

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Alistair Campbell (Zimbabwe cricket captain) They can keep saying all they like that they could have won the match, but I believe the two sides were evenly matched.

On England coach David Lloyd's comments that Zimbabwe was "murdered" in the first Test that ended in a draw.

Sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sports WHIZZ KID competition-63

Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes: 8 pm Feb 14, '97

- 1 Who won the Australian Open women's singles title this year? Hings Pierce Coetzar
2 Which nation lifted the World Series Cup cricket title this year? Australia Pakistan West Indies
3 Who won this year's Frank Worrell Trophy? Australia W Indies England
4 Which team clinched the invitational international hockey title? PIA Abahani SL Army
5 Who won the 18th national junior chess championship title? Hings Umon Shakil

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

WC qualifier Maldini doubtful

MILAN, Feb 3: Italy captain Paolo Maldini limped off the field during a club match Sunday, casting doubt on his status for an upcoming World Cup qualifying game with England, reports AP.

The AC Milan star, son of new national coach Cesare Maldini, left his team's 3-2 Italian league loss to Sampdoria with 10 minutes left in the first half. Maldini is the cornerstone of Italy's defence from his left-back position.

The club did not immediately reveal the extent of the injury. Meanwhile, Internazionale midfielder Paul Ince, who is struggling to make the English lineup because of a thigh muscle injury, was held out of his club's match Sunday.

Italy play England at Wembley Stadium Feb. 12.

Abahani prepare for party



Abahani Kirra Chakra could not have asked for a better way to complete the 1996-97 cricket season as the winners of Damal Memorial tournament and Reporters' Cup completed their Premier league campaign with a facile 81-run victory over unfancied Wari at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The win catapults the popular Dhanmondi outfit to an unassailable position. Although they still have to wait a while to celebrate the hat-trick of titles because Bangladesh Biman too have a chance of finishing with the same number of points, a possibility that will bring the net-run rate into play as the deciding factor.

Abahani who have finished the league with 26 points from 16 matches lead their nearest rivals in net-run rate too. Their run rate in the super league is +1.68 against Biman's +.43.

Returning to the match from the world of statistics it is clear that it was yet another superb innings by skipper Akram Khan which guided the Dhanmondi outfit to their fifth successive victory in the super league.

Electing to bat first, Akram Khan, the burly right-handed batsman, hammered an unbeaten 75 off 76 balls to help his side amass 243 for five in their allotted 50 overs.

Coming to bat at number four with Abahani comfortably placed on 88 for two in 23.2 overs, Akram remained on the crease for more than one and a half hour to help his side reach 243 for five at the end of their 50 overs.

After a brief 15-run partnership with Pakistani Gulam Ali (25), Akram then shared an impressive 109-run fourth wicket partnership with in-form Pakistani right-hander Monirul Haque (61) before the latter was brilliantly taken by Wari skipper Sohail off his fifth delivery of the 47th over with the scoreboard reading 212.

In the remaining 19 balls, Abahani added another 31 runs with the loss of another wicket of Durjoy (5) who was caught behind off a Sohail delivery in the 49th over. Akram remained not out on 75 while lower middle order Iqbal was unbeaten on four.

In his run-a-ball innings, Akram hammered two huge sixers and clouted six boundaries.

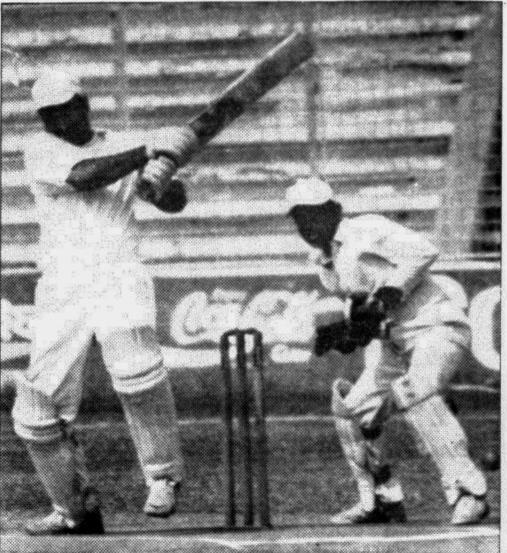
Never in the chase of daunting victory target of 244, Wari Club were all out for 172 in 48.1 overs with Pakistani opener Aamir Wasim hammering highest 56 off 107 balls.

Right-arm medium pacer Zakir Hossain, the man for whom the Wari imprints could not wear a more healthy look than what it eventually did, captured four wickets for 30 runs in his 9.1-over spell. He found an able and willing partner in off-spinner Naimur Rahman Durjoy who took three wickets for 28 runs.

SCOREBOARD ABAHANI KC Javed Omar Belim c A Wasim b Shafiquddin 38
TODAY'S MATCHES Premier Division Cricket League Mohammedan SC vs Kalabagan KC (DS) (Relegation League) Victoria SC vs Sarjo Tarun Club (BKSP) Agrani Bank vs GMCC (DCS) First Division Cricket League (Super League) Dhaka Wanderers vs Gopibagh FA (CCG) Azad SC vs Dhanmondi Club (JHG) Acme Second Division Cricket League Lalbagh Anwar SC vs Lancashire CC (MOS) Young Pegasus vs Uttara FC (T&T) Spread Eagles vs Mill Barrack CC (Uttara) Dhanmondi Progoti vs Rayerbazar AC (DCS, West) DOHS vs Orient SC (DCG)

Bowling O M R W Shafiquddin 9 0 54 1 Rakib Hasan 5 0 31 0 Amir Wasim 10 1 30 0 Tashriqul 1 0 12 0 Ariful Islam 10 1 29 0 Sohail c 8 1 50 3 Montu 7 1 35 1

Bowling O M R W Jahangir Talukder 8 3 17 0 Zakir Hossain 9 1 30 4 Iqbal Hossain 10 0 33 1 Akram Khan 0 4 0 6 Ashraf Ali 8 1 25 1 Gulam Ali 4 0 19 0 Naimur Rahman 8 2 28 3



Abahani's Pakistani batsman Monirul Haque pulls one during his fine innings of 61 against Wari Club in yesterday's Premier Division super league match at the Dhaka Stadium.

COMPARATIVE STATS

The comparative figure based on net run rates between Abahani Kirra Chakra and Bangladesh Biman in the Super league is given below: ABAHANI For 218 (50 overs) 90 (50 overs) 207 (47 overs) 205 (50 overs) 236 (50 overs) 93 (50 overs) 151 (37 overs) 148 (50 overs) 243 (50 overs) 172 (50 overs) Total: 1055 (234 overs) Run-rate: 4.5085 Net run-rate: +1.68 BIMAN For 211 (50 overs) 201 (50 overs) 205 (50 overs) 207 (47 overs) 273 (49 overs) 269 (50 overs) 131 (32 overs) 130 (50 overs) Total: 820 (181 overs) Run-rate: 4.530 Net run-rate: +4.3

Acme Div II results

194 before being all out in 39.5 overs. Opener Monirul topped scored with a breezy 55 while middle-order bat Rabbani scored 42 off 51 balls. In reply, Jatrabari were shot out for a paltry 119 in 32.1 overs with extras contributing highest 20 runs in the vanquished total. At the away Mirpur Outer Stadium, Rupali Bank cantered past PWD SC by six wickets. Chasing a fighting PWD total of 181/8 in the stipulated 40 overs, Rupali Bank rattled up 184/4 with ten balls to spare. Opener Santanu Roy hammered a rapid-fire 53 off 54 balls inclusive of seven hits across the rope to lay the foundation for his side's facile victory. While skipper Ismail and Monoj Kumar shared 79 runs for the undefeated fourth wicket to guide their team to victory without any further damage, Ismail remained unbeaten on a 35-ball 38 while Monoj scored 36. At the Uttara Friends Club ground, Indira Road prevailed over Young Ones by 21 runs. In a pulsating encounter, Indira, who were defending a commanding total of 216, went on to restrict Young Ones for 195/9 with Ashiq claiming three wickets for 27 runs. On the western strip at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Robin scored a dazzling 90 to guide Spread Eagles to a five-wicket win over Gandaria Cricketers' Club. The middle-order bat, who clubbed eight fours in his 84-ball vig, remained unbeaten at the kill as Spread Eagles overhauled a fighting 201 by the old-town outfit. Meanwhile, in the other match of the day at Dhanmondi Club ground, Nawganj Juba Sangha defeated Lalbagh by 27 runs. In a high-scoring affair, Nawganj piled up a mammoth 213 with one-down Sahabuddin scoring a blazing 73 off 65 balls. In reply, Lalbagh could muster 204 before being all out in 37 overs.

All for an umpire

Late arrival of one of the umpires forced the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) to postpone yesterday's First Division cricket super league match between Dhanmondi Club and Ajax Sporting Club which was scheduled at the City Club ground.

According to the CCDM officials, umpire Nadir Shah, one of two umpires designated to officiate the match, did not arrive in the ground in time. And when CCDM, after knowing the matter, sent substitute umpires, it was too late to hold a 45-over-a-side match as neither side agreed to play a curtailed over match.

A fresh date for the match will be announced soon.

Agrani, GMCC post wins

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

LALMATIA CLUB: 136 all out in 43.2 overs (Noman 48, Shuvro 4/25, Dipu Roy 2/17, S Iqbal 2/26, S Mehebo: 2/31). AGRANI BANK: 139 for eight in 47.1 overs (Azam 40, Shahid Iqbal 27, Ishiaque 20, Morshed 2/14, Nahid 2/21, Babu 2/21). Result: Agrani Bank won by two wickets.

GMCC: 250 all out in 49 overs (Rezwan 55, Ridwan 43, Torab Ali, 30, Al-Amin 23, Sujon 3/42, Shaon 2/17). GULSHAN YOUTH CLUB: 161 all out in 49.3 overs (Huda 55, Antu 20, Manju 2/23, Anis 2/25, Ferdous 2/28). Result: GMCC won by 89 runs.

Agrani Bank and Greater Mymensingh Cricket Club won their respective Premier Division relegation league engagements held at different venues yesterday. At the BKSP in Savar, Agrani Bank recorded a two-wicket win over Lalmatia Club to extend their solo lead to 16 points on completion of their 15th match.

Sent into bat, Lalmatia were all out for 136 in 43.2 overs with middle-order bat Noman scoring highest 48 off 98 balls. Shuvro was the most successful Bank bowler capturing four wickets for 25 runs while former national left-arm medium-pace Dipu Roy Chowdhury and two Pakistanis - Shahid Meheboob and Shahid Iqbal bagged two wickets each.

In reply, the bankers took 47.1 overs to get the runs with two wickets in hand. Azam Iqbal hammered highest 40 off 61 balls while Shahid Iqbal and Ishiaque added 27 and 20 runs respectively to the winners' account. In the day's other match held on the eastern strip of Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, GMCC handed Gulshan Youth Club a 89-run defeat.

Put into bat, GMCC piled up 250 in 49 overs before they were all out with middle-order Rezwan adding highest 55 off 90 balls. Among others, Ridwan and Pakistani Torab Ali scored 43 and 30 runs respectively.

On the other hand, Gulshan were bundled out for 161 in 49.3 overs. Huda (55) and Antu (20) were the leading run-getters for the Gulshan outfit who have already replied to the First Division next year being unable to win a single match so far from their 15 games. The win raised GMCC's tally to eight points from 15 outings.

English political and soccer officials reacted with outrage over the weekend when UEFA confirmed it had endorsed Germany's bid to host world soccer's biggest event, Prime Minister John Major called UEFA's move "outrageous."

But UEFA insisted it had backed the German bid as far back as 1993 and expressed "astonishment" that England should now plan to submit its own candidacy. FIFA, the sport's world governing body, said Monday that England was free to put forward its bid despite UEFA's stance.

"It's quite clear in the regulations that each and every of the national associations is entitled to bid," FIFA spokesman Keith Cooper said. "Everybody stands the same chance," he said. "Never before have we had a continent coming in for one or the other candidate, and it is unlikely to be the case this time either. Yes, the

Nirman cricket final in Jhalakathi

JHALAKATHI, Feb 3: The final match of the district-level Nirman schools cricket tournament will be held at the local stadium tomorrow, reports UNB. Last year's champions and runners-up Taruli High School and Jhalakathi Government High School will once again meet in this year's final. The defending champions reached the final after beating Pura Adarsha School by nine wickets while the runners up defeated Udbodhon School with a same margin.

Cairns cause of Kiwi concern

WELLINGTON, Feb 3: New Zealand all-rounder Chris Cairns is in danger of missing the second cricket Test against England after injuring his ankle in a benefit match, reports AP. Cairns faces a 48-hour wait before he will know whether he will be fit to play in the Test, which begins Thursday at the Basin Reserve Ground. Cairns strained his left ankle on Sunday while batting in a testimonial match for fellow international Gavin Larsen. He took no part in the New Zealand squad's light workout on Monday afternoon and coach Steve Rixon said he was concerned Cairns may not recover in time. "It would be silly to say I'm not concerned about the injury," Rixon said. "It's not smooth sailing. Team physiotherapist Mark Plummer said Cairns' ankle was swollen and bruised. Cairns' bowling during the drawn first Test in Auckland was poor. His 30 overs produced one wicket for 103 runs, but he batted impressively in New Zealand's first innings - hitting a breezy 67 in a 118-run sixth wicket partnership with century-maker Stephen Fleming.



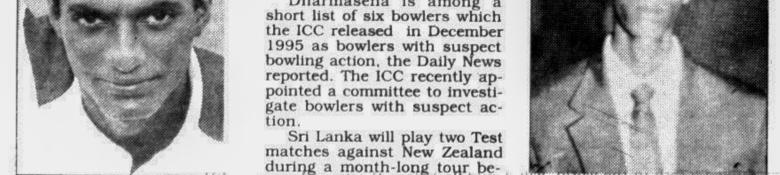
Abahani players acknowledge the crowd's applause after defeating Wari Club yesterday at the Dhaka Stadium.

All eyes on Muralitharan, Dharmasena

COLOMBO, Feb 3: Two Sri Lankan bowlers with suspect actions will come under scrutiny in the forthcoming cricket tour of New Zealand, a local newspaper reported Monday, report agencies. The Daily News quoting a confidential International Cricket Council (ICC) report to the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka, has stated the actions of off-spinners Muthiah Muralitharan and Kumara

On the evidence of these reports, Muralitharan went on to play an important role in his country winning the World Cup in March last year. He has also played in one-day tournaments in Singapore, Kenya, Sharjah and at home, without being called for throwing. Dharmasena is among a short list of six bowlers which the ICC released in December 1995 as bowlers with suspect bowling action, the Daily News reported. The ICC recently appointed a committee to investigate bowlers with suspect action.

Sri Lanka will play two Test matches against New Zealand during a month-long tour beginning in March. The two bowlers are likely to be included in the 16-member squad to be named shortly. Meanwhile, in Wellington, the Kiwis will take part in a four-nation one-day cricket tournament in India in May. New Zealand cricket chief executive Chris Doig.



MURALITHARAN Dharmasena will be closely scrutinised during the Kiwi tour.

Muralitharan, Sri Lanka's principal spinner was questioned by New Zealand coach John Reid during Sri Lanka's tour in March 1995. Later during a tour to Australia that ended last year, two Australian umpires no-balled Muralitharan, forcing Sri Lanka to leave him out of further matches during the tour. Sri Lankan authorities requested international experts to carry out intensive medical and scientific tests to prove that he suffered from a congenital condition which does not allow him to straighten his arm fully and his generous wrist action sometimes make it look as if the ball has been thrown.

England sticks to its gun

LONDON, Feb 3: England pressed ahead Monday with its bid for the 2006 World Cup, despite evidence it knew - or should have known - years ago that Germany was the only candidate of European soccer's governing body, reports AP. English political and soccer officials reacted with outrage over the weekend when UEFA confirmed it had endorsed Germany's bid to host world soccer's biggest event, Prime Minister John Major called UEFA's move "outrageous."

But UEFA insisted it had backed the German bid as far back as 1993 and expressed "astonishment" that England should now plan to submit its own candidacy. FIFA, the sport's world governing body, said Monday that England was free to put forward its bid despite UEFA's stance. "It's quite clear in the regulations that each and every of the national associations is entitled to bid," FIFA spokesman Keith Cooper said. "Everybody stands the same chance," he said. "Never before have we had a continent coming in for one or the other candidate, and it is unlikely to be the case this time either. Yes, the

UEFA said it wanted only one bid from Europe in order to avoid a repeat of the bitter campaign for the 2002 World Cup by Asian rivals South Korea and Japan. FIFA decided last year to allow the two countries to co-host the event. UEFA notified the FA of its position by fax last week after receiving an invitation to attend a Feb. 12 reception at Major's office for the official launch of the England bid. David Will of Scotland, a FIFA vice president, was an observer at UEFA's meeting in Lisbon and said the decision was made entirely above board. "There was certainly no underhand dealing," Will said. "What happened is that two years ago UEFA decided it wanted a change to the FIFA rules, meaning that only one association in each continental confederation should make a World Cup bid.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: ACROSS 1 Trot, 4 Dogs' dogs, 8 Attempt, 12 Parrot, 13 Medicinal plant, 14 Headlight?, 15 Thru, 16 Asta's mistress, 17 Toast, 18 Racy stage plays of a sort, 21 - Wiedersehen - driver, 22 Scrap, 23 Reversible manuscript, 26 Moo goo gai pan, 27 The feminine side, 30 Family member, 31 Embarrassed, 32 Texas city, 33 Comprehend, 34 Links gadget, 35 Riverboat, 53 Aries appellation, 37 Rather or DOWN 1 Door-, 2 Mayberry boy, 3 Fix, in on it!, 4 Succeed, 5 Uncordial, 6 Apple denizen, 7 Fish, 8 Curtailed, 9 Soft mineral, 51 Adjoining, 52 Race, 53 Aries appellation, 54 Granatelli, 55 Aries appellation, 56 Torah chest, 23 Tiggy's successor, 24 Wiseguy, 25 Otherwise, 26 Pismire, 27 Minsculc, 28 Run up the phone bill, 29 Rocks, 29 - a leader be, 31 Finery, 32 Refuse to, 34 A Smotherers brother, 35 Equivalence, 36 Youngest son, 37 Michelangelo masterpiece, 38 Self term: porosity, 39 Wings, 40 Hoodoo, 41 Teller's partner, 42 Computer symbol, 43 Continental prefix, 44 Check.

CRYPTOQUIP G Q F W B, G I L W Z O Q P Q Z P U J T L H Q F U Z U J H Z V S W B H T H I L N P U O L N T V L P H S L L M Q L P M L Q Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IN CHARLES DICKENS' DAY, KIDS ALWAYS LOVED TO EAT OLIVER TWIST. Today's Cryptoquip clue: Q equals R 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 words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন, ঢাকা স্বাস্থ্য বিভাগ আপনার পরিবেশ সুন্দর ও পরিষ্কার রাখুন আপনার শিশুকে টিকা দিন দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশন স্বাস্থ্য বিভাগের অধীন মাছুসদন ও বিভিন্ন দাতব্য চিকিৎসালয়সমূহের জন্য গ্র্যাপোল্যাটিক ঔষধ, সার্জিক্যাল যন্ত্রপাতি ও উপকরণ সরবরাহের জন্য বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ২৯১১ তে প্রকৃত প্রস্তুতকারক কোম্পানি/আমদানিকারক/পরিবেশক ও সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতে পারে। উক্ত দরপত্র আগামী ২০-০২-৯৭ই/০৮-১১-২০০০ তারিখ বেলা ১২-০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত প্রধান স্বাস্থ্য কর্মকর্তা এবং সকল আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাদের দপ্তরে সম্মুখে রক্ষিত সীলমোহরকৃত বাস্তব হইবে এবং এদিনই বেলা ০১-০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতা/প্রতিনিধিগণের (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সামনে প্রধান স্বাস্থ্য কর্মকর্তার অফিসে কক্ষ খোলা হইবে। নিম্নবর্ণিত হারে জামানত যে কোন সিডিউল ব্যাংক হইতে পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ডাফট-এর মাধ্যমে মেয়র, ঢাকা সিটি করপোরেশনের অনুকূলে দাখিল করিতে হইবে। টেন্ডার নোটিশ ও সিডিউলের মূল্য নিম্নবর্ণিত হারে নগদ টাকা চালান মারফত জমা দিয়া অত্র সংস্থার ক্যাশিয়ার ও সকল আঞ্চলিক নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তাদের দপ্তর হইতে পাওয়া যাইবে। সিডিউলের সঙ্গে চালানের কপি দাখিল করিতে হইবে। মাল্যমানের দাম অংকে ও কথায় স্পষ্টভাবে লিখিতে হইবে। দরপত্রের সঙ্গে সার্জিক্যাল উপকরণের নমুনা দাখিল করিতে হইবে। দরপত্র খোলার দিন কোন টেন্ডার সিডিউলের কাগজপত্র বিক্রয় করা হইবে না। যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সিটি করপোরেশনের কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করেন।