

Sport

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

HAT playing football with "jambura" like many of our children do here is not practiced in the United States...

Wonder what the coach would point if the opponents were symbolised by a tiger...

SPORTS TALK



Viv Richards

(West Indian batting great) "I'm a religious man and when people told me cricket was dying, I said, man, a Moses will come to deliver us."

Well Moses has come. His name is Brian Lara...

On Brian Lara, his first test of show, only...

Sports

WHZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN (The rules are published every Saturday.)

Sports WHZZ KID competition-10.

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Oct 27, 1995)

Table with 5 questions about sports events and players.

Name: .....

Class: ..... Roll No: .....

School Address: .....

Phone: (if any) .....

Surjo Tarun's new body formed

Sports Reporter

Yousuf Abdullah Harun retained his post as president of Surjo Tarun Club after the 11th biennial general meeting at the club premises on Saturday.

Surjo Tarun, who was relegated to the First Division last year, has formed a 17-member strong executive committee for the next two years.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Chowdhury Kamal-ud-Din Yousuf, who was special guest on the occasion, was named as the chief patron of the mediocre team in the Dhaka cricket league.

Punishment of a maniac!

CARDIFF, Oct 23: Britain's former Olympic swimming coach Paul Hickson was jailed on Wednesday for 17 years for raping two of his teenage proteges and indecently assaulting others, reports Reuter.

Jubilant relatives of the girls shouted yes and sobbed with relief as the chief British coach at the 1988 Seoul Games was jailed.



Players and officials of the 23-member Bangladesh national football team which left Dhaka yesterday for the Myanmar capital Yangon to participate in a four-nation invitation tournament there.

Biman, MSC steal show

Sports Reporter

Into the last four when he earned a comfortable 22-20, 18-21, 21-16 and 21-15 win over Abid in the last boys quarterfinals on the day.

Meanwhile, in the four women's quarterfinals two Mohammedan's paddlers...

The day saw three Biman paddlers - Gautam, Edison and Pappu - along with Tuhin of Armanitola storm into the last four in the boys singles while Julekha and Shamima of Mohammedan Sporting Club along with Tumpa of Rajshahi and Eeti of Gaibandha completed the semifinals quorum on the distaff side.

In a busy schedule on the day, Gautam of Biman, who along with teammates Pappu moved into the last eight with straight-set wins over Jewel and Litu in the morning, staved off a tough resistance from Mamboob of Armanitola for a 3-1 win.

After conceding the first set 19-21 Gautam showed great resilience to win the next three games 21-19, 20-20 and 21-12 in a gruelling encounter. While Gautam's teammate Pappu also recorded an identical 3-1 win over Biddyt of Lalmonirhat.

On the other hand, Tuhin was the only Armanitola paddler who upheld the traditional breeding haven's pride after defeating Shahed by 21-15, 21-17, 19-21 and 21-8.

While Edison was the third Biman player stepped

A plea to political parties

Sports Reporter

The West Indies under-19 cricket team's forthcoming tour of Bangladesh is under threat of cancellation due to the agitation programmes announced by the major opposition parties.

The Caribbean youngsters are scheduled to arrive in the city on November 9.

They are supposed to play two one-dayers and a three-day match against the Bangladesh under-19 team, all of them at the Dhaka Stadium. But due to a week-long hartal schedule beginning November 11, the day, the first one-day game is expected to be held, the Windies tour seems well on its way to jeopardy.

Training sessions of different teams preparing for the next SAF Games, beginning December 22 in Madras, will also be hampered by the unrest.

Sports lovers throughout the country feel that the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB), along with other federations involved in SAF preparation, should appeal to the political parties to exempt sports events and related activities from any programmes that hinder the development of local sports.

Among the other two semifinalists Eeti of Gaibandha earned a comfortable 3-1 win over Saleha of Narail while Tumpa overcame a tough resistance from Mohammedan's Shaban to win a marathon best of five set.

In the men's singles, Rachi and Hemlet of Biman, Mostafa of Inter Sports and Sohel of Armanitola won their respective matches.

Eclipse eclipses sports

Sports Reporter

Superstitions that have gripped the city regarding today's solar eclipse seem to have hit the sporting arena as well with many clubs and sports organisations staying away from their regular activities to accommodate for the "dreaded omen."

The much-talked about eclipse is expected to take place between 8.05 am and 11 am today. The full eclipse can be seen from Hiron Point, in the southern Sundarbans, while 95 per cent of the occurrence will be visible from the capital.

Members of the Bangladesh under-19 cricket team who are preparing for a visit by their West Indian counterparts early next month have been advised by officials to skip their regular early morning practice session as a precaution against "evil occurrences." Some of the top cricket clubs have also called off their morning net practice for similar reasons.

MSC muster master trio

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club have acquired the services of three Grand Masters (GM) in their bid to return to the local chess scene with a bang. The trio - localite Niaz Mursheed, illustrious Indian Dibyendu Barua and Armenian Anasthasian - will don the famous Mohammedan colours in this year's next First Division chess league.

Mohammedans are returning to the league after a considerable period of absence. They are replacing Bobby Fischer Chess Club.

Niaz, Bangladesh's only GM, will be joined by his foreign counterparts by the end of the month. Mohammedans expect to challenge the long standing supremacy enjoyed by Bangladesh Biman in the sport. They have appointed noted sports organiser Lokman Hossain Bhuiyan as the chairman of their chess committee.

European MPs express sorrow

PARIS, Oct 23: A committee of the council of Europe's parliamentary assembly has expressed regret at the death of British boxer James Murray following a fight in Glasgow, the council said on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Warne kept as secret weapon!

Sydney, Oct 23: Australian Shane Warne was withdrawn from the Australian Cricket Board chairman's XI to play Pakistan in the tourists' opening match in Perth on Thursday, the ACB announced today, reports AFP.

The national selectors decided to keep Warne out of the traditional tour-opener after talking with him at the weekend.

Warne is shaping as one of Australia's trump cards against the Pakistanis. The 26-year-old wrist spinner has snatched up 176 wickets in 38 Tests at an average of 24.08.

"We believe it is in the best interests of the Australian team and Shane for him to remain in Melbourne with the Victorian squad and avoid the trip across to Perth for a one-off match at this time of the season," said chairman of selectors Trevor Hons.

European MPs express sorrow

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Coping with controversy



MARK TAYLOR

KARACHI, Oct 23: Pakistani cricketers, who leave for Australia today, start their tour in a swirl of controversy after the reinstatement of former Test captain Salim Malik, cleared of bribery charge by a Pakistani judge, report agencies.

Former Supreme Court judge Fakhruddin Ebrahim exonerated the Pakistani batsman at the weekend, saying the sworn accusations of three Australian players were "not worthy of credence."

Malik, sacked as captain and dropped in March over the bribery allegations made by Tim May, Shane Warne and Mark Waugh, will join the tourists in Australia later in the week.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) had appointed Ebrahim to investigate the allegations against Malik.

Spinners Warne and May and all-rounder Waugh had accused Malik in sworn statements submitted to the International Cricket Conference (ICC) through the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) of offering them 200,000 dollars to 400,000 dollars to "throw" Test and one-day matches during the Australian tour of Pakistan in 1994.

Ebrahim said in a nine-page report released on Saturday the statements "were not worthy of credence and must be rejected as unfounded."

The allegations made against Salim Malik cannot be believed and appear to have been concocted for reasons best known to the accusers," Ebrahim said.

He criticised the ACB for refusing to send the three Australians to Pakistan for cross-examination and suggesting him to go to Australia for interviewing them instead.

To my mind, with great respect, ACB's response is not only inadequate, but also quite irresponsible," Ebrahim said.

In these circumstances the untested sworn statements of the three Australian players, which are the only direct evidence, have to be rejected and the allegations contained there in therefore remain, at very least, unproved against Salim Malik.

It is most significant if not decisive, that none of the Australian players in their sworn statements say that they had reported the incident to either the team manager or the team coach or the

the Pakistani judge of appearing to concoct bribery allegations against Salim Malik.

"I believe what they said and I back my players," Taylor said, referring to allegations Malik offered the spin duo money to bowl poorly.

Taylor acknowledged Malik's selection could lead to confrontation between the two sides during the three-Test series, starting at the Gabba in Brisbane on November 9.

"There may be heated moments but I'm sure both sides will concentrate on the cricket," Taylor told Reuters.

Australian Cricket Board (ACB) chief executive officer Graham Halbhush said the domestic ruling body regarded the matter as closed.

"The ACB has never focussed on an individual in the matter - we believe the issue has been satisfactorily resolved," he said.

Halbhush's view has not been shared by the Australian media, which has criticised the International Cricket Board (ICC), the sport's international governing body, for its handling of the bribery allegations.

"By refusing to address the grave allegations of bribery and corruption, the ICC is guilty of failing the international cricket community," commentator Mike Coward wrote in today's The Australian newspaper.

Sydney Morning Herald cricket writer Phil Wilkins said, "The exoneration of Malik is tantamount to a slap in the face of the Australian players... in effect, they have been branded liars."

The Sydney Telegraph Mirror's cricket writer Robert Craddock said: "No charge against him (Malik) has been proved or disproved. For the good of the game... the issue had to reach a definitive verdict - guilty or innocent."

three-Test tour of Australia and subsequent visit to New Zealand for a single Test and four one-day internationals.

The tours are Pakistan's last major overseas fixtures before the World Cup, that they will co-host in February and March.

Rameez Raja has lost the job after Pakistan's recent humiliating defeats in both Test and one-day series at home to Sri Lanka and their poor performance in the

that Wasim Akram is the most appropriate choice for the job.

"About Rameez Raja, the council felt obviously he has failed to satisfy."

Cricketer commentators and several former Test players had called for an overhaul of the whole PCB hierarchy.

But Sunday's meeting only replaced Mushtaq Mohammad with another former captain, Intikhab Alam, as team manager, and removed ex-captain Majid Khan as tour manager.

Effenberg in fine form

BONN, Oct 23: A 79th minute goal from skipper and stand-in striker Stefan Effenberg gave Borussia Moenchengladbach a 1-0 home win over Werder Bremen on Sunday to catapult them to third place in the German Bundesliga, reports Reuter.

Midfield playmaker Effenberg was only filling a gap in Moenchengladbach's depleted attacking line-up but he pounced like a seasoned striker on a defensive mix-up on Bremen's six-metre line to put the ball past goalkeeper Frank Rost, brought on after Oliver Reck was injured in a collision.

The win gave Moenchengladbach 19 points from 10 matches, two behind Borussia Dortmund and five behind leaders Bayern Munich.

The goal was Effenberg's fourth in three games, form which is sure to increase the pressure on national trainer Bert Vogts to bring back the gifted player who he sent home from the 1994 World Cup finals for making an obscene gesture to fans.

Army v'ball

RANGPUR, Oct 23: The annual volleyball championship of the Bangladesh Army begins at the Rangpur Cantonment tomorrow, an ISPR press release said, reports BSS.

Twelve teams will take part in the meet to be played on round-robin league basis.

The Log Area will take on the Comilla Area in the opening match.

CROSSWORD BY Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

CRYPTOQUIP

ZGAP GP LVBQ VZCBCV

WNGHV VPCGHVZ AVC

QWCZ NWL QGCCQV

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IMPOLITESCHOOLBOY CONFRONTS PIANO TEACHER BY SAYING, "G! OFF MY BACK!"

Today's Cryptoquip clue N equals I

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating words. Solution is by trial and error.