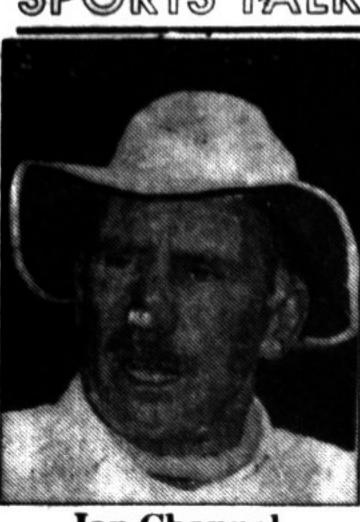
SPORTS TALK



Ian Chappel (Former Australian Test

batsman) "The unpredictable nature of pitches, like the fallibility of umpires is a vital part of the glorious uncertainty of cricket. Do away with either and a great game will become predictable and pedestrian.

On the uncertainties that total up the game of cricket.

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

That every new year begins with millions of resolutions; only thousands are followed for a few weeks and barely hundreds go on for-In the New Year a foot-

baller should resolve to bring home the SAF gold, a cricketer should focus on the ICC trophy and the hockey player should go for a win against either of the regional giants. In order to realise the difficult sporting resolutions.

players must put in a lot of hard work, lead a disciplined life, not fall prey to petty politics and actually put the nation before all else. It is true we have come a

long way. Our shooters can smell international glory, our chess players have nothing to be ashamed of. The race is on to bring

Bangladesh international glory. Our footballers seem to be doing the yo-yo; up one feet, down three. The hockey players will have to wait for the artificial turf. Somehow, I have a feeling our cricketers are just nudging ahead of the others.

Sports WHIZZ KID

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

Sports WHiZZ KID competition-20 Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Jan 5, 1996) Who was the captain of the Bangladesh hockey team in the 7th SAF Games? Mamun Haroon How many teams are scheduled to participate in the soccer World Cup '98? Penalty-corner is a term usually associated with Football Handball Hockey

Juniors

Chalenors

The governing body for international athletics is called

Boca

Seniors

Phone: (if any)

Barry richer by \$ 1m

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

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona, Jan 1: Barry Lane of England beat two opponents — David Frost and his own reputation for faltering under pressure to win the 1 million dollars first prize Sunday in the Andersen Consulting World Championships of golf, reports AP.

No more than three holes separated the finalist during 36 holes of match play before Lane won 2-up.

Lane, a five-time winner on the European PGA Tour who couldn't qualify for the European Ryder Cup team this year because he faded in the Scandinavian Masters and the Czech Open, saved his biggest shots for the last four

He went 1-up with a 2metre (6-foot) birdie putt on the 33rd hole. No 15 on the Talon course at the Grayhawk Golf Club, made par-saving putts to halve the next two holes, then hit an approach shot inside Frost's ball after Frost left himself a 4 1-2-metres (15-foot) putt for birdie

on the final green. Frost missed his putt by centimeters (an inch), and Lane drained a 3-metre (9foot) attempt for the final

margin. The day before, Lane beat Mashiro Kuramoto of Japan 2-up, and Frost ousted Mark McCumber of the United States 2-and-1.

Column One Abahani beat Eskaton

The Eskaton new-ball

Habib's two wickets cost

56 runs while the other

opening seamer, Imtiaz

Khokon, captured Abahani's

non-striking opener Imran Hamid Partha (6) for 56 runs.

score an undaunted Eskaton

Sabuj Sangha scored 260 for

(46 off 67 balls) and Marwar

Hossain (56 off 107 balls)

made a steady start for the

first wicket contributing 87

tween the wickets was a ma-

for reason behind their de-

feat against co-holders Aba-

hani that also cast into dust-

bin an otherwise glorious in-

nings from Pakistani middle

order Sayeed Ali (72 from 53

proved their shortcomings as

Parvez was run out in the

The Eskaton openers'

But their poor running be-

runs in 22 overs.

balls)

6 in their allotted 50 overs.

Chasing Abahant's huge

Openers Parvez Ahmed

bowler, seamer Habib, also

dismissed the other cen-

turian (Liton) in similar fash-

ABAHANI: 284 for four in Durjoy, who hit his only 50 overs (Liton 106, Durjoy ton last season against the 102; Habib 2/56) same outfit, scored 50 off 52 ESKATON: 260 for six in 50 overs (Sayeed Ali 72, balls and the remaining 52 runs from only 26 balls before he was caught behind by wicketkeeper Jasim in the 49th over off Zeesan Habib. Marwar 56, Parvez 46).

AGRANI BANK: 222 for eight in 50 overs (Azam 56, shtiaq 50, Nahid 30 Sahwar 3/53) BROTHERS: 225 for seven

in 49.3 overs (Rashed Hanif 49. Abeed Hanif 39, Igbal 35 not out; Dipu Roy 3/30)

Harunur Rashid Liton and Naimur Rahman Durjoy cracked centuries enabling Abahani Krira Chakra to

record a 24-run victory over Eskaton Sabuj Sangha in the Premier league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday, reports

National all-rounder Durjoy (102) completed his ton off 75 balls, one of the fastest in the league, that included eight fours and four sixers while opener Liton's well-deserved 106 came from 141 balls with nine fours allowing Abahani to post an imposing total of 284 for four in 50

Both the out-of-form batsmen cashed in on poor fielding especially Durjoy who

DURJOY 102

COLOMBO, Jan

1: Controversial

off-spinner Mu-

ttiah Murali-

tharan has been

included in Sri

Lanka's prelim

mary squad for next month's

World Cup cricket tourna-

ment, officials said on Mon-

Arjuna Rantunga, features 15

of the 18 players currently

touring Australia, including

Muralitharan who was no-

balled seven times for throw-

ing by umpire Darrell Hair on

ond Test in Melbourne last

urged by the International

Cricket Council (ICC) to

change his unorthodox ac-

tion, which he said was the

result of a natural condition

that prevented him from

announced on Monday are

uncapped Manjula Munas-

tralia have looked to Steve

and Mark Waugh, Ricky

Omitted from the squad

straightening his arm.

the opening day of the sec-

Muralitharan has been

The squad, led by veteran

day, reports Reuter.

Tuesday.

107 for two.



LITON.... 106

survived on at least three occasions, and shared 166 runs But a classical one-day from 23.5 overs. They joined burst from Sayeed Ali, the a after the departure of Anup robust Pakistani middle Kumar (24) with Abahani on order, along with wicketkeeper Jasim (13 off 17) and SL name WC probables

inghe, batsman Sanjeeva

Ranatunga and left-arm spin-

rounder Upul Chandana and

former Test players Marvan

Atapattu and Ruwan Kalpage.

dropped from the Australian

They are replaced by all-

Atapattu and Kalpage were

ner Javantha Silva.

Firoj Ahmed (not out 25 off 19 balls) had at one stage posed a threat to Abahani's

fourth consecutive victory. However, Abahani skipper Akram Khan heaved a sigh of relief when veteran Enamul Haq Moni finally got rid of aggressive Ali in his second ball of the 47th over. Ali was caught by Bappi at square leg fence with the Eskaton score on 239.

Ali hit three sixers over the long-on - one each off Mont and seamers Rahat and Rahul. The Pakistani completed his 50 in 43 balls in the 44th over off Rahat who conceded 17 runs in that

Durjoy and Moni captured two wickets each.

BU WIN

In the day's other match, Brothers Union secured a three-wicket victory over Agrani Bank at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Put to bat first. Agrani Bank made 222 for eight in 50 overs with Zubair Ishtiag (50) and Azam Iqbal (56) being the main contributors.

Other notable run-getters for the Bankers were: Nahid (30). Pakistani Nasir Ali Khan (23) and pacer Zakir Hasan

Opening seamers Sajal and lqbal captured who wickets each but Sanwar Hossain was the successful Brothers bowler claiming three for 53

reply. Brothers reached their target making 225 for seven in 49.3 overs.

Brothers all-rounder Igbal Hossain, who made 35 not out with four fours and a sixer, contributed a useful 31 runs off 30 balls along with the highest scorer, Pakistani Rashed Hanif (49, for the seventh wicket.

Igbal hoisted the Bankers' new-ball bowler Morshed Alam for his only sixer to seal the match. Opener Abeed Hanif, the

elder brother of Rashed. made 39, skipper Shovon 33 and Halim Shah 26 runs. Former national cap veteran Dipu Roy Chowdhury

bagged 3 for 30 runs. This was the third victory for youthful Brothers Union after their only defeat against Wari Club while the third defeat for Agrani Bank.

tour but have been recalled

following impressive perfor-

mances in domestic tourna-

bers of the Sri Lanka A team

which toured Sharjah in mid-

December for a one-day

series. Kalpage captained the

Sri Lanka are joint hosts

with India and Pakistan for

the World Cup, which runs

from February 14 to March

SQUAD

(captain), Aravinda de Silva,

Roshan Mahanama Sanath

Jayasuriya, Asanka Gurusinha,

Hashan Till keratne, Romesh

Kaluwirthana, Kumar, Dhar-

masena, Chaminda Vaas,

Promodya Wickramasinghe,

Muttiah Muralitharan, Eric

Upashantha, Ruwan Kalpage.

Chandrika Khathurusinghe,

Chamara Dunsunghe, Upul

Chandana, Ravindra Push-

pakumara, Marvan Atapattu.

Ranatunga

The pair were also mem-

ments recently.

Arjuna

team.

Windies' top scorer (93 not out) Carl Hooper (C) gets a helping hand from Australian all-rounder Shane Lee (R) while wicketkeeper Ian Healy looks on during yesterday's World Series Cup match at the Sydney Cricket Ground. West Indies lost by one wicket. - AFP/UNB photo

with Platt

LONDON, Jan 1: Devid Platt's form has become a major concern for manager Bruce Rioch as Arsenal struggle to emerge from a run of six games with just one victory, reports AFP.

After losing their unbeaten home record in a 3-1 Highbury mauling by Wimbledon on Saturday, Rioch decided the time was right for a clear-the-air dressing -room lock-in which last the best part of 90 minutes.

Rioch is almost certain to persevere with Platt, who was comfortably outshone in midfield by Wimbledon hardman Vinnie Jones on Saturday, despite trying to set the example as captain in place of illness-victim Tony Adams.

But the ability to burst into the opposition box which made his reputation and score goals still lies dormant.

Rioch said: "There were many aspects we discussed after the match and I got good feedback from the players. It was very positive and there was no need for raised voices, but I felt the time was right to have this discussion. "Too many of our players

and that was very disappointing. We were nailed on setpieces for two of the goals and that hurt us, too." Rioch rails at the mention of the word "stars," but admits: "We do look a bit thin

were not part of the game

when we didn't have the ball

when certain players are missing. "For spells this season we've been without lan Wright, Tony Adams, Steve Bould and David Platt and

struggled to adjust. "David scored twice in four games before he had to have a knee operation which took nine weeks out of his season, and he has had to recover from that.

"We bought him as a midfield player who could make runs into the box on the end of quality crosses and passes and it is fair to say we have not been doing that too well.

"But don't ask me if ! would drop star players. It is a silly question. What defines a star player at a club like Arsenal?"

Rangers' goal glut

GLASGOW, Jan 1: Gordon Durie scored four goals and led Rangers on a 7-0 spree against Hibernian which stretched their lead at the top of the Scottish Premier division to eight points on Saturday, réports Reuter.

Freezing weather forced the postponement of all other Scottish Premier Division matches, while just one game was played in Division One and one in Division Two.

In the lone First Division game, Dundee United were reduced to nine men but held Airdrieonians to a 2-2 draw. Gary McSwegan was dismissed in the seventh minute for an off-the-ball incident and Jamie McQuilken in the 62nd for dissent. England's Paul Gascoigne

scored a magnificent goal and orchestrated the Rangers victory over Hibernian, taking the club's unbeaten run to 16 Premier Division matches. Charlie Miller and Russian

world cup marksman Oleg Salenko added the other goals in Rangers' biggest win of the season. Gascoigne scored Rangers'

fourth 15 minutes from the end, beating Gordon Hunter 50 metres from goal and embarking on a mazy run before slotting his shot past goalkeeper Jim Leighton.

"We were beaten by a far better side," Hibernian manager Alex Miller said.

Rioch's plight Bevan bedevils Windies SYDNEY, Jan 1: to win because we were dead and buried at 38 for six but Australia

middle-ordet batsman Michael Bevan ham

mered a boundary off the last delivery of the match to send West Indies tumbling to their fourth consecutive defeat in the World Series cup on Monday, reports Reuter.

Bevan smashed the ball straight back over off-spinner Roger Harper's head to give Australia a thrilling onewicket victory at the Sydney Cricket Ground in a day-night match reduced by rain from 50 to 43 overs.

Batting at number six. Bevan was unbeaten on 78, his highest score in a limitedovers international, as Australia made 173 for nine in reply to West Indies 172 for

Australia, who lead the triangular tournament with a maximum eight points from four games, appeared destined for a heavy defeat after crashing to 38 for six in the 16th over. whilen, ...

Bevan, who has yet to be dismissed in four World Series innings, struck six boundaries as he made his runs off 89 balls to eclipse his previous highest score of 53 not out against Pakistan in Lahore in 1994. After hitting the winning

runs, the New South Wales player raised his bat in triumph to the cheering, nearcapacity 37,000 crowd at his home ground. Bevan shared a vital

eighth-wicket partnership of 83 with pace bowler Paul Reiffel to lead Australia out of trouble and within sight of victory. Reiffel, who also captured

four for 29, contributed 34 before falling in the penultimate over. West Indies were earlier

rescued from 54 for five by a brilliant, unbeaten 93 in 99 balls from Carl Hooper. "It was a bit nerve-

wracking at the end," Bevan told reporters. "We had needed a boundary for a while but the opportunity did not present itself until the last ball." With his score 14, Bevan

sial incident when he refused to walk after Harper appealed for a return catch. "It occurred to me

was involved in a controver-

straight away that it was not out, so I was not going to walk," said Bevan. The crowd jeered loudly

when a television replay on the SCG's large screen seemed to show the ball touched the ground before Harper grasped it at the second attempt.

1 Eavesdrop- silhouette DOWN

ACROSS

comic stri

37 Attacks

39 Diamond

enous

brother

42 Padre's

41 Nitrog-

Warne "We did not really deserve

thanks to Michael, we got home." said Australia captain Mark Taylor. In the pulsating climax,

fast bowler Glenn McGrath

scampered a quick single to

give Bevan the strike for the

final two deliveries. Bevan failed to score off the first of these balls before charging down the pitch to smash the last delivery to the boundary.

The match was reduced to 43 overs a side after 104 minutes were lost because of rain during West Indies innings.

West Indies, who have now won only one of their 10 tour matches since arriving in Australia early last month, were fined 10 per cent of their match fee for a slow

over rate. Sri Lanka, the third team in the competition, are in second place in the standings with two points from two games.

Series Cup one-day interna-

BEVAN ... m-o-m

tional between Australia and

West Indies here Monday.

(Rain reduced match to 43-

overs a side):

Hooper not out

Harper run out

Gibson b McGrath

Ambrose b Warne

Walsh not out

47 Author

48 Fatigue

53 Foolish

McGrath

WEST INDIES

Williams c Healy b Reiffel

Simmons c Warne b Reiffel

Adams c M Waugh b Warne

Browne c Warne b Reiffel

Extras: (lb-6, w-7, nb-2)

Total: (for 9 wkts, 43 overs)

5-54; 6-135; 7-150; 8-164; 9-168.

Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-21: 3-28: 4-54:

Chanderpaul c Taylor b Reiffel

Campbell lbw b Warne

West Indies SCOREBOARD Scorecard of the World

A chilly New Year's Day

Slater c Simmons b Ambrose

M Waugh c Harper b Gibson

Reiffel c Hooper b Simmons

Fall of wickets: 1-4; 2-15; 3-15; 4-32;

Australia won by one

STANDINGS

Series one-day cricket series

after Monday's match

(tabulate under games played,

won, lost, no result and

Standings in the World

Man-of-the-match:

Law c Browne b Ambrose

Lee c Browne b Gibson

Extras: (lb-2, w-3, nb-4)

Total (9 wkts, 43 overs)

Ponting b Ambrose

Bevan not out

Healy b Harper

McGrath not out

Walsh

Gibson

Harper

wicket.

points):

Australia

Sri Lanka

Michael Bevan.

LONDON, Jan 1: Freezing weather, which decimated the English and Scottish soccer programmes on Saturday, has forced a number of postponements of today's games, reports Reuter.

Ten English First Division games on the New Year's Day programme were called off on Sunday and only three matches in Scotland have a chance of going ahead.

Frozen pitches claimed most of the casualties but burst pipes forced postponement of Partick Thistle's Scottish Premier Division

game against Falkirk. The pitch was playable but other areas of the ground were flooded as pipes burst as a result of a thaw in the

weather. The pitch is fine but the rest of the ground is totally flooded," a Partick Thistle spokesman said. "We've contacted the Scottish league secretary Peter Donald and he has given us permission to

put the game off." The only Scottish Premier Division game due to go ahead is the Edinburgh derby between Hibernian and Hearts, thanks to the undersoil heating at Easter Road. All First Division games are

In the Second Division there will be an inspection at 1100 today to decide if the match between Ayr and Stranraer can be played but the three other scheduled games have been called off.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ping device short 12 immigrant's 21 Unspoken study to make (abbr.) 39-Across 50 Deposit 13 '- ben 3 "My Pray- 22 Vicinity 51 "I cannot er singers 23 Boxer Adhem^a 14 Deucy preceder as bacon and down 15 Talks and 29 Breaks into 5 Log cabin smithereens 17 Streetcar the Haus 18 Rose-6 Work in the 31 Night light 57 Roughly 58 Kanga's anne's ex 59 Chop 7 Lazy lady? 19 Rags tance 21 Subordi-8 Pancake 35 Paddock makeup? parent 9 Land unit 38 Divide the 24 Born 25 Wrath 10.Approach honors 28 Burning 32 Micro-

CRNFO wu

30

Today's Cryptoquip clue: P equals M

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it

CRYPTOQUIF

REF AIW!"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I SUGGEST THAT MIN-ING GOLD AND PLATINUM IS AN EITHER/ORE PROPOSITION.

will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Jones gets sellectors' nod SYDNEY, Jan 1: Ponting, Stuart Law, and Australia sum- Michael Bevan to fill the moned veteran order after openers Taylor batsman Dean and Michael Slater. Jones from the The four players who miss international crout on final selection for the icketing wilde-14-man squad can be called

rness today by naming him in a preliminary 18-man squad for next month's World Cup. reports Reuter. But the Victoria state cap-

tain and top order batsman's return to the one-day fold might be brief as Mark Taylor's side prepares for the tournament in Sri Lanka, Africa in 1994. Pakistan and India during February and March. Australia's selectors will

name a final squad of 14 players on January 22 and Jones, 34, will face a tough overlooked by selectors. battle to oust one of the All-rounder Greg Blewett, established batsmen. who lost his place in both In the current world Australia's Test and limited Series tournament against Sri overs side last month after a Lanka and West Indies, Aus-

up in the event of injury to Warne. another squad member be-

fore the start of the World Jones, widely regarded in his prime as the world's best one-day batsman in the world, last played for Australia on the tour to South

MURALITHARAN

tour and announced his retirement from international cricket, a decision he later reversed. He has since been

Jones had a disappointing

poor Test series against Pak-

Veteran off-spinner Tim

istan, also earned a recall.

May, another former Test and limited overs international overlooked by Australia this season in both forms of cricket, was named as a second specialist spinner alongside leg-spinner Shane

But there was no place for Test number three David Boon, who was dropped for the opening round of matches in the current World Series tournament featuring hosts Australia, West Indies and Sri Lanka.

Boon is the only Test regular to be missing from the limited overs squad.

SQUAD Mark Taylor (captain), Michael Slater, Mark Waugh, Steve Waugh, Dean Jones, Michael Bevan, Stuart Law, Ricky Ponting, Shane Lee, Greg Blewett, Ian Healy, Paul Reiffel, Craig McDermott, Michael Kasprowicz, Glenn McGrath, Damien Fleming. Shane Warne, Time May.



Dean of Faculty of Civil Engineering (BUET), Prof. Alamgir Mojibul Haque giving away prizes to the winners of the inter faculty volleyball competition at the BUET ground yesterday. — Star photo