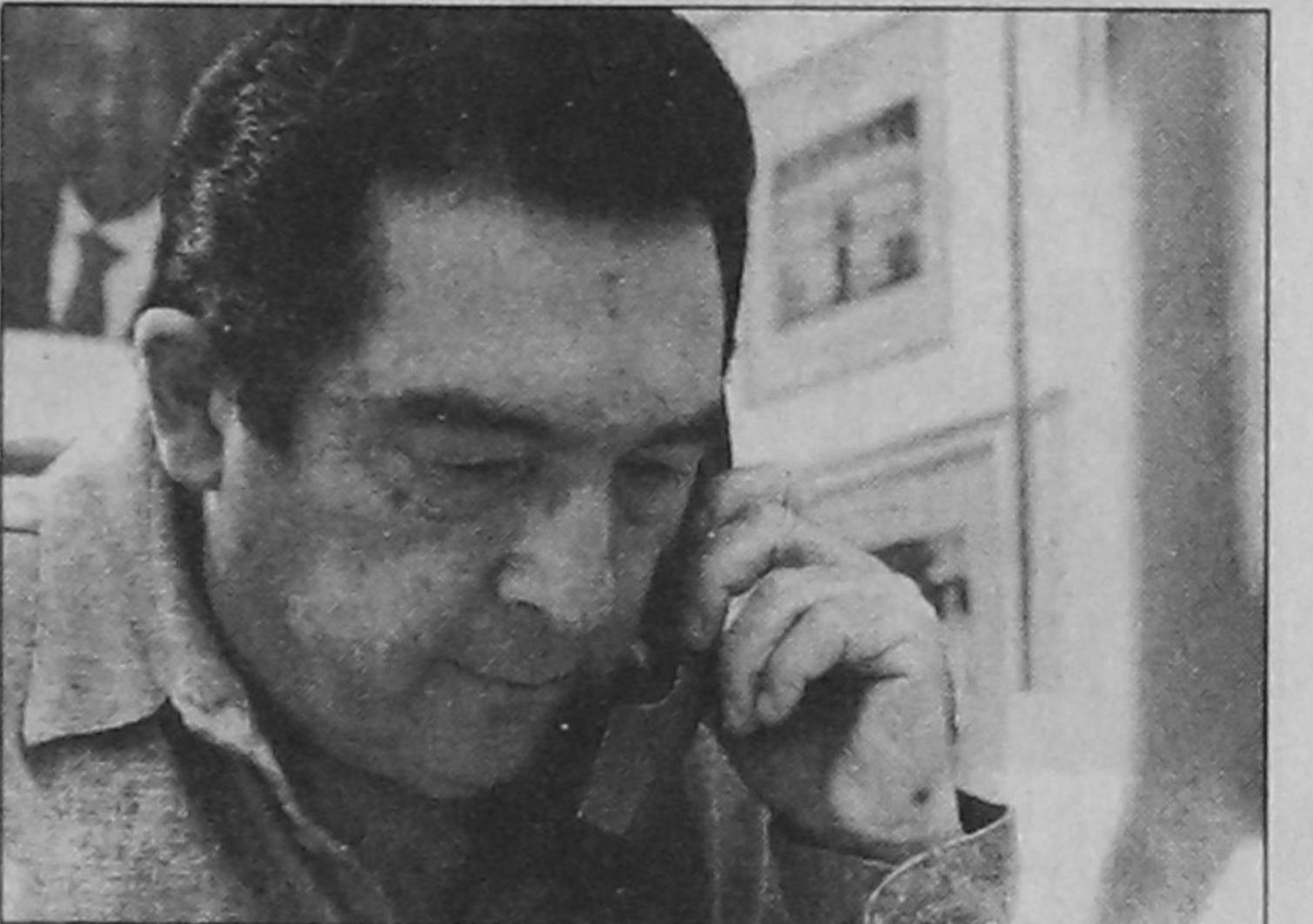
The report said Soller's statement included an account of how the lawyer was asked to help resolve a pay dispute.

During the lunch interval the West Indians decided they would not go back on the playing field because they were not being paid enough, the report said.

"At first, Bacher threatened to summon the Windies to account for breach of contract," said the report, quoting Soller's state-

ment.

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South African cricket chief Ali Bacher on the phone at his Johannesburg office yesterday. — AFP photo

PREVIEW

Sweden v Turkey: Survival at stake

goals), 1998 (32 goals) and 1999 (19 goals).

Andersson, a man of few words and not given to criticising or praising, said: "Sukur had a great season with Galatasaray, who won the UEFA Cup, and he could be dangerous."

Ironically Sukur bore the brunt of the criticism in Turkey's poor Euro 96 display when they lost their group matches to Croatia, Portugal and Denmark. To be fair to him, Sukur played most of the tournament as a lone striker and service from his teammates was mediocre.

At least Turkey earned valuable experience on the international stage and they cannot be ruled out as potential dark horses such as the open nature of this June 10 to July 2 event.

Predicting Turkey's line-up is a hazardous business given their desire for privacy but perhaps coach Mustafa Denizli will keep the same starting 11.

That would mean Rustu Recer in goal behind a back four of Umit Davala, Ogun Temizkanoglu, Alpay Ozalan and Tayfur Hayutcu. The midfield would be Fatih Akyel, Okan Buruk, Abdullah Ercan and Seren Yalcin with Hakan Sukur and Tayfur Korkut up front.

For Sweden, right back Roland Nilsson, who gave away the first goal and was substituted against Belgium, is definitely out.

The 28-year-old classic centre forward, known as the Bull of the Bosphorus, can shoot with both feet and was top scorer in Turkey in 1997 (28

goals), 1998 (32 goals) and 1999 (19 goals).

Former Sheffield Wednesday star Nilsson was one of the heroes of Sweden's run to third place at the 1994 World Cup and is known as Stalmannen, or Superman in Swedish, for his exceptional fitness at the age of 37.

AIK Stockholm's Teddy Ljungberg is set to come into the right back position with Nilsson's absence.

Lagerback's only enforced change against Turkey is also in defence as Patrik Andersson was dismissed after receiving a second yellow card late in the Belgian game.

Jochim Bjorklund, who did not play in the last six weeks of Valencia's season, is set to start in central defence with Real Zaragoza's Gary Sundgren coming in at left back.

Celtic's Henrik Larsson, out for most of this season after breaking his leg in a UEFA Cup game, should start alongside Kenneth Andersson in attack.

A possible starting line-up against Turkey would read Magnus Hedman in goal, Lucic at right back, Olof Mellberg and Bjorklund in central defence and Sundgren at left back.

Hakan Mild, Johan Mjallby, Fredrik Ljungberg and Nicolas Alexanderson could be in midfield with Larsson and Andersson up front.

Both teams will need to show great character if they want to avoid the Euro 2000 exit door.

Nilsson may be out of the Italy game too. "We will wait and see what the doctors say," said joint-coach Lars Lagerback.

Officials: Manager — Haji Manwar Hossain, Asst Manager — Younus Ali, Coach — Nurul Islam and Asst Manager — Kowsar Ali.

Masudur Rahman will also accompany the team as umpire.

Noakhali in final

Mass suicide by Chittagong

Sports Reporter

The BCB president also revealed that the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) would start discharging his duties from August 1. The Board is also likely to bring 14 national cricketers on its pay roll from the same day.

About the appointment of the CEO, Saber said the Board has so far received around 24 applications.

We are going to shortlist the figure to three to

four before the final interview takes place," Saber said, adding that a three-member interview committee will be headed by BCB treasure Afzalur Rahman Sinha.

The CEO will be a member of the Board of directors, but he won't have the right to vote," he said. His job will be to coordinate between the four departments — finance, accounts, administration and development.

Apart from the four standing committees, to be headed by a member of the board of directors, there will also be three sub-committees. These are — Cricket Committee Playing, Cricket Committee Management and Cricket Committee Development.

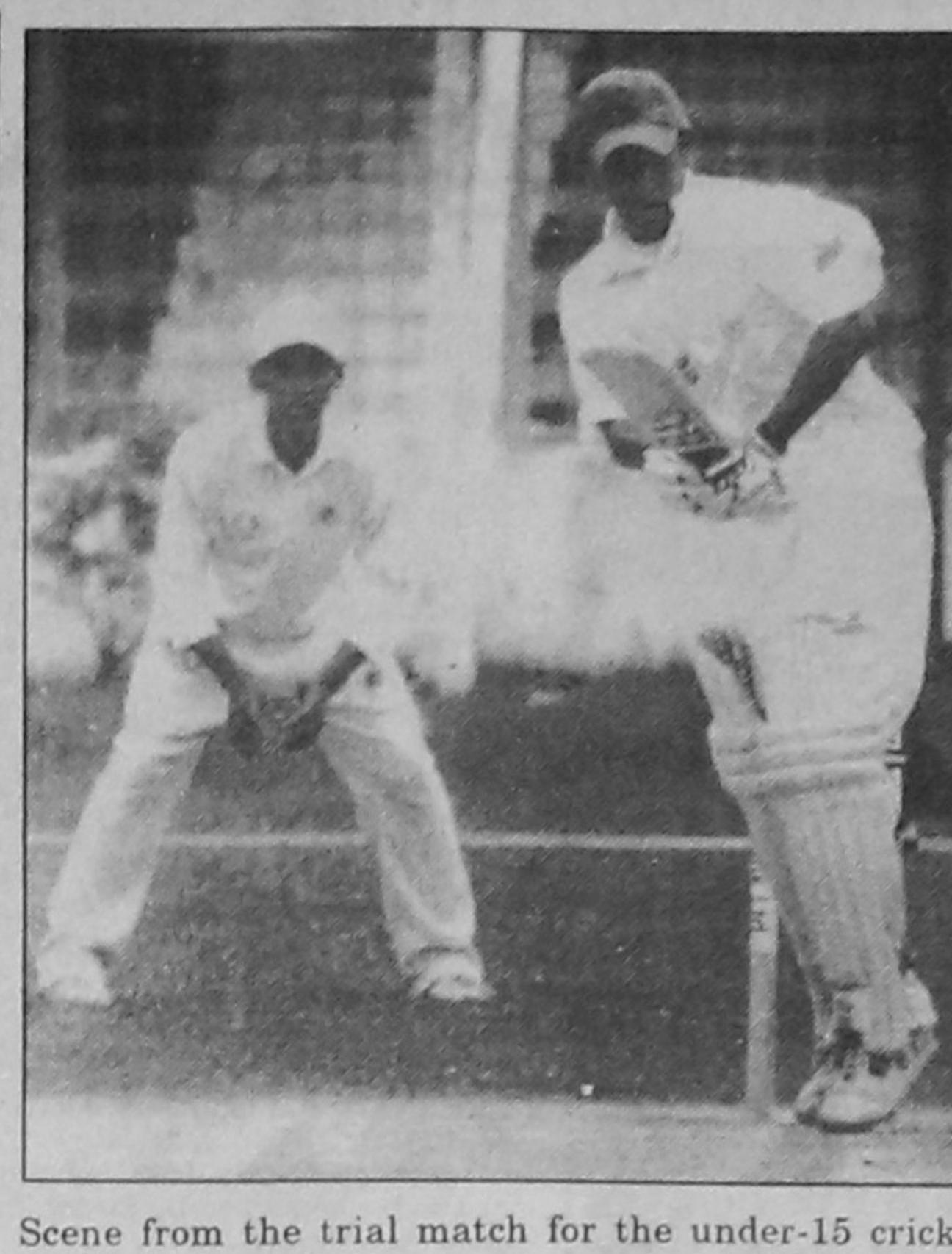
Regarding the issue of taking selected cricketers under the BCB pay roll Saber said they would prefer those fit and young cricketers who have a long term prospect.

We are planning to bring ten to fourteen players initially on our pay roll," said Saber, hinting that the figure might increase if required.

Div II kabadi

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Scene from the trial match for the under-15 cricket team at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Colts on their mettle

Hasan Masood

tournament commences in Karachi from July 15.

Seven teams -- Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Malaysia and Hong Kong -- will take part in the under-15 competition while 10 teams -- Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, Kuwait, Maldives, Sri Lanka, UAE, Singapore, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia -- will feature in the under-17.

Both camps are being held simultaneously but priority has been given to U-15 training as the meet of this age group begins first.

A total of 46 boys including 15 from the BKSP took part in the under-15 camp that began from May 18. Alok Chakravarty has been appointed the coach and Alain Chowdhury the manager.

After the initial camp at the BUET ground and their subsequent trial matches at the BNS, BCB picked 25 cricketers last night from where they would make final selection of 14 by June 22. Their team is expected to leave for Malaysia on June 27.

Meanwhile, the trial matches of under-17 camp are expected to start next week. Forty-seven cricketers including eight from BKSP are taking part in the primary camp, which is being coached by Golam Faruk Suru. Like the case

of under-15 selection, BCB would also shortlist the team after playing trial matches.

Placed in Pool A along with hosts Pakistan, Nepal, Maldives and Kuwait, Bangladesh will take on Pakistan in their opening match at the Karachi National Stadium on July 15.

While inquiring about irregularities at the camps, no players came up with any definite allegation. Seeking anonymity, only three players said about the short-supply of drinking water and non-supply of food.

Alain Chowdhury, who is also a BCB member, admitted that initially they could not provide the boys with food. "It's true that we could not provide them with meals initially. But once the trial matches started on June 10, we are giving lunch and energy drinks to the boys," he said.

Alam however denied any knowledge of alleged shortfall of drinking water. "No one has so far come out saying he did not get drinking water. There was plenty of water for them at the BUET everyday," said Alam.

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Rain interruption at SSC

Even going on Day One

COLOMBO, June 14: Marvan Atapattu celebrated his elevation to the Sri Lankan vice-captaincy with an unbeaten half-century to lead his side to 115 for three at stumps on a rain-shortened opening day of the first cricket Test against Pakistan here Wednesday, reports AFP.

Atapattu batted with resolve at the Sinhalese Sports Club (SSC) ground, as three wickets crashed at the other end, to be 50 not out, including seven fours, after the three hours available for play.

"I have requested the board to consider me if Bangladesh play Test cricket in the near future," added Minhas, who inspired Bangladesh to some brilliant performances in last year's