

## 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 .....

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

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 came 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: Pak-

ist 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 Pak-

istan 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 se-

lected 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.

"Pakistan 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/In-

ternet): Germany 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 re-

## Manzoor Akhter, Aminul Islam ton on time

### Biman surmount Abahani alp

Sports Reporter

Biman made a remarkable

turn-around after two consecu-

tive defeats when the national

airline outfit, thriving on twin

tons, floored holders Abahani

Krira Chakra by six wickets in

an eventful Janakantha Pre-

mier League match, which con-

cluded at the Bangabandhu Na-

tional Stadium yesterday.

It was a mouthful perfor-

mance 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 Mohammedan, and na-

tional captain Aminul Islam

scored an unbeaten 107 as Bi-

man, chasing a huge Abahani

total of 324 for nine in the stip-

ulated 80 overs, reached the

summit with more than four

overs to spare.

The two experienced cam-

paigners 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-leaf Biman

from a precarious 80 for three

to 286.

Abahani wrested an early

initiative when medium-pace

Neyamur Rashid captured all

the three wickets that fell in the

morning session. But the suc-

cess of the popular Dhammondi

outfit 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 de-

pleted and yardward Abahani

attack to the sword.

Manzoor, the more aggres-

sive of the two batsmen, scored

his 50 off 75 balls. But the Pak-

istani 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 se-

parated in the 66th over when

Manzoor, who clubbed 13

sweetly-timed fours in his

chanceless 132-ball knock, of-

fered 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 sen-

sibly in his polished 163-ball

vigil at the crease, hammered

nine 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, Mo-

hammedan and Kalabagan, all

having six wins against a cou-

ple 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 runner-up Brothers

Union, who are now leading the

table with seven wins against a

defeat.

**SAJJAD KADIR AIDS BANK**

**WIN**

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 wicketkeeper-

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 Pak-

istani 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 to-

day 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 Na-

tional Stadium)

**ABAHANI:** 324 for 9 in 80

overs (Akram 68, Mehrab 65,

Naimur 47; Manzoor 3/68)

**BIMAN:**

Javed c b Neyamur 38

Hasibul b b Neyamur 19

Fariq c Naimur b Neyamur 5

Aminul not out 107

Manzoor c Saidul b Hasibul 111

Hasanuzzaman not out 8

Extras: (lb-1, lb-2, nb-12, w-22) 37

Total: (For 4 wks in 75.4 overs) 325

Fall of wks: 1/54; 2/67;

Result: Agrani Bank won by

5 wickets.

**3/80; 4/286**

**Bowler**

Hasibul Hossain 15 0 77 1

Iqbal Hossain 13 2 34 0

Neyamur Rashid 15 2 56 3

Saidul Islam 11 0 48 0

Ejaz Ahmed (jr) 12 4 0 57 0

Naimur Rahman 8 0 38 0

Mehrab Hossain 1 0 12 0

**Result: Biman won by 6**

**wickets.**

**Agrani Bank vs Wari**

(Dhammondi Cricket Sta-

dium)

**WARI:** 240 all out in 77.4

overs (A Wasim 93; Mofizur

3/44)

**AGRANI BANK**

Sajjad c A Wasim b Nasim 102

Chayan b Tuhi 4

Rajin c Anup b Montu 7

S Azad run out 61

Ziauddin c Mukter b Nasim 6

S Malik not out 26

Zakaria not out 19

Extras: (lb-6, lb-5, nb-1, w-7) 19

Total: (For 5 wks in 68.5 overs) 244

Fall of wks: 1/20; 2/37;

3/193; 4/194; 5/204

**Bowler**

Zahid Sulaim