

Column One

DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT once a Test umpire apologised to the great Viv Richards. It only goes to show that umpires too are human. Umpire Barrie Meyer had given Viv out lbw to a ball from Ian of Botham fame at Lord's in 1984. The ball did seem to have been going clearly down the leg side. Viv was on 72 and heading for his 25th century. Viv retired with 24 Test centuries. The apology took place after the match.

Meyer has major contributions to the introduction of the third umpire.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-114

Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

April 23, '99 and draw

shortly afterwards

| | | | | |
|---|---|------------|----------|----------|
| 1 | What is the result of the Australia-West Indies Test series? | 2-2 | 3-1 | 2-1 |
| 2 | Who was the man-of-the-series in the Australia-West Indies Test series? | McGrath | Lara | S Waugh |
| 3 | Who won the Pepsi Cup in India? | Sri Lanka | India | Pakistan |
| 4 | Who was the man-of-the-final in the Pepsi Cup? | Mahmood | Ganguly | Inzamam |
| 5 | Who lifted the Merit Int'l Cup? | Bangladesh | Zimbabwe | Kenya |

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH

EN-VITS

ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK

Andre Agassi

(American tennis player)

"It's just another example of how the players aren't consulted about anything that happens. I never say never, but I'm never playing again."

While announcing his inability to play in the Davis Cup.

WHIZZ KID-113

Boost winner

Hassan Asheq Mahmood

(Govt. Laboratory High School)

(Please bring your ID card and a passport size attested photograph while collecting the winner's prize from the Sport Desk of The Daily Star at 7:30 pm on April 15)

WHIZZ KID 113

correct answers

1. Who won the Asian Test Championship title?

Ans: Pakistan

2. Kevin Keegan is the manager of

Ans: England

3. Wame is a

Ans: Leg-spinner

4. Who is the first Bangladeshi batsman to score a ODI century?

Ans: Mehrab

5. How many half-centuries has Akram Khan scored?

Ans: 4

BOOST WHIZZ KID-112

winner

Ali Irteza

(Rifles Public School & College)



A goalmouth action during the Green Delta Premier Division league match between Abahani and Farashganj at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Mohammedan struggle, Usha too

Sports Reporter

Title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club returned to their winning form in the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League with a solitary goal win over lowly rated Farashganj Sporting Club in their return leg clash at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

In a dull match, which again saw Mohammedan without their four Pakistani recruits and failing to provide any entertainment to their supporters, defender Hasan Rony scored the all-important match-winner for the popular Motiheel outfit from a short corner 13 minutes into the game.

With yesterday's win, Mohammedan joined their old foes Abahani at the top of the eight-team league table, having raised

their tally to 22 points from nine matches. Abahani, the only unbeaten team in the league, have a match in hand.



On the other hand, it was the sixth defeat for the old towners against their two wins and a draw, which kept them glued to their previous collection of

seven points.

In the other match of the day, star-studded Usha Krira Chakra defeated Azad Sporting Club by two goals to one.

Midfielder Zia put the winners ahead with a field goal in the very fifth minute while Pappu sealed the first-half with a short-corner goal eight minutes later.

Forward Habul scored the consolation goal for Azad in the 48th minute.

It was the ninth match for both the teams. Usha now have 21 points while Azad have seven points.

Today's matches

(Moulana Bhasani Stadium)
Mariner Young's Club vs S. Bima (2:15 pm)
Abahani vs Ajax SC (4 pm)

Umpires on the dock

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) has decided to issue show cause notice on four umpires for their alleged false reports, which caused the abandonment of two return leg clashes of the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League on April 5.

This was resolved late Thursday night at an emergency meeting of the BHF Executive Committee. The four umpires are Aslam Omar Belim, Latifur Rahman, Mir Monwarul Islam and Abdur Rashid Khan.

According to BHF joint-secretary Rehanul Karim Babul, if the umpires fail to satisfy the federation with their explanation as to why they submitted 'false' reports, they might be barred from conducting matches in future.

Umpires Aslam Omar Belim and Latifur Rahman stated in their report on the Mohammedan-Azad match that both teams were present at the ground on time, but the match could not be played because of the unplayable condition of the astro-turf.

According to reports published in different national dailies, Mohammedan were late by five minutes on the ground was not fully unplayable.

The two other umpires - Mir Monwarul Islam and Abdur Rashid - abandoned the Usha-Farashganj match, reporting that the Farashganj captain refused to play.

Later it was confirmed that the Farashganj captain, nor any of the players of the two teams, declined to play.

KB Rai Choudhury Cricket

CCS Dhaka win cup, Plate for Manikganj

Sports Reporter

Cricket Coaching School (CCS) won the KB Rai Choudhury Memorial under-13 Cricket Tournament Cup while Manikganj won the plate. Teams from Ankur were the losers in both the matches.

The cup winners scored a comprehensive 74-run win over Ankur at the Kalabagan Krira Chakra ground yesterday.

Middle-order Mehrab hammered an unbeaten 50 off 40 balls to help CCS pile up a huge 178 for five in their stipulated 25 overs. CCS won the toss and elected to bat.

Opener Firoz (37) and one-day Rony (38) were the other notable run-getters.

In reply, Ankur were bundled out for 104 in 24.2 overs.

In the plate final, CCS Manikganj defeated Ankur Cricketers by 33 runs.

Batting first, CCS Manikganj mustered 150 for nine in 25 overs. In reply, Ankur were restricted to 117 for eight in their allotted 25 overs.

Great news for Fowler

LIVERPOOL, England, Apr 9: Controversial Liverpool and England striker Robbie Fowler is to become a father it was reported on Thursday, reports AFP.

The footballer fined by his club following his controversial 'cocaine-sniffing' celebrations at last weekend's Merseyside derby is set to become a dad in the summer.

It is believed he will wed 23-year-old Kerrie Hanon after the birth when the couple are expected to move into the star's new luxury home.

News of the pregnancy was believed to be a closely guarded secret but sources said the couple had been spotted in the antenatal unit of Whiston Hospital in north-west England.

Toxthead-born Fowler who joined Liverpool as a schoolboy celebrates his 24th birthday on Friday in front of a Football Association disciplinary panel to answer charges of misconduct following a well-publicised dispute with fellow England international Graeme Le Saux.

Minhazul in Siraj & co. out

Sports Reporter

jured even before his selection. Finally, the BCB decided at a meeting at the BKSP last Thursday to include Minhazul Abedin.

The three-man selection committee, chaired by Enayet Hossain Siraj, has been given the axe. Some fans are of the



view that the selection committee is being made the scapegoat; there are deeper plots in the story.

The responsibility to omit one cricketer from the 15-man squad to make room for Minhazul Abedin has been given to the team management, according to Bangladesh Cricket

Board (BCB) joint-secretary Mahmud Ul Haque yesterday.

Talking to The Daily Star at the BCB office yesterday, Mahmud, who is now the acting general secretary with Syed Ashraf Huiq away to Sharjah to attend an ICC meeting, said that as they have already dissolved the selection committee in Thursday's meeting, the team management comprising the manager, the coach and the coordinator will decide who will be dropped from the England-bound team to pave the way for Abedin.

Mahmud also said that a formal announcement might be made by the board in this regard either today or tomorrow.

"The team management will sit on Saturday and finalise the matter with board president Saber Hossain Chowdhury," said Mahmud.

When asked about the sacking of the selection committee, Mahmud said that the committee failed to select a proper team for the World Cup, which became apparent during the Merit International Cricket Tournament last month.

In this regard, The Daily Star failed to communicate with Siraj as his mobile phone was on off-mode yesterday.

National cricket championship

Biman-Jessore final wide open

Sports Reporter



Responsible batting by Biman's lower order enabled the Premier Division champions to build up a

fighting first innings total yesterday against Jessore in the final of the 25th National Cricket Championship.

On the second day of the four-day match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, Biman, who resumed on their overnight score of 211 for seven in 90 overs, amassed 59 runs in the morning's ten overs with the loss of another wicket to end their 100-over first innings

for 8 in 100 overs (Fayyaz 63, Halm Shah 48, Atiar 46, Ziaur 47, Shariful 32, Wahidul 3/22).

Jessore (At close of day 2) 66 for 2 in 31.4 overs (Imran Saifullah 26, Nantu 22; Saifullah 2/22)

In reply, Jessore were on 66 for two in 31.4 overs when rain stopped the day's proceedings at 2:05 pm.

Opener Imran Tushar was not out on 26 while his partner Nantu scored 22 before offering a simple return catch to left-arm spinner Saifullah Khan,

on 270 for eight. Thanks to skipper Ziaur Rashid and number nine batsman Shariful Haque, who added 47 runs for the eighth-wicket stand.

The partnership was broken when Ziaur, the middle-order right-hand bat, who was unbeaten on 28 overnight, was bowled by Babu on 47 in the fourth ball of the 98th over.

In the remaining 14 balls, Biman collected another 20 runs, most of which came from the bat of Shariful, who remained unbeaten on 32 off 52 balls inclusive of two boundaries. He was ably supported by number ten Timir with a run-a-ball six.

Yet when the bell signals the end of the first round in the main event on a bill which also features American veteran Thomas Hearn, Hamed will walk back to an unfamiliar corner.

who took both the Jessore wickets by giving away 22 runs in 11.4 overs.

Britons' title bout today

MANCHESTER, England, Apr 9: Flamboyant World Boxing Organisation champion Prince Naseem Hamed defends his featherweight title against fellow Briton Paul Ingle on Saturday in what has been billed as a beauty and the beast contest, reports AFP.

Unbeaten Hamed, as well known for his loud mouth outside the ring as for his posing and punching power in it, claims European champions Ingle is simply "too ugly" to win his title.

Yet when the bell signals the end of the first round in the main event on a bill which also features American veteran Thomas Hearn, Hamed will walk back to an unfamiliar corner.

Azhar leads from front



SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Apr 9: Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin made an unbeaten 74 to

save his beleaguered team from total collapse in the Champions' Cup one-day international against England here on today, reports AFP.

The illness-stricken Indians managed to score 222.5 from their stipulated 50 overs due to their captain's defiant knock and 60 from opener Sadagopan Ramesh.

But the rest of the batsmen were restricted by the steady English bowlers, who toiled hard under the hot sun after Azharuddin won the toss and elected to bat in the day-night international.

India fielded the same team that lost to Pakistan on Thursday despite flying in allrounder Hrishikesh Kanitkar as a reinforcement for five players stricken by viral fever.

Indian batting legend Sunil Gavaskar's son, Rohan, was drafted into the team as a substitute fielder.

The 23-year-old Rohan, a

first-class cricketer, was holidaying in Dubai with his father when he was requested to help out the team in the field.

With both England and India having lost their opening stumps to Pakistan, a victory for either side today will increase their chances of making the final of the three-nation tournament.

England were 100 for four off 28 overs. Neil Fairbrother and Andrew Flintoff were the not out batsmen.

India were 120; 4-159; 5-175

Bowler O M R W
Gough 10 0 42 2
Mullally 10 1 32 0
Austin 8 0 45 0
Ealham 7 0 36 0
Croft 5 0 22 0
Hick 5 0 18 1
Flintoff 5 0 24 2

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BCB Eleven's 4th tie today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Cricket Board Eleven will take on Quetta Cricket Association in their fourth group match of the President's Cup national one-day tournament at the Karachi National Stadium in Pakistan today.

In their previous three matches, Bangladesh lost against Karachi Cricket Association and Pakistan National Shipping Corporation while won the other match against Pakistan Customs.

The visitors will meet Hyderabad in their last group match on April 12.



Indian skipper Azharuddin opens the face of his bat to work the ball towards slips during his knock of 74 against England at Sharjah yesterday. — Internet photo

India give up without fight



SHARJAH, Apr 9 (Reuters/AP): Inzamamul Haq hit his sixth one-day century Thursday as Pakistan routed India by 116 runs for their second victory in the Champions Cup.

Inzamam carried Pakistan to a formidable 279 for eight against, and the Pakistani bowlers restricted India to 163 for six in their allotted 50 overs.

The Indian team, beset by the flu, folded without a fight after promising all-rounder Azhar Mahmood took the wickets of top batsmen Mohammad Azharuddin (1) and Ajay Jadhava (0), off successive balls in the 17th over.

Mahmood, who picked up five wickets in recent one-dayers against India, left the innings in tatters at 47 for four, effectively sealing the outcome.

India slipped to their eighth limited over defeat in a row against Pakistan.

The sequence started when India lost four in succession in the Shahara Cup in Toronto last September and continued with three defeats at home in the recent Pepsi Cup tri-series.

Fast bowler Shoab Akhtar and off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq got past India on the defensive, getting openers Sadagopan Ramesh (10) and Saurav Ganguly (27), leaving them 42 for two by the 14th over.

Rahul Dravid waited out a patient 119 minutes at the crease making 28 off 79 balls along with Robin Singh, who took 74 minutes for 26 off 60 balls.

The pair put up a 51-run partnership for the fifth wicket. Nayyan Mongia and Sunil Joshi took the Indian team through the rest of the innings, scoring 38 runs and 22 runs, respectively. Joshi hit three fours and a six.

India, who only just managed to field 11 players after six of their squad went down with a viral fever, were booed off the field by their supporters in a packed crowd.

The Indians were forced to include half-fit wicketkeeper Mongia and seamer Venkatesh Prasad.

Earlier, Inzamam opened toward the end of the Pakistani innings, hitting 107 off 115 balls, including three sixes and six boundaries to keep the side in the hunt for another victory in the three-nation tournament.

But India rallied in the final over, taking four wickets as Pakistan slumped from 272 for four to 279 for eight. Venkatesh Prasad took three wickets in the final three balls of his 10th over, two by run out.

Inzamam was dismissed with the first ball of Prasad's dramatic over on a diving catch by skipper Azharuddin, which triggered the late collapse.

Pakistan, who beat England by 90 runs in Wednesday's opener, built their innings gradually after losing two wickets for 56 by the 10th over. Inzamam found an able ally

in Yousuf Youhana, the pair posting 140 runs for the fourth wicket in 26 overs after Shahid Afridi (28 off 36 balls) followed Saeed Anwar (4) and Ijaz Ahmed (38 off 34 balls) back to the pavilion.

Ijaz, who scored a blistering century against England on Wednesday, provided the early momentum in an innings which included four fours and three sixes, one landing outside the stadium.

Inzamam picked up the tempo after hitting his 42nd half century in 78 balls, smashingly spinner Joshi for two huge sixes over the long-off fence and a four in one over.

The batsman's second 50 came off only 22 balls, although he escaped once when he was on 65, with paceman Javagal Srinath failing to hold a sharp caught-and-bowled chance.

Youhana reached his half century off 76 balls, being rewarded for his watchful innings, which included four boundaries.

Pakistan captain Washim Akram promoting himself up the order, hit a quick 28 from 24 balls, laced with two fours and a six.

Srinath bowled Youhana for 57 off 81 balls, breaking his partnership with Inzamam.

Leg spinner Anil Kumble was the pick of the Indian bowlers, keeping Inzamam and Youhana in check in addition to getting rid of Wednesday's top scorer, Ijaz Ahmed.

He dismissed Ijaz for a leg before wicket in his first over.

Kumble finished with one wicket for 31 from 10 overs to add to his catch to dismiss Afridi and a direct throw to run out Anwar at the bowler's end.

Prasad finished with three for 69.

Akram said "winning has become something of a habit for us. More importantly, we enjoy our success."

Scoreboard of the Pakistan-India one-day match in the Champions' Cup cricket tournament at Sharjah on Tuesday:

PAKISTAN
Anwar run out (Kumble) 4
Afridi c Kumble b Prasad 28
Ijaz lbw b Kumble 38
Inzamam c Azharuddin b Prasad 107
Youhana b Srinath 57
Akram b Prasad 28
Moin run out (Joshi) 0
Mahmood run out (Mongia) 0
Arshad not out 0
Extras: (b-5, lb-9, w-1, nb-2) 17
Total: (For eight wks) 279
Did not bat: Saqlain Mushtaq, Shoab Akhtar.