

Column One

DID U' KNOW? (The Professor does)

THAT the ancient Chinese, Greek, Mayan, and Egyptian people all played kicking games. 'Kicking' meaning kicking a ball and not persons. But the football we know today developed much later. By the 19th century in England there were a variety of football games, all of which involved both handling and kicking. At a meeting of the English Football Association (FA) held in London in 1863, the game of football was split into rugby football (the parent sport of American football), in which handling and carrying the ball was allowed, and association football, which banned the use of the hands.

Now someone should come forward and ban the incorrigible influence of money in both.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

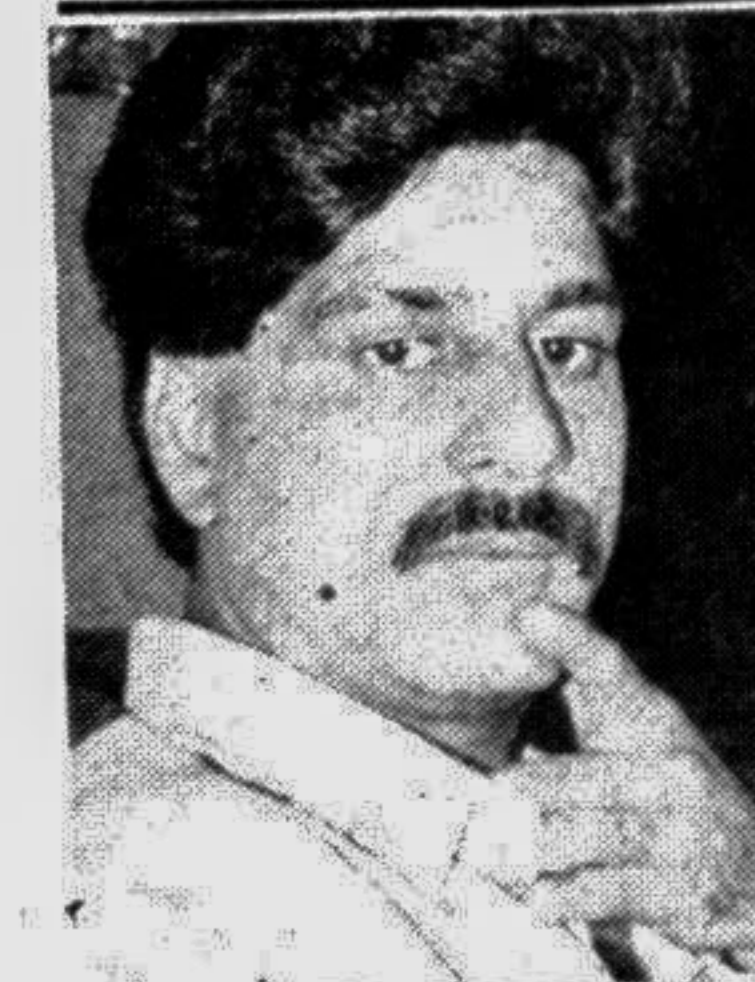
Competition-104
Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm, Oct 9 '98, and draw shortly afterwards

- How many centuries were scored in the third Sahara Cup?
One Two Three
- Who earned the player-of-the-series in the Sahara Cup?
Afridi Ashrauddin Inzamam
- Which county does Saqlain Mushtaq play for?
Surrey Lancashire Kent
- The next Commonwealth Games will be held in:
Sydney Toronto Manchester
- Who became Commonwealth cricket champions?
India South Africa Australia

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

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

SPORTS TALK



Kris Srikkanth
(Indian cricket great)
"I don't make predictions in one-dayers. Anything can happen till the last ball."
Said during the recent Commonwealth Games.

Coaching for cricket coaches

Sports Reporter
A three-week long cricket coaches' course, organised by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), begins at the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) this morning.
Seventy coaches from 64 districts and six divisions will be taking part in the course which will be conducted by national coach Jalal Ahmed Chowdhury.

Forest using Van Hooijdonk as collateral!

NOTTINGHAM, England, Sept 29 (Reuters/Internet): Nottingham Forest have asked the English premier league for a four million pounds (\$6.83 million) loan, using Pierre Van Hooijdonk as collateral.
The Dutch international has been on strike since the start of the season, refusing to rejoin Forest after they rejected his request for a transfer.
Forest want the cash to sign a replacement and plan to repay the money when they eventually sell Van Hooijdonk.
They believe they already have the backing of the premier league chairman and the League Managers' Association.
"It's not pie in the sky and could happen," said Forest manager Dave Bassett.



MIXED REACTION: A few smiles, a few grim faces, some looks of indifference, as the Nepal-bound Bangladeshi cricketers pose for photographers yesterday. Coach Gordon Greenidge (2nd from L) and skipper Aminul Islam (centre with blazer) stand out for their sombreness. — Star photo

Four tough matches at Nepal Optimistic Aminul starts with 'best selection'

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh cricket team leaves Dhaka today to take part in the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) Trophy, scheduled to begin in the Nepalese capital of Kathmandu from October 3.

But two members -- Mushfiqur Rahman and Sajjad Ahmed, and two officials -- manager Enayet Hossain Siraj and assistant coach Sarwar Imran, will not be accommodated in today's flight because of the unavailability of seats. They will, however, join the team on October 2.

Pencilled in group B for the first round robin league along with five other nations in the 12-nation meet, Bangladesh, the reigning champions, will take on Papua New Guinea (PNG) in their first match on the opening day.

Considering the standard of the tournament, the new-look national team will be riding on the mounting expectations of millions of sports lovers of country for whom nothing other than a title triumph will be acceptable.

"My target is to defend the title," said the newly-appointed Bangladesh captain, Aminul Islam, who stepped into the shoes of Akram Khan after the Kuala Lumpur debacle. Bangladesh cricket hit its lowest ebb in recent years in the just-concluded Kuala Lumpur Commonwealth Games, where they conceded three defeats including a humiliating 114-run thrashing by Northern Ireland.

"I think this is the best possible selection ever made by the national selectors," said a confident Aminul adding that he would do his best to revive the dwindling image of the national team.

"We are trying to forget the horrible memories of Kuala Lumpur. I think the present team is a balanced side and prepared to deliver the goods in Kathmandu," said the dapper all-rounder.

Replying to a query over telephone Aminul said, "I don't think Akram's absence will affect the middle-order." But Aminul agreed that the team will miss an off-spinner in

Kathmandu where the wickets are likely to help spinners. The present team is carrying Mohammed Rafique as the lone recognised twacker.

"It would have been a great help if we had a finger spinner. But we can fill the void with 'leggie' Al-Shahriar and Javed Omar. Besides, I can bowl a bit too," said Aminul.

"I'm expecting a tough opposition from Papua New Guinea (PNG), Fiji, Hong Kong and the United Arab Emirates (UAE)," said Aminul adding that he is looking forward to start his career as captain on the right foot.

"It (captaincy) was expected and I'm happy to get the job as captain," said Aminul discussing his appointment.

Bangladesh will meet Malaysia in their second match on October 4 while their next match against Maldives is billed for October 6.

The last two matches against Brunei and Singapore are scheduled on October 7 and 9.

Meanwhile, the national team called on State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader yesterday evening. BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury and other officials were also present.

in Pakistan cricket has summoned four Australian cricketers, including skipper Mark Taylor, to appear before him next week.

The orders were issued by the Lahore High Court on a directive from Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum, who heads a government-appointed commission of inquiry into alleged malpractice in the national sport.

The orders were sent to Steve Bernard, the Australian team manager, who was asked to make the players available before the inquiry officer at any convenient time next week.

"I am to request you that if convenient and so desired, Mark Taylor, Shane Warne, Tim May and Mark Waugh, or any other Australian cricketer, may appear and testify before the honourable inquiry commission," the summons, obtained by Reuters, said.

"I have directed to say that honourable Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum is holding an inquiry into the allegations levelled by some persons against certain members of the Pakistan cricket team about betting and match-fixing."

"During the course of the inquiry, it has come to notice that similar allegations were also levelled by Australian cricketers namely, Mark Taylor, Shane Warne, Tim May and Mark Waugh against Salim Malik during the previous Australian cricket team's tour of Pakistan," the summons added.

"I think it is a good offer to appear (before the inquiry commission) and substantiate the allegations they (Australian players) levelled against Salim Malik four years ago," PCB chairman Khalid Mahmood told the news agency from Lahore.

"After all, they were the first to level accusations against Pakistan players and that too against a cricketer who was then the captain of the team," Mahmood said.

In the past, they (players) couldn't come for cross-examination for various reasons. But now they are here and it's a great chance," he added.

When Australia toured Pakistan four years ago three of their players -- Shane Warne, Tim May and Mark Waugh -- accused Salim Malik of offering them a bribe to throw the Karachi test which Pakistan eventually won by one wicket.

Malik was initially exonerated of all charges but was stripped of the captaincy.

However, an interim report released by the PCB three weeks ago recommended that Malik, Wasim Akram and Ijaz Ahmad should not be selected until the investigations were completed.

Mark Taylor and Mark Waugh are the only two currently in Pakistan. Warne is sidelined after a shoulder operation and Tim May has retired.

The Australian cricket team is presently in Rawalpindi where the first Test against Pakistan starts on Thursday.

with a gun and pumped four rounds into the referee, who was killed, on the spot.

Less dramatic abuses of officials abound. This year alone, the following examples have been reported: — In Albania, referees staged a protest in February about regular attacks on them at league matches.

The players beat up referee Figuri Haxhid after a 0-0 draw between Sopot Librazhd and Shqiponja Gjirokaster. Three Sopot players were later banned for up to five years.

Other referees were pelted with stones by fans.

— In Russia, first division Spartak Nalchik were banned from playing at home for five matches this month after a fan broke a referee's nose with a mobile phone.

Rocha went home, returned

too far."

"You cannot assault a referee... He stands between the game and chaos," he said.

"The FA have got to chuck the book at Di Canio... This isn't a tap on the wrist job."

Happily, Alcock got off lightly compared to many of his colleagues in other soccer-mad countries.

While the incident was the most serious against a referee for many seasons in top level English soccer, the shoving in some leagues where referees come in for horrendous abuse.

Compare the fate of Brazilian referee Valmir dos Santos who was shot dead during a match last year.

He showed a red card to one Alexandre Rocha in a neighbourhood amateur game in the southern city of Canbe.

Di Canio the player in global infamy league

LONDON, Sept 29 (Reuters/Internet): Paolo Di Canio was a soccer referee on Tuesday, kicked up in England by his outburst of "ref rage".

Yet Brazilians, Albanians and supporters in many other countries where soccer can be truly a matter of life and death would probably wonder what the fuss was about.

Di Canio, "without a friend or supporter in English football" according to the Times, was charged with misconduct on Monday after he shoved referee Paul Alcock to the ground during Sheffield Wednesday's match on Saturday against Arsenal.

British Sports Minister Tony Banks, a keen soccer fan, denounced it all as "an incident

BSC repeat carnage on Cantonian

Sports Reporter

Title aspirants Bangladesh Sporting Club (BSC) began their return leg campaign of the Green Delta First Division hockey league in style with a 8-0 whitewash of promotees Cantonian Sporting Club in one of the two matches played at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

In an one-sided affair which saw BSC leading the first half 4-0, Iqbal Singh, one of the four Indians playing for the league leaders, scored his fourth hat trick of league while Rubel scored another hat trick. Besides, Davinder Singh and Proshanto added one apiece to the winners' credit.

BSC thrashed Cantonians 9-0 in their first leg encounter earlier this month.

Iqbal, who put himself into the limelight with three successive hat tricks in his first three appearances and then lost his touch, returned to form yesterday scoring the first three goals for the old town outfit in the first, eighth and 19th minutes.

With his yesterday's three goals, Iqbal has scored 16 goals in eight matches so far.

Iqbal's compatriot Davinder, with his ninth goal of the league, then sealed the first-half in the 29th minute.

BSC, with their seventh win in eight matches, extended their five-point lead over Wari Club to eight points, having raised their tally to 22 points. On the other hand, Cantonian remained glued to their previous collection of 7 points.

WARI'S SECOND BOW
In the other match of the day, second-placed Wari Club suffered their second defeat in a row when Bachelors' Club beat them by a lone goal.

After a barren first half, Shah Alam scored the all-important match-winner in the 65th minute.

With the defeat, Wari remained on 14 points on completion of their eighth match while Bachelors raised their tally to 13 points also from eight matches.

MCC no more 'men's only'

LONDON, Sept 29 (AFP/Reuters/Internet): Britain's Premier cricket club the MCC on Monday voted to end a 211-year-old ban on women members.

Almost 70 per cent of the Marylebone Cricket Club members who voted approved the change, finally clearing the requirement for a two-thirds majority which had prevented a similar move in February this year.

However, it is likely to be some time before women are seen in the corridors of the MCC — there is an 18-year waiting list for membership.

Nevertheless, some women are expected to jump the queue under a system of elected honorary memberships.

As well as allowing access to one of last remaining bastions of the English male membership will also grant women members permission to enter the long room at Lord's cricket ground and to wear MCC colours.

The vote was hailed by MCC committee members and leading female cricketers, including former England captain David Gower and billionaire Sir Paul Getty, to get its message across.

Monday's ballot — including thousands of postal votes — resulted in a 9,394 (69.8 per cent) vote for change, with 30.2 per cent against.

Around 3,600 women, 374,000 primary school girls, 83,000 secondary school girls and 25,000 independent school girls play cricket in England and Wales, according to the England and Wales Cricket Board.

However, an Englishman's inalienable right to drink exclusively with other men is likely to be preserved after MCC admits women to its ranks.

"I can now apply to be a member, though with a 17 or 18-year waiting list, I'll probably be dead and buried before I can join my husband," said Flint.

Ingleby-Mackenzie assured members that there will still be a bar reserved exclusively for men when women finally enter the Long Room.

"I'm a member of Sunningdale golf club and the Turf Club," Ingleby-Mackenzie said.

"They have all-male bars as well as mixed and the atmosphere there allows gentlemen to discuss gentlemen matters."

"Occasions are quite nice to go and talk to male subjects alone. I think that that is understandable. Bertie Wooster, the inspired comic creation of English humorist PG Wodehouse and an habitue of the Drones Club, would fully understand."

Wooster, who enjoyed drink and avoided women, captured the essence of British club land.

"To attract attention in the dining room of the Senior Conservative Club between the hours of one and two-thirty, you have to be a mutton chop, not an earl," he remarked.

London's private dining clubs, the Garrick, the RAC and Boodles, are thought unlikely to follow the MCC lead.

At the other end of the social scale, so too are the majority of working men's clubs spread throughout the British Isles.

Women are forbidden from playing on some golf courses during the weekend and banned from many billiards and snooker parlours.

Social attitudes have and will change.

In 1924, during the first British Labour government, Yorkshire club president Lord Hawke proclaimed: "Pray god no professional may ever captain England."

In the Coronation year of 1953, under a professional captain, England won back the Ashes from Australia. Their captain Len Hutton was a Yorkshireman.

India-Zimbabwe 3rd ODI today
Sports Reporter
The third and final one-day international between India and Zimbabwe will be played today at the Harare Sports Club.

India have already clinched the series having won the previous two games by eight wickets respectively.

The highlight of the series so far has been Sachin Tendulkar's 18th record hundred that surpassed West Indian Desmond Haynes. Also leg-spinner Anil Kumble captured his 200th ODI wicket.

A one-off Test match between the two countries will begin on October 7.

ICC executives remain busy

Sports Reporter
The three ICC officials now visiting Dhaka in connection with the forthcoming Wills International Cup to be held at the Bangabandhu Stadium from October 24 had a busy schedule yesterday.

David Richards, the ICC chief executive, had discussions at the BCB office with different sub-committees, including security and ground. Later in the day, David also inspected the ongoing works of the press box and the media centre at the Stadium premises, the venue for the mega event involving nine Test-playing nations.

On the other hand, Asif Iqbal, the event manager of the knock-out tournament, and ICC executive Campbell Jamieson, inspected the three practice venues -- BUET ground, Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium and Sultan Kamal Women's Sports Complex ground in Dhanmondi.

In the evening, all the three officials met the BCB president Saber Hossain at his office.

The ICC officials will meet the local press at a city hotel this afternoon.



Ma Lin of China during his quarterfinal encounter of the men's team event against Indonesian Ismul Harinto at the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Osaka yesterday. Ma won 21-9, 21-14 while his country blanked Indonesia 3-0. — AFP photo