

## Column One

## SPORTS TALK



**Danny Morrison**  
(New Zealand fast-bowler)  
"I can bat when I put my mind to it."

After his involvement in a match-saving last-wicket partnership with Nathan Astle in the first Test against English.

## Sports

## WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

## Sports WHIZZ KID competition-64

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Competition closes 8 pm,  
Feb 28, '97

1	Who finished runners-up in the Premier Division cricket league?
2	In the ICC Trophy, Bangladesh will be led by
3	The eighth SAF Games will be held in
4	Where was Martina Hingis born?
5	Name the skipper of the Zimbabwe cricket team.

Biman Kalabagan Brothers  
Bulbul Nannu Akram  
Nepal Bhutan Sri Lanka  
Switzerland Hungary Czech Republic  
A Flower Campbell Houghton

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

## Inter-varsity cricket from Feb 23

## Sports Reporter

Hosts Jahangirnagar University have picked 16-member squad to participate in the Coca Cola inter-University cricket tournament scheduled to start from February 23.

The players are: Sanwar, Timir, Al-Amin (Sr), Salauddin, Hasanuzzaman, Manju, Lipu, Raju, Rinku, Ullash, Al-Amin (Jr), Shuvo, Sabbir, Mahfuz and Baghu.

Lutful Haq Jami and Nurul Haque will act as manager and coach of the team respectively.

Eight teams, split into two groups, will participate in the meet.

**Group A:** Jahangirnagar University, Rajshahi University, Agricultural University and Islamic University.

**Group B:** Dhaka University, Chittagong University, BUET and Islamic University.

## Deng doubtful

BEIJING, Feb 19: World women's table tennis number-one Deng Yaping has been diagnosed with a back problem which she fears could affect her title defence at the April World Championships, a report said Tuesday, says AFP.

Doctors who examined her last week said she was suffering from a protrusion of intervertebral discs in the waist area, the China Sports daily report said, adding that Deng had been suffering from numbness in her legs.

"I am worried about whether I can maintain my technical form," she was quoted as saying.

The World Championships will be held in Manchester, Britain from April 24 to May 5.

## Costanzo hopes against hope

MELBOURNE, Feb 19: Australian soccer player Angelo Costanzo hopes to recover enough sight in his injured left eye to resume his career next season — but was Wednesday told he will never regain full use of the eye, reports AP.

Costanzo, 21, suffered a sliced pupil when fans of the rival South Melbourne club threw rocks and bottles at the Adelaide City team bus after a National Soccer League match on Sunday evening.

Costanzo had a patch removed from his eye on Wednesday. He was relieved he will regain some use of the eye, but concerned for his future.

"It's all a bit blurry, but the doctor said I should be alright, although it will never be 100 per cent again," Costanzo said from the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

## Bangladesh bungle badly

Sports Reporter

The fancied Pakistan A got off to a predictably sound start in the third SAARC cricket tournament when they defeated hosts Bangladesh by six wickets in the inaugural match of the four-nation invitational tournament at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Set to score a modest 183 for a win in the 50-overs-a-side match, the former world champions rattled up 186 for the loss of four wickets with ten overs to spare.

In front of a full-house crowd, the facile victory of Asif Mujtaba's men against Bangladesh was a prevailing of professionalism over shambolism.

For the Pakistan A skipper everything went according to his sweet will. After calling correctly in the spin of coin in the morning he opted to chase a target. And Bangladesh, sent into bat, could muster 182 for nine from their stipulated



patriot Waqar Younis, bowled from a very short run-up and struggled with both length and line. Together with Aaqib he was the main culprit for the 43 extras that Pakistan A deposited to the Bangladesh ac-

count. It also cost his side a over as the Bangladesh innings was stretched beyond the scheduled time frame. The reality of getting 183 in the revised quota of 49 overs hardly mattered in the end as the Pakistani batsmen made light of the effort of the Bangladesh bowlers backed up by the vocal support of some 35000 crowd.

The spear-head of the Bangladeshi attack excelling in the unlikely role of a batsman led an exciting rescue act. He featured in a face-saving, undefeated 51 run partnership for the last wicket with Anisur Rahman to dead-lift Bangladesh from a hopeless 131/7. Not only the dual effort of Shanto and Anis added some meat to the skeletal Bangladesh innings but also went a long way to dismiss suggestion of any devil either in the wicket or in the bowling. While the 'real' batsmen perished against the Pakistani pace trio of Aaqib, Javed, Mohammed Zahid and Kabir Khan, more out of psychological pressure than incisiveness worthy of the reputation of their internationally revered opponents, by flirting with deliveries better left alone.

Barring left-armee Kabir Khan who bowled quite well mostly swinging the ball into the right-hander and tucking up the Bangladeshi upper order batsmen, the other two were off-colour. Aaqib Javed was not impressive at all while his new-ball partner Mohammed Zahid was erratic. Their wariness over the prospect of bowling on

synthetic surface and that too in boots not equipped with steel spikes seemed to have got the better of their confidence. Mohammed Zahid, dubbed faster than his more illustrious com-

Injuries to the players will cause a big problem for Bangladesh cricket team in the subsequent matches of the ongoing third SAARC cricket tournament.

Atbar Ali, the national opener, was the latest victim of injuries having pulled a muscle in his groin while taking a third run against Pakistan A in the inaugural match yesterday.

The injury did not allow him to field in the afternoon session along with Aminul Islam Bulbul, the vice-captain, who suffered a waist injury during a motor accident at the BKSP in Savar on Tuesday which also caused a severe injury to all-rounder Mohammad Rafique.

In reply, Pakistan were off to a rollicking start as the left-right combination of openers Akhtar Sarfraz and Salim Elahi putting on 41 runs on the board in eight overs. Selim Elahi, who scored a century on his debut for Pakistan A a couple of years back, fell to a gem of delivery off Hasib after scoring 15 while left-hander Akhtar Sarfraz, who departed for 18 spoiling a simple catch at mid-on off Saiful Islam.

But skipper Asif Mujtaba and Mohammed Wasim, who shared 98 runs for the third wicket, carried the side to an unassailable position. One down Wasim, who appeared more compact among the two, fell eight runs short of fifty. He was run out while chasing a non-existent single.

On the other hand Asif Mujtaba played a captain's knock of 67. The southpaw, who hammered seven hits across the rope and a two huge sixes in his chancy 105-ball innings was caught at mid-on in the 38th over while trying to clear the close-in field for the winning runs. However, Mujtaba's enterprising half century in a rather low-scoring affair earned him the man-of-the-match award. The left-hander became richer for the 5000.

Among the Bangladesh bowlers Anisur Rahman returned the most expensive figures 6-0-52-1. The incidence was an unfortunate one that we hope, will not be repeated in future.

## SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the inaugural match of the third SAARC Cricket tournament between Pakistan A and hosts Bangladesh:



## BANGLADESH

Athar b Aaqib 12  
Javed c Yousaf b M Zahid 4  
Jahangir c Yousaf b Azhar 11  
Akram c Wasim b Kabir 14  
Naimur c S Elahi b Kabir 0  
Enamul b M Zahid 26  
Khaled b/w b M Hussain 7  
Saiful c & b M Hussain 11  
Hasib not out 42  
Anisur not out 7  
Extras (lb-5; nb-8; w-30) 43  
Total: (for 9 wkt in 50 overs) 182

Fall of wkt: 1/26; 2/26; 3/35; 4/58; 5/66; 6/70; 7/109, 8/130; 9/131

Bowling O M R W

Aaqib Javed 10 0 38 1  
M Zahid 10 0 43 2  
Kabir Khan 10 0 29 3  
A Mahmood 10 1 34 1  
M Hussain 10 1 33 2

## PAKISTAN A

A Sarfaraz c Anis b Saiful 18  
S Elahi c Khaled b Hasibul 15  
M Wasim run out 42  
A Mujtaba c sub (Zakir) b Anis 67  
Basit Ali not out 21  
Azhar Mahmood not out 4  
Did not bat: Wasim Yousaf, Kabir Khan, M Zahid, M Hussain and Aaqib Javed

Extras: (lb-2; nb-1; w-16) 19

Total: (for 4 wkt in 39 overs) 186

Fall of wkt: 1/32; 2/41; 3/139; 4/182

Bowling O M R W

Hasibul Hossain 10 0 51 1  
Anisur Rahman 6 0 52 1  
Saiful Islam 9 0 35 1  
Naimur Rahman 10 0 28 0  
Enamul Haq 4 0 19 0

Result: Pakistan A won by 6 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Asif Mujtaba (Pakistan A)

## Locals in injury jinx

Sports Reporter

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Both men immediately stirred up their rivalry with Akbar firing the first shot at a teleconference, saying: "There is absolutely no discussion as to who the fastest man in the world is. If it's not me I would say it's Frankie Fredericks or Atta Bolden. Not Michael Johnson."

The French league's disciplinary commission is due to meet next week to study the incident and could ban Lens Olaikeagba ground for one or more matches.

The English Cricket Board (ECB), basking in the glow of the Test side's 2-0 series win in New Zealand, said on Tuesday no firm decision had yet been taken.

But they appear unlikely to send a proper representative side to the September 1998 event.

"We haven't decided we're not sending a team but there are a lot of clashes with our fixture list at home," spokesman Richard Little said.

The 21-year-old unemployed fan broke the bottle at the official during the second half of Len's First Division match against Paris St Germain on Friday. The match was held up for 10 minutes but the linesman resumed his duties after treatment.

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