

# Column One

## SPORTS TALK



**Paul Adams**  
(South African chinaman bowler)  
I think there is always room for improvement even if you are the best bowler in the world. And I have just started playing serious cricket.

### Sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

**WIN**  
**TK, 2000/-**  
**PRIZE BOND**  
**EVERY FORTNIGHT**

### 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   | Coetzer     |
| 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?        | Tipu      | Imon     | Shakil      |

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

### Jhalakathi Boys Nirman cricket champs

JHALAKATHI, Feb 6: Jhalakathi Government Boys Schools clinched championship of the district-level Nirman schools cricket tournament, beating last two years' champions Taruli High School, reports UNB.

The Jhalakathi School defeated the Taruli High School by eight wickets in the final match held at the local stadium today (Thursday).

Electing to bat first, Taruli School were all out scoring 110 runs in 28.3 overs. In reply, the Jhalakathi School easily reached their target of 111 runs for loss of only two wickets by sparing 26 overs.

Qamrul Hassan Sujon was adjudged man-of-the-match for contributing a match-winning 34-run. Highlight of the match also included: Three-wicket haul by winner team's Shishir only in a three-over bowling for 10 runs.

Ten teams took part in the tournament organised by the Bangladesh Cricket Board with the management by Jhalakathi District Sports Foundation.

### Quesada beats Harrison

MADRID, Feb 6: Cuba's Yoelvis Quesada defeated Olympic triple jump champion Kenny Harrison with a dramatic last-round effort in an international athletics meeting on Wednesday, reports Reuter.

Quesada, bronze medalist at last year's Atlanta Olympics, jumped 17.20 metres, a performance he alone has bettered during this indoor season.

The triple jump contest was the highlight of the Madrid indoor Grand Prix meeting. Going into the last round, Quesada and compatriot Allacser Urrutia had both achieved a best distance of 17.18.

Urrutia fouled while Quesada improved by two centimetres but both jumpers had to hold their breath as Harrison took the last jump of the contest.

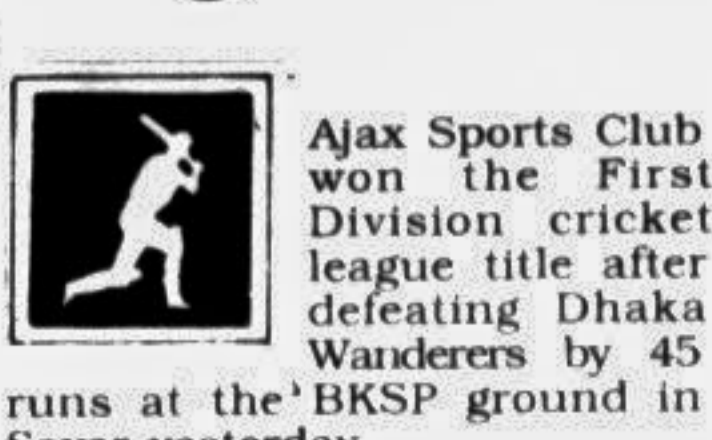
Russia's Irina Privalova ran the best women's 60 metres time of the year so far with a storming victory in 7.04 seconds.

### Press Club badminton

Jatiya Press Club badminton tournament-97 begins at the club premises on February 15, reports BSS.

Interested club members have been requested to enlist their names by February 13.

# Ajax annex Div I title



Back into the match from the world of statistics, Ajax, aided by a brilliant unbeaten half century by Sumon Bishwari, scored a fighting total of 191 for six in their share of 40 overs. Sumon, who shared 69 runs for the fifth wicket with Jewel, hammered a dazzling 52 off 45 balls. Jewel scored 31. Besides, opener Rafiqul Islam with 35 was the other notable run-getter for the winners.

In reply, Wanderers could manage only 146 for seven before being exhausted their quota of 40 overs. Middle-order bat Sejan with a plucky 31 and opener Mahfuz, who scored 28, were the only 20-plus contributors in the vanquished total.

It was Wanderers' fifth successive defeat in the super league to remain stuck to the bottom of the table with their first leg collection of 12 points.

For Ajax their Pakistani recruit Makhsood Raja, set the pattern of a tidy bowling with fantastic figures of 8-5-4-2. Meanwhile, in the other match of the day, an insignificant affair, Sadharan Bima recorded a facile five-wicket win over Gopibagh Friends Association.

Chasing a modest Gopibagh total of 159 in the stipulated 40

### Sports Reporter

overs, the insuranceemen rattled up 162 for five with more than three overs to spare.

After a disastrous start with Sadharan Bima limping on 29/3, the victory was, however, ensured by two watchful half centuries from Gary and Azam.

The two middle-order bats, who had the innings together, featured in a match-winning 121-run stand for the fourth wicket before Gary departed for 55 off 73 balls. While Azam remained unbeaten on a 77-ball 53 at the kill.

Earlier, the Gopibagh total was built around two 20-plus contributions from Saiful Islam (28) and Azim (21). Apart from that, it was a hefty 58 from Mr Sundries that stood as the highest contribution to the Gopibagh total.

Among the Sadharan Bima bowlers Niaz with three for 26 in his nine overs returned most successful while Sumon Nabib took two for 26 in his six overs.

### STANDINGS

| Teams     | M  | W  | L | Points     |
|-----------|----|----|---|------------|
| Ajax SC   | 14 | 10 | 4 | 20 (+1.02) |
| Azad SC   | 14 | 10 | 4 | 20 (+0.63) |
| Dhanmondi | 14 | 8  | 6 | 16         |
| S Bima KS | 14 | 8  | 6 | 16         |
| Wanderers | 14 | 6  | 8 | 12         |

# Sydney beckons Bubka

DONETSK, Ukraine, Feb 6: Sergei Bubka, apparently recovered from the long-standing achilles tendon injury which ruined his Olympics last year, plans to compete at the 2000 Sydney Games, reports Reuter.

The 33-year-old Ukrainian has set 35 world records and won gold at each of the five World Championships to date.

But, apart from winning the 1988 Seoul title, his career has been marred by a series of disasters.

He was denied the chance to win in Los Angeles in 1984 by the Soviet bloc boycott.

At the 1992 Barcelona Games, Bubka failed to clear a height with each of three opening jumps and was ignominiously eliminated.

And at last year's Atlanta Games, Bubka went through a perfunctory warm-up before the final, then packed his gear and left the Olympic stadium.

"Every Olympic year is very hard for me," he said in an interview in his impoverished home town. "It's fate."

The injury prevented Bubka competing last month at the Donetsk 'pole stars' event he established eight years ago. Instead he was confined to commenting as Russian Pyotr Bokharyov won with a leap of 5.80 metres.

Bubka, who travels to Finland once a month for medical checks, dismisses talk of retirement and says he still hopes to raise his world record to 6.20 metres.

"I feel quite good," he said, "I am preparing for the World Summer Championships in Athens. The old injury doesn't bother me any more."

"I want to jump till 2000. I don't like making forecasts. I am a man of action not of words. But I really want to jump 6.20 metres."

Frenchman Jean Galfione, who won gold in Atlanta last year, said he believed Bubka had at least one more world

record left in him.

Galfione, second in the 'pole stars' competition said: "He can jump higher."

"But now it is more difficult for him because of his age. Also his body is very fragile and he must be very careful."

Bubka won his first world title in 1983, the year the sport turned professional, and is now wealthy beyond the dreams of his compatriots, who on average earn less than 100 dollars a month.

He left the former Soviet republic in the early 1990s, taking his wife and two sons to Berlin where he opened a sports

school.

Local media reported members of the Russian Mafia had demanded regular payment from him while he was in Germany and he hired two bodyguards before moving to his present home in Monaco.

Bubka says he will know when it is time to retire.

"There is a limit to everything," he said. "After that I will be an ordinary sportsman — I will play tennis, soccer and basketball just for fun."

"I enjoy mixing sports and business. My business is varied and it's something I want to do in the future."

### Slaney ready to roll

NEW YORK, Feb 6: Nearly 60 international Olympians and the return of Mary Decker Slaney to the Millrose Games will highlight the 90th running of America's premier indoor track meet Friday at Madison Square Garden, reports Reuter.

But there will be no Jackie Joyner-Kersey or Gail Devers as both Olympic champions pulled out Wednesday in a dispute over appearance fees, according to meet director Howards Schmetz.

Joyner-Kersey had been scheduled to race in the 60-metre hurdles in the first track appearance for the six-time Olympic gold medalist since last year's Atlanta Games. Devers had been expected to resume her duel with defending champion Gwen Torrence in the 60 metres.

Slaney, 38-year-old holder of 11 indoor and outdoor US records ranging from 800 metres to 3,000 metres, will be at the event for the first time since finishing second in the mile in 1989.

Since then, she had been

hobbled by a series of leg and ankle injuries. But even when she was not running, Slaney never gave up hope of racing against Millrose where she had won the mile three times.

A strong field of milers featuring defending Millrose champion Kathy Franey and 1995 champion Angela Chalmers of Canada will test Slaney around the 11-lap banked track. However, 1992 Olympic 1,500 metre champion Hassiba Boulmerka of Algeria withdrew after injuring an achilles tendon while training in Cuba earlier in the week.

Slaney welcomed the challenge of an elite field.

"I would not have come if I didn't feel like I would be in good shape and very, very competitive," Slaney said.

Happiness is simply running at the Millrose Games for five-time mile winner Marcus O'Sullivan, who will be competing in his 15th millrose.

Allen Johnson will stride to the starting line of the 60-metre hurdles looking to add the American indoor mark to his 110-metre hurdle Olympic record he set last year.

# City stay up

City Club retained their First Division status after defeating Bangladesh Boys comfortably by 68 runs in their last relegation cricket league engagement at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

### BRIEF SCORES

**CITY CLUB:** 228 for five in 45 overs (Reza 88, Abdul Majid 50, Liton 43; Sumon 2/38)

**BANGLADESH BOYS:** 160 for nine in 45 overs (Sumon 41; Palash 3/29, Shakil 2/43)

**Result:** City Club won by 68 runs.

**ESKATON SS:** 108 all out in 38.1 overs (Litu 24)

**UTTARA SC:** 111 for one in 12.2 overs (Bagiu 52 n.o. Moin 48 n.o.)

**Result:** Uttara SC won by nine wickets.

Sent into bat, the winners piled up 228 for five in the stipulated 45 overs with one down Rezaul Hasan hammering highest 88 off 107 deliveries. Among others, Abdul Majid and Liton added 50 and 43 runs respectively to the Mirpurians' account.

In reply, City Club's medium pacers Mohaiminul Islam Palash and Shakil Ahmed tore through the Boys batting line up who were eventually restricted to 160 for nine at the end of their share of allotment.

Palash captured three wickets conceding 29 runs while Shakil took two wickets.

With yesterday's win, City Club finished the four-team relegation league campaign at the top of the table with 12 points from 14 matches. On the other hand, the defeat, kept Boys' fate stuck to their previous collection of ten points, equal to Uttara Sporting Club who in the day's other match, trounced Eskaton Sabuj Sangha by nine wickets and raised their tally to ten points on completion of their relegation league. Both teams will now face each other in a play-off this morning at the same venue. The winners will stay in Division one league while the losers will join Eskaton Sabuj Sangha in the Second Division next season. Eskaton finished at the bottom of the relegation league with only two points.

### STANDINGS

| Teams      | M  | W | L  | Points |
|------------|----|---|----|--------|
| City Club  | 12 | 6 | 6  | 12     |
| B Boys     | 12 | 5 | 7  | 10     |
| Uttara SC  | 12 | 5 | 7  | 10     |
| Eskaton SS | 12 | 1 | 11 | 2      |

# Acme Div II cricket results

Former national cricketer Nadir Shah hammered a brilliant half century to guide Azad Boys Club to a comfortable four-wicket victory over Lalbagh Union Sporting Club in one of yesterday's four Acme Second Division league matches on the western strip of Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

In a family affair which saw two other members of his family — former national cricketer and his elder brother Jahangir Shah Badshah and his son Ali Shah playing for the same team, Nadir Shah scored 56 off 61 balls to steer Azad Boys, who were chasing a paltry Lalbagh total of 153 in 40 overs, reach the winning mark with four wickets in hand and nine balls to spare. In his run-a-ball innings, Nadir Shah fired three huge sixers and six sweetly timed hits across the rope. He received a nice support from his elder brother Badshah who added 21 off 31 balls including four boundaries.

Earlier, put into bat, Lalbagh were restricted to 153 for six with middle order Haider scoring highest 38.

Away at Mahakhali T&T ground, Kelaghur Samaj Kalyan Sangstha defeated Nabin Sangha also by four wickets.

Sent into bat, Nabin Sangha mustered 187 in 39.4 overs before they were all out. Middle order batsmen Helal (33) and Pavel (29) were the leading run getters.

In reply, Kelaghur lost six wickets on their way to the victory in 38.3 overs with number four batsman Saiful Azam Khan hammering highest 58.

In the other matches of the day, Nirman Eleven beat Lancashire Cricket Club by 27 runs at the Uttara Friends' Club ground while Kakrail Boys handed Udayachal Club a 26-run defeat at the Jagannath Hall ground.

### TODAY'S MATCHES

**First Division Cricket League:** (Relegation play-off) Bangladesh Boys vs Uttara SC (DS)

**Acme Second Division Cricket League:** Lalbagh Anwar SC vs Amarjyoti Club (MOS)

Azad Boys Club vs Western SC (DCC)

Young Pegasus vs Kalindi KC (Uttara)

Dhanmondi PS vs Uditi Club (DCS)

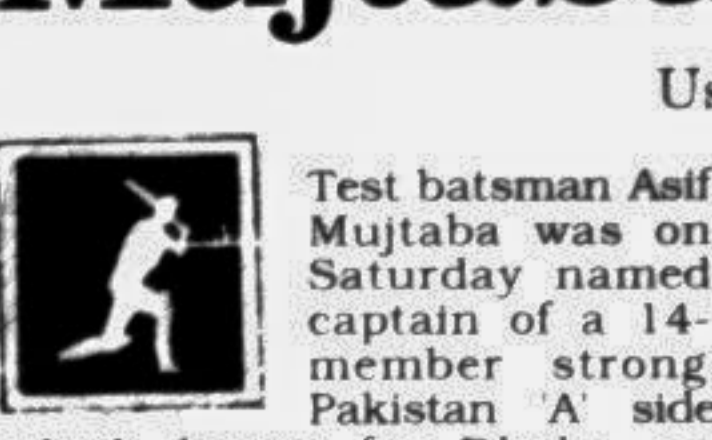
Spread Eagles vs Shantinaragar Club (T&T)

### Comilla cricket

COMILLA, Feb 6: Hidden Heroes Club won six Comilla District First Division cricket league title beating Sporting Union by five wickets at the local stadium here today, reports UNB.

Sent into bat, Sporting Union were all out for 164 in 39.2 overs. In reply, Hidden Heroes reached 165 for five in 33 overs.

# Mujtaba to skipper Pak A



Test batsman Asif Mujtaba was on Saturday named captain of a 14-member strong Pakistan 'A' side which leaves for Dhaka on February 16 for participation in the four-nation SAARC tournament.

Also making a welcome return to the international arena after spending the whole season in the wilderness are Test stars Rashid Latif, who has been named the vice-captain, pacer Aaqib Javed and batsman Basit Ali.

Selector Zaheer Abbas has been appointed manager while former Test cricketer Agha Zahid will accompany the team as coach.

The team released by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Saturday was finalised by the national selection committee on December 30. Promising batsmen Muhammad Washim and Mujahid Jamshed who were part of the Pakistan team that won the World Series competition in Australia, have also been chosen for the national event alongside pace prodigy Muhammad Zahid, who captured 11 wickets on his Test debut against New Zealand and also gave a good account of himself during the Australian tour.

The 14-member team includes seven specialist batsmen in Asif Mujtaba, Saleem Elahi, Azam Khan, Mujahid Jamshed, Muhammad Washim, Basit Ali and Akhtar Sarfraz; three fast bowlers in Aaqib Javed, Kabir Khan, Muhammad Zahid, one all-rounder in Azhar Mehmood, who is also a useful medium-

# SAARC tournament

Usman Shirazi writes from Lahore

pacers, a wicketkeeper in Rashid Latif and two specialist spinners in left-armers Muhammad Hussain and off-spinner Arshad Khan.

Surprisingly, the team has only one specialist opening batsman in Saleem Elahi. The other slot will either be filled by Mujahid Jamshed or Akhtar Sarfraz, who has been chosen for national duty in his first-class debut season in which he has managed over 500 runs, the bulk of which were scored in the Quid-e-Azam Trophy.

However, chief selector Salim Altaf on Saturday said he planned to watch the budding paceman during the Wills Cup before elevating him to international level.

The selected players have been advised by the PCB to report to coach Agha Zahid for a short training camp which will be held at the National Stadium, Karachi from February 12-15.

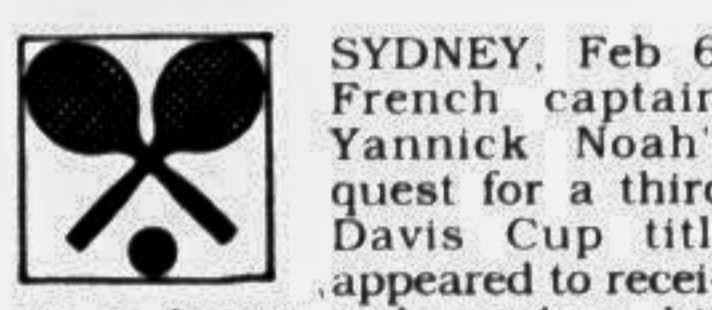
Since the tournament is to be played on artificial turf, efforts are on to provide an artificial turf at the National Stadium so that the players could get the much-needed practice.

### SQUAD

Asif Mujtaba (captain), Rashid Latif (vice-captain), Saleem Elahi, Azam Khan, Mujahid Jamshed, Muhammad Washim, Basit Ali, Akhtar Sarfraz, Aaqib Javed, Kabir Khan, Muhammad Zahid, Muhammad Hussain, Arshad Khan, Azhar Mehmood Zaheer Abbas (manager) and Agha Zahid (coach).

— Source: The News, Pakistan

# French face Aussies today



SYDNEY, Feb 6: French captain Yannick Noah's quest for a third Davis Cup title appeared to recede as Australian counterpart ignored rankings in selecting his side for the first round starting on Friday, reports Reuter.

Australia captain John Newcombe named doubles specialist Mark Woodforde and Patrick Rafter as his singles players ahead of the higher-ranked Todd Woodbridge.

Woodbridge is ranked 32 in singles, compared with Woodforde at 45 and Rafter at 64, and has been in good form in practice over the past week.

Rafter was drawn to play French number one Cedric Pioline in Friday's first singles rubber at Sydney's White City grass courts, followed by Woodforde against Arnaud Boetsch.

Woodbridge and Woodforde, who took their 42nd career doubles title at last month's Australian Open, will play Guy Forget and Guillaume Raoux in Saturday's doubles.

The Australians begin the tie without two of their best singles players after big-serving Mark Philippoussis and Jason Stoltenberg withdrew injured.

Newcombe told a news conference that Woodforde, who won three and lost nine of his previous 12 Davis Cup singles matches, had not been consid-

ered a likely singles choice when the team began practising a week ago.

"Mark's got the best record against the French guys and he's also a left-hander and left-handers traditionally do well at White City," said Newcombe in explaining his selection.

"Pat over the last nine days has gradually been getting better and better each day. We felt this was the best combination to get the job done for us," he said.

### Davis Cup China take the lead

BEIJING, Feb 6: Xia Jiaping and Pan Bing beat Oleg Ogorodov and Dmitri Tomashchikhev here Wednesday to give China a 2-1 lead over Uzbekistan in Davis Cup Asia-Oceania zone Group A here Wednesday, the Xinhua news agency reported, reports AFP.

The duo of Xia, ranked 375th in the world, and Pan pulled out the win 7-6 (7-3), 6-3, 2-6, 6-2.

In the opening singles matches on Tuesday, Xia beat Tomashchikhev 6-4, 7-6 (7-3), 6-3, while Ogorodov prevailed over Pan 6-2, 6-4, 7-5.

The reverse singles matchups will be played today, and the winning team will play South Korea or Japan for a berth in the qualifying round of the world group.

The French Davis Cup team members applaud during the draw ceremony in Sydney yesterday. The defending champions take Australia. — AFP/UNB photo

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- 1 Soft mineral agenda
- 5 Fit, to Bart
- 8 Rumble
- 12 Met melody
- 13 Sales pitch?
- 14 Charles' pastime
- 15 City on the St.
- 17 Mars' coun-terpart
- 18 Jack
- 19 A Mickey Mouse operation?
- 21 Fermi's bit
- 24 \*What Kind 58 of Fool —?
- 25 Rudiments
- 28 Three
- 30 Video equipment, for short
- 33 Low sound
- 34 Verboten
- 35 Waste no time
- 36 Links statistic
- 37 Pub stations
- 38 Remark

**DOWN**

- 1 Pushpin
- 2 \*East of Eden"
- 3 character
- 3100 centesimi
- 4 Artist's surface
- 5 IRS employee
- 6 Artist's medium
- 7 Fuse together
- 8 Tic
- 9 Winding cliff-side road
- 10 Sheltered
- 11 Optimistic
- 16 Dripping
- 20 Perpetrator of "Thanky-panky"
- 22 October stone
- 23 Mercer or Normand
- 25 Pump up the volume
- 26 Fluffy accessory
- 27 Hackneyed
- 29 Durante trademark
- 31 Have a bug
- 32 Torne or Tills
- 34 Watergate evidence
- 36 Automotive rain gear
- 40 Westminster, e.g.
- 42 I'll get you moving
- 43 \*Man — Little Lamb"
- 44 Exam type
- 45 Con job
- 47 Blizzard aid
- 48 Pop singer
- 49 No sweat
- 52 \*A Chorus Line" show-stopper
- 53 Pre-determine

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer**

PLEA MAE GRAM  
ROSS ASS HARE  
EUPHORIC AGES  
WOW AW FRESH  
AHEW HUGUENOT  
VINE SIMON OWE  
YOUNG IDITY BOLL  
SITE EDEN DENSE  
PITTA USATODAY  
ANTI TOW NADA  
REAL SUN GROW

**CRYPTOQUIP**

V' B W F Z B F M F V U X I G  
I D V S U G C C Z P I - I Z F U V S W  
R X B Z S I P P V T R F M Z P  
C Z Y I P T Z Y D V S X P

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ARE QUITE TEMPORAL PEOPLE OFTEN IN PIQUE FORM?

Today's Cryptoquip clue: T equals M  
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.

## fitness royale

with rani padamsee

**S**TARTING exercise when young gives children the best foundation in life. With their natural flexibility and sense of balance, they usually find it far easier to adopt the postures than adults, and can make rapid progress. I have been teaching children for 10 years now and majority of them are naturally adventurous — all they need is a little encouragement. Help them to get into the correct position and explain the breathing procedure. But take very special care never to force their bodies into a pose, as bone and muscles are still growing. Using weights and equipment are absolutely forbidden. Most children are great mimics — if they see you practising regularly they will join in and imitate what you do. Generally, the only problem is one of concentration, as a child's attention span is not normally very long. That's why whenever I teach them I frequently changes exercises so they don't get bored. Where they need to concentrate a lot I give them. A short break right often and then start again all over. The solution, especially with a young child, is to stimulate their interest by making the sessions fun. It is also most important to learn how to breathe correctly at a young age. Also explain the do's and don'ts of exercise. Children are very inquisitive and like to question everything. I try my best to provide the answers and when I can't accept my ignorance. Be honest and very loving and gentle and yet firm with them. Remember one thing you are moulding them for the rest of their lives so be extra precautionous or send them to me. Inshallah you will see a great improvement both in class work and group interaction.

Are all my students who the

Models: Enam, Rezwana, Mehbish, Bora, Bettina and Simone.  
— Photo: Mustafa Ameen