

Column One

WHIZZ KID-105 winner



Tanzina Sara
(Agrani School, Dhaka)

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT for much of automobile racing history, there were no restrictions on technological development, so Formula One (F1) cars were the most sophisticated, most technologically advanced racing vehicles possible. Beginning in the early 1990s, however, FIA (International Automobile Federation) began slowing introduction of new materials, systems, and electronics to F1. A principal reason for these restrictions was FIA's unwillingness to allow computers to play too important a role in functions it believed should remain under the control of the driver, such as braking. Many innovative systems available in today's streetcars, such as an antilock brakes, a computerised system that decreases the chances of skidding while braking, are prohibited in F1. Another factor in the limitation of computer use is the desire to hold down high costs of innovation that favour large, heavily financed racing teams over smaller, less well-financed teams. Despite these regulations, F1 cars are still considered to be the height of single-seat racing car construction, and F1 races also are considered by many to be the most glamorous automobile racing events in the world. Accomplished F1 drivers have included Jackie Stewart and Nigel Mansell of Great Britain, Alain Prost of France, and the late Ayrton Senna of Brazil.

SPORTS TALK



Geoffrey Boycott
(Popular cricket commentator)

"Selectors! Don't you hate 'em? For years I worry about the mentality of any English team-pickup who can leave out the three-stars-in-one-body playing under the name of Chris Lewis."

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-108

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Dec 18 '98, and draw
shortly afterwards

1	National cricket team captain Anisul Islam will play this season for	
2	Who won the Premier league cricket title last season?	Biman Mohammedan Surjo Tarun
3	How many teams play in the Premier league?	10 8 12
4	How many overs will be played per side in the Premier league this season?	50 80 100
5	How many venues will be used for the Premier league this year?	One Two Three

Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)
EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

Premier Div starts Dec 8

Sports Reporter



The Janakantha Premier Division cricket league has been deferred by a day due to Shab-e-Barat. This was decided by the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) in a meeting held on Thursday night.

Earlier, the CCDM on December 1, issued a fixture billed for December 7 but according to a December 4 revised fixture, it will start from December 8 instead.

Besides, there will be one match on the inaugural day instead of three. Holders Abahani Krira Chakra will open against Division One runners-up Orient Sporting Club at the Bangabandhu National Stadium at 9:30am. All matches of the 12-team elite league will be two-day 80-over-a-side contests.

There will be three games on December 10 and 11. Last season's runners-up Brothers Union meet Sadharan Bima at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Kalabagan Krira Chakra play Victoria Sporting Club at

the Bangabandhu National Stadium and Mohammedan Sporting Club take on Wari Club at the BKSP ground.

The remaining two first round games will be held on De-

cember 12 and 13. Bangladesh Biman face Agrani Bank at the Bangabandhu National Stadium and Surjo Tarun Club meet Ajax Sporting Club at the BKSP.

FIXTURE

Date	Teams	Venue
Dec 8-9	Abahani vs Orient	BNS
Dec 10-11	BU vs S Bima	DCS
Dec 12-13	Kalabagan vs Victoria	BNS
Dec 14-15	Mohammedan vs Wari	BKSP
Dec 16-17	Biman vs A Bank	BNS
Dec 18-19	S Tarun vs Ajax	BKSP
Dec 20-21	BU vs Victoria	DCS
Dec 22-23	Kalabagan vs Wari	BNS
Dec 24-25	Abahani vs S Bima	BKSP
Dec 26-27	Mohammedan vs A Bank	BNS
Dec 28-29	S Tarun vs Orient	DCS
Dec 30-31	Abahani vs Victoria	BNS
Jan 01-02	BU vs Wari	BKSP
Jan 03-04	Kalabagan vs A Bank	BNS
Jan 05-06	Abahani vs S Bima	DCS
Jan 07-08	BU vs Victoria	BNS
Jan 09-10	Kalabagan vs Biman	BKSP
Jan 11-12	A Bank vs Victoria	DCS
Jan 13-14	Abahani vs S Tarun	BNS
Jan 15-16	Abahani vs Biman	DCS
Jan 24-25	Wari vs A Bank	BNS
Jan 26-27	BU vs Mohammedan	BKSP
Jan 28-29	S Tarun vs Victoria	DCS
Jan 30-31	Kalabagan vs Orient	BNS
Feb 01-02	Biman vs S Bima	DCS
Feb 03-04	Mohammedan vs S Bima	BNS
Feb 05-06	A Bank vs Abahani	BKSP
Feb 07-08	BU vs Orient	DCS
Feb 09-10	Mohammedan vs Victoria	BNS
Feb 11-12	Biman vs Wari	DCS
Feb 13-14	S Tarun vs A Bank	BKSP
Feb 15-16	Kalabagan vs S Bima	DCS
Feb 17-18	Ajax vs Orient	BNS
Feb 19-20	Abahani vs BU	BKSP

(BNS-Bangabandhu National Stadium, DCS-Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, BKSP-Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Pratishthan)

Bangladesh to play in Shiliguri cricket tourney again

Sports Reporter

Holdes Bangladesh under-13 cricket team will leave for Shiliguri, West Bengal, on December 26 to defend their Chand Ballav Ghosh Memorial Trophy. The juvenile tourney will start from December 28 under the auspices of Agragamee Sangha, a Shiliguri-based club.

According to a senior BCB official yesterday, the team will be selected after trials which will be held at the Kalabagan Krira Chakra ground from December 10. National coach Jalal Ahmed Chowdhury, Dipu Rai Choudhury and Wahidul Ghani will oversee them.

Interested youngsters have been asked to be present at the ground by 3 pm.

LCCA 188/4

LAHORE, Dec 5 (Reuters/Internet): Lahore City Cricket Association (LCCA) were 188-4 in their first innings, in reply to Zimbabwe's 394 all out, at the close of the second day of the four-day match on Saturday.

Scores: Zimbabwe 394 all out, LCCA 188-4.

Stewart slams century



MELBOURNE, Dec 5: (Reuters/Internet): England captain Alec Stewart made a stunning return to form on Saturday when he blasted a century on the opening day of his team's four-day fixture against Victoria.

Stewart, who had scored only 101 runs on tour at an average of just 12.63, smashed 126 as England reached 308 for five by stumps at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

"I felt I played pretty well and timed the ball nicely," Stewart said after an innings spanning 243 minutes and 205 balls.

To spend time out in the middle was the most important thing for me. The century is a bonus."

Opener Michael Atherton also showed signs of recovering his best form as he hit 46 while Mark Ramprakash continued his good touch with an unbeaten 61.

But there was continued concern over John Crawley and Nasser Hussain. Crawley made just eight before he was caught behind while Hussain was on five when he popped a catch to short leg.

Overriding their failures, however, was the wonderful

performance by the English skipper, albeit against a second string Victorian side missing Test players Shane Warne, Damien Fleming, Paul Reiffel and Matthew Elliott.

Stewart's lean run with the bat had included four ducks in his eight innings in Australia and a total of just 49 runs from the first two Ashes Tests.

But, coming to the crease with his side in the nervous position of 33 for two, he responded with an aggressive innings highlighted by his fine timing of the ball until he was run out trying to pinch a cheeky second run.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the close of play on the first day of the four-day match between England and Victoria at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Cricket Ground.

ENGLAND: First Innings	46
Atherton c Craig b Inness	48
Crawley c Roach b Williams	5
Hussain c Amberger b Bilbert	8
Stewart run out	126
Thorpe c Roach b Davison	19
Ramprakash not out	61
Hick not out	37
Extras: (b-4, w-1, nb-1)	6
Total: (for five wickets in 102 overs)	308

To bat: R Croft, A Fraser, D Headley, B Hollioake.

Fall of wickets: 1-25; 2-33; 3-95; 4-135; 5-247

Bowler:	O	M	R	W
Williams	21	6	68	1
Gilbert	22	6	47	1
Inness	25	9	71	1
Bakker	14	2	42	0
Davison	18	3	73	1
Craig	2	0	3	0



YOU'RE OUT ... England captain Alec Stewart fails to reach his ground during the first day's play of the four-day match against Victoria yesterday. — AP/UNB photo



Thai girls taking part in a dress-rehearsal for the Asian Games' opening ceremony in Bangkok yesterday. The Games open today. — AFP photo

Bangladeshis face accommodation problems

BANGKOK, Dec 5: Bangladesh athletes have been facing accommodation problems at the athletes' village since their arrival here on December 3, chief of mission of Bangladesh contingent Col (ret) Faruq Khan MP said here today, reports BSS.

The 44-member of Bangladesh contingent including chief de mission got only 16 rooms at the village, he said, adding, "I talked to all concerned officials including deputy secretary general of the organising committee Santiparb several times, but the problems remain standstill."

Brothers' boost

Sports Reporter

Brothers Union warmed up for the new cricket season with a morale-boosting 12-run victory over Biman in an exhibition match played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday.

Batting first in the 45-over-a-side affair, Brothers scored 207 for five with former Indian Test all-rounder Sanjeev Sharma hammering an unbeaten 54. Opener Shezan scored 35 while Jahangir and Sanwar chipped in with 28 runs each.

In reply, Biman were restricted to 195 for nine. National skipper Aminul Islam was not out 47 and his captain Faruque Ahmed made a run-a-ball 30.

Brothers' off-spinner Sanwar captured three wickets. Another friendly match will be played today between Surjo Tarun and Victoria Sporting Club.

Mayor Cup cricket Friends outplay Agamani

RAJSHAHI, Dec 5: Friends Sporting Club outplayed Agamani Krira Chakra by 56 runs in the inaugural match of the second Mayor Gold Cup cricket tournament at Rajshahi College ground today, reports UNB.

Batting first, Friends SC piled up 183 runs for 9 in stipulated 40 overs.

A brilliant knock by Suza, who made unbeaten 45 off 48 balls, helped him adjudged as man-of-the-match.

Kajal contributed 32 while Iqbal added 30.

Sohag and Manoj picked up three wickets each giving away 31 and 44 runs respectively while Tony took 2 for 20.

In reply, Agamani were all out for 127 runs in 29.5 overs. Kamal made the highest 52 runs.

Iqbal was the most successful bowler for the winners taking 3 wickets for 30 while Sajjad claimed two for 20.

Earlier, Mayor of Rajshahi City Corporation Mizanur Rahman Minu inaugurated the tournament.

Sunday's match: Pravati Sangha vs Willow Krira Chakra.

Suhrawardy's mural unveiled

A mural of Hossain Shahid Suhrawardy was unveiled at the Mirpur Indoor Stadium yesterday, named earlier after the great leader, reports UNB.

Minister for Sports, Youth, and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader unveiled the mural, on the eve of the 35th death anniversary of the great leader.

The 8x6' mural was commissioned by the National Sports Council (NSC) at a cost of Tk 100,000. NSC officials were present on the occasion.

Bangkok gala begins today

BANGKOK, Dec 5: Soldiers scrambled to finish stadiums today as international attention fixed on whether Thailand's campaign to get the 13th Asian Games ready would fall flat on its face, reports AFP.

Military earthmovers and diggers bulldozed outside the main sports complex on the outskirts of Bangkok as King Bhumibol Adulyadej prepared to open the Games before athletes from 41 nations and 60,000 spectators in the national stadium on Sunday.

Thailand has promised to defy its economic crisis and put on the best Asian Games ever for the last major international sports festival of the century.

But its slow progress since 1990 has been a major concern. After the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) threatened to move the Games from Bangkok, top Thai government and military troublemakers were brought in to make sure everything was ready on time.

Some major roads to venues were only opened this week and the paint has barely dried at some stadiums.

On the diplomatic front, Saudi Arabia withdrew over a long-running dispute with the Thais. Afghanistan is also staying in. But the OCA has given a final blessing.

There have been some nervous moments but I can say that everything will be ready," Deputy Prime Minister Bichai Rattakul told reporters.

In an attempt to ease Bangkok's nightmare traffic, schools and universities have been ordered closed for two weeks. About 16,000 police will guard the Games, but around a quarter will be on traffic duty.

Snipers from an anti-terrorist unit will be deployed at stadiums and the authorities say they have had intelligence help from other countries on the main terrorist threats.

The opening ceremony will be the first major challenge for the Bangkok Asian Games Organising Committee (BAGOC). Many people who have paid up to 140 dollars for a ticket have still not received them.

The organisers announced that a maximum of 80 athletes and officials from each delegation will be allowed to march at the ceremony.

BAGOC spokeswoman Valerie McKenzie said this will be the first Games ceremony to allow athletes and officials to sit

in the stadium to watch the extravaganza after they've paraded around the track.

As a result, only 3,500 seats have been allocated for delegation representatives.

"At the moment, we have limited it to 80 for each delegation, and that includes both athletes and officials," said McKenzie.

BAGOC is hoping that the competitors from Kuwait in western Asia to Japan in the east — who account for more than half the world population — will now take the limelight.

China, with their controversial swimming team at the forefront, is certain to be num-

Pressure will also be on Li Xuefeng of China to live up to her reputation after being the second fastest, behind American star Marion Jones, over 100m last year.

China will dominate the swimming with the likes of teenage world champion world 400 metres medley champion and world record holder Chen Yan.

But China must use the Asian Games to launch a new campaign to prove to the world that their swimmers are drug free.

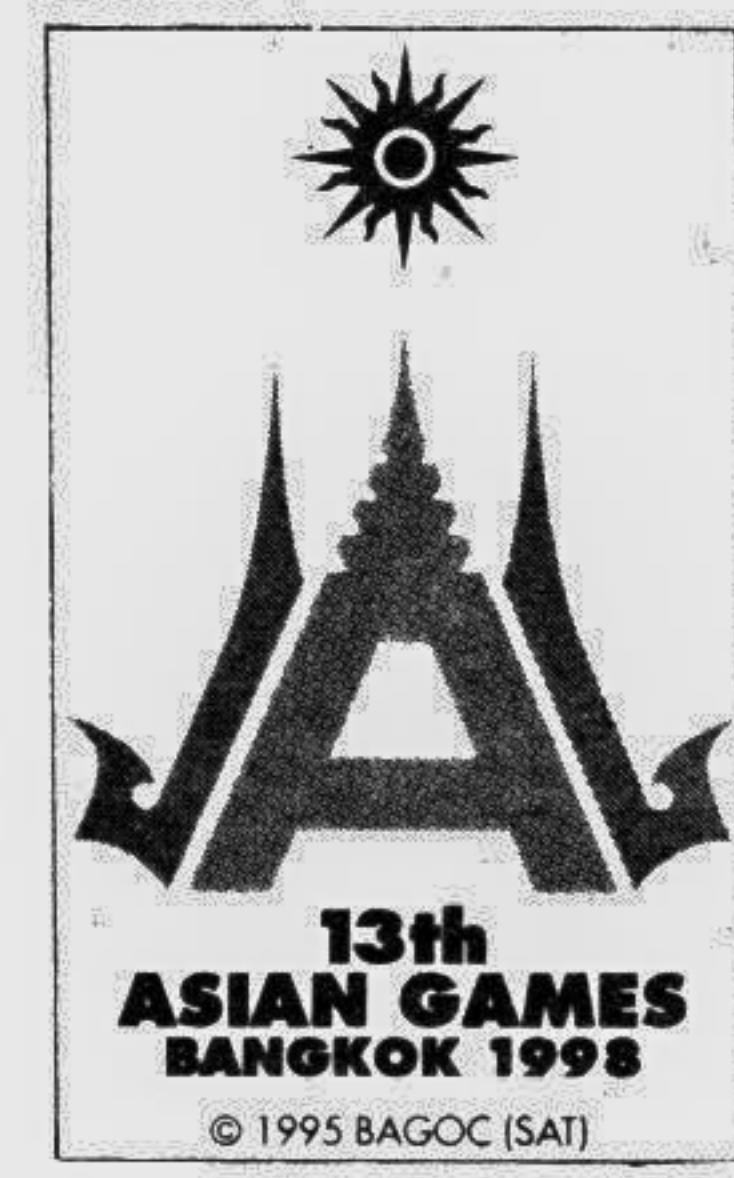
China should also sweep the titles in the table tennis where they have the likes of world men's singles and doubles champion Liu Guoliang.

The table tennis could also infuriate China though, as it sees renegades such as Chen Jing of Taiwan competing against them.

The Thai hosts are hoping for 10 gold medals, with the main home focus on Olympic featherweight boxing champion in the snooker.

Wattana's main rival will be Marco Fu of Hong Kong, who will be making their first appearance at the Asian Games as a part of China.

North Korea are back having boycotted Hiroshima four years ago because of the Stalinist leadership's traditional dislike of Japan.



Tuk tuk strike

BANGKOK, Dec 5: Drivers of a fleet of three wheeled motor tricycles assigned to transport athletes and officials between venues during the Asian Games went on strike today, complaining they had not been paid for two weeks, reports Reuters.

The Games organisers arranged to have 200 of the vehicles, known in Thailand as 'tuk tuks', at the main sports complex during the Games which open on Sunday and run until December 20.

Choosak Meeranat, manager of tuk tuk fleet, admitted he owed the drivers about 300,000 baht (8,500 US dollars) but blamed the Games organisers for delaying payment to him.

"I'm negotiating with the drivers and they will definitely resume the service," Choosak told Reuters adding that he was sure they would be back at work by this afternoon.

Windies buckle Border



EAST LONDON, South Africa, Dec 5: South African provincial side Border on Friday kicked off their three-day fixture against the West Indies here with the sort of opening partnership South Africa have been searching for all summer, reports AFP.

Brad White and Craig Sugden put on 113, as Border hustled along to a first innings of 282 for nine declared on the opening day of the fixture at Buffalo Park.

To complete a good day for openers the tourists pairing of Philo Wallace (22) and Clayton Lambert (14) had rattled up 38 in the nine overs which remained.

The impressive 140-minute stand between White and Sugden went a long way towards explaining why Border have swept all before them this summer.

Sugden ended up with 76 to his credit and White scored 56. White struck seven boundaries before being run out by a direct hit by Reifer.

His departure promoted a mini-collapse, with Mark

Boucher (5), Wynne Wible (12) and finally Sugden all falling to paceman Mervyn Dillon for the addition of only 51 runs.

Boucher was the victim of a rather dubious leg before call while Wible was picked up at second slip by Canga and Sugden at backward point by Reifer.

At 164-4 an innings which had held much promises was suddenly starting to waver, but captain Piet Strydom and Piet Botha halted the threatened slide via a fifth wicket partnership of 44.

Strydom's 42-run assault was ended shortly after the tea break when he was caught on the fine leg boundary by substitute Riddle Jacobs off Rose.

A nervous Cassie van der Merwe made 23 and, with Botha added another 39 for the sixth wicket.

A brisk unbeaten 17 from Peter Emslie lifted the total to 282-9 and with the second new ball due, Strydom decided to protect his pacemen tail-enders and rather let them have seven overs at the opposition.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at the end of the first day of the three-day match

between South African provincial team Border and the touring West Indies here at Buffalo Park on Friday:

BORDER: First Innings	
Sugden c Reifer b Dillon	76
White run out (Reifer)	56
Boucher lbw b Dillon	5
Wible c Banga b Dillon	12
Strydom c sub(Jacobs) b Rose	42
Botha c Rose b Lewis	20
Van der Merwe c Dillon b Lewis	23
Henderson c and b Chanderpaul	3
Emslie not out	17
Ntini c Lambert b Dillon	9
Forbes not out	3
Extras: (b-2, lb-4, w-10)	16
Total: (for 9 wickets in 79 overs)	282
Fall of wickets: 1-113; 2-122; 3-153; 4-164; 5-208; 6-247; 7-249; 8-251; 9-277	
Bowler:	O M R W
Rose	17 1 64 1
McLean	9 1 33 0
Dillon	16 3 56 4
Lewis	32 4 103 2
Chanderpaul	5 1 20 1
WEST INDIES: First Innings	
Lambert not out	14
Wallace not out	22
Extras: (lb-2)	2
Total (no wkt in 9 overs)	38
Bowling:	O M R W
Ntini	3 1 15 0
Botha	4 0 21 0
Forbes	2 2 0 0