

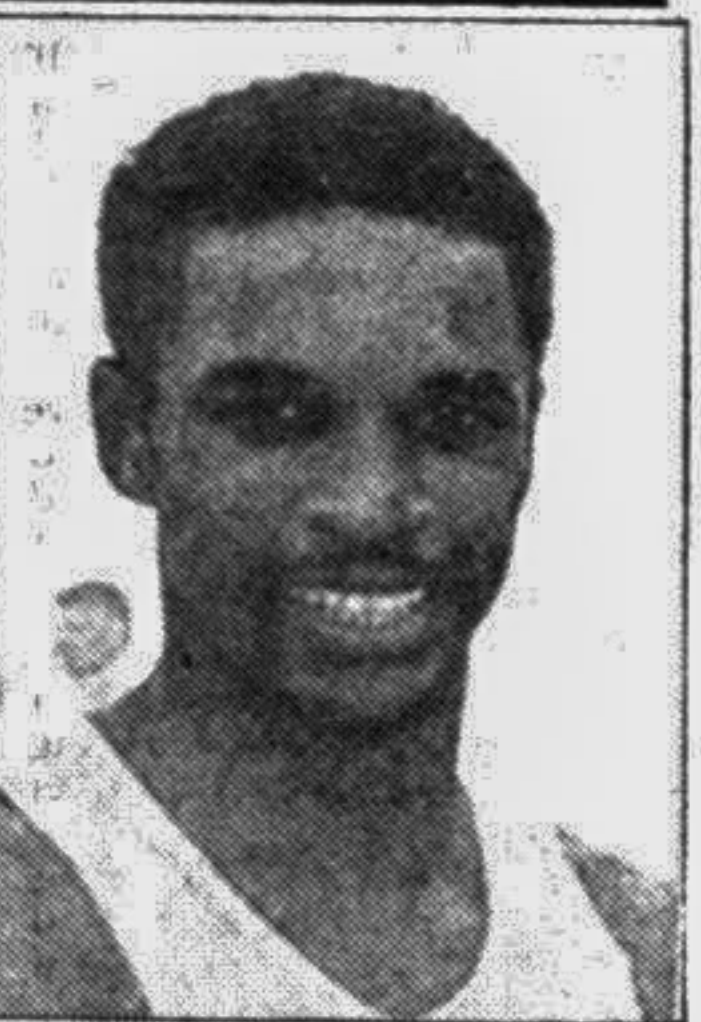
Column One DID U' KNOW? (The Professor does)

THAT very soon these pages will be adorned by one of Bangladesh's famous sporting sons. He is a big name in his field but it is not an outdoor game. His moves can make the opponents hot but he hardly moves himself. Even in a colour photograph, the centre is black and white. This is one game where a storm may build up inside you but your outward expression is rarely more volatile than a shrug. Whereas in all other sports the opposite may be true but here you will look a right idiot if you were a track suit.

Although I am trying to make the game appear a trifle more interesting than I really care, it can be extremely boring to persons who believe the King and Queen belong only in fairy tales. Neither is it a fable that originally Indian, it is now the happy hunting ground of the East Europeans and Americans.

If you think the new column is on dabs and the Satranj Ki Khilari is Grand Master Nezi Murshed, I will offer you a draw. Don't fall for it! You got me checkmated.

SPORTS TALK



Ivan Pedroso
(Cuban long jumper)

"This is a lot of hours of daily dedication, effort, training and sacrifices only to be told that one's mark was not valid."

After his world record leap of 8.96 metres at an athletics meet in Sestriere, Italy was scrubbed owing to technical reasons.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-34

Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. April 19, 1996)

1. Sir Richard—	_____
2. The Atlanta Olympics begin from	_____
3. Who has taken more Test wickets?	_____
4. Dhaka football is controlled by	_____
5. Aussie Rules Football resembles	_____

Name: _____

Class: _____ Roll No: _____

School Address: _____

Phone: (if any) _____

Nirman schools cricket results

Sports Reporter

Fariduddin High School, Gulshan Model School, Shahnooni Model High School and Udayan School won their respective matches of the 14th Nirman schools cricket championship at different city venues yesterday.

On the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Fariduddin High School recorded a shaky four-run victory over South Breeze School.

Batting first, the Fariduddin boys scored a fighting 174/8 in their share of 35 overs with Masum notching a swashbuckling unbeaten 74 off 87 balls inclusive of a dozen boundaries.

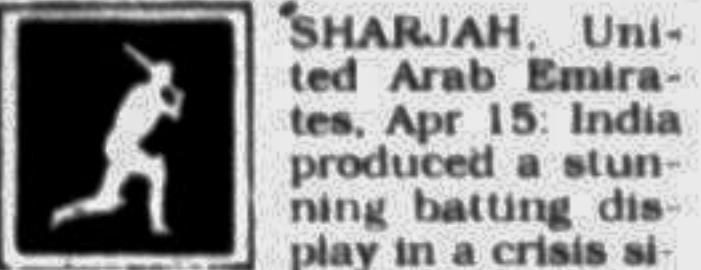
In reply, South Breeze fell five runs short of the victory target with Faruque hammering the highest 51 runs.

At the Residential Model School ground, a virtuoso all-round show by Mozammel Hossain went down the drain as Udayan scraped home with a three-wicket win over Rifles High School and College.

Mozammel scored highest 30 in Rifles' 145 and then captured five wickets for only 18 runs in his seven overs, but his solo effort went in vain as Udayan reached 155 in 29 overs.

Away at the Mirpur Outer Stadium, Gulshan Model School defeated Kadamtola High School by 68 runs while Shahnooni Model School prevailed over Mitail Biddipath by three wickets at one of Residential Model School's ground.

India break Sharjah jinx



SHARJAH. United Arab Emirates, Apr 15: India produced a stunning batting display in a crisis situation to overcome their favoured arch-rivals Pakistan by 28 runs in the Pepsi Cup one-day international here on Monday, reports AFP.

Facing elimination from the three-nation event after heavy defeats in the first leg of the preliminary league, the fired-up Indians piled up a record score of 305 for five and then bowled out Pakistan for 277 in a high-scoring thriller.

Sachin Tendulkar made 118 and Navjot Sidhu 101 during a record partnership of 231 for the second wicket to help India surpass their previous best total of 299 for eight against Sri Lanka at Bombay in 1986.

Skipper Mohammad Azharuddin, under fire at home after three successive defeats in Singapore and here, then hit a brilliant unbeaten 29 off 10 balls — including 24 runs in Ataur Rehman's final over — as India smashed 60 off the last five overs.

Pakistan, given only 48 overs to reach the tough target after being penalised two overs by match referee Ranjan Madugalle of Sri Lanka for a slow over-rate, made a gallant bid for victory.

Skipper Aamir Sohail made 78 off 76 balls, Rashid Latif 50 off 31 and Ijaz Ahmed 42 off 51 to lift Pakistan to a promising 172 for two by the 26th over.

India hit back with three wickets in the space of 27 runs and then struck regular blows to beat back Pakistan's determined run chase.

Seamer Javagal Srinath claimed three wickets, while Venkatesh Prasad, Anil Kumble and Tendulkar, who won the man-of-the-match award, shared two each.

The victory was only the fourth by India in 18 meetings with Pakistan at Sharjah, but jubilant Indian fans celebrated the long-awaited win as if the tournament had been won.

Both India and Pakistan have two points each from three matches, while unbeaten South Africa have four from two games. The top two teams advance to the final on April 19.

"We batted and fielded to our potential today," a relieved Azharuddin said after the match.

I am glad we have answered our critics suitably. It's

quite funny how we are regarded as a bad team after a few defeats, but then everything changes after a win."

His Pakistani counterpart Sohail said the Indians played better and deserved to win. But he felt his team had conceded too many runs.

"We allowed them to score 60 in the last five. That's high by any reckoning. I was looking at a target of around 260. The slog overs proved very crucial," Sohail said.

The record stand between Tendulkar and Sidhu, after debutant Vikram Rathore was removed at the score of nine, surpassed India's previous best of 188 for the first wicket by Ravi Shastri and Krish Srikanth against England in Cuttack in 1984.

The 22-year-old Tendulkar, already a veteran of 113 matches, hit eight boundaries and two sixes in his eighth one-day century.

Opening the innings, he batted till the first ball of the 45th over when he played a tired pull off Waqar Younis to be caught by Sohail at mid-wicket.



TENDULKAR... m-o-m

In the next over, Sidhu was run out as new batsmen Ajay Jadhava refused his call for a sharp single and India slipped from 240 for one to 245 for three.

Sidhu slammed three sixes and as many boundaries during his 119-ball knock. It was the 31-year-old's fifth one-day century.

Azharuddin smashed 4, 2 and 2 off the first three deliveries of Rehman's 50th over, struck the next two for huge sixes and ended the innings with another boundary.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Sharjah Cup one-day international between India and Pakistan in Sharjah on Monday:

INDIA

Rathore c Inzamam b Younis	2
Tendulkar c Sohail b Younis	118
Sidhu run out	101
Jadeja c Latif b Younis	17
Srinath c Sohail b Rehman	16
Azharuddin not out	29
Manjrekar not out	0
Extras: (b-2, lb-7, w-12, nb-1)	22
Total: (5 wickets)	305

Did not bat: N Mongia, A Kumble, A Kapoor, V Prasad.

Fall of wickets: 1-9: 2-240: 3-245: 4-264: 5-281.

Bowling:

Younis	10	2	44	3
Aaqib	10	0	58	0
Rehman	10	0	85	1
Saqin	10	1	60	0
Sohail	10	0	49	0

Overs: 50

PAKISTAN

Sohail run out	78
Saeed Anwar c Mongia b Prasad	2
Rashid Latif	50
c Azharuddin b Kumble	42
Ijaz Ahmed b Srinath	42
Salm Malik c Kapoor	6
b Kumble	42
Inzamamul Haq	6
c Azharuddin b Prasad	6
b Srinath	32
Aaqib Javed c Rathore	5
b Srinath	8
Waqar Younis not out	8
Ataur Rehman	4
c sub (David) b Srinath	4
Saqin Mushtaq lbw	0
b Tendulkar	0
Extras: (lb-4, w-4)	8
Total:	277

Fall of wickets: 1-16: 2-88: 3-172: 4-190: 5-199: 6-248: 7-260: 8-271: 9-277.

Bowling:

Srinath	10	0	65	3
Prasad	9	0	64	2
Kumble	9	1	38	2
Kapoor	9	0	52	0
Tendulkar	7	1	40	2
Jadeja	2	0	14	0

Overs: 46.1 out of 48

Result: India won by 28 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Sachin Tendulkar.

Tuesday's match: Pakistan v South Africa.

(Note: Two overs deducted for slow over-rate.)

Lalmatia Club join champions Surjo Tarun

Sports Reporter BRIEF SCORES

GOPIBAGH FRIENDS: 164 in 44.4 overs (Khalid 43; Halim Babu 3/31)

LALMATIA CLUB: 168 for 4 in 37.2 overs (Emdadul 65, Riaz 56)

Lalmatia Club confirmed their promotion to the Premier League next year with a convincing six-wicket win over Gopibagh Friends in their final Yamaha First Division super league match on the eastern strip at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

In a low-scoring affair, Lalmatia, who had earlier skittled out the Gopibagh outfit for a modest total, aided by a brilliant 85-run second-wicket partnership between Riaz and Emdadul rattled up the required runs with more than seven overs to spare.

Opener Riaz, who scored 56, cracked nine hits to the fence in his 62-ball stay at the crease while Emdadul chipped in with a plucky 108-ball 65 embellished with nine fours.

With this win Lalmatia, who finished second in the standings, earned promotion to the Premier league along with champions Surjo Tarun.

Meanwhile, Khelaghar SKF and Bangladesh Railway, who have been scratched by the league committee after failing to take part in the league race, have been demoted to the Second Division.

Sabre-rattling By Nadir Shah

Sports Reporter BRIEF SCORES

SURJO TARUN: 179 for six in 45 overs (Raju 50, Shaon 42)

DHANMONDI CLUB: 84 all out in 29.2 overs (Nadir Shah 6/18, Shaon 3/21)

Former national all-rounder Nadir Shah with a six-wicket haul caught Dhanmondi Club in his spinning web as his side Surjo Tarun Club won the Yamaha First Division cricket league title with a thumping 95-run victory in their last super league match at the Mirpur City Club ground on Sunday.

Nadir Shah, now better known as one of the more competent umpires among the locals, with his right arm leg break captured six wickets for only 18 runs as Dhanmondi, chasing a fighting Surjo Tarun total, were shot out for a meagre 84.

With this win Surjo Tarun, who were demoted to the lower division last year, returned to the elite Premier league along with Lalmatia.

For Nadir Shah, cricket now may be only a passion at the twilight of his career, but with 31 wickets under his belt things are obviously inspiring for the old warrior.

However, at the tiny City Club ground Surjo Tarun, after winning the toss and electing to use the wicket, compiled 179 for six in their share of 45 overs with opener Raju hammering a polished 50 off 67 deliveries.

One-down Shaon with a dazzling 42 was the other notable-run getter for the eventual winners.

FIDE supremo rallies behind Baghdad

BONN, Apr 15: Baghdad has every right to host the World Chess Championship, FIDE's president told Monday's edition of Der Spiegel magazine, reports AFP.

World Chess Federation (FIDE) president Kirsan Ilyumzhinov also described Hussein's settling of scores with his sons-in-law in February as "a completely normal family drama."

FIDE stunned the chess world in March when it announced Baghdad as the venue for the championship in June, between the Russian Anatoly Karpov and his Russian-born American challenger Gata Kamsky.

Iraq has been under an international economic and cultural embargo since its invasion of Kuwait in 1990. However, "sport and culture are explicitly excluded" from the embargo, Ilyumzhinov said.

Ilyumzhinov, who is also president of tiny Russian republic of Kalmykia, told Der Spiegel that an uncle of Hussein Kamel ordered the killings as "he could not pardon treason in the family — a completely normal family drama."

"I knew Hussein Kamel Hassan (Saddam's son-in-law) very well," he said, adding: "I was in Baghdad two days after the tragedy and a witness told me everything."

Hussein Kamel and his brother defeated to Jordan with their families before "repenting" and returning to Iraq, where they were assassinated. The official version of the killings was the punishment of "treason" by members of their family.

The chess championship is in doubt, however, after Kamsky's father said last week his son had been refused State Department permission to travel to Baghdad. The United States has called on FIDE to choose another venue for the chess contest.



Surjo Tarun Club emerged champions of the Yamaha First Division cricket league. They along with runners-up Lalmatia Club will feature in the Premier Division next season. — Star photo

SL compound Windies' woe



PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, Apr 15: World Cup champions Sri Lanka comfortably beat former one-day king West Indies by 35 runs in a one-day international at the Queen's Park Oval on Saturday, reports Reuters.

After making a challenging 251 in 48.3 overs through aggressive innings by Asanka Gurusinha (59) and Sanath Jayasuriya (46), Sri Lanka bowled superbly to restrict West Indies to 216 for nine in their 50 overs.

Brian Lara, with a typically fluent 71 and his Trinidad and Tobago compatriot Phil Simmons (45) threatened to carry West Indies to victory during a third-wicket stand of 116 off 123 balls, but once they were dismissed in consecutive overs, Sri Lanka took firm control.

Spinner Kumara Dharmasena turned the match Sri Lanka's way by holding an excellent catch to dismiss Simmons off miserly off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan, who took two for 37 in his 10 overs.

Dharmasena, who was voted man-of-the-match for his fine spell of two for 33 off nine overs, was in the picture again when he removed Lara at 124 for four and six runs later bowled middle-order batsman Roland Holder for one as West Indies slumped to 140 for five.

It was soon 156 for seven as veteran all-rounder Roger Harper (0) and Laurie Williams

(5) fell in quick succession. Jimmy Adams (37 not out) and Ian Bishop (22) then found the required scoring rate of nine runs an over beyond them and Sri Lanka emerged easy winners.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the one-day cricket international between

Bowling:

W	O	M	R	W
W	5	0	49	1 (W-2, nb-3)
W	8	1	40	2 (W-4)
W	9	3	134	3
W	8	0	42	1 (W-2)
W	10	0	42	2
W	8	0	46	1

WEST INDIES

Chanderpaul run out 3 || Wallace c Muralitharan b Vaas | 3 |
Lara c Jayasuriya b Dharmasena	71
Simmons c Dharmasena	45
b Muralitharan	37
Adams not out	45
Holder c Muralitharan	1
Harper c Muralitharan	0
b Chanderpaul	9
Williams b Muralitharan	5
Brown c sub b Jayasuriya	9
Bishop c Ranatunga b	22
Tillekeratne	22
Extras: (lb-8, w-10, nb-2)	20
Total: (9 wickets, 50 overs)	216

DHARMASENA... m-o-m

West Indies and Sri Lanka at Queen's Park Oval on Saturday:

SRI LANKA

Jayasuriya c Wallace b Walsh	46
Kalutharane c Adams b Harper	25
Gurusinha c Lara b Adams	59
De Silva c b Williams	25
Ranatunga c Wallace b Adams	15
Tillekeratne c b	22
Chanderpaul	22
Vaas b Bishop	12

Title beckons AC Milan

ROME, Apr 15: Christian Panucci took Milan to the brink of their fourth Italian title in five years on Sunday, scoring the only goals of the game in Milan's 1-0 victory at Napoli, reports Reuters.

With just four games remaining, Milan are nine points clear of nearest rivals Juventus — beaten 3-0 by Sampdoria on Saturday.

Milan lead Serie A with 66 points from 30 matches, ahead of Juventus on 57 and Fiorentina on 53.

The Red-and-Blacks can claim their 15th "scudetto" next Saturday if they have a better result at lowly Torino than Juve do at fourth-place Internazionale. If they have the same result, Milan would clinch with a win or draw against third-place Fiorentina in the 32nd round April 28.

Defender Panucci met Roberto Baggio's 13th minute corner with a fierce header from the edge of the six-yard box to settle a one-sided match dominated by the visitors.

Florentina slipped to their second successive defeat, losing 1-0 at Udinese, where Paolo Poggi punished a rare lapse from Italy international goalkeeper Francesco Toldo.

Marco Branca took his tally for the season to 20 with a hat-trick in Inter's remarkable 8-2 thrashing of bottom-of-the-table Padova at the San Siro.

Benito Carbone, England's

Paul Ince — his second in three matches, Gianluca Festa and Maurizio Ganz were also on target in a result that virtually condemns Padova to relegation.

A superb 28-metre shot from Diego Fuser set Lazio on the way to a 2-1 win over Parma that lifts his side into fifth place.

Lazio's arch-rivals Roma slipped to seventh after losing 2-1 at Vicenza and having striker Daniel Fonseca and Marco Delvecchio sent off.

At the other end of the table, Serie A's top scorer Igor Protti single-handedly kept alive Bari's slender hopes of staying up, scoring his 21st and 22nd goals of the season in the 2-1 victory over fellow strugglers, Cremonese.

But Torino's 1-0 defeat at Piacenza, for who Gianpietro Piovani scored the winner, leaves the famous side second from bottom and seven points off the safety zone.

Comforted by Juve's 3-0 defeat at home to Sampdoria as well as the return from injury of Liberian George Weah, Milan played a game of containment against Napoli.

Apart from a shot by Roberto Donadoni that hit the post in the 72nd minute, the visitors rarely looked like adding to Panucci's opener, content to keep Napoli in their own half from most of the match.

Milan's grip on the game meant the home side had to wait until the dying minutes for their best chance to

equalise.

Arturo di Napoli pounced on a miskick from Paolo Maldini but saw his first-time volley turned over the bar by Sebastiano Rossi.

At Vicenza, Roma's Fonseca turned from hero to villain in the space of two minutes: First, the Uruguayan picked himself up from a foul by Gabriele Grossi — shown the red card — to convert a penalty and cancel out Marcelo Otero's opener for Vicenza.

Seconds later, however, the same player was sent off for protesting when the referee failed to grant a second spot-kick.

With Roma reduced to nine men in the 67th minute, when Delvecchio joined Fonseca in the changing rooms, Vicenza peppered Giovanni Gervone's goal from all angles.

It was only in the 83rd minute, however, that Murgita scored a deserved winner to halt the visitor's seven-match unbeaten run.

Bari's hopes of First Division soccer looked doomed in the 39th minute when Marko Perovic slide home Riccardo Maspero's cross to give Cremonese the lead.

But five days after inspiring his side to a 2-1 comeback win at Atlanta with two goals, the irrepressible Protti repeated the feat.

First, the 29-year-old striker levelled the scores with a diagonal shot on the break, before clinching a crucial victory with a superb turn and strike.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Mardi..."
2 "With Chi..."
3 "Candle..."
4 "Big barrel..."
5 "Actress..."
6 "Clem..."
7 "day..."
8 "Don Juan..."
9 "End-of-list..."
10 "Flatfish..."
11 "Acting..."
12 "Dorothy..."
13 "Shooting..."
14 "Harvest..."
15 "Wrestling..."
16 "Nerve..."
17 "Shot up..."
18 "Snuck..."
19 "pro..."
20 "Bambi's..."
21 "On the..."
22 "Puts..."
23 "together..."
24 "Actress..."

DOWN

1 "Monopoly" 19 Batting
2 Radial
3 Skillion's
4 Kadiddle...
5 "Weapon of..."
6 "Sycophan..."
7 "Gun-lobby..."
8 "Super-hot..."
9 "Cor..."
10 "conclusion..."
11 "Kapita..."
12 "Recent..."
13 "Broadway..."
14 "revival..."
15 "Day..."
16 "Fool..."
17 "Scale..."
18 "Bank..."
19 "Structure..."
20 "Bahran..."
21 "Unstated..."
22 "Frankie's..."
23 "flyer..."
24 "Unimprovable..."
25 "California..."
26 "grid team..."
27 "Vaghe..."

CRYPTOQUIP

ECB FZZUAUTR AFRFH

FZ ECB OTP CSDFHBP

DFTWTHAC UV HFUR

ORSB

Yesterday's Cryptquip: WORK-SHY YOUNG MAN WHO PACKED GROCERIES AT THE SUPER-MARKET WAS SOON SACKED.

Today's Cryptquip clue: Z equals F

The Cryptquip 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.