

Column One

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?

Biman

Kalabagan

Brothers

2 In the ICC Trophy, Bangladesh will be led by

Bulbul

Nannu

Akram

3 The eighth SAF Games will be held in

Nepal

Bhutan

Sri Lanka

4 Where was Martina Hingis born?

Switzerland

Hungary

Czech Republic

5 Name the skipper of the Zimbabwe cricket team.

A Flower

Campbell

Houghton

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

SPORTS TALK



**FUTILE FIRE:** In a desperate attempt to dry the wet patches, a mischief done by Wednesday night's unexpected drizzle, the authorities made fire at different places of the Dhaka Stadium so that day's scheduled match of the third SAARC cricket tourney between holders India A and Sri Lanka A could start, albeit belatedly. It proved an essay in futility as those patches proved too wet and too many for play to begin at all. With elements gumming up the works, organisers had no way but to award a point each to the teams. —Star photo

# India, Lanka share points

**Sports Reporter**

risking their aspiration by playing in a shortened affair. Sports buffs were, however, taken aback seeing a sad end of a match in the face of such light drizzle. Some opined that the authorities could have easily saved the match had they taken proper precautionary measures to shield the surface. The

canopy that covered the danger area including the pitch was too small to protect the infiltration of the rain.

Meanwhile, the dejected thousands who bought tickets for the match braving the unfriendly weather are still in a dilemma as the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is yet to make any clear decision whether they would be able to have free entry in the next match or it would be treated as forfeited.

The unfortunate spectators might get some sort of solace knowing that BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury MP was the worst-affected among the victims. It was learnt that the cricket boss bought no less than thousand tickets for reasons best known to him.

# Mixed bag on 'A'

**Sports Reporter**

The approach that the participating Indian team has taken in selecting their side for the third SAARC cricket tournament has prompted questions concerning the objectives and usage of the concept of having an 'A' team.

The controversy first arose a couple of days after the Indian 'A' side was announced. In an interview given to noted cricket personality Harsha Bhogle that was aired on ESPN, former Indian skipper Bishan Bedi and new-blood Abey Kuruvilla expressed their dissatisfaction at the team selection. Both said they were surprised at the non-selection of players like Sanjay Manjrekar, Vinod Kamble, David Johnson and Vengakapathy Raju. Kuruvilla went to the extent of claiming that the team is well below the level of India's second string eleven. But we ask, is not an 'A' team supposed to be just that — a second-string eleven?

If we were to go by the way we were to go by this accepted definition of an 'A' team, the Indian selection certainly does not fit the mold. With players like Kamble, Manjrekar, Raju, Johnson, Pankaj Dharmani and Aashish Kapoor left behind, the touring Indians could hardly claim to be the under-study of Tendulkar and Co.

Another basis of forming an 'A' team is to give a taste of international cricket, and an opportunity to claim a full national cap, to players who are on the brink of making the Test side. Even then, India fails to qualify. Skipper Ajay Sharma, in all fairness to him, does not look a Test prospect, at least in the foreseeable future. And, barring a small minority, neither do most of the rest. On the other hand, players like Manjrekar, Raju and Ankola can easily claim Test spots.

# Nat'l jr snooker from Feb 24

**Sports Reporter**

The Ashok Leyland second national junior (U-21) snooker championship begins from Feb 24 at the Dhaka Club billiards room, says a press release.

The five-day event will be sponsored by Ifad Autos Limited.

Syed M. Sajjad, the defending champion of Dhaka Club will take part in this championship along with twenty other players from Officers Club, Gulshan Club, Chittagong Club and Catholic Club of Chittagong.

The winner of this tournament will be part of a two-member Bangladesh team for the forthcoming 14th Asian Championship in Dubai from April 5.

# Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Cox's Bazar Public Works Division  
Cox's Bazar

## Tender Notice

No-53/96-97

Memo No-201 Dated: 4-2-97

1) Tenders in BD Form No-2911 under sealed cover are hereby invited from Public Works Directorate enlisted special first class and first class electrical/mechanical contractors, and Chittagong Public Works Zone, Chittagong enlisted second class electrical/mechanical contractors for the undermentioned work. The said tenders will be received by the undersigned, the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division-3/4, Agrabad, Chittagong and the Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Bandarban up to 12:00 Noon of 3-3-97 and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM in presence of the interested tenderers (who may be interested to be present). Attested copy of Value Added Registration certificate of the Value Added Tax Department should be attached with the tender and attested copy of A.B.C licence (as per financial ability) should be submitted with the tender. Tender should be submitted by superscribing the name of work on the cover.

2. Name of work : Construction of Cox's Bazar District Jail; (Sub-head: Internal electrification work of classified Prisoners' Barrack Building). Year—1996-97.

3. Estimated cost : Tk 1,82,324/=

4. Earnest money : Tk 3,647/=

5. Time limit for : 120 (one hundred twenty) days from the completion of work date of issuing work order.

6. (a) Contractors can see and purchase BD Form No 2911, additional terms & conditions of tender etc. at the usual price from the office of the undersigned, Executive Engineer, Public Works Division-3/4, Agrabad, Chittagong, Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Bandarban on or before 1-3-97. Tender can be purchased by the contractor himself or his authorised representative.

(b) Contractors shall be bound to pay VAT at the rate decided by the Ministry of Finance/National Board of Revenue for collection of VAT against class basis work. Final settlement/payment of the bill will not be made until VAT registration & VAT clearance at prescribed rate by the contractor.

7. If more than one individual or firm happen to be the lowest tenderer by submitting the same rate individually, then lottery will be held on 6-3-97 at 12:00 Noon by the undersigned or his authorised representative before the contractors (those willing to be) present.

**Md Badrul Aktar Chowdhury**  
Executive Engineer  
Cox's Bazar Public Works Division  
Cox's Bazar  
Phone No 3547

DFF-3443-16/2  
G-488

# BEXIMCO tennis Stage set for Thais

**Sports Reporter**

Top seed Udomchoka Danai of Thailand set the stage for a delightful double in the BEXIMCO eleventh international junior tennis championships when he made it to both the boys' singles and doubles finals at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday.

The Thai youngster defeated Y Sandeep of India in the second semifinal by 5-7, 6-2, 6-1 to set up a final clash with another Indian Manoj Mahadevan, who eliminated A Phomphon of Thailand in the other semifinal 6-2, 6-2.

Besides in the doubles, Danai paired with Phomphon to beat Indians Sandeep and Ravishankar 6-3, 6-1 in a semifinal. The pair now face H Y Junko and Y Y Lee of South Korea, winners over Mahadevan and M Ghose of India in the second semifinal, in the final.

Meanwhile, in the girls' section, Danai's compatriot Viratprasert had also made it to the finals of both the singles and doubles.

Viratprasert earned a cake-walk 6-2, 6-2 win over Y Y Chang in a singles semifinal. She will take on Hee Jin Kim of South Korea in the final, to be held tomorrow evening. Kim moved into the final defeating W Pirada 6-4, 7-5 in the other semifinal.

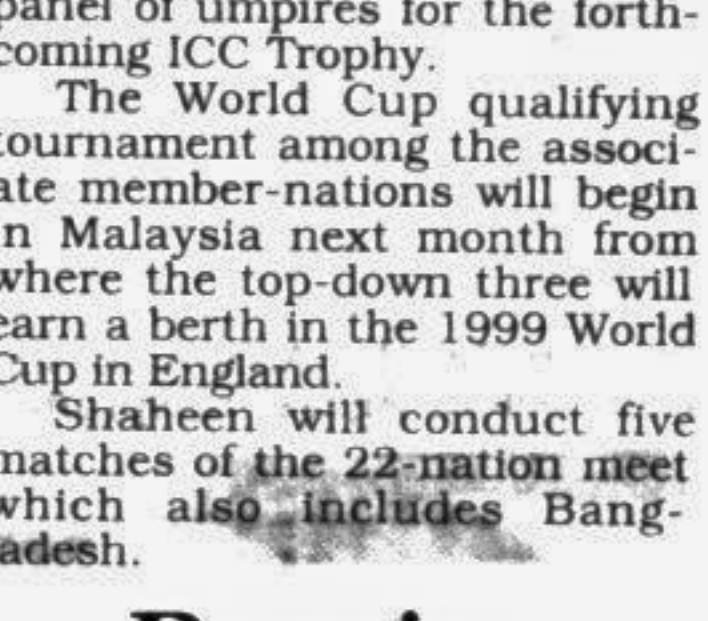
# ICC Trophy Shaheen in umpires' panel

**Sports Reporter**

Akhtaruddin Shaheen has been selected by the ICC in a panel of umpires for the forthcoming ICC Trophy.

The World Cup qualifying tournament among the associate member-nations will begin in Malaysia next month from where the top-down three will earn a berth in the 1999 World Cup in England.

Shaheen will conduct five matches of the 22-nation meet which also includes Bangladesh.



# Roggiero replaces Blackburn

The John Player Gold Leaf F1 racing team formally announced yesterday that Massimo Roggiero will race for them in the 1997 UIM World Formula One Powerboat Championships. Roggiero, 32, from Varese, Northern Italy, replaces Paul Blackburn to join 3 times World Champion, Jon Jones, in what promises to be a formidable partnership, says a



press release.

Massimo Roggiero is no stranger to success having dominated the S750 Class since he started racing in 1989, winning 4 World Championships and numerous European and Italian titles. In 1995 he fulfilled his dream by entering the Formula. One circuit where he made an immediate impact with his determined driving style. Second in Chalon and third in Campione pointed to his championship potential only to be let down by engine failures that relegated him to overall fifth place at the end of the 1995 season.

Although not winning a race in 1996, Roggiero continued to show his potential with numerous high placings and was the only driver to out-qualify Guido Cappellini throughout the entire season. He once again finished in fifth place overall.

Teammate and team owner, Jon Jones, is quick to recognise Roggiero's talent. "When I knew that Massimo could be available for this season, I had no hesitation in making my approach. He is going to be a real asset to the team and expect him to be challenging for podium positions in every race."

Roggiero is equally enthusiastic. "I have always been a great admirer of Jon Jones and believe that he is the best driver on the circuit. Not only is it going to be a privilege to drive with him, but I think I will learn a lot as well. I am looking forward to the start of the season and being part of the John Player Gold Leaf team which is undoubtedly the most impressive and well run team in the Championship."

Another curious move was to leave out the players who had been sent home from South Africa. Their quick transition from Test-prospects to not-so-much-a-test-prospect came as a surprise to all.

The Indian authorities' present policy of giving exposure to young talents is commendable, no doubt. But is it justified to send these talents under the banner of an 'A' team? For then the expectations of them and the pressure on them both multiply manifolds. And, win or lose, their performance may not do justice to the standard of Indian cricket that is conveyed to the local public.



Players of the India A team with skipper Ajay Sharma at the centre making the most of a weather-forced injunction on action at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

# Niaz loses opener

**Sports Reporter**

Niaz Murshed got off on the wrong foot in the third United Insurance Grand Masters' chess tournament as the lone Bangladeshi Grand Master (GM) lost his opener to British GM Jim Plaskett at the National Sports Council (NSC) conference room yesterday.

On the inaugural day of the two-week meet involving 14 players including five Grand Masters, Niaz, the first GM from the sub-continent who played with black pieces and adopted modern defence against an attacking Plaskett, remained at the receiving end throughout the proceeding and surrendered after 20 moves.

While Niaz frustrated the organisers with his poor performance, IM Ziaur Rahman and IM Reefat-bin-Sattar, the two most seasoned campaigners after the vanquished, were off to a flying start winning their respective opening round boards.

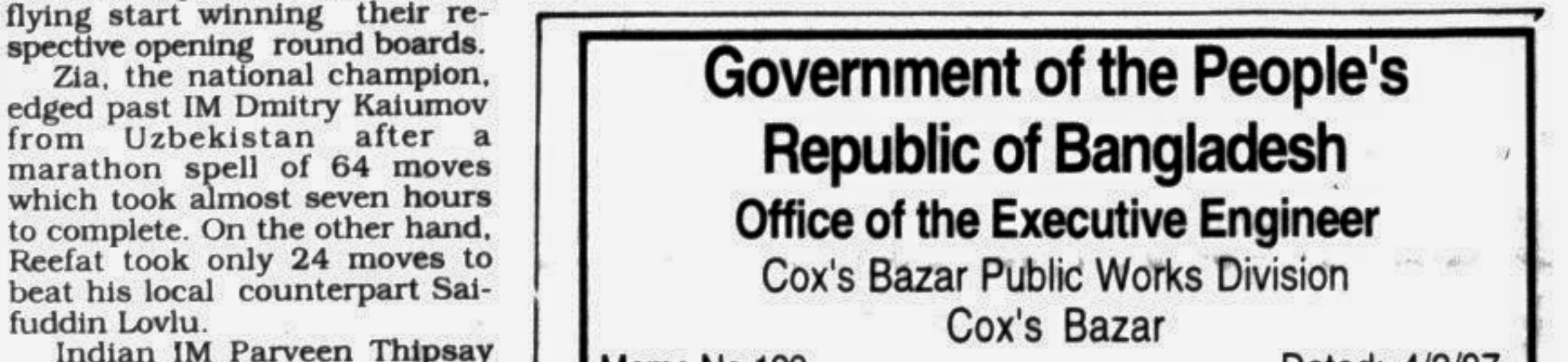
Zia, the national champion, edged past IM Dmitry Kalumov from Uzbekistan after a marathon spell of 64 moves which took almost seven hours to complete. On the other hand, Reefat took only 24 moves to beat his local counterpart Saifuddin Lovlu.

Indian IM Parveen Thipsay also won his first round clash against Kayes Hasan of Bangladesh. Playing with whites, Thipsay checkmated Kayes in 34 moves.

Besides, three other Grand Masters participating tourney — Sergei Tiviakov, Peter Szekely of Hungary and Lithuanian Vidmantas Malisauskas — did not have a good start as they all were forced to share points.

Tiviakov, the top seed of the 14-player tournament, was forced to a draw by his Indian counterpart IM Devaki Prasad. Playing with white pieces against the Sicilian defence of Prasad, Tiviakov accepted the draw after a marathon six and a half hours of play.

On the other hand, Szekely



Saidali of Uzbekistan respectively. The second round will start at the same venue this afternoon at 2 pm.

Today's matches: Saidali vs Lovlu, Reefat vs Prasad, Zia vs Tiviakov, Nguyen vs Kalumov, Niaz vs Szekely, Kayes vs Plaskett and Malisauskas vs Thipsay.

# BUET badminton, TT trials

**Sports Reporter**

The Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) will participate in the forthcoming inter-university badminton and table tennis championships, scheduled to be held at the Mymensingh Agricultural University gymnasium next month.

According to a press release issued yesterday, interested BUET students have been requested to be present during the trials at the BUET gymnasium tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 pm.

# Swimming trials for SAF Games

**Sports Reporter**

The first phase of the swimming camp for the eighth SAF Games to be held in Nepal later this year, began at the National Swimming Pool yesterday.

A total of 37 swimmers including 16 girls joined this phase of the training organised by Bangladesh Swimming Federation (BSF).

### CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Stylish

5 Young

8 Impetuous

12 Comedian

13 Spider

14 Indone-

15 Home

16 Slinger,

18 Auto-

20 A hot

21 "Hunny"

23 Slangy

24 Dangling

28 Spruce

31 Idolater's

32 He's not

34 Trans-

35 Whipper

DOWN

1 Pull an all-

2 Stash

3 Articular

4 Fourposter

5 Trespass

6 To and —

7 Bulletin-

8 Wickenwork

9 Object of

10 Dint

11 "Gilligan's

12 "Friend-

13 "Jeopardy!"

14 Neverthe-

15 Commo-

16 Created

17 a web

18 California

19 Greatly

20 Soft drink

21 Vacationing

22 There's a

23 small

24 charge for

25 it

Solution time: 26 min.

Saturday's answer

CRYPTOQUIP

H Z R A J P Z R M I P L K I L

I G F G M R A L F G T L U A U T W I O

F M G Z L K F G T D R L

O U W U D I W D U J H F W U ?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: ONCE, ALL HOTEL OPERATORS WERE OFTEN CONSIDERED PART OF THE INN CROWD.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: D equals B

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.

# Shuttlers leave for Colombo today

**Sports Reporter**

A 14-member Bangladesh badminton team will be off to Colombo today to participate in the third SAARC badminton tournament scheduled to start in the Sri Lankan capital next week.

Total six countries — Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Maldives and hosts Sri Lanka — will compete in the five events of the meet.

The following are the members of the Bangladesh badminton team: Russel Kabir Sumon, Mahbubur Rab, Sarwar Hossain, Rashid Yusuf, Khurshid Alam, Nurul Asar, Maruf Ahmed, Elina Begum, Ayesha Khatun, Sharmin Ahmed Mawmo, Konika Rani Adhikari, Zahir Ahmed (team leader), Jobayedur Rahman Rana (coach) and Rashida Yasmeen (coach).