

## 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

- Who was the man-of-the match in the first Indo-Pak Test?  
Afidi Tendulkar Saqlain
- How many Tests has Mark Taylor played?  
102 103 104
- South Africa won the Test series against West Indies  
4-1 3-1 5-0
- How many centuries have so far been scored in the Janakantha League?  
29 30 31
- Who clinched the sub-junior chess title?  
Rakib Rafiq Tuhin

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

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

## SPORTS TALK



**Anil Kumble**  
(Indian ace leg-spinner)  
My 10-wicket haul was a tribute to my father. I did not have any friends and he was my best friend. He taught me a lot of things about cricket and life."

## ITF tennis results

**RAJSHAHI**, Feb 17: Nadim Kamran Khan and Fahim Ahsan Rumi of Bangladesh moved into the second round of boys' doubles in the ITF International junior tournament beating their Malaysian rivals at the local tennis complex on the second day today, reports UNB.

In the first round, Bangladesh number one Nadim Kamran Khan and Fahim Ahsan Rumi beat the Malaysian pair 6-2, 6-2.

Another local pair, Sadib Hossain and Zubair Hossain Imon, was eliminated from the boys' doubles losing to their Chinese Taipei rivals in straight sets (0-6, 0-6).

In the girls' singles, Bangladesh number one Sifat Nusrat Batshakhi lost to a Chinese Taipei opponent 0-6, 0-6 while Dyuti Sanchaita of Bangladesh lost to her Kazakh opponent 2-6, 4-6.

All the Bangladeshi players in the boys' singles event were out of the race after the day's first round matches.

A total of 33 matches, including nine boys' doubles, eight girls' singles and 16 boys' singles were decided today.

## Faridpur cricket

**FARIDPUR**, Feb 17: Agragami Cricket Club won against Ranghanu Club by 46 runs in the last match of the first round of the Faridpur cricket league organised by Faridpur District Sports Association (FDSA) at the local stadium on Sunday, reports BSS.

Batting first Agragami scored 137 all out in stipulated 35 overs, Ranghanu were bundled out for 91.

Fifteen teams had participated in the first round.

Eight teams have qualified for the second round which will start shortly. After the second round four teams will play for semifinals.

## Schools h'ball

**JHALAKATI**, Feb 17: Sumi struck all six goals as Government Harchandra Girls' School defeated Pourashava High School 6-3 to reach the final of girls' handball tournament here today, reports APB.

Following her latest performance, Sumi became the leading scorer.

# Shoaib springs into action



**CALCUTTA**, Feb 17: Pakistani Test bowler Shoaib Akhtar produced two lightning yorkers in succession to shatter India's grip on the evening match of the Asian Test Championship here today, reports APB.

Akhtar, playing his first Test on the current tour, silenced some 91,000 home fans at the Eden Gardens by clean bowling Rahul Dravid and Sachin Tendulkar off consecutive deliveries on the second day.

The deadly blows midway through the afternoon session sent India crashing from a promising 147-2 to 223 all out in reply to Pakistan's modest first innings score of 185.

Pakistan, trailing by 38 runs, lost opener Wajahatullah Wasti for nine before ending the day at 26-1 in their second knock. Saeed Anwar was unbeaten on 12 while night-watchman Saqlain Mushtaq had yet to score.

Both teams ended their first innings with five bonus points each, as an enthralling battle loomed ahead for the outright win and 12 extra points.

Akhtar grabbed 4-71 and skipper Wasim Akram 3-65 to make up for the poor batting which reduced Pakistan to 26-8 within the first hour's play on the opening day.

The tourists however marred their gallant fightback by sending down 32 no balls — six less than India's first innings lead. The experienced Akram was the main culprit with 13 no balls, while Akhtar had 11.

India failed to build on young opener Sadagopan Ramesh's third half century in successive matches, losing their last eight wickets for the addition of just 76 runs.

The 23-year-old left-hander, who hit 60 on debut in Madras and 96 in the second Test at New Delhi, top-scored with an elegant 79.

"It's good to be back in the game after the first day's disaster," Akram said. "All credit to Shoaib for such inspired bowling. He lifted the entire team."

Pakistan were held up in the first session by wayward bowling and defiant batting by nightwatchman Anil Kumble.

Kumble, zero overnight in a score of 26-1, held his end up for 80 minutes to make 18 in a 65-run stand for the second wicket with Ramesh.

Azhar Mahmood provided the lone success of the pre-lunch session when he had Kumble caught by wicketkeeper Moin Khan.

Dravid, who made 24, added 56 for the third wicket with Ramesh when Akhtar literally stepped up the pace by shattering Dravid's leg stump with a swinging yorker.

Tendulkar, who arrived at the crease to a deafening cheer, failed to get his bat down to an express delivery and had his middle stump uprooted.

It was the first time in 67 Tests that Tendulkar failed to survive the first ball, although he had fallen for zero on five previous occasions.

Ramesh, who hit nine boundaries during his innings lasting three-and-a-half hours.

finally succumbed to Akram's wiles when he was trapped leg-before by a fast inswinger.

India moved to 205-5 after tea when Saurav Ganguly and skipper Mohammad Azharuddin fell in successive overs without adding to the score.

Local hero Ganguly made 17 when he gloved a turner from off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq to Akram at slip.



**MAKING THE INDIANS SHIVER:** Pakistan speedster Shoaib Akhtar in action on the second day at Eden Gardens yesterday. — Internet photo

A grateful Saqlain returned the compliment next over by holding a catch in the covers to remove Azharuddin (23) off Akram's bowling.

Akram then had Jagavall Srinath caught down the leg-side by the wicketkeeper and Akhtar bowled Venkatesh Prasad for no score to pick up his fourth wicket in the innings.

The last wicket pair of Nayan Mongia and Harbhajan Singh carried the score from 212-9 to 223. But fell two short of an extra batting point when Mongia was run out attempting a second run.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the Asian Test Championship match between India and Pakistan on Wednesday.

Mongia	run out	5
Srinath	c Moin b Akram	3
Prasad	b Akhtar	0
Il Singh	not out	8
Extras	(lb-9, nb-32)	41
Total	(All out)	223
Fall of wickets:	1-26; 2-91; 3-147; 4-147; 5-164; 6-205; 7-205; 8-211; 9-212.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Akram	24	5	65	3
Akhtar	19	2	71	4
Mahmood	18	5	40	1
Saqlain	13	3	31	1
Afidi	2	0	7	0

**PAKISTAN:** Second innings  
Anwar not out 12  
Wasti c Mongia b Srinath 9  
Saqlain not out 5  
Extras: (w-5) 0  
Total: (for one wicket) 26  
Fall of wkt: 1-26.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Srinath	6	2	18	1
Prasad	6	4	8	0

## Tangail emerge group champs

**RANGPUR**, Feb 17: Holders Tangail emerged group champions to reach the semifinals of the Keya Cosmetics Suhrawardy Cup under-19 national football championship eliminating Siraganj 2-0 at the local stadium today, reports UNB.

Group A champions Tangail will play Group B runners-up BKSF in the first semifinal at 1.15 pm while Group B champions Chittagong will meet Group A runners-up Jessore at 3.15 pm.



in other semi, billed for tomorrow.

Tangail's goals came from Shipon and Shohag in the 17th and 65th minutes. Malek of Siraganj missed a penalty in the 70th minute.

Shipon of Tangail was adjudged best player-of-the-match.

Earlier, Rangpur recorded a 5-0 victory over Nilphamari.

Ashique Rahman Apple scored a 13-minute hat-trick with goals in the 69th, 71st and 82nd minutes while Hasan and Sadequ added two more in the 87th and 89th minutes.

Apple was declared best player-of-the-match.

Prior to the match, one minute silence was observed in honour of politician and sports organiser Kazi Aref Ahmed.

Kazi Aref, also the vice-president of Brothers Union, was shot dead in a public meeting in Keshitua on Tuesday.

## Rani-Nipa play-off

Country's lone women IM Rani Hamid and Shabana Parveen Nipa will lock horns in a play-off match today to settle the title of 24th national women chess tournament, reports APB.

Both players ended the nine-round meet with 7.5 points. The match will begin at 3:30 pm.

In the final round yesterday, current champion Rani beat Farzana Khan Ava while Nipa beat Zakia Sultana.

Tanima Parveen ended the meet finishing third with 7 points while Zakia became fourth with five points.

## Usha abase Azad

Usha KC made a good start to the Cotton Group Shaheed Smriti hockey tournament overpowering Azad SC 8-2 at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners dominated the first half 2-0. Both goals came from striker Sikandar.

Sikandar put Usha ahead in the third minute from a Kamal pass and doubled the margin in the 16th minute using a Sadeque pass.

After the first session, veteran striker Sadeque scored first goal in the 36th minute from his attacking partner Kamal's pass and later Kamal netted twice in the 47th and 48th minutes.

Kamal scored first from a Tutul pass while second from Zia. Sadeque netted another goal in the 50th minute from a Kamal pass.

Azgar of Azad SC reduced the margin netting two consecutive superb field goals in the 55th and 58th minutes.

Khurshid and Tutul scored one goal each for Usha in the 66th and 67th minutes respectively.

The day's first match between Bangladesh Army and Bangladesh Air Force ended in a 1-1 draw.

Air Force led the first half 1-0 when Abbas netted in the 11th minute from a penalty corner. Rahajuddin of Army equalised in the 62nd minute by a field goal.

## TODAY'S MATCHES

Mohammedan SC vs Bangladesh Navy (2 pm)  
Abahani vs Ajax SC (3:30 pm)

# Calcutta Clippings

From Hasan Masood, Calcutta, Feb 17

## AZZU'S 1ST PILLAR

Eden Gardens was always a lucky ground for Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin but not today. The tall Indian skipper, who scored five centuries and two fifties in his previous seven innings in five Tests, was out today for the first time with less than 50 to his name. At 23, he was one of the three victims of his Pakistani counterpart Wasim Akram.

Azhar, who made his debut with two centuries — 110 and 141 — here against England way back in 1984-85, scored his last ton — 163 not out — against Australia last year. He scored his other two centuries — 182 and 109 — against England and South Africa in 1992-93 and 1997 respectively. Azhar managed 60 runs against Pakistan here in 1987 and 52 runs against Australia in the 1st innings last year.

## NEW YORKER

The packed crowd at the Eden Gardens was at a loss for quite some time when 'little master' Sachin was bowled for a first-ball duck with a gem of an yorker. Although it was his seventh duck in Test cricket, he was never bowled out in the first delivery that he faced.

While returning home after the match, most of the Calcuttians were saying that it was a dream delivery from the fastest Pakistani bowler, which the world's best batsman of the present era failed to block. The ball took off his middle stump after being pitched under his bat. His previous delivery, which took the off stump behind Rahul Dravid was a similar yorker.

## DIPLOMATIC MIAH

Indian and Pakistani journalists had a 15-minute argu-

ment with ICC president Jagmohan Dalmiya today at the press box because they failed to contact either captain and coach after the end of play on day one.

Dalmiya, with a smiling face, first said that it was the decisions of the both the team management and Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) and then agreed that he needs only 20 minutes to solve the issue. But he declined to do that because he did not want to take any blame should any controversy arise later.

Local Bengali dailies, which the Pakistanis cannot read, have been producing every day for the last one week numerous baseless stories on the tourists without talking to them, perhaps only to attract their readers.

Without making any contact, you are producing a lot of gossips everyday, which have already had an impact on the morale of both teams. If you talk, I don't know what will happen," said Dalmiya while going out from the press box.

## BONE IN BONUS

Zimbabwean coach Dave Houghton is not very keen about introducing bonus points in Test matches.

"How can you do that, and that too only for the first 100 overs of the first innings? This will totally damage the image of Test cricket and encourage players to play as in one-day matches. If a team does better in the second innings and wins the match, why will they be deprived of their success and bonus points as well?" asked the former Test cricketer, one of the invited dignitaries to the inaugural match of the Test championship. He was talking to this correspondent today during lunch.

"This is not fair. If bonus

points have to be given, it should be applied in both innings and I don't think this idea will last in the days to come," he added.

## RA-MISS

Ramesh once again failed to hammer a ton. The left-handed opener, who made his debut in the Madras Test late last month, was out today on 79 being trapped leg before by Wasim Akram.

In the first match in his home town (Chennai), he scored 43 and 26 and then went on to score 60 and 96 in the Delhi Test. In his previous innings at the Feroze Shah Kotla, he missed his maiden ton for only four runs after he offered a five-run return catch to Pakistan leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed.

It was his third Test fifty in the last two weeks. Not a bad start for the young Tamil.

## WELCOME GUEST

Charu Sharma, one of the leading members of the Star Sports (TV) team, is very happy to be going to Dhaka for the first time to cover the Final of the inaugural Asian Test championship. The tall Bangalore-based commentator, who works with the TWI team, expressed this after he came to know that this correspondent came from Dhaka.

"I have seen your Independence Cup and the Wills International Cup on TV as I'm not attached to WorldTel which telecast both the tournaments held in Dhaka in 1997 and 98," said Charu.

"I know you have a pretty good stadium in Dhaka with modern lights and electronic scoreboard," Charu said, revealing that all the four matches of the three-nation tournament will be shown in the Star Sports pay channel.



British Grand Master Nigel Short (C) makes a point during a press briefing in the city yesterday. Short is flanked by Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) general secretary Syed Sujauddin Ahmed (R) and United Insurance General Manager Nazim Ahmed. —Star photo

# GM tourney starts tomorrow

The fourth United Insurance Grand Masters' chess tournament will begin tomorrow at the NSC chess room, report agencies.

The number draw will be held today at 5:30 pm at the same venue in presence of United Insurance chairman Mayedul Islam.

The revised schedule and other details of the tournament were disclosed by Bangladesh Chess Federation general secretary Syed Sujauddin Ahmed at a press conference at the NSC yesterday.

British Grand Master Nigel Short and general manager of the sponsors Nazim Ahmed were present.

"As better rated players are taking part in this year's competition, the category of the meet has been increased from nine to 10," Sujauddin said.

A rated player will need minimum eight points from this tournament to earn the Grand Master norm while six points for the International Master norm.

A budget of Tk 10 lakh has been earmarked for the tournament, of which the sponsors will provide Tk 9 lakh.

The tournament carries a total prize money of 5,000 dollars — 1st: 2,000 dollars, 2nd: 1,100 dollars, 3rd: 700 dollars and 4th-7th: 300 dollars each.



Thirteen players — seven Grand Masters, five International Masters and one rated player — will take part in the competition.

**Grand Masters:** Short (2670), Jaan Elivest (2595) of Estonia, Wojtkiewicz (2590) of Poland, Yuri Shulman (2525) of Belarus, Peter Szekely (2460) of Hungary, Saidali of Uzbekistan and Niaz Murshed (2470) of

Bangladesh.

**International Masters:** Abit Kunte (2460) and Neelopal Das of India, Ziaur Rahman (2500), Abdullah Al-Rakib (2405) and Rifat Bin-Sattar (2355) of Bangladesh.

Besides, Bangladesh Fide Master Enamul Hossain Rajib will take part.

The BCF general secretary hoped that Bangladesh's Ziaur Rahman was a bright prospect to earn a Grand Master norm.

"We have been organising this competition since 1991 to widen scope for our local promising players to earn norm as well as provide an opportunity to our local young players witness games of international standard," he said.

Short said that the present position of chess in the world is unique, but it could not gain the popularity of football and cricket.

Replying to a question, Short said that he knew very little about Bangladesh except Niaz Murshed. "Niaz is very talented but has failed to develop," he added.

## Goodricke chess title Alexie's

**CALCUTTA**, Feb 17: Top seed Grand Master Alexie Federov of Russia clinched the title as he drew his last match against Romanian GM Dorian Rogozenko in the tenth Goodricke International Open chess championship at the Gorky Sadan here yesterday, reports PTI.

There was a three way tie for the second spot with GM Sergei Delmatov of Russia, GM Maxim Sorokin of Argentina and Jaan Elvest of Estonia sharing the honour.

## Schools cricket

**JHALAKATI**, Feb 17: Poura Adarsha High School outplayed Amirabad High School by 63 runs to advance to the final of Jhalakati Zonal Group-A of the national school cricket tournament here today, reports APB.

Batting first, Poura Adarsha were all out for 154 runs in 29.4 overs and later bowled out Amirabad for 91 runs in 18 overs.



Azad Sporting custodian and defenders trying to prevent another Usha goal during a 2-8 drubbing in the Cotton Group Shaheed Smriti tournament yesterday. —Star photo