

Star Sport

DHAKA SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-110

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Jan 22 '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1	The margin of Australia's recent Ashes series win was	3-1	4-1	4-0
2	Who is the number one player in women's tennis at the moment?	Hingis	Lindsay	Venus
3	The final of the 1st Asian Test Championship will be held in	Dhaka	Calcutta	Colombo
4	The eighth SAF Games will be held in	India	Sri Lanka	Nepal
5	How many teams are taking part in the Janakantha Premier cricket league?	10	12	14

Name

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Class

.....

School Address

.....

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH

EN-VITS

ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Michel Platini

(President of World Cup '98 organising committee)

"All the benefits come from soccer matches and must be returned to soccer."

While revealing the amount of profit made from the France '98

PHF wants to tour India

ISLAMABAD, Jan 16: Pakistani hockey team's scheduled tour of India, beginning early next month, will go ahead as scheduled despite threats from Shiv Sena to disrupt the hockey series also, according to Pakistani Hockey Federation (PHF).

PHF secretary Col Mudassar Asghar told PTI over phone from Lahore: "As of now we are working as per plan to go ahead with the tour and the Pakistani team for the tour will be selected on Monday."

When told that like the threat to the cricket team, Shiv Sena has said it would disrupt the hockey series too, the PHF secretary replied he was not aware of this development.

In any case the Pakistan cricket team will be going to India first and, if they can go then we will also send our team," he said. The Pakistan cricket team is scheduled to reach New Delhi on January 21 to start their first full tour of India in 12 years.

From our side there is no problem in going ahead with the tour but eventually what the government of Pakistan will say we will do accordingly," Col Asghar said.

Pakistani hockey team is to visit India early February to play four of the nine-match series which is part of an annual exercise resumed last year after a long gap.

Sammer sure of his return

BONN, Jan 16 (Reuters/Internet): Germany's libero Matthias Sammer, who has been sidelined by a career-threatening knee injury for 15 months, says he will play again but probably not this season.

"I am certain that I will make it and that I will play in the Bundesliga again."

Sammer, 31, told German daily Bild in an interview released on Saturday.

"I don't feel pain anymore and it's getting better every day," said the Borussia Dortmund defender, adding that he would probably not be back until next season.

Sammer has not played since undergoing the latest of a series of operations on his troublesome left knee in October 1997.

Manzoor Akhter, Aminul Islam ton on time Biman surmount Abahani alp

Sports Reporter

Manzoor made a remarkable turn-around after two consecutive defeats when the national airline outfit, thriving on twin tons, floored holders Abahani Krira Chakra by six wickets in an eventful Janakantha Premier League match, which concluded at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

It was a mouthful performance from Manzoor Akhter and Aminul Islam which saw Biman cruise to 325 for four, a target that no team had dared to cross this season.

Manzoor hammered a stroke-filled 111, the second century by the Pakistani in the league after a dazzling 124 n.o. against Mohammadan, and national captain Aminul Islam scored an unbeaten 107 as Biman, chasing a huge Abahani total of 324 for nine in the stipulated 80 overs, reached the summit with more than four overs to spare.

The two experienced campaigners came to the Biman rescue in the nick of time with an absorbing stand of 206 runs for the fourth wicket to take the match away from the firm grip of Abahani. It was a treat to watch the way Manzoor Akhter and Aminul mixed caution with aggression to dead-lift Biman from a precarious 80 for three wickets.

Abahani wrested an early initiative when medium-pacer Neeyamur Rashid captured all the three wickets that fell in the morning session. But the success of the popular Dhanmondi Bank ended at that point when Manzoor joined Aminul in a spectacular recovery operation.

The two started slowly, nudging and pushing for sharp singles. But once they settled in the middle, they took the depleted and wayward Abahani to the sword.

Manzoor, the more aggressive of the two batsmen, scored his 50 off 75 balls. But the Pakistani right-hander needed only another 51 balls to reach the magical three-figure mark. He reached his second century in style, hitting two consecutive boundaries against off-spinner Saidul Islam in the 68th over.

The two were eventually separated in the 66th over when Manzoor, who clubbed 13 sweetly-timed fours in his chancelle 132-ball knock, offered a straight-forward catch to Saidul at mid-wicket off seamer Hasibul.

But Aminul was not ready to resign without scoring his first ton in the league. The dapper right-hander, who played sensibly in his polished 163-ball vigil at the crease, hammered four fours for his undefeated 111.

With this win Biman crossed their last major hurdle in the league. They are now on equal terms with Abahani, Mohammadan and Kalabagan, all having six wins against a couple of defeats. But Biman will enjoy a mental edge when the league resumes after the Eid-break as they are now left with three matches against lesser threatening opponents.

For Abahani, the defeat served a huge blow in their bid for a hat trick of League titles. The latest debacle of the holders brought smiles on the face of last year's runners-up Brothers Union, who are now leading the table with seven wins against a defeat.

SAJJAD KADIR AIDS BANK

Meanwhile, in the other match of the day, Agrani Bank, aided by a century from their opener Sajjad Kadir, recorded an impressive five-wicket win over Wari.

The young wicket-keeper-batsman scored a brilliant 102 off 164 balls as Agrani Bank, chasing a moderate Wari total of 240, reached 244 for five in 68.5 overs.

Kadir hammered 13 fours in his match-winning knock. He was ably supported by Pakistani Saeed Azad, who scored a defiant 61 off 117 balls. The duo put on 156 runs for the third wickets after the bankers were reduced to two for 37 in 15 overs.

It was Agrani Bank's fourth win against as many defeats. On

the other hand, it was Wari's fifth defeat from eight outings.

The Premier League will be suspended for a week from today for the Eid festival. The League will resume on January 24.



SCOREBOARDS

Scoreboards of the two Janakantha Premier League matches held at different city venues yesterday:

Abahani vs Biman

(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)

ABAHANI: 324 for 9 in 80 overs (Akram 68, Mehrab 65, Naimur 47; Manzoor 3/68)

BIMAN

(Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

AGRAMI BANK: 240 all out in 77.4 overs (A. Wasim 93; Mofizur 3/44)

WARI: 240 all out in 77.4 overs (A. Wasim 93; Mofizur 3/44)

AGRAMI BANK vs BIMAN

(Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

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