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Star SPORT

DHAKA MONDAY APRIL 30, 2001, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

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Did U Know?

The Olympic motto is 'Citius, Altius, Fortius'. These three Latin words mean 'Swifter, Higher, Stronger'. Baron de Coubertin borrowed the motto from Father Henri Martin Dideon, the headmaster of Arcueil College in Paris. Father Dideon used the motto to describe the great achievements of the athletes at his school. Coubertin felt it could be used to describe the goals of great athletes all over the world.



What to Watch

Ekushey TV
Bangladesh vs Zimbabwe
Second & Final Test Day Five
Live at 2:00 pm

ESPN

Crickets Classics Boycott's Best
England vs West Indies
1991 First Test
11:30 am

Crickets Classics Boycott's Best
India vs Australia
1997 First Test
7:00 pm

Serie A
Napoli vs Reggina
9:30 am

UEFA Champions League
Weekly Highlights
1:00 pm

Serie A
Highlights
6:00 pm

English Premiership
Ipswich vs Charlton
Live at 1:00 am (Tuesday)

Star Sports
Harsha Online
Crickets Talk Show
11:00 pm

Primera Liga
Celta Vigo vs Barcelona
8:30 am



Talk Turkey

India will arrive in Zimbabwe in the last week of May to play two Tests and a triangular one-day tournament, also including West Indies.

IN NEED OF A PSYCHIATRIST
Bangladesh coach Trevor Chappell feels that his charges need the help of a psychiatrist to become mentally strong in the five-day games.



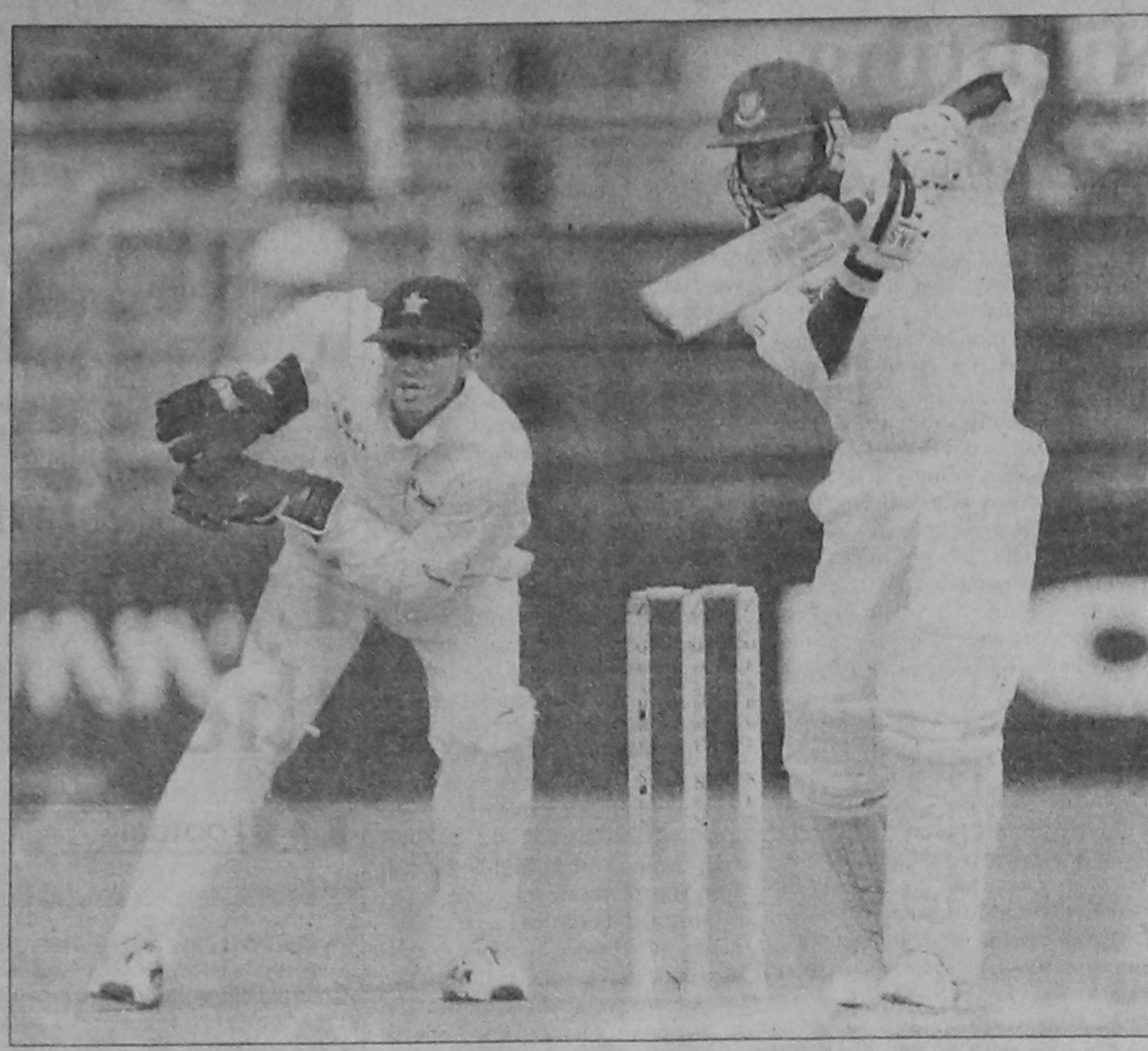
Shane Warne
(Australia's leg-spinning maestro)
"I think this is going to be the closest Ashes I've been involved in."
On the forthcoming Ashes Series against England.

Sports Whizz Kid

Competition 148
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
May 4, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the Biman Cup Under-14 national football title?
Moulvibazar | Narayanganj | Madaripur
- Who became Professor Abdur Razzak National chess champion?
Niaz Murshed | Ziaur Rahman | Enamul Hossain
- Who lifted the Estonian Open title?
Felix Mantilla | Carlos Ferrero | Andre Agassi
- Who won the English Premiership?
Newcastle | Man United | Leeds
- What was the result of the Bangladesh and Zimbabwe one-day series?
2-1 | 3-0 | 2-0

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



Bangladesh batsman Al-Shahriar drives on the fourth day of the second Test against Zimbabwe in Harare on Sunday.

Hello from Harare

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER, from Harare

Indian Cricket Board secretary Jayanta Lele is happy with Zimbabwe's preparation for India's tour but seems to be very frustrated at their strained relationship with Pakistan.

"The BJP government has taken a firm stand on not sending the national team to Sharjah to play against Pakistan," Lele said a group of Bangladesh journalists at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Harare on Saturday night.

He however hoped that things would change in near future. "Who knows, you might see another government coming in to power in the next elections and both teams start to play each other again."

India will arrive in Zimbabwe in the last week of May to play two Tests and a triangular one-day tournament, also including West Indies.

IN NEED OF A PSYCHIATRIST
Bangladesh coach Trevor Chappell feels that his charges need the help of a psychiatrist to become mentally strong in the five-day games.

Admitting that it was hard for his players to concentrate on the field for a long period of time, the Australian suggested some tips of a psychiatrist would be extremely helpful in that regard.

"We have dropped so many catches. It is not because we are physically bad, but because of our lack of concentration. We are yet to learn how to enjoy time out in the field, and that is why they are



feeling more mental pressure being on the ground," Trevor said on Sunday, before the start of fourth day's play.

He was however hopeful that Bangladesh would be able to draw the match. "Our target is to bowl them out quickly or try to check the runs. If we can do it then we need to bat for a long time."

MEHRAB ENJOYING THE KEEPING
Mehrab Hossain is really enjoying his makeshift job of wicketkeep-

ing.

The opening batsman put on gloves after regular keeper Khaleed Masood ruled himself out of the tour, fracturing his right-ankle on the third day of the first Test in Bulawayo.

Standing behind the wicket for the first time in his career, Mehrab missed a couple of chances all right, but he also took a spectacular catch down the leg side on the

What's eating probe report?

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The eagerly-awaited report on alleged irregularities in the February 25 elections of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), has been stalled once again, more than two months after the Ministry of Youth and Sports directed a three-member probe be formed on March 1.

The probe committee, headed by Brigadier General Ahsan Habib, director general of BKSP, were given fifteen working days to hand in their findings. That expired on March 27.

This is the fourth occasion the body with Akhter Hamid, director of sports directorate, and Ataur Rahman, a deputy secretary of Ministry of Youth and Sports, as its members, has failed to come up with plausible evidence of widespread allegations of corruption during the polls.

Last week, Brig Gen Habib told The Daily Star Sport (DSS) that the report would be ready for submission by April 26.

However, it was learnt from a close source at the National Sports Council (NSC), that the document is not expected to be completed before May 3.

"We are aware of the latest delay," said a high ranking NSC official. He attempted to offer a funny excuse for the lateness.

"I think it's because the DG of BKSP lives far away in Savar while the other members are located in Dhaka. This distance factor is causing the unnecessary delay," he added.

It may be mentioned that BKSP is barely an hour's drive from Dhaka and all modern communication facilities including telephone and fax are available at the sports institute.

Meanwhile, speculation is growing whether the report will ever be made public.

"When I first heard that they (probe body) had sought more

third day of the second Test at Harare.

Unfortunately though, umpire Russell Tiffin ruled Heath Streak not out. Mehrab however eventually made Streak his maiden catch behind the stumps the next day.

"I'm as good a wicket keeper as Andy (Flower). Because, he also missed a stumping like me," he joked, quickly adding that it was very tough job. "I could not move my limbs last night. It was all sore. I had to sleep straight."



Bangladesh opener Javed Omar whacks one through the covers at the Harare Sports Club yesterday.

BD-ZIMBABWE SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close on the fourth day of the second and final Test between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe on Sunday:

BANGLADESH: First innings				
254				
ZIMBABWE: First innings				
(overrun 377 for six)				
Whittall run out Sharif	59			
Ebrahim c Akram b Naimur	39			
Carlisle c Bashar b Sharif	21			
Campbell c Mushfiqur b Naimur	73			
A Flower run out (Javed Omar)	23			
G Flower c Sharif b Enamul	84			
Streak c Mushfiqur b Sharif	87			
Blignaut run out (Sharif)	15			
Nkala c Mushfiqur b Enamul	7			
Price not out	0			
Extras: (b-7, lb-6)	13			
Total: (9 wickets dec. 147.4 overs)	421			
Did not bat: Watambwa.				
Fall of wks: 1-90; 2-104; 3-164; 4-210; 5-244; 6-377; 7-397; 8-419; 9-421				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Manjural	34	9	113	0
Sharif	28.4	6	108	2
Enamul	46	15	94	2
Mushfiqur	11	1	33	0
Naimur	28	12	60	2
BANGLADESH: Second innings				
Javed Omar c GW Flower b Price	43			
Mehrab c Blignaut b Watambwa	0			
Al-Sahriar c Streak b Watambwa	68			
Aminalub b Price	2			
Bashar not out	66			
Akram c Campbell b Price	31			
Naimur not out	7			
Extras: (lb-2)	2			
Total: (5 wickets in 85.2 overs)	219			
To bat: Mushfiqur Rahman, Enamul Haque, Mohammad Sharif, Manjural Islam.				
Fall of wks: 1-2; 2-97; 3-99; 4-127; 5-203				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Streak	14	6	25	0
Watambwa	15	4	42	2
Blignaut	15	6	27	0
Price	29.2	9	91	3
G Flower	6	0	13	0
Nkala	6	0	19	0

Houghton's insight

Cricket

Any conversation about Zimbabwe cricket often tends to contain Dave Houghton. Why? Because of his batting exploits the African nation rapidly became a household name. Take for instance the 142 against New Zealand in a 1987 World Cup match at Hyderabad, which still remains the highest score by a wicketkeeper in the abridged version.

Houghton, 44, was coach of Zimbabwe when they won their first Test series in Pakistan in 1999.

After stepping down as national coach, the former Zimbabwe skipper continued to work with future cricketers in a country where the game is not as popular as football.

Never one to turn away from offering his insight, Houghton, now working as a television commentator, sat down to chat with Daily Star Sport correspondent Al-Anin at the makeshift press box in Harare on Thursday.

Following are the excerpts:
Daily Star Sport (DSS): What does Test cricket involve?
Dave Houghton (DH): In Test cricket, five days is a long time. I know when we first played Test match we tried to stick to the basics.

Batting means occupying the crease for at least an hour. During that period of play fifteen overs will be bowled. Out of the ninety balls batsmen face, they have to negotiate 45 'good' balls. Running between the wickets is also vital. To keep the scoreboard ticking over, converting ones into twos really helps. But above all batsmen must curb their aggressive instincts. If they keep on blazing away at cover drives and hooking every short ball it would prove disastrous.

DSS: What do you think of Bangladesh's start to the tough

world of Test cricket?
DH: I think Bangladesh has got a couple of talented batsmen. However, their bowlers will have to learn two things: Delivering six balls in the right place and bowling maiden overs. It's a pity Bangladesh doesn't have anybody like Waqar Younis to get a batsman out.

seen, Javed Omar appears to have the right technique for Test cricket. Although Aminul Islam has got one or two technical flaws. He is backing away too much when the ball is short. He'll find it hard to get the ball away against the likes of Glenn McGrath.

During the Bulawayo Test only Javed and Aminul scored runs while Monjurul Islam and young Mohammad Sharif looked good with the ball.

DSS: There are not many players in Zimbabwe and you have always a small section of followers. Tell us about the format of your domestic cricket.

DH: We always had small numbers to pick from. But at the end of the day both teams have same numbers. You have eleven on the field. It does not matter whether you are going to pick from ten thousand or a thousand people to choose from.

We had always a fantastic school system. Our school cricketers are quite talented and at age group level we do quite well. But the problem is that there is nothing between that and the Test side because our club cricket is low standard.

DSS: You are running an academy and many feel it is the best thing that happened to Zimbabwe cricket.

DH: With the academy, we have decided to take the best out of the kids. We take fifteen straight out of the school. And, we teach them over a year more about first class cricket. But we do not teach them one-day cricket in the academy. We do not even talk about it. The other day when Bangladesh played a one-day wump up, that was the academy students' first ever outing.

We also conduct short courses.



DAVE HOUGHTON

DSS: Zimbabwe was once the youngest member of the Test family. Will you please tell us about how you sustained in this arena?
DH: Yes. Zimbabwe was also faced by the same situation. Apart from skipper Heath Streak, who is a world-class performer, we have always tried to select teams with wicket-taking bowlers and reasonably good spinners.

Our batsmen have learned to graft for runs. So, on a good wicket they normally can get 350-400 runs, which often puts us in a winning position.

DSS: You have seen enough of the fifteen Bangladeshi players on tour. In your opinion which players have stood out so far?
DH: Judging from what I have

SEE PAGE 15

No cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The Premier Division Super League match between holders, Abahani and Dhanmondi Club on Sunday was postponed as the pitch at the Bangabandhu National Stadium was water-logged due to overnight rain.

Umpires Nadir Shah and Mohammad Asgar waited till 1 pm to have at least a truncated match, but the condition of the pitch forced the men in the middle to call off the match.

The match will now be played at the same venue today.

These are the remaining fixtures of the Super League:

Date	Match	Venue
May 1	K'bagan v D'mondi	BNS
May 1	Biman v Surjo Tarun	DCS
May 3	K'bagan v S Tarun	BNS
May 4	Abahani v MSC	BNS

Brothers defeat Bima

SPORTS REPORTER

Brothers Union registered a 46-run win over Sadharan Bima in a Premier Division Relegation League match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

Put into bat, Brothers scored 252 for seven in the stipulated 50 overs with Pakistani middle-order Masroor hammering highest 86. Sohag (45) and Talukder (40 not out) were the other notable scorers for the Gopibagh outfit.

In reply, Bima were restricted to 206 in 50 overs.

It was Brothers Union's seventh win in 15 matches that raised their tally to 14 points. On the other hand, Bima, who have already confirmed their relegation to First Division next season, have only four points in total.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Brothers Union: 252 for 7 in 50 overs (Masroor 86, Sohag 45, Talukder 40 n.o., Sajjad 3/18)

Sadharan Bima: 206 for 9 in 50 overs (Hashmi 58, Saiful 34, Talukder 3/27, Imran 3/36, Saleh 2/4)

Result: Brothers Union won by 46 runs.

DAY'S EVENT

Premier Division Cricket Super League
Abahani v Dhanmondi Club (Bangabandhu National Stadium)

Premier Division Cricket Relegation League
Agrani Bank v Young Cricketers (Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

Waqar spells it out for Akram

Cricket

REUTERS, Karachi

Waqar Akram has no guarantee of a place in Pakistan's team for next month's opening Test against England, his captain and former new ball partner Waqar Younis says.

"Waqar is a great bowler whose achievements are outstanding. But at the moment, I cannot assure him a place in the first Test line-up," Younis told Reuters on Saturday.

Paceman Akram, who has 409 Test and 440 one-day wickets, had been named in a 17-strong Pakistan squad.

Pakistan media reported that Waqar had opposed Akram's selection all week, delaying the announcement of the squad, initially scheduled to be named five days ago.

Cricket observers said that the relationship between the two became strained in the 1999 World Cup. They added that on the subsequent tour to Australia Akram did not bowl Younis in the second Test in Hobart, when Pakistan were defending more than 350 runs. Pakistan lost by four wickets.

"He (Akram) has to prove his fitness and form in the county matches before he is considered for selection. That is the criterion for everyone," the Pakistan captain said.

"If all goes well prior to the first Test, I would like to play with Waqar Akhtar, Mohammad Sami, Abdur Razaq and Saqlain Mush-taq. But that will largely depend on the weather and pitch condi-

tion," Younis said.

Akram, in his initial reaction, said he was delighted to be included in the squad.

"My 35th birthday will now be special," he said. Akram will turn 35 during the penultimate day of the second Test at Old Trafford, his adopted Lancashire county home ground, on June 3.

Waqar, who has taken 319 wickets in 71 tests, admitted that there were question marks over the fitness of controversial fast bowler Akhtar.

"He will be played in selected matches and will be allowed proper time to get into his stride."

we have Daryl Foster who is the bowling coach and under whose supervision he remodelled his action."

Akhtar has just been cleared by the Pakistan Cricket Board following concerns over the legality of his action on the basis of a "final report" from the University of Western Australia.

Waqar warned Nasser Hussain's men to be wary of his team.

"We will be coming to England with the aim to avenge last year's series loss. It has been a hard pill to swallow for everyone (in Pakistan) but we are determined to settle the score next month."

England defeated Pakistan by six wickets in near darkness at Karachi to win their first series in Pakistan since 1961-62.

"This will be my last tour to England as a professional cricketer and a series win will be a perfect icing on the cake of my career," Waqar said.

Australian Daryl Foster, hired as a bowling coach and consultant, would join the team on May 6, PCB officials added.

Pakistan, however, are still without a head coach after Javed Miandad was dumped earlier this month.

Pakistan last lost a series in England in 1982 but won in 1986, 1992 and 1996.



SHOAB AKHTAR

Akhtar has not played competitive cricket since limping off with a hamstring injury in the last one-day international against New Zealand at Dunedin on February 28.

Pakistan have three county games before the first Test begins at Lord's on May 17.

"As regards his bowling action,

Wasim full of beans

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

Ace Pakistan fast bowler Wasim Akram has said he is fired up to play in England and does not intend to retire in the near future.

"I am all geared up to play as this will be my last tour of England. I have played most of my cricket in England and I love playing there," Akram, who turns 35 next month, told the news agency after his selection in the team late Saturday.

Akram dismissed reports of any differences with captain Waqar Younis.

"I don't believe in rumours so I can't comment on whether my selection was contentious or Younis said anything against me," he said.

"We have played a lot of cricket

together and will continue to play with each other, it's exciting to bowl with him," he said.

Akram missed Pakistan's last four Tests due to fitness problems.

"It happens to every fast

bowler and it's not because of my age," he said.

Akram and Younis have shared more than 700 wickets between them and formed a lethal pace attack during the 90s.

Together they put England into submission with their pace in 1992 and 1996 tours.

While Akram took 23 and 11 wickets, Younis's contribution was 22 and 16.

"I have the experience of playing in English conditions and will do my best to help the side to win again," he said.

Pakistan won their last three series in England but lost a home series 1-0 to Nasser Hussain's side, last year.

"We now have a young team but all the players are fighters and I hope we can win the series in England although the wet climate favours England," he said.

Pakistan team leaves for England on May 2.



WASIM AKRAM