

Sport

Column One

Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-62

Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes : 8 pm Jan 31, '97

Table with 5 questions and multiple choice options for a school sports competition.

Name, Class, Roll No., School Address, Phone (if any) form fields.

SPORTS TALK



Nayan Mongia (India wicket keeper) 'Although I am disappointed we performed badly to lose the Durban Test, there was the satisfaction of taking all the catches that came my way. I thought I will come closer to 50 dismissals in the West Indies. But here in one match I have jumped to 46 and 50 looks a possibility at Cape Town itself.'

After the first Test in Durban against South Africa in which he took eight catches to have 46 victims from 18 Tests.

Acme Div II cricket results

Sports Reporter Udit Club, Nabin Sangha, East End Club, Jatrabari Krishna Chakra and Young Pegasus Club won their respective Acme Second Division cricket league matches held at different venues yesterday.

At the Dhanmondi Club ground, a magnificent century by opener Babu steered Udit Club to register a huge 76-run victory over Rayerbazar Athletics Club.

Put into bat in the morning, Udit piled up a massive 232 for five in their allotted 40 overs with opener Babu blasting an unbeaten 105 off 121 balls which included nine boundaries and a towering sixer. Among others, Rousseau remained unbeaten on 28 while Tagar and Sohag added 26 and 22 runs respectively.

In reply, Rayerbazar were bundled out for 156 in 32.3 overs. Opener Moin (44) and middle-order bat Mokhes (28) were the notable run-getters for the losers.

Udit bowler Naimul and Mustakin evenly shared six wickets among themselves conceding 25 and 21 runs respectively.

At the Uttara Friends Club ground, Nabin Sangha defeated Gandaria Cricketers by 63 runs.

Opting to bat first, Nabin Sangha amassed 219 for nine in the regulation overs with opener Habib scoring highest 62 followed by Pavel who made 59.

In reply, Gandaria Cricketers could muster only 156 before being all out in 37 overs.

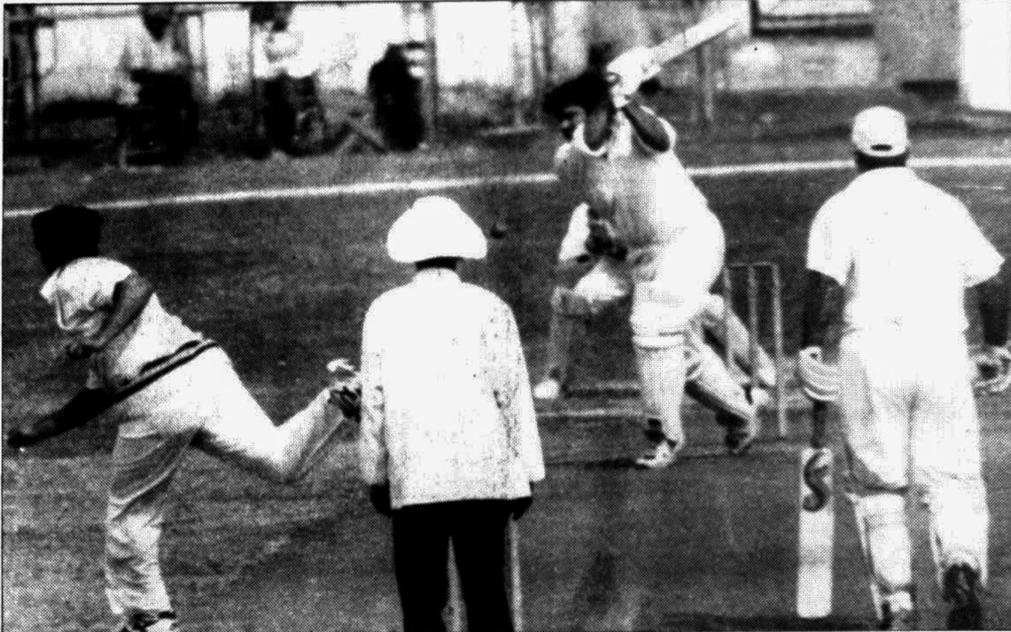
In day's other match on the western strip of the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, East End Club recorded a 51-run win over Nawabganj Cricket Club.

Sent into bat in the first session, East End made a commendable 232 for nine in 40 overs. Middle-order bat Palash top-scored with 67 off 74 balls while Sentu and Lipon scored 34 and 30 runs respectively.

In reply, Nawabganj were bundled out for 181 in 35.5 overs with Shahabuddin scoring an unbeaten 76 off 80 balls.

An East End's new-ball bowler Lenin captured four wickets followed by Prodeep and Palash who took two wickets each.

In the day's other two matches, Jatrabari Krishna Chakra registered a three-wicket victory over Mariner Young's Club at the T&T ground in Mahakhali while Young Pegasus posted a marginal one-wicket victory over Labhag Union Sporting Club at the Mirpur Outer Stadium.



CAPTAIN'S KNOCK: Akram Khan, who led from the front in Abahani's victory over Brothers Union in a crucial Premier league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday, launches into a massive cover drive. —Star photo

Title beckons Abahani

Sports Reporter

Skipper Akram Khan timed his return to form perfectly as he engineered Abahani's 143-run victory over Brothers Union with a century in a crucial Premier league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Akram whose performance as a batsman of late has been giving rise to questions about the justification of his longish stint as the captain of the national team, scored 105 as Abahani batting first collected 236 for eight.

The burly middle-order, who after calling the coin correctly opted to set a target, more than justified his decision as the title-chasing Abahani, riding well on Akram's first ton of the season, choked Brothers to tilt the balance decisively in their favour. Abahani now only need to beat their demoralised arch-rivals Mohammedans and lowly Wari to regain the Premier crown.

Up against the challenging task of getting 237 for victory, Brothers were shot out for a meagre 93 in the face of some accurate bowling from Abahani's five-pronged seam attack. The punishing defeat for the Gopibagh outfit not only burst the bubbles of their strong band of supporters, but also served a severe blow to the cause of their second league title since their first triumph way back in 1991.

The ceaseless beating of drums and honking of horns by the ardent Brothers fans faded away in the blues when an exhibition of reckless batsmanship coupled with some fire-up bowling by the Abahani seamers saw the fall of the league leaders like nine pins.

For Abahani, their third consecutive victory in the six-team Super league exacted a sweet revenge against Brothers, who won their first clash in the topsy-turvy first phase.

Besides, the reversal has enabled Abahani to join Brothers atop the table, both having collected 22 points from 14 outings. Moreover, the outcome of yesterday's match has once again proved that the country's sports is always a two-way battle between Abahani and Mohammedans.

A mere statistics may reveal something different, but the fact is that the fate of championship will be decided on Saturday when the two perennial

Metropolis qualifying chess results

Nine players are jointly leading in the qualifying rounds of the Metropolis chess competition securing full three points at the end of third round match yesterday at the NSC chess room, reports UNB.

The leaders are: Ahmedul Haq, Farid Ahmed, Nazrul Islam Delu, Moniruzzaman Khan, Hafizul Islam Chapal, Saifullah Russel, Kazir Taherul Islam, Motiur Rahman and Mohammad Javed.

In the day's third round match, Ahmedul beat Sohail, Farid defeated Shawkat, Delu outplayed Tarek, Monir beat Faruk, Chapal overpowered Shahid, Russel beat Shaque, Taher defeated Sumon, Moti overcame Rafique and Javed beat Arjo.

TODAY'S MATCHES

- Premier Division cricket league: (Super League) Kalabagan KC vs Biman (DS) (Relegation League) Agrani Bank vs Victoria SC (BKSP)
- First Division cricket league: Ajax SC vs Sadharan Bima KS (CCG)
- Uttara SC vs City Club (DCS)
- Acme Second Division cricket league: Spread Eagles vs Indra Road KC (MOS)
- Progoti Sangha vs Rupali Bank (Uttara)
- Kakrali Boys vs Lancashire CC (DCS, west)
- Western SC vs Kalindi KC (T&T ground)
- Orient SC vs Nirman Eleven (DCC)

Boys beat Uttara

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

Uttara Sporting Club: 143 all out in 41.5 overs (Ullash 33, Siddique 27, Mazhar 20, Rashid 4/23, Titu 2/13) BANGLADESH BOYS CLUB: 144 for eight in 40.1 overs (Sayed 27, Titu 18, Akber 17, Ashraf 17, Masud Rana 4/12) Result: Bangladesh Boys Club won by two wickets.

Bangladesh Boys Club recorded a crucial two-wicket win over Uttara Sporting Club in a relegation league match of First Division cricket held on the eastern strip of Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Chasing a paltry Uttara total of 143 in 45 overs, the Gopibagh boys lost eight wickets before reaching the summit in the 41st over. One-down Sayeed Hasan top-scored with 27 while middle-order bat Titu added 18 runs to the winners' total.

Earlier, sent into bat, Uttara were all out in 41.5 overs scoring only 143 runs with number ten batsman Ullash hammering highest 33.

With the win, Bangladesh Boys raised their tally to 8 points from 10 matches and moved to second place in the four-team relegation league behind City Club who have 10 points from as many matches.

On the other hand, Uttara remained third in the table collecting six points.

IMG signs up Kumble

NEW DELHI, Jan 30: Anil Kumble, India's "thinking man's cricketer," has signed up with sports management firm International Management Group, it was announced on Wednesday, reports AFP.

The leg-spinner, who is currently on tour with the national side in South Africa, last year became the 12th Indian to take more than 100 Test wickets.

Ravi Krishnan, IMG sales and marketing manager (India), said: "Kumble is a thinking man's cricketer and arguably one of the best spin bowlers in the world."

"We expect our association to take his professional career to new heights."

Kumble renowned for his subtle variations of spin and topspin, made his first major international tour to England in 1990. He returned to that country in 1995 and became the first Indian to take 100 wickets in an English county season while playing for Northamptonshire.

IAAF cools Johnson

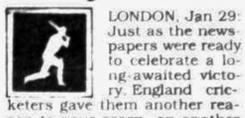
RALEIGH, North Carolina, Jan 30: The IAAF has paid Olympic double champion Michael Johnson about 70,000 dollars to resolve a dispute with British officials who renewed on a deal for him to run in Britain last year, his agent said Wednesday, reports Reuters.

The money and the recent resignation of British Athletic Federation (BAF) executive chairman Peter Radford, who was strongly criticised for Johnson's banning from the race at Crystal Palace last July, may lead to Johnson running in Britain this summer, his agent, Brad Hunt, said.

The payment to Johnson followed Hunt's complaint to the IAAF after British officials had dropped Johnson from the 400-metre race, saying his participation would be demoralising to British runners so close to the Atlanta Olympics.

"The (International Amateur Athletic Federation) paid the amount of money that Michael would have earned by running the race," Hunt said.

Ray leads Mike-bashing army



LONDON, Jan 29: Just as the newspapers were ready to celebrate a long-awaited victory, England cricketers gave them another reason to pour scorn on another hopeless result, report agencies.

The papers were on the attack again Wednesday after England failed to secure victory from a seemingly match-winning position in the first Test against New Zealand in Auckland.

"Draw snatched from jaws of victory," headlined The Times. England blocked out by the world's worst batsman said the Sun referring to a performance by New Zealand tail-ender Danny Morrison.

"World's worst," said The Daily Star, suggesting that England could drop to last of the nine Test playing nations if it loses the series to the Kiwis.

Only a day earlier, the papers had been preparing for a rare England victory.

New Zealand looked a beaten team when last man Morrison, who holds the world record for ducks, joined Nathan Astle to put on 106 runs during the 2 1/2 hours play left.

New Zealand held out for a draw and what followed was the familiar sight of England's players with their heads down, still looking for their first on-the-road win for two years after losses to India, Sri Lanka, the West Indies, Australia and South Africa.

The Sun made it out to be a special England performance for all the wrong reasons.

"It was quite an achievement," it needed something extraordinary from England's cricketers NOT to win the first Test against New Zealand.

The Daily Star said England had struggled against the only two teams below it in the unofficial world rankings.

"We've now been treated to disgraceful, embarrassing performances in Zimbabwe and a weak-willed, weak-spirited showing in New Zealand," the tabloid said.

The performance in Auckland comes after a winless Test series and 3-0 loss in one-day internationals in Zimbabwe. After those matches, the Zimbabweans criticised the English team's attitude and lack of fighting spirit.

Under the captaincy of opening batsman Michael Atherton, England has won only eight of 38 Tests and this summer faces the strongest team in the world, Australia.

While some papers called for Atherton to quit immediately as captain, others said he would almost certainly go after the next two Tests against New Zealand.

Daily Mail columnist Ian Wooldridge took one of the harshest lines.

"This was arguably the worst performance of England's ill-starred tour of the minor cricketing nations," he wrote. "It lacked drive and direction and, ultimately, any clue about finishing off a grievously wounded animal."

"English cricket followers are the most tolerant in the world. But they are utterly tired of a team which talks garbage and then exemplifies it on the field."

Ray Illingworth, who was replaced as England tour manager and chairman of selectors after poor performances against Pakistan and South Africa, accused Atherton of "lacklustre and unimaginative captaincy."

He said: "He must take much of the blame for England's unbelievable failure."

"His lacklustre, unimaginative captaincy, along with some awful bowling, lay at the heart of another alarming tour debacle."

"It is a sadness to say so, having worked so hard with Mike over the past few years, but if this carries on there will be no alternative to replacing him as England captain."

"It was an incredible outcome and Atherton's own errors of judgement and leadership were vividly evident," Illingworth told The Express.

Another former England captain, fast bowler Bob Willis, was equally damning.

Willis, now a TV commentator, said: "Letting New Zealand off the hook like that was unforgivable. England should easily have been able to take that last wicket."

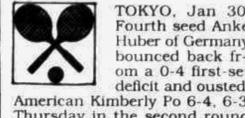
"There was a lot more that England could have done and the score should have been captained better by Atherton. He was found wanting."

"He should have attacked more. You've got to use your main strike bowler to best effect," Willis told The Daily Star.

The Odds on Atherton still being England captain for the Ashes Series this summer have lengthened, according to leading bookmakers William Hill.

Atherton had been a 1/2 favourite to lead England against the Australians, but he is now quoted at 4/6.

Huber, Coetzer in qtrs



TOKYO, Jan 30: Fourth seed Anke Huber of Germany bounced back from a 0-4 first-set deficit and ousted American Kimberly Po 6-4, 6-3 Thursday in the second round of the 926,250 dollars Toray Pan Pacific women's tennis tournament, reports AP.

The world's top-ranked Steffi Graf of Germany and No 2 player Martina Hingis, of Switzerland, the Australian Open champion, were idle in the day's singles event. They both have advanced to the quarter-finals.

Huber, eighth-ranked in the world, started a seven-game winning streak by breaking Po's service in the fifth, turning the tide and winning her first match since her fourth-round exit in the Australian Open.

After the turning point, the 22-year-old Huber was a different player, beginning some impressive sharpshooting down the lines, serving better, returning the ball well and making Po run more from one corner to the other.

"I could have played better but I'm happy that I won the first match which is always difficult," said Huber. She had a first-round bye.

"It is difficult if you come from Australia, like my match today, because it's really fast and it's completely different from Australia's," Huber spoke.

of the carpet surface at Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium. Melbourne uses hard courts.

"You just can't play your best tennis style, and because it's so fast there aren't too many rallies... and you can't really mix it up with drop and other shots," Huber said.

The World's No 19 Po, of Los Angeles, said changed her tactics in the fifth game due to aching muscles in her left leg, trying to run less and venture fewer risky moves.

None of Japanese singles players reached the quarter-finals as defending champion Iva Majoli of Croatia, No 7 in the world and seeded fifth, eliminated Ai Sugiyama, 7-5, 7-5.

At No 29, Sugiyama is Japan's highest-ranked player after No 8 Kimiko Date retired late last year.

In other matches, third seed Conchita Martinez of Spain ousted Kistite Boogert of the Netherlands 7-6 (7-5), 1-6, 6-3, Olympic champion and sixth-seeded Lindsay Davenport of the United States breezed past wild card Tamarine Tanasugarn of Thailand 6-3, 6-1, and eighth seed Brenda Schultz-McCarthy eliminate Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan 7-6 (7-4), 7-5.

In the day's only upset, unseeded Amanda Coetzer of South Africa defeated seventh seed Irina Spirlea of Romania 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

In the singles quarter-finals Friday Graf takes on Majoli, Hingis meets Coetzer, Huber plays against Davenport, and Martinez clashes with Schultz-McCarthy.

Tarango reaches last eight

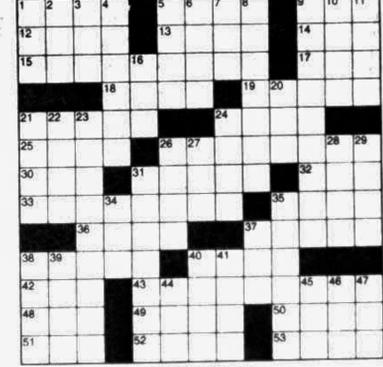
BEIJING, Jan 30: Jeff Tarango of the United States breezed into the quarter-finals of the 303,000 dollars Shanghai Open with a 6-2, 6-1 victory Thursday over Sweden's Lars Jonsson, reports AP.

Tarango, the fourth seed, next plays India's Leander Paes, who earned his quarterfinal place with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Sweden's Tomas Nydahl.

Tarango became the highest seed left in the indoor tournament after third-seeded Filip De Wulf of Belgium lost 3-6, 6-4, 5-7 to New Zealand's Brett Steven.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS: 1 Jolopy, 5 Persian honcho, 9 One of the Candae, 12 Sam Shepard's "—of the Mind", 13 Italian bread?, 14 Dander, 15 Shortcut, 17 It'll get you moving, 18 Metallic fabric, 19 House-coat?, 21 In the spotlight, 24 Loving, 26 Saharan, 28 Duhess's adomments, 30 B&B, 31 Where Joen of Arc was sentenced, 32 'Wayne's explictive, 33 Game of chance, 35 Advantage, 36 Fill till full, 37 Bad lighting?, 38 Stallone portrayal, 40 Cold Al-pine wind, 42 Ostrich's cousin, 43 Lux-uriance, 48 Chum, 49 Count's counter-part, 50 Exam format, 51 Tramcar contents, 52 Force unit, 53 Ceraceous 16 Dejected, 20 Abby's sister, 21 Equitable, 22 River through Florence, 23 Teensy-weensy, 24 Release a Rose?, 26 Sheep shed, 27 Ump's call, 28 Takeout request, 29 British gur, 31 Neatened a manu-script, 34 'Mighty— a Rose', 35 Already, 37 Bat, 38 "Man" (1984 movie), 39 The Tent-maker, 40 Combust, 41 Man for one, 44 Deposit, 45 History chapter, 46 Clinton's instrument, 47 Cunning



CRYPTOQUIP B R Y S U R T D R Q N V Y C G E L C Y Z B I S U D L V T T D R Y Q S E C S R L D U Q G H N V Y Z H G. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I WOULD DEFINITELY AGREE THAT A WORN-OUT RIFLE IS TRULY A SHOT GUN. Today's Cryptoquip clue: G equals P. The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals Q, it will equal Q throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Bima ride on Hannan

Sports Reporter

A brilliant century by opener Abdul Hannan Sarker propelled Sadharan Bima Krishna Sangstha to post a comfortable 24-run victory over Dhaka Wanderers in a Super league engagement of Division One cricket at the City Club ground yesterday.

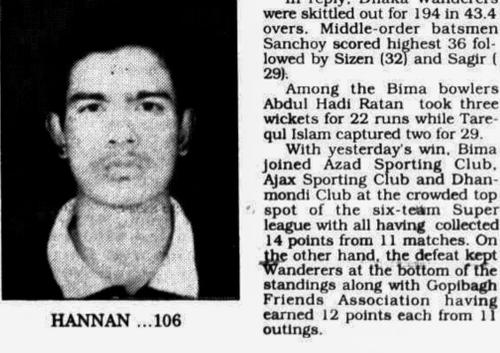
BRIEF SCORES

SADHARAN BIMA KS: 218 for seven in 45 overs (Hannan 106, Garry 18, Faruque 16 no; Sentu 2/46) DHAKA WANDERERS: 194 all out in 43.4 overs (Sanchoy 36, Sizen 32, Sagr 29; Ratan 3/22, Tareque 2/29) Result: Sadharan Bima won by 24 runs.

Among the Bima bowlers Abdul Hadi Ratan took three wickets for 22 runs while Tarekul Islam captured two for 29.

With yesterday's win, Bima joined Azad Sporting Club, Ajax Sporting Club and Dhanmondi Club at the crowded top spot of the six-team Super league with all having collected 14 points from 11 matches.

On the other hand, the defeat kept Wanderers at the bottom of the standings along with Gopibagh Friends Association having earned 12 points each from 11 outings.



HANNAN ...106