

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

SPORTS TALK



Courtney Walsh (West Indies' ace fast bowler)

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-25

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Feb 9, 1996)

- 1. Chinaman is a term associated with Cricket, Squash, Table Tennis
- 2. The MCC cricket team currently touring Bangladesh is from England, Australia, New Zealand
- 3. The SAF Games hockey champions are Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka
- 4. The Australian Open tennis women's competition was won by Graf, Seles, Pierce
- 5. Ziauddin Shown is the captain of Mohammedans, Brothers, Alabam

Name: Roll No: School Address: Phone: (if any)

ITF school mini-tennis opens

Bangladesh Tennis Federation in cooperation with the International Tennis Federation yesterday launched a school mini-tennis programme in Scholastica School, a scaled down version of tennis for schools worldwide, reports UNB.

State Minister for Sports and Youth Sadek Hossain introduced the programme for the first time in Asia, at Scholastica School.

The function was attended, among others, by the Bangladesh Tennis Federation president A M Zahuruddin Khan, vice president and general secretary of the Bangladesh Tennis Federation, and officials of the National Sports Council and representatives of the International Tennis Federation.

With the introduction of mini-tennis, Scholastica is committed to promoting and developing tennis in Bangladesh.

On the occasion, the founder and chairperson of the management board of the school announced the introduction of a full scholarship for promising tennis players to encourage young people to participate in the game.

Incontrad v'ball results

Holders Khulna DSA registered their second consecutive victory in the Incontrad inter-district men's volleyball tournament beating Patuakhali DSA by 15-6, 15-0, 15-1 at the Dhaka Volleyball court yesterday, reports UNB.

In the day's other matches, Dhaka DSA beat Comilla 15-4, 15-4, 15-11; Tangail DSA defeated Satkhira 15-9, 15-5, 15-3; Rangpur DSA overpowered Rajshahi 15-3, 15-5, 15-6.

In the women's group, Tangail DSA outplayed Dhaka DSA 15-13, 15-0, 15-1 last afternoon at the same venue.

Nat'l U-21 snooker from Feb 8

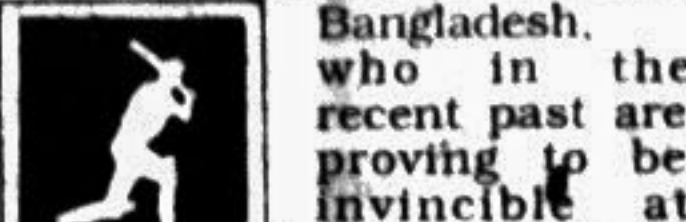
The first national junior (under-21) snooker championship begins at the Gulshan Club here on Thursday (February 8), reports UNB.

The first ever tournament, sponsored by IFAD Autos, will be known as Ashoke Leyland national junior championship. A programme to introduce the players will be held at the Gulshan Club premises on Wednesday at 5:00 pm.

Bangladesh 'A' humble MCC

BRIEF SCORES

MCC: 158 in 48.2 overs (Potter 37, Capel 31, Salisbury 24 n.o., Manna 3/19) BANGLADESH A: 159/3 in 31.5 overs (Faruque 56 n.o., Rupom 30, Hasanuzzaman 27)



Bangladesh, who in the recent past are proving to be invincible at home, firmly planted yet another milestone in the annals of local cricket when the shadow national team inflicted the visiting Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) their maiden defeat in an exhibition limited-over match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Although there were only a few at the almost barren big bowl to witness the resounding seven-wicket win of Bangladesh A against MCC, who have not lost a single match in their previous three visits, the success of Faruque and his boys once again proved that cricket in the country has come a long way putting behind the blues of chronic defeats of the seventies and the eighties.

For a cynic, the ready-made quip after the emphatic win may be that the MCC are a relatively weaker side this time. But, the manager of the visiting side John A Jameson, who had earlier toured Bangladesh twice, put a stop to such nuances.

"This is not a weaker side. I think the present side is as good as the previous ones," said a visibly dejected Jameson to the local press in his post-match reaction.

"With two world standard players and a host of good youngsters in the side, it's a very tough opponent for any team. But in a new environment and on an artificial turf, things were not inspiring for us," added Jameson who is also the assistant cricket secretary of MCC, the oldest cricket club in the world and the owner of Lord's.

"But I must blame our batsmen for their pathetic show and for the debacle," opined Jameson who was not ready to use the unaccustomed turf as an excuse.

"I believe things will be different in the next match," said the MCC manager who is expected to make some changes in the line-up when his team play the second exhibition against Bangladesh Youth at Sylhet tomorrow.

However, in the day's match, MCC, sent into bat in the morning, were skittled out for a paltry 158 in the face of some devastating spells from the Bangladesh pace trio of Anisur Rahman, Nazimuddin Manna and Mizanur Rahman Babul who shared seven wickets among them.

Manna, the tall young right-arm seamer who made his maiden international appearance, rightaway proved his worth with the cherry finishing with fantastic figures of 8-0-19-3. His prized scalps included opener Gay-

wood (9), one-down Nicholas P. Tubbs (1) and Williams (10), the only coloured in the all-white MCC team.

Anisur Rahman, the national left-arm seamer, who muffed the MCC tail finished with two for 21 in his 9.2 overs while Mizanur Rahman, a member of the Bangladesh team in the famous ICC venture in Kenya, took two for 25 in his ten economic overs.

On the other hand, the MCC willow-wielders, specially the top and middle orders, lacked motivation against some accurate bowling and fell like nine pins while playing some reckless shots to herald their own doom.

The MCC innings which went off to a disastrous start (52 for four) never showed any signs of recovery at any time with wickets falling at regular intervals.

Only David J. Chapel (31), the former English Test all-rounder, and Laurie Potter

little over three runs per over, made no nonsense of a serious business with openers Shariar Hossain Bidyut (21) and Ziaur Rashid Rupom (30) providing a flying start sharing 55 runs.

But, it was skipper Faruque Ahmed, the toast of local batting, who stole the show with a swashbuckling unbeaten 56 off 55 deliveries punctuated by seven sparkling hits to the fence and a massive sixer over midwicket long-on off leg-spinner Salisbury. The polished batting of the former national skipper earned him the man-of-the-match award worth Taka 2000.

Faruque apart, Hasanuzzaman, who celebrated his maiden call to the national selection with a well-made 27, was the other notable batsman in a surprisingly one-sided affair.

"It is too early to say that the opponent is not up to their mark," said the Bangladesh team manager Gazi Ashraf



Faruq in full cry — is a national team call imminent? — Star photo

(37), the right-hand bat with the unique distinction of captaining both the Australian and England youth sides, offered mild and momentary resistance.

To his credit, tail-ender Ian Salisbury, the English Test discard played an obdurate innings to guide his side to some respectability with an unbeaten 24 off 32 deliveries.

Hossain Lipu after the astounding but deserving victory.

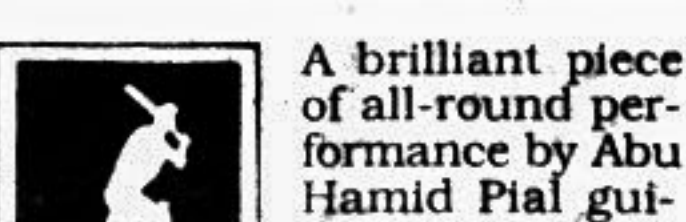
"It's true that they failed to stretch us to our full potentials, but at the same time I will not comment on the opponent's strength right now," added Gazi Ashraf, a former national skipper.

"A win is always a win and against a team which has never lost a match to us, it is indeed a creditable one," rounded off the Bangladesh manager.

Pial's wonderful double

BRIEF SCORES

DHAKA WANDERERS: 198 in 48.4 overs (Nayan 83, Abbas 48, Bank 7/40) AGRANI BANK: 201 for five in 48.1 overs (Nasir Ali 62 n.o., Kamrul 46 n.o., Pial 41, Mintu 4/29)



A brilliant piece of all-round performance by Abu Hamid Pial guided promotees Agrani Bank Sport Club to their fourth victory in the Premier Division cricket league when they handed Dhaka Wanderers Club a five-wicket defeat at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Pial, a talented cricketer who opens both batting and bowling for his side, earned a rare distinction in the morning when he grabbed

Sports Reporter

opener Kiron (6) with the fourth ball of the over.

After Dipu's made the vital dismissal, Pial took charge of the Bank attack which began in his second over with the wicket of Rashid Momin (4).

Pial then dismissed Azim Ahmed (10) and Asif Iqbal (7) in his fifth over to leave Wanderers in deep trouble with the scoreboard on 28 for four in 9.4 overs.

After the initial set back, Wanderers tried to rehabilitate their innings with Syed Monirul Haque, their most dependable batsman, and Nayan who kept their board moving and crossed 50 without any further mishap.

But the bright path did not last long as Monirul was bowled by Bank pacer Zakir in the 22nd over after scoring only 17 runs. Wanderers were heading for a poor total when they lost their sixth batsman, Tutul (0), on 75 in the 25th over.

But, an epic 97-run seventh wicket partnership between Nayan and his skipper Sagir Abbas turned the tide.

They faced only 115 balls for their valuable contribution before Abbas became the fourth victim of Pial in the 45th over. Abbas scored 48 runs off 56 deliveries inclusive of three boundaries.

After losing Abbas, Wanderers could add a further 26 runs to their account before Pial grabbed the remaining three wickets in three successive overs.

Sports Reporter

Opener Pial's 41 was the second highest score for Bank which came off 79 balls.

With yesterday's win, Bankers completed their first phase with eight points from eleven matches while Wanderers have six points from as many outings.

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Yamaha Div 1 cricket

Sports Reporter/ Lalmatia Club defeated Bangladesh Railway by seven wickets in their Yamaha First Division cricket league encounter at the City Club ground yesterday.

BRIEF SCORES

BANGLADESH RAILWAY: 109 in 43.4 overs (Tareq 32, Bablu 3/17) LALMATIA CLUB: 112 for three in 26.5 overs (Raza 39, Nadeem 38 n.o)

Div II soccer

Sports Reporter/ Leaders Mirpur Chalanika Sangsad recorded their seventh victory in the ongoing Sonali Bank Second Division football league with a solitary goal win over rivals Little Friends Club at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Striker Khokon scored the all important match-winning 30 minutes into the first half.

With the victory, Chalanika remained unbeaten and atop the standings with 26 points from 12 matches. On the other hand, this was the first defeat for Little Friends in 12 matches which kept them on 21 points.

In another encounter Juva Janata beat Lalbagh Sporting Club 2-0.

Jurain's Ripon netted the first goal in the 47th minute while Younus Ali doubled the margin in the 63rd minute.

The win raised Jurain's tally to 18 points from 12 matches while Lalbagh remained at the bottom of the standings with only two points from as many matches.

The day's last engagement between Lalmatia Club and Rayer Bazar Sporting Club ended in a 1-1 draw.

Lalmatia's Moteab and Rayer Bazar's Babar Ali scored one goal apiece for their respective sides.

Parma's plan tumbled

PARMA, Italy, Feb 5: The planned 10.1 million dollars transfer of Parma's Colombian World Cup striker Faustino Asprilla to English league leaders Newcastle United appeared to have fallen through on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Parma chairman Giorgio Pedraneschi said a halt was called on Sunday morning when officials of the two clubs met in Milan.

"Newcastle continue to maintain that there are problems with Asprilla's knee and so they want a big cut in the price. We have medical reports which tell us the opposite and as a result it was not possible to reach any sort of agreement."

He said Parma, who moved up to join second in Italy's Serie A on Sunday after a 1-0 win over Sampdoria, were now considering whether to seek arbitration from world soccer body FIFA.

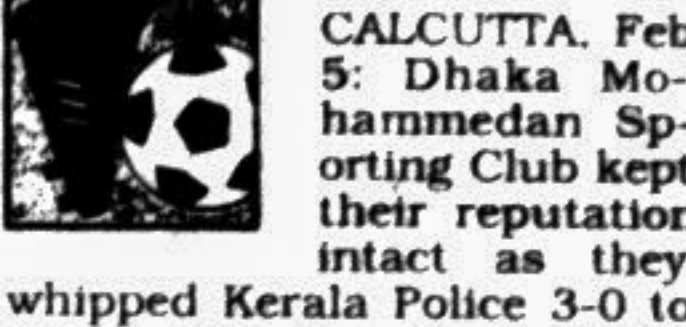
Sorry Athar, you've 420

Sports Reporter

In yesterday's Premier League Statistics printed in this page, Biman and national allrounder Athar Ali Khan's batting aggregate was mistakenly printed as 380. His actual aggregate is 420. The inadvertent mistake is regretted. The tall opener is the only local batsman to cross the 400-run mark. His average will now read 60.00

Sorry, Athar!

MSC blaze into IFA final



CALCUTTA, Feb 5: Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club kept their reputation intact as they whipped Kerala Police 3-0 to storm into the final of the Lifeboy IFA Shield football tournament at the SALT Lake Stadium here today, reports PTI.

more goals and send the Kerala Police packing.

While substitute Maksudul Amin Rana capped a combined move to fetch the second goal in the 50th minute, Naqib provided the finishing touches to the rout with a brilliant goal just three minutes before the long whistle.

The third goal was the result of a fast counter attack which saw Masud Rana break through the defence from the left flank and centre to an unmarked Naqib inside the box who placed the ball into the goal. None of the defenders were in position to foil the move.

The Dhaka outfit could have won by a bigger margin had their forwards not muffed a few scoring chances that came their way, particularly in fast-paced second session.

Both the teams were far from impressive in the dreary opening half which saw very few goal-bound moves. Both the teams struggled to find their bearings and the occasional raids never really looked dangerous.

Kerala Police, who played reasonably well in their Group-B quarterfinal league matches at Bolpur, were strangely subdued today, allowing the Dhaka outfit to dictate terms for most part of the proceedings.

Traditional rivals East Bengal and Mohun Bagan will lock horns in the second semifinal tomorrow. The final is slated for February 8.

Div III soccer

Sports Reporter

Both the matches of the Progoti Insurance Third Division football league ended in drowsy draws at the Rajuk ground yesterday.

In the first match, Kawran Bazar Progoti Sangha and Purbachal Parishad shared points in a 2-2 draw while the other encounter between Matuail Juba Sangha and Dipali Juba Sangha was tied 1-1.

For Kawran Bazar Habib and Jahangir scored one goal each while Robin and Hafiz scored for Purbachal.

On the other hand Kamaluddin of Matuail and Dipali's Ashraf scored for their respective teams in the next match.

Chappell censures ICC



NEW DELHI, Feb 5: Former Australian captain Ian Chappell wants cricket's rulers to display "much-needed leadership" in tackling the crisis caused by Australia's World Cup boycott of Sri Lanka, reports agencies.

matches are to be played in Sri Lanka, or those games have been rescheduled and will be played elsewhere," Chappell wrote.

Chappell, who will be a television commentator at the World Cup, said the bomb blasts in Colombo last week which killed 80 people and injured 1,400, could not have come at a worst time.

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In an article written a day before Australia formally announced its decision not to play in Colombo because of security fears, the out-spoken ex-Test star took a swipe at the International Cricket Council, the game's governing body.

"This is a chance for cricket's administrators to recover some of the credibility that has been lost in recent years through inept decision-making," Chappell wrote in the Indian Express today.

"I hope they take the opportunity to display some much-needed leadership and avoid cricket suffering yet another ignominy with a forfeited international match," he wrote.

Chappell said Australia's decision to stay away from Colombo could "bring in poor light a few years on, especially if terms such as Zimbabwe and Kenya agree to play in Sri Lanka and don't experience any trouble."

"The ICC has to come out and say that either all four

pressure the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) into boycotting their opening series game in Colombo.

Taylor was speaking soon after the ACB announced in Melbourne that Australia would not be playing their World Cup match in Sri Lanka on February 17 and had asked the Cup's organising committee for another venue to stage it.

Taylor said he had last spoken with the ACB through its chief executive Graham Halbish last Thursday and there was no lobbying of the ACB by the players for each its decision Monday.

"There was no pressure on the ACB from the players," Taylor said here at a press conference. "The board has made an unanimous decision which took things out of the players' hands."

In Colombo, Sri Lankan cricketers expressed disappointment at the Australian decision to keep away from the opening match in Colombo.

"We don't want to earn points without playing the match," Sri Lanka's vice captain Aravinda de Silva told AFP. "We would very much like the Australians to come. But there is nothing we can do about it."

Sri Lanka's manager Dulip Mendis said he was yet to be officially informed of the Australia decision.

He said his team would begin practices on Tuesday to prepare for the series.

Leaders keep the lead



PARIS, Feb 5: AC Milan and Atletico Madrid extended their respective leads in the Italian and Spanish league championships this weekend while in France there were exits for several First Division clubs in the cup competition, reports AFP.

Signori scored a hat-trick — Lazio's second in two matches.

Protti raised his total to 16 for the season, two ahead of Batistuta.

Atletico Madrid's lead at the top of the Spanish First Division increased to 11 points as the two Barcelona clubs could only draw while Atletico won 2-1 at Sporting Gijon on Saturday. Barcelona had to come from behind to draw 1-1 away to Rayo Vallecano, the team whose defeat of Real Madrid a fortnight ago ended Jorge Valdano's reign at the champions.

Espanyol, meanwhile, were held to a scoreless draw at home to Real Sociedad.

Real Madrid continued their revival with a 4-0 thrashing of Betis, teenage sensation Raul scoring his fourth goal in three matches.

Seven top-flight clubs crashed out of the French Cup on Saturday, six of them victims to shock second round giant-killings.

Metz, third in the league, headed the list of major names making an early exit, losing at home to Second Division leaders Caen 1-0.

French champions Nantes also failed to reach the last

16 but they had the excuse of losing to equally-ranked rivals Monaco in a penalty shoot-out.

Meanwhile Paris Saint Germain, the cup holders, saw off Second Division Angers 2-0 at home but at a price, international midfielder Vincent Querin breaking his left collar bone. He is expected to be out for six weeks.

The other First Division clubs to go out were Cannes, defeated 1-0 at home by Sochaux, and Nice, ousted by visiting Laval by the same margin.

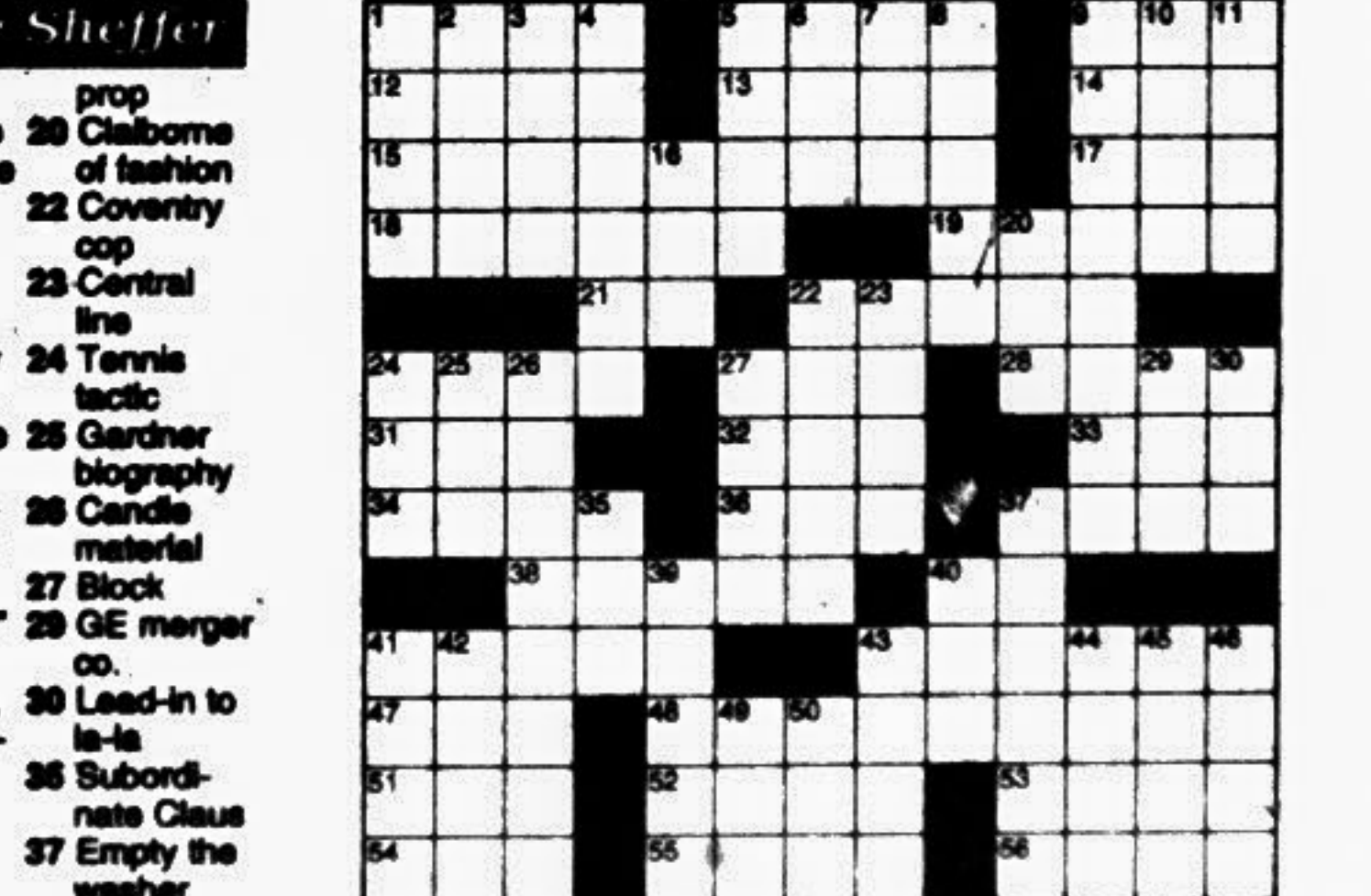
But the real shocks were handed out to Saint Etienne, Bordeaux, who sacked their Yugoslavian coach Slavo Muslin, and Martigues, who all lost away to Third Division sides.

In England striker Gavin Peacock hit a hat-trick as Chelsea, inspired by Dutch ace Ruud Gullit, crushed Middlesbrough 5-0 in the English Premier league on Sunday.

The victory lifted the London club, now unbeaten in eight games in all competitions and only once in their last 15, to eighth in the league table.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Shaffer

- ACROSS: 1 Small colonies, 5 Binges, 9 Normal, 12 What vegetarians shun, 13 October, 14 "You Lonesome Tonight?", 15 It's good to the last drop, 17 Tease, 18 Catchphrase, 19 Public square, 21 Dorothy's aunt, 22 Was-and-technique, 24 Track, 27 Longtime, 28 "The Rose" author, 31 Eventual, 32 Where, to Caesar, 33 The Name of the Rose, 34 Exposed, 36 Small shot
- DOWN: 1 Pumps up the volume, 2 "Hud", 3 Poi base, 4 Broadway structure, 5 One of the Fab Four, 6 Store-keeper on "The Simpsons", 7 Rascal, 8 FX book, "Why England?", 9 Budgie's cousin, 10 Neighbor of Calif., 11 Singer, 12 Philo, 13 Photo's, 14 Frodo, 15 1931 song, "Al", 16 Pedestal, 17 Enticement, 18 Initial, 19 Flight, 20 Component, 21 Trick taker, often, 22 Canine, 23 Forename



CRYPTOQUIP

CG DRX CW R QAJX

H LAU R HUVUHUWYU

KL RW RYKLG QUH

VLHXRWYU LH DCG AIWYD

Yesterday's Cryptogram: THIS POMPOUS HEAD CARPENTER PREFERS TO BE DUBBED CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD.

Today's Cryptogram clue: D equals H

The Cryptogram 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 vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

THE BAILS ARE OFF..... Bangladesh 'A' keeper Pilot wastes little time in stumping MCC's Giffon as non-striker Salisbury and bowler Rafique look on. — Star photo