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Star Sport

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Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT the new floodlights at the Bangabandhu National Stadium cost eight crore Taka, that the electronic scoreboard cost two crore something, that it cost about a crore and half to make the four wickets, that about fifty lakh was spent in general development...

These are figures being quoted in the media and I wonder if the National Sports Council would one day reveal the actual details of the expenditure. Obviously the public are curious.

But, one thing I know for sure, a half-glass soft drink in the VIP enclosure during the Wills Cup is costing twenty-five Taka.

More Taka, more cricket.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-106

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Nov 13 '98, and draw shortly afterwards

- How old is Mark Waugh?
32 33 34
- How many ODIs has Jack Russell played?
38 39 40
- Who is the new US soccer coach?
Robson Sampson Arena
- Who are the ACC Trophy champions?
Bangladesh PNG Malaysia
- 8th SAF Games will be held in
Colombo Kathmandu Male

Name

Class Roll No.

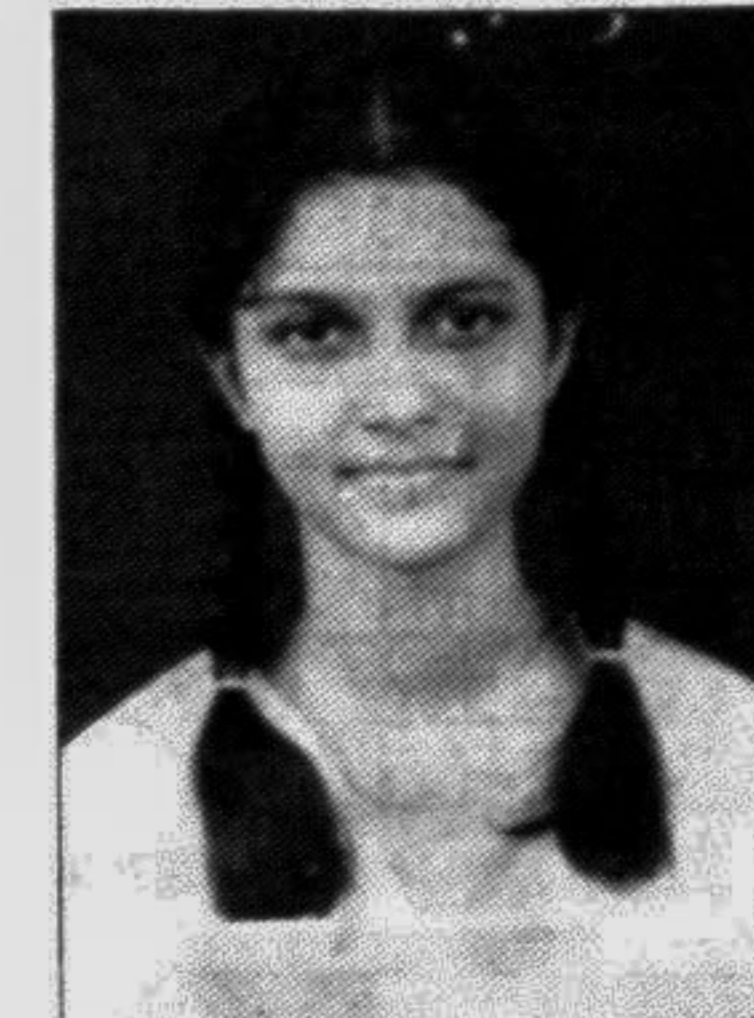
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SPORTS TALK



Nick Knight
(England batsman)
"It's a fabulous and exciting concept, and it's for a great cause - raising funds to develop the game."
About the Wills International Cup.



Rafiath Rashid
WHIZZ KID-103 winner



South African opener Mike Rindel plays defensively against Lankan paceman Nuwan Zoysa. — Star photo

Bangabandhu venue for another cricket feast

India out of Asia Cup?

Hasan Masood and Al-Amin

The eighth Asia Cup cricket tournament will be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium next March. Defending champions Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan and hosts Bangladesh, who earned the lone associate-member slot by virtue of winning the ACC Trophy at Nepal earlier this month, are scheduled to take part in the meet.

But the championship is already threatened as India expressed its non-availability during that time.

"I have made it clear to the ACC president Thilanga Sumathipala that we will not be able to come to Dhaka in March. And we have given the ACC two possible options - either to go on without us or shift the tourney to November or December", said the president of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Raj Singh Durgapur to The Daily Star yesterday.

The BCCI supremo, who is now in Dhaka to witness the Wills International Cup, while elaborating the hectic schedule of the Indian team leading up to

WHIZZ KID-105

Boost winner

Tanzina Sara
Agrani School, Dhaka

Please bring your ID card and one passport size attested photograph while collecting the winner's prize from the Sport Desk of The Daily Star at 7:30 pm on November 4.

WHIZZ KID-105

correct answers

- How many ODI centuries has Tendulkar hit so far?
Ans: 18
- Who is England's cricket coach?
Ans: Lloyd
- Who is the new France soccer coach?
Ans: Lemerre
- Next Asia Cup cricket will be held in:
Ans: Dhaka
- Who lifted this year's 1st Division hockey league title?
Ans: BSC

the World Cup, said that it would not be possible for them to take part in the biennial event at the stipulated time. The schedule was finalised at the ACC meeting at Kathmandu earlier this month.

"Our boys are playing too much cricket since September. We have a hectic schedule ahead. From Dhaka we will go to Sharjah and then to New Zealand. Besides, Pakistan will be visiting India in January and the series (three Tests and as many one-days) will continue up to March. We will then be left with only two months to prepare for the World Cup", said Durgapur.

Replying to a query, Durgapur said, "I'm not aware whether our decision has been conveyed to the organisers. I had however informed the ACC

at Kathmandu".
Durgapur held discussions with his Pakistani counterpart Khalid Mahmud on a number of occasions regarding the proposed Test and One-day series between the two arch-rivals on Indian soil.

"We have discussed a lot many things. Yet, nothing but one thing so far has been finalised - that we are not going to include Mumbai as a venue for the series", said Durgapur.

The two sub-continental rivals played their last Test match in 1989, when Pakistan won on Indian soil under Imran Khan.

Meanwhile, Shiv Sena chief Bal Thackeray has announced that he will not allow Pakistan cricketers to play in India. For the moment it seems Mumbai is most under threat.

STAR OF THE DAY

Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar is hailed as the most exciting batsman around. His technique is impeccable, he packs tremendous power and strength into his short stocky frame, and his timing is exemplary.

He has all the shots in the book to counter bowling of any kind. Recently he broke West Indian Desmond Haynes' record 17 ODI hundreds. Sachin has 19 at the moment.

Despite his youth, Bombay-based Tendulkar has a shrewd cricketing brain. It has enabled him to become a useful bowler in the 'slog overs'.

Fielding is another great strength. He was made captain last year with mixed results and was replaced earlier this year.



FACTFILE

Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar
Born: 24 April 1973, Bombay.
Major Teams: India, Yorkshire, Bombay.
Known As: Sachin Tendulkar
Pronounced: Sachin Tendulkar
Batting Style: Right Hand Bat
Bowling Style: Right-Arm Medium, Leg Break, Right Arm Off Break
ODI Debut: India v Pakistan at Gujranwala, 2nd ODI, 1989/90
Latest ODI: India v Australia at Dhaka, Wills International Cup, 1998/99
ONE-DAY INTERNATIONALS (including 28/10/1998)
Batting: M I No Runs HS Ave 100 50 Ct St
201 194 18 7445 -142 42.30 19 43 69
Bowling: O M R W Ave Best Av Dv SR Econ
697.3 15 3468 69 50.26 5-32 2 1 60.6 4.97

SCOREBOARD



Scoreboard of the first semifinal of the Wills International Cup cricket tournament between Sri Lanka and South Africa at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday:

SOUTH AFRICA

Rindel c Jayasuriya b Vaas	8
Cullinan lbw Dharmasena	30
Boje c Aravinda b Zoysa	28
Boucher c Mahanama b Zoysa	0
Kallis not out	113
Cronje c Atapattu b Chandana	20
Rhodes c Atapattu b Muralitharan	0
Symcox c Atapattu b Chandana	11
Benkenstein not out	18
Extras: (b-1, lb-6, wb-3, nb-2)	12
Total (for 7 wks in 39 overs)	240
Fall of wks: 1-12, 2-55, 3-57, 4-87, 5-168, 6-181, 7-196.	

Bowler O M R W
Vaas 6 0 33 1
Zoysa 6 0 34 2
Dharmasena 7 0 37 1
Muralitharan 6 0 48 1
Jayasuriya 6 0 42 0
Chandana 8 0 39 2

SRI LANKA

Jayasuriya b Elworthy	22
Kaluwitharana c Cronje b Elworthy	9
Vaas c Rhodes b Cronje	18
A de Silva c Boje b Elworthy	5
Atapattu c Cullinan b Symcox	9
Ranatunga c Boucher b Cronje	4
Mahanama c Crookes b Symcox	10
Chandana lbw b Symcox	20
Dharmasena c Cullinan b Crookes	6
Zoysa not out	2
Muralitharan absent hurt	
Extras: (lb-4, w-10, nb 3)	17
Total (for nine wickets)	132
Fall of wks: 1-19, 2-40, 3-48, 4-74, 5-80, 6-96, 7-113, 8-125, 9-132.	

Bowler O M R W
Kallis 4 0 34 0
Elworthy 4 0 21 3
Rindel 1 0 13 1
Cronje 5 1 26 2
Symcox 7 0 27 3
Crookes 2 4 7 1

Result: South Africa won by 92 runs (Sri Lanka's revised target was 224 in 34 overs)
Player-of-the-match: Jacques Kallis

Her prayers answered

Rabeed Imam
"The reason I admire Brian Lara so much is because he overcame all odds to achieve the title of the 'best batsman in the world'.... He overcame an environment polluted by drugs and worked hard to earn his Test cap. He gained fame almost overnight but dealt with it in a mature way and did not let it go into his head. These are few of the words Sasheen Mehnaiz Ekramullah wrote in her essay titled 'Brian Lara: A Lord in His Own Right'.

Sasheen's write up won the second prize among 6000 entries from 54 countries at the Royal Commonwealth Society's essay competition in 1994-95. The 17-year old met her 'Lord' at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday afternoon after the West Indies team had finished their practice.

The opportunity came when Lara came to know about Sasheen's achievement through the team's liaison officer, and immediately wanted to see the 'A-level student who was patiently waiting in the stands'.
"I can't believe it. I'm still shaking. Brian Lara actually talked to me!", said Sasheen after the superstar captain of the West Indies had spoken and signed autographs for her.
"This will be the most cherished day of my life", added the die-hard West Indies fan.
Sasheen presented Lara a copy of the essay which was published in the Daily Star on August 4, 1995.

Chess battle of sexes in Dec!

LAS VEGAS, Oct 30: Chess champs Anatoly Karpov and Judit Polgar have agreed to a December "battle of the sexes" match in Las Vegas, a promoter said, reports AP.
The event will not be a straight chess match, but one following the rules of Bobby Fischer's Shuffle Chess, which involves the random placement of chess pieces from the traditional starting points.
Shiloh Quinn of Montreal, Karpov's agent, said Thursday that his client and Polgar, the world's best female player, have agreed to a Dec 1-8 match.

Windies, India clash for final berth

Rabeed Imam

Buoyed by their respective triumphs over formidable opponents, West Indies and India have reasons to feel confident going into the second semifinal of the Wills International Cup today.

Brian Lara's West Indies showed a refreshing change in attitude on Thursday to outplay Pakistan while the Indians hardly had any trouble when they canted past fancied Australian the day before.

The rivals practised side by side yesterday afternoon at the



BRIAN LARA

Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium (DCS). The West Indies came early to the ground and almost immediately went for the nets. The Indians on the other hand concentrated more on fielding practice.

Both the captains are well aware of each other's strengths and are foreseeing a hard contest.

"India are an extremely tough opposition", said Windies skipper Brian Lara. "They are used to the conditions in this part of the World. I think India's bowling is well suited for the pitches in Dhaka."
India's captain Mohammed Azharuddin was impressed by the Caribbean showing against Pakistan. "They did play a very good game. The West Indies are a difficult team. Their unpredictable nature is always a worry to the opposing side," opined Azhar.

Azhar however seemed a little apprehensive about the weather. "We all are looking forward to the clash with West Indies, but I hope the weather stays OK. There is a depression, so it may affect the match," he said.

About possible changes in the semifinal line-up, Azhar said that it will depend on the

elements.
Azhar feels there is a lot of room for betterment in certain areas of his team, specially in the fielding department. "I think our fielding needs to be sharpened. I also feel we haven't done well while batting in the slog overs."

Coach Anshuman Gaekwad wants his bowlers to be more penetrative. "I imagine we can improve in the bowling front", said the former Test opener. Only paceman Javagal Srinath bowled with fire against the Aussies but the rest, including an experienced campaigner like leg-spinner Anil Kumble, were found wanting on the batsman-friendly wicket.

When asked if the Indians have any plans regarding how to contain a batsman of the calibre of Lara, Gaekwad replied, "not only Lara, we have to contain all of them. They are all very aggressive."

One man can single-handedly turn the game in India's favour. The genius of Sachin Tendulkar is in full bloom now and even the West Indies captain is mindful of that. "A lot will depend on how quickly we can see the back of Sachin. He is batting wonderfully well," said Lara.

Batting apart, Tendulkar's apparently innocuous bowling could once again prove to be a factor as was the case against Australia.

Azhar himself will be anxious to play a big innings in his 301st one day international appearance after getting a duck in the previous match. Ajay Javeda will render the flair while the steel will be provided by the se-date Rahul Dravid. Local favourite Saurav Ganguly missed out on Wednesday, but the southpaw from Bengal is talented enough to deliver the goods when it really matters.

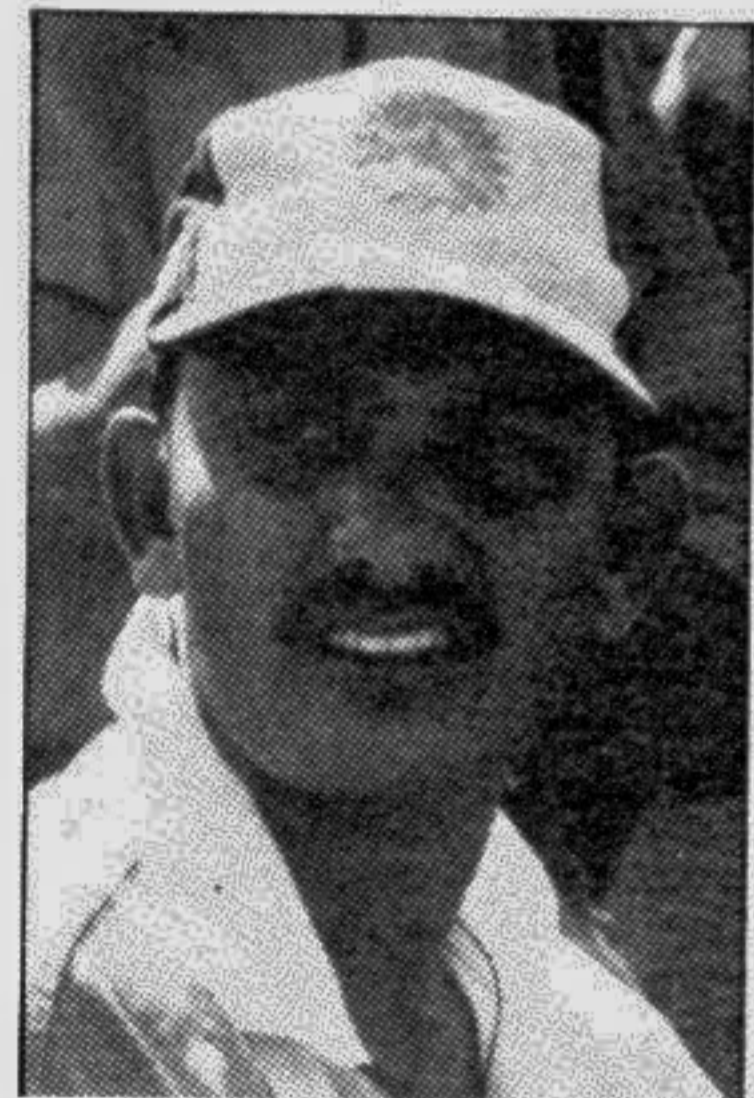
West Indies came out on top in all aspects against Pakistan and Lara wants no let-off. "We still need to get things in order in certain departments, and if we do that I think we have what it takes to beat India."

West Indies are more than likely to stick to the winning combination.

In the absence of stalwarts like Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh, the young fast bowlers Nixon McLean and Marvyn Dillon bowled with purpose and aggression. It was an exhilarating experience to watch the duo bowl in tandem and they need to give more evidence of their obvious talent against the wristy stroke-play of the Indians.

The spinners also did Lara proud. "I am particularly delighted with the way Keith (Arthurton), Raul (Lewis) and Carl (Hooper) bowled. Spin is very important here because the pitches are flat and tends to take spin as the match wears on."

In batting, Philo Wallace is a revelation as a destructive opener. Lara and Hooper both contributed little to the team's cause but the fact that the West Indies still scored a mammoth



AZHARUDDIN

289 in 50 overs, bears testimony to the new found responsibility among the other batsmen.

The West Indies tail batted freely in the closing overs, another sign that manager Clive Lloyd and coach Malcolm Marshall are instilling the confidence that was badly missing a few months ago.

The Indians have played the West Indies in 54 limited overs internationals. The Caribbeans came out superior in 36 of those occasions while the Indians have 19 wins to their credit. The other match ended in a tie.

TEAMS
WEST INDIES (From): Stuart Williams, Philo Wallace, Shivnarin Chanderpaul, Brian Lara (Captain), Carl Hooper, Keith Arthurton, Phil Simmons, Ridley Jacobs, Nixon McLean, Raul Lewis, Marvyn Dillon, Clayton Lambert, Reon King, Neil Megarrel.
INDIA (From): Sachin Tendulkar, Saurav Ganguly, Mohammed Azharuddin (Captain), Rahul Dravid, Ajay Javeda, VVS Laxman, Robin Singh, Sunil Joshi, Nayan Mongia, Javagal Srinath, Venkatesh Prasad, Ajit Agarkar, Anil Kumble, Nikhil Chopra.

Wills Cup: Itsy bitsy teenie weenies

MISUNDERSTOOD DELIVERY

Has Gordon Greenidge really tendered his resignation? This was the talk of the stadium arenas yesterday.

A leading Bengali daily ran a story on the Caribbean cricket coach of Bangladesh yesterday, suggesting that he had submitted his letter of resignation from the post of Director of Coaching. Greenidge is neither happy with how the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is treating him, nor with its initiative for the development of the game nationally, the report cited those as the principal reasons for his resignation.

With the wet field keeping cricket at bay, newsmen engaged themselves in a race to dig out the truth, if there really was any, from the Board officials. Greenidge did not turn up at the stadium to watch the match yesterday, probably due to the cloudy sky or sensing a media mob. He also could not be reached for his comment over telephone.

When approached, top BCB officials expressed their ignorance about any such information. A BCB source however confirmed on condition of anonymity that Greenidge submitted a letter indeed on October 25, but it was certainly not his letter of resignation. Although he did not know the exact contents of the letter, he hinted that it could be yet another Greenidge warning sent to the Board. Cricket's ruling body in the country has long been criticised for its lack of drive for the development of the game as well as making virtually no use of the talent of the West Indian

Syed Ashfaqul Haque

great. So, the report of the Bengali daily is probably smoke without fire.

CULLINAN, THE CENTURIAN

South African batsman Daryll Cullinan made his century appearance in one-day cricket against Sri Lanka yesterday. Cullinan, coming in as an opener, celebrated the personal mark with 30 runs from 43 balls. The stocky right-hander has scored 3092 runs in the abridged version of the game with the help of three centuries and 20 half-centuries. He reached the 3000 club on October 25 when he hit 69 in the quarter-final against England.

PESPI TROLLEY SIDELINED

The giant Pepsi trolley was not allowed on to the field during the drinks breaks yesterday. The outfield, close to the VIP end, remained a bit soggy even after the hectic efforts put in by the groundsmen led by their chairman Enayet Hossain Siraj during the long dry-up operation. The Tournament Grounds Committee imposed a temporary bar on the trolley in a bid to prevent further disruption of the sodden surface.

BANANA BAN

Banana has been banned at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. A section of senseless spectators seem to be very fond of throwing peels of the delicious fruit inside the field whenever comes an occasion of celebration or dejection. Sensing that the peels might cause trouble to the players, the Pepsi

ball boys and the on-duty persons inside the field, BCB has quite sensibly banned bananas. But the players are always privileged across the globe. The Sri Lankans had bananas during the drinks break in yesterday's match.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAVE

A few buoyant South African supporters gathered at the Special Enclosure of the gallery. The fun-loving Proteas got along well with Bangladesh's cultured crowd. They clapped, chanted, fluttered flags and generated Mexican waves along with the majority of the fans.

WARWICKS BECKON BOB WOOLMER

Is Bob Woolmer's heart going out for Warwickshire? The South African coach has got a few lucrative offers at hands. It was learnt that Woolmer, whom South Africa has retained up to the 1999 World Cup, has neither accepted nor rejected any of those propositions. Woolmer coached county club Hampshire before taking over the mantle of South African cricket. Source said, he has an inclination for Warwickshire.

Navy sports

CHITTAGONG, Oct 30: The annual tennis and squash championship of Bangladesh Navy concluded at the BNS Issa Khan Tennis Complex here yesterday, reports BSS.
The BN Flotilla emerged champions and the Commodore Commanding Chittagong became runner-up in the three-day meet.

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