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Star SPORT

DHAKA THURSDAY MAY 10, 2001, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

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Did U Know?

There have been two historic 'Brisbane Ties' - the first in a cricket Test match between Australia and West Indies on 1963 and the second when Allan Wells and Ken McFarland dead-heated in the 100m at the 1982 Brisbane Commonwealth Games.



What to Watch

- ESPN**
Cricket Magazine
The Cricket Archives 1905-1960
3:00 pm
South Africa vs West Indies
First ODI Highlights
3:00 am (Friday)
UEFA Champions League
Real Madrid vs Bayern Munich
9:00 pm
English Premiership
Highlights
12:00 am (Friday)
Star Sports
South Africa vs West Indies
Fifth ODI Highlights
6:30 am
South Africa vs West Indies
Second ODI Highlights
11:00 pm



Talk Turkey



Luis Figo

(Portuguese superstar)
"I've got a very strong feeling we're going to beat Bayern by a clear margin. I'm very, very optimistic."
On the eve of their European Champions League semifinal return leg match against Bayern Munich.

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 149
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
May 16, 2001 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. Who clinched the Monte Carlo Tennis Masters Series title?	Agassi	Arazi	Kuenten
2. Who lifted the Ary Gold Cup Sharjah tri-series cricket trophy?	New Zealand	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
3. What was the result of the South Africa and West Indies Test series?	4-1	3-2	2-1
4. Who was the man-of-the-match in the Bangladesh and Zimbabwe first test?	Heath Streak	K Masood	Javed Omar
5. How many Test wickets did Courtney Walsh capture when he retired?	536	520	519

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

Sirajganj cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj
Dhangora Cricket Club defeated Rahmatganj Boys Club by 20 runs in the Bhasani Smriti tournament at the local stadium yesterday.
Winning the toss, Dhangora decided to bat first and collected 154 runs losing all wickets in 40 overs.
In reply, Rahmatganj were all out for 134 in 34.3 overs.

Clubs for no play

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

How funny a demand could be, sometimes.
Twelve First Division Cricket League clubs, in a letter to Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury, have surprisingly demanded postponement of the ongoing league on Wednesday.

The clubs asked the president to call off both Super and Relegation leagues, claiming that those would never be completed because of the inclement weather recently. As many as nine Super League and ten Relegation League matches are yet to be played.

The Dhaka clubs felt that they are unsure of when the League could be finished since rainy season have just started. The league began on February 15.

The clubs also urged the president to promote two Super League clubs -- Young Pegasus and Uttara Sporting, who are leading the table with a collection of 20 points

each, into the Premier League next season.
Funny more, they requested the BCB boss not to relegate any team this season. Six teams are fighting now to survive a demotion. Of them, Indira Road Krira Chakra, Eskaton Sabuj Sangha and Lalmaria Club are close to being relegated into Second Division next season. Indira Road are at the bottom of the table with only six points while Eskaton and Lalmaria have only managed eight points each.

The strange application surprised all but Mahmud Ul Haq Manu, who is a member of the newly elected Board of Directors and the secretary of the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan. His committee runs the Dhaka League.

"I have been asked by the President to give my comment in this regard, and I am going to give verdict in favour of the clubs," revealed Mahmud, who happens to be the councilor of the relegation-threatened Eskaton Sabuj Sangha.

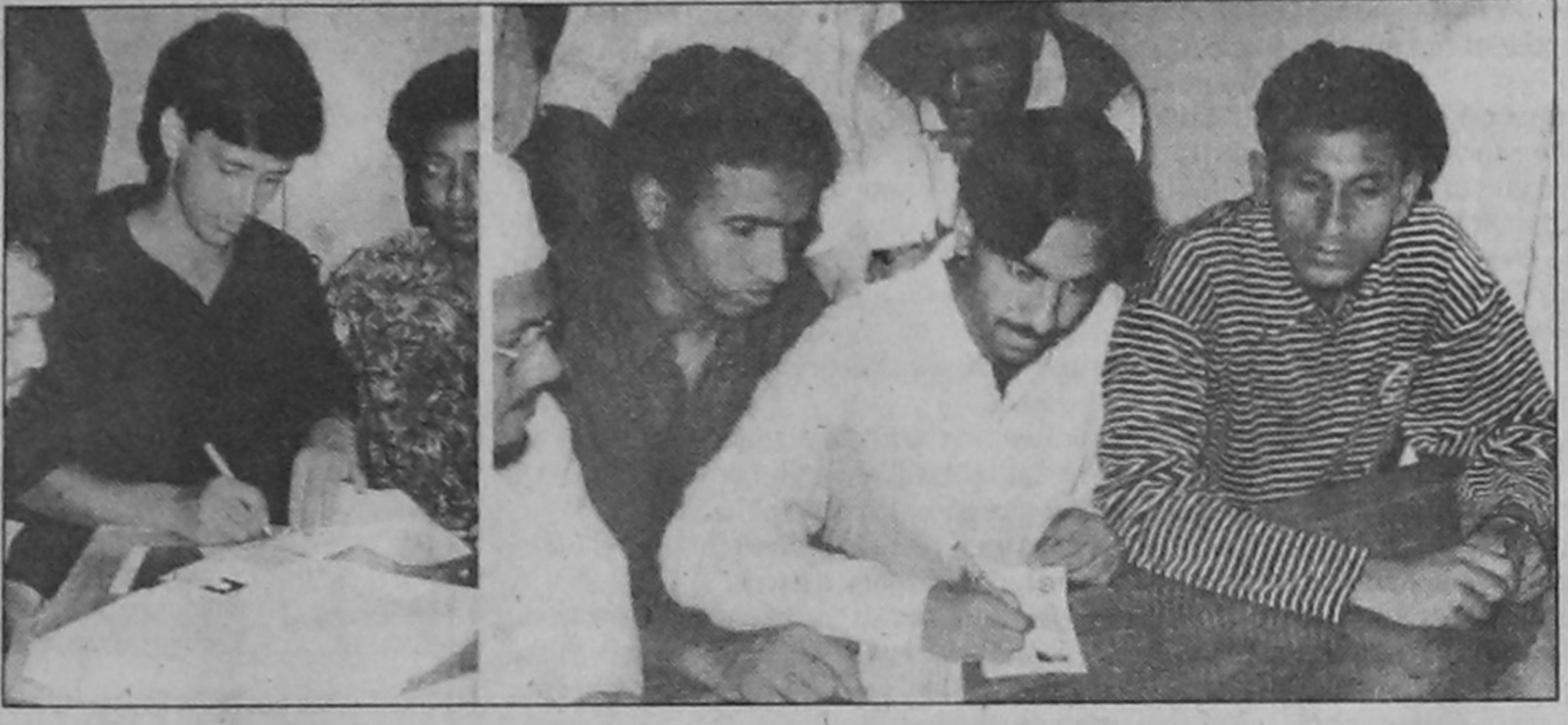
"The clubs become the ultimate sufferer when a league pro-

longs. Because, they need a good amount of money to run their camps everyday. The weather has made the fate of the league very, very uncertain. I am endorsing an unanimous demand of the twelve participating clubs," reasoned Manu, who is known as a jack of all trades in Sabur's Board despite not having a cricketing credentials.

Each club however received Taka one lakh as compensation from the Board when the league had been suspended for unknown reason during February and March. But Mahmud is not interested to talk about it.

Many think that the Board would only help cripple the domestic cricket if the undue demands of the clubs were fulfilled.

"I have not heard of such a hilarious thing in all my life. This is indeed a ridiculous demand and the president must pour cold water on the move, at least for the good of the game," said a former national players, preferring not to be named.



A combo picture shows Rezaul Karim (L) signs for Brothers Union to leave Mohammedan Sporting Club while (R) Arambagh players (L-R) Govinda, Tazu and Shakil give their consent to play for Mohammedan on the second day of the inter-club footballers' transfer at the Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee office on Wednesday.

Transfer front almost quiet

UNB, Dhaka

Two national pool players - Zulfiqar Mahmud Minto and Quamruzzaman Salim - changed their clubs on the second day of the three-day inter-club booters transfer for the forthcoming football season at the Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee (DMFLC) office at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Wednesday.

National winger Minto of Muktioddha signed for Badda Jagarani Sangsad while Mohammedan's medio Quamruzzaman Salim joined Rahmatganj MFS.

Mohammedan national pool defender Abu Faisal Ahmed, who was set to join Arambagh KS yesterday, finally returned to his old club.
The other notable transfers of the day are - Masud Khan Jony from Muktioddha and Monir from Mohammedan joined Rahmatganj, Rezaul from Mohammedan to Brothers Union, Gobindha, Taju from Arambagh and Shakil from Shantinagar to Mohammedan, Bakhtiar from Arambagh to Badda, Minto and Ruman from Mohammedan to Dhanmondi.
A total of 68 booters changed their clubs on the second day in addition to the first day's transfer figure of 114.

WI in early trouble

Cricket

REUTERS, Bridgetown

The West Indies were 44 for two from 15 overs after being put into bat in the fifth one-day international against South Africa on Wednesday. Brian Lara was 12 and captain Carl Hooper seven.

Both West Indian openers fell to Jacques Kallis, back in the side after missing South Africa's eight-wicket win in the fourth game in Grenada with a calf strain.

The home side were 20 without loss when Chris Gayle (6) played

fourth game.

Opening batsman Daren Ganga came in for Ricardo Powell, leg-spinner Dinanath Ramnarine replaced slow left-armed Neil McGarrell and fast-bowler Mervyn Dillon returned for Nixon McLean. South Africa replaced one all-rounder with another, Jacques Kallis returned after recovering from a calf strain, while Lance Klusener was on the sidelines with the groin injury picked up in Grenada.

South Africa lead the seven-match series 3-1.

TEAMS

WEST INDIES: Chris Gayle, Dar-



loosely outside the off-stump and edged to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher.

Kallis then induced a wild shot from Darren Ganga (15), the batsman trying to pull a fast bouncer and splicing the ball back to the bowler who took a comfortable return catch.

West Indies made three changes to the team that was beaten by eight wickets in the

ren Ganga, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Brian Lara, Carl Hooper, Mervyn Dillon, Dinanath Ramnarine, Kerry Jermy, Cameron Cuffy.

SOUTH AFRICA: Gary Kirsten, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Jonny Rhodes, Boeta Dippenaar, Mark Boucher, Shaun Pollock, Justin Ontong, Justin Kemp, Allan Donald, Makhaya Ntini.

Alec plotting Ashes upset

Cricket

AFP, London

Alec Stewart is hoping England can draw on their recent good form to provide an Ashes upset against the best side in the world.
Australia's world-record run of 16 consecutive Test match victories was finally halted with defeat to India in Calcutta in March - but they are favourites to retain the Ashes when the series gets under way at Edgbaston on July 5.

However, Stewart feels England can use their own unbeaten run - they have not lost a series since going down in South Africa in January last year - to give the Aussies a real run for their money.

"They're coming over as favourites, but you never know," the England wicketkeeper told the Press Association Tuesday.

"There is confidence within the England camp after the winter series victories and we've got Pakistan before the Aussies come over.



ALEC STEWART

"We'll be ready for them. I think it will be a good series." England have not won the showpiece series since Mike Gatting led his side to a famous triumph in Australia back in 1987. Stewart has been on the re-

ceiving end of that losing streak since making his debut in a 10-wicket defeat in Brisbane in 1990 and at 37, the Surrey man knows this summer will be his last chance to taste victory.

"I've played in five losing Ashes series and it would be nice to try and win my last one at home," he said.

"But we are going in as the underdogs and we've got to play really well to compete with them." Stewart began his 2001 season with a resolute 59 for Surrey in their six-wicket Benson and Hedges Cup victory over Essex on Saturday and he knows England will have to be at their best to get anything out of the five-Test series.

He said: "It's always a big thing to play Australia as they've been the best for a number of years now."

"But we're going in trying to win it and we'll give it our best shot."

Probe report submitted at long last

SPORTS REPORTER

The probe committee, into the irregularities of the February 25 polls of Bangladesh Cricket Board finally submitted its report to the Ministry of Youth and Sports on Wednesday.

This was revealed by the chairman of the three-member body, Brig Gen Ahsan Habib, the Director General of BKSP, last night.

When contacted, State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader said to The Daily Star Sport that he and his ministry officials would go through the report first and then make it to public.

Two top leaders of the district organisers' forum -- Zafar Imam, the Secretary General of the Bangladesh Olympic Association, and Sheikh Nizamuddin, a Director elect of BCB -- were alleged to have manipulated the BCB election to raise funds for their organization.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports formed the committee, which also included Director of Sports Directorate -- Akhter Hamid -- and Ataur Rahman, a deputy secretary of Sports Ministry, on March 1 and had asked it to submit its report within 15 working days.

The probe commenced in snail's pace and in the process the committee sought extension of time on four occasions.

The first meeting of the newly elected controversial Board of Directors could not be held as yet due to the delay in submission of the report.

No Bangladeshi Test umpire yet

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is yet to know whether any Bangladeshi umpire would stand alongside a neutral umpire during the two-match Test series against Zimbabwe next November.

"The ICC (International Cricket Council) has not given us any green signal so far on this issue. We are going to raise this point during the annual general meeting of ICC in June. I think, we would be able to get a decision during the meeting," said Syed Ashraf Huk, a director elect of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) on Wednesday.

But if the ICC fails to reach a decision, then two neutral umpires might stand in once again to officiate Bangladesh's Test series.

The apex body of world cricket is yet to recognise a Bangladeshi umpire for Test match although the South Asian nation obtained Test status in June last year.

But the ICC sent two Test umpires -- Steve Bucknor of West Indies and Daryl Harper of Australia -- to assess the standard of umpiring here.

Bucknor spent a week with Bangladeshi umpires after the inaugural Test while Harper had a three-week session in last December.

It was reported that both umpires put forward a list of Bangladeshi umpires, who were capable of officiating First Class matches.

Shoaib may be little slower

REUTERS, Derby

Pakistan fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar may never reach the express pace he attained before remodelling his action, according to the team's bowling coach Daryl Foster.

Foster, a biomechanics expert from the University of Western Australia, has helped Shoaib modify his delivery after it was officially questioned by several umpires.

"He might lose a few kilometres an hour," Foster said.
"But I think he'll more than make up for that by putting the ball in the right spot consistently. Whether he's bowling at 158 or 150 kilometres an hour is irrelevant if he's doing that."

Shoaib took two wickets from 12 overs on the first day of Pakistan's three-day match against Derbyshire on Tuesday but never reached the speed which made him such an exciting performer at the 1999 World Cup.

The "Rawalpindi Express" appeared to be carrying some extra weight, did not run in at full speed and had clearly altered his action, bowling with a more studied approach and a longer swing of his right arm.



ENTER FOOTBALL, EXIT CRICKET: With the football season coming, workers sew grass patches on top of the cricket pitches of the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Wednesday.

M'singh Zila, Rajshahi Collegiate in qtrs

SPORTS REPORTER



Mymensingh Zila School and Rajshahi Collegiate School moved in to the quarterfinals of the Standard Chartered 19th National School Cricket Championship, winning their respective final round openers in Sylhet on Wednesday.

Both matches were reduced to 15-over-a-side affairs due to rain.

Mymensingh Zila School beat Rangpur High School by 19 runs at the Sylhet Stadium while, at the nearby Medical College ground, Rajshahi Collegiate High School posted an exciting one-run win over Jhalakathi Government High School.

In the quarterfinals on May 11, Mymensingh Zila School will take on BKSP at the Medical College

Ground while Rajshahi Collegiate School will meet Blue Bird of Sylhet at the Sylhet Stadium.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Mymensingh Zila School: 77 for 8 in 15 overs (Arman 48, Sumon 3/16)

Rangpur High School: 58 for 8 in 15 overs (Sumon 17, Arif 2/16, Uttam 2/15)

Result: Mymensingh Zila School won by 19 runs.

Rajshahi Collegiate School: 81 for 5 in 15 overs (Bappi 23, Bulbul 19, Remon 2/10)

Jhalakathi Govt High School: 80 for 7 in 15 overs (Uzzal 22, Ratul 2/25)

Result: Rajshahi Collegiate School won by one run.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Green Herald School v Narail Zila School (Sylhet Stadium)
New Model High School v Mohini Mohan Biddipath (Medical College ground)

CBI's intention

REUTERS, New Delhi

India's federal investigation agency went to court on Wednesday seeking to be represented at the appeal by former cricketer Ajay Jadeja against his five-year ban.

Jadeja was banned for five years last year after the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) conducted an internal inquiry into a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) report on match-fixing in cricket.

"In his petition in the Delhi High Court, Jadeja has mentioned the CBI and asked certain questions to which only we will be able to reply," the agency's spokesman SM Khan, told this news agency on Wednesday.

"That's why we have asked to be included as a party."

Former Test player Manoj Prabhakar was also banned for five years, while former captain Mohammad Azharuddin and Ajay Sharma were barred from the game for life.

All the players have denied any wrongdoing. Azharuddin has also filed a petition against the ban in a court in Hyderabad.

Steady Pak progress

Cricket

AGENCIES, Derby

Pakistan were just 60 runs behind Derbyshire after reaching 106 for two off 37 overs at lunch on the second day of the three-day match.

Mohammed Wasim and Imran Farhat took the tourists, resuming on 4-0 in reply to Derbyshire's first innings total of 166, on to 28 before the home side made the breakthrough.

Mohammad Wasim, who had never really looked comfortable, played on to medium pacer Trevor Smith and was out for 15.

Derbyshire captain Dominic Cork, looking to impress the England selectors, bowled tidily and conceded just 18 runs from his nine overs.

But Imran and new batsman Faisal Iqbal looked in little trouble as they put together a stand of 73 to put Pakistan in control.

Just before lunch, Derbyshire were rewarded for their persistence as opener Imran was caught at midwicket by Chris Bassano as he tried to force off spinner Nathan Dumelow away on the leg side.

That brought Yousuf Youhana to the crease and he safely saw the

tourists through to lunch with 4 not out, while his partner Faisal was still there on 34.

On the opening day Tuesday, Pakistan off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq took six for 34 as the tourists dismissed an admittedly under-strength Derbyshire for 166.

Pakistan captain Waqar Younis also looked sharp, particularly with the new ball while Shoaib Akhtar, the Rawalpindi Express, eventually found his line after initially pitching too short.

In fairness to Akhtar this was his first match since a one-day international against New Zealand in Dunedin back in February.

Shoaib took two wickets in seven balls before finishing with two for 31 from 10 overs.

Derbyshire captain Dominic Cork was sympathetic to Shoaib's plight.

"He only landed yesterday and it was always going to be difficult to get straight off a plane from a hot country like Pakistan and run in and bowl quick on a slow wicket like that."

"He's going to start steadily building up and he has two matches now to put his hat in the ring for their Test side - they have a good dilemma because they have plenty of choice in their attack and they all bowl quite

quick." Pakistan have just one more warm-up match, against Kent, before the first Test at Lord's on May 17.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at lunch on the second day of a three-day tour match between Derbyshire and Pakistan on Wednesday:

DERBYSHIRE: First innings

L Sutton c Farhat b Saqlain	26
S Stubbings c Inzamam b Waqar	8
S Titchard b Razaq	11
M Downman b Akhtar	36
C Bassano lbw b Akhtar	17
D Cork lbw b Saqlain	27
K Kniksen c Latif b Saqlain	0
N Dumelow c Farhat b Saqlain	6
T Smith not out	14
T Lungley b Saqlain	0
L Wharton lbw b Saqlain	0
Extras: (b-5, lb-10, nb-6)	21
Total: (All out in 59.1 overs)	166

Fall of wickets: 1-17, 2-44, 3-61, 4-103, 5-107, 6-114, 7-131, 8-158, 9-158

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Waqar	7	1	25	1
Akhtar	12	0	31	2
Razaq	11	2	36	1
Mahmood	7	1	21	0
Saqlain	21.1	9	34	6
Farhat	1	0	4	0

PAKISTAN: First innings

M Wasim b Smith	15
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Pakistan off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq appeals for the wicket of Matthew Downman on the opening day of their three-day tour match against Derbyshire on Tuesday.

SEE PAGE 15