

# Star Sport

DHAKA THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1998 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

## Column One

### 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 28 '98, and draw shortly afterwards

- National cricket team captain Aminul Islam will play this season for
 

Biman	Mohammedan	Surjo Tarun
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- Who won the Premier league cricket title last season?
 

Mohammedan	Kalabagan	Abahani
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- How many teams play in the Premier league?
 

10	8	12
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- How many overs will be played per side in the Premier league this season?
 

50	80	100
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- How many venues will be used for the Premier league this year?
 

One	Two	Three
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Name .....

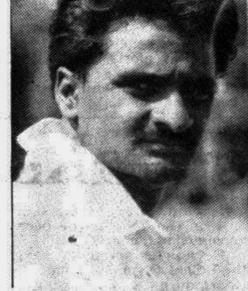
Class ..... Roll No. ....

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### SPORTS TALK



**Javagal Srinath**  
(Indian pace bowler)  
"I will always bowl as fast as possible. I will never compromise on that. I am a fast bowler."

**Jadeja's race against time**  
WELLINGTON, Dec 23: Indian vice-captain Ajay Jadeja is fighting against time to be fit for the second cricket Test against New Zealand at Basin Reserve starting Saturday, reports AP.

Jadeja, who will open the batting with Navjot Sidhu, sprained his right ankle before the abandoned first Test in Dunedin and hasn't trained since.

India's net training Wednesday was delayed by six hours when the team arrived at the ground for a morning session but found the practice wickets were too wet.

"It is disappointing, but there is little we could do," lamented coach Aunshuman Gaekwad. "We were hoping to go through a full session today but it doesn't look like it."

Jadeja was ruled out of the first Test after he damaged his ankle during a friendly game of soccer.

"It wasn't a serious injury," manager Saifuddin said. "He will be alright for the second Test."

Jadeja didn't train with the rest of the team Wednesday morning as it held a light fitness and fielding session.

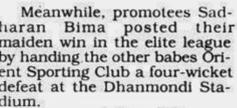
"To be honest, I don't know. I will have to see how I go in the nets," Jadeja told the Associated Press as he hobbled around, watching his teammates.

## Big win for Abahani, first for Bima Tarun down on their knees

Sports Reporter

Title aspirants Biman quite easily crossed a big hurdle yesterday when they literally blew away 'new force' Surjo Tarun by 198 runs at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

On the other hand, holders Abahani cruised to their fourth successive victory at the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Prothshan (BKSP) ground defeating giant-killers Wari Club by seven wickets.



Meanwhile, promotees Sadharan Bima posted their maiden win in the elite league by handing the other babes Orient Sporting Club a four-wicket defeat at the Dhanmondi Stadium.

The second day of the season's first big match played at the Bangabandhu could not provide any entertainment to the small crowd as Surjo Tarun, considered one of the pre-tournament favourites after they formed a powerful side by spending a handful, surrendered to their third match opponents without offering any notable challenge.

Chasing a fighting Biman total of 287 in 80 overs, the Dhanmondi outfit, who have five national pool cricketers in the squad, could not survive the disciplined Biman attack for even half of their allotted time as they were shot out for a meagre 89 immediately after lunch with 41 overs to spare.

Biman's new-ball duo Mohammed Talha and Pakistani skipper Faruque Ahmed at the slips of a Talha delivery.

After the downfall of the openers, it were the two Biman tweakers-left armer Saifullah Khan and Pakistani leggie Manzoor Akhter—who toyed with the experienced Surjo Tarun middle-order and shared five wickets.

Saifullah, who joined the national airliners from Abahani early this season, put Surjo Tarun in dire straits taking two quick wickets in successive overs. Both Ridwan, who came to bat at number three, and number five Al-Shahriar were caught behind scoring only five and two runs respectively to see Surjo Tarun reeling at 42 for four by the 19th over.

Biman took full control of the match when Manzoor Akhter sent Enamul Haque and skipper Minhazul Abedin—the two most accomplished Surjo Tarun batsmen—in two successive balls.

Coming to bowl in the 20th over of the day, the Pakistan leg

spinner, who earlier on Tuesday scored 44 to help Biman reach 287, earned a maiden in his first over and then struck in his next over.

Minhazul, the former national skipper who scored 117 against Orient in their previous match, was trapped leg before by a brilliant googly from Manzoor Akhter while Enamul was out for a duck giving a simple catch to Ziaur Rashid at silly point.

After Enamul's departure with Surjo Tarun tottering at 45 for six in the 22nd over, it was Nasir Shawkat, who ripped through the tail to send the Dhanmondi boys packing for an insignificant 89.

When all their specialist batsmen fell like flies, Surjo Tarun wicketkeeper Khaled Masood held one end with patience. The national keeper was



MANZOOR ... all-round show

eventually unbeaten on 30. For Biman, Nasir Shawkat and his compatriot Manzoor Akhter captured three wickets each while Saifullah Khan took two wickets.

At the BKSP, opener Mehrab Hossain scored his first fifty of the season as defending champions Abahani, who were 41 for one loss on Tuesday while chasing a paltry Wari total of 189, went on to reach 193 in 50.1 overs with seven wickets in hand.

Mehrab, who shared a 121-run partnership with Azam Iqbal in the opening stand, scored 75 off 112 balls inclusive of eleven boundaries to steer the Dhanmondi-based club, bidding for a treble in the league, to their fourth successive win.

He was ably helped by his opening partner Azam Iqbal who scored 42 runs.

After Abahani lost their third wicket on 169 with one-down Naimur Rahman caught behind off a Murad delivery, it were the two Pakistani middle order—Azam Khan and Mohammad Hossain—who took Abahani home without any further damage.

Azam, who scored an unbeaten 100 against Victoria in their previous match, was not out on 19 while Hossain remained unbeaten on 23.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Sadharan Bima, chasing a manageable Orient Sporting Club total of 261 in 80 overs, reached 263 for six with more than three overs to spare, thanks to Indian batsman Kamal Chopra who played the sheet anchor role in the victory with a workmanlike 82 off 111 balls.

### SCOREBOARDS

Scoreboards of the three Premier League matches at different venues yesterday.

**Biman vs Surjo Tarun**  
(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)

**BIMAN:** 287 for 7 wickets in 80 overs (Aminul 94, Manzoor 44, Hasanuzzaman 41; Nadim 2/62, Enamul 2/57)

**SURJO TARUN INNINGS**  
Athar c Faruque c Talha 10  
Masum b Nasir 4  
Ridwan c Atiar b Saifullah 5  
K Masood not out 30  
Al-Shahriar c Atiar b Saifullah 2  
Minhajul lbw b Manzoor 2  
Enamul c Ziaur b Manzoor 0  
Arshad run out 2  
Nadim c Atiar b Nasir 4  
Anis lbw b Manzoor 1  
Khaluzzaman b Nasir 1  
Extras: (b-1, lb-2, nb-4, w-18) 25  
Total: (all out in 39 overs) 89

Fall of wkts: 1/16; 2/29; 3/35; 4/42; 5/45; 6/45; 7/58; 8/77; 9/84.

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Nasir Shawkat 9 1 27 3  
Talha 8 3 16 1  
Saifullah Khan 11 2 23 2  
Hasanuzzaman 1 0 6 0  
Manzoor Akhter 10 2 14 3

**Result: Biman won by 198 runs.**

**Abahani vs Wari**  
(Venue: BKSP)  
**WARI:** 189, all out in 65.5 overs (Tuhin 37; Iqbal 4/23, Rahul 3/54)

**ABAHANI:** (overnight 41 for no loss in 12 overs)  
Azam b A Wasim 42  
Mehrab c sub b Murad 75  
Naimur c Tuhin by Murad 17  
Azam Khan not out 19  
M Hossain not out 23  
Extras: (lb-3, nb-7, w-7) 17  
Total: (for three wkts in 50.1 overs) 193

Fall of wkts: 1-121; 2-136; 3-169

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Amir Wasim 16 4 29 1  
Nasim Ahmed 8 0 33 0  
Murad Khan 9.1 0 47 2  
Tariq Mehmud 0.3 0 1 0  
Tuhin 7.3 2 28 0  
Ariful Islam 4 0 13 0  
Mushtaq 4 0 30 0  
Biplab 1 0 9 0

**Result: Abahani won by 7 wickets.**

**Sadharan Bima vs Orient**  
(Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

**ORIENT:** 261 for 7 in 80 overs (Riaz Shekh 104 not out, Jewel 31; Moni 3/54)

**S BIMA INNINGS**  
Faruque c Sohal b Akhter 30  
Moni not out 33  
K Chopra c Babul b Riaz 82  
Miznur c Harun b Riaz 17  
R Singh lbw b Sohal 34  
Saiful not out 25  
Totam c Harun b Mridul 12  
Ismail c Harun b Riaz 29  
Extras: (b-3, lb-9, nb-3, w-14) 26  
Total: (for 6 wks in 77.3 overs) 263

Fall of wkts: 1/56, 2/112, 3/208, 4/212, 5/250, 6/254

**Bowling:** O M R W  
Mizanur Rahman 14 3 46 0  
Nazimuddin Manna 0 2 0 0  
Asif Iqbal 4 4 21 0  
Mridul 13.3 3 40 1  
Akhteruddin 13 1 45 1  
Riaz Shekh 16 3 60 3  
Sohal Islam 16 2 44 1

**Result: Sadharan Bima won by 4 wickets.**

### TODAY'S MATCHES

Brothers vs Agrani Bank (Bangabandhu National Stadium)

Kalabagan vs Ajax (Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium).

## Ballav Ghosh U-13 cricket In defence of our honour

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh have been pencilled in Group A for the first round robin league of the Chand Ballav Ghosh Memorial All-Bengal under-13 cricket tournament scheduled to start in the West Bengal town of Shilliguri from December 28 under the auspices of Shilliguri Agragami Cricket Club. Bangladesh won the trophy last season.

The other three teams drafted in the group are Agragami CC-A, Baghakhatin-B and Agragami-C while the group B comprises SP Roy Club of Jalpaiguri, Baghakhatin-A, Udaya Coaching Academy and Agragamee CC-B.

Former national cricketer Dipu Rai Choudhury has been re-appointed as the coach of the team, which will be managed by Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) member M A Hai.

A 16-member team, which will leave the capital on December 26, was announced by the BCB last week. The team: Mazharuddin, Kamrul Islam, Ashraf, Naim Ahmed, Shaifur Rahman, Nadif Choudhury, Iftekhar Ahmed, Rokuzzaman, Mehrab Hossain, Arafat Sunny, Tayebur Rahman, Jubayer Hossain, Arif Hossain, Rahim, Akid Rahman and Maruf Hossain.

## Bribery inquiry Pak committee going down under

MELBOURNE, Dec 23: Australian Test stars Shane Warne and Mark Waugh will be interviewed by a Pakistan judicial inquiry into bribery allegations here next month, reports AFP.

Australian Cricket Board (ACB) chief executive Malcolm Speed said today the Lahore-based inquiry would sit in Melbourne on January 8.

It will question Waugh, Warne and former ACB chairman Alan Crompton.

The court wanted to hear from Warne and Waugh after they admitted involvement with an illegal Indian bookmaker during Australia's tour of Sri Lanka in 1994.

The pair, who say former Pakistan captain Salim Malik tried to bribe them to throw a match, revealed earlier this month that they took 11,000 Australian dollars (6,600 US) from a bookmaker for information about the weather and state of the pitch.

Crompton was team manager at the time.

The Australian players were fined by the ACB soon after they took the money but the Board kept the incident secret, sparking claims of a cover-up.

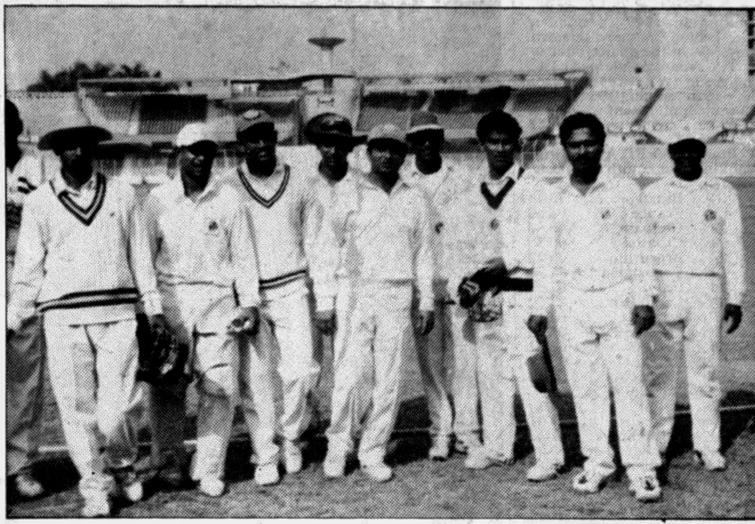
Neither Waugh nor Warne had been kept on returning to Pakistan to give further evidence.

Speed also announced today that an independent Australian inquiry into the effect of gambling on cricket would begin on January 12.

The probe, to be headed by Queensland lawyer Rob O'Regan, will last for three weeks with the report made public at the end of February.

O'Regan said the inquiry would be held in private as that was the best way to achieve results.

The ACB made the move after another Australian Test batsman, Ricky Ponting, dropped for the upcoming fourth Ashes Test against England, said last week a Sydney bookmaker offered him money a year ago for information about pitch conditions.



The victorious Biman team leaving the ground after a surprisingly facile 198-run thrashing of Surjo Tarun at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

## Crunch time for Windies

DURBAN, South Africa, Dec 23 (Reuters/Internet): West Indies coach Malcolm Marshall and his battered squad head into the third Test against South Africa desperate to avoid yet another hammering.

"It's crunch time, we know we cannot lose this one," said Marshall ahead of Saturday's start against supposedly confident opponents.

Marshall has his work cut raising a team demoralised by defeats in the first two Tests of the five-match series -- the second with more than two days to spare.

West Indies are short on cricket after their weather-ruined four-day game against South Africa A in Pietermaritzburg ended prematurely on Tuesday. In fact, it was their only action between the second and third tests.

"Any preparation is better than no preparation at all," Marshall said. "Unfortunately the weather has not been the best, but we got a fair amount of cricket out of the game."

"Not too many of the batsmen got big scores, but the selectors will have to take it from there."

The two big plusses for me were Shivnarine Chanderpaul and Junior Murray."

Chanderpaul scored 182 in the first innings to confirm himself as the West Indies batsman in the best form of the tour, while reserve wicketkeeper Murray was tidy with the gloves and made a significant 45 in the first innings.

Murray was competent enough with the bat to spark speculation that he might be a

solution to the tourists' woefully inadequate batting if he was picked at number six, even though wicketkeeping duties would still belong to Ridley Jacobs.

Conversely, some consider that picking Murray on that basis would be an admission of defeat. Instead, Darren Ganga could make his Test debut. The 19-year-old Trinidadian, has scored 131 runs at an average of 32.75 with a top score of 50 on tour so far.

"The West Indies are not playing well at the moment but they are so unpredictable. A few sparkling performances and they can turn a series on its head, so although things have gone well for us so far we're very wary of them."

The only possible change to the South African line-up concerns the spinner's berth, where off-spinner Pat Symcox is the man in possession with left-arm wrist spinner Paul Adams out in the cold.

Symcox, a defensive rather than an attacking bowler, also offers significant batting ability so is likely to remain on duty.

Another problem area is at number three. Carl Hooper and Chanderpaul are the leading candidates as present incumbents, captain Brian Lara is likely to drop to number four or even five to make the most of his stroke-playing talent.

West Indies also have to decide whether to play four pacemen and rely on part-time off-spinner Hooper for their slow bowling, or to include leg-spinner Ravi Lewis.

Kingsmead is traditionally one of the country's more seam-friendly surfaces but the fact

the South Africa lead 2-0 may prompt a more docile pitch.

The one nugget of good news for West Indies was that opener Philo Wallace, who missed the second test with glandular fever, was expected to be fit.

The South Africans are determined not to ease the pressure with a series victory within reach.

"It's going well but we can't afford to get complacent at this stage," said vice-captain Shaun Pollock. "We need one more win and then the series is wrapped up."

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MALCOLM MARSHALL

### SQUADS

**South Africa:** Gary Kirsten, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Daryll Cullinan, Hansie Cronje (captain), Jonty Rhodes, Shaun Pollock, Mark Boucher, Pat Symcox, Allan Donald, Paul Adams, David Terbrugge.

**West Indies:** Clayton Lambert, Philo Wallace, Brian Lara (captain), Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Carl Hooper, Stuart Williams, Darren Ganga, Floyd Reifer, Ridley Jacobs, Nixon McLean, Ravi Lewis, Curtly Ambrose, Courtney Walsh, Mervyn Dillon, Franklyn Rose, Junior Murray.

## Big ask for Englishmen

MELBOURNE, Dec 23: England will have time for reflection over Christmas to regroup for the make-or-break fourth Ashes cricket Test against Australia starting at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Saturday, reports AFP.

Things have got no better for Alec Stewart's tourists after failing to prevent the Australians from winning the Ashes in the third Adelaide Test earlier this month.

Australia's convincing 205-run victory gave them a 2-0 lead and as the holders the Ashes stay here for the sixth consecutive series, but England can still draw the current series with wins in the final two Tests in Melbourne and Sydney over the next fortnight.

"We were totally abject," Gooch said.

He said he had talked to the players about their performance, and then added "you can do all the talking you like, but the players are the ones who had to show pride and knuckle down and do the job."

"They should be very upset by their performance."

Gooch has used similarly strong words throughout this sorry tour for England, who look to have few individual successes against the Australians.

That appears improbable given Australia's dominance in the opening three Tests of the series.

Only a fierce electrical storm stopped Australia from winning the first Brisbane Test and Mark Taylor's team crushed England by seven wickets inside three days of the second Perth Test.

England endured the embarrassment of losing their final lead-up game by nine wickets against the Australian XI in Hobart on Tuesday, with Greg Blewett (213) and Corey Richards (138) blazing away in an unbroken 345-run stand in 206 minutes for victory with more than 22 overs to spare.

The capitulation ruffled team manager and former Test batsman Graham Gooch, who did not mince his words in the aftermath of the Australian XI's astonishing come-from-behind victory.

"We were totally abject," Gooch said.

He said he had talked to the players about their performance, and then added "you can do all the talking you like, but the players are the ones who had to show pride and knuckle down and do the job."

"They should be very upset by their performance."

## Boxing wars inside and outside the ring

NEW YORK, Dec 23 (AP): Evander Holyfield and Lennox Lewis, the premier practising heavyweights, both won in 1998, but the biggest boxing drama played out in a Las Vegas hearing room when Mike Tyson got his license back.

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Tyson's ban from boxing, a result of his biting Evander Holyfield's ears June 28, 1997, ended when the Nevada State Athletic Commission voted 4-1 October 19 to restore his license. He is scheduled to fight Francois Botha on January 16 in the MGM Grand at Las Vegas.

Out-of-ring problems, however, did not end for the 32-year-old former undisputed heavyweight champion.

On December 1, he pleaded no contest to misdemeanor assault charges for kicking or punching two motorists in involved in an auto accident August 31 at Gaithersburg, Md. He is scheduled to be sentenced February 5. An Indiana judge then will decide how it will affect Tyson's probation, stemming from his conviction for rape. Tyson's probation is scheduled end in March.

Henry Akinwande of Britain June 6 at New York, but the fight was called off when Akinwande tested positive for hepatitis-B.

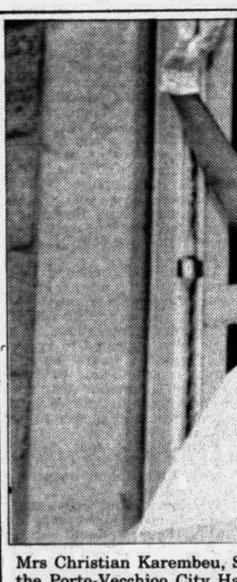
Lewis, the 33-year WBC heavyweight champion from Britain, escaped serious trouble in the first two rounds and stopped Shannon Briggs in the fifth round March 25 at Atlantic City, New Jersey. He also made a mandatory defence in which he was unimpressive in outpointing Zeljko Mavrovic of Croatia September 26 at the Mohegan Sun Casino at Uncasville, Connecticut.

Boxing's biggest non-heavyweight attraction, Oscar De La Hoya, defended the WBC welterweight title twice. In the second defence, he stopped Julio Cesar Chavez of Mexico in the eighth round of their rematch. He was supposed to defend against unbeaten Ike Quartey of Ghana, a former WBA welterweight champion, but that November 21 bout was rescheduled for February 13 at Las Vegas after De La Hoya got cut while sparring.

In November, a lawsuit was filed in San Bernardino County (California) Superior Court in behalf of an unidentified woman accusing De La Hoya of raping her in a hotel room at Cabo San Lucas Mexico in June 1996. The 24-year-old boxer attorney said he thinks the action was financially motivated.

Roy Jones Jr. considered by many boxing people to be the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world, fought three times — winning two championship fights and one non-title match.

In the non-title bout, he stopped Virgil Hill, a former light heavyweight champion, in the fourth round. Jones, who will be 30 January 16. He added the WBA light heavyweight title to the WBC championship he already held by outpointing Lou Del Valle July 18.



Mrs Christian Karembeu, Slovak top-model Adriana Sklenarikova waves to the crowd from the Porto-Vecchio City Hall in Corsica, Italy on December 22 after her wedding with the French soccer star.

Two other former Test players, Australian Greg Matthews and New Zealander Danny Morrison, have also said they were approached by bookmakers.



Mrs Christian Karembeu, Slovak top-model Adriana Sklenarikova waves to the crowd from the Porto-Vecchio City Hall in Corsica, Italy on December 22 after her wedding with the French soccer star.