

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition closes at 8 pm on Jan 9, 1998

1. Who is the Australia cricket coach?
Lille Marsh Simpson
2. Who is the Argentina soccer coach?
Passarella Venables Cruyff
3. Which county will Lara lead next year?
Essex Durham Warwickshire
4. Who hit the first century in this year's Premier Division cricket league?
Nadim Saeed Kazmi
5. Who lifted the women's singles title of the national TT championships?
Lina Tumpa Zulekha

Name

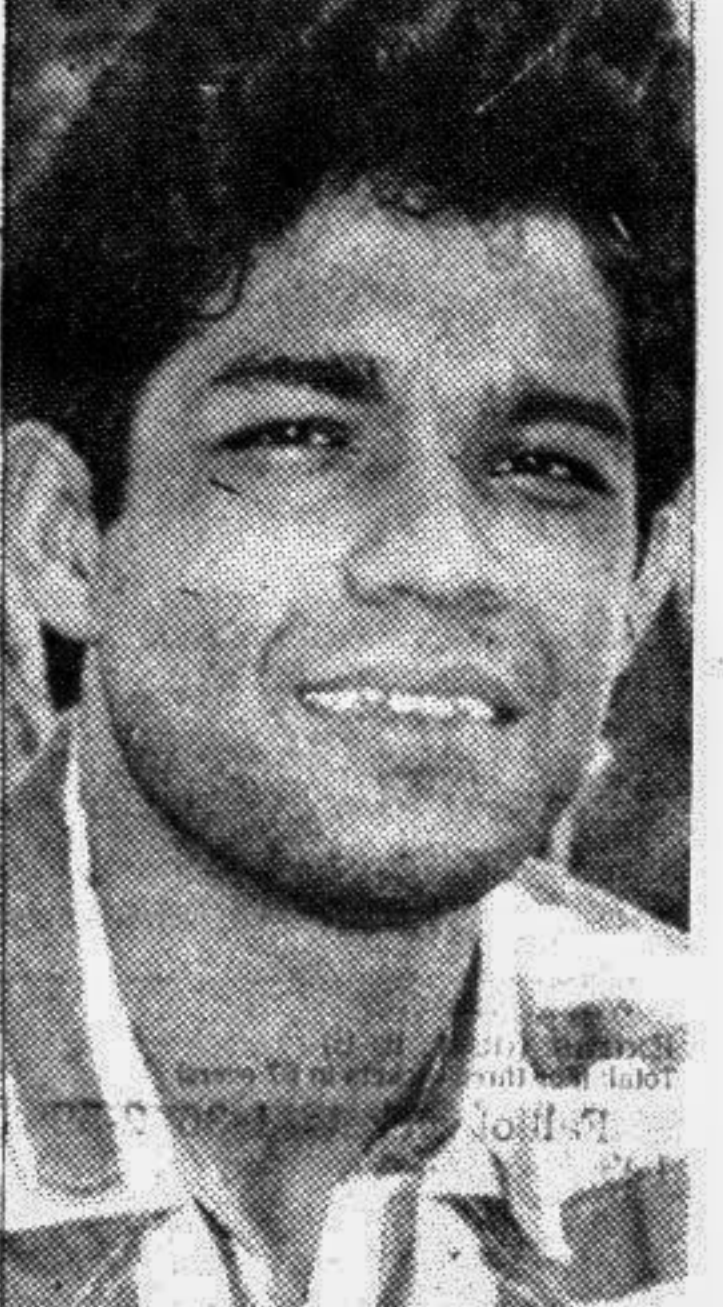
Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Rashid Latif
(Pakistan cricket captain)
"I am the captain but I believe in total teamwork and for that I am ready for any player to come forward and give his suggestion. Whatever I would do in the field, it will have the consent of all the players, especially the senior ones."

After being appointed as captain of Pakistan for the Coca-Cola Independence Cup.

Zia Smriti cricket

From Our Correspondent
RAJSHAH, Jan 3: Rani Bazar Krira Sangha and Diganta Sangha won their respective Shaheed Zia Smriti cricket tournament matches today.

Rani Bazar defeated Aloran Krira Chakra by 54 runs at Rajshahi Government College playground.

Winning the toss, Aloran invited Rani Bazar for batting. The winners collected 161 runs to lose all wickets in stipulated 23 overs.

In reply, Aloran made 107 runs all out in 21.1 overs.

In the day's second match, Diganta Sangha beat Padma Garden by three wickets.

Winning the toss, Padma Garden batted first and collected 73 runs for all in 20 overs.

In reply Diganta Sangha made 74 runs for seven in 15.4 overs.

Meanwhile, a 15-member new executive committee of Rajshahi District Chess Players' Association was formed recently.

Prof Abdul Latif and Saidur Rahman were elected president and general secretary respectively.

Weah indisposed

MILAN, Jan 3: AC Milan's former FIFA-world-player-of-the-year George Weah will have to undergo a hernia operation it was announced here on Monday which will put him out for two months, reports AFP.

The former Paris Saint Germain striker, who has had to pull out of a club friendly in Israel, has been advised by the Milan doctor to have the surgery after a longstanding back injury failed to clear up. He last played for his club in the 2-0 win over Bari on November 23.

Maurizio Ganz, recently transferred from city rivals Inter, looks likely to replace the Liberian, who has scored just three goals in 13 appearances this season, alongside Dutch strike partners Patrick Kluyvert.

Kalabagan begin in style



Kalabagan Krira Chakra got off to a rollicking start in their chase for a major domestic title with a huge 99-run win over Lalmatia Club in the inaugural match of eight-team Bhoj Dibash cricket tournament at the Dhammondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Sent in to bat in the morning Kalabagan, aided by half centuries from their opener Sajjad Ahmed Monsur Shipon and middle-order batsman Mahabub Rahman Selim, piled up a commanding total of 243 for seven in their share of 50 overs.

Shipon, who opened the innings with his captain Harunur Rashid Liton, scored a plucky 66 off 118 balls punctuated with five hits across the rope.

The young right-hander shared 44 runs for the first wicket with Liton before the later departed for a characteristic 24 off 31 balls. Shipon, who held the innings together, then went on to add another 51 runs for the second wicket with Mukul.

But the most lively partnership in the Kalabagan innings came when Mahabub Rahman

man joined forces with Shipon to produce 72 runs for the third wicket before the lithe opener departed in the 41st over, leaving his side comfortable placed on 167 for three.

Selim, who clouted five fours in his 70-ball vigil at the crease, then ensured his side cross the 200-mark without further

BRIEF SCORES

KALABAGAN KC: 243 for seven wickets in 50 overs (Shipon 66, Selim 52, Zakaria 47, Raisul Islam 2/42)
LALMATIA CLUB: 144 for eight wickets in 50 overs (Kiron 58, Ripon 31, Ridwan 23, Saikat 3/17, Enamul Haq 2/27)
Result: Kalabagan win by 99 runs.

damage. But it was a breezy 47 off 31 balls from a portly Zakaria Imtiaz, which propelled Kalabagan to a commanding total.

In reply, Lalmatia caved in rather meekly, managing only 144 runs for eight wickets when the lowly-rated Premier Division outfit exhausted their

quota of 50 overs.

But Lalmatia were at one stage looked well on course with their opener Kiron, who scored a patient 58 off 111 deliveries, and middle-order batsman Ripon (31), sharing 53 runs for the third wicket.

But once Kiron departed in the 38th over, leaving his side at 122, Lalmatia lost their last six wickets with the addition of only 15 runs to the total. Kalabagan's left-arm spinner Sharfuddinul-ibne Shahid Saikat, who was responsible for the sudden slide, finished with three for only 17 runs in his nine niggling overs. He was ably supported by former national slow left-arm Enamul Haq, who gave away only 27 runs for his two scalps.

Meanwhile, the other match of the knockout tournament between Abahani Krira Chakra and Brothers Union fell through at the BKSP ground in Savar.

The match was suspended without a single ball was bowled due to the under-prepared pitch. The tussle of the two biggies will now be held at the Dhammondi Cricket Stadium on January 6.



Abahani forward Tipu (R) heading home the lone goal against Brothers Union during their Premier Division football league encounter at the Dhaka Stadium.

Unsporting!

Sports Reporter
The crucial Premier Division football league encounter between title aspirants Abahani Krira Chakra and Brothers Union at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday afternoon, got off to a delayed start after a group of armed hooligans had threatened the referees at their dressing room.

It happened at around 2 pm when four referees, designated for the day's match, were preparing for the match which was due to kick off at 2:15 pm. The hoodlums, who claimed themselves to be supporters of Brothers, pointed pistol towards the men-in-uniform and ordered them not to give any verdict against their team. Their main target was Tajul Islam for whom the club was fined Tk. 10,000 recently on disciplinary ground.

The referees quit the dressing room and took shelter at the nearby Krira Palli of National Sports Council immediately after the culprits left the spot. They also refused to conduct the match.

However, after 20 minutes of negotiations between the Dhaka Mahanagar Football League Committee (DMFLC) officials and the referees, the match started at 2:30 pm. Tajul Islam, who was appointed as a linesman yesterday, got so nervous after the incident that he had to be replaced by Mafuz Siddique.

However, it could not be confirmed what actions the DMFLC was going to take regarding the incident.

Div I cricket

Sports Reporter

DHAKA WANDERERS: 220 for five wickets in 45 overs (Sagor Abbas 84 not out, Jewel 54, Mahfuz 30; Nadeem 3/47)
BANGLADESH BOYS: 114 all out in 28.3 overs (Jitkhar 24, Philip 19, Manzurul 17; Babu 4/21)
Result: Dhaka Wanderers won by 106 runs.

Dhaka Wanderers Club posted a huge 106-run win over Bangladesh Boys in the First Division cricket league match at the City Club Ground in Mirpur yesterday.

Sagor Abbas, the useful Pakistani recruit of the Motijheel outfit, scored a captain's knock of an unbeaten 84 as Dhaka Wanderers, asked to bat in the morning, raced on to amass an imposing total of 220 for five in the stipulated 45 overs.

Wanderers were off to a sound start with their openers Mahfuz and Jewel putting on 72 runs in 18.4 overs before the former was out for 30, Jewel, who scored a fine 58 off 88 balls, then added another 29 runs for the second wicket with Abbas before being dismissed in the 28th over.

But a stubborn Abbas, who was not in a mood to throw away his wicket, almost single-handedly guided his side cross the 200-mark with a breezy 84 off 89 balls inclusive of half a dozen fours and a couple of huge sixes.

Bangladesh Boys, in their chase for a daunting task of scoring more than five runs per over, fell for only 114 runs in 28.3 overs in the face of some fired-up bowling from Babu, who ripped through the top-order to finish with four for 21 in his nine overs.

Only Iftakher with 24 and opener Philip, who was run out after scoring 19, could offer some sort of resilience for Bangladesh Boys.

Gascoigne in trouble

GLASGOW, Jan 3: England midfielder Paul Gascoigne was again at the centre of controversy after appearing to make an insensitive gesture during Friday's highly-charged Glasgow derby, reports Reuters.

British newspapers today showed a picture of Gascoigne raising his hands to his mouth, appearing to mime playing a flute before coming on for Rangers as a substitute in the match with bitter rivals Celtic.

To many of the largely Catholic Celtic supporters the gesture is seen as an offensive symbol of a loyalist march in Northern Ireland. Rangers are mainly a Protestant club.

AKC overcome Brothers

Sports Reporter

Title aspirants Abahani Krira Chakra crossed a major hurdle in the Premier Division football league when they edged past Brothers Union by a lone goal in their return leg clash at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

After a barren first half, forward Tipu scored the all-important goal in the 71st minute to guide the Dhammondi boys to their tenth victory in the league.

Abahani, with the win, joined their old rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club at the top of the ten-team league table with each having 34 points from 15 matches. Fellow contenders Muktiyoddha Sangsad have 33 points from 14 matches.

On the other hand, it was the fourth defeat for Brothers who lost their first leg encounter against the sky blue outfit by a 0-2 margin. Yesterday's result left them glued to their previous collection of 23 points from 15 matches.

Abahani, who missed the services of their leading

goalscorer Amin Rana who is nursing an injury, made a positive start against the Gopibagh outfit and controlled the first session with a series of attacks. But all the good works done by the midfield went in vain because of poor marksmanship.

In the 16th minute, Rumi failed to send home a Tipu minus from five yards as his weak shot was bounced back by Brothers custodian Saidur while Mizan's power-packed grounder was saved on the goal line by defender Govinda after 13 minutes.

However, Abahani maintained their pressure over their opponents in the second session and after a series of abortive attempts, they finally succeeded when Tipu headed home a Raju cross from the right side.

The only chance for Brothers, who were at the receiving end throughout, came in the 78th minute when substitute Ripon, got an open net with only custodian Biplob to beat. But he lost his cool and sent the ball direct into the safe hands of Biplob.

Yellow cards: Ali Mansoor, Raju (Abahani) and Imadul Swapan (Brothers Union)

TEAMS
ABAHANI KC: Biplob, Partho, Prodeep, Ali Mansoor, Barun, Raju, John, Zakir, Rumi, Mizan (Anatoly/Jahangir) and Tipu.
BROTHERS UNION: Saidur (Milan), Imadul, Amer Khan, Chanchal, Govinda, Swapan (Shilpi), Shamim, Yusuf, Mintu, Jamal and Asad (Ripon).
Referee: Ramkrishna Ghosh.

DHAMMONDI WIN

Away at the Army Stadium, Dhammondi Club registered their second victory in the First Division league when they came from behind to post a 2-1 win over promotees Shantinagar Club.

Trailing the first half by a ninth minute goal by Zahid, the Dhammondi outfit staged a brilliant come-back in the second session with two goals in 18 minutes.

Forward Sajedul Karim netted both the goals in 47th and 65th minutes.

The win raised Dhammondi's tally to 13 points from 15 matches while the defeat kept Shantinagar stuck to their previous 18 points completion of their 15th engagement.

Mike's positive attitude



LONDON, Jan 3: An upbeat Mike Atherton said on Friday England had their best chance for many years to beat West Indies when they begin their five-Test series late this month, reports Reuters.

Speaking at Gatwick Airport on the eve of England's departure for the three-month tour, which also includes five one-day internationals, Atherton said "It is the best opportunity for England to beat West Indies in a long time."

"But recent series have been close and hard-fought and I expect that to continue."

England have not beaten West Indies for almost 30 years, either home or away, and in that time only Australia and India have managed to overcome them on their home soil.

Atherton admitted the late withdrawal of fast bowler Darren Gough through injury had come as a blow.

"I am very disappointed and I know he is as well. He felt the injury in pre-tour practice in Lanzarote but we hoped he would get over it," the England captain said.

"Injuries are part and parcel of the game and we have just got to get on with it."

But Atherton was still hopeful Gough would be able to join the squad at a later stage.

"If he gets the all clear from the specialist he might be available for the back end of the tour," he said.

West Indies, riven by conflict

between island factions and a dispute over the captaincy, recently returned after their most distressing ever Test series defeat, beaten 3-0 by Pakistan, twice by an innings and once by 10 wickets.

West Indies selectors have yet to decide whether to stick by veteran fast bowler Courtney



MIKE ATHERTON

Walsh as captain or hand the job to world record Test batsman Brian Lara.

Another alternative is to give the captaincy to middle-order batsman Jimmy Adams, but whatever the decision it is bound to cause controversy among the different island factions.

England morale has been bolstered by recent victory in the Sharjah one-day tournament when they twice beat West Indies as well as India and Pakistan.

They were then led by all-

rounder Adam Hoolioake who received much praise for motivating his squad. Hoolioake is also a member of the 16-man party for West Indies but has lost that job to Atherton who has been a re-appointed captain for the one-day series which closes the tour.

But Atherton paid tribute to the side's success in Sharjah. "Sharjah started things well and we hope to keep the momentum going," he said.

Atherton felt he had learned a lot from last year's 3-2 home Ashes defeat by Australia.

"Last summer was a difficult one, the conditions weren't easy," he said.

"But I learned a simple thing against Australia, that at our best we can beat anyone, consistency is the key."

He said West Indies were not the team they were in the mid-1980s when no other side could touch them.

"They are not the team they were but it would be wrong to underestimate them," he said.

"It would be a great feather in our caps if we won."

TODAY'S MATCHES

Premier Division Football League:
Farashganj SC vs Victoria SC (Mirpur Stadium, 2:15 pm)
First Division Football League:
Police AC vs Wari Club (Army Stadium, 2:15 pm)
First Division Cricket League:
City Club vs Orient SC (City Club ground)

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Long cut
5 Great
8 Food fish
12 Burn ad
13 Eventual
14 Headlight
15 Solon
17 Dodge
18 Stubborn
19 Mis-
20 Principle
21 Bandleader
22 Male Manx
23 Chris
26 Aida hero
30 Make
31 Moonshine
32 Caffeine-
33 Coerce
35 Red head
36 Has
37 Le Coq
38 Waterlight

DOWN

41 Old card
42 Despon-
45 Frenzied
46 Lump
49 Have bills
50 Paddock
51 Despot
52 Hostel
53 Recognize
1 Big bash
2 Oh, woe!
3 Emulates
4 Johnny
5 Appleseed
6 Height of
7 Standard
8 Sole man?
9 Sentry's
10 Sam
11 Let's
12 Make a Deal
13 option
14 Astronaut
15 Shepard
16 Pea
17 Influential
18 pol
19 Senior
20 Philoso-
21 Immanuel
22 Book after
23 Joel
24 Luke's
25 Tennis
26 arena
27 Exonerate
28 Re planes
29 Doodled
30 Polloi
31 lead-in
32 Invite

Solution time: 27 mins.

Yesterdays answer

CRYPTOQUIP

W B Y G T M Y F T Y S M
M E P M M E Y M Y S Y H E G F Y
W L P M K Y P S I G F B Y K
L P M W G F H W Y I Y
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AN IRASCIBLE BUTTON
MANUFACTURER SIMPLY YEARN TO POP OFF.
Today's Cryptoquip clue: H equals P
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.