

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

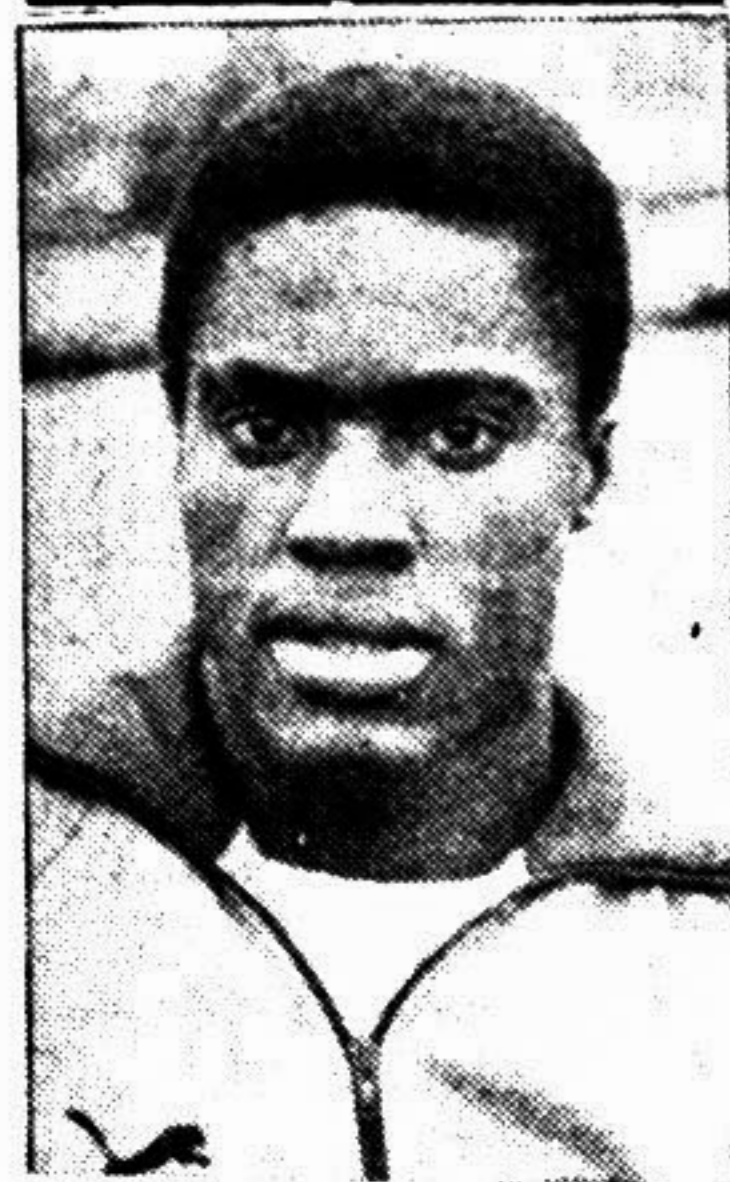
(The Professor does)

That the period 1900-1914 is regarded as the golden age for cricket. This was the time when new bowling techniques evolved...

So, what did the batsmen of the era do? Did they take the one doing the wrong way or the faster one coming in lying down? No. Sir! Despite improvements in bowling techniques over the years, the scoring rate of the era has never been bettered.

It's something like writing the best novels while in prison.

SPORTS TALK



Gus Logie

(Former West Indian batsman)

It is very difficult to say who is going to win but I certainly believe it is going to be a very competitive World Cup. I just say may the best team win.

His predictions for the cricket World Cup.

Sports

WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-26

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Feb 16, 1996)

- 1. Munich Olympics were held in 1970, 1972, 1974
2. The name of the first three cricket World Cups were
3. 1978 Soccer World Cup was won by Brazil, England, Argentina
4. The current national cricket manager is
5. 2000 Summer Olympics will be held in London, Beijing, Sydney

Name

Class Roll No

School Address

Phone: (if any)

Progoti Div III football

East End, Matuail post victories

Sports Reporter

East End Boys Club and Matuail Juba Sangha won their respective Progoti Insurance Third Division football league matches held at the Rajuk ground yesterday.

In the first match, East End recorded a solitary goal win over Prantik Kriya Chakra while Matuail beat Maghbazar Kisholoy next with the same margin.

Shah Alam and Tofazzal Hossain scored the goals for East End and Matuail respectively.

Tazelaar turns up heat

SYDNEY, Feb 10: Veteran Queensland seamer Dirk Tazelaar took four for 29 on Friday to help his team to a 12-run Sheffield Shield victory over New South Wales, reports Reuters.

New South Wales were bundled out for 160 on the third day after initially collapsing to 98 for eight in the face of fine bowling by Tazelaar and fellow paceman Michael Kasprovic.

Brad McNamara and Neil Maxwell raised NSW's hopes with a ninth wicket stand of 50 but Queensland regained the initiative when Maxwell was trapped leg before for 36.

Tazelaar finished with a match haul of nine for 71. Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia jointly share the Shield top spot with 20 points, ahead of Tasmania and Western Australia on 14.

In Hobart the match between Tasmania and South Australia was rained off for the second successive day.



Faruque is adjudged out leg before wicket off David Capel.

— Star photo

Bulbul baffles Brit bowlers

Bangladesh outclass MCC

By Al-Amin



The visiting Ma-ryebone Cricket Club (MCC), going through some changes in the line-up, continued to remain at the receiving end when the Bangladesh national team handed them a humiliating 85-run defeat in their back to back limited-over exhibition match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The visitors, who had earlier suffered a stinging seven-wicket defeat at the hands of the same outfit on Friday, had a new captain in the likes of former England Test cap David Capel but showed little signs of being a cohesive force against the motivated hosts.

Put into bat in the morning, Bangladesh piled up a mammoth total of 264 with Aminul Islam Bulbul hammering a blazing 93. They then went on to skittle out MCC for a paltry 179 to reassert their supremacy over the traditional English outfit in every aspect of the game.

Aminul Islam, who remained unconquered on 82 in the previous match against the same opponents, once again played in the sheet-anchor to commandeer Bangladesh to a huge total.

Having dealt with such pressure situations in many a match in domestic cricket, Bulbul, the dark and dapper middle-order bat who came in at number four with Bangladesh struggling at 58 for two in 17.4 over, began his onslaught from where he had left in the previous match to guide his side to 242 before he eventually fell seven runs short of what would have been a well deserved century.

The prolific right-handed bat, whose calm looks belie his ability to belt the ball around with unmistakable savagery, hammered seven fours and two towering sixes in his cavalier 86-ball innings before being carried away by the sudden rush of blood-caught by Gaywood while mistiming a smorter from MCC pacer Williams.

A dejected Bulbul, who was expecting a call for a 'no ball' from both the umpires, made his way back to the dressing room amidst standing ovation from the stands. By then Bangladesh were comfortably poised at 242 for four in 48.1 overs.

Although Bulbul was de-

prived of the magical three figure mark, his contribution was duly rewarded by the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) when they announced him the man-of-the-match for his magnificent effort with the willow.

After the departure of Bulbul, Minhazul Abedin Nannu, the country's most experienced batsman, and unorthodox Mohammad Rafique clobbered 24 runs from the last ten deliveries of the innings to ensure Bangladesh crossed the 250-mark. Nannu remained unbeaten on 34 off 38 balls while Rafique, who in the recent past has earned the reputation of being dangerous during the slog overs, wielded his willow for 15 runs off only seven deliveries.

Earlier, Athar Ali Khan, the tall national opener, came out of his shell with a brilliant half century enabling his side to post a solid start. He scored a polished 52 off 75 balls embellished with half a dozen sweetly timed hits to the fence.

In reply, MCC, facing a daunting task of scoring more than five runs per over, found the going tough in the face of some controlled bowling from Bangladesh's 'S-trio' of Sajal, Shanto and Saiful.

Sajal Chowdhury, the young right-arm seamer who was particularly hostile with the cherry, struck in the very third over when he sent back MCC opener Gaywood for a duck.

Sajal's new-ball partner Hasibul Hossain Shanto then unsettled the opponents in-nings when he trapped Batty (16) in front of the wicket leaving MCC tottering at 36 for two in 9.1 overs.

Things turned grave when Sajal clean bowled middle-order bat Morgan (2) in the 11th over and Saiful Islam, the first change, removed dangerous Greenfield (21) reducing MCC to 51/4 in 14.3 overs. The visitors never recovered.

Sajal, who celebrated his re-call to the national team with a telling analysis of 8.2-0-35.3, fittingly wrapped up the MCC innings by removing last man Mackay while Saiful, a seasoned right-arm seamer who virtually pinned down the opponent batsmen, finished with two for 20 in his seven economic overs.

For MCC, skipper David Capel with a captains knock of an unbeaten 73 off 81 balls punctuated with seven fours

and two sixes fought a lone battle while contributions in the other end was at a premium.

Capel, who stepped into the shoes of drop-out Alan Fordham in the days match, however, showed signs of some resilience in an otherwise mundane affair when he shared 47 runs for the sixth wicket with hard-hitting Williams.

But once slow left-arm Mohammed Rafique sneaked in with two wickets in successive deliveries in the 31st over, it turned out to be a forgone conclusion in favour of Bangladesh.

SCOREBOARD

Table with columns: BANGLADESH, Athar st Metson b Hollins 52, Bityut lbw b Mackay 9, Faruque lbw b Capel 15, Bulbul c Gaywood b Williams 93, Akram c Salsbury b Greenfield 26, Nannu not out 34, Rafique not out 15, Extras: (b-4, lb-13, wb-3) 20, Total: (50 overs, for five wickets) 261, Did not bat: Pilot, Saiful, Shanto and Sajal, Fall of wickets: 1-18: 2-58, 3-111: 4-167: 5-242, Bowling: Williams 10 0 52 1, Mackay 9 1 40 1, Gaywood 6 0 24 0, Capel 10 1 31 1, Hollins 5 0 30 1, Salsbury 5 0 32 0, Greenfield 5 0 38 1

MCC: Gaywood lbw b Sajal 0, Batty lbw b Shanto 16, Greenfield b Saiful 21, Morgan b Sajal 2, Capel not out 73, Salsbury c Pilot b Saiful 9, Williams c Faruque b Rafique 17, Tubbs b Rafique 15, Metson run out 2, Hollins run out 2, Mackay b Sajal 9, Extras: (b-1, lb-11, wb-10) 22, Total: (42.2 overs, all out) 179, Fall of wickets: 1-12: 2-36, 3-43: 4-51: 5-69: 6-116: 7-116: 8-158: 9-173: 10-179, Bowling: Sajal 8.2 0 35 3, Shanto 9 1 30 1, Athar 7 0 18 0, Saiful 7 0 20 2, Nannu 2 0 16 0, Rafique 5 1 29 2, Bulbul 4 0 19 0, Result: Bangladesh won by 85 runs, Man-of-the-match: Aminul Islam Bulbul, Next match: February 12 in Rajshahi.

BCCB names Jr Eleven

Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) yesterday announced its 14-member BCCB Junior Eleven to play a one-day match against visiting MCC on Feb 16 at the Dhaka National Stadium, reports UNB.

Al Shahriar Rokon of Victoria SC named captain of the team.

The team: Al Shahriar Rokon, Sajid Hasan, Abul Hasan Nahid (Victoria SC), Jewel Hossain Mona, Nazimuddin Manna (Bangladesh Bitman), Ashfaq Ali Rahat (Abahani KC), Sanwar Hossain (Brothers Union), Mustadir Litu (Mohammedan SC), Ish-tiaq Ahmed, Zakir Hossain (Agrani Bank), Hasanuzzaman Hasan (Wari Club), Ahmed Babu (Gulshan Youth Club), Parvez Ahmed (Eskaton Sabuj Sangha), and S Islam Kiron (Wanderers Club).

The selected players are advised to report to Syed Altaf Hossain at the BCCB office today by 5 pm, said a press release.

Incontrad v'ball Khulna spikers dethroned

Sports Reporter

Rangpur and Rajshahi District Associations (DSA) emerged as new men's and women's champions in the incontrad inter-district volleyball tournament when they dethroned Khulna DSA, the defending champions of both groups, in the finals held yesterday afternoon at the volleyball court of Dhaka Stadium.

In an unchallenging men's final, Rangpur recorded a straight sets (15-12, 15-2 and 15-9) victory over Khulna while Rajshahi defeated Khulna in the eve's final 3-1 (15-12, 19-9, 12-15, 15-6).

Khustia DSA won the men's third slot beating Dinajpur DSA 3-1 while Rangpur Girls won the women's third place with a 3-1 win also over Dinajpur DSA. Yusuf A Harun, the MD of sponsoring company 'Incontrad' witnessed the finals as chief guest and distributed trophies among the winners later.

A total of nine male and eight female teams competed in the weeklong competition organised by the Bangladesh Volleyball Federation.

Acme Div II cricket Squeaky wins for Gandaria, Uttara

Sports Reporter

Gandaria Cricketers and Uttara Sporting Club won their respective Acme Second Division cricket super league matches on Saturday. Gandaria handed Nabin Sangha a one-wicket defeat at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium while Uttara recorded a two-wicket victory over DOHS at the Dhanmondi Club ground.

BRIEF SCORES

NABIN SANGHA: 139 in 32 overs (Pavel 28, Modhu 21, Apollo 20)
GANDARIA CRICKETERS: 140 for nine in 37.5 overs (Mamun 39, Mukul 27, Sentu 3/27)

DOHS: 128 in 35.5 overs (Ashraf 51, Sohul 24, Poltu 3/16, Raju 3/17)
UTTARA SC: 130 for eight in 30.4 overs (Shaifiq 38, Raju 32 no)

Barisal cricket

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Feb 10: BCC Club beat Bright Eleven by four wickets in a First Division encounter at the local stadium here today.

Batting first, Batting Eleven piled up 136 losing all crickets in the stipulated 43.3 overs. Hasim cracked the highest 36.

In reply BCC scored 140 for six wickets in 29.1 overs. Zakir was the top scorer with 33. Habib grabbed 3 wickets for 18 runs in his 9 spells.

According to BSA sources, there will be no matches till February 25.

Nat'l Jr Snooker

Syed M Sajjad of Dhaka Club reached the quarterfinal stage in the Ashok Leyland National Junior (U-21) snooker championship winning all the matches in Group A. Yasir M Farooque also from Dhaka Club qualified for quarterfinal winning all matches in Group B, says a press release. Amin Chowdhury of Gulshan Club is also in the race for quarterfinal along with Andrew Redgures in his group and both of them will be playing tomorrow for number one and two position in Group C.

Garry Baptist of Catholic Club has more or less confirmed his position in quarterfinal while his clubmate Jason Slagade must win his today's match with Akram of Gulshan Club to qualify for the quarterfinal in Group D. While the matches continue today at Gulshan Club billiards room, the quarterfinals are scheduled for Monday at 2 pm.

WC curtain-raising today



CALCUTTA, Feb 10: Cricket world's biggest-ever show is hours ahead and this sports-crazy east Indian city is all decked up for the opening of cricket's Olympics, reports AP.

On Saturday, streets were blocked, traffic piled up at most intersections and thousands of people lined the streets as a two-mile-long (three kilometers) string of floats passed through this city setting the mood for Sunday's opening of the 1996 World Cup.

People came out of their homes while other stopped their cars and crossed streets for a better look as a huge bat with thousands of signatures was carried on a truck, followed by another carrying the tournament's mascot, Googlee, a Humpty-Dumpty-type figure in cricket gear.

"It will be the greatest show in cricket history," said Jagmohan Dalmiya, the convener of the organizing committee comprising officials from India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the three host countries.

Closer to the Eden Garden Stadium in downtown Calcutta, officials were busy giving finishing touches to the arena where more than 100,000 spectators are expected.

The highlight of the two-hour show will be the former

Miss Universe, Sushmita Sen. For Weeks a controversy has raged over whether she will take off her clothes during the inaugural while handing out the colours of each team. Miss Sen denied she would do anything disgraceful that day, and organizers are silent about the details of the show.

The whole city, the people, the government, all chipped in to make this Calcutta's best show," Dalmiya told reporters Friday. Four acts, involving the use of laser beams will introduce the 1996 World Cup, its 12 participating teams and even describe how cricket is played even in back alleys. The modern is mixed with the traditional as the ceremony proceeds. On a 30-foot-high (10-metre-high) stage, school children present a ballet along with a number by Asha Bhonsale, India's top female playback singer.

The finale will be a fireworks display designed by Christophe Bernotho, the man who did a similar show at the closing ceremony of the Barcelona Olympic games.

The city of 12 million people has been waiting for weeks for the grand spectacle and for a glimpse of their favourite stars. They have watched quietly as police cleared hundreds of mud-and-thatch houses just behind the Eden Gardens Stadium, which sits alongside the Ganges River, and pushed out thousands of vendors who crowd the sidewalks selling everything from fruit to ball-point pens.

People have patiently taken diversions as workers resurfaced roads. Some people even offered to help municipal workers scrub clean the walls of 200-year-old British colonial mansions, stained by betel juice that passersby spit out.

The Holland team made a threat to protest against the organisers. The Zimbabwe manager, Babu Menen, however, preferred not to comment on the accommodation.



Rajbari - champions in the women's event of the Incontrad inter-district volleyball championship.

— Star photo

Taylor's men riding high



LONDON, Feb 10 (Reuters): Australia, initially the most reluctant of converts to one-day cricket, flew out of Sydney for the sixth World Cup on Friday acknowledged as the modern masters of the limited-overs game.

The present renaissance in both Test and one-day cricket in Australia stretches back to the 1987 Cup, also, staged on the Indian sub-continent, when Allan Border's team defeated England in the final.

The self-belief instilled in the Australian side as a result of that eventful day in Calcutta led to four consecutive series defeats over their oldest rivals and culminated last year in a historic win over the West Indies in the Caribbean.

Crucially, Australia now take the one-day game seriously, a far cry from their carefree attitude in the first global one-day competition 21 years ago.

Under Ian Chappell, one of the greatest Australian sides gave West Indies a mighty battle before losing a memorable final on a sun-drenched Lord's evening by 17 runs.

But for Chappell's men, one-day cricket was not part of their sporting culture, unlike England where the Sunday League was well entrenched.

All was to change during Kerry Packer's rebel World Series in 1977-78 when the Australian entrepreneur signed up the world's best players and introduced day-

night one-day matches and coloured clothing.

One-day cricket attracted huge crowds and delivered a perfect product for television, leading to the World Series Cup played annually in Australia after Packer made his peace with the establishment plus a profusion of other one-day tournaments throughout the world.

This year's World Series, in which Australia comprehensively defeated Sri Lanka, demonstrated in full the elements of fitness, technique and tactical acumen Mark Taylor's side will demonstrate over the next three weeks.

The Australians rarely make a mistake in the field and their running between the wickets is often breathtaking in its speed and daring, while their specialist bowlers know exactly which line to bowl to which batsmen.

There is also no room for sentiment. David Boon, one of their most consistent Test batsmen over the past 10 years, was axed from the one-day squad this season while opener Michael Slater was also unceremoniously dropped after a run of low scores.

The Australians, though, left for the tournament still not knowing the outcome of their request to shift their opening match from Colombo following last week's bomb blast, which will have inevitably affected their preparations.

None of the other 11 teams in the tournament, which opens with England playing New Zealand in Ahmadabad next Wednesday, possesses Australia's all-

round qualities. But luck plays a far larger part in one-day cricket than in the five-day version and any one of half a dozen sides have a realistic hope of lifting the Cup after the March 17 final in Lahore.

Home advantage will inevitably favour defending champions Pakistan, 1983 champions India and Sri Lanka.

Under the multi-talented Wasim Akram, 1992 champions, Pakistan have the talent to win the trophy again although their fielding is often shoddy and their batting liable to inexplicable collapses.

And both India and Sri Lanka possess match-winning batsmen headed by India's Sachin Tendulkar and Sri Lankan Aravinda de Silva.

Twice champions West Indies, who ruled the one-day game in the late 1970s, are riven by internal dissent which culminated in Brian Lara pulling out of this year's World Series squad and their mainstays bowlers Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh are both over 30.

South Africa possess the incentive and determination if not, perhaps, the all-round strength to complete a historic treble by adding the cricket one-day trophy to the Rugby World Cup and African Nations' Cup in soccer.

England, who have made the final three times but never won the Cup, have in-primis doubts over their premier strike bowler Dominic Cork and key middle-order batsman Robin Smith, and succumbed tamely in their recent one-day series against South Africa.



Imon - champion of the International Masters qualifying competition.

— Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 Hell, to 30 Kvetch 2 Family-reunion 14 Duel tool 15 Fat farm 4 Sherman piggy's route 4 Cistercian attendant field 18 Marco 7 Libertine 36 Hood release? 3 Lucille field 20 Wooden-shoe passenger 10 No longer missing emotions 4 Mercenary 5 Blazing profit 11 Muppet drummer 38 Stairway piece 6 Grant's is famous 22 Apprehend 13 1981 Peter Falk movie 39 Versatility 7 Audition reward 23 Mrs. Julia 8 Molesters 24 Colorful beetle 16 2.5 miles, DOWN: 1 The Man Who... 12 Furlough person 20 PBS science series 21 Intell panic 23 Make a copy of 25 Garbage barge 26 Fork choice? 27 2001... computer 28 Harmonic combine

Cryptogram puzzle with grid and clues. Clues include: W L Y K M U O U A M U D O C W B E T P U J O V P M O J V D V U C U D U I V I P P E K Y, Yesterday's Cryptogram: THE MIDDLE SCHOOL MY SON ATTENDS IS SIMPLY A LASSY PLACE. Today's Cryptogram clue: E equals F. 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.