

Sport

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

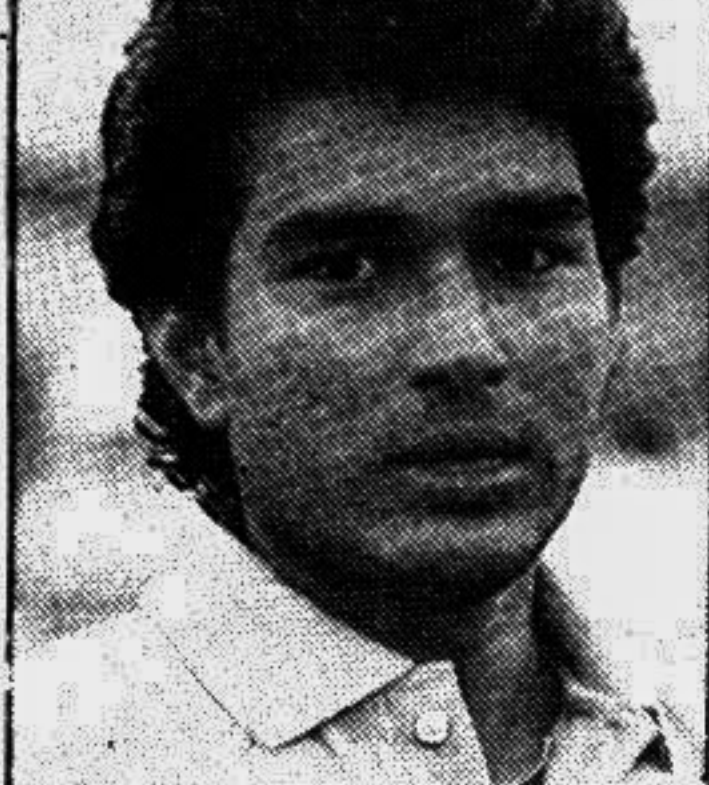
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-88 Tick the Correct Answers Competition closes at 8 pm on Feb 20, 1998

Table with 5 questions and multiple choice answers for a sports quiz.

Registration form with fields for Name, Class, Roll No., School Address, and Phone.

EN-VITS Energy Releasing Vitamins advertisement.

SPORTS TALK



Sanjay Manjrekar (Former India cricketer) While announcing his retirement from first-class cricket.

Jagannath Hall sports Sports Reporter

Babul Das and Harilal Devnath emerged champion and runner-up in the annual athletics competition of Dhaka University Jagannath Hall held at the hall ground yesterday.

ATP rankings

Table of ATP Tour rankings with columns for Player and Points.

Another record falls to Haile

BIRMINGHAM, Feb 17: Haile Gebrselassie, watched by hundreds of Britain's Ethiopian community, rewrote the world indoor 2,000m record at the Grand Prix meeting when he clocked 4 mins 52.96 secs at the international gala here Sunday, reports AFP.

Elsewhere British triple-jumpers Jonathan Edwards and Ashia Hansen both set national records on their way to victories that augur well for the European indoor championships in Valencia later this month.



Action from yesterday's Premier Division football league match between Muktijoddha and Brothers Union at the Mirpur Stadium. Muktis won 3-1. -Star photo

Muktis start impressively

Sports Reporter

Title aspirants Muktijoddha Sangsad Kirra Chara began their Premier Division football super league campaign in style with a comfortable 3-1 win over Brothers Union Club at the Mirpur Stadium yesterday.

In the 60th minute Nakib headed over the post from close range following a left side attack launched by Rakib while his 87th minute shot from a goalmouth melee did not find any gap and hit the leg of an unidentified defender.

On the other hand, Brothers, who suffered their eighth defeat against six win and five draws, remained glued to their previous collection of 23 points.

European soccer scene

UNDATED. (AP/AFP): Liverpool wasted a golden opportunity to close in an English Premiership pace setters Manchester United on Saturday while in Italy Juventus beat Sampdoria 3-0 to stay four points clear at the top of the Serie A Sunday night despite a five-goal victory by rivals Inter Milan over Lecce with Ronaldo inspiring his team with a hat-trick.

Michael Owen and got only a 3-3 draw at Sheffield Wednesday. The draw moved Liverpool into second with 46 points behind United with 50.

In other matches Athletic Bilbao crashed to a shock 3-0 home defeat against Valencia whose scorers were Ilic (37, 55) and Mendieta (75), and Celtic Vigo beat Real Sociedad 2-1 thanks to goals from Djorovic (42) and Revivo (86).



Marcelo Salas (L), Chile's super striker and Argentina's national coach Daniel Passarella holding their trophies awarded for being voted America's best soccer player and coach respectively by journalists at a ceremony in Montevideo, Uruguay on Feb 15. -AP/UNB photo

Women's chess qualifiers

Masuda Begum of Barisal, Zakia Sultana of Narayanganj and Nazrana Khan Iva of Manikganj were leading the 19th national women's chess championship qualifiers at the end of third round at the NSC chess room yesterday.

Bima book Premier berth

Sadharan Bima moved into the elite Premier league when the office team celebrated their fourth consecutive victory in the First Division Super League at the expense of Dhanmondi Club yesterday.

BRIEF SCORES

DHANMONDI CLUB: 177 all out in 49.4 overs (Masud 39, Azam 30 not out, Monirul 23, Hakim 22, Bipul 2/23, Khokon 2/27, Ismail 2/36) SADHARAN BIMA: 178 for 5 wickets in 34.5 overs (Kamal 41, Rahman 38 not out, Masur 25, Ismail 22 not out, Rajib 4/48) Result: Sadharan Bima won by 5 wickets.

In a low-scoring affair at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Sadharan Bima, chasing a modest Dhanmondi total of 177 in the stipulated 50 overs, scored 178 for five in only 34.5 overs to finish at par with Orient Sporting Club, who had confirmed their promotion to the 12-team Premier league with 22 points from 13 outings.

Opener Kamal, who scored a fine 41, gave his side a rollicking start, putting on 84 runs in 17.1 overs with Moshirul.

Meanwhile, in the other match of the day between two no-hopers at the City Club ground, hosts thumped down a 41-run defeat on Dhaka Wanderers. Thanks to a fine all-round performance from Prince, City Club defending an impressive total of 210 for 9 in the stipulated 50 overs, shot out the Motijheel outfit for a meagre 163 with three overs to go.

Prince then ripped through the Dhaka Wanderers batting line-up to finish with fantastic figures of six for 39 in his 10 niggling overs to overshadow yet another brilliant performance from the Wanderers opener Rahman, who scored a swashbuckling 82 with the help of 11 fours and a couple of sixes.

Barisal cricket

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Feb 17: Barisal Cricket School beat Babuganj Club by 37 runs in the First Division cricket league at the local stadium today.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Janakantha Premier Cricket League: Abahani KC vs Kalabagan KC (Dhaka Stadium) Premier Division Football Relegation League: Arambagh KS vs Victoria SC (Mirpur Stadium, 5 pm) First Division Football Super League: East End Club vs Mirpur Chalanika (Mirpur Stadium, 3 pm)

No ball bowled on Day Four



JOHANNESBURG, Feb 17 (Reuters/AFP): Play on the fourth day of the first Test between South Africa and Pakistan was abandoned at lunch today without a ball being bowled.

Heavy overnight rain continued into the morning, saturating the Wanderers outfield. Neither team even left their hotel as prospects of play receded.

South Africa had been due to start their second innings with a lead of 35 after scoring 364 and then bowling Pakistan out for 329.

On Monday, a fighting century by all-rounder Azhar Mahmood enabled Pakistan to reach a total of 329 all out before bad light stopped play.

Although the floodlights were on, the South African innings did not start and the umpires took the players off for bad light.

The 22-year-old Azhar, who made 128 not out on his Test debut against South Africa in Rawalpindi earlier in the season, hit 136 before being last man out.

It was his first Test innings outside his home country and he now has a Test batting average of 81.60 in his seventh match. He batted for 304 minutes and faced 214 balls, hitting 16 fours and two sixes.

Azhar weathered some fiery fast bowling early on, being hit on the helmet when he missed a hook against Allan Donald.

He gave his first chance on 95 when he was dropped by Daryll Cullinan at first slip off Lance Klusener. After reaching his hundred he hooked Shaun Pollock for a six and slammed Klusener for six over extra cover before being dropped by captain Gary Kirsten at deep mid-off when he was on 132.

Akbar SA bound

ISLAMABAD, Feb 17: Pace-man Fazli Akbar will leave for Johannesburg on Wednesday to reinforce the injury-hit Pakistan team currently playing their first Test against South Africa, officials said Monday, reports AFP.

The team's problems were compounded after off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq and strike bowler Mohammad Akram were injured in an attack by muggers outside the team's hotel in the suburbs of Sandton late Wednesday, Qamar Ahmed, secretary, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said.

Akbar, born in the north-western city of Peshawar, topped the bowling averages with 80 wickets in the ongoing domestic first class season, the PCB sources said.

floodlight provisions by umpires Cyril Mitchell of South Africa and Peter Willey of England. Play was stopped when Pakistan were on 299 for nine, at the end of an over from Klusener when which last batsman Shoaib Akhtar was felled by a bouncer. A few minutes earlier the umpires had called for the floodlights to be switched on. After a 23-minute stoppage the players returned.

With 21 overs still due to be bowled, the players went on the field for the start of the South African second innings but before a ball was bowled they went off again.

Under a new provision of the International Cricket Council, floodlights may be used to augment natural light but on all three days of this match, play has stopped because of bad light.

On the first day, play was stopped before the lights were switched on. Pakistan were in early trouble after resuming at 106 for four, with Ijaz Ahmed being caught at deep fine leg off Donald from the last ball of the second over of the day.

Azhar and wicketkeeper Moin Khan put on 107 for the sixth wicket in just over two hours with some bold stroke-play.

Clouds over Pak tour

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 17 (AP): Pakistan's three-Test cricket tour of South Africa has been wracked by troubles, and now the players say privately they want to go home.

Two bowlers were injured last Wednesday in what they told police was a mugging outside their hotel in the posh Sandton suburb. But persistent rumours that the players actually were hurt in a brawl at Club 69, a private bar featuring strippers, have bruised feelings and led to a dispute with police investigators.

The injuries delayed the first Test by a day, to last Saturday. Rain caused several delays the first three days and cancelled play on Tuesday, ensuring that the Test will end in a draw.

On Tuesday, senior team members said they voted unanimously to go home because of the controversy over the attack that injured middle pace man Mohammad Akram, and off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq.

The players, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said they would tell Pakistani officials of the decision made at an hour-long meeting. The players were to have been in southern Africa for about two months.

"We don't feel comfortable at all. The last week has been one hell for us," a player said. "The players' families want them to return home. They don't think it is safe to remain in this country."

Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, said Tuesday he had received no indications the Pakistanis would abandon the tour. He said Majid Khan, the head of the Pakistani cricket board, assured him the tour would continue uninter-

rupted. "He (Majid) said that possibility hasn't even contemplated or even considered. He spoke to the captain and asked the captain to lift the spirit of the team," Bacher said. "The tour will proceed."

Akram and Mushtaq said they were assaulted by three black men 20 metres away from their hotel as they went out for dinner.

Taylor counts on his trump card

PERTH, Australia, Feb 17: Leg-spinning wizard Shane Warne will be a crucial component in Australia's armoury in the approaching three-Test series in India, Australian captain Mark Taylor said here today, reports AFP.

"He will give us a dimension, we did not have 16 months ago when we lost the one-off Test in Delhi," Taylor said.

Warne, 28, one of the greatest spinners of all time, has 303 wickets at an average of 23.81 from 64 Tests.

After snapping up 39 Test victims in six games over the Australian summer, he was rested from the brief, just-completed tour of New Zealand for a series of one-day games, but will be among the Australian team leaving for India Friday.

But police who spoke to Akram and Mushtaq that night failed to obtain a sworn statement. As rumours of a nightclub brawl surfaced, police said they had yet to find any witnesses or evidence to corroborate the mugging story.

Akram and Mushtaq also declined to make sworn statements Monday night without their lawyers present, according to The Star, a Johannesburg daily.

"We'll wait, we're not in a hurry anymore," a police spokesman, Capt Andy Piekse, was quoted as telling The Star. "The truth hopefully will come out, and it will be good for a lot of things."

Pakistan tour officials have denied the nightclub allegations, and the manager of Club 69 has denied the players were there.

News reports have repeatedly referred to unidentified witnesses who say Pakistani players were at the adults-only club on both Tuesday and Wednesday nights.

Pakistan's players didn't go to the Wanderers cricket ground on Tuesday, staying in their hotel and holding their meeting.

Another problem for Pakistan has been the neck injury to captain Rashid Latif that knocked him out of the first Test and will require surgery that will keep him from playing for three weeks.



Scene from the third round engagements of the 19th national women's chess qualifiers at the NSC yesterday. -Star photo

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Cryptoquip puzzle grid with letters and numbers.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: N equals B. 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 letter words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.