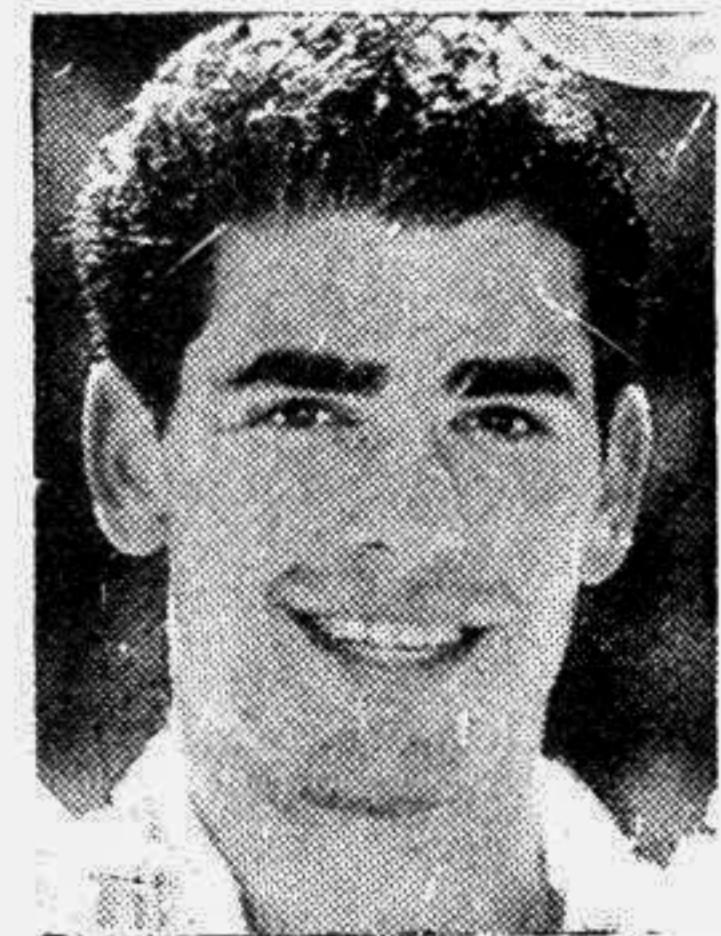


Column One
SPORTS TALK



Pete Sampras
(World No 1 tennis player)
"You can say she is very grounded. She's a normal reasonable person. She's not into the Hollywood scene, neither am I. She is an actress but that comes with the territory but she's very grounded."
On his fiancée Kimberly Williams.

DID U' KNOW?
(The Professor does)

THAT love can indeed be blind.
The Nawab of Pataudi had scored just 13 runs. Everyone was dejected but one fan was clapping crazily. Other fans were shocked but were immediately amused, as they saw the cheering fan not only run to the crease in elation but also plant a kiss on the Nawab's cheek.
Was it an encouragement for better innings in the future? Was the fan cricket-illiterate and considered 13 a 'big' innings? This was the confusion then.
But, now after thorough research, the professor can reveal his finding: The Nawab's quick dismissal meant that the fan could have him to all by herself.
That fan was Sharmila Tagore.

Roost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-115

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
May 7, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who will replace Bob Woolmer as South African cricket coach?
Ford Stewart Marsh
- When England last hosted cricket World Cup?
1975 1987 1983
- Umpire Steve Bucknor is a
Guyanese Jamaican Trinidadian
- The final match of the 1999 cricket World Cup will be held at
Edgbaston Lord's Oval
- The World Cup match between Bangladesh and Scotland will be played in
Edinburgh Belfast Cardiff

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Office football Janata Bank beat Navy

Janata Bank earned an impressive 3-1 victory over Bangladesh Navy in the Uttara Finance Office football league at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.
Winners led the first half 2-1.
Mehedi put Janata Bank ahead in the 14th minute and Munna doubled the margin in the 29th minute. Mozammel of Navy reduced the margin in the 40th minute.
Kayer sealed the fate of the match scoring the third goal for Janata in the 70th minute.
Monday's match: Agrani Bank SC vs Bangladesh Air Force at the same venue.

Australia 252 for 9

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Apr 25(Reuters/Internet): Australia scored 252-9 off their 50 overs against West Indies in the seventh and final one-day international at Kensington Oval on Sunday.

Nepal ride on Naresh

Al-Amin writes from Margaon



Naresh Joshi scored a brilliant hat-trick as Nepal put behind the disappointment on their home soil two years back to enter into the semifinals of the Coca-Cola SAFF Championship with an exciting 3-2 win over Sri Lanka at the Nehru Stadium on Sunday.
Finished sixth among the six-team in the first edition of the biennial meet in 1997, the highlanders did not dream of a more resounding start, with Naresh producing three magnificent goals to fashion his side's first ever win against Sri Lanka.
Naresh shot his side into the lead in the very third minute with a powerful grounder off his left-foot. But Nepal's joy was

short-lived as Sri Lanka bounced back into the match through their striking duo of Roshan Perera and Ananullah. Roshan stepped in to convert a 12-yarder in the 22nd minute to level the score before his partner in the up front Amanullah put the islanders ahead one minute later.
But, the new-look Nepal team, undaunted by the setback, refused to give up hope and kept on testing the Lankan defence with a barrage of offensives.
Naresh, the 22-year old college student who was irreplaceable down the right flank, gave the more colourful Sri Lanka defence a good run for their money.
Nepal, who included number of freshers in the team, finally went level with Lanka as Naresh dodged past the defend-

ers before beating the custodian finally.
The stockily-built striker was denied of the elusive hat-trick by the wood-work as his fierce right-footer ricochet off the near post. But the unanimous choice for the MVP of the match finally had the last laugh in the 82nd minute when he drove home a neat grounder past the bemused Lankan custodian.
The memorable victory now left Nepal atop the Group B with three points in their collection. They will take on runners-up Maldives, who drew their first match with Sri Lanka, in the final group league match on Tuesday.
On the other hand Sri Lanka, the semifinalists of the first edition, finished with only one point.

Draw enough for hosts, Pakistan must win

From Al-Amin



MARGAON, Apr 25: Defending champions India will take on Pakistan in their last group league match of the Coca-Cola 2nd SAFF Championship at the Nehru Stadium here on Monday.
The crucial encounter will decide the other semi-finalists from Group A behind Bangladesh, who stormed into the last four of the six-nation tourney with a crushing 4-0 victory over Pakistan on Saturday.
Although a clash between India and Pakistan suggests a battle within a battle, still as far as football is concerned India has traditionally enjoyed an edge over their rivals across the border in regional events.
An undisputed force in South Asia, India in their previous meeting had defeated Pakistan 2-0 in Nepal two years ago.
But this time around in their

own den, India however looks a little bit worried especially after their disappointing start against Bangladesh, who held the strong hosts to a goalless draw.
"We had a disappointing start and certainly the boys failed to live up to the expectation in front of the home crowd. But we are ready to learn from our mistakes. I'm confident to win the match against Pakistan", said Indian coach Shukwinder Singh in a pre-match briefing today.
"We are contemplating to make some changes in the line-up that played against Bangladesh," said Shukwinder. But he refrained from providing the details of his game plan.
It was, however, learnt that India might start with Bashudev Mandal, the midfielder from Calcutta who impressed the audience coming in as a substitute in the second half. If

Bashudev got the chance in the first eleven then the ace might fall on Carlton Chapman.
Replying to a query about his team's chances of finishing atop the Group, the Indian coach said, "our target is to make it to the last four," said Shukwinder.
While India can still afford a draw to join Bangladesh in the knock-out stage, Pakistan were left with the only option -- to win -- to pip India, a tough task indeed for an injury-plagued team.
"We will have to win against India because any other result means an exit from the tournament," said Pakistan coach Mohammed Idrees.
"But I'm worried about the injury problem in the team. Besides, my captain Harun is running a high temperature and has been advised to take rest," said Idrees adding that he might go for a few changes in the team.

Hooper calls it quits

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Apr 25 (Reuters/Internet): West Indies all-rounder Carl Hooper has announced his retirement from international cricket with immediate effect, team manager Clive Lloyd said on Sunday.
Lloyd said Hooper broke the news to team members on Saturday after the sixth one-day match against Australia here, which the touring team won by four wickets.
Hooper's place in the side for the seventh and final one-day against Australia at Kensington Oval on Sunday was taken by fast bowler Curly Ambrose.
Guyana-born Hooper, 32, will also have to be replaced for the World Cup. He was in West Indies' final squad of 15 for the tournament starting in England on May 14.
Hooper, at his best an elegant strokemaker with a sound technique as well as being a useful off-spinner, played in 80 Tests, having made his debut against India at Bombay in the 1987-88 series.
Hooper scored 4,153 Test runs at an average of 33.76, with an unbeaten 178 the highest of his nine centuries. He took 93 Test wickets at an average of 47.01, his best haul being five for 26.
Despite gracing the Test arena with some handsome innings, he never quite fulfilled his immense potential at test level, as his career figures indicate.
Hooper spent five successful

circuits on the English county circuit with Kent, making his debut in 1992 and becoming a popular and respected cricketer.

He scored more than 1,000 runs in county championship matches in each of his five summers with Kent.



CARL HOOPER

FACTFILE

Carl Llewellyn Hooper
Born: December 15, 1966, Georgetown, British Guiana.
Major Teams: West Indies, Kent, Guyana.
Known As: Carl Hooper.
Batting Style: Right-Hand Bat.
Bowling Style: Right-Arm Off-Break, Right-Arm Medium.
Test Debut: West Indies v India at Bombay, 2nd Test, 1987/88.
Latest Test: West Indies v Australia at St John's, 4th Test, 1998/99.
ODI Debut: West Indies v New Zealand at Dunedin, 1st ODI, 1986/87.
Latest ODI: West Indies v Australia at Bridgetown, 6th ODI, 1998/99.
Best First-Class Bowling: 5-26, West Indies v Sri Lanka (St Vincent) 1996/97.

STATISTICAL RECORD

| TESTS (including 03/04/1999) | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|-----|----|-------|------|
| Batting | M | I | NO | Runs | HS | Ave | 100 | 50 | Ct | St |
| | 80 | 136 | 13 | 4153 | 178* | 33.76 | 9 | 18 | 94 | 9 |
| Bowling | O | M | R | W | Ave | Best | 5 | 10 | SR | Econ |
| | 1732.1 | 389 | 4372 | 93 | 47.01 | 5-26 | 4 | - | 111.7 | 2.52 |
| One-Day Internationals (including 24/04/1999) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Batting | M | I | NO | Runs | HS | Ave | 100 | 50 | Ct | St |
| | 182 | 166 | 36 | 4612 | 113* | 35.47 | 6 | 26 | 87 | 7 |
| Bowling | O | M | R | W | Ave | Best | 4w | 5w | SR | Econ |
| | 1266.1 | 36 | 5548 | 163 | 34.03 | 4-34 | 3 | - | 46.6 | 4.38 |

Booters bask on the beach

From Al-Amin
MARGAON, Apr 25: With their semifinal berth already booked, Bangladesh took a time-out from soccer on Sunday.

The national team, who blanked Pakistan 4-0 following their draw against hosts India in the opening match, passed their time on the beach, adjacent to Dona Silvia, the temporary abode of the booters during the 11-day meet.
The players, however, returned on time to watch the Nepal-Sri Lanka match in the afternoon, but not before enjoying a light refreshment hosted by none other than captain Jewel Rana.
The long-serving national defender was generous enough to share the cash awards of Rs. 10,000, which he received as MVP against India, with his teammates at a restaurant.
But the footballers, who looked determined to end the jinx of the success-lorn Bangladesh team in any regional event, politely refused a team management offer of site-seeing.
"We are not in a position to make an early celebration. We will get enough time to celebrate if we win the Cup here", said Jewel.

Pak PM stays out of Miandad issue

ISLAMABAD, Apr 25 (AFP/Internet): Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif Saturday wished the Pakistan cricket team good luck in the coming World Cup in England, at a reception for the players Saturday.
The reception was attended by Javed Miandad, who has resigned as coach, but sources said Sharif left it to the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to accept the resignation or persuade him to change his mind.
The sources quoted Sharif as saying: "I wish the team the best of luck and will try to be there at the Lord's if the team qualifies for the final."

Captain Wasim Akram told Sharif the team would strive to regain the crown it won in the 1992 World Cup.
"We are ready for the World Cup and with the prayers of the nation we will lift the cup," Wasim said.
Miandad resigned as coach three days ago, citing family commitments.
His move followed PCB's decision to hire South African Richard Pybus as an assistant coach.

"I went to the reception at PCB's invitation because I was part of the squad that recently won in India and Sharjah," Miandad told the news agency from Lahore.
Miandad said he did not expect Sharif to intervene in the matter.
"It is up to the Board. When none of its officials is intervening how can the prime minister say anything," Miandad said.
The PCB board will meet on May 1 and 2 in the southern port city of Karachi to consider Miandad's resignation and possible replacement.
The Pakistan team is due to leave for England on April 27 for the World Cup starting next month. They will play their first match against West Indies on May 16.

Jayasuriyas separate

COLOMBO, Apr 25: Sri Lanka's master-blasted Sanath Jayasuriya has won a divorce from his former airline attendant wife ahead of defending the country's cricket World Cup in England, press reports here said Sunday, according to AFP.

A Colombo district judge granted the divorce after the cavalier batsman agreed to pay four million rupees (\$7,140 dollars) in cash and one million rupees in gold jewellery to his wife of six months.
The Sri Lankan team left here Saturday for the World Cup tournament opening in England next month with Jayasuriya upbeat about retaining the prestigious title despite nagging doubts of form and team morale.

"It is a great feeling to be able to go to the World Cup to defend the title," Jayasuriya told the news agency shortly before leaving Saturday. "Last time we were not the champions when we entered the tournament but this time we are more confident."

Jayasuriya, who was adjudged the man-of-the-tournament in the 1996 cricket World Cup which Sri Lanka won, claimed in his court action that he was deserted by his wife and the marriage was causing him serious anguish that affected his playing.

The marriage was billed as the wedding of the decade here and attended by President Chandrika Kumaratunga and opposition leader Ranil Wickremesinghe as well as several local and Indian celebrities.
Even as Jayasuriya won the divorce, vice captain Aravinda de Silva, married for the first time last week. He, however, was sued for maintenance for a child he had fathered in Australia with another woman.

Usha convincingly dumped MSC's hat-trick of titles

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club clinched the inaugural Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League title in style with a 3-0 thrashing of Usha Krira Chakra in the concluding return-leg clash at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday afternoon.
Former Pakistan skipper Tahir Zaman, with his extraordinary individual skill, scored the first goal and was also instrumental in the other two to steer the popular Moulteji outfit to a hat-trick of championship titles in the Dhaka league. Mohammedan won the First Division league title successively in 1994 and 1997. The top eight teams of the 1997 league took part in this year's Premier League.

Mohammedan, with their 11th win against two draws and a defeat, finished their league

campaign one point clear of their arch rivals Abahani, raising their tally to 35 points. Abahani, who finished with 34 points, had to be content with the runners-up trophy.
On the other hand, Usha, who looked rather defensive yesterday, suffered their third defeat against eleven wins to conclude their 14-match league in the third spot. They remained stuck to their collection



Tahir Zaman (No 7), Mohammedan Sporting Club's Pakistani recruit, has become the toast of his teammates after their victory over Usha Krira Chakra yesterday.



of 33 points.
Back to the match, Mohammedan, who raised their title hopes after defeating Abahani 2-1 in their previous match, when Tahir Zaman scored both the goals, dominated the match from the very beginning with their four experienced Pakistani recruits, Tahir Zaman, Mohammad Khaled, Waheed Shahed and Kamran Ashraf.
But, because of the good Usha defence, which bounced back all the Mohammedan offensives with their watchful act, they had to wait till the last minute of the first-half to earn the much-expected lead through a penalty stroke.
It happened at the stroke of the breather when Usha defender Khurshid stopped a Tahir Zaman short-corner hit inside the danger area. The infringement prompted Indian umpire Mohammad Munir to signal the dreaded spot.
Tahir, the Faisalabad-based veteran stick welder, hardly had any trouble in scooping the ball home through the right side of the Usha custodian, Osman.
Buoyed by the late first-half goal, the black and whites went all out against Usha in the next 35 minutes and added two more to their account, beginning with Mohammad Khaled, who doubled the margin in the 40th minute after being brilliantly fed by Tahir in Mohammedan's fourth short-corner.

ROLL OF HONOUR

| First Division | | Runners up | |
|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Year | Champions | Wari Club/Sonali Bank | |
| 1973-74 | Mahutully SC | Sonali Bank | |
| 1974-75 | Abahani KC | Sonali Bank | |
| 1975-76 | Abahani KC | | |
| 1976-77 | Not held | | |
| 1977-78 | Abahani KC | Mohammedan SC | |
| 1978-79 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC | |
| 1979-80 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC | |
| 1980-81 | Abahani KC | Mohammedan SC | |
| 1981-82 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC | |
| 1982-83 | Abahani KC | Sadharan Bima KS | |
| 1983-84 | Sadharan Bima KS | Wari Club | |
| 1984-85 | Abahani KC | Sadharan Bima KS | |
| 1985-86 | Not held | | |
| 1986-87 | Ajax SC | Mohammedan SC | |
| 1987-88 | Ajax SC | Abahani KC | |
| 1988-89 | Abahani KC | Ajax SC | |
| 1989-90 | Mohammedan SC | | |
| 1991 | Abahani KC (Joint Champions) | Abahani KC | |
| 1992-93 | Mohammedan SC | Mohammedan SC | |
| 1994 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC | |
| 1995 | Not held | | |
| 1996 | Not held | | |
| 1997 | Mohammedan SC | Usha KC | |
| 1998 | Not held | | |
| Premier Division | | | |
| 1999 | Mohammedan SC | Abahani KC | |

FINAL STANDINGS

| Teams | M | W | D | L | Pts |
|------------|----|----|---|----|-----|
| MSC | 14 | 11 | 2 | 1 | 35 |
| Abahani | 14 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 34 |
| Usha | 14 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 33 |
| Mariner | 14 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 17 |
| Ajax | 14 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 14 |
| Azad | 14 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 13 |
| Farashganj | 14 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 9 |
| S Bima | 14 | 0 | 3 | 11 | 3 |

Sadharan Bima have been relegated to the First Division League from next year.

Ntini offered her bribe?

JOHANNESBURG, Apr 25: The young woman raped by South African cricketer Mak-haya Ntini claims she was offered a bribe of 100,000 rand (16,400 dollars) to withdraw the charge, Sunday newspapers reported, says AFP.
Fast-medium bowler Ntini was convicted in the East London magistrate's court on Friday, and within hours was dropped from the South African cricket squad for the World Cup in England next month.
Sentence is expected to be passed on May 27. Ntini is to

appeal the conviction.
Nomangezi Matokazi, 22, who allowed newspapers to name her and use her photograph, said she had been approached by a policeman who told her Ntini would pay her the bribe if she would drop the charges.
Matokazi, a student, said she turned the offer down because she wanted justice, not money. "If I had taken the money it would be as if I made the whole thing up," she said.
"I've been carrying a heavy burden," she told the Johannesburg Sunday Times. "At first, I felt reporting the rape was a mistake. It felt like everyone hated me, blaming me for ruining Ntini's life. Now I have the courage to stand up for my rights."

East London cricket grounds.
There he led her into a ladies' toilet, started to kiss her, pulled down her pants and lifted her against a wall. She told the court she had started to cry softly but screamed aloud when he forced himself on her.
Ntini is out on bail pending sentencing.
United Cricket Board managing director Ali Bacher said the board was "obviously disappointed" by the judgment and would continue to support Ntini until the legal process is completed.

Independence B'ball Navy puff away Dhumketu to reach final

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Navy moved into the final of the Independence Cup Basketball Tournament defeating Dhumketu Club by 65-52 points in the semifinal at the Ramonondi basketball gymnasium yesterday.
The winners led the first-half 28-24.
Rashed of Navy caged in highest 13 points for the winners while his team-mate Siraj added 12. On the other hand, Titas and Sami scored 14 and 13 points respectively for Dhumketu.
Navy will now meet Josephites Club in the final tomorrow at 4 pm at the same venue.

She said was happy with the guilty verdict and felt Ntini should be punished: "All the young kids look up to him. If he can rape a woman and escape punishment it sets a bad example."
On Friday, Ntini put his head in his hands and wept when East London magistrate Deon Rossouw found him guilty of raping Matokazi.
The magistrate said he had no reason to doubt her evidence. She had been grilled for eight hours on the witness stand. "She would have had to be a remarkable actress to make the entire story up," said Rossouw.
Matokazi told the court how Ntini had offered her a lift while she was walking in the rain to buy a loaf of bread.
She had questioned why he failed to stop at a nearby shop but he insisted on going to the

Acme Div II cricket

East End Club and Prantik Krira Chakra defeated their respective rivals in the Acme Second Division cricket league yesterday, reports UNB.
East End earned a 99-run victory over Gulshan Youth Club at Mirpur Outer Stadium.
Batting first, East End scored 205 for 8 in stipulated 40 overs with Ashraf making 52.
In reply, Gulshan Youth were all out for 106 in 20.2 overs with Sumon adding 30 runs. Samad picked up six wickets for 19.
At the Mohakhali T&T ground, Prantik KC defeated Khelegar SKS by 35 runs.
Prantik KC scored 154 for 9 in 25 overs with Akhter making 37 runs. Nadim claimed four wickets for 28 runs.
In reply, Khelegar SKS were all out for 119 in 25 overs with Hira scoring 34 runs. Pappu and Sanjoy took three wickets each.