

Column One

SPORTS TALK



David John Richardson
(South Africa wicketkeeper)
"I have been saying this for the last four years, 'this is my last season'. But I have kept going. I've got three young boys at home who need my attention, and a family. Maybe this could be my last season."

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
competition-69

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Competition closes 8 pm.
May 16, '97

1	Who was adjudged man-of-the-final in the 6th ICC Trophy?	Pilot	Tikolo	Rafique
2	Who scored two half-centuries for Bangladesh in the 6th ICC Trophy?	Akram	Bulbul	Nannu
3	Who was the man-of-the-match in the second semifinal of the 6th ICC tournament?	Williamson	Pilot	Odumbe
4	How many centuries has Sanath Jayasuriya scored in Test cricket?	Two	Three	Four
5	How old was Denis Compton when he died?	75	78	79

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)
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EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

Fredericks' turn of speed

OSAKA, Japan, May 11: Double Olympic silver medalist Frankie Fredericks finished in under 20 seconds in a Grand Prix 200-metres Saturday, giving a firm early-season warning to Olympic and world-champion Michael Johnson, reports AFP.

The Namibian beaten by Johnson over 200 metres at the Atlanta Olympics and the 1995 World Championships broke away with powerful strides to win in 19.90 sec at the second round of the Grand Prix Tour.

Kevin Little finished second in 20.29 with another American Tod Long third at 20.55.

Johnson, who set the world record of 19.32 at Atlanta needed 20.29 sec to win the season opening Grand Prix at Rio last week in Fredericks' absence.

The American sprinter skipped the Osaka meet which featured six Atlanta gold medalists but failed to produce any serious threat to world records.

The 29-year-old who also lost to Canadian Donovan Bailey over 100 metres at Atlanta has yet to decide in which sprint event he will compete at the World Championships at Athens in August.

"In any case, I will do my best," he said.

World and Olympic javelin throw champion Jan Zelezny unbeaten since the 1992 Barcelona Olympics came nowhere close to his year old world record of 98.48 metres despite a big build up.

The organisers had installed a hand written 100metre marker on the field for the Czech who threw 94.02 metres in South Africa in March, but he could do no better than his third attempt which went 88.24 metres.

American Derrick Adkins the Olympic and world 400m hurdles champion, beat his archrival Samuel Matete of Zambia by four hundredths of a second in an exhibition race which did not count toward the Grand Prix standings.

Jamaican James Beckford, the long jump silver medalist at Atlanta soared 8.30m to his second straight Grand Prix win with Americans Sean Fobbs and Eric Walder second and third at 8.01m and 7.99m.

In the women's 400m hurdles Jamaican Olympic champion Deon Hemmings overtook Atlanta runner up and world record holder Kim Batten of the United States in the last 10 metres to win in 53.85 sec. Batten trailed home 0.24 seconds behind.

Akram hits crucial ton

Sports Reporter

Skipper Akram Khan scored a level-headed unbeaten century to guide holders Chittagong to an imposing first innings lead of 185 runs against Bangladesh Biman on the second day of the 23rd national cricket championship final at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

BRIEF SCORES

BANGLADESH BIMAN: First innings 109 all out in 67 overs (Atiar 44, Halim Shah 37 not out; Zakir 5/35. Enamul 3/25).

CHITTAGONG: First innings 294 (15 overnight) for five in 95 overs (Akram 100 n.o. Nannu 76, Azam Iqbal 45. Masum 45; Athar 2/62, Shovon 44/2).



AKRAM ... 100 n.o.

The portly right-hander was batting on exactly 100 as Chittagong, in reply to a paltry Biman first inning total of 109, rattled up a mammoth 294 in 95 overs for the loss of five wickets at stumps. And with Akram in full cry and still a plenty of batting to follow, the port city outfit will be looking for extending their almost unassailable lead capitalising the remaining five

Akram, who came into bat at



Chittagong middle-order bat Minhazul Abedin Nannu works the ball during his patient knock of 76 on the second day of the 23rd national cricket final against Bangladesh Biman at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

of their first innings quota of 100 overs today.

The otherwise engrossing battle of the two worthy opponents, who were pitting in a repeat clash, was, however, soured to a great extent when national wicketkeeper Khaled Masood Pilot, in a shameful gesture of unsportsmanlike to lash his ICC heroics in Malaysia, made an ugly protest after being declared caught behind.

Pilot, who scored a fine un-

his customary position of number five, shared 171 runs for the fourth wicket with Minhazul Abedin Nannu. The two national stalwarts, who virtually set the field afire after the drinks interval in the afternoon, plundered 91 runs from the last 16 overs before Nannu departed for a dazzling 74.

In his 159-ball stay at the crease the most experienced cricketer of the country clouted three towering sixes including a

hundred, which placed him.

"I will do better moves," he said, recognising that his electronic adversary — eight years in the making — is an "outstanding scientific achievement."

Chung-Jen Tan, the head of the IBM team that created Deep Blue, agreed that "The baby is doing very well."

Deep Blue, which can calculate 200 million possible moves per second, lost the first game, won the second and the drew the last three games.

"The computer has not won a game, I have lost one," Kasparov told chuckling audience that has followed the match in the basement of an insurance company's headquarters here.

Each draw is worth half a point, while a win earns one point.

Should man and machine tie said his team fixed a few programme 'bugs' that appeared in previous games.

Fridel said that for Kasparov "the most important driving force here is curiosity."

"It is like (formula one race car driver) Michael Schumacher faced with a 4,000 horse-power Ferrari: Of course he would like to drive it."

Game Five ends a draw

NEW YORK, May 11: World chess champion Garry Kasparov and IBM supercomputer Deep Blue looked to a sixth and final game to determine the winner of their rematch after man and machine played to a draw Saturday, reports AFP.

A visibly exasperated Kasparov agreed to a draw even though his white pieces had dominated play throughout the game, which was harder fought than the previous games in the 1.1 million-dollar tournament.

"I saw the draw in move forty," Kasparov, 34, said on emerging from the isolated conference room in which he and Deep Blue played their 49-move draw that evened the score at 2.5 points apiece.

"That was probably the cleanest game in the match. It was very close and it has been a miracle that the black could save the game," he added.

Kasparov, world champions since 1985, is to play the final game Sunday with the black pieces, but was undaunted by the theoretical disadvantage at

Blue on the Internet and make it available to the public," Chung-Jen Tan said without commenting on the possibility of granting access to the programme itself.

Asked what changes had been made to the supercomputer since the tournament began, he said IBM took "Deep Blue for a walk this morning".

The computer scientist then said his team fixed a few programme 'bugs' that appeared in previous games.

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Scene from yesterday's engagements in the 23rd national chess championship at NSC. — Star photo

Rezaul suffers setback

Sports Reporter

The smooth going of Rezaul Haq in the 23rd national chess championship suffered a severe jolt when the FIDE Master conceded his first defeat at the hands of Abu Sufian in fifth round of 15-round Swiss league meet at the chess room of the National Sports Council yesterday.

The Biman contender, who was leading the table with four wins on the trot, suddenly found the going tough against Shakir's Ruy Lopez Opening and surrendered after 39 moves. As Rezaul faltered, it was Enamul Hossain Rajib who made the most of the former's debacle to join him on the top slot — both having collected four points each from five games.

In this round Rajib defeated Shiplu to score his fourth consecutive defeat after a horrible start. Playing with black pieces Rajib, one of the few firm title contenders in the absence of two stalwarts — IM Ziaur Rahaman and IM Reesat-ben Sattar — tamed an unheralded Shiplu after 53 moves on the board.

The day was also marked by a stunning defeat of Khandaker Kayes Hassan. The experienced player, who was trailing table leader Rezaul by a half points at the end of the fourth round, bit the dust when Mintu earned resignation from Kayes after 34 moves.

The two are now sharing the second spot with three and a half points each.

No matches except the adjourned affair between Pallab and Arif will be held today, the scheduled rest day.

Standings: 4 points — Rezaul and Rajib; 3.5 — Kayes and Mintu; 3 points — Rakib, Lovlu, Sumon and Shakil; 2 points — Shiplu, Nafiz, Masum and Pallab (played one game less); 1.5 points — Arif (played one game less) and Javed; 1 point — Amir.

Office cricket league in May

Office cricket league 1996-97 under the supervision of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will begin at the end of this month, reports UNB.

A BCB press release yesterday, Dhaka-based government, non-government, autonomous organisations, semi-government offices, banks and insurance companies will be able to take part in the meet.

The BCB, also requested the interested teams to enlist their entry with Tk 10,000 fees by Thursday.

The winners led the first half 2-0.

The Usha goal feast was

marked by a hattrick from Tutul Kumar Nag.

The nimble centre-half scored all the three goals in the second session of a lop-sided affair. Playing in the shadow of the two most prolific scorers in the domestic circuit — Mohammed Sadeq and Kamal — Tutul struck his first goal in the 40th from a penalty corner.

Tutul added his second and Usha's fifth goal two minutes later capitalising on a pass from national stalwart Mohammed Sadeq deep inside the opponents box. Sadeq, who had earlier opened the floodgates scoring the first goal in the ninth minute of the proceedings, then set up Tutul with yet another gem of a pass for his hattrick.

It was the seventh hattrick in the league so far and incident-

ally Tutul treble was the third on the trot for Usha after Kamal's hattrick in successive matches.

But Kamal, who scored seven

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