

## Column One

### DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

That the Japanese play a game called 'Go'. It is a popular oriental game involving the strategic placement of black and white stones on the intersections of lines marked on a board. Its rules are simple, but it is considered one of the most intellectually rigorous of games, with billions of possible play sequences.

Now I understand why my Japanese friend brought out black and white stones when I asked him to go.

## Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

### Competition-105

Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to *The Daily Star*  
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm, Oct 23 '98, and draw shortly afterwards

1 How many ODI centuries has Tendulkar hit so far?

17 18 19

2 Who is England's cricket coach?

Lloyd Botham Cooch

3 Who is the new France soccer coach?

Platini Cruyff Lamerre

4 Next Asia Cup cricket will be held in:

Dhaka Colombo Calcutta

5 Who lifted this year's 1st Division hockey league title?

MSC AKC BSC

Name .....

Class .....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....



## SPORTS TALK



### Lindsay Davenport

(American tennis player)  
"I never aimed to be number one. I just aimed to win tournaments. But it's pretty amazing. I never thought I would do it."

After becoming world number one last Friday.

### Transfer

LISBON, Oct 12 (Reuters/Internet): Benfica said on Monday it sold striker Brian Deane to English premier league Middlesbrough after he spent just nine months at the Portuguese club.

Middlesbrough agreed to pay 900 million escudos (\$5.4 million) for the 30-year-old, three times what Benfica paid Sheffield United in January, according to newspaper reports.

Club spokesman Eladio Parames declined to confirm the price but he said the sale was "a good piece of business" for Benfica.

### Booster fined for elbowing

BONN, Oct 12 (Reuters/Internet): German first division Hansa Rostock handed French midfielder Abdel Ramdane a 10,000 mark (\$6,100) fine for elbowing an opponent in a league match, a club spokesman said on Monday.

Ramdane was sent off for elbowing Hamburg SV midfielder Bernd Hollerbach in the face in Rostock's 1-0 defeat on September 25.

The German Soccer Federation (DFB) ruled last week that Ramdane should be suspended for eight matches for the offence. Rostock appealed, saying the sanction was too severe.

"It's too much," said Rostock coach Ewald Liener. "There was a provocation from Hollerbach."

## Malaysia to fight till last ball

# Bangladesh should win today



**KATHMANDU, Oct 12:** Bangladesh will take on Malaysia in the final of the 2nd ACC Trophy at the Tribhuvan University ground tomorrow. Weather permitting, the 50-over-a-side affair will kick off at 9 am. Star TV will cover the contest of the two apparently unequal opponents Live from the spectacular venue.

Defending champions Bangladesh, who made it to the final in style, eliminating reigning runners-up UAE by six wickets in the first semifinal, looked confident to cross the final hurdle in a repeat clash with Malaysia.

The Malaysians, who conceded a huge 141-run defeat to Bangladesh in their group league match, pulled off a stunning 41-run victory against fancied Hong Kong in the second semifinal. The win enabled the Southeast Asian cricketers to earn a dream passage to a final of any international meet. Although the mood ahead of

the last battle is quite upbeat, the pressure will certainly be on Bangladesh against a rather carefree Malaysia, who will be there in the middle with nothing to lose but every to gain. For Bangladesh, a victory will be the deserving ticket for the next Asia Cup in Dhaka and a welcome change after the chronic failures in international circuit over the last 19 months.

"They must be a very good side that's why they are in the final. We are not taking them lightly. They are a very spirited side. But if we can play up to our potential we are going to win the Cup," said skipper Aminul after the morning practice session at the St. Xavier's School ground today.

"No doubt we are the better side compared to Malaysia. But in a limited over match you will have to perform on the given day. If we can click in the nick of time there is no way Malaysia can beat us," said a confident Aminul adding that Bangladesh is going to field the same eleven that played against UAE in the semifinal.

under-prepared wickets here. It will be all the same for both sides," said Aminul.

His deputy Khaled Mahmud said that the substandard tournament has hardly helped our cause apart from lifting our tarnished image.

"This type of tournament will hardly improve our standard. But to win this meet is very important for us. Because the expectation at home is enormous," said Khaled Mahmud adding that he always enjoys the challenging job at any level of cricket.

But it was former national captain Faruque Ahmed who came up with the apropos conclusion, "Malaysia can not beat us. But we can throw away a victory which I think is always on the card".

The Malaysian captain Romesh Menon did not hesitate to show respect to their more experienced opponents, but said that they will fight till the last ball was bowled. "They are worthy opponents. But we are not ready to resign without a fight", said Romesh.

## Ian Johnson passes away

MELBOURNE, Oct 12: Former Australian cricket captain Ian Johnson has died aged 80, Australian Cricket Board chairman Denis Rogers said Monday, reports AP.

Rogers said Johnson died in hospital on Friday after a long period of poor health.

Johnson, a member of the Invincibles side that was unbeaten on the 1948 tour of England, played 45 Tests between 1945 and 1957, scoring 1,000 runs at 18.52 and taking 109 wickets at 29.19.

He captained Australia from 1954-57, leading the team in the 1954-55 Ashes series against England in Australia and on tours to the West Indies (1954-55), England (1956) and Pakistan and India (1956-57).

"Ian was the off-spinner for the great Australian teams immediately after the Second World War and a wonderful ambassador for our country as captain," Rogers said. "The sides he led to the West Indies and Pakistan and India were the first official tours to each of those regions and he built the foundations for the relationships that exist today between Australia and our fellow Test nations."

Johnson was a fighter pilot for the Royal Australian Air Force during World War II and became a cricket administrator after retiring from play. He was secretary of the Melbourne Cricket Club for 25 years.

In 17 Tests under Johnson's captaincy, Australia won seven matches, lost five and drew five.

At the time of his retirement, he was only the fifth Australian to complete the "double" of 1,000 runs and 100 wickets in Test cricket.

## Rakib becomes IM

Abdullah Al-Rakib became the country's fourth International Master (IM) when he drew his 12th

round clash with Carlo Manghi of Luxembourg at the 33rd Chess Olympiad in the Russian town of Elista on Sunday, according to a message received here yesterday.

Bangladesh men won the round against their European counterparts by 2.5-1.5 points. With the draw, national runner-up Rakib earned a direct 13-round norm in the 110-nation meet to confirm the second highest prestigious title in

chess. The previous three International Masters of the country are: Zillur Rahman Champak, Ziaur Rahman and Reefat-bin-Sattar.

## Kathmandu chronicle

Asian U-15 cricket with India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

From Sports Reporter  
KATHMANDU, Oct 12: The next ACC trophy will be held in UAE in the year 2000. This was decided after the special meeting of the ACC at Kathmandu today.

Saliya Ahangama, the ACC general secretary, said that the 8th Asia Cup will be held in Dhaka in next March-April. But the date was yet to be finalised. Saliya also announced that Singapore will host the Asian Youth cricket in July, 1999. The champions and runners-up will qualify for the World Youth championship 2000, the venue of which will be decided in the next ICC meeting.

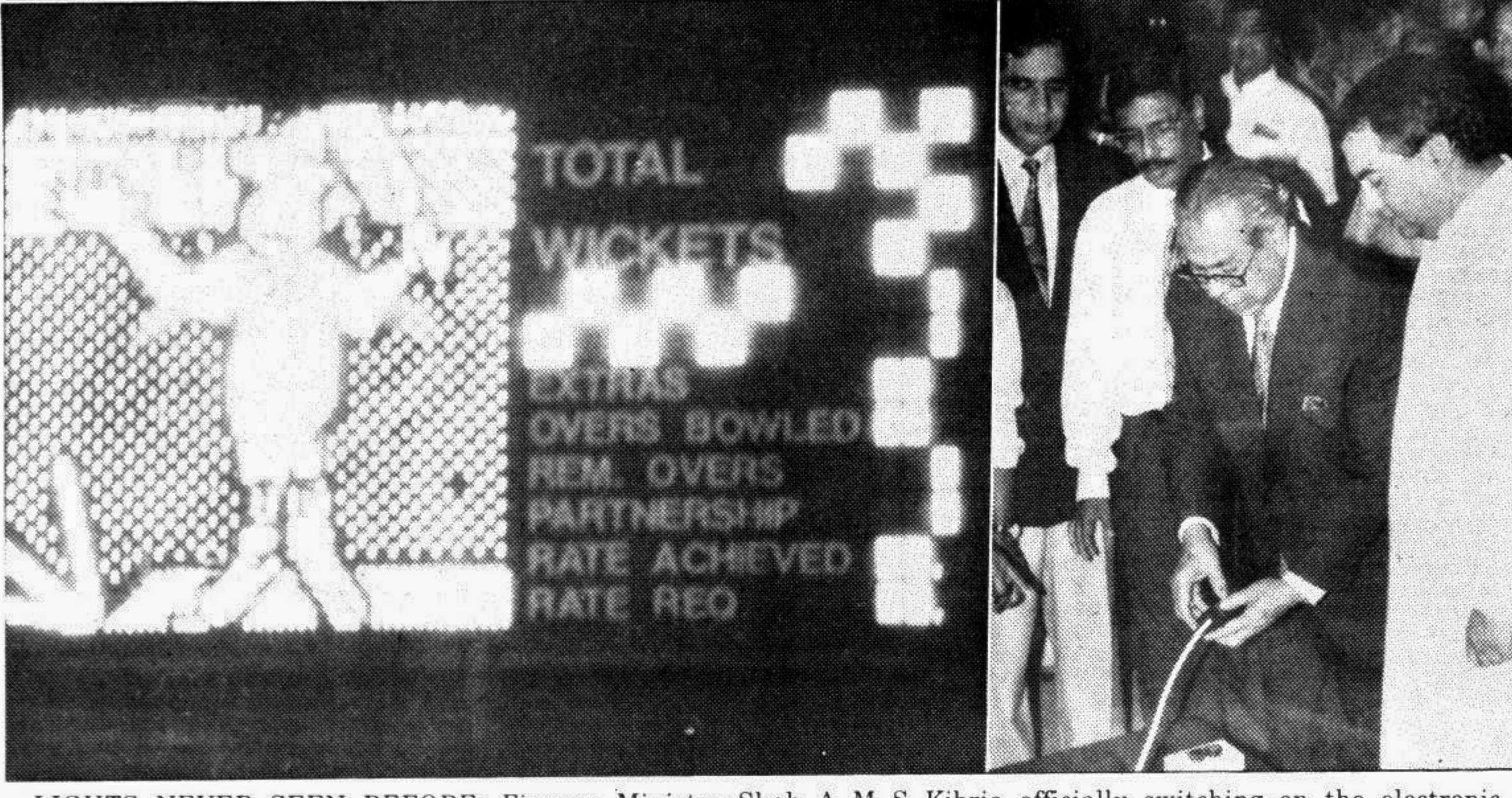
Besides, the ACC GS also said that they are planning to organise a U-15 cricket championship involving also teams from the three Test playing Asian nations -- India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

## Railway, Bachelors earn full points

Bangladesh Railway and Bachelors SC won their respective matches in the Green Delta First Division hockey league at Moulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday, reports APB.

Railway secured their sixth win beating Wari Club by a solitary goal.

In the day's other match, Bachelors blanked Dhaka Ansars 3-0 to also record their sixth victory. The winners led the first half 1-0.



LIGHTS NEVER SEEN BEFORE: Finance Minister Shah A M S Kibria officially switching on the electronic scoreboard and floodlights at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

## Wills Int'l Cup chips

Sports Reporter

The newly installed floodlights and the electronic scoreboard at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, which will be used in the Wills International Cup beginning at the same venue from October 24, was formally inaugurated by Finance Minister Shah AMS Kibria yesterday evening.

As soon as the Finance Minister pressed the two separate buttons -- one for the four light towers and the other for the country's first-ever electronic board, the curious onlookers burst into cheers.

The 12x6.5-metre scoreboard, which has been installed by the South African company Display Solution Inc at a cost of Taka three crore, first welcomed the Finance Minister at the Bangabandhu Stadium and then entertained the crowd with their attractive animations.

The lights have been installed by German electronic giant Siemens at a cost of Taka seven crore and 31 lakh. A total of 410 bulbs each of 200 watts, have been fixed on the four lattice towers.

State Minister for Youth and

## BODNER IN TOWN

Sports Reporter

Meanwhile, John Bodner, a senior producer of WorldTel arrived in the capital to monitor the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

WorldTel, the American based TV production company, will telecast the knockout tournament involving nine Test playing nations Live on behalf of the Doordarshan, the state run Indian television network.

Talking to this correspondent, Bodner said the main team would start to arrive by October 20.

This is the second visit by the official following the successful coverage of Coca-Cola Independence Cup in January.

## BSWA AWARD

Bangladesh Sports Writers Association (BSWA) has decided to award the player-of-the-final.

The lucky person will be selected through a panel of four members of the association. They are: Ataul Haque Mallick, ASM Rouquibul Hassan, Rezaur Rahman Sohag and Utpal Shuvo.

## ASIF ELATED

Sports Reporter

Asif Iqbal, the event manager of the Wills International Cup, was delighted with the newly installed lighting system and the electronic scoreboard.

Talking to The Daily Star, the former Pakistan captain who has played 58 Tests and scored 3575 runs with the eleven centuries at the average of 38.85 from 1964-65 to 1979-80, said, "Now you have the most modern electronic lights and scoreboard in the world. This is definitely a milestone in your cricket."

## Dean denies dishonesty

Sports Reporter

SYDNEY, Oct 12: Former Australian batsman Dean Jones has denied allegations made by former Pakistan player Sarfraz Nawaz that he was forced to retire from cricket because he was involved in illegal betting, reports AP.

Jones was responding to claims made by Sarfraz in sworn testimony to the Pakistan High Court's inquiry into match fixing in Lahore.

When asked what other countries had done to players involved in betting, Sarfraz told the inquiry, "In other cricket playing countries, if the players are found to be involved in match-fixing and betting, they are made to retire or face the consequences. Dennis Lillee and Rodney Marsh were banned for six months and Dean Jones was made to retire."

Jones told Monday's Sydney Morning Herald newspaper, "That's absolute nonsense. And any inquiry to the Australian Cricket Board will also give you the same answer."

Lillee and Marsh placed a winning bet at 500-1 on England to win the Headingley Test against Australia in 1981. But neither player was banned, nor received any disciplinary action.

Jones said apart from rejecting an offer of US 50,000 dollars in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 1992, his involvement with illegal bookmakers was "absolute zilch."

He was considering whether he would take legal action against Sarfraz.

Graham Halbish, the Australian Cricket Board chief executive at the time of the 1994 match-fixing allegations, said there was never any suggestion Jones was involved in betting

## Dean denies dishonesty

Sports Reporter

other than the offer he rejected in Sri Lanka.

"There was never any discussion at the board about Dean other than the instance he made public himself," Halbish told the newspaper.

Allan Border, who was Jones' captain throughout his Test career, said the Sarfraz claims were "absolute rubbish."

"I would trust Dean with my life -- he gave 100 per cent for Australia to try and win," Border said Monday. "Sarfraz is renowned for making ridiculous statements and this is another example."

"Obviously I'm livid. I can only say it's absolute nonsense what he (Sarfraz) said," Jones said Monday. "Anyone who has played with or against me knows what I'm like when I played my cricket. It's a bit of an insult towards me but I've just got to leave it in the hands of the legal people."

## Injury-hit Russians

MOSCOW, Oct 12: Russia's injury-hit national squad, struggling to qualify for the Euro 2000 finals after two successive defeats, has lost four more key players ahead of Wednesday's crunch match with Iceland, reports AFP.

Russia's goalkeeper Sergei Ovechinnikov and defender Dmitry Khlestov were injured in the Saturday's 3-2 home defeat by reigning world champions France.

CSKA's international midfielder Sergei Semak was also sick-listed because of a severe cold.

Viktor Gusev, spokesman for the national team, said defender Yuri Nikiforov and halfbacks Valery Karpin and Yegor Titov would fly to Iceland despite having failed to make a complete recovery from injury.

## Get Gazza out of addiction

LONDON, Oct 12 (Reuters/Internet): England's wayward midfielder Paul Gascoigne was admitted to a rehabilitation clinic for alcohol and stress problems over the weekend.

A spokesman for his premier league side Middlesbrough said he would not play for the club again until he is given the all-clear from doctors at the clinic.

Middlesbrough paid Glasgow Rangers 3.5 million pounds (\$5.9 million) for Gascoigne in March. He was dropped from the England squad for the World Cup finals by coach Glenn Hoddle.

The latest chapter in Gascoigne's chequered career comes just days after he was seen sporting a black eye following reports of a three-day drinking session in Ireland.

And on Friday Gascoigne was found sobbing at a railway station near his ex-wife's house.

A spokesman for Middlesbrough said: "Gascoigne will remain away from the club while the clinic staff consider his symptoms."

"We will be guided by their advice over his welfare."

Gascoigne's drinking has become increasingly apparent since he was dropped from Glenn Hoddle's World Cup squad due to lack of fitness. He is regularly photographed drinking with celebrity friends.

Former England manager Graham Taylor on Monday urged the player to admit his problem.

"I like Paul very, very much. I feel sorry for him and his predicament - I hope he beats this," Taylor told The Express.

"What Paul Gascoigne must do for his future life is stand up and admit he has a drink problem."

## GORDON STICKS TO LESSONS

For the umpteenth time Gordon Greenidge kept the press at bay. The West Indian coach of the Bangladesh team once again denied the journalists when they approached him seeking his comments regarding the final between Bangladesh and Malaysia.

The otherwise cheerful West Indian refused to talk even to Charu Sharma who is working with the Star TV. Not only that, Gordon was indifferent to anything other than his involvement in practice. It was also learnt that he seldom talked to his players.

His differences with the team management is quite evident even during a match, where an apparently disinterested Gordon hardly talks to manager Enayet Hossain Siraj. Although Enayet said that Gordon had the right to talk about the game, the former West Indian opener continued to maintain a distance.

"I don't know which 'no' you will understand", said Gordon to the persevering reporters at the St. Xavier's School ground today while refusing to talk to them.

Gordon is perhaps a good learner from lessons of past tours.

## Schools b'ball

St Nicholas recorded a massive 127-14 points victory over Rifles Public in the Nissan Fan school basketball competition at the Dhanmondi Gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners dominated the first half 48-8.

Faruque caged highest 32 points and Aminur 29 for St Nicholas while Sayad scored 8 for the losers.

In another match, St Gregory's High beat BN School by 61-56 points after trailing 19-29 in the first session.

Mustafizur Rahman scored highest 33 points and Emdad 12 for the Gregorians while Zaman of BN caged 15 points.



An AFP file photo of England and Middlesbrough midfielder Paul Gascoigne who had reportedly checked into a clinic due to alcohol related problems.