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Star SPORT

DIHAKA MONDAY APRIL 2, 2001, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

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Did U Know?

The sport of "did" throwing first became popular in the village of Viala, situated about 150 km north of Helsinki, Finland, in the 1950s. However, interest in the activity died out over the years until one of the older members of the Sports Club Association Vialan Pyy, who remembered playing the game when he was a child, suggested the club revive it for the children. The game involves individuals, standing at a distance of 5 metre (16.4 ft), taking turns to throw five coins at a flat target. The target itself is made up of several concentric circles, increasing in value from the outermost (worth one point) to the innermost (10 points), and throws are scored accordingly. The coins, weighing 16 gm each, are specific to this game and have holes in the middle of them. Real money is not used.

What to WATCH

ESPN
Cricket Classics Boycott's Best England vs India
Third Test-1971
7:00 pm & 12:00 am (Monday)
UEFA Champions League Weekly Highlights 1:00 pm
Serie A
Highlights 8:00 pm
English Premiership Ipswich Town vs Southampton
Live at 1:00 am (Tuesday)

Star Sports
South Africa vs West Indies
Third Test, Day Four
Highlights at 7:00 pm
South Africa vs West Indies
Third Test, Day Five
Live at 8:00 pm
Primera Liga
Barcelona vs Las Palmas
10:30 am
Futbol Mundial
2:00 pm

TALK TURKEY

Sachin Tendulkar
(Indian master batsman)
"I can't ask for anything more, I always maintain that if you score runs, it should be useful and your team ends up winning."



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Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 146
Tick the Correct Answers
Post to City Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
April 6, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the SAARC basketball crown?
India Sri Lanka Nepal
- Who won the Masters Series in Indian Wells?
Agassi Sampras Kafelnikov
- What position did Bangladesh capture in the Prime Minister Gold Cup hockey tournament?
Fifth Sixth Seventh
- Who became Prime Minister Gold Cup hockey champions?
India Pakistan Malaysia
- Who won the man-of-the-series award in the Pepsi Test series between India and Australia?
Harbhajan Singh Shane Warne VVS Laxman

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



WILL IT BE RAINING RUNS IN ZIMBABWE? Bangladesh batsman Akram Khan carries an umbrella as he goes to board the airport bound team bus under light drizzle yesterday.

Test-babes off to Harare

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh team left the capital last night with a target to play positive cricket during their tour of Zimbabwe where they will feature in their first ever Test and one-day series.

This will also be the first overseas trip of Bangladesh after being promoted to the tenth Test-playing nation by the International Cricket Council (ICC) last June. Bangladesh played their maiden Test against India in Dhaka last November and lost that one-off match by nine wickets.

During their month long tour, Bangladesh, led by Naimur Rahman, will play two Test matches and three one-day internationals apart from a limited-overs warm-up match and a three-dayer.

All the 15 cricketers were found in a cheerful frame of mind when they left Bangabandhu National Stadium for Zia International Air-

port last evening. The two youngsters -- Mohammad Ashraful and Mohammad Sharif -- in particular were beaming with happiness with their dream of playing for their country finally about to come true.

"I'm on top of the world at the moment. I could not still believe that I'm going with my heroes to play in this historic tour. I think it's just the reward of my hard work," said 18-year-old Ashraful before boarding the bus.

"I'm determined to repay faith of the selectors in me by performing well. I will try not to let the expectation of my nation down," said the latest sensation of Bangladesh cricket. The aggressive opener scored plenty of runs and took some wickets with his leg-spinners in this year's National League to grab the attention of the selectors.

His friend Sharif also spoke in the same conviction. "Cricket is my passion and I've done everything possible to become a good bowler. By the grace of Almighty, I have got selected for the historic

Nat'l chess final round April 4

SPORTS REPORTER

The final round of the Professor Abdur Razzak 27th National Chess Championship begins at the NSC chess room from Wednesday.

Twelve players, nine from qualifying round, GM Niaz Mureshed, defending champion and runner-up IM Reefat-bin-Sattar and IM Ziaur Rahman, will take part in the eleven round robin-league tournament.

The draw of the championship will be held on Tuesday at the same venue at 5:30 pm.

Rajshahi cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Helpful Cricket Academy and Silu Smriti Sangha won their respective matches of the Hasan Imam and Ali Imam Pintu Smriti cricket tournament at the Rajshahi Medical College Hostel play ground yesterday.

Helpful defeated Babar Ali Smriti by six wickets in the first match.

Winning the toss, Babar Ali batted first and were all out for 98 in 24 overs.

In reply, Helpful reached the target losing four wickets in 17 overs.

In the other match of other day, Silu Smriti Sangha beat Bhai Bhai Sporting Club by seven wickets.

Winning the toss, Bhai Bhai scored 120 all out in allotted 29 overs.

In reply, Silu Smriti reached the target losing three wickets in 150 overs.

Sir Don coin!

REUTERS, Melbourne

Australian Prime Minister John Howard said Sunday a special edition of the nation's 20 cent coin would carry the picture of cricket hero Sir Donald Bradman, who died in Adelaide in February.

Bradman would replace the platypus, an Australian mammal, on one side of the coin. The other side would continue to feature Britain's Queen Elizabeth, who is Australia's head of state.

"The response of the community to the death of Sir Donald on February 25 showed just how much his achievements and the values he embodied have meant to this country," Howard said in a statement.

Some 10 million of the general-circulation Bradman coins would be minted in the next few months.

"It will not replace the traditional 20 cent coin bearing the platypus. Both coins will be in circulation simultaneously," Howard said.

The Royal Australian Mint and the Perth Mint will also issue three limited-edition collector coins to commemorate Bradman.

Waugh worried about player burnout

REUTERS, Sydney

Steve Waugh has protested against plans by the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) to stage an indoor one-day cricket tournament in September, fearing player burnout.

The Australian captain said the ACB's proposal to hold a three-match series with India at Melbourne's Docklands Stadium would eat into the players' six-week break between the Ashes and the start of the domestic summer.

"We have got a long tour of England. If you play at Docklands you are straight into the next season... it is a big workload," Waugh told the Daily Telegraph.

"We are not talking just physical. These days it is more mental. If the guys are feeling stale by that time it is not a good time to play it."

The Australian Cricketers' Association has warned the ACB it would be putting the best players at serious risk of injury if it pushed ahead with the series.

Australia played South Africa indoors and under lights at Melbourne's Docklands Stadium last year and was so pleased with the outcome that they said they would play an annual series indoors.

Sharjah out of bounds Indian govt's tough guideline

Cricket
AFP, New Delhi

The Indian government on Sunday confirmed it had denied permission to its cricket team to play in the upcoming limited-overs tri-series contest in Sharjah.

An official release from the sports ministry added that India will keep away from "non-regular venues" like Sharjah, Singapore and Toronto for the next three years.

"The government has decided, after careful consideration, that Indian cricket team should not participate in cricket tournaments at non-regular venues such as Sharjah, Singapore, Toronto etc, for at least three years," the release said.

"The Board of Control for Cricket in India has accordingly been informed that the Indian team should not participate in the forthcoming tournament in Sharjah commencing from April 8, 2001."

The release comes exactly a week after senior officials said that the government had declined permission to play in the popular Gulf venue, which has hosted more one-dayers (167) than any

other venue in the world.

The Cricketers Benefit Fund Series (CBFS), which organises cricket in Sharjah, has roped in New Zealand to replace India in the tri-series that also features Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Sources had said last Sunday that the government was wary of the national team taking part in off-shore limited-overs series in the wake of the match-fixing scandal that has rocked the sport.

The scandal has seen life bans imposed on three former captains: Hansie Cronje of South Africa, Mohammad Azharuddin of India and Salim Malik of Pakistan.

Three other Indian players who were charged by federal investigators for having links with bookmakers, Ajay Jadeja, Manoj Prabhakar and Ajay Sharma, were also penalised.

This is the fourth time in the past two years that India has refused to play senior-level cricket against Pakistan, which in turn has threatened to cut off all cricket links with its arch rival.

India cancelled the annual Sahara Cup series against Pakistan in Canada twice in 1999 and 2000 after the Kargil conflict in the disputed region of Kashmir.

Last December, India's scheduled Test tour of Pakistan was called off and in February this year India refused to play Pakistan in Sharjah to raise funds for the Gujarat earthquake.

"Pakistan will not play India anywhere in any event in the future and that's it," Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Tauqir Zia said last week.

CBFS vice-chairman Abdurrahman Bukhatir, who flew to New Delhi last week to ascertain the reason for India's withdrawal, said he was disappointed by the decision.

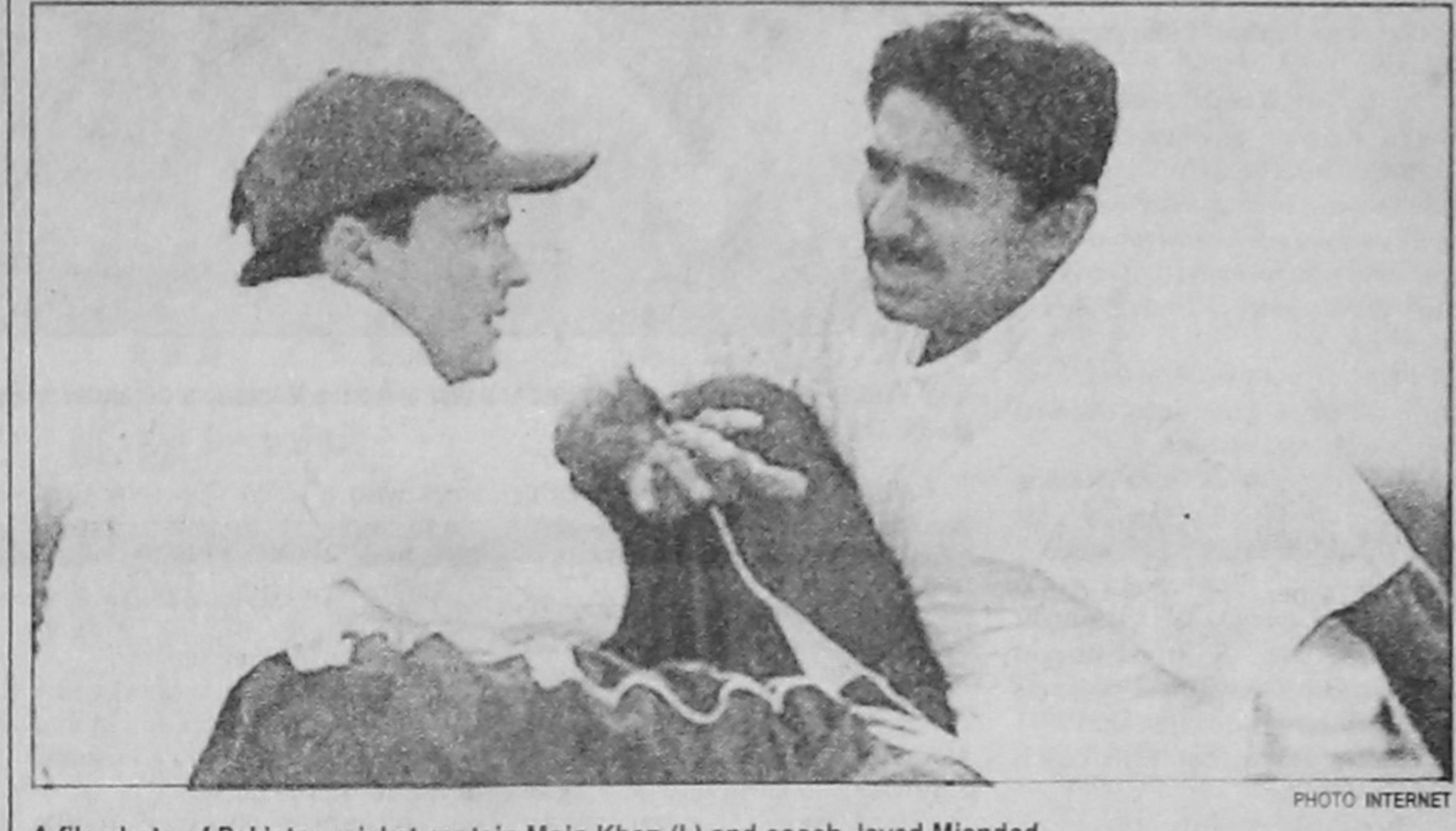
Bukhatir said it was not fair to accuse the CBFS of match-fixing or hobnobbing with bookmakers.

"We have never done that," he said. "If investigations show that some games have been fixed in certain parts of the world, the organisers cannot be blamed."

"They should catch the bookies or the players who are the culprits. Let India make a complaint to the United Arab Emirates government about this and I am confident the concerned authorities will take suitable action."

The CBFS has launched its own investigation to find out if one-day matches in Sharjah were fixed.

A three-member probe committee, which includes former West Indian captain Clive Lloyd is, expected to submit its report later this year.



A file photo of Pakistan cricket captain Moin Khan (L) and coach Javed Miandad.

Disquiet in Pak camp?

Cricket
AFP, Karachi

The Pakistan cricket team is plagued by a serious rift between coach Javed Miandad and senior players currently on tour in New Zealand, a newspaper said Sunday quoting a secret report from the team manager.

Faqir Aizuddin's report to Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), which was leaked to the daily Dawn admitted serious differences between the coach and the players.

"Although Miandad wanted to combine the players' efforts, talent and experience, the senior members of the side gave little thoughts to his words," the report said.

New Zealand secured their biggest-ever Test victory on Friday when they crushed Pakistan by an innings and 185 runs at Hamilton, to level the three Test series 1-1.

"Players thought Miandad had

negative perception and wanted to oust them from the team," the paper quoted manager Aizuddin as telling the board.

The PCB's advisory council is due to meet on Tuesday to announce a new captain and discuss the squad for a tri-series starting in Gulf emirate of Sharjah on April 8.

Aizuddin said the differences between Miandad and senior players continued "beyond repair limits" as the tour of New Zealand progressed.

"Miandad was forced to talk to PCB chairman Lieutenant General Tauqir Zia and offered to return middle of the tour but was asked to stay back," the report said.

In his report, Aizuddin, himself a first class cricketer, termed the current wicketkeeper-skipper Moin Khan a poor captain, the paper said.

"Khan lacked initiative and was uncomfortable with the administrators of the game," he writes. "Khan is sure that his career is over."

The manager also lashed out at legendary pace pacer Wasim Akram and suspected that he feigned injury to return home last week.

"Akram at times played irresponsible cricket and has to change his attitude," he said.

But he praised Akram's pace partner Waqar Younis as "honest and cooperative with everyone."

Aizuddin also believes injured opener Saeed Anwar's career is over.

"Anwar has been physically hampered and knows his career is over."

The manager also came down hard on popular all-rounder Shahid Afridi, another opener Imran Nazir and all-rounder Abdur Razaq.

"Afridi and Nazir do not want to learn while Razaq was irresponsible in his batting," he said.

The team manager's report will come up for discussion at PCB advisory council meeting next week, the paper said.

Moin's all-round show

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Moinuzzaman's antics with ball and bat ensured Sadharan Bima Kriya Sangstha a second win in the Premier Division Cricket League on Sunday. They recorded a five-wicket victory over lowly rated City Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Moin captured two wickets to restrict the Mirpur outfit to 226 for seven in the stipulated 50 overs after they were put into bat.

Then the right-hander hammered highest 67 to help the insurance team reach 227 for five in 46.5 overs.

In his 84-ball knock, the Bima one-down batsman smote two sixes and six boundaries.

Indian middle order Karan Chopra chipped in with a quickfire 42 off 37 balls.

After both departed with the score on 160 in 30 overs, Rezwanul Islam and Tashriqul Islam steered Bima to safety. The middle order

pair added 67 for the unbeaten sixth wicket.

Rezwan remained 37 not out off 47 balls while his partner was undefeated on a 37-ball 29.

Earlier, City Club's total relied on half centuries from Rehan Rafique and Raihan Ferdous.

Rehan, the Pakistani right hander, scored 54 off 91 balls with a boundary while Raihan hit 52 off 91 balls with four fours.

It was City Club's seventh consecutive defeat.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Premier Division Cricket League match between Sadharan Bima and City Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Sunday:

CITY CLUB
Wasim c Faruque b Tushar 35
Moin lbw b Tushar 54
R Rafique c Saiful b Moin 52
Uzzal lbw b Tashriq 9
Raihan c Tushar b Moin 20
Tutul run out 1
Ullash not out 23
Lipu c Chopra b Rezwan 1
Khokon not out 23
Extras: (b-2, lb-4, w-18) 24
Total: (For 7 wks in 50 overs) 226

Fall of wickets: 1/39, 2/57, 3/58, 4/164, 5/174, 6/191, 7/192.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Tushar	8	1	19	2
Zakir	7	0	38	0
Tashriq	10	0	28	1
Moin	10	0	38	2
Rezwan	10	0	60	1
Chopra	3	0	18	0
Azim	1	0	8	0
Tareq	1	0	11	0

SADHARAN BIMA
Mofiz b Palash 1
Tareq run out 14
Moin c Lipu b Uzzal 67
Saiful c Tutul b Khokon 19
Chopra st Lipu b Wasim 42
Rezwan not out 37
Tashriq not out 29
Extras: (lb-6, w-12) 18
Total: (for 5 wks in 46.5 overs) 227

Fall of wickets: 1/4, 2/38, 3/81, 4/123, 5/160.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Khair	9	2	17	0
Palash	8.5	2	43	1
R Rafique	8	0	47	0
Khokon	9	0	40	1
Wasim	7	0	39	0
Uzzal	5	0	35	1

Result: Sadharan Bima won by five wickets.



Zimbabwe bound Bangladesh national cricket squad members (L-R) Mushfiqur Rahman, Monjurul Islam, Mohammed Sharif, Mohammed Rafique and Mehrab Hossain chat after getting on the team bus heading for the airport.

DAY'S EVENT

Premier Division Cricket League
Agrani Bank v Victoria SC
(Bangabandhu National Stadium)

Lara, Hooper repair WI

Cricket
AFP, Bridgetown

A century partnership between Brian Lara and skipper Carl Hooper took West Indies out of immediate danger on the third day of the third Test against South Africa at Kensington Oval Saturday.

West Indies were 252 for five at the close in reply to South Africa's first innings total of 454.

Lara (83) and Hooper (74 not out) put on 116 for the fifth wicket after South Africa's back-up fast bowlers, Jacques Kallis and Makhaya Ntini, had plunged the home side into trouble.

The two most experienced batsmen in the West Indian team earned roars of approval from a crowd, which Friday had watched in near-silence as the West Indies gave a shoddy performance in the field.

Lara again fell short of a Test

MORE CRICKET MORE PEPSI

PEPSI

century against South Africa, a feat that has eluded any West Indian, after getting the benefit of the doubt from the television umpire when he edged Shaun Pollock to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher when he had 21.

Kallis and Ntini did the early damage after taking over from Pollock and Allan Donald, who had shone as batsmen Friday when they put on a record 132 for South Africa's ninth wicket.

Donald was unable to complete the day's play after straining his right hamstring. He suffered the injury while batting Friday and left the field after bowling 14 overs



LARA ... 83