

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-117

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
July 16 '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1 How many matches have been scheduled for the World Cup 99? 40 41 42

2 Pakistan beat New Zealand in the semifinal by 9 wickets 10 wickets 53 runs

3 How many wickets did NZ bowler Geoff Allott capture in the World Cup? 18 21 20

4 Saqlain Mushtaq scored his hat-trick against which country? Kenya Zimbabwe Bangladesh

5 How many runs did Minhazul Abedin score in the World Cup? 120 140 140

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Nasser Hussain
(England cricket captain)
"Every one who now plays under me will be there to win for England."

BOA chief Nepal bound

Secretary General of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) Zafar Imam leaves Dhaka today for Katmandu to attend the meeting of the South Asian Sports Federation (SASF), reports BSS.

The SASF meeting will be held in the Nepalese capital from July 16-17 to review the final preparations of the eighth South Asian Federation (SAF) Games.

The regional games will take place in Katmandu from September 25 to October 4.

The SASF officials will also visit different venues of the Games.

Bangladesh will take part in all the 12 events — athletics, boxing, football, kabadi, karate, swimming, shooting, taekwondo, table tennis, volleyball, wrestling and weightlifting.

Kenya to stage quadrangular cricket tourney

NAIROBI, July 14: South Africa, India and Zimbabwe will join Kenya in a four-nation tournament starting on September 24, the Kenya Cricket Association (KCA) said today, reports Reuters.

The 50-overs one-day matches will end on October 5.

Rivaldo vows to be less selfish

FOZ DE IGUACU, Brazil, July 14 (Reuters/Internet): Brazilian midfielder Rivaldo promised on Tuesday that he would be less greedy in Wednesday's Copa America semifinal against Mexico.

The Barcelona player, not for the first time, was criticized for not passing the ball enough in his team's 2-1 win over Argentina Sunday.

"I admit I lost the ball a lot, but I have my head in the right place and it will all be right against Mexico," he promised.



Mohammedan Sporting Club's Askar Babu (L) is under pressure from a Farashganj defender during their Premier League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Mohammedan's handy sub

Sports Reporter

A 78-minute strike from Abdullah al Mujahid Shoaila gave title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting a hard-fought one-goal win over Farashganj Sporting in the Keaya Premier Football League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The otherwise dependable Shoaila, who had earlier made some spectacular saves to keep Mohammedan at bay, committed the decisive blunder when he let loose the hot stuff from his grip. The loose ball first hit the crossbar before bouncing outside the goal line, prompting referee Golam Mostafa to puzzle the whistle amidst a roar of applause from a strong ten thousand MSC crowd at the big bowl.

The squeaky passage enabled Mohammedan to join defending champions Mukti Joddha at the top of the table, both having collected 13 points from five games.

Shoaila, who switched to Mohammedan this season from Arambagh, came in place of Askar Babu shortly after the breather. The introduction of the diminutive midfielder completely changed the face of the game with Mohammedan taking the attack to Farashganj.

Although Mohammedan forced the Farashganj defence against the wall with a series of offensives after Shoaila was introduced into the attack, the absence of their prolific striker Alfaz Ahmed almost denied them a victory as their efforts turned futile.

Alfaz, the dapper national strike and the linchpin of Mohammedan triumphs in their previous League matches, missed the encounter due to a



They gave Mohammedan an early scare when their two shaven-head attackers Farhad and Kanchan broke open the goal line, prompting referee Golam Mostafa to puzzle the whistle amidst a roar of applause from a strong ten thousand MSC crowd at the big bowl.

Farhad split the Mohammedan defence in the eighth minute with a wonderful square pass to an unmarked Kanchan. But Ponir saved the feeble shot from Kanchan for a corner.

Ponir with all his experience came to Mohammedan's rescue again two minutes later when the former national custodian fisted away a diving header from Apu for another corner.

After surviving those close calls Mohammedan gradually took control of the match with Rakib playing like a spring chicken.

Mohammedan's first real scoring chance came in the 21st minute when Motiur Rahman drove a powerful right-footer from the edge of the box. But his shot missed the mark by an inch. Eight minutes later Anwar shot straight to Shimul from an acute angle, which the latter tipped over the bar for a corner.

Kanchan of Farashganj was

cautioned with the yellow card.

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Ponir, Ruhul Amin, Faisal, Monwar Munna, Motiur Munna, Rakib Hossain, Jahangir, Anwar, Kamruzzaman, Selim, Askar Babu (Shoaila), and Rashedul Hasan Shamim (Rezaul Karim).

FARASHGANJ SC: Shimul, Shafiq, Ashraful, Nazrul, Aziz (Sohel), Charichal, Azimuddin (Mithul), Apu, Kanchan, Moni and Farhad (Polash).

Referee: Golam Mostafa.

TODAY'S MATCH

Abahani vs Brothers' Union

Bangabandhu National Stadium

Time: 5:30 pm

Shootout takes Uruguay to final

"Instead of protecting you, they try to remove you from the field of play."

"I'm very bitter. They were trying to attract attention by doing something which is not part of their job," Acosta charged.

A red card for a soccer coach means he is banned from sitting on the team bench and has

ASUNCION, July 14: Uruguay reached the final despite resting their European-based players after a long season with their clubs. They are also playing for caretaker coach Victor Pua, who will hand over the reigns to Argentina's Daniel Passarella after the tournament.

The game, played in a near-deserted Defenders of the Chaco stadium, was possibly the worst of a tournament, which has generally provided excellent entertainment.

Play was scrappy and the number of serious scoring chances could be counted on one hand. Uruguay were happy to defend and their opponents were too disjointed to break them down.

Both sides had finished third in their first-round groups, going through under the rule which allows two third-placed teams to progress. The mediocrity of Tuesday's encounter appeared to confirm that their respective quarter-final wins over Paraguay and Colombia were flukes.

Uruguay won only one game inside 90 minutes on their way to the final, needing penalties to get through both their quarter-final and semifinal ties.

Leandro gave Uruguay a first half lead with Ivan Zamorano equalising in the second half with his third goal of the tournament. His striking partner Marcelo Salas completed a wretched tournament by missing a penalty.

Uruguay will play either Brazil or Mexico, who meet in the second semifinal in Ciudad del Este today.

Acosta was shown the red card in the second half but instead of being allowed to go quietly to the stands, he was immediately surrounded by five armed officers who led him away.

"It was abhorrent, humiliating and disrespectful of the police to take me from the field in the way they did," fumed the normally mild-mannered Acosta.

"We suffered in my own case, hostility by the Paraguayan authorities, by the police, who tried to go over the head of the assistant referee by coming straight to the bench," he said.

NELSON ACOSTA

to watch the game from the stands. The reserve referee and federation officials may help persuade him to leave if he protests, but police generally intervene only in exceptional circumstances, such as if he turns violent.

Twenty to thirty years ago, when away teams in South America were subject to tremendous pressure, it was common for police to intervene in fights on the pitch. The pressures were so great that European teams eventually refused to travel to the continent for the traditional meeting of the European and South American club champions.

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Wari pip Agrani

Wari Club notched up their second victory in the Keaya Metropolis First Division Football League beating Agrani Club by a solitary goal at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday, reports UNB.

Atish scored the match-winner for Wari in the 77th minute.

Wari have so far earned eight points from five outings while the bankers' team remained on their previous two points, also after playing five matches.

The day's other match between Dhanmondi Club and Pranik KC ended in a goalless draw at the same venue.

Both the teams have so far secured three points, playing four matches each.

TODAY'S MATCH
Victoria SC vs East End Club
Bangabandhu National Stadium
Time: 3:30 pm

Quader calls for school competitions

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader yesterday directed the concerned officials to start inter-school cricket and football tournaments immediately in cooperation with the education ministry. He gave the directives during his meeting with the officers and employees of the Sports Directorate, reports BSS.

The arrangement of such competition would help develop sportsmen from the grassroots level, the minister added.

The State Minister also directed the Sports Directorate to complete the construction of Bagerhat and Chittagong physical colleges as soon as possible.

Shaheen, Rajarbagh set up final

Rajarbagh Police Line High School and BAF Shaheen School moved into the final of the BATA School Handball Tournament winning their semi-finals at the handball ground yesterday.

Rajarbagh Police Line High School beat Motijheel Model High School and College 36-21 after leading the first half 16-9.

Hanif and Nazmul scored 13 and 11 goals respectively for the Police Line High School while Kaiser netted six while Tanzid got five goals for Motijheel Model.

In the other semi-final, BAF Shaheen school defeated Bangladesh Ansars and VDP High School 28-24.

Saiful scored 16 goals for the Shaheen School while Ruhul Amin scored nine goals for the Ansars and VDP school.

The final will take place on July 16 while the third place play-off between the two losing semi-finalists — Motijheel Model High School and Bangladesh Ansars and VDP High School will be held at 4 pm today.

Minister for Science and Technology M Noor Uddin Khan will be the chief guest in the final.

Div II hockey

Bangladesh Police and Combined Sporting Club won their respective matches in the Second Division Hockey League at the Moulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday, reports BSS.

Bangladesh Police outplayed East and Green Club 6-1.

Luthfur and Asaduzzaman scored two goals each while Rafique and Shishir netted one goal apiece for the Police.

In the other match of the day, Combined Sporting Club beat Dilkhush Sporting Club 2-0.

Mohammad Ali and Mohammad Hares were the scorers.

REFLECTIONS- 3

Gordon Greenidge affair

Yousuf R Rahman from the States

World Cup

The day I checked into the hotel in Edinburgh on May 23, I ran into Gordon in the Manager's room. I wished him and extended my hand to him. Although we greeted each other, his was expressionless.

There was something noticeably wrong with him that caught my eye right away. I knew right then that things were not going well with him and the BCB. Gordon's difference of opinion with the BCB was nothing new. In fact, the two were poles apart in their thinking and it went back as early as 1997.

TEST MATCH STATUS

This subject has been a matter of discussion amongst the ICC members and millions of Bangladeshis are hoping that we would get the Full Membership of the ICC after our victory against Pakistan. The ICC in their meeting in June has decided to shelve Bangladesh's application for another year and rightly so. It will be reviewed again in the 2000 meeting.

We do not have the domestic infrastructure to support our

somewhat, not very diplomatic than the others. Bangladesh should not forget that the ICC Trophy was won with Gordon as an active part of the Bangladesh squad in Kuala Lumpur. Many may disagree with me now but I still believe that he played a major role in Bangladesh's win in Kuala Lumpur in 1997.

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Bangladesh must create a very strong and successful 4-day domestic competition. For this grounds must be created with good pitches. They must play 4-day matches in the sub-continent. We have three World Cup Champions in the region and we do not need to travel to the west to improve our cricket. The best fast bowlers and spinners are our neighbours and we should capitalise on the situation. Cricket is phenomenal in Bangladesh and all we need is the competitive hardness that one can only acquire by playing at the highest level.

I am saying in the past and I am saying it again, Bangladesh will be the next Test match nation. We should focus on wintering matches against Test teams. There is no substitute to winning. It is a great habit to pick. In my opinion, our wait, depending on our performance over the next year or two should be over in the year 2001. We will be fortunate if we can make it in 2000, which will be a welcome entry into the Test match arena.

Simon Hughes of the Daily Telegraph puts it very well when he writes, "the future of cricket is in the sub-continent, no doubt about it. Bangladesh have made some tentative steps towards the summit in their matches in this World Cup. The more experience they get at the top level, the better they will get. Soon they will be beating England in a Test match at Lord's. It is inevitable."

The writer was known as Yousuf Babu when he played with much aplomb for Bangladesh in the 70s. The former national cricketer now works in the States.

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