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# Star Sport

DHAKA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 2000 Email: [dssports@bdonline.com](mailto:dssports@bdonline.com)

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## Column One

**Boost** sports  
**WHIZZ KID**

**Competition-134**

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
Aug 11, 2000 and draw  
shortly afterwards

1 Who is the world's most expensive football player?

Crespo Zidane Rigo

2 Who won the ICC Under-17 Asia Cup?

Pakistan Sri Lanka India

3 Bangladesh's opening match in the second ICC Knock-out tournament is against:

South Africa West Indies England

4 Who won the NatWest tri-series?

West Indies Zimbabwe England

5 Name the winner of the British Open golf:

Faldo Woods Els

Name .....

Class .....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

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## SPORTS TALK



Venus Williams

(US tennis star)

"I'm dynamic, I'm a very different player from the regular champion, I'm a powerhouse. Plus I'm black."

After winning Wimbledon singles title.

### Clarification

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It is also not a truth that the State Minister for sports, while campaigning for the Test Status, termed BNS as an exclusive cricket venue. Of course, BNS is a venue with all the standard world-class facilities for cricket. It is not understandable how the reporter got the State Minister's remark on BNS as exclusive for cricket while campaigning for the Test Status. Neither the reporter accompanied the State Minister in his campaigning tour, nor the State Minister made any comment anywhere on the subject of the tour. But the minister of the words like "the minister lied to the world" or "politician brought disgrace..." with his act of cheating amounts to personal attack and, therefore, derogatory to the reputation of the prestigious English daily, The Daily Star.

## Squeaky win for Abahani

Sports Reporter



Abahani struggled

Abahani had a chance to take the lead when they earned a penalty-stroke in the eighth minute. Farashganj defender Sabir Hossain Simon stopped Naveed Iqbal's hit with the aid of his feet inside the danger zone. But Mirajul Islam nullified the opportunity by sending the ball over the bar.

Abahani didn't have to wait long for the breakthrough. Rubel found the net from a Rajib pass in the ninth minute. Moksed earned all three points. See page 14

Abahani struggled past Farashganj Sporting Club in the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League encounter at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

Even with the inclusion of three Pakistani Olympic stand-by players -- Naveed Iqbal, Mohammad Khalid and Amir Saleem the popular Dhamonodi club managed to inflict a 2-0 defeat on the season's giant-killers.

Forward Glasuddin Rubel's brilliant finish gave Abahani an early first half lead. Moksed Alam put the issue beyond doubt with a late second half goal.

It was Abahani's third win in four matches against a draw. With ten points from four matches they are now trailing joint leaders Mohammedan SC and Usha Krira Chakra by just two points.

Farashganj with victories over Mariner Youngs Club (2-1) and Ajax Sporting Club (3-2) under their belt, suffered only their third loss in the league.

Neither of the Pakistani recruits settled into a rhythm on debut for the sky blues. In contrast, Farashganj's Indian pair of Sukhinder Walia and Jagmohan Singh demonstrated their artistry. However, some acrobatic keeping by Abahani's Russell Khan Bappy thwarted their every attempt.

Without play-maker Mahub Harun, the Dhaka giants appeared mediocre. Harun injured his knee during the game against Azad Sporting Club on August 3.



Action from yesterday's Green Delta Premier Division hockey league encounter between Abahani and Farashganj Sporting Club at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium. — Star photo

## AB Bank TT Biman's tenth in a row

Sports Reporter

Holders Bangladesh Biman cruised to their tenth straight win in the AB Bank Premier Division table tennis league with a 3-0 victory over Wari Club in their penultimate Super League clash at the wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

Mustafa opened Biman's account defeating Wari's Pappu 2-1, 12-21, 22-20. Rochi made it 2-0 with an easy 2-1, 21-15 win over Rubel. And Kochi settled the issue with a 2-1, 21-18 victory over Edison.

The national airline team maintain their two-point lead over rivals Armanitola who recorded a 3-1 win over Engineers' Club yesterday.

Armanitola face a stiff task to dethrone the champions today. Because if Biman clinch only a set in their final super league engagement, they will keep the title. In the league phase Biman trounced Armanitola 3-0.

In the First Division Super League, Diluksha Sporting Club beat Bara Table Tennis Club 3-0, Arka beat Angels Club 3-1 while Uttara Club recorded a 3-1 win over Mariner Youngs Club.

## BKSP Cup nat'l schools hockey

Kashba High of Rajshahi and Orient Textiles High of Dhaka emerged group champions to reach the semifinals of the BKSP Cup third national schools hockey tournament at the BKSP yesterday, reports UNB.

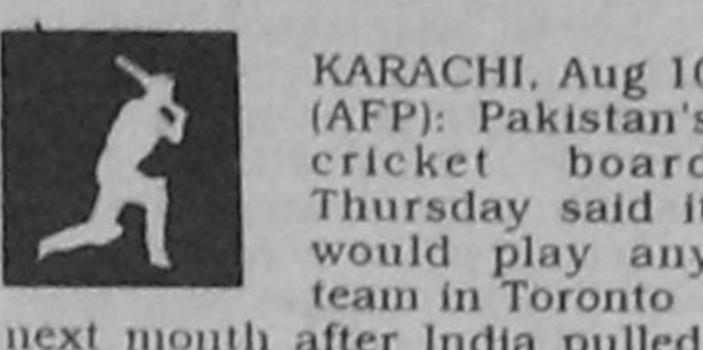
In the semifinals, Orient Textiles High will take on Armanitola Govt High of Dhaka at 2 pm while Kashba High will face Dinajpur Pourashava High at 4 pm on Saturday.

In the day's matches, Kashba High earned a facile 4-0 goals victory over Mymensingh Police Lines High while Orient Textiles High drew 2-2 with Hajj Ibrahim Alam Chand High of Narayanganj.

In the day's other match, Dhaka Chittagong Municipal beat Chittagong Municipal Model High with a solitary goal at the same venue.

## India boycott Sahara Cup Keep politics out of cricket, says Imran

Sports Reporter



SUKHDEV DHINDSA

KARACHI, Aug 10 (AFP): Pakistan's cricket board Thursday said it would play any team in Toronto next month after India pulled out of the series due to tensions in the disputed territory of Kashmir.

The move has thrown India's planned Test tour here later this year into serious doubt and prompted an appeal from Pakistani cricket legend Imran Khan to keep politics out of the game.

India has announced it will not send a team to play Pakistan in the Sahara Cup at Toronto, Canada, next month in protest over Islamabad's alleged sponsorship of "terrorism" in Kashmir.

"Pakistanis always support Pakistan-India matches and it would be unfair if politics starts dominating team tours," Imran, a former captain turned politician, told the news agency.

"Despite all the tension and threats from Indian fundamentalists, Pakistan went to India in 1998 and played Test matches and one-day internationals. It would be sad if they refused to tour Pakistan."

"I always believe in more Pakistan-India series as people in the sub-continent are crazy about the game and they do not want to see cricket destroyed because of politics."

Indian Sports Minister Sukhdev Dhindsa said India had pulled out of the series because Pakistan encouraged "killings of innocent people in Kashmir and elsewhere," the Press Trust of India reported.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), which is running trial matches in this southern port city this week to select a team for Toronto, said it had not been informed of the Indians' decision.

But PCB Director of Operations Yawar Saeed said Pakistan would meet its commitment to play in the one-day series despite India's pull-out.

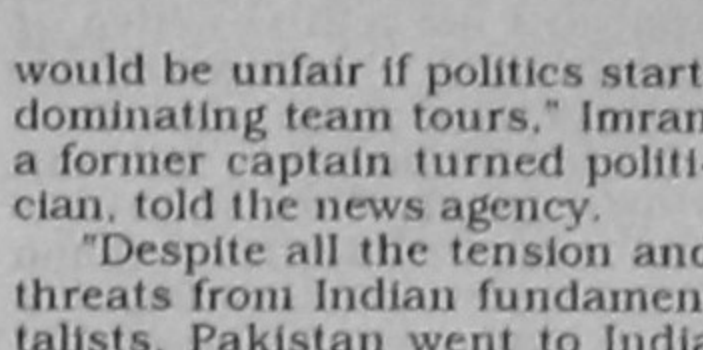
"We are definitely committed to play in the Toronto series and we're waiting for the official information of India's pullout from Indian Board and the organisers," he told AFP.

"It's up to the organisers (International Management Group) to arrange another team for the series," he said.

The two teams were scheduled to play five matches from September 9 to 17 in Canada.

## India boycott Sahara Cup

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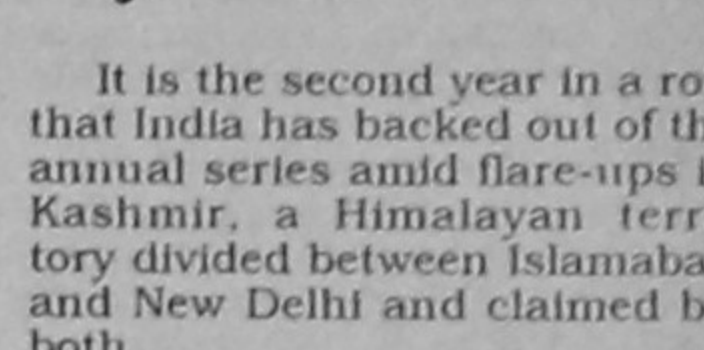
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## End of a Lankan era

Sports Reporter



ARJUNA RANATUNGA

COLOMBO, Aug 10 (AFP): Sri Lanka's most successful but controversial skipper Arjuna Ranatunga bowed out of international cricket here Thursday at his home ground, the Sinhalese Sports Club ground, amid a tearful farewell.

The gates were thrown open shortly before tea on the fifth and final day of the third Test against South Africa by the Sri Lanka Cricket Board to give the public free entrance to show their appreciation for this great cricketer.

Fans came in numbers to give Ranatunga a final salute which was fitting for the contribution he had made to Sri Lankan cricket.

Ranatunga did not fail them, scoring an undefeated 28 with six fours to see Sri Lanka through safely to a draw.

In the presentation after the match, Ranatunga was at a loss for words as he thanked all those who had stood beside him in the hour of need during his long and distinguished career.

Ranatunga was the only survivor of the inaugural Test played by Sri Lanka against England in Colombo 18 years ago, and he's been through it all representing his country in 93 of the 105 Tests played to date.

He took over the captaincy in 1989 when things looked bleak for Sri Lanka, but with his flair and understanding he played a significant role in building up a side with collective strength to win the most prized possession in one-day cricket, the World Cup in 1996.

Ranatunga was a cricketer the Aussies loved to hate, following his on field incidents with individual players, especially Ian Healy and Shane Warne during the 1995-96 tour when his key bowler Muttiah Muralitharan was no-balled for throwing.

It was sweet revenge for Ranatunga that his side should beat Australia to win the World Cup at Lahore. The victory was a crowning moment in Sri Lanka's cricketering history and it brought forth a new generation of cricketers and cricket fans to the game.

Ranatunga made his Test debut while still a student at prestigious Ananda College at the age of 18 against England at the Saravanamuttu Stadium in February 1982.

He scored his country's maiden Test 50 in that game.

Since then he has played a major role in the development and success of Sri Lanka cricket internationally. A left-hand batsman of immense talent, Ranatunga became a vital cog in the Sri Lanka team.

He is the second highest run-getter to his one-time deputy Aravinda de Silva, with nearly 5,000 runs at an average of 35. He made four centuries, all at home, the highest of which was an unbeaten 135 against Pakistan at the Saravanamuttu Stadium in 1985-86.

Ranatunga and De Silva were the pillars of Sri Lanka cricket through good and bad times, dominating the scene for nearly two decades.

Apart from his cricketering ability, Ranatunga is also known for standing by his teammates during trying times.

The most significant occasion being when Muralitharan was no-balled for throwing by Australian umpire Ross Emerson at Adelaide in 1999-2000. Ranatunga threatened to take his team off the field and had a finger wagging on-field argument with the umpire that brought cricket to a standstill for several minutes.

## Mahela hits ton to draw Test

Sports Reporter



MAHELA JAYAWARDENE

COLOMBO, Aug 10 (AFP): Mahela Jayawardene stroked a superb unbeaten century to enable Sri Lanka to draw the third and final Test against South Africa at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground here Thursday.

Sri Lanka who set a winning target of 263 in a minimum of 68 overs, finished the fifth and final day on 195 for four with Jayawardene scoring a flawless 101 not out off 183 balls in 217 minutes with 14 fours and a six.

The game ended shortly after Jayawardene had completed his century.

Sri Lanka and South Africa shared the three-match series one-all with each team winning one Test. Sri Lanka won the first at Galle by an innings and 15 runs, and South Africa the second at Kandy by seven runs.

Arjuna Ranatunga, the former captain making his final international appearance, bowed out in style by scoring an unbeaten 28 off 42 balls with four fours.

Jayawardene shared in stands of 82 with Aravinda de Silva who scored 41 with the aid of a runner after injuring his leg, and an unfinished 78 with Ranatunga, after Sri Lanka had got off to a bad start losing the first three wickets for 37 runs.

Marvan Atapattu was dismissed for a rough when he chased a wide delivery from Shaun Pollock and gave a catch to guilty fielder Gary Kirsten.

Kumar Sangakkara, promoted in the batting order to push the scoring rate, did not survive for long. At six, he attempted to cut Nantie Hayward and offered an easy catch to

Left-arm spinner Paul Adams, ignored totally in the first innings, took a wicket in his first over of the match when he bowled Sanath Jayasuriya for 17 to make Sri Lanka 37 for 3.

Off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan, named man-of-the-match, returned his 22nd five wickets in an innings haul to reduce South Africa to 241 for nine declared at lunch on the final day. He finished the match with a bag of eight wickets taking his series tally to 26 wickets, which equalled his own Sri Lanka record for the series set up in Pakistan early this year.

South Africa, resuming at 157 for five, added 84 runs in the morning session, losing four wickets.

Lance Klusener was named man-of-the-series for his contribution with the bat, especially on sub-continent pitches.

**SCOREBOARD**  
SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 279  
SRI LANKA: First innings 258  
SOUTH AFRICA: Second innings 241 for 9 declared  
SRI LANKA: Second innings

Atapattu c Kirsten b Pollock 0  
Jayasuriya b Adams 17  
Sangakkara c Rhodes b Hayward 6  
Jayawardene not out 101  
De Silva lbw b Klusener 9  
Ranatunga not out 28  
Extras: (nb-2) 2

Total: 4 wickets in 67.1 overs) 195  
Fall of wickets: 1-6, 2-20, 3-37, 4-119  
Bowler O M R W  
Pollock 6 3 13 1  
Hayward 9 1 21 1  
Kallis 4 2 4 0  
Klusener 12.1 4 20 1  
Adams 16 3 72 1  
Boje 20 4 65 0

Result: Test drawn  
Series: Drawn one-all  
Man-of-the-match: Muttiah Muralitharan  
Man-of-the-series: Lance Klusener

## Speed stands up for ACB

Sports Reporter



MALCOLM SPEED

CANBERRA, Aug 10: Australian cricket has passed up on millions of dollars by spurning offers to play in numerous limited overs tournaments since 1998, Australian Cricket Board chief executive Malcolm Speed said Wednesday, reports AFP.

This year the ACB had turned down lucrative offers to send the Australian team to at least six tournaments.

Speed said the offers were declined to avoid overloading the national team but he also hinted concerns caused by the emerging match-fixing scandals may have played a part as the ACB opted to stick to regular programmes with fellow ICC countries.

"This year we could have accepted offers to play in six triangular one-day tournaments in different parts of the world ranging from the United States to Singapore, to Bermuda, right around the world," Speed told the National Press Club here.

"We would have been paid a significant amount of money to play in each of those tournaments -- many, many hundreds of thousands for each tournament."

"We rejected all of those. The Australian team has not played in any of these ad hoc one-day international tournaments since we went to Sharjah at the end of an Indian tour in 1998."

"And secondly, we don't want to play in these tournaments unless they're under the clear auspices of another cricket board against top-line competition."

"That's not to say some of these offers we've rejected (never) met those criteria."

Backing comments by Australian captain Steve Waugh, Speed said it would be tragic if the international match-fixing scandals overshadowed the Australian team's achievements.

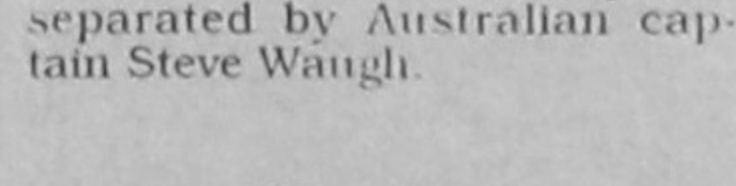
"What we have is a team that is on the verge of breaking a record that may never be challenged again if we can get past the West Indies' record of 11 consecutive Test wins," he said.

Speed was asked if the ACB would be prepared to back a tough regime of audits to expose any Australian players who may have boosted bank accounts through match corruption.

Turning to the ACB's recent demotion of Shane Warne from the vice-captaincy in favour of Adam Gilchrist, Speed said the ACB's directors had gone against the national selectors' recommendation for the overall good of the game.

## Tragic

Sports Reporter



STEVE WAUGH

COLOMBO, Aug 10: A cricket umpire was beaten to death during a village game in Sri Lanka, but police said on Thursday the killing was linked to a family feud, reports AP.

"It is true that the umpire was clubbed to death on the field after he gave a run out decision, but our investigation shows that the actual reason was rivalry between his family and another," said MD Premaratne, the police chief of Ambalangoda town.

The killing took place on Sunday in Ambalangoda, 75 kilometres (45 miles) south of Colombo, the Sri Lankan capital. Cricket is the island nation's most popular sport.

The two teams included members of feuding families playing a softball cricket tournament. Premaratne told the Associated Press when reached on the phone.

As Kamal Ranjith de Silva adjudged a batsman run out, members of the batting side ran toward him and hotly argued against the decision.

## Lee takes no notice

Sports Reporter



BRETT LEE

BRISBANE, Aug 10: Australian tearaway Brett Lee has refused to react to jibes from his former idol Jeff Thomson in the race to become cricket's quickest bowler, reports AFP.

Lee said overtaking Thomson's mark of 160 kilometers per hour (100 mph) wasn't his priority in his second international season, which begins with next week's one-day series against South Africa in Melbourne.

Lee has become the latest threat to Thomson's speed record, clocking 157 kph against South Africa during his outstanding debut season for Australia.

But Thomson, who turns 50 next week, has rubbished the speed battle between Lee and Pakistan strike bowler Shoaib Akhtar, insisting he bowled much quicker than the official 160 kph reading in 1975-76.

"I bowled a lot quicker than that," Thomson told Inside Edge magazine in their latest issue.

"No way known are they as quick. All the hype that goes around about it just makes you laugh."

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Lee said he was reluctant to become cricket's quickest bowler, reports AFP.

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BRETT LEE

talk about them as he prepared Thursday for Friday's warm-up match against a Queensland XI here.

The 23-year-old, who was named Wisden's Young Cricketer of the Year, admitted Thomson was among his childhood idols and said his only goal was to take wickets.

"Who knows what it might mean if I break 160 kph, but it's

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