

Column One

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 Meril Int'l Cup?	Bangladesh	Zimbabwe	Kenya

Name

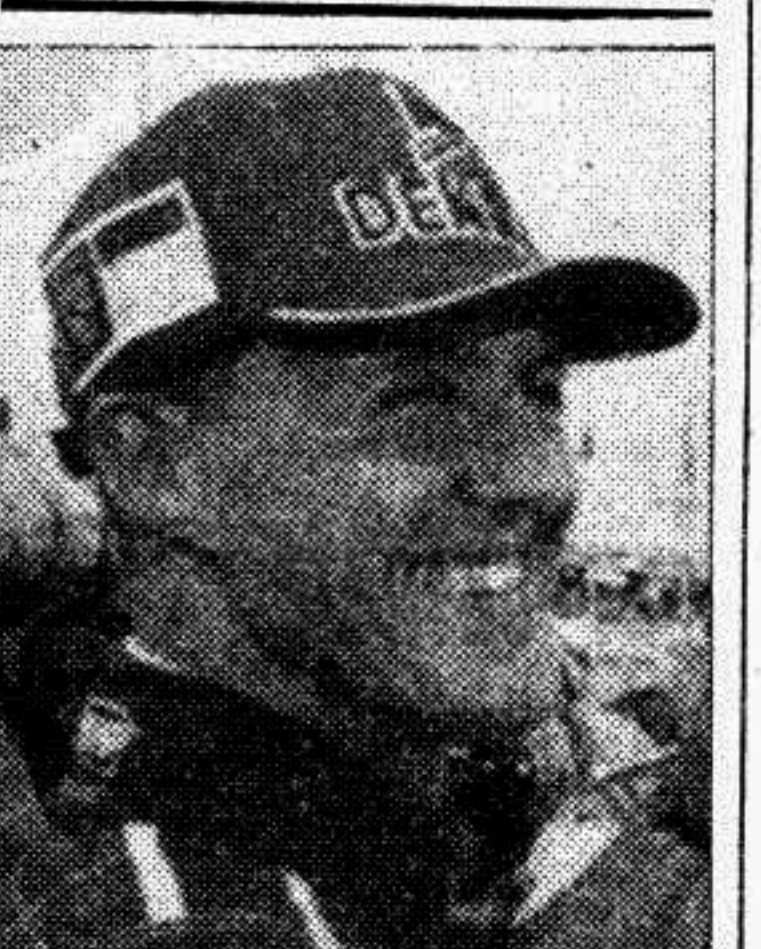
Class Roll No.

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EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Michael Schumacher
(German Formula One driver)
"He has the same signature as me."
About his brother Ralf.

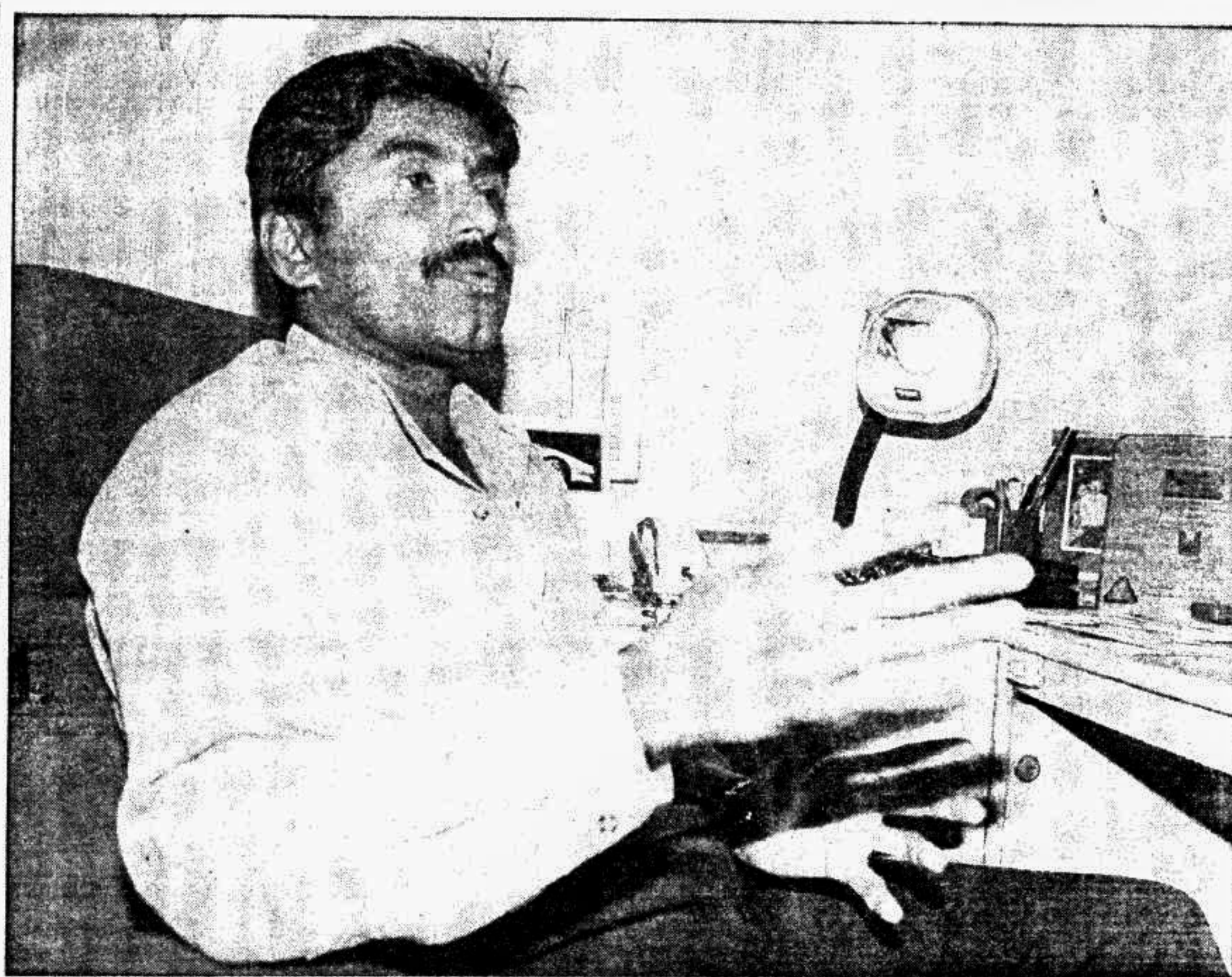
BBC's Test Match Special hit for six

JOHANNESBURG, Apr 20 (Reuters/Internet) British broadcaster Talk Radio has stolen a march on the BBC's renowned Test Match Special by buying the rights to England's Test series against South Africa.

The station has paid the United Cricket Board of South Africa \$240,000 to broadcast ball-by-ball commentary on the five Test matches and one-day international series.
"They called it or leave it, the deal was 'take it or leave it,'" said UCB managing director Ali Bacher on Tuesday.
"We had to decide immediately without speaking to the BBC or the offer would be withdrawn."
The UCB had previously received a nominal \$8,000 dollars from the BBC for the rights. Test Match Special has listeners worldwide through the BBC's World Service.
The first Test starts in Johannesburg on November 25.

M'singh cricket

MYMENSINGH, Apr 21: Shaheed Ratan Sangsad and Asit Memorial Club won their respective matches in the local First Division cricket league today, reports UNB.
Shaheed Ratan Sangsad outplayed Golden Future Boys Club by 47 runs at the local Circuit House ground.
Opting to bat first, Ratan Sangsad piled up 217 for 7 in stipulated 40 overs with Ashiq making 87 and Jony 57.
Russel and Rony captured two wickets each for 35 and 44 runs respectively.
In reply, Golden Future Boys scored 170 for 9 in 40 overs with Ripon making 33 and Liton 28.
Women picked up three wickets for 30 while Rubel, Ashiq and Jony took two wickets each for 29, 29 and 32 runs respectively.
At the local stadium, Asit Memorial Club defeated Mukul Fouj Red Club by 4 wickets.
Deciding to bat first, Mukul Fouj scored 177 for 5 in curtailed 36 overs with Sumon making 71 and Jony 41. Uttam claimed three wickets for 20 runs.
In reply, Asit Memorial reached their target of 178 runs for 6 with one ball to spare.



MYSTERY RESIGNATION: Pakistani cricket legend Javed Miandad talking to pressmen at Karachi after submitting his resignation as national team coach to the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) yesterday. —AFP photo

Miandad makes surprise move

KARACHI, Apr 21 (AFP/Internet): Pakistan's cricket coach Javed Miandad resigned Wednesday from the post barely three weeks before the World Cup, citing family commitments.

But sources and reports said Miandad's resignation came following severe differences with senior members of Pakistan team, including captain Wasim Akram.
Miandad sent a resignation letter to the Pakistan Cricket Board, saying he was unable to continue as coach because of "family commitments."

"It is, therefore, with regret, that I tender my resignation with immediate effect," he said in his letter.
Miandad, a former star Test batsman, was appointed coach last year during the Sahara Cup held in Toronto, Canada.
"I take this opportunity to thank you for your help, guidance and support to me, during my tenure as coach of the Pakistan team," he told the cricket board.

"I wish the team 'good luck' in the World Cup and hope that the cup comes back to Pakistan," he said.
Miandad was in the national team that won the 1992 World Cup.
He resigned two days after Pakistan team returned triumphantly from Sharjah, where he reportedly had a verbal clash with senior team members.

Newspaper reports said Miandad was unhappy over the team's loss in the league phase against England and India. The Wasim-led team won the Sharjah Cup, defeating India in the finals.
He was also unhappy over the induction of South African coach Richard Pybus as Pakistan assistant coach for the

World Cup, sources said.
The Miandad-Wasim combination drew the two Test series against India in India 1-1, and won the triangular Asian Test Championship involving Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka, and the Sharjah Cup.
Both earned praises from cricket circles and fans as "the unmatchable match of the great genius and a shrewd planner."



But local newspapers said team unity was not good.
Players were said to be upset because Miandad reportedly did not share a 50,000 dirham (\$13,570) gift from a Pakistan businessman after Pakistan beat India in the Sharjah final.
"The allegations are baseless. But the reports that have been published clearly indicate that they (players) don't want me."
"If that's what they want, I don't want them either," said Miandad, the only player to have competed in all six World Cups, including Pakistan's victory in the 1992 final.
A prolific batsman, Miandad is Pakistan's top run scorer in both Tests and one-day internationals.
None of the PCB officials could be reached for comments. But PCB chairman Khalid Mahmood has reportedly de-

nied any rift between players and coach and said Miandad would be a part of the World Cup campaign.
Earlier on Wednesday, he was quoted in the Dawn newspaper as saying: "The PCB and Pakistan cricket team dressing room is a family and I don't want to discuss things which the public shouldn't know."
It also was not clear who would replace Miandad as coach, but Sarfaraz Nawaz, a former Pakistani fast bowler, was tipped as a temporary choice for the job. Nawaz has been a controversial figure accusing several former international cricketers from different countries, including Pakistan, of involvement in match-fixing.

Meanwhile, Pakistani legendary cricketer figure Hanif Mohammad told: "It is a setback for the team and Pakistan cricket because especially there is hardly any time left for the World Cup."
Miandad's experience and Wasim's leadership provided the team so many victories during the past but now the resignation would definitely hit the team's performance," he said.
Hanif said he did not know much about the "unpleasant" incidents that happened at Sharjah.

"If there is nothing serious, then the board should intervene and resolve the differences between Miandad and the players for the benefit of Pakistan cricket."
Former Test cricketer Tauseef Ahmed urged cricket officials to press "Javed Bhai (brother)" to reverse his decision for the betterment of national cricket.
"Two greats like Miandad and Wasim should continue," he said.

Pybus gets green signal

EAST LONDON, South Africa, Apr 21 (AFP/Internet): New Pakistan assistant coach Richard Pybus says Pakistan and South Africa will be among the favourites for next month's World Cup in England.
Pybus leaves South Africa on Friday after resolving a dispute with United Cricket Board managing director Ali Bacher, who said it would be wrong in principle for a coach with a leading South African team to link up with one of the country's main World Cup rivals.

English-born Pybus coached previously under-rated Border province to the finals of both South Africa's major domestic competitions this season.
Bacher admitted Wednesday there was nothing the UCB could do to stop Pybus. "We don't have a contract with him so he is free to do what he likes."
Bacher said, though, that he hoped Pybus would consider it the right thing if he did not get involved in any detailed strategic planning if Pakistan play against South Africa.
Pybus responded: "I am aware of that viewpoint. All I can say is that anyone who thinks I can make such a big difference is underestimating the ability of the Pakistan coach and the players to do their own jobs."
Pybus, 34, said the major strategy of the Pakistan team would be decided by coach Javed Miandad, captain Wasim Akram and the players.
"My job as I understand it is to help with specific aspects of the teams' preparations, such as fielding drills and other areas where I can relieve some of the pressure on the chief coach."
Pybus said he was excited about the prospect of working with Pakistan. "They are a tremendously talented side and seem to be running into form at the right time. It is encouraging that they are getting the right



sort of contributions from some of their major players."
He said Pakistan were among several teams with a realistic chance of winning the World Cup. "On their record, South Africa deserve to be favourites. It could be a fantastic contest between Pakistan, with their innate talent, and South Africa, who are a well-drilled, disciplined team with excellent fielders and depth in all-rounders."
Pybus said one of the strengths of the Pakistan team would be in bowling. "Any side with pace bowlers of the quality of Wasim Akram, Shoaib Akhtar and Waqar Younis, backed up by the spin of Mush-taq Ahmed and Saqlain Mushtaq, has to be taken seriously."
Pybus was recruited by Pakistan following a meeting with Raj Khan, a former fellow student at Greenwich University in England and the Pakistan team's assistant manager.
"We got together in East London last year when Pakistan were touring South Africa and I met several of the players, mainly just chatting generally about cricket."
His contract is for the two months of the World Cup. Although his job starts officially on May 1 he expects to meet up

with the team soon after they arrive in England next Wednesday.

A former Minor Counties player for Suffolk, Pybus moved to South Africa in 1991 and coached Selborne College, a leading cricket school in East London. Among his successes was the development of current Test and World Cup wicket-keeper Mark Boucher. He has served one season of a two-season contract as coach of Border.

Lara struggles for WC fitness

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Apr 21 (Reuters/Internet): West Indian captain Brian Lara is struggling to get fit for the start of his team's World Cup campaign in England next month, hampered by a nagging injury to his right wrist.

Lara was ruled out of Wednesday's fifth one-day international against Australia at the Bourda Ground in Georgetown because of the injury he first suffered when he was struck on the arm during the West Indies' disastrous tour of South Africa earlier this year.

He has received medical advice which suggested he was unwise to play in the first four games of the seven-match one-day tournament, which followed the series of four Tests, and seems unlikely to play in the two final one-day matches in Barbados as a result.

From then it is only three weeks until the West Indies has its opening match of the 12-nation World Cup tournament against Pakistan in Bristol.
Lara has been increasingly troubled by the wrist injury, which was originally diagnosed

Rain delayed the start of the fifth one-day match between West Indies and Australia yesterday. The seven-match series is level at 2-2.

as a cracked bone. During the two one-day matches played in his home town of Port of Spain last weekend, he favoured his injured hand in the field and dropped himself down the batting order to number five in both matches.

The champion batsman, who was named man of the series for his heroic efforts in the Test matches, has made just 49 runs from four innings in the one-day format.

Left-handed batsman Jimmy Adams will captain the West Indies in Lara's absence on Wednesday, even though fast bowler Courtney Walsh was named vice-captain when the 15-man World Cup squad was announced three weeks ago.
Australia have made just one change to the team which won by 20 runs at Queen's Park, bringing in seam bowler Paul Reifel to replace all-rounder Brendon Julian in Wednesday's match.

Office football Police find woe in Neer

Sports Reporter
Neer Limited posted a 2-0 victory over Police Athletic Club in their group A opener of the Office Football League played at the Sher-E-Bangla Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.
Jamal put Neer Limited ahead in the eighth minute while Mizan sealed the match in the 78th.

TODAY'S MATCHES
N.p.tunc Spinning Mills vs Janata Bank (Sher-E-Bangla Stadium, 4 pm)
Agrani Bank vs Hossain Group (Army Stadium, 4 pm)

Scholes stays at Victoria

MELBOURNE, Apr 21: Victorian cricket coach John Scholes has been reappointed to the state team for next season, reports Reuters.

Victorian Cricket Association president Bob Merriman said the board had been delighted with the team's improvement under Scholes, who was appointed three years ago.
This season the Bushrangers finished third in the Sheffield Shield and won the domestic one-day competition.
Victoria have provided Shane Warne, Damien Fleming, Matthew Elliott and Paul Reifel to the Australian Test and one-day sides.

SAFF c' ship from today Bangladesh take on holders India

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh will take on hosts and defending champions India in the inaugural match, as the 2nd South Asian Football Federation Championship begins at the Nehru Stadium in the Indian tourist city of Goa this evening.

The match will start at 5:30 pm (BST). Star Sports and Dordarshan Sports will telecast the match live.
K.R. Jacob, Governor of Goa, will formally inaugurate the meet in a colourful ceremony, which is scheduled to start one hour before the match.

All the SAARC countries, except Bhutan, are taking part in the biennial regional football meet.

Pencilled in group A for the round robin league, Bangladesh will meet Pakistan in the last group match on April 24.

The other group comprises of Sri Lanka, Maldives and Nepal.
Top two finishers from each group will qualify for the cross-country semifinals to be held on April 29. The final will be played on May 1.

SAHCO youth v'ball Comilla keep title

Comilla retained title of the 19th SAHCO national youth volleyball tournament outplaying Rangpur by straight 3-0 sets in the final yesterday, reports APB.

Comilla won the match by 25-21, 25-23 and 26-24 points at the volleyball ground.

Earlier, Rajshahi became third beating Khulna by 3-1 sets.

Syed Abul Hossain, MP, tournament sponsor and Managing Director of SAHCO International distributed trophies among the winners.

ROLL OF HONOUR

1980	Rajshahi
1981	Sylhet
1982	Pabna
1983	Rangpur
1985	Tangail
1986	Sylhet
1987	Rangpur
1988	Rangpur
1989	Rangpur
1990	Tangail
1992	Rangpur
1993	Rajshahi
1994	Noagaon
1995	Noagaon
1996	Noagaon
1997	Comilla
1998-99	Comilla



Mohammad Sadeq (C) of Usha Krira Chakra is denied by Mariner Youngs' Club custodian Rinkoo during their Green Delta Premier Division hockey league clash yesterday. —Star photo

National dropout Sadeq scores again Usha's short-lived reign? Abahani'll decide today

Sports Reporter
Usha won the first-leg tie 7-2.
Usha, after their morale boosting 3-0 win against leaders Abahani in their previous match, which brought them back in the three-team title contention, made a brilliant start against Mariner earning three short-corners in four minutes. But they failed to capitalise on those because of the determined Mariner custodian Rinkoo, who made some extraordinary saves with his robotic action.

The much-expected lead came in the 13th minute when ace striker Sadeq blasted the board after being magnificently fed by Sikandar from the right flank.
Stunned by the goal, Mariner put immense pressure on their mighty opposition with a series of offensives and levelled the score from a short-corner ten minutes later, thanks to Ghaus, who fooled the Usha goalkeeper, Osman, with a deceiving push.
National defender Issa then brought the lead back for Usha by converting a short-corner at the stroke of the breather.
After the break, Usha played quite tactically and held their lead with a seemingly defensive game, as they first guarded their citadel before venturing to counter-attack.
Mariner, on the other hand, failed to restore parity because of Usha's defensive play.
Usha, with their eleventh win against two defeats in 13 matches, raised their tally to 33 points from 12 matches.
If Abahani can defeat their arch rivals, Mohammedan Sporting Club in today's clash, they will regain their one-point lead over Usha. Usha will meet Mohammedan, who have 29 points from 12 matches, in their last engagement on April 25.



On the other hand, it was the sixth defeat for Mariner in 13 matches, which kept them glued to their previous collection of 17 points.
Earlier, in the day's first match, Azad Sporting Club and Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha shared points in a 1-1 draw.
Azad raised their tally to 10 points from 13 matches while Bima, who have already been relegated to First Division, remained at the bottom of the eight-team league with three points, also from 13 games.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Ajax SC vs Farashganj SC (2:15 pm)
Mohammedan vs. Abahani (4 pm)

Independence Cup b'ball

Dharmketu Club earned a massive 98-39 points victory over Suridh Sangha in the Independence Cup basketball tournament at the Dhammadi Basketball gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.
The winners led the first half 49-11.
Samir caged highest 26 and Nahad 16 for the winners while Jyoti scored 15 for the losers.



Indian cricket captain Mohammad Azharuddin shows the mini bat which was presented to him with good luck wishes for the Indian team by Swiss watch manufacturing company Tissot in Mumbai on April 21. His wife Sangeeta is to his right. —AFP photo