

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN  
**Competition-111**

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm  
Feb 19 '99 and draw shortly  
afterwards

1 Who was the man-of-the  
match in the first Indo-Pak  
Test?

Ahmed Tendulkar Saqlain

2 How many Tests has Mark  
Taylor played?

102 103 104

3 South Africa won the Test  
series against West Indies

4-1 3-1 5-0

4 How many centuries have  
so far been scored in the  
Janakantha League?

29 30 31

5 Who clinched the sub-junior  
chess title?

Rakib Rajib Tuhin

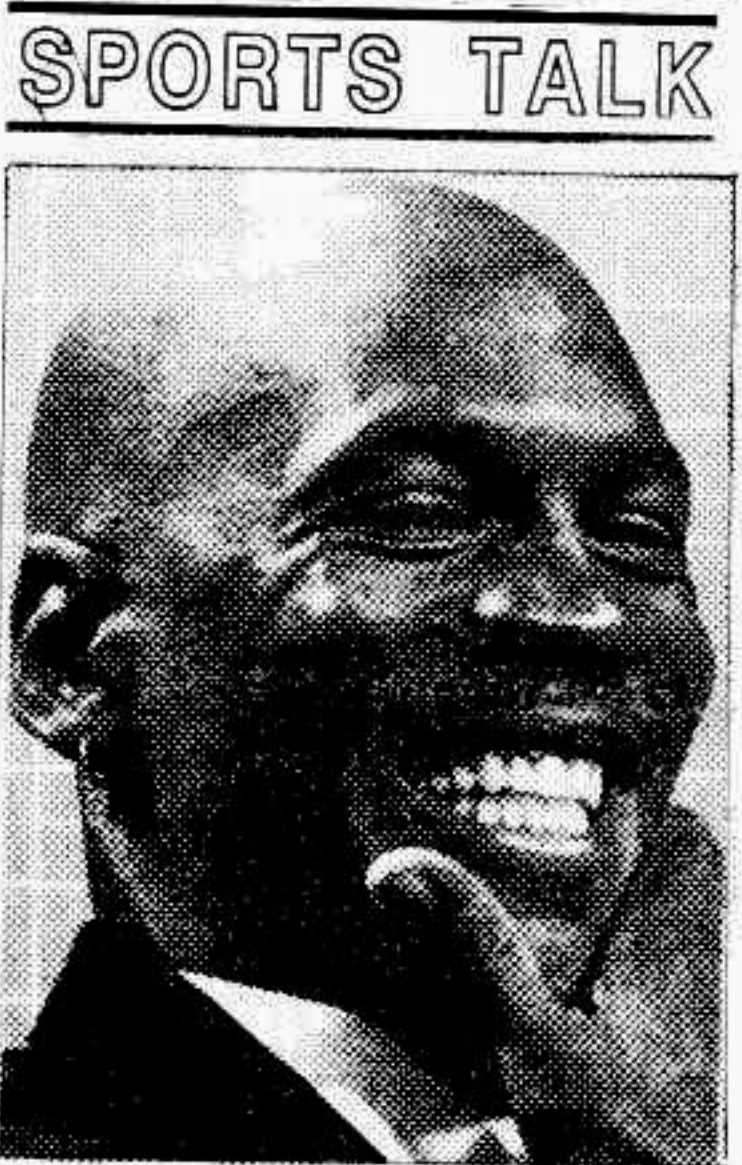
Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

POWERED WITH  
**EN-VITS**  
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS



**Michael Jordan**

(American basketball superstar)

"I know, from a career standpoint, I've accomplished everything I could as an individual. Right now, I just don't have the mental challenges that I've had in the past to proceed as a basketball player. This is perfect time for me to walk away from the game. And I'm at peace with that."

While announcing his retirement from the game.

## Barisal cricket

From Staff Correspondent  
BARISAL, Feb 8 (Reuters/Internet): An Indian news editor said on Monday he had written to the country's sports minister to suggest that ex-England soccer coach Glenn Hoddle train India's squad for the Sydney Olympics.

Karma and reincarnation are cardinal beliefs for Hindus and it is unfair that Hoddle should lose his job for professing faith in it, Maharaja Features Editor K.R. Padmanabhan wrote in a letter to Minister Uma Bharati.

Hoddle's England contract was terminated last week after a national uproar over his remarks on reincarnation and his reported belief that disabled people are being punished for their sins in a previous life.

His belief in destiny might get a better reception in India where soccer is still far from a source of national pride.

"It would only be fit and proper that India, the land where the belief in karma and reincarnation originated, should offer Hoddle the job of training the Indian football team for the Olympics," Padmanabhan said.

**Two WC broadcast centres planned**

SEOUL, Feb 8 (Reuters/Internet): International Broadcasting Centres will be set up in South Korea and Japan during the 2002 World Cup finals, a local newspaper reported.



Biman's Ziaur Rashid is bowled during the Janakantha Premier Division league encounter against Wari at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

## Mohammedan in ignominy

# Manzoor makes it for Biman

Sports Reporter

A sublime performance by Manzoor Akhtar provided Bangladesh Biman the much-needed thrust to burst onto cloud nine with an exciting four-wicket win over Wari Club in their final Janakantha Premier League match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

The sturdy Pakistani right-handed batsman held an apprehensive Biman together with an unbeaten 77. He steered the national airline outfit, set to score 211, to confirm their fifth League title, to the coast in 53 overs and with four wickets in hand.

Biman made a heavy weather of a simple task when they, resuming at 58 for two, plunged into deep trouble losing three more wickets in quick succession with the scoreboard reading at 83.

Opener Habibul could add 14 runs to his overnight score of 24 before being caught by Nasim off Wari's handy Pakistani recruit Aamir Wasim. Vice-captain Aminul Islam fell for one when he edged an attempted cut into the safe hands of wicket-keeper Mukter. Nightwatchman Ziaur Rashid scored a painstaking three off 31 balls before being clean bowled by Wasim.

But when Biman looked to be willing under pressure, number seven batsman Manzoor trudged on to the field to save his side as the last recognised batsman. The man for crisis, with three centuries under his belt, steadied the rocking Biman, putting on 53 runs for the sixth wicket with Jahangir Talukder.

Pushed up in the batting order, Jahangir, the former national left-arm seamer who is known for his highly unorthodox batting style, more than justified his elevation when he scored a priceless 19, that too in an unusually composed style. He became the victim of a brilliant one-handed diving effort at forward short-leg by Biplob.

Manzoor then found a wily partner in Hasanuzzaman to take the wind out of Wari sails, sharing 75 runs for the undefeated seventh wicket.

Manzoor could not have thought of a better way to wind up an outstanding season both with the bat and ball when the discarded Pakistani leg-spinner hit the winning run, a single towards mid-on in the last ball of the 53rd over, much to the relief of an almost blushed Biman supporters and officials.

The Pakistanis was immediately mobbed by his teammates

after yet another tremendous performance. Manzoor, who scored 571 runs in the League, was the toast of an on-field victory celebration after the match.



Biman have every reason to celebrate the fifth title triumph after a long lay off, but the national airline outfit will have to wait till the final League match between Abahani and Brothers for an official declaration.

Although a mathematical calculation still leaves a remote chance for both Abahani and Brothers to pip Biman at the post. They will require not only a victory but a world record performance to surpass the impressive net run-rate of Biman. For instance, if holder Abahani, who are enjoying a better net run-rate than Brothers, want to cook the Biman goose they will have to score 650 runs in the stipulated 80 overs and then also need to bowl the Gopibagh team out for less than 50 runs.

When Biman were in a party mood at Dhanmondi, it was altogether a different picture at the Bangabandhu National Stadium where Mohammedan completed yet another disastrous season conceding a humiliating 151-run defeat at the hands of lowly Victoria.

Mohammedan sunk further in depths of despair as the popular Motijheel outfit, chasing a fighting Victoria total of 254, was bundled out for a paltry 103 in 43 overs.

Finished fifth and fourth in the last couple of seasons, Mohammedan showed hardly any sign of recovery after their defeat against arch-rivals Abahani and promotes Orient Club. It was Mohammedan's third defeat on a trot and fifth in eleven matches.

Although a defeat for Mohammedan was always on the cards, but the way they succumbed to Victoria it gave even a loyal supporter a frustration of his life. Victoria new-ball bowler Al-Amin, who finished with enviable six for 39 in 13 overs, was the wrecker-in-chief.

The Abahani-Brothers match, scheduled for Feb 8-9, will now be held on Feb 11-12

due to hartal called by opposition parties. But the other two matches billed for today will duly commence. Kalabagan will take on Sadharan Bima at the Dhanmondi Stadium while Ajax will face Orient away at the BKSP ground.

**SCOREBOARDS**  
Scoreboards of the two Janakantha Premier League matches held at different city venues yesterday.

**BIMAN VS WARI**  
(Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium)

**WARI:** 210 all out in 67 overs (Tareq 42, Murad 35, Sadek 25; Nasir Shaukat 5/70, Ziaur Rashid 2/37)

**BIMAN:** (overnight 58 for 13 in 13 overs)  
Javed c Mukter b Zahid 3  
Habibul c Nasim b A Wasim 38  
Faruque b A Wasim 10  
Ziaur b Nasim 3  
Aminul c Mukter b Zahid 1  
Jahangir c Biplob b Nasim 19  
Manzoor not out 77  
Hasanuzzaman not out 27  
Extras: (lb-4, nb-10, w-19) 33  
Total: (For 6 wks in 53 overs) 211  
Fall of wks: 1/25; 2/49; 3/69; 4/73; 5/83; 6/136

**Bowler** **O** **M** **R** **W**  
Zahid Solaiman 14 2 54 2  
Arifur Rahman 6 0 22 0  
Aamir Wasim 16 2 51 2  
Nasim Ahmed 9 2 31 2  
Tareq Mahmud 4 0 16 0  
Murad 4 0 33 0  
**Result: Biman won by 4 wickets**

**MOHAMMEDAN VS VICTORIA**  
(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)

**VICTORIA:** 254 all out in 79.1 overs (Manzoor Elahi 59, Rezaul 35, Rashid Hanif 33, Marwar 31; Rafique 4/37, Shaheed 2/23)

**MOHAMMEDAN**  
Rashedul c Mustad b Al-Amin 0  
S Mehmud c R Hanif b Rakib 5  
Shahed c Mustad b Al-Amin 0  
Nasirul c Elahi b Sabir 19  
Sohel c Aftab b Al-Amin 14  
Mortuza c Aftab b Al-Amin 2  
Halim c Imran b Mustad 10  
Shahidul lbw b Al-Amin 17  
Rafique c Rakib b Mustad 0  
Ashfaq c Mustad b Al-Amin 12  
Monjurul not out 7  
Extras: (b-2; lb-4; nb-3; w-8) 17  
Total: (All out in 43 overs) 103  
Fall of wks: 1/5; 2/7; 3/7; 4/25; 5/27; 6/49; 7/61; 8/61; 9/90

**Bowler** **O** **M** **R** **W**  
Rakib Hasan 12 3 20 1  
Al-Amin 13 1 39 6  
Rashed Hanif 6 1 9 0  
Sabir Khan 8 3 10 1  
Mustad Litu 4 1 19 2  
**Result: Victoria won by 151 runs.**

# Sampras returns today

**SAN JOSE, California, Feb 8 (AP):** He played a little golf and watched some TV. And, for the first time

since he was a high school junior, Pete Sampras didn't play in a tennis tournament for a couple of months.

Now he returns to the game he dominates, starting with this week's Sybase Open. Sampras gets his first chance to show whether he's refreshed or rusty on Tuesday night against 84th-ranked Galo Blanco of Spain.

"I definitely felt like I needed this break to start the year off mentally, physically as fresh as possible," Sampras said. "So I am definitely champing at the bit."

Exhausted after a grueling series of tournaments in late 1998 to protect his No 1 ranking, Sampras passed up the Australian Open in January — the first Grand Slam tournament he has skipped since 1992.

He is just one short of tying Roy Emerson's record of 12 Grand Slam singles titles, and Sampras has said his main motivation is to win more

Grand Slams. But he also focused on finishing last year as the No 1 player in the world, giving him a record six straight years at the top. To protect that ranking, he had to play seven straight weeks in October and November — a process that left him weary.

"I would have loved to have gone down to Australia. I just wish it started in February," he said. "I wanted to give myself a good off-season this year."

Though gone, Sampras certainly was not forgotten at the Australian Open. When Yevgeny Kafelnikov won the title, he immediately pointed out that his job was made much easier by the absence of the world's top player.

"Pete, it's really a great, wonderful feeling," Kafelnikov said after raising the silver trophy. "Thanks for letting me do that."

Sampras is beginning his 258th week at No 1, a dozen months of the record held by Ivan Lendl. Opponents wonder whether he'll be as sharp as usual at the start of the 350,000 dollars Sybase tournament.

"I think there's definitely a

shot that he'll be rusty," said sixth-seeded Jan-Michael Gambill, who would face Sampras in the semifinals. "Pete definitely plays better when he has a few events under his belt."

Gambill has been on the tennis circuit only two years, and he understands the exhaustion that forced Sampras' relentless pursuit of the year-end No 1 ranking was worth the toll.

To me, that's his most impressive accomplishment," Gambill said. "He's been head and shoulders above everyone else for six straight years, and that's really impressive."

Sampras, a two-time Sybase champion, has a relatively easy draw into the semifinals. But, once there, the top seed may have to face Gambill or No 3 seed Mark Philippoussis, a US Open finalist last year.

Andre Agassi, coming off an uninspired fourth-round loss at the Australian Open, is the defending champion of the Sybase Open and the No 2 seed this year. He opens against Todd Woodbridge on Monday night and could face No 4 seed Michael Chang in the semifinals.

## Jessore blank Tangail

Sports Reporter

Holders Tangail got off to a disastrous start in the final round of the Keya Cosmetics Suhrawardy Cup under-19 national football championship when Jessore handed them a 0-2 defeat in the inaugural match played at Rangpur Stadium yesterday.

After a barren first half, Nazmul and Masud struck one goal apiece for the winners in the 13th over.

Kumble said he had to bargain with Venkatesh Prasad for the ball that earned him his 10th and final wicket when Pakistan captain Wasim Akram was caught at forward short leg.

"Laxman (VVS Laxman) took the catch and threw it up in the air, which Prasad picked up. He didn't tell me till late this evening that he had the ball so I was a bit disappointed," Kumble said.

"And then Prasad took it from his kit bag and said: 'Give me your autograph. I'd like to keep it.'"

"I said I can part with the stump but please give me the ball."

Kumble, whose shirt was torn by frenzied fans as he came out of the Ferozeshah Kotla ground, appeared dazed by his achievement.

"My mother used to say to me each time. Get a hattrick." Now she'll probably start saying "Get 10 wickets," Kumble told reporters.

Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and President Kocheril Narayanan led the nation in congratulating the bowler.

The Prime Minister, who, hosted a tea in honour of the two teams at his residence in the evening, also complimented the captains and players of both sides.

"Kumble makes history with perfect 10," the Times of India said.

"Kumble takes haul of fame," was the Pioneer's headline. "Words fail this headline," the Asian Age exulted.

10 out of 10: Pakistan Kumble at Kotla," reported the Indian Express. Karnataka state's Chief Minister JH Patel announced a 100,000 rupee (2,350 dollars) award for Kumble.

At shops and bus stations Monday, on radio, TV and

playing with black pieces against the Quvo Pawn opening of Bably. Nipa checkedmate her counterpart after 39 moves.

Nipa, with yesterday's win, earned a solo lead in the nine-round robin league having raised her tally to three points, half a point more than International Women's Master Rani Hamid, Tanima Parveen and Zakia Sultana who are sharing the crowded second spot with two and a half points each.

On Monday, Rani Hamid drew against Tanima while Zakia shared points with Masuda Begum.

In the other two matches of the third round, Syeda Afana Parveen Nira best Farzana Khan Ava while Faizunnissa Poly drew with Nazrana Khan Iva.

No matches will be played today and tomorrow for the hartal. The fourth round will begin at the same venue on Thursday at 2 pm.

**Standings (after round three):** 3 points—Nipa, 2.5 points—Rani Hamid, Tanima and Zakia, 1.5 points—Nira, 1 point—Bably and Masuda Begum, .5 point—Poly and Iva.

**Nat'l volleyball final round from Mar 1**

Sports Reporter

The final round of the Multi Drive national youth volleyball championship will commence at Narail Stadium from March 1.

Holders Comilla, hosts Narail and nine zonal champions will take part in the final round.

Seven districts—Chittagong, Sylhet, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Khulna, Jhenidha and Barisal have already qualified from their respective zones while the other two teams for the final round will be decided on February 15 when Dhaka meet Rajshahi and Tangail face Gazipur in the zone A and B finals at the volleyball court adjacent to the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

**M'sing cricket**

MYMENSINGH, Feb 8: Al-Helal Sporting Club defeated Nil Kamal Club by 43 runs in the First Division cricket league at the circuit house ground today, reports UNB.

Bating first, Al-Helal scored 210 runs for seven in the stipulated 40 overs. Russel made highest 43 runs followed by Sumit (42) and Mona (40).

Monta said Limon captured two wickets each.

Chasing the victory target of 211, Nil Kamal managed only 167 runs in 37.3 overs losing all of their wickets.

Highlight of Nil Kamal's innings was a brilliant 62 by Bappi.

Setu claimed three wickets for Al-Helal.

# Kumble: The 'toast of India'



UNDATED, Feb 8 (Reuters/AP/PTI): Anil Kumble was acclaimed as a national hero after his 10-wicket haul against arch-rivals Pakistan but the Indian leg-spinner had to haggle with a teammate for the match ball.

The 28-year-old joined England off-spinner Jim Laker who performed the feat against Australia in 1956 at Manchester — the ground where Kumble made his Test debut in 1990.

Kumble said he had to bargain with Venkatesh Prasad for the ball that earned him his 10th and final wicket when Pakistan captain Wasim Akram was caught at forward short leg.

"Laxman (VVS Laxman) took the catch and threw it up in the air, which Prasad picked up. He didn't tell me till late this evening that he had the ball so I was a bit disappointed," Kumble said.

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newspapers, the topic was the same: The stunning 10-wicket haul that propelled India to victory in the second Test.

The 212-run victory helped India level the two-Test series, the first played in this country against Pakistan in 12 years. Pakistan won the first Test in Madras earlier this month.

Many television stations replayed the entire match, while other showed Kumble's bowling over and over.

Enthused by the victory, dozens of children in New Delhi rose early to play cricket before going to school.

"Kumble is my hero!" said Chanchal Misra, a 12-year-old trying to emulate his idol's bowling action on his street.

Commentators lavished praise on the engineer from Bangalore, India's software capital.

"He can make the ball jump, bite, (and) slither and his nagging accuracy gives the batsmen little freedom to play shots,"

Warne, who along with Kumble and Pakistan's Muttiah Muralitharan, described the feat as "unbelievable."

"For the leg-spinners' club it's a very, very good thing," Warne said Monday.

"I've played in a game where people have got eight, it's just unbelievable that you can get 10 wickets, it means the opening bowlers didn't do their job and didn't get early wickets."

"To get 10 is a huge effort, it couldn't happen to a nicer leggie, he's one of the real nice blokes of international cricket and I've shared some good times with him and hopefully he can keep doing it."

Kumble's feat will boost the promotion of India's three-Test tour of Australia next season.

"It'll be good having him out here next season," added Stuart MacGill, Warne's Australian leg spin teammate.

MacGill, whose 47 wickets in his first eight Tests are better than any other leg spinner since World War II, also lauded Kumble's haul.

"He's a very effective bowler, and so different," MacGill said. "If the wicket's conducive he can be a real handful with his pace and bounce."