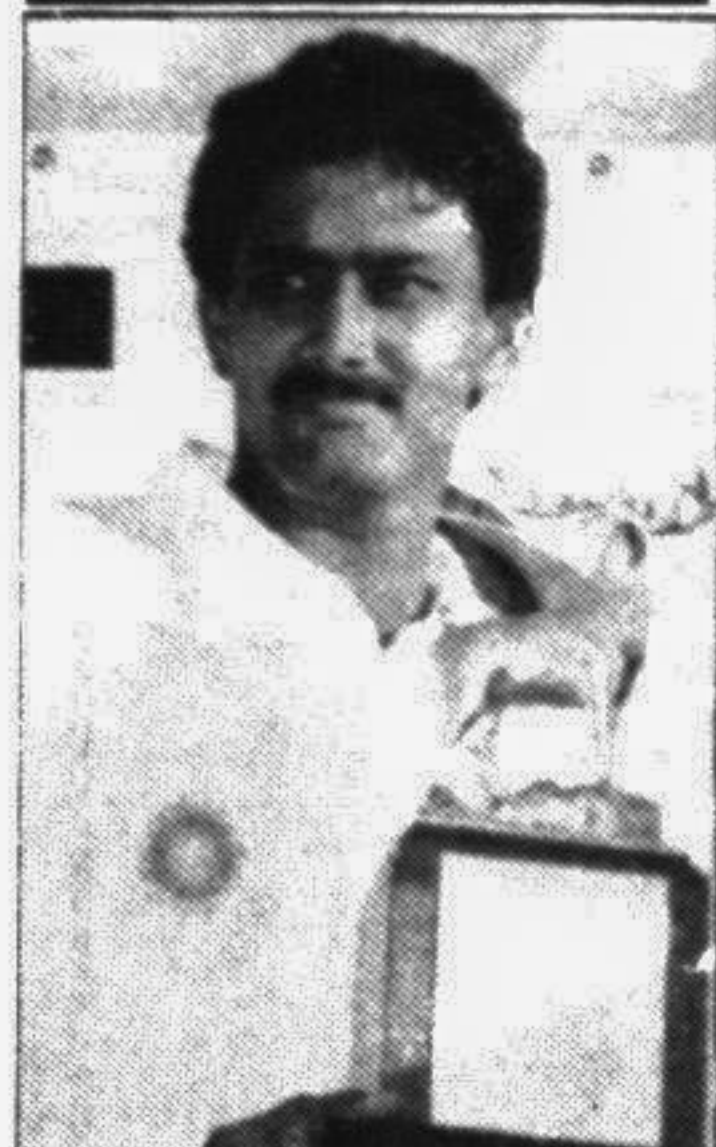


Column One
DID U' KNOW?
(The Professor does)

THAT women's soccer is officially banned in Brazil, but despite this there are hundreds of organised teams throughout the country.

Now any sensible person would start thinking why should the World Champions do such a thing. One plausible explanation is the men fear the women will become better players. Not a suggestion to be thrown out of your window. All you have to do is just take a look at our politics!

SPORTS TALK



Anil Kumble
(Indian leg-spinner)
"I am happy I'm back to top form. I would have been happier still if my team had won the title."

After winning the man-of-the-series award in Sahara Cup.

Sports
WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports **WHIZZ KID**
competition-55

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes : 8 pm
October 25, 1996

1. In Test cricket how many centuries did former West Indian opener Gordon Greenidge score?
18 19 17
2. The only hat-trick in the first leg of the Danish Premier Division football league was scored by Naqib Tutul Mizan
3. How many balls did Pakistani batsman Shahid Afridi face to score the fastest one-day international hundred?
42 35 37
4. Former Bangladesh cricket captain Faruque Ahmed will play next season for Abahani Kalabagan Brothers Union
5. The man-of-the-series in the quadrangular cricket meet in Kenya was Afridi Donald Kirsten

Name:
Class: Roll No.
School Address:
Phone: (If any):

Cricket clubs
appeal to Quader

Sports Reporter

The 22 Senior Division cricketing outfits of Dhaka league have sought financial assistance from the chairman of the National Sports Council in a bid to prepare their teams for the forthcoming domestic season.

It was learnt that the 22 clubs including 12 Premier outfit in a written plea to the supreme of the country's sports Obedial Quader have sought an handsome amount last week. It was expected that each club will get one lakh taka from the development fund of the NSC within a next couple of days.

Earlier, the NSC had donated two lakh taka each to the 20 Senior Division outfit of Dhaka football.

Hanjin league
Prokash draw
with DSS Blues

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, Oct 19: The Hanjin Shipping First Division football league witnessed a dull and insipid day at the Osmari Stadium here today when Prokash Club and DSS Blues split points in a goal-less draw.

Title aspirants Mohsin Club will take on DSS Club at the same venue tomorrow (Sunday).

Sattar kabaddi
Baidder Bazaar
thrash Pilot HS

From Our Correspondent
NARAYANGANJ, Oct 19: Baidder Bazaar MAM earned a cakewalk win over Pilot High School in the lone match of the Sattar Memorial kabaddi tournament played at the Narayanganj High School ground today.

In an one-sided affair Baidder Bazaar brushed aside Pilot High School by 66-28 points.

Akram's grandiose act



SHEIKHUPURA, Pakistan. Oct 19: Pakistan skipper Wasim Akram hit a career-best unbeaten 144 to put his side in the lead by 20 runs on the third day of the first Test against Zimbabwe here Saturday, reports AFP.

The 30-year-old left-handed Wasim came in to bat as Pakistan were reeling on 183 for six to add a record 158 runs for the eighth wicket with Saqlain Mushtaq and pull his team out of trouble.

Pakistan finished the day with 395-7 in reply to Zimbabwe's innings total of 375.

Wasim's previous best was 123 against Australia in Adelaide in 1989-90, while the record for an eighth wicket stand by a Pakistani team had been 130, notched up by Hanif Mohammad and Asif Iqbal against England at Lords in 1967.

The captain's grand knock included 15 fours and five sixes in a 297-minute, 244-ball demonstration of superb batting.

Saqlain was 37 not out when the umpires decided to end the day's play nine overs before the scheduled 90 overs.

Pakistan had resumed their innings on 189-6 with a solid partnership between night-watchmen Moin Khan and Wasim.

Paul Strang dismissed Moin to become the first Zimbabwe player to score a century and get five wickets in a Test match. He scored 106 not out in the tourists' first innings.

Moin mistimed his square cut and ballooned a catch to Andrew Whittall at point when the score was on 237.

But Zimbabwe captain Campbell had limited resources in his bowling armoury to put further pressure on Pakistan. The pacemen Olunga and Bryan Strang were erratic and ineffective.

Paul Strang and off-spinner Andrew Whittall extracted lot of turn from the wicket but failed to restrain Wasim who punished them all over the field.

Strang was lofted by Wasim for three sixes over mid-off and mid-on which spoiled the leg-spinner's figures, leaving him on 5-139. Andrew Whittall and

Olonga shared a wicket each. Pakistan resume their first innings on Sunday, looking set to further increase the slender lead with three wickets in hand.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close of third day of the first Test match between Pakistan and Zimbabwe on Saturday:

ZIMBABWE: First innings

375

PAKISTAN: First innings
(189 for 6 overnight)

A Sohail c Andy Flower

b Paul Strang 46

S Anwar st Andy Flower

b Paul Strang 52

S Kabir c David Houghton

b Andrew Whittall 2

I Ahmad lbw Henry Longa 9
S Malik b Paul Strang 52
A Khan lbw Paul Strang 14
M Khan c Andrew Whittall
b Paul Strang 18
W Akram not out 144
S Mushtaq not out 37
Extras: (b-9, lb-7, nb-4, w-1) 21
Total: (seven wickets in 131.3 overs) 395

Did not bat: Shahid Nazir, Waqar Younis

Fall of wickets: 1-64; 2-77; 3-91; 4-142; 5-176; 6-183; 7-237

Bowling: R O M W

Henry Olunga 19 6 60 1

Bryan Strang 10 2 34 0

Andrew Whittall 30.3 5 98 1

Paul Strang 50 10 139 5

Guy Whittall 12 0 35 0

Grant Flower 10 4 10 0



AKRAM... career best 144 n.o

A nation still in shock

GUATEMALA CITY, Oct 19: Funerals jammed the main cemetery in Guatemala on Friday as impoverished

ished families jostled to bury the dead from a soccer stadium disaster in which as many as 83 perished beneath an avalanche of bodies, reports Reuters.

With funerals scheduled back-to-back all day, Guatemala City's main cemetery was packed with thousands of mourners, competing priests and funeral workers frantically checking off lists to ensure each coffin found its proper place.

Many were buried as they died, in a crush, and were packed at high speed into cheap vaults and bricked up by cemetery workers dashing through the crowds with wheelbarrows of cement.

Most of the victims of the tragedy were poor, suffocated under a cascade of bodies in the cheap terraces of the Mateo Flores Stadium just before Wednesday night's Guatemala-Costa Rica World Cup qualifier.

Wooden coffins in the so-called "niche area" on the fringes of the cemetery where bodies are slotted in for 15 dollars.

Angry and confused mourners demanded better explanations from the government as to why the match turned into the worst stadium disaster in World Cup history.

One mother of nine said she had filed a suit demanding the arrest of officials she blames for the death of her husband, who was among the soccer fans trampled to death.

Sonia Vazquez, the widow of Samuel Chamale, said she presented a complaint in Guatemala City's criminal court, sending a copy to the media, a court clerk confirmed that a suit had been filed.

President Alvaro Arzu, addressing the nation in a solemn broadcast late on Thursday, pledged to find the cause of the deaths, naming a high-level commission, including the interior and health ministers, to report back within 15 days.

Arzu's government has initially laid the blame on a "brawl" by rowdy fans in the upper terraces of the stadium, which has a 47,000 capacity.

On radio talk shows, in streets and taxis, in lines at the cemetery, authorities were blamed for slapdash security at the match and the entry of hundreds of people with forged tickets.

The police and the doorkeepers didn't have any control, said Linnet Ardon Rodriguez, a relative of a 13-year-old boy whose small coffin was slotted into the cemetery wall.

"The authorities worry about how to get more people in to earn more money, but they don't care about security," As hearses led columns of

cars and rusty pick-up trucks soaking through the capital, the poverty of some of the mourners lent a wrenching speck to the scene.

One group of casket bearers in tattered clothes were followed by a thin, elderly woman carrying a bag of cement on her head. Another inconsolable woman burying her husband and teenage son had to be gently pried from each casket before they were slid into the wall and cemented shut.

"Like how they left him," she said, referring to his battered body inside the coffin.

Many of the dead were maimed as they fell against the chain-link fence separating the stands from the playing field.

The exact death toll in Guatemala was still unclear. The government said 80 people died, but morgue officials said it rose to 83 after some injured died in the hospital.

Seeking to ease the suffering of the victims' families, Arzu announced that turnstile taking from the dollars 7-a-head match would be seized an offered to them as compensation.

FIFA said Guatemala's next qualifying match against Trinidad and Tobago — originally scheduled for next Friday — had been postponed indefinitely, as had the aborted match against Costa Rica. Other matches would proceed as scheduled.

SOCCER SIDELINES

BONN, Oct 19 (Xinhua): World soccer's ruling body FIFA said on Friday there should be no perimeter fences at the 1998 World Cup venues in France in wake of this week's stadium tragedy in Guatemala.

"Fences are for animals and prisoners — not football fans," FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter was quoted as saying in Munich.

MINUTE OF SILENCE

ZURICH, Switzerland, Oct 19 (AFP): FIFA on Friday asked that a minute of silence be observed at all soccer matches this weekend in memory of those killed at the World Cup qualifying game in Guatemala City.

SHILTON'S 1000
AT STAKE

LONDON, Oct 19 (Reuters): Former England goalkeeper Peter Shilton's hopes of moving towards his 1,000th league appearance were thwarted by West Ham on Friday.

Shilton, 47, who has made 996 league appearances since his debut for Leicester in 1966, was hoping to make his first since May 1995, when he played for Bolton, in Cambridge United's Division Three match against Rochdale today.

Shilton, now the third choice goalkeeper at West Ham, had been given permission to play for Cambridge, but was recalled to West Ham by manager Harry Redknapp because reserve goalie Australian Steve Mautone injured himself in training on Friday.

AFRICANS IN
THE FRAY

MUNICH, Oct 19 (Reuters): Egypt, Morocco and South Africa hope to bring the World Cup finals to the African continent for the first time in 2006.

FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter said on Friday that the countries were interested in making bids.

They will face fierce European opposition from 1974 hosts Germany and 1996 organisers England, whose chances of staging the finals may have been boosted by the success of Euro '96.

Argentina and Brazil have also announced they will bid.

AMOKACHI SURVIVED

ISTANBUL, Oct 19 (Reuters): Nigerian World Cup footballer Daniel Amokachi escaped unhurt when his car struck a tree in the early hours of Saturday morning, Turkish media said.

MU GET NADAL?

MANCHESTER, England, Oct 19 (AFP): Speculation was mounting on Friday that English champions Manchester United are finally set to land Spanish star Miguel Nadal after months chasing the man known as "the beast of Barcelona."

Guyana has included 16-year-old Ramnarace Sarwan, an all-rounder who is one of the youngest ever to play first class cricket in the Caribbean.

Selectors are likely to omit spinner Neil McGarrel and opening batsman Nicholas DeGroot to make way for Sarwan.



The triumphant Sumarians, who won the inter-house cricket tournament of Loreto School — Star photo

Hockey transfers
begin today

Sports Reporter

The inter-club hockey players' transfer begins today with a deal between the four leading clubs under threat following the mysterious disappearance of two Mohammedan players.

The two players — Haider Alam and Ehtesam — who were in the bracketed list of 16 in a deal between Mohammedans, Abahani, Mariner Youngs and Usha Krira Chakra, had stayed back in Rome when the Bangladesh national team was returning home after their disastrous performance in the 9th World Cup hockey qualifiers in the Italian city of Cagliari.

It was reported that the four heavyweights in Dhaka hockey league had earlier categorically agreed not to lure the 16 national players in a bid to stymie the mind-boggling demand from them this year.

But with Haider and Ehtesam, two of the four stalwarts of Mohammedans missing, the black and whites were thrown into the depth of despair at the onset of an otherwise sedate five-day bourse, starting at the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) office from 5 pm today.

The BHF, who had earlier deferred the transfer date thrice for reasons best known to them, however, has finally rolled into action after wandering in the wilderness for the last couple of seasons much to the relief of the players.

The transfer will be conducted from 5 to 7.30 pm every day.

Meanwhile, the sixteen players who were unofficially barred from changing their allegiance by the four clubs are: Haider Alam, Ehtesam, Nixon and Mitul (Mohammedans), Mamunur Rashid, Alamgir Alam, Khurshid Alam and Rabiul (Abahani), Tutul Kumar Nag, Sadeq Khan, Kamal and Sadeq (Usha KC), Isha Miah, Musa Miah, Rubel and Biaka Lusal (Mariner Youngs).

Nat'l age group
swimming Oct 29

Sports Reporter

The 16th national age-group swimming championship under the aegis of the Bangladesh Swimming Federation (BSF) will commence at the Mirpur National Swimming Complex from October 29.

Interested clubs and affiliated bodies of the BSF have been asked to complete entry formalities by October 23.

A red-hot kiss!

VENICE, Italy, Oct 19: A player who kissed the referee when she sent him off the field, learned on Friday love does not run deep in Italian soccer, reports Reuters.

Alessandro Veronese's demonstration of Amore was called "unusually intimate" by local sporting judge Sergio Rigo and earned him a one-match suspension.

Versone, 26, will have to sit out the next two matches for his amateur league club Battaglia — one for the sending-off and an extra one for pecking referee Anna di Toni on both cheeks.

The woman medical student dismissed Veronese last weekend after his second booking during Battaglia's 2-0 win over Rocca.

"We think there are going to be a lot more woman referees around in a few years time," Rigo said.

"What's going to happen if players think they have the right to kiss them or stroke their hair?"

Panini passes
away

MODENA, Italy, Oct 19: Giuseppe Panini, creator of the world famous Panini football stickers, died here on Friday aged 71, reports AFP.

Panini sold his business, which at its peak was selling 700 million stickers annually, to the Maxwell Group in 1988, died in hospital after suffering a heart attack. According to his family he had suffered from heart problems for a number of years.

Panini, passionate collector, started his sticker business in 1961. An immediate success with children they were sold in packets of five, initially only consisting of Italian players but then grew to include the rest of Europe.

Fans turn fierce

AMMAN, Oct 19: Supporters of rival soccer teams, one ethnically Jordanian and the other predominantly Palestinian, clashed Friday at Amman International Stadium. About 30 people were injured, reports AP.

Sumerians lift
Loreto School
cricket title

Sports Reporter

The Sumerians lifted the inter-house cricket championship of Loreto School with a convincing four-wicket win over the Trojans in the final at the Dhanmondi Club ground yesterday.

Batting first, the Trojans scored 84 before being bundled out in the 15-overs-a-side match. Farhan top-scored with 32.

In reply, the Sumerians raced to victory scoring 85 in only 11.2 overs with Tauqueer hammering 25. Ali, who had earlier shone with the cherry claiming two wickets, did one better with the willow scoring 16 to claim the man-of-the-match award. Fuad of the champs also claimed two wickets.



With the other players roaming around to enjoy a scheduled day-off, IM Reefat-bin Sattar (L) engages himself in a serious cerebral warfare against Rafiqul Islam to feature in their adjourned first round match of the Beximco 13th QM Hossain International Masters' chess championship at the NSC conference room yesterday. Reefat won the match. — Star photo

Gary slams seventh ton

S Africa outplay Aussies



INDORE, India, Oct 19: Prolific opener Gary Kirsten smashed his second one-day century in three outings to steer South Africa to an easy seven-wicket victory over Australia here on Saturday, reports AFP.

The left-hander carried his bat for an unbeaten 105 as the powerful South Africans overtook Australia's modest 219-7 with 23 balls to spare — their 21st win in 24 one-day matches this year.

Hansie Cronje's wonder boys who beat hosts India by 47 runs in the opening match of the Titan triangular series on Thursday, have four points from their first two matches.

Australia playing their first game since losing the one-off Delhi Test against India in under four days last Sunday, failed to contain the South Africans in the absence of star bowler Shane Warne.

The leg-spinner, who opted out of the tour after a recent surgery on his finger, was missed as Kirsten and Andrew Hudson put on 118 for the first wicket.

Seamer Glenn McGrath raised visions of an upset win by removing Hudson (53) and Daryll Cullinan in the space of seven balls to make it 129 for two by the 26th over.

But Cronje, who added 46 for the third wicket with Kirsten, and Jonty Rhodes (19 not out) ensured there were no major hiccups before victory was achieved.

Kirsten, who hit 118 in the Keyan Centenary four-nation tournament final against Pakistan in Nairobi in early October and 84 on Thursday, won his third man-of-the-match award in a row.

The South African vice-captain hit seven boundaries in his seventh one-day century from 52 appearances.

Australia, electing to take first strike on an easy-paced wicket, were given a flying start by skipper Mark Taylor and Mark Waugh who put on 85 for the first wicket in 19 overs.

But the South Africans hit back by taking four wickets for 21 runs in the space of 40 deliveries — two of them through run

outs. Ricky Ponting (35) and Michael Bevan (56) compiled a face-saving stand of 61 for the fifth wicket before falling to paceman Allan Donald who finished with three wickets for 57 runs.

Livewire Jonty Rhodes showed his fielding prowess by running out Mark Waugh for 50, before picking up a sensational

off-spinners Pat Symcox and Crookes took over at that stage to reduce Australia to 106 for four by the 26th over.

Symcox deceived Steve Waugh in the air to have him stumped down the leg side by Richardson for one. Crookes held one back to Stuart Law, who drove it back for the bowler to accept a simple return catch.

Both spinners bowled tidy 10-over spells in the middle of the Australian innings, Symcox giving away just 28 runs and Crookes only 11 more.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the Titan triangular series one-day international between Australia and South Africa in Indore today:

AUSTRALIA

M Taylor run out 39

R Ponting c Richardson b Donald 35

S Waugh st Richardson b Symcox 1

S Law c and b Crookes 1

M Bevan b Donald 56

I Healy c Rhodes b Donald 11

B Heag not out 6

P Refill not out 6

Extras: (lb-4, w-1, nb-4) 9

Total: (for 7 wks in 50 overs) 219

Fall of wickets: 1-85; 2-99; 3-103; 4-106; 5-167; 6-197; 7-204.

Did not bat: J G Gillespie, G McGrath.

Bowling

De Villiers 0 0 38 0

McMillan 9 0 48 0

Donald 10 0 57 3

Crookes 10 0 39 1

Symcox 10 0 28 1

Cronje 1 0 5 1

SOUTH AFRICA

A Hudson c Taylor b McGrath 53

G Kirsten not out 105

D Cullinan b McGrath 0

H Cronje c Healy b Gillespie 14

J Rhodes not out 19

Extras: (b-5, lb-1, w-1, nb-7) 29

Total: (for 3 wks in 46 1 overs) 220

Fall of wickets: 1-118; 2-129; 3-175

Did not bat: P Symcox, B McMillan, D Richardson, D Crookes, F de Villiers, A Donald.

Bowling

McGrath 10 1 42 2

Reiffel 10 1 34 0

Gillespie 10 0 51 1

Hogg 7.1 0 37 0

Law 6 0 23 0

M Waugh 3 0 14 0

Result: South Africa won by seven wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Gary Kirsten.

Gazza eats humble-pie



LONDON, Oct 19: Paul Gascoigne has issued a public apology but insisted he will not quit soccer or Glasgow Rangers despite his week of shame, reports Reuters.

Gascoigne has been embroiled in front and back page controversy after being sent off against Ajax in a Champions' League game and allegations he assaulted his wife Sheryl.

On Friday night, the England midfielder issued a public apology to Rangers manager Walter Smith, his teammates and supporters for his ordering

off in Amsterdam. He declared himself ready to face Aberdeen today in front of around 50,000 fans and the full media glare at Ibrox.

"There were stories about me leaving or being sacked by the club," said Gascoigne. "It's easy for me just to pack my bags and walk away from football. I am not going to do that."

Gascoigne's only reference to the reports relating to his wife was to say that he took "a domestic problem" into Wednesday's match against Ajax, in which he was dismissed for kicking an opponent.

In his statement he said he

had disgraced himself by being sent off and let everyone down.

"The thing I had — the domestic problem — I took that into the match with me and shouldn't have. It showed in what happened and I deeply regret what happened in Amsterdam."

The statement added: "I have to stand up for myself after what has happened and come back stronger and try and play in the best of my ability for Rangers football club."