DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

T HAT Bangladesh star batsman missed Nannu the flight to Rajshahi after he arrived twenty minutes at ZIA on Sunday and failed to accompany his team for their match tomorrow against the visiting MCC.

Nannu attributed the Chronic traffic jam of the city as the reason for being run

However. Nannu boarded a bus and will have travelled all night before reaching Rajshahi this morning, subject to Aricha ghat being free. Now, if he clicks today he

will say, "Despite the bus ride ...". And, if he fails, he will say, " Because of ...".

SPORTS TALK



Nelson Mandela

(South African President) "Sports has a role to play in uniting many countries of the world because it speaks a language and spreads ideals which reach circles beyond the reach of politicians".



Sports WHiZZ KID competition-26 Tick the Correct Answer

1970	1972	1974
		three cric
Prudential C	wills Cup Bene	son and Hedges
1978 soco	378 soccer World Cup was won by	
Brazil	England	Argentin
	The nam World C Prudential C 1978 socc	The name of the first World Cups were Prudential Cup Wills Cup Bens 1978 soccer World Cup

2000 Summer Olympics will be held in Beijing

Roquibul Hassan Tanveer Haider Gazi Ashraf Lipu

Class : Roll No : . . .

Name :......

Phone: (if any)

Progoti soccer

Nazrul power Dipali

Sports Reporter

Powered by a brilliant hattrick from Nazrul, Dipali Juba Sangha posted a thumping 3-0 win over Chalantika Sports Club in one of the four Progoti Insurance Third Division football league at the Rajuk ground adjacent to the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

After a barren first half, Nazrul struck in the 45th, 55th and 68th minute for a unique treble as Dipali romped home with a facile

victory. In the other billings of the day, Kawranbazaar and Moghbazaar KC recorded an identical 1-0 wins over Rahmatganj and Govt. Printing Press respectively while Fire Service and Civil Defence S & RC earned a hard-fought 2-1 win against Purbachal Parishad.

Socceroos trying to regroup

SYDNEY, Feb 11: Feisty striker Joe Spiteri will be in the Australian team, shaken by Saturday's 4-1 pummelling by Japan, in their return football international in Melbourne on Wednesday, reports AFP.

Spiteri missed the Wollongong thrashing with tonsillitis, but today was named in the team to seek redress against the top-ranked Asian

team. Australia had not conceded four goals at international level since 1980 when Czechoslovakia romped to 4-0 and 5-0 victories over the

Socceroos. "There will be three or four changes in the team and Spiteri and co-striker Warren Spink should be fit," said national coach Eddie Thomson

today. The bustling Spiteri is likely to replace John Markovski, who was unsuited to the fast pace of Saturday's game.



A display of calisthenics during the gala opening of the Wills World Cup cricket at the - Star TV photo Eden Gardens, Calcutta, on Feb 11. •

Dialogue ends in draw



CALCUTTA. Feb 11: The International Cricket Committee on Sunday failed to persuade the Australian and the West Indies cricket teams to play in Sri Lanka. and a cricket official said the differences have opened a 'Pandora's Box," report agencies.

"That will not be good for future World Cups," said Jagmohan Dalmia, an Indian organiser for the sixth cricket World Cup which will have its inauguration later in the day.

Australia and the West Indies will lose points for not playing their matches in Sri Lanka, effecting their campaign for the world cricket

The Australia and the West Indies cricket boards decided against sending teams to Sri Lanka due to the terrorist activities of the separatist Tamil Tigers. A suicide bomb attack on Jan. 31 in Colombo, the Sri Lankan capital, left at least 83 people dead and 1,400 others in-

The India-Pakistan-Lanka Organising Committee (PILCOM) announced the decision after two days of talks failed to resolve the crisis.

PILCOM said in a statement: "Several alternate suggestions and offers were made to the ACB (Australian Cricket Board) and WICBC (West Indies Cricket Board of Control), including India's offer to play their match against Kenya in Sri Lanka, provided Australia and West Indies agreed to play in Sri Lanka. But the ACB and WICBC were adamant.

"Sri Lanka will be awarded a "walk-over" against Australia and West Indies and two points will be awarded to Sri Lanka for each of these matches. "PILCOM would, however,

again request the cricket boards of Australia and West Indies to match the goodwill and solidarity shown by Zimbabwe and Kenya (who have agreed to play in Sri Lanka) by reconsidering their decision not to participate in the scheduled matches in Sri

Jagmohan Dalmiya, PIL-COM convenor-secretary. said: "We did not make just one but many gestures were made to the Australians and the West Indians. We were not told the reasons for seeking a shift in the venue. Nothing was explained. The PILCOM was not taken into their confidence.



J DALMIYA

"Still it is not too late. The matches can still take place on schedule. PILCOM is not convinced of the reason."

Australian Cricket Board (ACB) chairman Malcolm Gray confirmed the refusal to play in Sri Lanka by saying: Australia are concerned about the security situation in Sri Lanka. Therefore the match will not be played. Obviously we will not get the points. That is the end of the

Dalmiya, asked whether the cricket world had been split by the affair said: "Our (PILCOM) position is very clear. I am no one to comment on this. It is not my degood one for the next World A proposal to fly the Aus-

cision. The decision is not a

tralian and the West Indies teams to Sri Lanka on the day of their matches was turned down by the two dies, organ-

To show that they feared no security risk in Sri Lanka. a team of top players from India and Pakistan will play in exhibition match in Colombo on Feb 13, Dalmia

Sir Dlyde Walcott, chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) who were involved in the talks with representatives of the 12 teams, said: "I don't think the ICC is split on this.

"We had delegated author ity on the World Cup to PIL-COM. My role basically was to assist PILCOM. From the cricketing point of view. Sri Lanka is a country which has suffered. ICC's aim is to assist Sri Lanka.

"People do not understand what ICC is. The chairman or the chief executive do not comprise ICC. It is a back of all the cricket-playing nations. ICC was concerned by what was happening."

Clive Walcott said the world cricket body lacked powers to deal with such a situation.

"Yes, we need more teeth. said Walcott, a former top West Indies batsman. "The ICC needs a little more clout as time has come for the organisation to have more powers over the cricket boards to take decisions.

The month-long cricket tournament begins on Wednesday when England plays against New Zealand in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad.

India is hosting 17 matches and Pakistan 16, including the final at Lahore on March 17. Sri Lanka had been allotted four matches. but now only two matches will be played there by Kenya and Zimbabwe.

From Hasan Masood RAJSHAHI. Feb 11 Bangladesh will start off with only twelve players to choose from in their encounter against MCC tomorrow (Monday) thanks to star batsman Minhazul Abedin

Nánnu's sense of punctuality Nannu missed the flight for Rajshahi today to put his side in a difficult situation. The local side had been handicapped earlier when allrounder Enamul Huq Moni pulled out due to an injured

knee. The future of the game itself was put into question as heavy rain poured in this northern city throughout the day today, drenching the outfield and damaging the pitch substantially. There is little chance now that the match will be underway as scheduled in the morning.

Both teams were deprived of net sessions today due to the rain.

Bangladesh manager Gazi Ashraf Hossain Lipu expressed his concern about the condition of the wicket. He had not had a good look at it since his arrival with the team. The outfield, full of moisture, was also not to Lipu's liking.

Talking to this correspondent, the groundsman at Raishahi Stadium expressed his dissatisfaction about the weather, which is seriously disrupting his pitch-preparation. He said he will only get a good look Monday morning and will try his best to prepare a good wicket.

Radio Bangladesh, Raishahi will broadcast running commentary of the game.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) joint secretary Golam Fáruk Apu added, in Dhaka, that the flight for Rajshahi waited for Nannu for 10 minutes before taking off. After arriving late at the airport. Nannu boarded a bus for Rajshahi and was expected to reach there late Sunday night.

Acme cricket

Kakrail boys, Pegasus A win

Sports Reporter

Kakrail Boys and Young Pegasus A on their respective Acme Second Division relegation league matches held at different city venues yester-

At the Dhanmondi Club ground, Kakrail Boys, aided by a virtues allround performance from Saiful crushed Millbarrack CC by 67 runs.

Sent into bat, Kakrail rattled up a huge 221 for eight in the stipulated 40 overs with Saiful hammering a dazzling unbeaten 52 off only 42 balls embellished with six fours and a huge sixer.

In reply. Millbarrack were skittled out for a paltry 154 in the face of a devastating spell from Saiful, who finished with a fabulous analysis of 7.2-0-27-6.

BRIEF SCORES

KAKRAIL BOYS: 221 for 8 in 40 overs (Saiful 52 n.o. Tanveer 49, Nazib 4/43) MILLBARRACK CC: 154 in 34.2 overs (Shyamol 36, Saiful Chowdhury 35, Sabbir 31. Saiful 6/27)

Meanwhile, in the other match of the day on the eastern strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Young Pegasus 'A' recorded a facile fivewicket victory over Shantinagar 'B'.

In a low-scoring affair, Shantinagar, put into bat. could muster only 162 before being all-out in 37.3 overs. In reply, skipper Shahinoor blasted a quickfire 63 off only 50 ball to guide Young Pegasus to convincing victory -163 for five in 23.1 overs.

BRIEF SCORES

SHANTINAGAR 'B': 162 in 37.3 overs (Nazrul 62 Sufian 44, Minhaz 3/25) YOUNG PEGASUS 'A' 163 for 5 in 23.1 overs (Shahinoor 63, Sajjad 37 n.o., Nazrul 2/40)

Kerry betters own mark

SYDNEY, Feb 11: Australian Kerry Saxby-Junna set an unofficial world record of 19 minutes, 5.24 seconds in the women's five-kilometre ACROSS walk at a Grand Prix athletics meets here today, reports Saxby-Junna, 34, bettered

her own mark of 20 minutes, 17.19 seconds established in Sydney on January 14, 1990. Athletics Australia will submit Saxby's time for ratifi-Amateur Athletic Federation

cation to the International (IAAF) even though the record was timed by hand by one judge, instead of the normal two officials. The official timing mech-

anism was inoperative during her event. Saxby-Junna has been Aus-

tralia's foremost female 22 Thin pasta 53 "Days of walker for over a decade and 26 Watt's is a two-time Commonwealth power Games champion and fin-29 "- Got a ished second in the first Secret" 30 Retriever women's talk over 10.000m type, for at the Rome World Champishort onship in 1987. 31 Calm She finished ninth to Rusbefore the sian Irina Stankina in the

10,000m walk at last August's World Championships in Gothenberg, Sweden. In the men's 1500m and 3000m events. Kenyans David Kibet and Paul Bitok

recorded victories

Bangladesh, MCC tie today An emotional reunion



CALCUTTA, Feb 11 (AP): Divided by the enmity between Pakistan and India for 24 years, two brothers were reunited by an unlikely force-

Arnid tears of joy and emotional hugs, Pakistan's wicketkeeper Rashid Latif met with his elder brother Sahid Latif in Calcutta, where the Pakistani team has travelled to take part in the inauguration of the cricket World Cup. "I have not been sleeping

properly from the day came to know that my brother will come to Cal cutta," said Sahid, who works as a mailman in The Statesman newspaper. The joy for a moment

overcame the years of anguish that many subcontinental families live with - divided cruelly by history between India and Pakistan, Asia's two arch-enemies and cricket-playing neighbours. The two brothers were

separated when their father,

a Muslim, opted to live in Pakistan with his second wife. He took along Rashid, but Sahid stayed back in India with his mother. The subcontinent was divided into Islamic Pakistan

and mostly Hindu India in 1947, when Britain ended colonial rule. There was widespread sectarian violence prompting

millions of people to migrate. The two neighbours have fought three wars since then. The governments are very

strict about visas and that has left many families separated

for decades. "I never told anyone in Calcutta that I have a famous brother in Pakistan," said Sahid. "I wanted to give a big

surprise to them." But Sahid's chase to meet his cricketer brother was diflicult.



He went to Calcutta's Dumdum airport on Friday to see if he can catch a glimpse of him, but "I was not allowed anywhere near the team.

"It was late and I decided to follow it up the next day ... but that night I did not-

Sahid took out the best

dress he has — a clearcoloured long flowing dress. normally worn by Pathans in Pakistan, and reached the Tai

Bengal Hotel on Saturday morning. But the hotel security refused him entry. "I am his brother, please let me in," he pleaded. At one point he flashed his identity card to show that he has the same family name as Pakistan's wicketkeeper. Hotel security

thought it was a joke. "Finally one good soul from the hotel staff agreed to help, he phoned Rashid in the room.

Minutes later, Rashid came out of his room and the two met for the first time in 24 years.

Sahid told his younger brother that he must come with him to his workplace as all his colleagues were waiting to see him.

Sahid's colleagues had put

on their best dresses and appeared stunned to see that a top Pakistani cricketer was indeed with them.

They gave Rashid "phirni" a typically north Indian rice pudding and tea.

knew he was my brother the moment I saw him," Rashid told them. "He looks exactly like our father there was no mistaking him.

Will he want his elder brother to watch him when he joins players from 11 countries taking part in Sunday's inauguration of the

World Cup? "I will buy him a ticket," he said.

For Sahid who earns about 100 dollars a month, that ticket had been beyond his means.

Waiting a fabulous war

now spending more time

voicing his worries about ter-



ISLAMABAD, Feb 11 (AFP): South Africa's smiling spri ngboks will head for the World Cup more convinced than ever that the cricket World Cup is waiting for them at the end of the rain-

Skipper Hansie Cronje is not a man to show his emotions readily. But even he must be delighted with his men's perfect build-up to this month's tournament ... particularly since most of the other major challengers go into the event in disarray.

While all the talk in Australia is of terrorism and match boycotts, the South Africans are riding a wave of a emotion after their second major sporting triumph inside 12 months. The country's footballers,

by winning the African Nations Cup at the first attempt, not only echoed the Rugby Wold Cup triumph but also gave Cronje's team the perfect sent-off.

The crushing victory over England-sent-off 1-0 in a Test series before being annihilated 6-1 in the one-dayers-further enhanced the side's burgeoning self-belief.

Pre-tournament favourites Australia's problems have provided the icing on the cake and who could blame South African cricket supremo Ali Bacher from savouring that slice of luck to the full?

When it was announced Mark Taylor's side were not willing to play in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo because of fears for their personal safety, Bacher reacted: "South Africa would not have pulled out if they were scheduled to play in Colombo (...) we are going to play cricket and we will concentrate on cricket. We will leave the security to the host

country. That implicit criticism will earn Cronje and Co a few extra cheers wherever they play during the competition. Australia's stock, mean-

while, has fallen dramatically and their tag as favourities in under review. Leg-spinner Shane Warne was seen as the key ingredi-

ent to their challenge but his

commitment now appears, at

hand

40 New

shades

Rochelle

community

school

41 Retreat

range

casher's

49 Stratagem

50 AMA types

follower

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47 Check-

37 Bright red DOWN

1 Competent 36 Lent a

5 Nonfunc-

tioning

8 Support

12 Meadow

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14 Clinton

15 Drop

Ziegfeld

Cabinet

member

down?

16 Bear hair

17 On the

rocks

32 West of

33 Bruce's

34 Moreover

35 Pianist at

Hollywood

18 Accommo- 51 Seek

20 Mediterra- 52 Inter

13 Mr.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Rick's Cafe memoirist 21 Dogfight

54 Print units

55 Bloke

1 Shot

2 Nitwit

3 Droop

5 Bid

4 Summery

45 Saxophone 7 Accept an 26 Pole, for

8 Game

apology

9 Brought

back to

stopper

11 Spacecraft

A D NAG

19 Bijou

Solution time: 23 mins.

chamber

mind

show booty

6 Winter woe abbr.

After being caught up in allegations last year that Pakistan's Salim Malik tried to buy a Test match, Warne is

rorist bombs than turning his arm over in the nets. The team's unpopularity in Asia, reinforced when Australian umpires controversially ruled that Sri Lankan bowler Muttiah Muralitharan's action was illegal, will represent the

biggest bar to their World Cup success. If Warne was the key man a month ago, the team's psychologist may now play an even more significant role in helping the side, heading Group A with India, the West

Indies and Sri Lanka, to re-Singing the old song

CANBERRA, Feb 11: The Australian public overwhelmingly supports the decision of its cricket team to refuse to play in Sri Lanka, according to the results of an opinion poll published Sunday, reports AP.

The Australian Cricket Board opted to forfeit Australia's opening World Cup match against Sri Lanka in Colombo on Feb 17 after a suicide bombing earlier this month that killed at least 83 people and injured 1,400.

The decision followed advice by the Department of Foreign. Affairs that there was a high risk factor involved in staying in Colombo due to the terrorist activities of the separatist Tamil Tigers.

A telephone poll conducted last Thursday of 300 respondents in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane found 89 percent of those polled believed not playing in Sri Lanka was the right decision.

The survey also examined the controversy over Sri Lanka's recent tour of Australia with 55 per cent of those polled believing the Sri Lankan team had been unfairly treated.

The Sri Lankans were accused of ball-tampering, then later exonerated, while spin bowler Mutthiah Muralitharan was called for an illegal bowling action by two Australian umpires.

participant

Robbie

squad

24 Metallic

fabric

25 Footnote

strings

limpness

subject

35 Sermon

38 Squirrel's

pai on TV

43 "D — dog"

rian's no-no

28 Eerie

32 Vague

Stadium

23 Joe

tain its focus and their selfconfidence. Meanwhile, Pakistan, in Group B with South Africa

and England, remain an

enigma. The Malik affair.

coupled with one dreadful result after another last year including defeat in Australia, may suggest they are no-hop-But a team containing dream pace duo like Wasim Akram and Wagar Younis, a spinner of the calibre of

Cup in a row — would only be written off by the reckless. Home advantage will do them no harm either, just as it should give India's chances

Mushtaq Ahmed and a bats-

man like Javed Miandad -

heading for his sixth World

a massive fillip. Mohammed Azharuddin's side will lean heavily on the brilliant strokeplay of Sachin Tendulkar and the sorcery of leg-spinner Anil Kumble but that may not be quite enough for them to topple the

heavyweights. The Sri Lankas also look a little on the light side to go all the way, despite some fine results in 1995. particularly the historic away Test series win in Pakistan and the champions trophy in

Sharjah. Yet their recent troubles with the Australians will add an intriguing element to their challenge. If it distracts them, it could prove a disaster but if it fires both the team and their supporters, anything could happen.

How the struggling West Indies - who were also slated as spineless after refusing to play in Colombo respond will be just as fascinating.

The world's best batsman, Brian Lara, is back in their ranks. On the face of it, a

But if his return sows dissension in the side-captain Richie Richardson is one of many team members who is not a card-carrying member of the Lara fan club - that could prove a massive minus.

England, meanwhile, so disappointing in South Africa, will be hoping to benefit by creeping up quietly on the blindside while other teams are drawn into bitter rows.

If those recriminations continue. Mike Atherton will believe he can become the first Englishmen to lift the trophy after three appearances as losing finalists.

CRYPTOQUIP

XDOHZIR GUZHP NKEIR KBGTI DUON HEH Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IWAS ALWAYS INCRED

45 Oklahoma TO OFFER Today's Cryptoquip clue: H equals P 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

27 Adjust the discomfort 10 "A Chorus 33 Symbol of 36 Qn. follow-

IBLY FOND OF BOAT SHOWS. THEY HAD A YACHT

46 Acapulco words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error

Asprilla's instant answer



LONDON. Feb 11: A dramatic debut by Colombian International Faustino

Asprilla, just hours three after his arrival from Italy inspired English Premiership leaders Newcastle to a 2-1 win over Middlesbrough while pace setters Borussia Dortmund were held to a draw in the German Bundesliga and Auxerre closed in

on leader Paris St Germain in France, reports AFP. Newcastle, aiming for their first title in 69 years, preserved their nine-point lead after record 6.7 million pound (11 million dollar) signing Asprilla instigated a

stirring fightback.

bian had been expected to watch Newcastle's game from the mainstand of Middlesbrough's lavish new Riverside But manager Keegan surprisingly named the striker as a substitute, introducing him to the rough-and-tumble

The 26-year-old Colom-

minutes to go and with his side trailing to a first half own goal. Keegan's side were facing only their fourth league defeat of the season after John Beresford turned Brazilian star Juninho's 37th minute

cross into his own net.

of the Premiership with 23

of a coming on, a piece of dazzling skill on the left flank by Asprilla provided the opportunity for Steve Watson to head Newcastle level. England striker Les Ferdinand, capitalising on a terrible error by goalkeeper

But within seven minutes

time, condemned Bryan Robson's Boro to their seventh consecutive league defeat. Second-place Manchester United completed the double over champions Blackburn with a 1-0 victory at Old Traffor, former England winger Lee Sharpe grabbing his first goal since Septem-

Gary Walsh 12 minutes from

ber in the 14th minute. Aston Villa maintained their bid for a UEFA Cup spot with Trinidadian Dwight Yorke, who scored twice in last weekend's 3-0 win over Leeds, again grabbing a double to condemn bottom club Bolton to a 2-0 home defeat.

Manchester City dropped back into the bottom three following their 2-0 defeat at Everton, with Coventry leapfrogging over them after claiming a 1-0 victory against

in-form Chelsea. City's miserable afternoon was completed by the 85th minute dismissal of German defender Michael Frontzeck

1996 — thanks to in-form Noel Whelan's 43rd minute

for two bookable offences. Coventry climbed above them on goal difference and claimed their first win of

winner. Nottingham Forest also finished with 10 men, Jason

orders for a second booking with five minutes remaining. as Dutch star Dennis Bergkamp's 60-minute strike sealed Arsenal's 1-0 win at the City ground.

Julani Watts 85th-minute winner clinched Sheffield Wednesday's 2-1 victory over Wimbledon at Hillsbrough, Marc Degryse put David Pleat's side ahead but Wimbledon bounced back and levelled through Marcus

Auxerre closed to within

three points of French league

leaders St Germain on Saturday with a 2-0 win over 10-Lee receiving his marching man Lyon.



Newcastle's fresh recruit Faustino Asprilla makes his fruitful debut during an English Premier ship match against Middlesbrough at Boro's Riverside Stadium on Feb 10. Newcastle won 2-1. - AFP/UNB photo