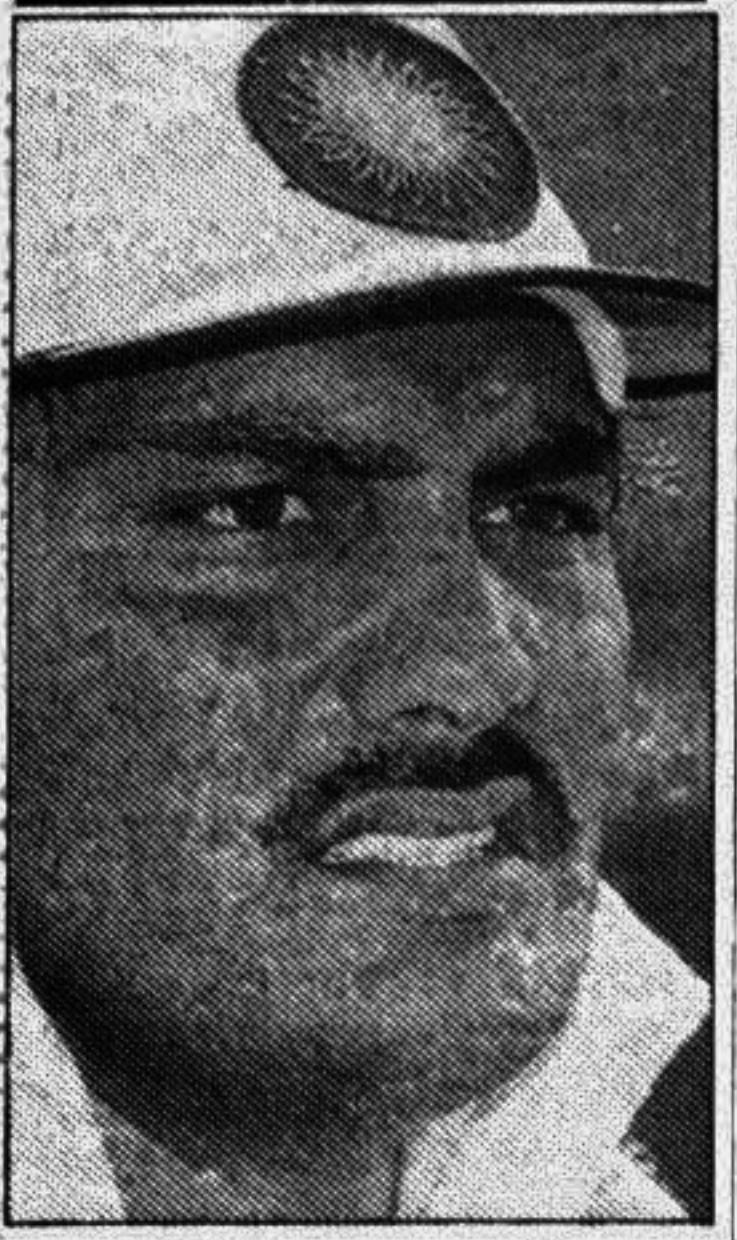


## Column One

## SPORTS TALK



Mohammad Azharuddin

(Indian cricket captain)  
"If the situation merits Sachin Tendulkar to be sent in as an opener, I have been given total freedom to change the order."

**Boost sports WHIZZ KID**  
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
Competition-87

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Competition closes at 8 pm on Jan 30, 1998

1	Which Kiwi batsman scored the only ODI century against Pakistan?	Cairns	Asle	Crowe
2	Which is the highest ODI individual score?	194	189	198
3	How many ODI centuries has Azharuddin hit?	3	4	5
4	Who scored the only half-century for Bangladesh in the Independence Cup?	Amitul	Akram	Mahmud
5	Who is leading Bangladesh in the World Youth Cup cricket in South Africa?	Sabir	Al-Shariar	Sajal

Name .....  
.....  
Class ..... Roll No. ....  
School Address .....  
.....  
Phone: (If any) .....

POWERED WITH  
**EN-VITS**  
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

## F'pool, Agrani split points

Sports Reporter

Youngmen's Club Fakirpool and Agrani Bank Sports Club shared points in the Premier Division football league with a 2-2 draw in their last return leg clash at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

Rana and Zahid scored one goal each for the bankers while Jalal senior and Jalal junior netted one apiece for Fakirpool.

With the draw which was also the last match of the return leg, Fakirpool raised their tally to 16 points from 18 matches while the bankers moved to 14 points on completion of the 18th outing. Both Fakirpool and Agrani Bank have already ensured their place in the five-team relegation league along with Arambagh KS, Victoria SC and Rahmatganj SC.

The top five teams — Mohammad SC, Mukti Joddha Sangsad KC, Abahani KC, Brothers Union and Farashganj SC will play in the super league. Both the super league and relegation league are likely to commence from February 10.

## Romario called up

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan 22: Romario was among 11 players recalled by coach Mario Zagallo on Wednesday for Brazil's games in the CONCACAF Gold Cup next month, reports AP.

Romario was the MVP of Brazil's World Cup victory in 1994. Donizete, another forward, was also recalled for the tournament, the championship of soccer's North and Central American and Caribbean region.

Edmundo, a forward for Fiorentina in Italy, was recalled last week but Ronaldo, the two-time FIFA player-of-the-year, will skip the Gold Cup to keep playing for Inter nazionale, the Italian League leaders.

Marcos Assuncao of Santos, Denilson of Sao Paulo, Sergio Manuel of Gremio and Zinho of Palmeiras were among the midfielders called up Wednesday, as were defenders Russo, Junior and Silvinho and goalkeepers Claudio Taffarel and Carlos Germano.

Brazil's first-round games are in Miami against Jamaica on Feb. 3 and against Guatemala on Feb. 5.

## Bangladesh face WI in final

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh stormed into the Plate final of the second World Youth Cup defeating Ireland by three wickets in their last group league match at the Benoni ground in South Africa yesterday.

Bangladesh will take on West Indies, the winners from the other group, in the Plate final on January 24.

According to a faxed message received here last night, Bangladesh, chasing a modest Ireland total of 169 all out in 48.2 overs, rattled up 173 for seven in 42.2 overs to finish their group with an all-win record.

Vice-captain Sabir Khan captured four wickets for 23

runs in his spinning web and leggie Tanvir, who, with a five-wicket haul, was instrumental in Bangladesh's huge 161-run victory over Papua New Guinea on Tuesday, took three wickets for 42 runs, restricting their European rivals to an attainable target.

After the good work of the tweakers, Skipper Al-Shariar led his side from the front with a dazzling 46. One down Mehrab Hossain scored 24.

But it was once again the Fahim-Sajal combination that brought Bangladesh out a rut after an all too familiar top-order collapse.

Fahim scored an invaluable 31 runs and pacer Sajal remained unbeaten on 27 as Bangladesh recovered from a

stunning collapse to their third consecutive victory with seven overs to spare.

The lower-order duo featured in the same gritty eighth wicket partnership of 80 in their first match against Kenya when Bangladesh slumped to 54 for seven and eventually carried their team to the coast without further damage.

Bangladesh apart, seven teams, who failed to qualify for the Cup final, are taking part in the consolatory Plate final.

AP adds, John Cent scored a unbeaten 84 off 87 balls on Wednesday to lead South Africa to seven-wicket victory over Zimbabwe in a Super league match.

South Africa, chasing 177 in 50 overs, scored 181 in 38.2 overs.

## European soccer scene

## Real Madrid, PSG rocked

MILAN, Jan 22 (AP/Reuters): AC Milan banking on their infamous 5-0 thrashing of cross-town rivals Inter in the Italian Cup quarterfinals first leg, qualified for the semis while in Spain holders Real Madrid made a shock exit from the Spanish Cup and away in France Paris Saint Germain lost for the first time in seven league games.

**ITALY:** In second-leg quarterfinal matches on Wednesday, Milan lost 1-0 to Inter but advanced on a 5-1 aggregate score. Lazio also qualified when they prevailed 2-1 in a hard-fought Roman derby for a 6-2 aggregate.

At San Siro stadium, before less than 10,000 fans, a first-half goal by Italian forward Marco Branca gave league leaders Inter a useless victory.

A Rome's Olympic stadium Yugoslav midfielder Vladimir Jugovic put Lazio in front converting a penalty kick in the 45th minute.

Brazilian forward Paulo

Real won 2-1 but lost the fourth round tie on away goals after their Basque opponents' 1-0 win a week ago.

In sharp contrast to last Wednesday, when a virtual reserve side wore the white shirts of Real, the second leg saw the return of most of the club's leading players.

However, Alaves showed no fear in the face of 10 internationals and silenced the crowd at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium with a goal after nine

defeat of Second Division Extremadura.

Merida beat Valladolid 3-1 and went through to the quarterfinals 4-2 on aggregate.

Real Betis and Real Sociedad drew 1-1 but with a 2-0 lead from the first leg it was the Seville side — 1997 cup finalists — who progressed.

Atletico Madrid made their exit from the cup on Tuesday night at the hands of Real Zaragoza.

**FRANCE:** Bastia stopped

Paris St Germain from moving to the top of the French First Division when they beat them 2-0 on Wednesday.

Pierre Laurent and Adrian Koznik, who both joined the Corsican club during the winter break, scored the goals.

Second-placed PSG are now

on 44 points, two behind Metz who were held to a 1-1 draw at struggling Cannes on Tuesday.

The Paris side were without inspirational captain Rai and defenders Laurent Fournier and Eric Rabesandratana, all sus-

pected of Second Division Alaves.

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