

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition closes 8 pm, July 11, 97

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes 8 pm, July 11, 97

1 Who is the third fastest server in men's tennis circuit at the moment?

Rusedski Rostet Krajick

2 How many warm-up matches will Bangladesh play before the World Cup in 1997?

Four Three Six

3 How many matches has Shahbaz played for Pakistan?

219 220 221

4 What is the position of Bangladesh in FIFA rankings for June?

137 138 139

5 Who lifted CUTE Premier handball league title?

Ansars Menjis BDR

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

EN-VITS

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK

SPORTS TALK



Former national hockey players Jamil Parvez Lulu (L) and Jummon Lusai (R) of Abahani KC console their former national teammate Jamal Haider of Mohammedan SC prior to yesterday's last Green Delta First Division league match. The trio retired from the sport yesterday. — Star photo

MSC wind up in style

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club celebrated their eighth title triumph in style by defeating their arch-rivals Abahani Krira Chakra by 4-3 in the last match of this year's Green Delta Insurance First Division Hockey league at the National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

In a thrilling tussle between the two local titans, prolific Pakistan centre-forward Kamran Ashraf struck the match-winning five minutes from the final whistle, enabling Mohammedans to defend the coveted trophy with an enviable all-win record in the 18-team league.

The Motijheel club had also earned the unique feat of unbeaten champions in 1992-93. Besides, with this win, the popular club extended their unbeaten record in league matches to 75. They were last defeated by Sonali Bank way back in 1989.

On the other hand, Abahani, who had earlier capitulated their position as runners-up to Usha Krira Chakra, winded up their dismal league campaign managing only a distant third position.

Although Mohammedans had already confirmed their championship, the match, however, lost no charm. As the play got underway the Dhaka derby turned into an absorbing battle with fans flocking the galleries in a great deal of zeal and enthusiasm. It was, however, more than a Mohammedan and Abahani clash when Shahbaz, who donned the black and white jersey for the second consecutive year, led the Pak charge against Bahamani's four-man Indian attack.

Although Shahbaz's man had the last laugh, it was Abahani who drew the first blood in the 25th minute when Mukesh Kumar, the Indian inside-right, completed a combined attack down the middle.

But the sky blues' joy was short-lived as Mohammedan restored parity seven minutes later with Tahir Zaman scoring from a penalty stroke. The stoically built centre-half, instrumental in Pakistan's face-saving 3-2 win against an spirited Bangladesh in the seventh SAF Games scoring all the three goals from strokes, converted the six-yarder much to the delight of Mohammedan supporters.

Siam-e-Noor, the otherwise off-coloured Mohammedan centre-forward, then gave his side a 2-1 lead five minutes into the second half shooting home a rebounder.

But in a see saw battle, where fortune fluctuated from one end to another, Abahani's star Indian recruit Dhanraj Pillay made it 2-2, capitalising a right-side cross from compatriot Sabu Verukay.

The dark and dapper Indian super-star also scored his side's third goal, a gem of a field goal, eight minutes after Ashiqur Rahman gave Mohammedans a 3-2 lead midway through the second session.

But then Kamran Ashraf, the hero of Pakistan's World Cup triumph in Australia in 1994, stole the lime light with an exquisite display of brilliant marksmanship. The nimble centre-forward after receiving a

ball from playmaker Shahbaz, took a few steps to enter the forbidden zone before unleashing a guided-missile past a bemused Abahani custodian Shamim.

The otherwise cracker of a match, however, soured a little when Pillay reacted ungodly at the verbal abuse hurled by a section of unfriendly Mohammedan fans. Besides, the Abahani players, who were only to be blamed for the defeat, protested every goals scored against them.

This was certainly a sorry display by the Abahani captain Mamun, who was penalised with a yellow card by the Indian umpires while protesting against a ruling.

Abahani got as many as eight short corners. But their shaky players even failed to stop those free hits, let alone a single try at the target.



JOYRIDE ... jubilant Mohammedan supporters celebrating their club's victory over arch-rivals Abahani in the last match of the Green Delta First Division league hoisting their hero Kamran Ashraf of Pakistan, who scored the decisive goal, on their shoulders after the encounter at the Hockey Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Wake up call for BCF

Sports Reporter

Steadfast adherence to the norm of selection for the national team is likely to stop Bangladesh from giving its best shot to the upcoming World Zonal Chess tournament to be held over the first two weeks of next month.

Bangladesh Chess Federation has picked up three players including country's lone Grand Master Niaz Murshed for the meet scheduled to be held in Iranian capital Tehran from 2 to 16 of August.

The two other players are national champion Enamul Huq Rajeeb and runner up Ali Amjad Mintu.

Two front-ranking players of the country — Zaur Rahman and Rezaul Karim Sattar — have been left in the cold on grounds of their failure to take part in the last national championship.

International Master Zia whose rating 2480 is second only to GM Niaz Murshed could

not participate in the national championship while Rezaul, another International Master with 2410 points against his name could not feature in the domestic championship due to personal problems.

Although both these talented players had informed the Federation beforehand of their inability to take part in the national championship in order to be considered for national selection, BCF's selection for the Tehran tournament seems to have remained sadly uninfluenced by their prior intimation.

Having kept the duo out of reckoning, BCF has justly but probably not sensibly tagged the national champion and runner up along with Niaz Murshed for the tournament. Rajeeb the current number one in domestic rating has a FIDE rating of 2290 while Mintu, the national number two 2125.

Chess buffs are of the opinion since both Zia and Rezaul are available, Federation should have given more importance to the idea of improving the strength of the Bangladeshi squad than pursuing the correct but not the best policy of going by the book by including the two in the team.

Not only because of higher FIDE rating Zia and Rezaul are also decidedly better choices than Rajeeb and Mintu for any international meet for their greater experience and better temperament.

As a norm, mandatory participation in domestic championship has been a thorny issue for quite some time now. West Indian cricket was deprived of the services of a couple of their star

performers due to Board's intransigence regarding non-availability of the concerned cricketers in Red Stripe Cup, or the premier domestic cricket championship in the Caribbean. Though lately good sense did prevail and the Board of the mighty cricketing nation found flexibility more to their convenience than rigid observation of criterion in black white.

Chess lovers here, too feel the same way. If a team has to be sent abroad to represent Bangladesh, only the best available and no other should be considered. After all, no interest is greater than national interest.

Silver Jubilee Cricket Cup in Jan

Sports Reporter

The name of the three-nation international cricket tournament, scheduled to be held in Dhaka from January 10 to 18 next year, will be the Silver Jubilee Independence Cup.

This was decided by the Bangladesh Cricket Board recently.

Bangladesh apart, two traditional rivals — India and Pakistan — will be the other two nations in the tourney.

Tanveer named tour manager

Sports Reporter

Tanveer Haider has been selected as the tour manager of the Bangladesh squad for the forth-coming sixth Asia Cup. The four-nation tourney will begin in Colombo on July 14.

The decision for appointing a tour manager was made at the executive committee meeting of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) at its office last night. Earlier, in the ICC Trophy there was no such post.

Besides, the board has also decided that any team would be able to sign four foreign players in the domestic cricket, off whom only two will be eligible for a game. Regarding the formation of the Premier league, the governing body of local cricket, has decided that all of both first leg and the six-team Super league matches will be 80-over-a-side affairs instead of traditional 50-over-a-side.

BCB names 19 pool players

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Cricket Board yesterday announced 19 member national pool for the forthcoming 1997-98 season.

A maximum of four players per club will be allowed. Wicketkeepers Khaled Masood Pilot and Jahangir Alam have been exempted from it on condition that they play in at least seventy per cent of their respective clubs' league matches.

The pool led by national skipper Akram Khan includes Aminul Islam, Bulbul Min-hazul Abedin Nannu, Athar Ali Khan, Shahriar Hossain Bidyut, Sheikh Salauddin, Mozibur Rahman Munna, Enamul Haque Mondal, Saiful Islam Khan, Naimur Rahman Durjoy, Hasibul Hasan Shanto, Zakir Hasan, Habibul Bashar Sumon, Javed Omar Belim Golla, Mohammad Rafique, Anisur Rahman, Zakir Hossain, Sanwar Hossain and Khaled Mahmood Sujon.

Booters' transfer begins today

Sports Reporter

The three-day inter-club booters' transfer for the upcoming football season will commence in the city today.

The transfer which will be held at the Dhaka Mahanagar Football League Committee office will start at 5 pm and will continue up to 9 pm for the first two days. The last day of the transfer on July 8 will continue upto 10 pm.

Exhibition hockey

Sports Reporter

An exhibition hockey match between the foreign stars who participated in the Green Delta First Division league for different local teams and the local players will be held at the National Hockey Stadium this afternoon. The match will start at 4 pm.

Shahbaz Ahmed will lead the foreign players' team, which also includes his three compatriots Tahir Zaman, Kamran Ashraf and Waheed Shahid.

Abahani KC's four Indian recruits Dhanraj Pillay, Sabu Varkey, Mukesh Kumar and Mohammad Riaz will also be featuring in the foreigners' team.

The local team will be headed by Mohammedan skipper Mahfuzul Alam Nixon.

LATEST

MANCHESTER, July 5: The Waugh twins, Mark and Steve, steadied Australia after England made early inroads into their second innings on the third day of the third Test at Old Trafford today, reports Reuter.

After losing their first three wickets for only 39 runs, Australia recovered to be 154 for five at tea, a lead of 227.

At lunch Australia had extended their lead to 151 runs with a second-innings 78 for three on the third day of the third Test at Old Trafford, reports AP.

An eventful morning was overshadowed by a contentious umpiring decision which brought about the dismissal of Australian No 3 batsman Greg Blewett.

Blewett dived down the track to off-spinner Robert Croft and edged a drive to slip fielder Nasser Hussain, who claimed the catch as he caught it diving forward on the rebound.

Blewett (19) refused to leave, but Indian umpire Venkataraghavan consulted his English colleague George Sharpe at square leg and ruled it as a fair catch.

Subsequent frame-by-frame replays by BBC's spin vision

camera indicated the ball bouncing at least a couple of inches short of Hussain.

Headley once again proved the nemesis to Australia's left-handed openers, dismissing both Australian captain Mark Taylor (1) and Matthew Elliott (11) caught behind before lunch as Australia slumped to 39 for three.

But the Waugh twins — Mark and Steve — attacked from the outset in an unbeaten fourth-wicket stand contributing 20 and 23 runs respectively, hitting five boundaries between them.



Graham Thorpe of England exults after seeing Australian Greg Blewett caught by Nasser Hussain off Robert Croft during the third day's play of the Old Trafford Test yesterday. — AFP/UNB photo

Leader of the leggies

MANCHESTER, July 5 (Agencies): Shane Warne became the most prolific leg-spinner in Test history in the first Test at Edgbas-

Since then, however, he has undergone a serious finger operation as well as persistent shoulder problems and Warne arrived in England with doubts still surrounding his ability to recover the magic of his early years.

In the first Test at Edgbas-

Warne, who had equalled Benaud's 248 wickets with the overnight figures of five for 48, took just four balls to dismantle a defiant ninth-wicket stand between Mark Ealham and Andrew Caddick.

The pair came together with England teetering on 123 for eight, losing six for 29 after lunch, and batted together for 74 minutes, piling up the frustration on Australia's five-man attack.

Caddick, with 15 runs to his name, tried to flick the fourth delivery of the morning, but only succeeded in lobbing a catch to Mark Waugh at silly point who took it on the rebound.

Next best on the all-time leg-spinner's list are Indian great Bhagwat Chandrasekhar with 242 wickets in 58 Tests and Pakistan's Abdul Qadir who has 236 in 67 Tests.

The wicket put Warne past Benaud as the greatest leg-spinner the game has seen. Warne's wickets came in 55 Tests, while Benaud's 248 came in 63 Tests.

It was Warne's first five-wicket haul since November 1995, when he humbled Pakistan by taking 7-23 at Brisbane.

But, on Friday, England were

clearly guilty of aiding his rehabilitation at the highest level with Graham Thorpe, Nasser Hussain and John Crawley all self-destructing.

Warne did bowl tightly, and he did spin the odd one sharply albeit on a slow and increasingly low surface.

But he could not repeat the magnificent ball which accounted for Alec Stewart, and Hussain's middle-order seemed mesmerised by him and in two minds about whether to concentrate on survival or whether to try to attack.

England coach David Lloyd was forthright in his criticism of the batting last night, and rightly so.

Lloyd said, "Warne is a class act, but we helped him. We have to pose questions to Australia, and not the other way around."

"We just have not played well enough, and we have played Warne far better than that up to now."

"The ball has turned, but it has not bounced and ripped. We have a lot of hard work ahead of us in the rest of this match, but we are now in a position where we have to concentrate on coming up with ways of winning. We can't think about trying to get a draw."

Lloyd agreed, too, that England had been handed the best conditions for bowling by Australian captain Mark Taylor's decision to bat first on Thursday.

"We would have bowled first ourselves if we had won the toss without a shadow of a doubt," he added.

Waugh's keep up Warne's work

MANCHESTER, England, July 5: Shane Warne became the most prolific leg-spinner in Test history in the first Test at Edgbas-

ton, which England won by nine wickets. Warne's single success came at an overall cost of 137 runs and he seemed genuinely short of form and inspiration.

But, on Friday, England were

Butcher st Healy b Bevan	51
Atherton c Healy b McGrath	5
Stewart c Taylor b Warne	30
Hussain c Healy b Warne	13
Thorpe c Taylor b Warne	3
Crawley c Healy b Warne	4
Ealham not out	24
Croft c S Waugh b McGrath	7
Gough lbw b Warne	1
Caddick c M Waugh b Warne	15
Headley b McGrath	0
Extras: (b-4, lb-3, nb-2)	9
Total: (all out)	162
Wicket fall: 1-8; 2-74; 3-94; 4-101; 5-110; 6-111; 7-122; 8-123; 9-161	

Bowling	O	M	R	W
McGrath	23.4	9	40	3
Reiffel	9	3	14	0
Warne	30	14	48	6
Gillespie	14	3	39	0
Bevan	8	3	14	1

AUSTRALIA: Second innings

Elliott c Butcher b Headley	11
Taylor c Butcher b Headley	1
Blewett c Hussain b Croft	19
M Waugh not out	20
S Waugh not out	23
Extras: (nb-4)	4
Total: (for three wickets)	78

Fall of wickets: 5: 33; 39: 40; 41: 101; 42: 110; 43: 111; 44: 122; 45: 123; 46: 124; 47: 125; 48: 126; 49: 127; 50: 128; 51: 129; 52: 130; 53: 131; 54: 132; 55: 133; 56: 134; 57: 135; 58: 136; 59: 137; 60: 138; 61: 139; 62: 140; 63: 141; 64: 142; 65: 143; 66: 144; 67: 145; 68: 146; 69: 147; 70: 148; 71: 149; 72: 150; 73: 151; 74: 152; 75: 153; 76: 154; 77: 155; 78: 156; 79: 157; 80: 158; 81: 159; 82: 160; 83: 161; 84: 162; 85: 163; 86: 164; 87: 165; 88: 166; 89: 167; 90: 168; 91: 169; 92: 170; 93: 171; 94: 172; 95: 173; 96: 174; 97: 175; 98: 176; 99: 177; 100: 178; 101: 179; 102: 180; 103: 181; 104: 182; 105: 183; 106: 184; 107: 185; 108: 186; 109: 187; 110: 188; 111: 189; 112: 190; 113: 191; 114: 192; 115: 193; 116: 194; 117: 195; 118: 196; 119: 197; 120: 19