

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT 'Bingo' is a game of chance, widely popular in the United States, played with numbered cards and counters by any number of people. The object is to cover a row of numbers with counters before any other player is able to do so. Bingo is derived from lotto, which in turn is based on lottery. In the US it has become a favoured means of raising funds for religious and charitable organizations, the sponsoring group taking a percentage of the moneys wagered. The proponents of bingo defend it as a harmless pastime providing entertainment at small cost; its opponents consider it public gambling. The legality of bingo as a commercial game has been put to a vote in some states.

Roost 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	Gooch
3	Who is the new France soccer coach?	Platini	Cruyff	Lemerre
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 Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

SPO TALK



Virender Sehwag
(Indian batting genius)
"My interest is, and always will be, to give my best for my country in whatever team I am selected to play in."

Chess Olympiad ends

Bangladeshi eyes do better than men
Sports Reporter

Bangladesh's men became 53rd among 110 nations in the 33rd Chess Olympiad which concluded at the Russian town of Elista on Monday.

In the final round of the 13-round Swiss league, Bangladesh lost to Mongolia by 1.5-2.5 points.

International master (IM) Reefat-bin-Sattar was the lone winner of the day while Enamul Hossain Rajib managed a draw.

But things were disappointing for newly crowned IM Abdullah Al-Rakib, and his compatriot IM Ziaur Rahman who lost their respective boards.

With the defeat Bangladesh collected a total of 26.5 points out of possible 52. Hosts Russia emerged champions with 35 points while USA finished second with 34.5 points.

Besides, the Bangladesh women's team held powerful Bosnia Herzegovina to a 1.5-1.5 draw in the final round to raise their account to 19.5 points.

The women finished 41st out of 72 teams.

The Bangladesh team will return home tomorrow.



SUCCESS AT FIRST GO: Bangladesh captain Aminul Islam (L) receiving the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) Trophy from Prime Minister of Nepal Girija Prasad Koirala after the final against Malaysia in Kathmandu yesterday. —AFP photo

From a demoralised lot to a cohesive force

From Al-Amin

KATHMANDU, Oct 13: Aminul Islam had a mission in Kathmandu and the new Bangladesh captain accomplished it in style. From the first match to the last he led his side with great authority. He and Bangladesh had everything at stake when he piloted a demoralised side to a perilous territory, but at the end Aminul and his boys leave the spectacular valley with all smiles.

The mood of the victors was quite upbeat after the final with celebrations going on around the team tent.

"There is nothing to be excited about. We have won this Cup and that's it. But this was a very important tournament for us to get back our rhythm. After the ICC Trophy we were losing too many matches. We were demoralised, in fact. I agree with you that this type of tournament will not help our cause. But in this tournament we have gradually turned ourselves into a cohesive force," said Aminul soon after the match.

"I want to continue with this side even in the One-day match against England in Dhaka," said Aminul, adding that he does not want to break the winning combination. "The selectors are there to decide the team. But if you want my opinion I will be happy to get the same team against England," said the Bangladesh captain.

It was true that we were not doing well at the beginning. But you see at the end we have improved a lot in every depart-

ment of the game. The openers are pushing the singles, the bowlers are not giving so many wides and, above all, the fielding is excellent" said Aminul.

Regarding the match, Aminul said: "This was once again a good toss to lose. In fact I would have wanted to bat first had I won the toss. But when they won the toss and opted to bat first, they were caught by surprise when water began to seep from the damp wicket. This is one of the reasons why they could not even put up a decent total," said Aminul.

But assistant coach Sarwar Imrat came up with a different narration, terming the success a predictable one.

"To tell you frankly, in this tournament, we have proved that we are living in between two worlds of cricket. We are way ahead at this level of cricket but at the same time we are far behind the international level," said Imrat.

"I think our bowling department needs a good off-spinner. Although Aminul has done a great job here, I do not know whether he will be that much effective in the big league," opined the coach.

It might have been a disappointing final for the couple of thousand cricket fans who gathered at the marvellous Tribhuvan University ground today. But the atmosphere on the open terraces was quite electrifying with the deafening sound of bugles, honking of horns and all.

The Tribhuvan ground turned to festivity when a couple of hundred Bangladeshi supporters entered the ground

with a band party. The cheerleader of the small but vociferous Bangladeshi supporters was Atiqur Rahman Tutu, an ardent follower of the game, who lives in Dhaka. A familiar figure wherever Bangladesh plays, Atiq later told this reporter that he spent Rs. 5000 (approximately Taka 4000) to hire the band party from Kathmandu. When Atiq led the parade in the gallery, the Nepalese joined the Bangladesh bandwagon in a different way.

One Nepalese cricket fan with only his trousers on took the crowd by surprise when he ran into the ground to hug Faruque Ahmed who was then batting with Shahriar Hossain.

Not only that, a naughty dog invaded the pitch during the Bangladesh innings, enforcing the umpires to stop the match for a few minutes. But apart from those unwanted incidents, it was a moving panorama with the presence of a cross section of people. Tom and Page, the tourists duo from England, took a little time before joining Atiq's party.

GORDON SHUNS PRESS

Gordon Greenidge has again shown no emotion to the press. Although the West Indian coach of the Bangladesh team was happily moving about with his boys at the hotel lobby, he refused to make any comments. Gordon was busy taking photographs of the players at a victory party at the hotel lobby, when this reporter approached him for his comments on the final. But a visibly disturbed Gordon only said "no comment".

Greetings to the cricketers

President Justice Shahabuddin yesterday congratulated the Bangladesh cricket team for winning the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) Trophy, report agencies.

In a message the President said the cricket lovers as well as the general people of the country are very happy over the brilliant performance of the cricket players.

He expressed the hope that the team will continue to achieve such success in future.

PRIME MINISTER

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also warmly felicitated the cricket players.

In a message to the team captain, Aminul Islam Bulbul, the Prime Minister said such a glorious victory against Malaysia was possible due to patriotism, team understanding and personal skills of all players.

KHALEDA ZIA

Leader of the Opposition and BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia has expressed her heartfelt congratulations to the team which emerged unbeaten champions.

In a congratulatory letter, Begum Zia felicitated at the cricketers and officials of the team. She also hoped that Bangladesh will continue to be successful.

OBABDUL QUADER

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader has also felicitated the team.

In his message the State Minister expressed hope that the players will not be carried away by this success and will derive strength from the ACC triumph to perform better in future international competitions.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) president Mahbubur Rahman greeted the cricketers on their achievement.

Elite Open tennis begins today

The Elite Steel Open tennis tournament, organised by Bangladesh Tennis Federation, begins at the Ramna National Tennis Complex today, reports UNB.

President of Bangladesh Tennis Federation (BTF) Syed Alamgir Farooque Chowdhury will inaugurate the five-day nine-event competition.

The nine events include men's singles, men's doubles, women's singles, women's doubles, mixed doubles, boys' singles, boys' doubles, girls' singles and girls' doubles.

Speed added he was looking forward to meeting with Karis next Tuesday in Sydney to discuss the matter further.

"I explained the new system in great detail to the 22 senior Australian players in Brisbane in September, including the new pay scales," Speed said.

"We then had a long question-and-answer session, where a number of questions were answered, and not one player raised this issue. So I'm surprised Mark Waugh and his manager have raised it."

Speed said Waugh did not

Shahriar glows in the final Bangladesh ensure Asia Cup ticket with ease

From Al-Amin



KATHMANDU, Oct 13: Bangladesh retained their trophy and attained a much-sought-after ticket for the Dhaka Asia Cup with consummate ease, demolishing minnows Malaysia by eight wickets in the final of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) meet at the Tribhuvan University ground today.

In a predictable finish to the ten-day cricket carnival, involving ten Asian associate member-nations of the International Cricket Council, the holders had found no problem in giving their lowly-rated opponents a better cricket lesson.

The pre-tournament favourites bundled out Malaysia for a meagre 81 in 37.2 overs and then raced on to score 85 in only 21.1 overs, losing the wickets of opening batsmen — Shahriar Hossain and Javed Omar. Young Shahriar, with a strokeful half-century, emerged as the lone entertainer of the lack-lustre final.

The right-hander, adjudged player-of-the-final later for his enterprising 72-ball 50, hammered half-a-dozen sweetly-timed fours and a towering sixer over long-on.

It would have been a more resounding victory for Bangladesh had not Shahriar, in a bid to finish the match with a six, got himself out in the deep, leaving his team only two runs short of victory. Faruque Ahmed, who joined Shahriar after the fall of the first wicket at 13.2 overs, then pulled Malaysian skipper Romesh Menon down the mid-wicket to ensure victory. He remained unbeaten on 10. Javed, in contrast to his opening partner, contributed a sedate 14 runs to the first wicket stand of 60.

Although a victory for Bangladesh was always on the cards, the new-ball bowlers — Hasibul Hossain and Saifuddin Ahmed, who exploited the dicey pitch beautifully, threatened to finish the final before lunch, which prompted the tournament organisers to send an emergency message to the Prime Minister's office requesting for his arrival earlier than schedule. The Nepalese Prime Minister, Girija Prasad Koirala, was the chief guest of the concluding ceremony.

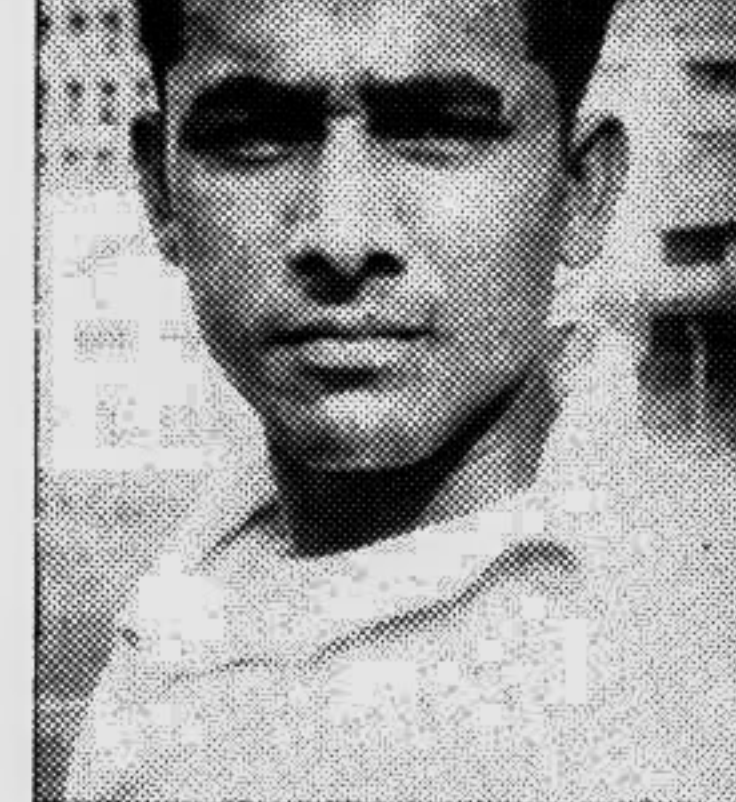
Shahriar glowed in the tournament and the third highest run-getter for Bangladesh, took three wickets for 22 runs in his eight economical overs. The Bangladesh skipper took 14 wickets and scored 141 runs in total to capture the player-of-the-tournament award. Left-arm spinner Enamul Haq was at his miserly best as he took one wicket giving away only five runs in his 7.2 overs.

Aminul, who replaced long-time skipper Akram Khan before the tournament, led his side from the front in Kathmandu and eventually ended up receiving the glittering ACC Trophy from the Nepalese PM with a broad smile hanging on his face.

Bangladesh won the first ACC Trophy in Malaysia in

The devastating duo of Hasibul and Saifuddin started the match from where they had left off in the first semifinal against UAE sending the Malaysians reeling at 5/24 in 10.1 overs. Hasibul removed both openers to finish with 10 for two in his seven overs while Saifuddin, the more venomous of the two, dismissed Malaysian captain Romesh Menon and one-down Navaratnam to return with the match figures of 7-1-16-2.

The spinners, led by skipper Aminul Islam, then ripped through the fragile Malaysian tail, giving the rank-outsiders no chance for a comeback in the match. Aminul, the most suc-



SHAHRIAR ... p-o-m

cessful bowler in the tournament and the third highest run-getter for Bangladesh, took three wickets for 22 runs in his eight economical overs. The Bangladesh skipper took 14 wickets and scored 141 runs in total to capture the player-of-the-tournament award. Left-arm spinner Enamul Haq was at his miserly best as he took one wicket giving away only five runs in his 7.2 overs.

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Bangladesh won the first ACC Trophy in Malaysia in

1997 under the leadership of Akram Khan. With this win in Kathmandu, Bangladesh booked their berth in the four-nation Asia Cup, scheduled to start in Dhaka next year. World champions Sri Lanka, Pakistan and India are the other team of the mega event.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the ACC final between Bangladesh and Malaysia at Tribhuvan University ground on Tuesday:

MALAYSIA

R Madavan lbw b Hasibul	0
Suresh Singh c K Masood b Hasibul	10
S Navaratnam lbw b Saifuddin	3
R Menon c K Masood b Saifuddin	1
K Ramdas run out	0
M Williams run out	18
R Silvaratnam b Aminul	25
M Muniandy not out	6
J Nair c K Masood b Aminul	0
Cheew Pok b Aminul	1
V Ramdas st K Masood b Enamul	4
Extras: (b-2, lb-1, nb-3, w-9)	15
Total: (All out in 37.2 overs)	83
Fall of wks: 1/2: 2/18; 3/22; 4/22; 5/24; 6/56; 7/70; 8/70; 9/72	

Bowlers

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Hasibul	7	3	10	2
Saifuddin	7	1	17	2
Rafique	4	2	8	0
Mehmul	4	0	18	0
Aminul	8	1	22	3
Enamul	7.2	3	5	1

BANGLADESH

Shahriar c V Ramdas
b M Williams
Javed c Muniandy
b Chew Pok
Faruque not out
Aminul not out
Extras: (b-1, lb-4, w-5)
Total: (For two wks in 21.1 overs)

Fall of wks: 1/60; 2/81
Did not bat: K Mahmud, Al-Shahriar, Rafique, Hasibul, Enamul Haq, K Masood and Saifuddin

Bowler

Bowler	O	M	R	W
M Muniandy	3	0	21	0
S Navaratnam	4	2	7	0
Menon	5.1	0	21	0
J Nair	2	0	15	0
Chew Pok	4	0	11	1
M Williams	3	1	5	1

Result: Bangladesh won the final by 8 wickets.
Player-of-the-match: Shahriar Hossain (Bangladesh)
Player-of-the-tournament: Aminul Islam (Bangladesh)

Top Aussies' salary cut



MELBOURNE, Oct 13 (AP/AFP): Australia's six top cricketers knew last month they would receive cuts to their base pay, Australian Cricket Board chief executive Malcolm Speed said Tuesday.

He said he was surprised by press reports that Mark Waugh and his manager Leo Karis attacked the new pay structure.

Speed added he was looking forward to meeting with Karis next Tuesday in Sydney to discuss the matter further.

"I explained the new system in great detail to the 22 senior Australian players in Brisbane in September, including the new pay scales," Speed said.

"We then had a long question-and-answer session, where a number of questions were answered, and not one player raised this issue. So I'm surprised Mark Waugh and his manager have raised it."

Speed said Waugh did not

raise his objections at a meeting last week in Pakistan.

"I spent the whole of last Tuesday with Mark Waugh in Lahore, we talked about many things, he didn't raise the issue about payment of his contract at all," Speed said.

Last season, Australia's top six players — captain Mark Taylor, Mark and Steve Waugh, Shane Warne, Ian Healy and Glenn McGrath — were paid a base contract fee of 200,000 Australian dollars (about 120,000 US).

That figure has been reduced to between 160,000 and 190,000 Australian dollars (between 96,000 and 114,000 US).

The extra money will go to domestic Sheffield Shield players, lower-tier ACB players and the players' bargaining agent James Erskine.

Speed said: "People criticised the system last year because there was a gap of 100,000 dollars (60,000 US) between the top six players, who got 2,00,000

Australian dollars and the seventh, who got 100,000. This year we have bridged the gap."

But despite the fact that Australia's payment pool had increased by 1.2 million dollars (720,000 US) for this season, the ACB has downgraded the highest-level contracts to 160,000-190,000 (96,000-114,000 US).

Australian Cricketers' Association president Tim May, who has no control over the contract legalities, said: "I am very disappointed for the fell as because they have given great displays for Australian cricket over the past year and though the pool has increased their remuneration has decreased."

Eighth Asia Cup cricket in Dhaka Mar 20-Apr 3

Sports Reporter

The eighth Asia Cup will be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the capital from March 20 to April 3 next year. This was disclosed by Syed Asraf Huj, general secretary of Bangladesh Cricket Board yesterday on his return from an Asian Cricket Council meeting held in Kathmandu on Monday.

Talking to a group of journalists at his office at the Bangabandhu Stadium last night, the BCB secretary also revealed that Trans World International (TWI) will telecast all seven matches of the quad-rangular biennial tournament.

Asian cricket powers India, Pakistan and world champions Sri Lanka will take part in the tournament along with hosts Bangladesh, who earned their berth by virtue of winning the ACC Trophy in Nepal yesterday.

Dhaka was also the venue of the second edition of the tournament a decade ago.

Apart from the Asia Cup, Ashraf also said that the ACC has decided to hold a proposed first Asian Test Championship sometime between mid-February and the end of March.

The tournament involving India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will comprise four Test matches — three in the robin league and the final.

"The modus operandi of the championship will be decided jointly by the three Board presidents which they will submit to ACC by December 31."

Sohail wants more from mates



KARACHI, Pakistan, Oct 13 (Reuters/Internet): Pakistan captain Aamir Sohail is looking for a better attitude from his players in the second Test starting on Thursday to make amends for a their thumping defeat by Australia last week.

"It was quite humiliating at Rawalpindi in the first Test. We played poorly. The batting except for Saeed Anwar and Salim Malik never really recovered after our poor showing in the first innings," Sohail said on Tuesday.

Pakistan lost the opening Test by an innings and 99 runs and were outplayed in every department of the game after Australia accumulated 513 runs in their first innings in reply to

Pakistan's 269 all out. The home side managed only 145 in the second innings.

"In the second Test we are going in with a totally different frame of mind and hope we will bounce back in the series with much better cricket," the captain said.

The wicket at the northern border town of Peshawar is thought likely to favour the batsmen.

Pakistan have brought Ijaz Ahmed into the squad and although out of form he does have

tra day to prove his fitness in the hope that he can play on Thursday.

Lehmann, who scored 98 in the first test, injured his groin during this week's drawn match against Rawalpindi after scoring a century in each innings.

He has been unable to stretch out over the last few days and has been given until Wednesday to recover.

"We'll just have to see how it comes up in the next 24 hours," Lehmann told reporters on Tuesday.

Lehmann's loss would come as a major blow to the Australians who are bidding to win their first series in Pakistan for 39 years.

Russell inspects Bangabandhu Stadium

Sports Reporter

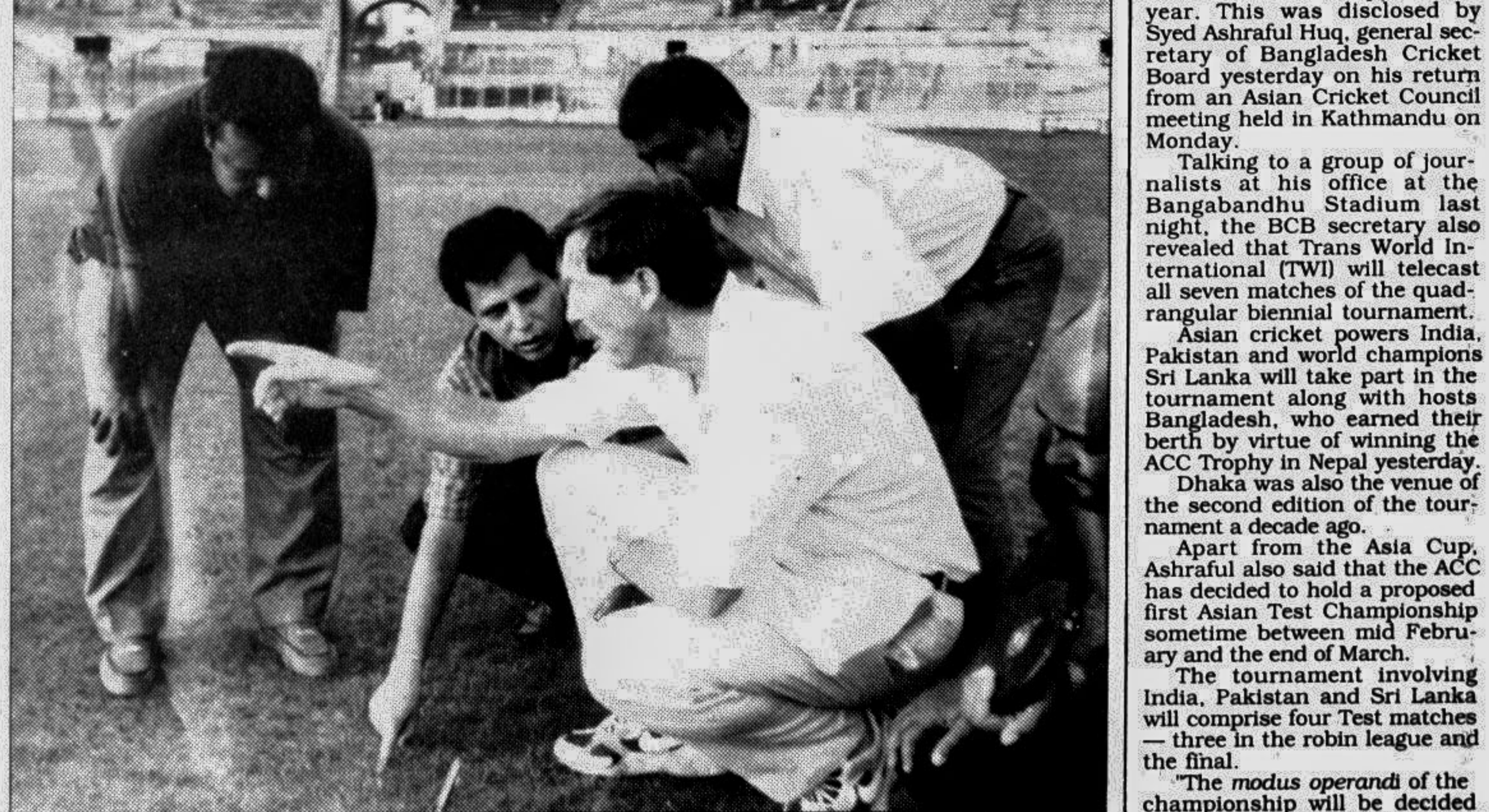
South African pitch expert Philip Edgar Russell arrived in the capital on a six-day visit yesterday.

Upon arrival the former Derbyshire county player who is now the chief curator of the Kingsmead ground in Natal, South Africa, inspected the pitches at the Bangabandhu National Stadium and said that they will be more bouncy than the ones used during the Independence Cup last January.

Talking to The Daily Star, Russell who took over the Bangabandhu Stadium in June, 1997, said, "The pitch looks pretty good but the grass at the outfield needs more trimming. I think by the end of this week things will come up to a shape."

"The turf will be more helpful to the batsmen this time," he added.

Philip will visit the three practice venues earmarked for the nine-nation knockout tournament today.



South African pitch specialist Phil Russell giving his opinion about the outfield of the Bangabandhu Stadium to some local ground officials yesterday. —Star photo

A CLARIFICATION
In our yesterday's report headlined 'Rakib becomes IM', it was written that the player is the fourth International Master of the country. In fact, Rakib is the fifth player to achieve the distinction. Grand Master Niaz Murshed was the first to become an IM. The other three IMs of the country are Ziaur Rahman, Reefat-bin-Sattar and Zillur Rahman Champak.