

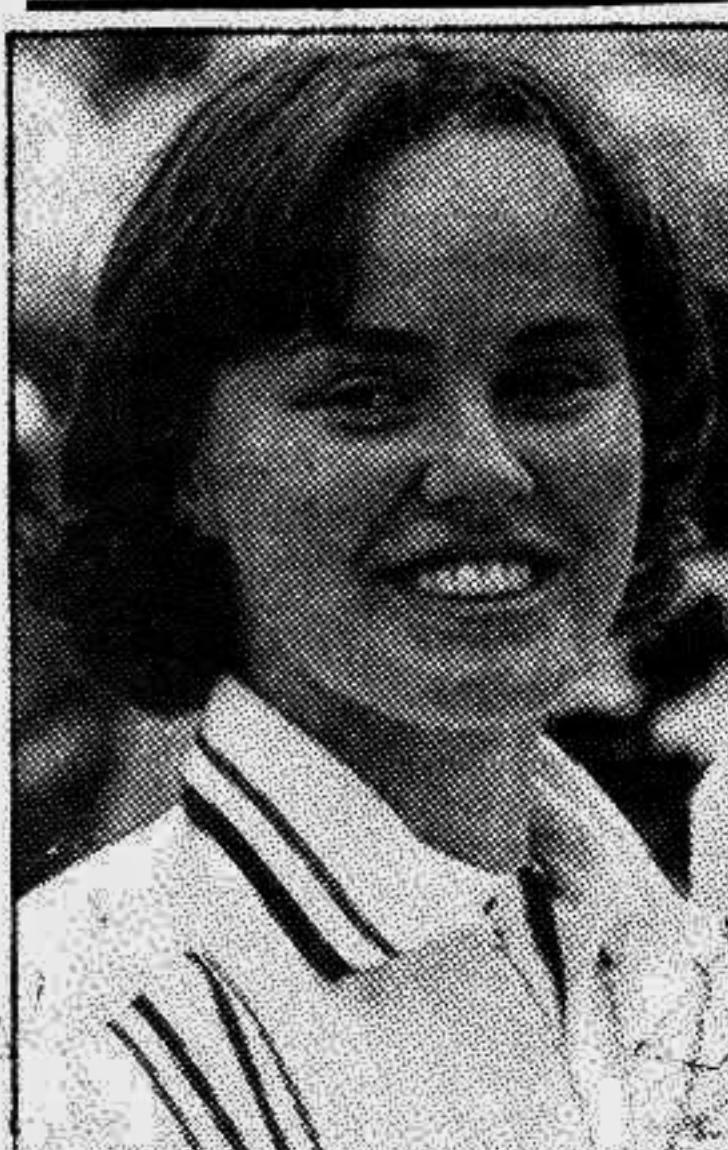


BPL
FRIDGE
RANGS GROUP

Star Sport

DHAKA FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One SPORTS TALK



Martina Hingis

(Swiss tennis superstar)
"It's so funny. I feel like a
teacher out there. A veteran."

After winning the Australian Open this year for the third consecutive time.

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?
Afzid	Tendulkar
2	How many Tests has Mark Taylor played?
102	103
3	South Africa won the Test series against West Indies
4	41 31 50
4	How many centuries have so far been scored in the Janakantha League?
29	30
5	31
5	Who clinched the sub-junior chess title?
Rakib	Rajib
Name	Tuhin

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Setback for CCDM Cup

Sports Reporter

The fate of the CCDM Cup suffered a setback yesterday when almost all of the leading Premier League outfits expressed reluctance about their participation in the meet without a full-strength side.

It was learnt that most of the clubs in a meeting of the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) last night demanded an assurance from the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) to allow the 30 players, who have been called in the national camp, to play for their respective clubs.

The meeting was adjourned till Sunday with a hope that the organisers might be able to convince the BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury to revoke his decision. Saber had earlier announced an uninterrupted training session involving the 30 cricketers from the first week of February as part of preparation for the forthcoming World Cup, beginning in England from May 14.

Ctg Metro champs

Chittagong Metropolitan Shooting Club emerged champions while Kushtia Rifles Club became runners-up in the sixth Biman Inter-club shooting competition which concluded at the Gulshan Shooting Complex yesterday, reports APB.

A total of 200 shooters from 46 clubs across the country took part in the four-day meet, organised by Bangladesh Shooting Federation.

Four competitors from each club participated in two events — .177 Air Rifle and .22 Rifle.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader distributed trophies.

Schools' cricket

JHALAKATI, Feb 11: Jhalakati Government Boys School outplayed Noukathi High School in the zonal opening match of the national schools cricket tournament here today, reports APB.

Government School scored 79 in 12.1 overs after bowling out Noukathi for 78 in 18.2 overs.

BCB to hire Aussie physio for WC squad



Bangladesh will appoint a physio-trainer from Australia next month for their World Cup cricket team, a high official of Bangladesh Cricket Board said yesterday.

Robert Alan Hunt, who is physio of the Australia A and Australian under-19 World Cup teams, will join in the first week of March, BCB president and Deputy Minister for LGRD Saber Hossain Chowdhury told BSS.

Hunt will be with the team till the World Cup to be held in England in May and June this year.

Saber said, "We were looking for a long time to have a physio and accordingly I talked to Australian Cricket Board president during the executive committee meeting of the International Cricket Council (ICC) in Christchurch last month."

Meanwhile, thirty cricketers have been selected for the residential camp for the World Cup squad.

They are: Aminul Islam, Akram Khan, Minhazul Abedin, Shahriar Hossain, Ehsanul Huq, Khaled Masud, Hasanuzzaman, Javed Omar, Nasirul Alam, Al-Shahriar, Faruq Ahmed, Sanwar Hossain, Mehrab Hossain, Imran Ahmed, Shafiquddin Ahmed.

Moshred Ali Khan, Khaled Mahmud, Naimur Rahman, Fahim Muntasir, Hasibul Hossain, Mofizur Rahman, Moshfiqur Rahman.

Mohammad Rafiq, Enamul Haque, Manjurul Islam.

Bangladesh will play their first match against New Zealand on May 17 at Chelmsford Essex, the second against the West Indies at Dublin (Clontarf) on May 21, the third against Scotland at Edinburgh on May 24, fourth against Australia at Chester-le-Street (Durham) on May 27 and the last match against Pakistan at Northampton on May 31.

Saber also revealed the BCB has taken all necessary preparations to organise the final of the first ever Asian Test Championship to be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium from March 12 to 16.

The tri-nation championship, featuring India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, will commence at Calcutta on February 16.

Four pitches of the Bangabandhu stadium have been reserved for the Asian Test final and the three-nation one-day tournament involving the hosts, Kenya and Zimbabwe from March 19.

The ICC Trophy champions Bangladesh have been placed in Group B with Australia, Pakistan, New Zealand, the West Indies and Scotland.

The Group A consists of defending champions Sri Lanka, Trans World International (TWI) will telecast the final. It has offered to telecast delayed matches of the tournament.

"TWI officials will be in Dhaka soon to discuss and finalise terms and conditions of telecast rights," he said.

Asian Test Championship

Neutral umps, new point-system



NEW DELHI, Feb 11: Pakistan, done in by Anil Kumble amid controversial umpiring in last week's Test match against India, were today relieved to find neutral umpires nominated for the upcoming Asian Test Championship, reports AFP.

"Having two neutral umpires will do away with allegations of bias," Pakistani captain Wasim Akram said. "Nothing much will be read into genuine umpiring errors."

It's a positive move and should be enforced for all Test matches," he said.

Indian umpire A V Jayaprakash was ridiculed by Indian and Pakistani critics for three dubious decisions during leg-spinner Kumble's sensational 10-wicket haul in Pakistan's second innings of the New Delhi Test.

The win enabled India to square the two-Test series. Pakistan's first on Indian soil in 12 years. West Indian Steve Bucknor and Rudi Koertzen of South Africa will stand in the opening

match of the championship between India and Pakistan at the Eden Gardens in Calcutta from February 16.

Sri Lanka are the third team in the first ever multi-nation tournament involving the Test match format. Each team will play the other once in the league with the top two meeting in the final at Dhaka from March 12.

A brainchild of International Cricket Council chief Jagmohan Dalmiya, the tournament is being seen as a forerunner to a proposed World Championship of Test cricket.

The finalists will be determined through points awarded for outright wins and batting and bowling bonuses in the first 100 overs of the first innings.

Twelve points will be awarded for an outright win.

A three-member technical committee for the championship, comprising former Test stars Sunil Gavaskar (India), Majid Khan (Pakistan) and Ranji Fernando (Sri Lanka) decided the bonus points system as follows:

Batting points (first 100 overs of first innings only): 150-224 runs — 1 point; 225-299

runs — 2 points; 300-349 — 3 points; 350 and over — four points.

Bowling points (first 100 overs of first innings only): 3-4 wickets — 1 point; 5-6 wickets — 2 points; 7-8 wickets — 3 points; 9-10 wickets — 4 points.

The top two teams in the points table will advance to the final, in case of a tie on points, the team with a superior batting run-rate in the first 100 overs of the first innings will make the final.

If the final is drawn and the first innings of both teams have been completed, the team which accumulates higher bonus points will be declared the winner.

There is also a provision to switch on the floodlights to complete 90 overs in a day in case of bad light.

SCHEDULE

February 16-20: India v Pakistan in Calcutta.

February 24-28: India v Sri Lanka in Colombo.

March 4-8: Pakistan v Sri Lanka in Lahore.

March 12-16: Final in Dhaka.



David Beckham (C), the England playmaker, tries to go past French defenders Emmanuel Petit (L) and Bixente Lizarazu during their friendly match at Wembley on February 10.

— AFP photo

Crucial match for Abahani, Brothers

Sports Reporter

Abahani and Brothers Union will lock horns in the last encounter of the Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

The two-day 80-overs a-side affair will start at 9:30 am.

Both teams have earned 16 points each from 10 matches.

The winners of this match will, however, join Biman atop the table who have finished their league campaign with nine victories against two defeats.

But according to the league bye-laws the championship will be decided on superior run-rate.

As far as the net run-rate is concerned, both Abahani and Brothers can only hope for finishing runners-up behind Biman.

Chittagong, Tangail cruise

Sports Reporter

Two goals from striker Govinda guided Chittagong to their second successive win in the final round of the Keay Cosmetics Suhrawardy Cup national under-19 football championship with a 2-1 victory over hosts Rangpur in one of the two group matches played at the Rangpur Stadium yesterday.

They received a setback however, when head coach Bob Woolmer stayed behind to remain with his very ill father in Cape Town.

Coaching duties will be taken over by assistant coach Graham Ford until Woolmer rejoins the touring party for the seven-week tour.

Captain Hansie Cronje admitted that confidence amongst the tourists was high after routing the West Indies 5-0 in their home Test series and winning the one-day internationals 6-1.

"There's a good feeling, but you've only got to go back four months to see how low we were after the England tour," Cronje said, referring to last summer's 2-1 series loss.

"We realise cycles of professional sport are very short these days and if we don't keep up our discipline and become complacent, we could return to South Africa just like the West Indians did."

This is South Africa's first full tour of New Zealand since 1963-64 when they last visited during the apartheid era.

They played a one-off Centenary Test in 1995 which they easily won, and also played in the 1992 World Cup here, where New Zealand pulled off a surprise victory.

With the historic whitewash of the Windies behind them, it is hard to imagine anything other than a similar result in the three Test series and six one-day matches to be played in this country.

In Alan Donald, Cronje has probably the best fast bowler in the world at his disposal, backed by two of the best all-rounders, Jacques Kallis and Shaun Pollock.

The attack is balanced by

Anelka again Wembley's hero

France outclass England



LONDON, Feb 11: France, displaying the kind of form that brought them victory in the World Cup final last year, destroyed England in 45 scintillating second-half minutes to win their friendly international 2-0 at Wembley stadium on Wednesday.

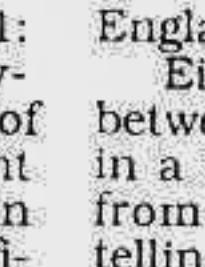
Their hero was 19-year-old striker Nicolas Anelka, one of six Arsenal players in the starting lineups. He scored after 69 and 76 minutes but was unlucky not to get a hattrick as television replays showed that a 64th minute shot that hit the bar bounced down over the goalline before being cleared to safety.

"We worked very hard for this win tonight," said Chelsea defender Frank Leboeuf who replaced Laurent Blanc at half-time.

England made it very hard for us in the first half, but I think we deserved to win."

It was France's first-ever victory over England at Wembley in five matches dating back to 1957 — and their first goals under the twin towers.

Anelka, who also scored at Wembley when Arsenal won the FA Cup last season, broke the deadlock after 69 minutes when he fired past England's substitute goalkeeper Nigel Martyn after Lilian Thuram and Zinedine Zidane scythed open the



England defence.

Eight minutes later he raced between two defenders to touch in a Christopher Duggary cross from the left after another telling pass from Zidane. It was his third international goal.

France, starting with eight of the side that won the World Cup final last summer, are now unbeaten in 17 matches since March of last year.

World player of the year Zidane, and Didier Deschamps, winning his 82nd cap to equal Manuel Amoros's French national record, dominated in midfield and always had time and space to create chances for their front men.

Youri Djorkaeff and Gourcuff, who replaced Robert Pires at half-time, caused England continual problems with their runs from deep and their powerful performances, compared to the ineffective display of England's Alan Shearer and unproductive forays of Michael Owen, only added to an impression that the French were a class apart.

The home side had started brightly with Owen being denied by Fabien Barthez's legs after nine minutes, but reeled few other real scoring chances.

Defender Martin Keown shot over the bar after 32 minutes, but England made little real impression on the famously well-drilled French defence and have now failed to score in

three of their last four home matches.

They were playing under caretaker coach Howard Wilkinson for the first, and perhaps only time, following last week's sacking of Glenn Hoddle, and he tried to look for some positive aspects.

"We started brightly but as the game went on we consistently gave the ball away," Wilkinson said.

Their movement and interchange were good but they didn't really get behind us in the first half.

"In the second half we actually got worse at keeping the ball and it just became a slog of chasing it, getting it back, losing it, getting it back."

Whether Wilkinson, the English FA's technical director, keeps the job remains to be seen,