

Column One Boost sports WHIZZ KID COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-70 Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes 8 pm. May 30, '97

Finals kick-off today

MOHALI, India, May 23: World champions Sri Lanka and Pakistan, two of cricket's most versatile one-day teams, promise a keen fare when the Independence Cup finals start here on Saturday, reports AFP. With hosts India out of the fray, the contest for the first game of the best-of-three finals resembles a marriage party without the bridegroom. But no one doubts the two

England win in style

LEEDS, England, May 23: England lived up to their promise of mounting a serious challenge against Australia this summer with a mixture of bravery and class to record a six-wicket victory in the Texaco Trophy first one-day international at Headingley on Thursday, reports AFP. The new-look English side drew first blood in best-of-three match series, to be followed by six Tests, restricting Australia's star-studded batting line-up to 170 for eight in their 50 overs. England endured some anxious moments, however, slumping to 40 for four before Graham Thorpe and Australian-born Adam Holoake put on unbeaten fifth wicket stand of 135 runs to carry them to victory

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয় রাণামাটি পর্বত্য জেলা দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এমএ জামান পুলিশ সুপার রাণামাটি পর্বত্য জেলা DFP-12129-20/5 G-1475

Lankan MP's appeal

COLOMBO, May 23: A Sri Lankan legislator has expressed concern over Muslims cheering Pakistan and urged them to support the national side Saturday during tournament in India, reports AFP. Sri Lanka will play Pakistan in best-of-three finals for the Independence Cup. Sri Lankan fans had been infuriated by some Muslims supporting Pakistan at previous matches. A few misguided elements in the Muslim circle hailed said Sri Lankan MP AHM Azwer. This is neither a sporting gesture nor Islamic in attitude. Let us not, repeat not, leave an iota of doubt in the minds of our brother communities that we tend to support a foreign country as against our own country even in the sporting world, Azwer said in a statement.

Lehmann slams maiden ton

LONDON, May 23: Australian Darren Lehmann struck his first century for Yorkshire on Thursday in his debut season on the English county circuit, reports Reuter. The South Australian batsman made an unbeaten 109 against Somerset on the second day of the rain-hit four-day championship match at Taunton. Lehmann's century proposed up Yorkshire, who were 52 for three overnight and slipped to 122 for five in gloomy conditions before they recovered to 183 for five at the close. Essex left-arm pacesman Mark Ilett grabbed four for 17, including two wickets with consecutive deliveries, to rock championship leaders Gloucestershire at Gloucester. Gloucestershire were reeling on 84 for seven at the end of a rain-shortened second day after the first day had been washed out.

Former England captain Graham Gooch held two slip catches to help Essex

Derbyshire's England discard Devon Malcolm continued to press his claim for an international recall with four for 42 against Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge. Malcolm, the country's leading early-season wicket-taker, started with a three-wicket burst in which he also broke a finger on opener Paul Pollard's left hand. Notts slumped to 128 for eight in the face of Derbyshire's 319 but avoided the follow-on thanks to Usman Aizaal, who hit 52, his third successive half-century. Notis finished with 192 behind - and reduced Derbyshire to six for one in their second innings at the close. Off-spinner Adrian Pierson snapped up four for 42 in 28 overs to give champions Leicestershire the upper hand against Surrey at Leicester. Opener Mark Butcher with 59 off 86 balls offered the main resistance as Surrey struggled to 235 for eight on the second day after rain prevented any play on the first.

Asprilla again in trouble

BOGOTA, May 23: Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla has had another run in with the law, authorities said on Thursday, reports Reuter. Colonel Jairo Salcedo, chief of police in Tulua, Asprilla's hometown in southwest Colombia said the 27-year-old Newcastle forward and star of Colombia's national team, head-butted a policeman during a dispute in the local soccer stadium during a concert last Saturday. Asprilla hit a policeman with his head in the Tulua Stadium while he was being removed from the place for verbally abusing members of the police, Salcedo told in a telephone interview. He did not elaborate but said the policeman, who nearly lost a tooth from the blow dealt by Asprilla, had filed a formal complaint. Asprilla's other problems with the law in Colombia in the past include an illegal weapons possession charge and one incident in which he injured himself while kicking out the windshield of a bus.

National first stage's first

MONTEVIDEO, May 23: National won the Apertura tournament, the first stage of the Uruguayan soccer championship, with a game to spare on Thursday as they beat Liverpool 3-0, reports Reuter.

Bangladesh Squash Open begins today

The wooden-floor squash complex of Dhaka Club plays host from May 24-31 to the Bangladesh Squash Open, the first-ever international squash tournament of the country. In all, 12 teams including four from India will compete in the team event, organised by the Bangladesh Squash Rackets Federation and sponsored by Hotel Purbani. The organisers expect to hold this event on an annual basis with more international participation from regional countries in future. At the same time, they also intend to send more local players to overseas tournaments to raise the standard of squash in Bangladesh. Squash enthusiasts of the country are eagerly anticipating the event.



Reigning national champion Sohel Hamid (L) and former champion Bhola Chauhan will bid for top honours at the Bangladesh Squash Open which begins today. - Star photo.

Aime aims for perfection

PARIS, May 23: France coach Aime Jacquet still looking for the right World Cup attack included five strikers when he named his squad of 22 on Thursday for next month's Tournoi de France, reports Reuter. Jacquet, whose main preoccupation since a sterile Euro '96 campaign in England last year has been a shortage of goals, picked recent regulars Patrice Loko and Christophe Dugary for the four-team tournament from June 3-11. He also included Marc Keeler of Karlsruhe, Lyon's Florian Maurice and Nicolas Ouedec who plays for Espanyol, a trio with 10 caps between them. Maurice has been included after missing most of the season because of an achilles tendon injury suffered three days after winning his first cap in September. We're going to recover lost time and do what we have wanted to do, Jacquet told a news conference as he reflected on frustrated attempts to experiment in attack because of enforced absences to Maurice and Ouedec. To play in attack just behind the strikers Jacquet has chosen Internazionale's Youri Djorkaeff Ibrahim Ba of Bordeaux and Metz winger Robert Pires. Midfield will be run by Juventus pair Didier Deschamps, the team captain, and Zinedine Zidane, while Arsenal's Patrick Vieira, recently promoted from France's under 21 side, has been retained. This is a mere of the base of our Euro '96 team with new elements tried out during the 1996-97 season, Jacquet said. The squad does not include Euro '96 goalkeeper Bernard Lama of Paris St Germain. He is serving a two month suspension for using cannabis. Whatever the outcome is a week later, the ultimate winner is sure to be the sport itself. The tournament should help to focus attention on building a new squash complex and providing infrastructure and technical facilities for the players.

Thai takes WBF belt

BANGKOK, May 23: Thailand's Khongdee Meekhunparp knocked out Simon Shone of the United States to take the vacant WBF junior lightweight championship here today, reports AFP. Khongdee, 28, who was the number two contender, felled the first ranked contender with a long straight left to the face one minute and 49 seconds into the fifth round.

WG Grace's bat put on sale

LONDON, May 23: A bat owned by one of England's most famous cricketers, Dr W G Grace, and signed by 82 Test county players, fetched 1,035 pounds an auction in London on Thursday, reports AFP. Grace, who captained England late last century, had presented the bat to a hospital in London in 1907. The auction of sport's memorabilia raised 77,303 pounds, with a rare book titled The Rules and Instructions for Playing at the Game of Cricket fetching the highest sum. The book, which dates back to 1804, was sold for 5,520 pounds, making it a wise investment for the last buyer who bought it for 58 pounds in 1966.

Johnson, Bailey in record books

MONTE CARLO, Monaco, May 23: It took nearly 10 months, but sprinters Michael Johnson and Donovan Bailey finally got their names in the record books, reports AP. The International Amateur Athletic Federation on Wednesday formally ratified the world records set by the two at last summer's Atlanta Olympics - Johnson's 19.32 seconds in the 200 metres and Bailey's 9.84 in the 100. IAAF spokesman Giorgio Reineri said it took so long to ratify the records because of delays in obtaining the paperwork from US track officials. Reineri said there were also delays in getting paperwork on doping control from the international Olympic Committee. Like all medalists at the games, Johnson and Bailey submitted to urine tests, and both passed. However, because of the bureaucratic delays, the IAAF never ratified Johnson's previous world record of 19.66 seconds, set at the US Olympic trials in Atlanta. Johnson and Bailey will meet June 1 at Toronto's Sky-Dome in a 150-metre match race, billed as determining the world's fastest man.

Munich meet Linford's last

LONDON, May 23: Sprinter Linford Christie, captain of the British team for the past eight weeks, will lead the team for the last time at next month's European Cup in Munich, reports AP. The June 21-22 meet will mark the final international appearance for Britain of the former world and Olympic 100-metre champion. Christie has captained Britain at every European Cup - and both Olympic Games - Since 1989. He has a record 11 individual victories in the European Cup's 100 and 200-metre events.

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