

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-109

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Jan 8 '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1	Which country topped the medals table in the 13th Asian Games?
2	China India Japan
3	How many medals did Bangladesh clinch at the Asian Games?
4	None One Two
5	Who scored the first century in this year's Premier cricket league?
6	Azam Shawkat Selim
7	Where will the 14th Asian Games be held?
8	Paris Pusan Pyongyang
9	Which team won the AB Bank Senior Div TT title?
10	Jatrabari Ansars Biman

Name

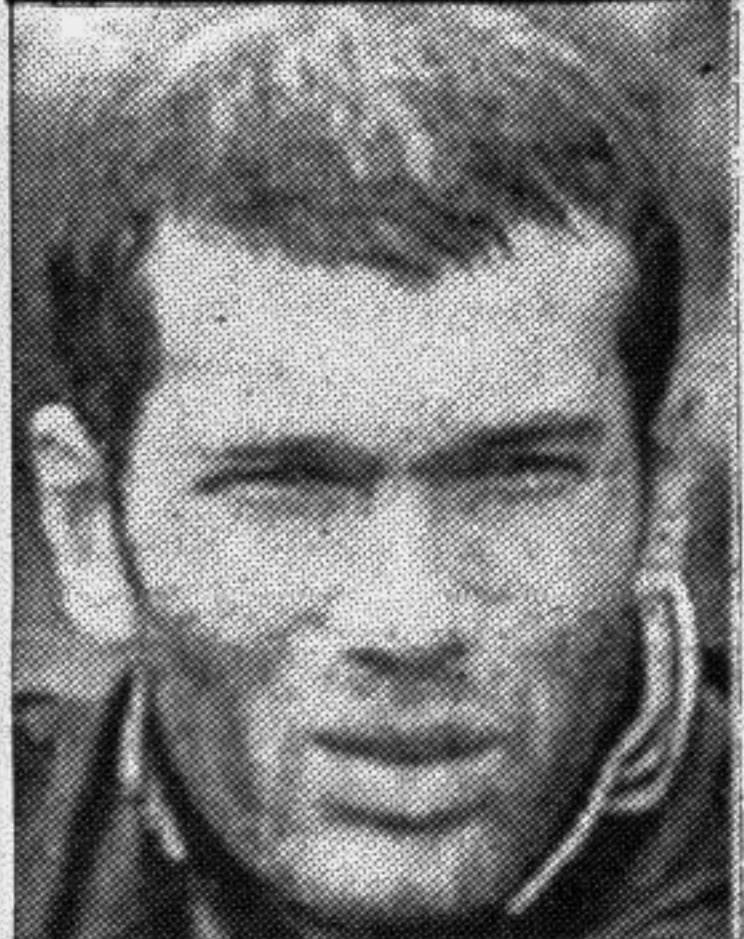
Class

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Zinedine Zidane

(French soccer superstar)

"There are more and more women who write to me. Some say they're in love, but I'm married."

PCB names fifty-five

KARACHI, Dec 28: Pakistan today named 55 cricket probables who will undergo strenuous training to select a team for the forthcoming tour of India due to start late next month, officials said, reports AFP.

Pakistan will tour India after a gap of 11 years to play three Tests and as many one-day internationals.

Wasim Akram, Salim Malik and Ijaz Ahmed — all implicated in match fixing by a probe committee of the Pakistan Cricket Board in September — are among the probables.

The 32-year-old Wasim is tipped to regain the captaincy as he was stripped of before Pakistan's tour of South Africa and Zimbabwe in January this year.

"We will finalise the team in the first week of next month and the choice of the captain is with cricket board's council," chief selector Wasim Bari said.

The council meets on January 3 to decide who will lead Pakistan on the Indian tour.

"The tour is very important for Pakistan and it will lead us to the World Cup 1999, so we have to choose players for both the assignments," Bari said.

Aamir Sohail, who lead Pakistan in the recently concluded home season, is also among the probables, along with former captain Rashid Latif and left-handed batsman Asif Mujtaba.

Sources close to Sohail said he was still undecided on joining the camp. He walked out of the team before the second Test against Zimbabwe earlier this month after a row with selectors and coach Javed Miandad.

A six-foot-plus, right-arm fast bowler from Khanewal, Shabbir Ahmed, will vie for a place in the India-bound squad. Ahmed, 22, is said to be the quickest in Pakistan at the moment.

Yordanov best in Bulgaria

SOFIA, Dec 28 (Reuters/ Internet): Bulgaria's international midfielder Ivalio Yordanov from Sporting Lisbon was voted Bulgaria's Footballer of the Year on Monday.

The 30-year-old player has played 42 matches and scored three goals for the national team.

Yordanov fought his way back into the Bulgarian team and played at the World Cup finals in France after being diagnosed as suffering from multiple sclerosis last year.

Brothers look unbeatable Agrani sets AKC soft target

Sports Reporter

Holders Abahani were successful in restricting Agrani Bank to an attainable target while Brothers Union piled up a huge score against Ajax Sporting in matches of the Janakantha Premier league at different city venues yesterday.



At the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Abahani, bidding for a treble league championship, did half their job on the opening day when they booked Agrani Bank at 272 for nine in the stipulated 80 overs, thanks to seamer Rahul Niamur Rashid, who returned with brilliant figures of four for 27 from his 16 overs that included seven maidens.

Coming in to bowl as first change, the tall right-arm pacer ripped through the Agrani top order with his controlled medium-pacers coupled with little gems of out-swingers. He struck in the 11th over when the bankers were on 49. He first removed opener Sajjad Kadir (13) and then went on to dismiss the other opener Obaidullah (21) in his next over without any addition to the total.

Bankers lost their third wicket on 72 in the 25th over when Rajin Saleh, who scored a brilliant 65 against Brothers Union in their previous match at the same venue, became the third victim of Niamur on 15. Things turned worse for Bank in the next over when skipper Ziauddin was trapped leg before by national right-arm seamer Hasibul Hossain before he could open his account.

However, Agrani's Pakistani middle-order Shahin Malik with an unbeaten 98 held the innings together after the mediocre side were reduced to five for 119 in 41.3 overs.

The right-hander, who stayed at the crease for more than three hours and faced 167 balls, clubbed only three boundaries but a huge six, which went all the way to the VIP gallery, off Hasibul Hossain in the third ball of the last over.

Dropped by Azam Khan at the slips when he was on 41, Malik shared a 46-run partnership for the fifth-wicket with his compatriot Saeed Azad and then went on to make a 67-run sixth-wicket partnership with in-form batsman Mofizur Rahaman before the latter was bowled by off-spinner Naimur Rahaman when on 39.

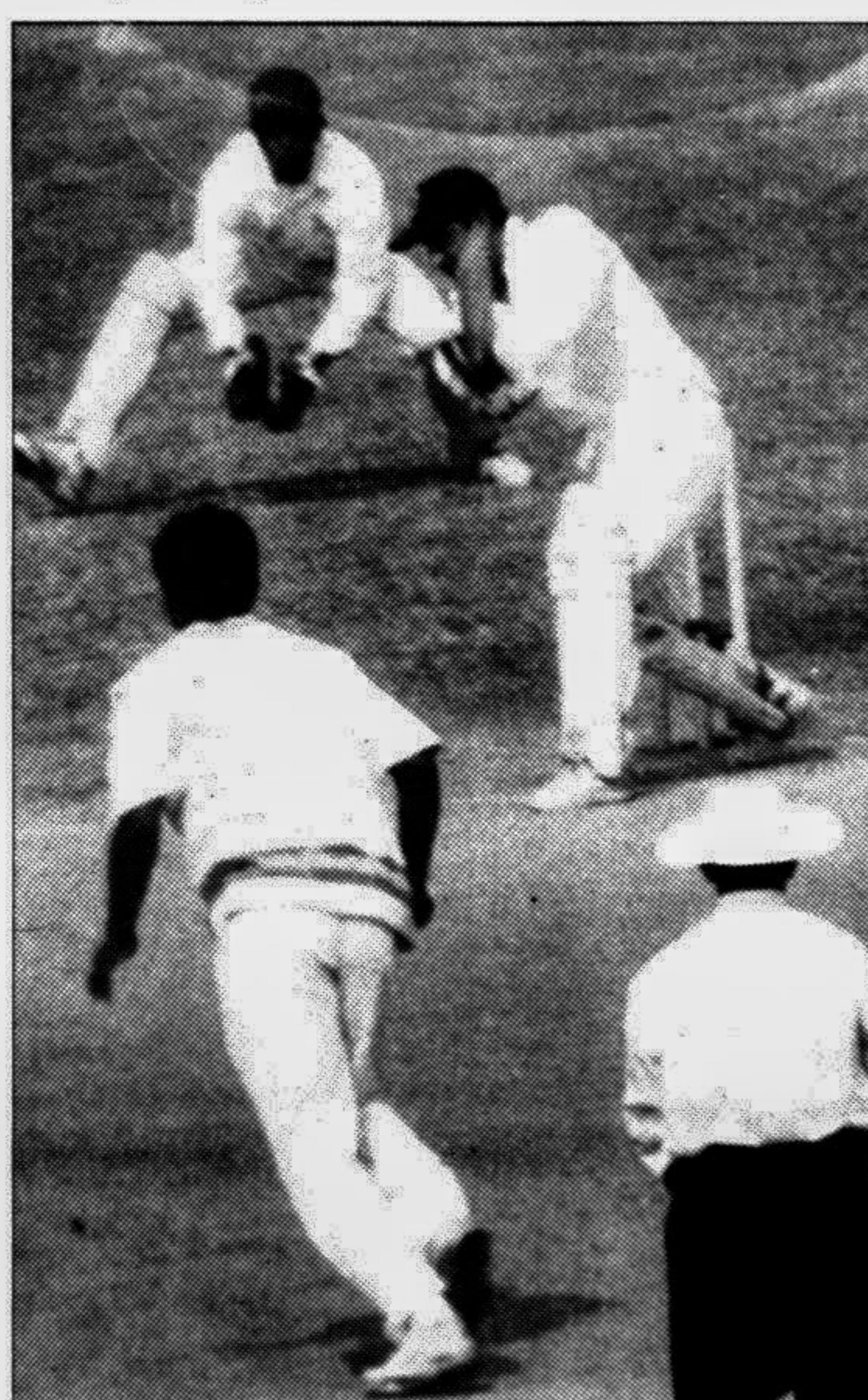
In his 76-minute vigil, Mofizur, the discarded national cricketer, hammered three boundaries and a sweet sixer straight over Abahani's Pakistan left-arm spinner Mohammad Hossain.

After Mofizur's departure with Agrani Bank on 186 in the 63rd over, Shahin Malik single-handedly took his side to a fighting score without getting much support from the lower order.

He missed a well-deserved century for a couple of runs. But his contribution might count even more if the bankers can defend 272 when play resumes today against their mighty opponents.

Away at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium, Pakistani middle-order Aamir Hanif missed a century for five runs as Brothers Union, put in to bat by their lowly-rated opponents, scored a mammoth 371 for nine in their 80 overs.

The Karachi-based right-hander, who is playing for the Gopibagh outfit for the last couple of seasons, was unbeaten on 95 when Brothers Union exhausted their overs quota.



Agrani Bank's Pakistani middle-order Shahin Malik drives on his way to an unbeaten 98 against Abahani yesterday.

— STAR PHOTO

In his 101-ball swashbuckling knock, Aamir hammered two sixes and four fours.

Aamir apart, there were two more fifties from opener Shahriar Hossain and middle-order Sanwar who chipped in.

SCOREBOARDS

Scoreboards of the two Janakantha Premier League matches at the end of first day's play at different city venues yesterday:

Abahani vs Agrani Bank

(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)

AGRANI BANK

Obaidullah c Azam b Rahul	21			
Sajjad c Tuhin b Rahul	13			
Rajin c Tuhin b Rahul	15			
S Malik not out	98			
Ziauddin lbw b Hasibul	0			
S Azad c Tuhin to Rahul	24			
Mofizur b Naimur	39			
Faisal run out	15			
S Arefin run out	10			
Russel run out	0			
Suja no out	6			
Extras: (b-1, lb-8, nb-2, w-20)	31			
Total: (for 9 wkt in 80 overs)	272			
8/246: 9/253				
Bowler	O M R W			
Hasibul Hossain	12	1	62	1
Iqbal Hossain	8	0	40	0
Rahul Niamur Rashid	16	7	27	
Mohammed Hussain	16	3	42	0
Saidul Islam	16	1	50	0
Azam Iqbal	1	0	3	0
Naimur Rahaman	11	0	39	1

Brothers vs Ajax

(Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

BROTHERS

Shahriar c & b Aminul	50			
Ehsanul run out	29			
Jahangir lbw b Aminul	33			
Sanwar run out	55			
A Hanif not out	95			
K Mahmud run out	12			
S Sharma run out	21			
Shahnewaz c Sumon b Haider	9			
Towhid b Aminul	4			
Safuddin b Aminul	10			
Extras: (b-4, lb-4, nb-11, w-34)	371			
Total: (for 9 wkt in 80 overs)				
8/351: 9/371				
Bowler	O M R W			
Aminul Islam	15	1	74	4
Ibne Haider	13	1	67	1
Shahid Monsur	9	0	47	0
Nuruzzaman	1	0	9	0
Rezwani Islam	15	0	63	0
Selim Moghal	16	1	50	0
Shoab Hasan	11	0	53	0

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