

### Windies 37 for no loss

BRISBANE, Australia, Dec 22: West Indies, chasing Australia XI's first innings 323 for seven declared, were 37 without loss at close of play on the first day of their three-day tour match at the Gabba today, reports Reuter.

### Rain the spoil-sport

PIETERMARITZBURG, South Africa, Dec 22: Heavy overnight rain led to the third and final day of England's game against the South African Tertiary Institutions XI at the Jan Smuts stadium today being abandoned without a ball being bowled, reports Reuter.

### Fresh scandal in French soccer

PARIS, Dec 22: Two new doping cases emerged Thursday to rock French football, already hit by drugs bans for three top class players in recent months, reports AFP.

### Wari Club: 181 for 4 in 43.4 overs

BRISBANE, Australia, Dec 22: Wari Club, chasing Australia XI 323 for seven declared, were 181 for no loss in 35.5 overs (Athar Ali 102 not out, Nasir Khan 66 not out).

### Former Indian Test cricketer Ashok Malhotra, the Gulshan skipper, was the highest scorer for his side with 56 off 71 balls while opener Shafayet Hossain Rabhu added 32 runs to their account.

Earlier in the morning, Gulshan Youth elected to bat after winning the toss. But the decision backfired after they were restricted to 177 for six in the stipulated 50 overs.

### Wari win

In the day's other encounter, Wari Club registered a convincing six-wicket win over Victoria Sporting Club at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

### Becker's no to Atlanta

HAMBURG, Dec 22: Reigning Olympic doubles tennis champion Boris Becker said Thursday he won't defend his title at the Summer Games in Atlanta next year, reports AP.

### Becker won the Olympic doubles championship at the 1992 Barcelona Games with countryman Michael Stich sharing the honor.

Becker has said in the past while he still enjoys playing tennis, he relishes the time spent with his wife Barbara and son Noah Gabriel, who was born Jan 18.

### Ranked No. 4 in the world, Becker is also the current ATP world champion after defeating world No. 1 Pete Sampras in the finals in Frankfurt last month.

Becker said he had a long talk with his co-champion partner Stich last week. "If I would have played in Atlanta, then only together with him, and I would have gladly done it."

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## Biman take-off smoothly

Sports Reporter

Wari, who also beat the same opponents in the Shaheed Jewel-Mushtaq Memorial cricket tournament semifinal last week, cruised to 181 for four in the 44th over.

Victoria, considered one of the giants in the local from further humiliation. The pair took the score to 112 in 26.4 overs before Chawla was out caught by Sajib Das off Sri Lankan Karman Maoatuna.



Biman's elegant national opener Athar Ali Khan (L) and his Pakistani partner Nasir Ali return to the pavilion after their awesome stand of 180 guided Biman to a thumping 10-wicket victory over Gulshan Youth during a Premier Division cricket league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. Athar cracked a super 102 while Nasir hit 66.

Victoria sunk into deeper trouble in the fourth over when Al-Shariat Rokon (8) and Sajid Hasan (0) returned in the dressing room in successive deliveries from Wari's other pacer Joydev Bashak (52) and Karman Mapatuna (87 not out).

Mapatuna faced 94 balls and slammed two sixes and ten boundaries while Moni hit four boundaries in his 90-ball innings.

### BRIEF SCORES

**GULSHAN YOUTH CLUB:** 177 for 6 in 50 overs (Ashok Malhotra 56, Rabhu 32, Anis 3/28)  
**BANGLADESH BIMAN:** 180 for no loss in 35.5 overs (Athar Ali 102 not out, Nasir Khan 66 not out)  
**VICTORIA SC:** 180 on 43.5 overs (Adil 61, Rajendar Singh 55, Visal Singh 31, Saleh 2/25, Joydev 2/27, Mapatuna 2/31, Arif 2/32)  
**WARI CLUB:** 181 for 4 in 43.4 overs (Mapatuna 87 not out, Moni 52)

An unbeaten century by national opener Athar Ali Khan combined with a useful 66 not out by Pakistani batsman Nasir Khan enabled title contenders Bangladesh Biman to enjoy a smooth take-off in the Premier Division cricket league when they recorded an emphatic 10-wicket victory over Gulshan Youth at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Chasing a moderate 178 to win in 50 overs, the national flag carrier outfit, who won the Bijoy Dibash trophy last week beating favourites Mohammedan Sporting Club reached 180 in the 36th over without losing a single wicket.

Athar Ali, the tall right-hand batsman, faced 123 balls for his 102 studded with 10 fours and a huge sixer over long on. On the other hand Nasir Khan's 66 came from 92 balls inclusive of four boundaries.

Earlier in the morning, Gulshan Youth elected to bat after winning the toss. But the decision backfired after they were restricted to 177 for six in the stipulated 50 overs.

Former Indian Test cricketer Ashok Malhotra, the Gulshan skipper, was the highest scorer for his side with 56 off 71 balls while opener Shafayet Hossain Rabhu added 32 runs to their account.

Biman's right-arm medium-pacer Mizanur Rahman took three wickets in his 10-over spell conceding 28 runs.

Winning the toss, Victoria decided to bat first and were eventually bundled out in 43.5 overs with their scoreboard on 180 only. In reply,

## Top of table clash in Italy

ROME, Dec 22: More than 1,000 policemen will be on duty at Saturday's eagerly awaited top-of-the-table clash between Fiorentina and AC Milan in Florence, reports Reuter.

The perfect of Florence is expected to order live television coverage of the Serie A game for the entire Tuscany region, while the anticipated 2,000 Milan fans will be escorted to and from the ground.

League leaders Milan come into the game just one point ahead of Fiorentina, with Parma a further point away in third and Juventus fourth, five points behind Milan.

Fiorentina's notoriously explosive fans are hoping that their side can knock Milan off the top of the table but their shrewd coach Claudio Ranieri dismisses talk of his side winning the title.

"The title will be won by one of four sides - Milan, Juventus, Parma and Lazio," he said.

Ranieri insists that qualifying for next season's UEFA Cup is his priority.

Fiorentina's Argentine striker Gabriel Batistuta has also tried to play down the significance of the game, saying, "We know our worth and one match, even an important one, won't make us lose our heads."

Fiorentina expect to be at full strength for the game, pinning their hopes on the attacking combination of Batistuta, Rui Costa and Francesco Baiano.

Milan have been suffering from indifferent from recently. They were eliminated from the Italian Cup by Second Division Bologna and have been held to home league draws by Napoli and Torino.

Dejan Savicevic is ruled out of Saturday's game through injury. He will be replaced by midfielder Zvonimir Boban.

Milan are likely to field a classic 4-4-2 formation in which the attack will be led by Roberto Baggio and George Weah, with Demetrio Albertini, Stefano Eranio and Marcel Desailly joining Boban in midfield.

Milan central defender Alessandro Costacurta is suspended. He will be replaced by left-back Paolo Maldini, with Francesco Coco coming in at full back.

In Turin, champions Juventus will hope to profit from any slip by the leaders when they face AS Roma in a traditionally competitive fixture.

Juventus recall Alessandro del Piero, rested against Internazionale last Sunday, to partner Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli in attack while Paulo Sousa, Didier Deschamps and Vladimir Jugovic line up in midfield.

Roma, 2-0 away winners against Napoli last week, will be without suspended striker Marco Delvecchio but still field Daniel Fonseca and Abel Balbo in attack.

## WC cricket semis under lights

NEW DELHI, Dec 22: Both semifinals of cricket's World Cup next year are expected to be played under floodlights, a senior Indian cricket official said here today, reports AFP.

India, which co-hosts the limited-overs tournament with Pakistan and Sri Lanka in February-March, is planning to hold seven of its 17 matches under lights, the officials said.

These include the semifinals in Calcutta and Chandigarh on March 13 and 14, and the two quarterfinals allotted to the southern Indian cities of Bangalore (March 9) and Madras (March 11).

Organisers are also likely to include three league matches in India in the list of day-night games to be submitted to the International Cricket Council (ICC) in the first week of January.

These are the West Indies-Zimbabwe match at Hyderabad on February 16, India-West Indies at Gwalior on February 21 and India-Australia in Bombay on February 27.

The Eden Gardens in Calcutta, which will also host the opening ceremony on February 11, and the Shastrī Stadium in Hyderabad already have floodlight facilities.

The other five centres have finalised deals to install lighting towers at their grounds, the official said.

None of the 16 matches allotted to Pakistan, including the final at Lahore on March 17, is likely to be played under lights, but Sri Lanka may hold one of its four matches at night.

No day-night match was played when India and Pakistan hosted the World Cup in 1987. But Australia set the trend in the last tournament in 1992.

## Peter to give evidence on Jan 9

STUTTGART, Dec 22: Peter Graf, father of tennis star Steffi Graf, has been summoned to give evidence before a regional parliamentary commission on January 9 in connection with alleged tax evasion, reports AFP.

Commission president Peter Straub named the day after the body decided by majority to summon Peter Graf, who had previously said neither he nor his world number one-ranked daughter intended give evidence before it.

The commission - which comprises 11 members of parties from across the political spectrum in Baden Wurttemberg state - hoped to determine whether the state's tax authorities had allowed the Graf family to benefit from a special tax regime.

Steffi Graf is believed to have earned some 180 million marks (120 million dollars) since she started out on the professional circuit in 1982, while only paying an estimated 10 million in tax.

Earlier Thursday, a Mannheim court said it would hear a plea entered by Peter Graf's lawyers for his release on bail on December 29.

## Ctg soccer

CHITTAGONG, Dec 22: Regency Sports Club earned full points in the CJKP First Division football super league beating Shatadal Sangha by a solitary goal at the local stadium here today, reports BSS.

Regency's Iranian recruit Mawjin Abdus Sattar scored in the 36th minute off a cross from his compatriot Jashini Mehedi.

Regency earned full six points from their two super league matches while Shatadal failed to secure any points from two outings.

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## Pak-NZ final 1-dayer today

AUCKLAND, Dec 22: New Zealand batsmen Bryan Young, Nathan Astle and Adam Parore all have plenty to prove in the fourth and final limited-overs cricket international against Pakistan at Eden Park on Saturday, reports AP.

All three have struggled for form throughout Pakistan's tour and will be keen to make amends as the Kiwis aim to level the four-game series at 2-2.

Young, Astle and Parore all need to perform well in this match to keep alive their hopes of making the New Zealand squad for the World Cup, which will be jointly hosted by India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka from mid-February.

Young has scored just 341 runs in his last 20 limited-overs innings at an average of 17.

Parore has passed 50 only once in his past 15 innings - an unbeaten 61 against Sri Lanka at Hamilton last summer.

Astle, after making a memorable century in the one-day series in India recently, has battled for runs against the Pakistanis, with scores of 5, 5 and 9.

Young, who has made his mark in Test cricket as an opener, has been slotted into the No. 3 position in the limited-overs team, a slot made vacant by Martin Crowe's continuing injury woes.

Astle has been opening, where the priority is to get the scoreboard moving early, while Parore has been used at No. 5, where the key is to keep the momentum going through the middle stages of an innings.

New Zealand's one-day strategy under new coach Glenn Turner has called for an aggressive approach to batting.

While the players get used to his demands, Turner accepts there might be some difficulties as they work through the learning process.

He is reluctant to tinker with the batting lineup - and particularly in-form left-hander Roger Twose - and is unlikely to make significant changes to his top order.

"There's always a temptation," Turner said Friday. "But we've got our planning in place and I don't think we need to err too far from that, or else we'll end up chasing our tails. We're just trying to work things through."

Twose has been a success in the middle-order for New Zealand against the Pakistanis.

He made two half-centuries in the only Test at Christchurch, and in the one-dayers has scored 59, 10 and 37.

He has the ability to go in at the top of the order and bat through the 50 overs, but Turner wants a more attacking start than Twose would offer.

Turner and captain Lee Germon see Twose's value to the side in the middle order, where he can work the ball at a run-a-ball rate and support the big hitters: Stephen Fleming and Chris Cairns.

"For the moment I've just got to continue to do the job given to me by the management," Twose said.

"It's something I'm comfortable doing. I've got a lot of experience there and I'm certainly fitting into the side in that role at the moment."

"Who knows? In time I might move up the order, but I'm comfortable at No. 5 or 6."

New Zealand are likely to field an unchanged team and Pakistan also are expected to name the same 11 starters.

**PROBABLE TEAMS**  
**NEW ZEALAND:** Lee Germon (captain), Craig Spearman, Nathan Astle, Bryan Young, Stephen Fleming, Adam Parore, Roger Twose, Chris Cairns, Dipak Patel, Gavin Larsen, Danny Morrison.

**PAKISTAN:** Wasim Akram (captain), Aamir Sohail, Ramiz Raja, Ijaz Ahmed, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Salim Malik, Basit Ali, Rashid Latif, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis, Aaqib Javed.

## Selectors stick with Boon

SYDNEY, Dec 22: Australia today recalled all-rounder Steve Waugh and pace bowler Paul Reffel for next week's second Test against Sri Lanka while remaining loyal to struggling veteran David Boon, reports Reuter.

Waugh and Reffel both return to the 12-man squad after missing Australia's crushing innings victory over the tourists in the first Test in Perth earlier this month because of injury.

Boon, 34, a veteran of 105 Tests and the only Australian batsman to fail in the first Test, has suffered a slump in form this year.

In his last 18 Test innings, the stocky right-hander has scored only two half-centuries, prompting media speculation about his Test future.

In the wake of his failure in Perth, Boon lost his place in Australia's limited overs side for the opening round of matches in the triangular World Series involving Sri Lanka and West Indies. Australia won all three matches without him.

Waugh has recovered from a groin strain to return to Australia's middle order for the Test which starts next Tuesday in place of fellow all-rounder Stuart Law.

Reffel, who was sidelined for the first Test because of a hamstring injury, regained his status as Australia's third seam bowler at the expense of Brendon Julian.

Boon began the recent three-Test series against Pakistan, won 2-1 by Australia, with a typically resolute 54 in the first Test in Brisbane last month.

But since then, the Tasmanian has made Test scores of 34, 0, 16, 6 and 13.

Law, the Queensland captain, scored an unbeaten half-century against Sri Lanka on his Test debut in Perth before smashing 74 in the World Series clash with West Indies in Melbourne on Tuesday.

**TEAM**  
Mark Taylor (captain), Ian

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Lesse Kjus of Norway in action during the men's World Cup giant slalom in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia on Dec 21. Kjus won the event. - AFP/UNB photo

এখানে কাটুন

- ১। ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা'র সদর দপ্তর কোথায়?  
উত্তর: | ক. ওয়াশিংটন ডিসি | খ. নিউ ইয়র্ক | গ. ডালাস | ঘ. হলিউড
- ২। মুক্তবাসী মেট্রি অফ রাইজার সংখ্যা কত?  
উত্তর: | ক. ৪৯টি | খ. ৫০টি | গ. ৫১টি | ঘ. ৫২টি
- ৩। ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা'র বাংলা বিভাগ কোন অনুষ্ঠানে প্রতিদিনের জবাব দেয়?  
উত্তর: | ক. গিভালী | খ. বন্ধন | গ. মিতালী | ঘ. পত্র-মিতা
- ৪। বিল ক্লিনটন মুক্তবাসীর কততম প্রেসিডেন্ট?  
উত্তর: | ক. ৩২তম | খ. ৩৬তম | গ. ৩৯তম | ঘ. ৪২তম
- ৫। ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা'র বাংলা বিভাগের সাক্ষ্য অভিবেশন প্রতিদিন কখন আরম্ভ হয়?  
উত্তর: | ক. রাত ৯-০০ টায় | খ. রাত ৯-৩০ টায় | গ. রাত ১০-০০ টায় | ঘ. রাত ১০-৩০ টায়

প্রতিযোগীর নাম: \_\_\_\_\_

পিতার নাম: \_\_\_\_\_

বর্তমান ঠিকানা: \_\_\_\_\_

এখানে কাটুন

**নিয়মাবলী**

**আয়োজক:**

**ঢাকা জেলা ভয়েস অব আমেরিকা (ডিওএ) ফ্যান ক্লাব**

প্রথম, দ্বিতীয় এবং তৃতীয় পুরস্কার যথাক্রমে ২ টাকা, ১০ টাকা, ৫ টাকা, ৫ টাকা, ৫ টাকা এবং ৫ টাকা - কাঠমন্ডু - ঢাকা বিমান টিকেট। এই পুরস্কার প্রদান করা হবে বিমান বাংলাদেশ এয়ারলাইন্স-এর সৌজন্যে।

**প্রতিযোগিতার নিয়মাবলী:**