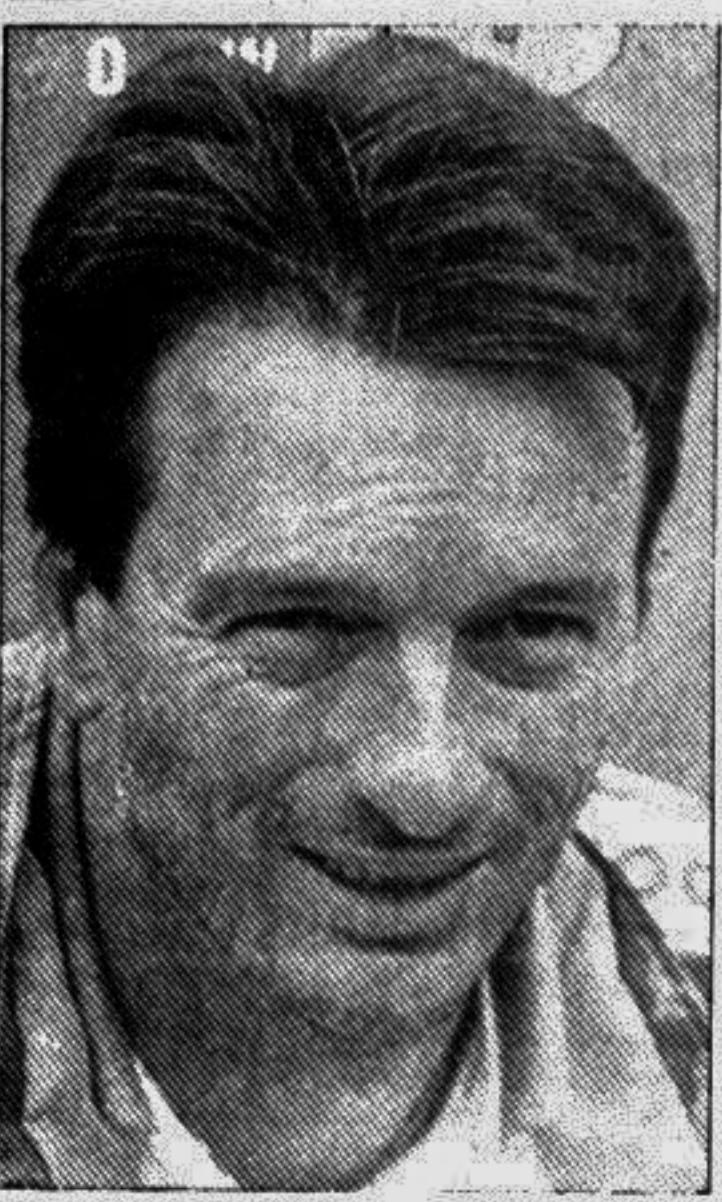


## Column One

## SPORTS TALK



Steve Waugh

"I just hope that the selectors stick with a bunch of cricketers and don't chop and change too much now because the guys are getting to know each other and I think there is potential for a very good one-day side there."

While urging the selectors not to change his team after mixed results in four-match limited-over series in New Zealand last week.

DID U' KNOW?  
(The Professor does)

THAT Cesar Luis Menotti, former manager of Argentina, refused to compare between Pele and Maradona. Said he at the time: "Pele was the supreme player of his era; Maradona is the pre-eminent player of his time. You cannot compare them. Such greatness does not submit to comparison."

Indeed M was great. In 1980, at the age of 19, he was sold to Boca Juniors for one million pounds, a record for a teenager. Two years later he was sold to Barcelona for another world record three million pounds. Come 1984, he was again sold to Napoli for a third world record, five million pounds.

Somewhere down the line he was also sold to drugs.

## Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
Competition-88  
✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Competition closes at 8 pm  
on Feb 20, 1998

1	How many countries took part in the World Youth Cricket Cup?	14	15	16
2	What is the position of Korda in ATP rankings at the moment?	1st	2nd	3rd
3	How many Test matches has Dave Richardson played?	42	43	44
4	Who is the current 100m world champion?	Bailey	Greene	Cason
5	Which team finished first in the Premier Division soccer league?	Muktijodha	MSC	Faganj

Name .....  
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School Address .....  
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Phone (if any) .....  
POWERED WITH  
EN-VITS  
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMIN

## Barca ride on Rivaldo

BARCELONA, Spain, Feb 19: A hat-trick from Brazilian ace Rivaldo shone particularly bright in FC Barcelona's sparkling 5-2 victory Wednesday over Zaragoza in the first leg of the Spanish King's Cup semifinal, reports AP.

Midfielder Gaizka Garitano put Zaragoza ahead one minute after kickoff, but Rivaldo turned the tables with goals in the 2nd and the 6th.

Just five minutes later fellow countryman Giovanni made it 3-1, and Spanish star Luis Enrique Martinez added another to the defending cup holder's score in the 20th.

Garitano clawed one back for Zaragoza five minutes before the break making it 4-2.

Just a few minutes into the second half Rivaldo scored his goal.

No more goals followed but the Catalans' superteam, back with style after a rash of lackluster performances, never relaxed the attack and Zaragoza notched up an impressive collection of near misses.

Second Division giant beater Alaves meet First Division relegation Mallorca in the other semifinal game Thursday.

Second leg games are scheduled for next week.

## Kalabagan upend AKC too

Sports Reporter

Kalabagan Krira Chakra completed their first phase campaign of the Janakantha Premier Division cricket league in style, inflicting a punishing 52-run defeat on holders Abahani Krira Chakra at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

The new Leviathans, following hard on the heels of their nine-wicket thrashing of Mohamedan Sporting Club, with this resounding victory, not only returned to the title chase quite confidently, but also earned the unique feat of flooring two titans in the domestic circuit within the span of 72 hours.

Kalabagan did half the job done when, sent into bat by Abahani skipper Akram Khan, they piled up a huge total of 244 for nine in their share of 50 overs. Then the last year's runners-up went on to bundle out their more illustrious Dharmodi neighbours for 192 in 46.3 overs to record their eighth win on completion of their 11 first phase engagements.

For Abahani, the stinging defeat dealt a severe blow ahead of their blood-and-thunder clash against Mohamedan Sporting Club, to be held at the same venue today.

Kalabagan were off to a rolicking start with their last match heroes — Manzoor Elahi and Harun-ur Rashid, who provided a match-winning 139-run opening partnership against Mohamedans, plundering 58 runs in the first 7.1 overs.

Manzoor, the former Pakistan Test-cap and the more aggressive of the two Kalabagan openers, hammered a breezy 36 off 23 balls embellished with seven firmly hits across the rope. Abahani off-spinner Sheikha Salihuddin broke the dangerous alliance when he had

national all-rounder Enamul Haq came to his side's rescue with a priceless 40. The southpaw, coming in to bat at number seven, shared an invaluable 53 runs for the seventh wicket with stumper Ishtiaq, who chipped in with a gritty 28. Enamul then found a wily partner in his captain Saiful (28) to guide Kalabagan past the 200-mark before being bowled by national right-arm seamer Zakir Hossain in the final delivery to more than vindicate his skipper's decision to fall back on his slow-medium pacers.

Al-Shahriar scored a quick-fire 25 off 27 balls which included a massive six against Enamul. But the young stroke-maker followed in the footsteps of his captain soon, playing a rash shot into the safe pair of hands of Kalabagan captain Saifat at mid-wicket.

The departure of Al-Shahriar effectively ended Abahani's hopes of a comeback despite Khaled Masood, who scored a run-a-ball 27, put up a valiant fight for the lost cause.

With this win Kalabagan finished at par with Brothers Union, both having won seven matches from 11 outings.

Enamul, who later did better with the cherry claiming two wickets in his 10 nagging overs, clouted a massive sixer in his sensible 55-ball knock.

In reply, Abahani, set to score a little less than five runs per over, got off to a disappoint-

ing start, losing their aggressive opener Imran Hamid (4) and star Indian recruit Raman Lamba (12) for 40 runs in 10.4 overs.

Both were dismissed by Kalabagan's right-arm seamer Zakir Hasan, who trapped Imran leg before wicket in the fifth over before claiming the big wicket of Lamba, thanks to a brilliant catch at mid-wicket by Manzoor Elahi.

Opener Azam Iqbal and skipper Akram Khan tried to mend the early damage, putting on 52 runs for the third wicket. A plucky Azam scored a 86-ball 51 spiced with three four and a six before running himself out in a bizarre fashion.

But the real rot started when Akram was undone by a flash of brilliance off occasional bowler Sajjad Ahmed Mansur. With Kalabagan desperately in need of a breakthrough to end the threatening partnership of Akram Khan and Al-Shahriar, Sajjad had Akram leg before wicket for 31 with his first delivery to more than vindicate his skipper's decision to fall back on his slow-medium pacers.

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