

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 142
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
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Competition closes at 8 pm
Jan 19, 2001 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who lifted FIDE World Chess Championship crown?
Kramnik Anand Kasparov
- Which country clinched the women's cricket World Cup?
Australia New Zealand England
- Who is European footballer-of-the-year?
Figo Zidane Shevchenko
- Who became Prime Bank Rating chess champion?
Rahib Reza Pullab
- Who became America's player-of-the-year?
Romario Ronaldo Balotelli

Name:
Class: Roll No.:
School Address:
Phone: (If any):

SPORTS TALK



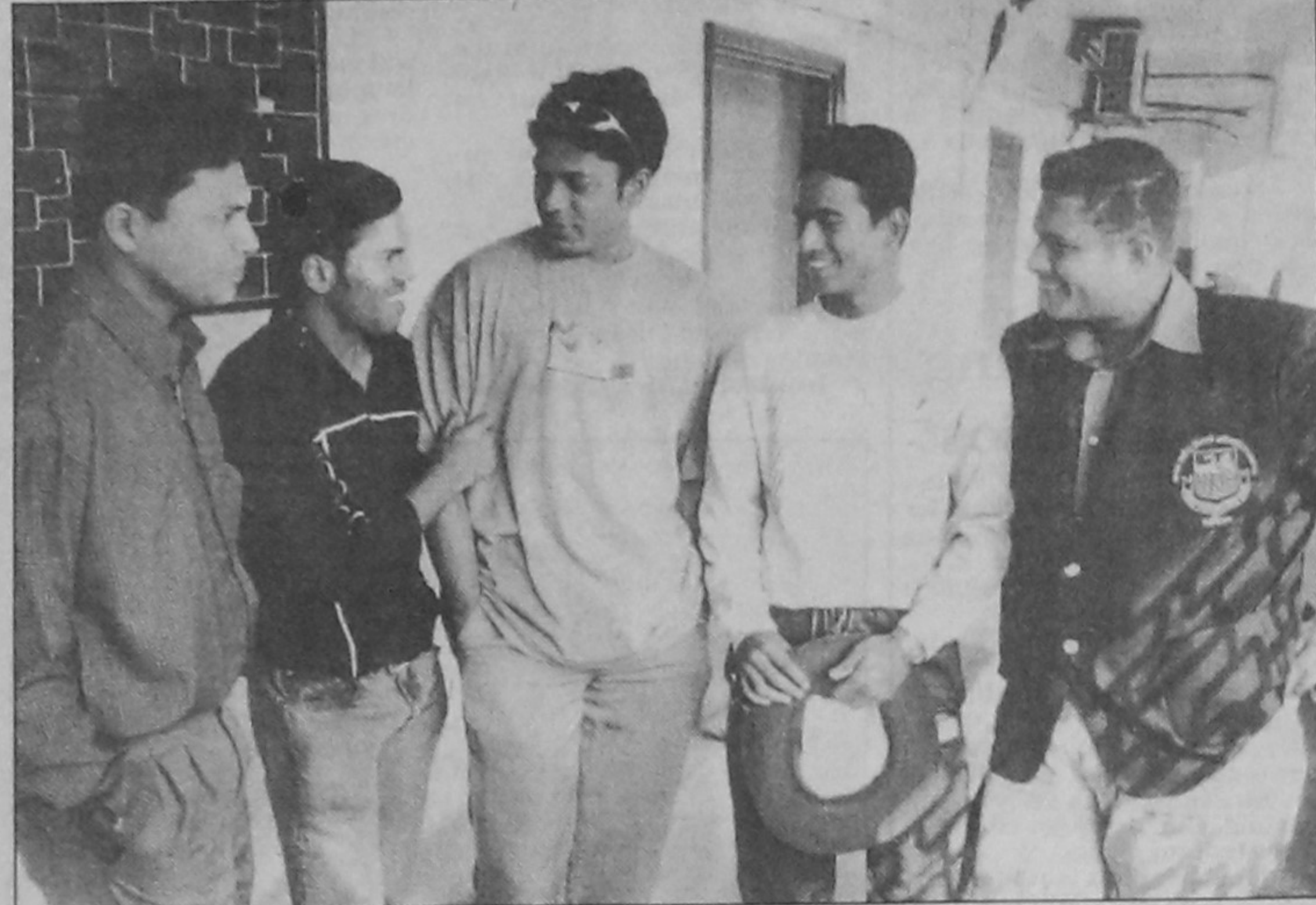
Steve Waugh
(Australia cricket captain)
"Waugh's got 366 wickets, so that's going to help him, but he's got to get in there and have the form on the board as well."
On whether leg-spinner Shane Warne would be selected for the tour of India.

GrameenPhone U-17 Cricket

Sports Reporter
Metro Greens and Dhaka Rangers won their first round matches of the GrameenPhone under-17 cricket tournament at different venues yesterday.
Metro Greens beat Dhaka Colts by 15 runs at the Jagannath Hall ground while Dhaka Rangers registered a three-wicket win over Metro Blues at the Mymensingh Stadium.
SCORES IN BRIEF
Metro Greens v Dhaka Colts: Metro Greens: 165 for 8 in 45 overs (Jamil 43, Sabuj 23; Mahfuz 3/33)
Dhaka Colts: 150 all out in 42 overs (Al-Amin 53; Jamil 3/27)
Result: Metro Greens won by 15 runs.
Metro Blues v Dhaka Rangers:
Metro Blues: 201 for 6 in 45 overs (Mohiuddin 61, Asif 39)
Dhaka Rangers: 202 for 7 in 45 overs (Asif 45, Russell 35; Mukhlis 2/39)
Result: Dhaka Rangers won by three wickets.

300 DON FS

BLOEMFONTEIN, Jan 16 (Internet report): Following his record 300th Test cricket wicket earlier this season at Goodyear Park in Bloemfontein, South Africa's top fast bowler Alan Donald's BMW station wagon boasts a new registration number 300 DON FS, to remind South Africans of his proud record.
"My 300th Test cricket wicket (in the first cricket Test against New Zealand) was a special milestone for me," Donald says, the garage where he bought his car promised him the number plate as a gift once he had taken his 300th Test wicket.
"They wanted to fit me with the new number plate the day after the Test at Goodyear Park, however it was not yet ready, I only got it the following week."
Donald's Jetta earlier had the registration 174 AAD FS, marking a previous milestone. In December 1997 in Melbourne, Australia he broke Hugh Tayfield's national record of 170 Test wickets.
Those 174 afforded Donald the title of South Africa's top fast bowler.
The AAD stands for Allan Anthony Donald.
"I'll definitely replace the number plates once I take my 400th Test wicket," Donald joked.



Members of the Bangladesh Cricket Board Eleven (L-R) Bikash, Rajin, Hasibul, Hannan and Biplob are sharing a light moment at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

Four-dayer on green-top from today

That's not fair

Sports Reporter
A travel-lagged BCB (Bangladesh Cricket Board) XI will take on the visiting Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy (CBCA) in a four-day match, starting at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.
The home team, who were put through a taxing bus journey from Rajshahi, arrived in Dhaka yesterday afternoon. Their weary faces told the story as the players came to report at the BCB office. A sleepless night, a risky trip under thick smog and little rest after their one-day match at the Rajshahi Stadium on Monday evening contributed to a lot of physical and mental harm, which the most prosperous sports organisation of the country could have easily avoided.
The BCB, playing the perfect host, however ensured that the visiting side from Down Under enjoys the privilege of taking an hour-long air trip from Rajshahi to the capital. The arrangement also guaranteed ample relaxing time for the boys of the famous Adelaide-based Academy ahead of their more energy-sapping fixture at Dhaka.
But couldn't a similar arrangement be done for the local lads?
It is certainly demanding on the players to feature in a four-day game and then take a rough 359 kilometre ride before engaging in another four-day within a space of 24 hours.
Meanwhile, the home team's captain Khaled Masood has more reasons to worry about apart from fatigue. National opener Shahriar Hossain has pulled himself out with a cut on his right palm and some other players are complaining of minor injuries.
Besides, the greenish pitch prepared for the match might also prove devastating for the BCB selection.
"This is going to be a very lively pitch and I can assure you that this particular one has more grass than any other wicket we had prepared in the past," said grounds committee secretary Alam Chowdhury.
CBCA captain Nathan Hauritz and his team, which is accustomed to playing on pace-friendly tracks, is sure to relish the prospect.
The match will start 9.30 am.

100th Test on Azhar's mind

UNDATED, Jan 16 (Internet report): Mohammad Azharuddin has set his sights on a return to Test cricket despite a life ban imposed on him for match-fixing.
The 38-year-old former Indian captain has played 99 Tests and wants to reach 100 before retiring from the game.
He maintains he is innocent of any wrongdoing and has vowed to clear his name.
The life ban was handed out by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) following an investigation by its anti-corruption commissioner, K Madhavan.
A legal challenge against the ban is expected to be heard in the High Court in Hyderabad, Azharuddin's home city, next month.
"All I will say is that I have been discriminated against. Others have been let off lightly," he told Outlook magazine.
"Match-fixing simply cannot be a one-man show. This is a game which involves 11 players. If a team fails, it is spectacularly unfair to single out just one person."
"What I am trying to say is that unless the entire team is part of the conspiracy, match-fixing cannot take place. There cannot be any foul play on the part of a single person."
"In fact, even five players cannot work to fix a match, it won't work. I repeat that the entire team has to be in the know."
Former spinner Ajay Sharma was also banned for life last month and five-year suspensions were handed out to Ajay Jadhava, Manoj Prabhakar and physio Ali Irani.
The BCCI inquiry followed a report on corruption in cricket by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), in which several leading players from India and other Test-playing nations were named.
Azharuddin is also under investigation by Indian tax officials.
But he told Outlook: "My taxes are clear. I have been playing cricket for 17 years. Why don't people understand that I would have earned some money through match fees and endorsements?"
"I have a flat in Mumbai and live in a rented house here. Is that wrong?"
He added: "In my career I have never, not even once, received a default tax notice."
Former South African captain Hansie Cronje accepted that his international career was over after he was found guilty of accepting money from bookmakers in return for providing match information.
Azharuddin, however, refuses to accept he has played his last match for India.
Asked whether he thought he would ever make a 100th Test appearance, he replied: "I wish to. It will be a great honour to join the 100-Test club. I will cherish that recall and will be fighting for it."

Gibbs may miss last ODI

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 16 (Internet report): Opening batsman Herschelle Gibbs is a doubtful starter for the crucial sixth and final one-day international against Sri Lanka in Johannesburg on Wednesday, when an already injury-hit South Africa bid to match a 16-year-old world record.
Gibbs is suffering from an abdominal strain on his left side after his knock of 79 in Bloemfontein on Sunday. Jonty Rhodes also joined the growing injury list after chipping a bone in his left little finger when he was struck by the second ball of his innings in Bloemfontein at the weekend.
United Cricket Board of South Africa spokesperson Brownwyn Wilkinson said on Monday that Gibbs would be assessed while Jonty Rhodes would play Wednesday's match with a splint.
The pair are not only key batsmen, but also set the standard in the field with their tremendous athleticism and anticipation.
The team management is unlikely to risk Gibbs ahead of the third and final Test against the Lankans at Centurion starting on Saturday.
Star Sports will provide live coverage of the match from 6.25pm (BST).
With the team flying to Johannesburg on Monday, the management decided on a rest day and said the fitness of Rhodes and Gibbs will be more thoroughly assessed at Tuesday's net practice.
"Jonty has been seen to a specialist, who could only find a small fracture in the little finger, but he'll try it out fully at practice on Tuesday," a team official said.
"But the way he got through his innings in Bloemfontein after being hit has given us great encouragement that he will be able to take his place at the Wanderers."
"Herschelle is a little bit more doubtful and will have ongoing treatment for his side strain," he added.
If Gibbs is unfit, one of former South Africa openers Andrew Hall or Adam Bacher, who has an average of more than 50 for Gauteng in the domestic Standard Bank Cup competition, could be drafted into the national side, which has been struck by a spate of injuries in the past few weeks.
Opening batsman Gary Kirsten has a cracked left middle finger; all-rounder Lance Klusener has a cartilage tear in his right knee; and Test paceman



AZHARUDDIN

Harper to hold a workshop

Sports Reporter
The visiting Australian umpire Daryl Harper, who arrived in the city on Saturday to assess the standard of umpiring here, will hold a three-day workshop at the National Sports Council conference room from January 22 afternoon.
The workshop will be open for all umpires, scorers and former cricketers.
Harper, who will stay in Bangladesh up to January 31 and will submit a report to ICC on his return, will however get down to his business from today.
The 49-year-old umpire from Adelaide will officiate in the crucial Green Delta National League four-day match between Biman and Dhaka Metropolis along with Bangladesh umpire Manjur Rahman.
According to league coordinator Alam Chowdhury, Mesbahuddin Ahmed Reza will replace Manjur after two days while Jahangir Alam will accompany Harper in the limited-over match there on January 21.

Pepsi cricket league starts today

PABNA, Jan 16: The Pepsi First Division Cricket League, organised by Pabna District Sports Association, begins here tomorrow, reports UNB.
State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed will inaugurate the meet. Ekota Sporting Club faces Sangram in the opening encounter at the Government Edward College ground.
A total of 12 teams, split into two groups, will take part in the league.
GROUPS
Group A: Ekota Sporting Club, Radhanagar KC, PFC (Green), Jugantar KS, ICC and Sangram.
Group B: Nantala Crazy Club, PFC (White), Ekota Sangha, Abhijatri Cricket Club, Trinees Sporting Institute and Renaissance.
Milo U-13 Cricket
Sports Reporter



A brilliant 99 by Naveem propelled Dhaka Metro Blues to an emphatic three-wicket win over Dhaka Rangers in one of the two Milo under-13 cricket tournament first round matches at the Dhammond Club ground yesterday.
Chasing a commanding Dhaka Rangers total of 237 in 45 overs, the winners reached 238 in the penultimate ball of their innings with Naveem leading the way.
In the other match held at the Abdul Aziz Stadium in Chittagong, Dhaka Metro Blues defeated Dhaka Colts by an identical margin.
SCORES IN BRIEF
Metro Blues v Dhaka Rangers:
Dhaka Rangers: 237 all out in 44.1 overs (Mitul 60, Mahmudul 56; Marshall 3/39)
Metro Blues: 238 for 7 in 44.5 overs (Naveem 99, Sirajul 20; Shaon 3/29)
Result: Metro Blues won by three wickets.
Dhaka Colts v Metro Blues:
Dhaka Colts: 176 all out in 45 overs (Romen 31; Rakib 4/26)
Metro Blues: 177 for 7 in 44.2 overs (Akeed 75)
Result: Metro Blues won by three wickets.

Milo U-15 Cricket

Sports Reporter
Dhaka Rangers and Metro Blues won their respective Milo Under-15 cricket tournament first round matches yesterday.
Dhaka Rangers beat Metro Blues by two wickets at the Rajshahi College ground while Metro Blues handed Dhaka Colts a five-wicket defeat at the Satkhira Stadium.
SCORES IN BRIEF
Dhaka Rangers v Metro Blues:
Metro Blues: 184 all out in 42.5 overs (Chayan 54, Zumar 26; Shaon 3/34)
Dhaka Rangers: 188 for 8 in 44.5 overs (Raqibul 64, Zahid 60)
Result: Dhaka Rangers won by two wickets.
Metro Blues v Dhaka Colts:
Dhaka Colts: 160 for 9 in 45 overs (Shafiq 43 n.o., Sajal 36; Rashid 2/55)
Metro Blues: 163 for 5 in 34.5 overs (Kamrul 78 n.o., Irtiza 27; Kamal 3/15)
Result: Metro Blues won by five wickets.

Title race heats up

Sports Reporter
Biman lost in their first leg matches (both in four-day and limited-overs) to Dhaka Metropolis at the Dhammond Cricket Stadium while Chittagong also suffered the same fate against Khulna in Jessore to make it an any team's game.
On the other hand, Chittagong beat Dhaka Metropolis in a four-day match but then lost the one-day in Comilla and, interestingly, similar thing happened in the matches between Khulna and Biman, who also won the four-dayers only to lose the limited-overs match at the BKSP on Monday.
In today's match, Biman will miss the service of their dependable Pakistani all-rounder Manzoor Akhter, who returned home on Monday for his domestic commitment. To fill the void, Biman have already flown in another Pakistani Aamir Malik.
On the other hand, Dhaka Metropolis, one of the most unpredictable side blended with talent and skill, will badly miss their inform batsman Al-Shahriar and all-rounder Neeyamur Rashid, who were slapped with one-match suspension on disciplinary ground.
Away in Comilla, Chittagong will look to Akram Khan to deliver his aggressive best. The hard-hitting middle-order, who lost his elder brother Iqbal Khan early this month, is out of touch for last few matches.
The only side who do not have any problem are Khulna. National left-arm seamer has turned a bunch of youngsters into an ominous force that can topple any the other side in the meet.

Adams spurs Lara on

SYDNEY, Jan 16: West Indies' superstar batsman Brian Lara, the big disappointment of the Australian cricket summer, is about to explode into his most devastating form, team captain Jimmy Adams warned here Monday, reports AFP.
"It's only a matter of time before Brian explodes," Adams said when his squad arrived here the day after a massive nine-wicket thrashing by Australia in a Carlton tri-nation one-day clash in Brisbane on Sunday.
"It will be at the right time," Adams said. "I'm quite confident of his ability to come good when it matters."
Adams has however lashed his players for having unacceptably low standards after another slip-shot West Indian team training session here today.
Preparing for Wednesday's Carlton series day-night match against Australia here, the West Indies, with one win (against Zimbabwe) and two defeats (by Australia), went through 45 minutes of fielding drills with little apparent effort.
Players were seen to laugh when their teammates dropped a catch and spent time standing with their hands on hips and gave the general impression they cared little about their work.
In contrast, Australian team training sessions are intense, non-stop competitive workouts, which translate into consistently professional displays on the field.
Adams said it was important his struggling tourists remained in good spirits but admitted he was concerned that individuals were not pushing themselves hard enough.
"What you're talking about is standards," he said.
"As well as team standards you need fellas to have individual standards, standards that they themselves will carry."
"Never mind whether they're in a West Indies team or they're playing county cricket in England or they're playing club cricket back home, we need to have a system where each

Venus made to struggle

MELBOURNE, Jan 16: Venus Williams sported a new look Tuesday but it couldn't disguise a rusty game as the number three seed struggled to join sister Serena in the second round of the Australian Open, reports AFP.
Dressed in a black skirt, a low cut blue and black two-piece top and a choker round the neck, Venus was in danger of spilling out of the tournament and her new outfit.
She spent almost as much time rearranging her clothes as she did playing shots, allowing qualifier Jose Maria Martinez of Spain to run rings around her in the second set.
Williams, who hasn't played a singles game since October, recovered to take the match 6-3, 2-6, 6-0 in just under one hour and a half hours.
"I didn't get caught by surprise because I've played enough before to know when you play your opponents, if they lose the first set, they'll be coming back in the second," she said.
"She mostly played very well. I think more than anything else I served well. I just think I hit a few mistakes at the wrong times in the second set."
"I didn't feel like I was playing my top form throughout the match but it's a good thing to have a little test in the first round."
Serena, the sixth seed, had no such trouble, ousting Taiwan's Janet Lee 6-1, 6-4.
She said she was "mentally more sound" than last year and "getting my rhythm back".
Venus wasn't the only top name to struggle.
Gustavo Kuerten, the number one seed despite never going beyond the second round here, made a meal of beating Argentine Gaston Gaudio 7-5, 6-7, 6-3, 7-5.
And born-again Christian Michael Chang was beaten 7-5, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 by France's Fabrice Santoro.
Chang, a French Open champion in 1989 at the age of 17, has now failed to get beyond the third round at any



American star Serena Williams obliging autograph hunters after her first round match in the Australian Open against Janet Lee of Taiwan yesterday. Williams won 6-1, 6-4. —AFP photo