

## Sport

Column One  
SPORTS TALK

Jacques Kallis

(South Africa cricketer)  
"Perhaps it has not gone as well as I wanted it to go. In the first couple of Tests I had some failures and that put some pressure on me and perhaps I felt the pressure a little bit too much."

On his Test career so far.

Sports  
WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

## Competition-94

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

on May 15, 1998

1	Jahangir Talukdar Dulu plays (competitive)	Football	Crick	Tennis
2	In how many stadia World Cup '98 will be held	9	10	11
3	Gordon Greenidge was a	Bowler	Batsman	Wicketkeeper
4	Bangladesh's current FIFA ranking is	138th	142nd	148th
5	Bangladesh U-16 football team scored 11 goals against	Nepal	Sri Lanka	Guam

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 37 Mound stat.
- 5 Leprechaun's steps
- 9 Mr. Rogers' neighborhood
- 12 Finished
- 13 Shevat follower
- 14 Feed-bag morsel
- 15 Telegram
- 16 Attorney General Janet
- 17 Put to work
- 18 Icelandic literature
- 19 Muffle
- 20 Developed
- 21 Feeding time, maybe
- 23 Here to find a vestibule
- 25 Join the ranks
- 28 Address
- 32 Winning
- 33 "M\*A\*S\*H" role
- 34 Red Riding Hood's burden
- 36 Bishops' millinery
- DOWN**
- 56 Work at the keyboard
- 1 Pugilist
- 2 Keen
- 3 Dweeb
- 4 North American quintet
- 5 Trade talk
- 6 Concept
- 7 Varanasi's river
- 8 Theater situation, for short
- 9 Serve the tea
- 10 Contemptible
- 11 Other
- 20 "Tar-nation!"
- 22 EEEgvis-a-vis AAA
- 24 Fourth of 12
- 25 Fantastic, for short
- 26 Discoverer's call
- 27 Ex-
- 28 Defense Secretary
- 29 Dutch commune
- 30 Gridlock component
- 31 "48--"
- 35 A seamy fellow?
- 36 Sheep's place
- 39 Partiality
- 40 Brains
- 41 Money
- 43 Billionth: prefix
- 45 Bigger's
- 46 Gin
- 47 Unaltered
- 49 Econ. stat

Bidyut's century may reap more  
N'ganj, Khulna in finals

Sports Reporter



Narayanganj and Khulna ambled into the final round of the 24th national cricket championship yesterday after winning their respective group finals by flattering margins.

At Patuakhali, opener Shahriar Hossain Bidyut smashed a brilliant hundred to help Narayanganj prevail over Pirojpur on the basis of a first innings lead.

Shahriar, dropped from the India-bound national squad, gave a rude reminder to the national selectors with a polished 118 as Narayanganj, resuming on 100/1 on the second day of the three-day final, raced on to amass 295 before being all out in 64.4 overs. Earlier, Pirojpur were bundled out for 123 on the first day.

Shahriar apart, a portly Zakaria Imtiaz scored a dazzling 62 for the star-studded Narayanganj. But the real excitement of the day was provided by Wahidul, the hard-hitting right-hander who clouted half a dozen sixes in his trail blazing 45.

At Satkhira, Khulna recorded a huge 102-run win over Faridpur. The port-city outfit, who piled up a mammoth total of 289 for nine on the first day on Sunday, went on to skittle out Faridpur for 187 in 58.2 overs.

Zitu with three for 37 runs and Salahuddin, who matched his more aggressive partner with three for 40 runs, returned

as the most successful among the Khulna bowlers. For Faridpur Towhid top-scored with 37 while Biplob and Ratan contributed 31 runs apiece.

Meanwhile, in other matches of the day, Comilla, Mymensingh and Chatter-



BIDYUT ... 118

painawabganj moved into the group finals eliminating their respective opponents.

At the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Comilla made heavy weather before picking up a four-wicket win over Gazipur. Resuming on 95 for no loss, Comilla, who had earlier shot Gazipur out for 149 on the first day of the two-day affair, were in deep trouble losing six

wickets before the tail salvaged them from imminent embarrassment.

The rot started when their openers Anis and Javed fell in quick succession. Anis, resuming on 55, added seven runs to his overnight total and Javed, who was not out on 28, went on to score a defiant 44.

At the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium, Mymensingh survived a scare before squeezing past Manikganj with a shaky 12-run victory. Mymensingh, who scored a commanding total of 301 before being all out on the first day on Sunday, discovered themselves in complete disarray when Manikganj, set to score a revised target of 201 in 53 overs due to delayed start, were off to a rollicking start with Khokon hammering a fine 57. But after the departure of Khokon, the match decisively swung in Mymensingh's way with Fahim Muntasir claiming three vital wickets.

At Bogra, Chapainawabganj recorded a thrilling two-wicket win over Satkhira. In a high-scoring affair, Chapainawabganj, chasing a fighting Satkhira total of 292 for nine in the stipulated 80 overs, went on to score 293 for eight with two balls to spare.

Beril scored highest 76 runs for the winners followed by Jewel, who scored 51. But it was Napu, who stole the limelight with a priceless unbeaten 42.

The result of the Dinaipur Rajshahi match of the Thakurgaon Zone was not available till the writing of this report.

## Nakata Japan's livewire



TOKYO, May 11: Playmaker Hide-toshi Nakata is the man who will provide the bulls-

in the World Cup this summer, reports Reuters.

He himself has shot to fame since making his debut against South Korea in a friendly in Tokyo last May.

Nakata's picture has been plastered across newspapers and magazines and he has featured in television advertisements.

The fans at his J-League club Bellmare Hiratsuka can be heard chanting his name constantly at home games.

Nakata, who is still only 21, carries the weight of the nation's World Cup hopes on his shoulders.

Without him Japan would be an ordinary team, but with Nakata, controlling the midfield they come alive.

Asked if he feels the pressure Nakata replies, "No, never. I play for myself and don't think about it."

Nakata believes that Japan's

qualifying performances were not up to scratch but is thankful that by beating Iran in their Asia play-off they avoided a tougher-looking, two-legged clash with Australia for the final place in France.

"We should have been scoring more goals because I didn't want to go to Australia for the play-off," said Nakata after the dramatic 3-2 extra-time win over Iran in Malaysia last November.

"I was so glad that we could make it there and then, after the game I wanted to go home as soon as possible but because of the press conferences and all that I had to stay."

"That was kind of boring but the fact that Japan made it to France is fine. But qualification is not the end of everything, now we have more to do."

Nakata's main attributes include perfect balance and the ability to seemingly glide across the pitch. He always appears to have enough time and space to find the right pass. And he can also score goals, often from long range.

Nakata, who can't be missed

with his dyed ginger hair, has many admirers including former Argentina World Cup winner Ossie Ardiles, now the boss at J-League club Shimizu S-Pulse.

Ardiles believes Nakata could emerge as one of the stars of France '98, but the young man himself feels Japan face an almost impossible task to qualify from their first round group which also includes Argentina, Croatia and Jamaica.

And while there's always the chance of an upset he doubts it will come against Argentina in Japan's first-ever World Cup game.

"Too difficult to win," was his assessment of Japan's chances of upsetting Gabriel Batistuta and his teammates.

Nakata played with the Argentine striker, and Brazil's Ronaldo, when he turned out for a Rest of the World XI against Europe in a FIFA all-star game before the World Cup draw last December. He wasn't in any way overawed by the occasion.

Argentina coach Daniel Passarella is certainly aware of the skillful Nakata and would be wise to try to shut him out of the game when the teams meet in Toulouse on June 14.

One of Nakata's specialties is the curled free-kick which he demonstrated to great effect when he scored against Hong Kong in the Dynasties Cup in Yokohama earlier this month.

If there's a similarity between Nakata and some of the stars of the past that's because he studies videos of players like Roberto Baggio so he can master their technique.

A few good performances in France and he may meet Baggio and company in the flesh next season if he catches the eye of the Serie A scouts.

## Batistuta's Fiorentina days over?

ROME, May 11: Argentine striker Gabriel Batistuta is ready to leave Fiorentina, the player's agent Settimio Aloisio said Sunday — and Sunday's league match in Rome may have been his last with the Fiorentina, reports AP.

"Batistuta wants to leave Florence and possibly join another Italian club," Aloisio said after watching Batistuta score one goal — his 21st this season — in Fiorentina's 4-1 victory against Lazio in the next to last round of the Italian league.

National tennis  
Shibu, Baishakhi singles champs

Shibu Lal earned double crown in the national tennis championships at the Ramna Tennis Complex yesterday, reports BSS.

Shibu became the new national champion beating his doubles partner Dilip Pasia in the final.

He took more than two hours to beat Dilip 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

He earlier, won the men's doubles title with Dilip.

Baishakhi grabbed the women's singles title defeating Dyuti Sanchaeta Abhi in the final 6-2, 6-2.

Eti and Shaoni of Meherpur became champions in the women's doubles, outplaying Baishakhi and Anku of Dhaka 6-3, 6-2.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader witnessed the finals as the chief guest and gave away prizes.

President of Bangladesh Tennis Federation (BTF) Syed Alamgir Faruq Chowdhury, BTF vice presidents Professor Rashiduddin Ahmed and Quazi Anwar Hossain were present.

## Cricket team out for nought!

NEW DELHI, May 11 (AFP):

An under-13 school cricket team in Calcutta has created a dubious record by being dismissed for no score, reports said today.

The 10-man Ramakrishna Mission School lost all their nine wickets without scoring in four overs against the deadly pace attack of the Bournvita Cricket Academy, the Hindu daily said.

Their innings lasted just 18 minutes, and after a 10-minute break, the academy took just two deliveries to win the game.

For the winners, Sayak Ghosh returned figures of 2-2-0-6, including the last four wickets off successive balls. New ball partner Jishnu Dey had 2-2-0-3.

Tanumoy Banerjee was the best batsman on view for the losers. He survived four deliveries.

The 30-minute game will go down in cricket history as the lowest scoring match ever.

The lowest recorded first-class score is 12 by Oxford University against the MCC way back in 1877.

## Rusedski exits

ROME, May 11: Fifth seed Greg Rusedski tumbled out of the Italian Open in the first round Monday, losing 7-5, 7-6 to Bohdan Ulihrach, reports AP.



CONFIDENT SMILES: South African captain Hansie Cronje (L) and Johty Rhodes appear in a relaxed mood on arrival at London's Heathrow Airport yesterday. The Proteas are on a three and a half month tour of England. — AP/UNB photo

## Argentina starting afresh



BUENOS AIRES, May 11 (Reuters): If things had worked out differently, Diego Maradona could have been playing in his sixth World Cup finals for Argentina this summer.

Even at the age of 37, a fit, healthy Maradona, the greatest player in world soccer after Pele, could have played a piv-



BATISTUTA

otal role in helping his country win the World Cup for the first time since he captained them to victory in 1986.

But now Maradona, who was effectively finished as a player after a positive dope test at the 1994 World Cup in the United States, is consigned to the pages of Argentina's soccer history and instead of having the chance to end his career at the highest level, he will watch from the sidelines as Argentina attempt to win the cup without him.

In some ways, the ending of the Maradona era reflects the start of it.

In 1978, aged just 17, precociously talented and bursting with energy and pride, Maradona watched dejectedly from the sidelines after coach Luis Cesar Menotti ruled he was too young to play for his country.

So instead of making his World Cup debut in 1978, he had to wait four years until 1982. Now with Maradona prematurely unfit and retired, a new generation will attempt to emulate his greater achievements — and try and forget his more dubious ones.

Current coach Daniel Passarella knows all about winning without Diego.

He was captain of the 1978 side which triumphed on home soil and a generation later he is hoping to emulate that feat with his revitalised, and above all,

disciplined new team in France, where Argentina face a relatively easy first round group comprising three first-time finalists Japan, Jamaica and Croatia.

Filling Maradona's number 10 shirt is the wiry Ariel Ortega known in Argentina as "El Burrito" (little donkey).

A dazzling dribbler, he can catch even the best-ordered defence flat-footed, as Ireland found out in an April friendly when he scored a quite wonderful goal in a 2-0 win. But he also has off-days when the looks like a faulty wind-up toy, whirling around the pitch and falling over whenever challenged.

Passarella can also call on one of the world's finest strikers, Gabriel Batistuta, who plays for Italian Serie A side Fiorentina. "Batigol" has hit the net 38 times for Argentina, more than any other man.

The backbone of Passarella's Argentina is provided by Juan "the witch" Veron.

The muscular, shaven-headed Sampdoria midfielder is an accurate passer with a powerful right-foot shot.

When the creative Ortega and the sturdy Veron are both in good form, Argentina look capable of holding their own with any side in the world.

The two combined to deadly effect in Argentina's best match in their gruelling 16-match qualifying campaign — an away tie against Chile last September. Chile, previously unbeatable at home, were seen off 2-1.

Argentina have a fearsome international record, although they have had a tough time over the years against Italy and England. The most impressive statistic is their 32-29 win-loss ratio against mighty Brazil.

The latest win against the current world champions came on April 29 when Claudio Lopez's superb late strike gave them a 1-0 victory in Rio de Janeiro, a result which made the soccer world sit up and take notice.

It was not easy to assemble the new Argentina from the post Maradona wreckage.

Passarella started as coach a few months after the wheels fell off Argentina's 1994 US campaign.

A rampant Argentina had overwhelmed Greece 4-0 and beaten a fancied Nigeria 2-1 before Maradona failed his Greece test and was suspended. Demoralised without their captain, Argentina slumped to upset defeats by Bulgaria and Romania.

Passarella arrived determined to restore discipline. He told friends straight away for banning players who were homosexual, had long hair or wore earrings.

Batistuta cut his blond hair, but Passarella began a feud with the hair style of Fernando Re-

dondo which has the Real Madrid midfielder boycotting the national squad to this day.

Passarella soon faced harsh criticism for his side's performance on the pitch. Argentina suffered a shock 3-0 defeat to the United States in the Copa America in Uruguay in 1995 and finished the competition in a humiliating fifth place.

Argentina restored some credibility in 1996 by reaching



ORTEGA

the Olympic final where they lost Nigeria 3-2.

But this World Cup campaign began badly as Passarella struggled to find his ideal team. A 2-1 away defeat to Bolivia in their ninth game actually left Argentina out of the qualifying places.

The Argentines also behaved scandalously in defeat. The entire team got into a brawl. Two were sent off and goalkeeper Ignacio Gonzalez headbutted an opponent from behind.

Passarella went through more than 70 players before striking the correct balance in a side captained by Inter Milan's Diego Simeone. With Carlos Roa of Mallorca in goal and Roberto Ayala an accomplished performer at the back, a semblance of defensive security has been achieved.

Questions still remain. Everyone in Argentina except Passarella seems convinced that Batistuta should lead the attack yet during many of the qualifying matches Passarella opted instead for Parma's Hernan Crespo.

Batistuta returned to captain the side in a March friendly win over Bulgaria.

April saw the Argentines lose embarrassingly 2-1 to Israel before those two superb wins against the Irish and in particular Brazil.

If those latter two results are indicative of the kind of play we will see from them in France, Argentina may banish the shadow of Maradona once and for all.

## SIX NO TRUMPS

A K Sayeedul Huq

A GOOD SLAM BID BY NORTH (Hand #36)

North	West	East	South (D)
S: A Q J X X	S: X X	S: X X	S: K 10 9 8
H: K J X X	H: 10 X X X	H: X X X	H: A X
D: X X	D: 10 X X X	D: A J X X	D: K X X
C: X X	C: X X	C: K J X X X	C: A Q X X

BIDDING (Neither side vulnerable)

South (Saved)	West (Akram)	North (Mizan)	East (Zaglu)
1D*	Pass	INT**	2C
Double	2H	Double	3D
3NT	Pass	4NT	Pass
5H	Pass	6S	Pass
Pass	Pass		

\* Artificial  
\*\* Artificial, 10-12 HCP

## THE PLAY

In a non-vulnerable position East overcalled 2 Clubs against the dealer's one Diamond bid and North's response of 1 NT. When South doubled 2 Clubs for penalty, West tried to rescue in 2 Hearts which was doubled by North. East now moved to 3 Diamond. South could get a good penalty by doubling 3 Diamond, but instead saw game in NT. North now accurately assessed South's hand and could see the possibility of a slam in Spades as South's 3 NT bid promised values in that suit. North therefore contracted for 6 Spades. East led a Heart, dummy played low, West's Queen was captured. As the finesse were correct, the slam was easily made.

## The Daily Star TV Guide

Tuesday 12th May

(All programmes are in local time but subject to last minute change.)

## BTV

3:00 Opening Announcement Al-Quran, Programme Summary 3:15 Recitation from the Geeta 3:30 Patriotic Songs 3:30 Sports Programme 4:00 The News 4:05 Hizol Tama 4:50 Education Programme 5:15 Open University 6:00 Protassa 6:30 The News 6:40 Sangheeta 7:25 Bartha Probaho 8:00 News in Bangla 8:30 Answer the Question Prime Minister 9:00 Drama Serial 10:00 News in English 10:30 Sur Lahori 11:30 The News 11:40 Tuesday's Programme

## BBC

8:00am BBC News Followed by Weather 8:30 Asia Today 8:45 World Business Report 9:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 9:30 Asia Today 9:45 World Business Report 10:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 10:30 World Focus Window On Europe 11:00 BBC World News Followed by

98 12:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 12:30 Hardtalk 1:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 1:30 World Living: Top Gear 2:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 2:30 World Focus: Reporters 2:30 World Living: Earth Report: UK & Germany: Rubbish From Information Highway 5:00 The World Today 6:30 World: Wildlife On One Eanwig 7:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 7:30 The World Today 8:30 World Living: Hollywood 9:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 9:30 Hardtalk 10:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 10:30 Land Of The Tiger: Sacred Waters: P2 11:00 The World Today 12:30 Hardtalk 1:00 BBC World News Followed by Weather 1:30 World Focus: Reporters 2:30 BBC World News 2:10 World Business Report Followed by Weather 2:30 World Living: The Clothes Show 3:00 BBC World News 3:10 Europe Direct 4:00 BBC World News 4:15 World Business Report Followed by Weather 4:30 Hardtalk 5:00

BBC World Headlines 5:05 USA Direct 5:30 World Focus: Window On Europe 6:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 6:30 World Living: Film '98 7:00 BBC News Followed by Weather 7:30 Asia Today 7:45 World Business Report

**CHANNEL V**

6:00 Turn On TV [V] 6:30 VHS, V Hour Special 7:30 Rewind VJ Sophiya 8:30 Turn On TV [V] 9:30 House Arrest 10:00 Turn On TV [V] 12:30noon Live, Bangalore 1:30 By Demand VJ Trey 2:30 Liberty-First Day First Show 3:00 The Indian Top 4:00 Turn On TV [V] 4:30 Volume Double 5:30 Turn On TV [V] 6:30 By Demand VJ Trey 7:30 Liberty-First Day First Show 8:00 House Arrest 8:30 Turn On TV 9:00 Simply South 9:30 Turn On TV 10:00 Liberty-First Day First Show 10:30 Turn On TV [V] 11:30 Rewind Special 12:00 Turn On TV [V] 2:30 By Demand VJ Trey 3:30 Turn On TV [V] 4:00 Turn On TV [V] 4:30 Turn On TV [V] 5:00 The Drum

**STAR PLUS**

6:30am Nainad 7:30 Good Morn-

ing India 9:15 The Trial Show 9:30 Men Pasand 10:00 Priya Tendulkar Show 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 The Man Born 12:30 The X-Files 1:30 Santa Barbara 2:30 The Bold & The Beautiful 3:00 It's a Small World 5:00 WWF Superstars 6:00 Tu Tu Mai Main 6:30 Saans 7:00 A Question of Answers 7:15 The Trial Show 7:30 Star News (Hindi) 8:00 Maal Hai To Tal Hai 8:15 is Duniya Ke Sitare 9:00 Virudh 9:30 Star News 10:00 Mind Your Language 10:30 Murder She Wrote 11:30 A Question of Answers 12:00 The Bold & The Beautiful 12:30 Star News 1:00 Newhart 1:30 Baywatch 2:30 Veggie 3:30 Charles Angels 4:30 Santa Barbara 5:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show

**STAR MOVIES**

7:30 Thriller: Narrow Margin 15 9:30 Horror: Ghost In The Machine 18 11:30 Action: The Tournament 15 1:30 Comedy: High Crusade 15 3:30 Thriller: The Colony 15 5:30 Classic: My Favourite Brunette 12 7:30 Horror: Rabid 15 9:30 Film 98 10:00

Action: Barb Wire 15 12:00 Action: Mega Force 15 2:00 Action: A Queen's Ransom 15 3:00 Film 98 4:00 Comedy: License To Drive 18 (Arabic Subtitles) 5:30 Comedy: Dumb and Dumber 15

**PTV**

8:00 Tilawat Aur Tarjuma/Hand/Naat 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Khatrain 8:45 Beauty Care 8:50 Fun Kadha 9:10 Dhanak & Health Tips 9:15 Har Taan Hay Deokah 10:30 English Film: Home Improvement 10:55 Milli Nagma 11:00 Khatrain 11:10 Serial 12:00 Sports Hour 12:55 Quran-e-Hakeem 1:02 Simliah 1:15 The Science Show 2:00 Yeh Jahan (Music video) 2:25 Animated Classics 3:15 Geography & Sammar school 4:20 Mitti Sona 5:00 Allah Ham Laibak 5:25 Serial 6:25 Aioo Courses 7:00 Serial 7:45 English News 8:15 UN Quiz 8:45 Serial: 9:00 Break for Headline News 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News & Khushal Pakistan 11:20 VCD Top Ten (Pakistani Video Countdown) 12:30 Dr. Qun: Medicine Women (Jean Saylor) 1:35