

## Column One

### DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT Sir Robert Gilbert Bannister (b. 1929), an English neurologist, was the first athlete to run a mile in less than four minutes.

While a student at the University of Oxford and at St Mary's Hospital Medical School, London, Bannister won British (1951, 1953-54) and Empire (1954) championships in the mile run and the European title (1954) in the 1,500-metre event. He broke the four minute barrier with a time of 3 min 59.4s in a dual meet at Oxford on May 6, 1954. Breaking the world record (4 min 1.3s), held for nine years by Gunder Hagg of Sweden, was almost incidental to his successful defiance of the "psychological" barrier, the general belief in the impossibility of running a mile in less than four minutes. Bannister is said to have achieved his speed through scientific training methods and thorough research into the mechanics of running. He recounted his experiences in the book *The Four Minute Mile* (1955).

Who said brain and brawn did not go together?

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1. Who is the new England cricket coach?

Fletcher Hussain Marsh

2. Brazilian footballer Rivaldo plays for

Lazio Barcelona Arsenal

3. Who is the captain of Argentina soccer team?

Simone Batistuta Ayala

4. How many Grand Slam titles has Steffi Graf won till now?

22 23 24

5. Who is ATP's top ranked player right now?

Sampras Moya Agassi

Name .....

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

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....

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## SPORTS TALK



### Nasser Hussain

(England cricket captain)

"Everyone who now plays under me will be there to win for England. I am not naive, it is a difficult job."

After being appointed skipper.

### Perec returns

Wednesday

PARIS, July 23: France's triple Olympic champion Marie-Jose Perec looks set to make her long-awaited return to competition at a low-profile meet in Lahti, Finland, on July 28, her agent said on Friday, reports AFP.

The 31-year-old, who has been suffering from Epstein-Barr virus, a type of glandular fever, last competed on August 6, 1997, in the quarterfinals of the 200m at the World Championships in Athens.

The Guadeloupe-born runner, who is currently training in Sweden with her coach John Smith, is a two-time Olympic champion at 400m and also winner of 200m gold in Atlanta.



Players of Badda Jagarani and Farashganj Sporting Club battle for the ball during their Premier Division football league match yesterday. —Star photo

## Manik's maturity matters

Sports Reporter



Arambagh Krira Sangha registered their second win in the Keya Premier Division Football League defeating neighbours Youngmen's Club Fakirpool by a solitary goal at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday evening.

Veteran midfielder Nurul Haque Manik scored the lone goal of the match with a brilliant left-footed 19 minutes into the first half to keep Arambagh's slim hopes alive for a berth in the super four.

The former national footballer, after being fed by forward Mujibur Rahman Ritu, raced through the left flank edging past three Fakirpool defenders before unleashing a thunderous left footed past the helpless custodian Hasan.

Buoyed by the early lead, Arambagh maintained their

initiative for the remaining part of the first session but failed to increase the margin because of poor coordination between the midfield and the forward line.

After the lemon break, Ritu had the easiest opportunity in the 60th minute when he headed from a close range capitalising on an Asif pass; but the ball went over the crosspiece.

In the last part of the second half, Fakirpool raised their game and were pretty serious about equalising the score. But all their creative works went in vain because of the extra-alert Arambagh defence.

Arambagh, with yesterday's win, raised their tally to nine points from seven matches and joined Farashganj Sporting at the fifth position with two points short of fourth-placed Badda Jagarani Sangsad.

On the other hand, it was the fifth defeat for Fakirpool out of their seven outings which kept them glued at the bottom of the ten-team league with only two points.

### TEAMS

Arambagh: Abir, Firoz, Chotton, Mizan, Mithu, Shamim, Asif, Manik (Shahid), Tajul (Saifullah), Ritu and Johnny.

Farashganj: Hasan, Ibrahim, Babu (Nasir), Mintu, Anupam, Tofazzal, Jhantu, Abhijit (Kader), Jalal Jr, Sohag and Jalal Sr.

Referee: Ibrahim Nesar.

### BADDA WIN

Earlier in the day's first match, Badda, one of the two newcomers in the top echelon of local football, defeated Farashganj by an identical margin.

Forward Khokon netted the all-important match-winner in the 22nd minute.

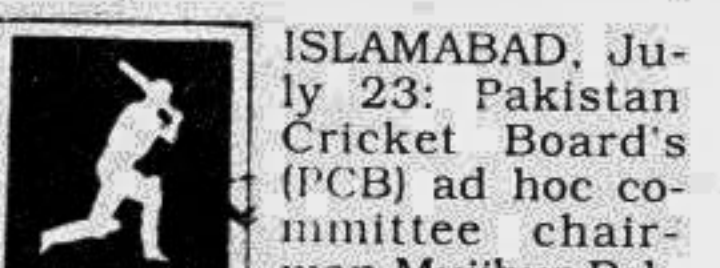
The win raised Badda's tally to 11 points from seven matches while Farashganj, with their fourth defeat, have nine points.

**TODAY'S MATCHES**

Rahmatganj MFS vs Mirpur Chhatika

(5-30 pm, Bangabandhu National Stadium)

## New PCB chief defends team



ISLAMABAD, July 23: Pakistan Cricket Board's (PCB) ad hoc committee chairman Nasser Hussain defended the team on yesterday favoured an early end to the match-fixing controversy around the national team, but said it was too early to say anything on skipper Wasim Akram's fate, reports PFI.

The ad hoc panel would not take any step in probing the betting and match-fixing allegations around Pakistani players since the matter was being investigated by a judicial commission, Rehman said.

But he appealed to the Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum commission to release its report before the start of the next season to enable the team to take up new assignments.

Rehman said that he did not agree with allegations of match-fixing at the World Cup and strongly defended the Pakistan team for reaching the final.

"I don't agree with that (allegations) we must give credit that this team has gone up to

the final," Rehman, who was named as head of the interim panel after the PCB was dissolved by president Mohammad Rafiq Tarar in the wake of betting and match-fixing allegations following the World Cup final debacle said.

Rehman's defence of the team came as a surprise as PCB dissolution is said to have come in the wake of widespread allegations of match-fixing and betting against the team and the team's defence by outgoing chairman Khalid Mahmood.

Asked whether Akram, who is still in London, had got in touch with him or he had tried to contact him, Rehman replied in the negative. The PCB interim panel chief who was in Doha, Qatar when his appointment was made arrived home only Wednesday.

Rehman, however, said he will call all the players and listen to their side of the story. "I will make my impression about the senior players once I talk to them," he said.

Rehman said he might take the help of former Test players to run the board and that he would include three of four

more members to the committee in 10 to 15 days and also constitute the new selection committee by then.

The new PCB chief denied reports that the Ehtesab (accountability) bureau headed by his brother Saifur Rehman was also inquiring into allegations that Pakistani players indulged in objectionable activities during the World Cup.

He said the Lahore High Court has only asked the bureau to help in the probe.

Rehman, whose appointment is said to have taken place because of his brother's proximity to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, dismissed criticism that he has never played top level cricket.

"I am not going to play (for Pakistan)," Rehman said, and added that his job was to professionally manage PCB.

The committee also includes Javed Zaman Khan, a close friend of Nawaz Sharif and cousin of cricketering idol Imran Khan and Majid Khan.

Majid Khan, whose contract as PCB chief executive ended only last month, is widely expected to make a comeback.

### NZ 197/3

Sports Reporter

New Zealand were 197 for three in their first innings after tea at Lord's yesterday.

Opener Mathew Horne was 81 not out and Roger Twose was batting on 36 at the time.

England left-arm seamer Allan Mullally was the most successful bowler taking two wickets.

AFP adds: Dean Headley and Alan Mullally gave England some cheer with a double breakthrough early in the New Zealand first innings in the morning.

After Chris Cairns took his sixth wicket to bowl the hosts all out for 186 within the space of two overs, the Black Caps reached lunch at 75 for two in reply.

A fine diving catch from wicketkeeper Chris Read helped the home side reduce New Zealand from 43 for no wicket to 45 for two in the space of six balls.

Headley struck in his third over, then Mullally removed New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming for a single in the next over.

The tourists were steadily reducing the home team's small total when Headley fired a ball through Matthew Bell's defence and umpire Mervyn Kitchen upheld the lbw appeal after a few moments of deliberation, although it looked a shade high.

Then Fleming glanced at a ball swinging down the leg side and Read launched himself to pick up a low catch to his right.

Nathan Astle arrived to raise New Zealand's 50 from 103 balls with two boundaries off Mullally, stretching for a third England wicket.

The first was steered to backward point but the second was risky and edged wide of Nasser Hussain at second slip.

Hussain, and not Phil Tufnell, had been the man dismissed by Cairns with just three runs added to England's miserable overnight score of 183 for nine.

The captain added two runs to his unbeaten 59 when he was caught behind down the leg side by keeper Adam Parore.

That success gave Cairns final figures of six for 77 and England had recorded their lowest total against New Zealand at Lord's.

England, who lead the four-match series 1-0, had collapsed on Thursday under heavy cloud cover when the overcast conditions were bowler-friendly. On Friday the sun shone brightly under a blue sky, ideal weather for batting.

**Div I soccer**

East End Club defeated Prantik Krira Chakra 1-0 in the Metropolitan First Division football league at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

This was second win for East End in seven matches and they collected 11 points while Prantik got seven points from same number of outings.

After the barren first half, Arif netted the all-important goal in the 62nd minute.

The day's another match between Victoria SC and BRIC SC ended in a 2-2 draw at the same venue.

Manju scored both the goals for the BRIC while Sujon and Hanif netted one goal each for Victoria.

BRIC led the first half 2-1. Manju put BRIC ahead in the early 6th minute and doubled the margin in the 25th minute.

Sujon reduced the margin in the 35th minute and Hanif levelled the score just before the last whistle.

**Murali may stay with Lancs**

COLOMBO, July 23: Sri Lanka's star off-spinner Muralitharan may stay with English county Lancashire for the next season following his superb performance this year, a state-run newspaper said Friday, reports AP.

But he may not be able to spend the entire summer season because of his commitment back home, the Daily News reported.

"We are going to review the situation. Muralitharan is a contracted player with the board and he must obtain permission first," Chadrashan Perera, the spokesman for the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka, told The Associated Press.

Muralitharan is returning home next month to play against Australia and India.

"When he comes, we will have a talk with him," Perera said.

Muralitharan, 27, is considered a top off-spinner in the world cricket. He replaced Pakistan's captain Wasim Akram as Lancashire's overseas player for the 1999 season, Muralitharan made a dream debut capturing 14 wickets in the first game against Warwickshire.

**Albert joins Charleroi**

BRUSSELS, July 23: Former Belgian international defender Philippe Albert on Friday agreed a three-year deal with one of his former clubs Belgian first division outfit Charleroi, reports AFP.

Albert, 31 and capped 41 times, had played in England since 1994, first with Newcastle United and last year with Fulham on loan.

## Fitness test for Azhar!



MUMBAI, July 23: Mohammad Azharuddin might be asked to provide a fitness certificate by the BCCI prior to the national selection committee's meeting on July 28 at Nagpur to choose the Indian skipper for the forthcoming tri-series in Sri Lanka.

"Suppose so. The board secretary (Jaywant Lele) will be in action on that issue," BCCI president Raj Singh Dungarpur told PFI here today when queried on the matter.

Azharuddin, who led India's unsuccessful campaign in the World Cup before staying back in London to get his injured shoulder operated upon is yet to return home after his surgery, according to sources close to him.

"I spoke to him 10 days ago and his shoulder was still tender. I do not know how it feels now," Dungarpur said.

Speculations are already rife in the media that Azhar is likely to get the boot and Sachin Tendulkar installed in his place on the hot seat of India cricket by the selectors.

There have been calls for Azhar's head from some former Indian skippers, including

Bishen Singh Bedi, Dilip Vengsarkar and Ravi Shastri, through their newspaper columns.

Meanwhile, the working committee of the BCCI will review the scheduled international calendar, including the Sahara Cup series against Pakistan at Toronto.

"We (the Board's working committee) are meeting on August 3 (at Calcutta) when the matter will be discussed", Dungarpur said.

Dungarpur was reacting to the proposal of Pakistan playing with India in Toronto in September which had been cancelled in the wake of the Kargil conflict.

Urging the Indian board to respond to the proposal immediately, PCB's interim chief Mujibur Rahman said in an interview at Islamabad yesterday that he was for reviving the Sahara Cup since the Kargil crisis was over.

Affirming that he favoured continuation of cricketing ties with India, Rehman had said "I am for it (Sahara Cup). If the sponsors are ready, I am ready".

The series was called off after Sahara India, the sponsors, pulled out in the wake of the Pakistani intrusion in Kargil.

The BCCI working committee would also review India's forthcoming tour to Sri Lanka tri-series tours to Singapore and Nairobi in September (to play in triangular and quadrangular tournaments, visit by New Zealand in October-November followed by India's tour to Australia, visit by South Africa in February-March and India's tour to Sharjah in March-end.

MD AZHARUDDIN

## Cairns carves thru' hosts



LONDON, July 23: New Zealand bowlers Chris Cairns and Dion Nash had England on the rack on the first day of the second Test at Lord's on Thursday as the home side slumped to 183-9 before bad light halted play, reports AFP.

After under-pressure opener Alec Stewart had hit a 50 to help England to 80 for two at lunch, wickets tumbled in the afternoon under overcast skies at the traditional home of cricket.

When bad light stopped play at 4.35 p.m. (1535 GMT) Cairns had five wickets for 75 and Nash, who took 11 for 169 on his previous Test appearance at Lord's in 1994, had three for 49 as England collapsed in familiar fashion.

Only Stewart and captain Nasser Hussain, who was 59 not out at the close, provided any joy for the home side on a ground where they have traditionally struggled.

Graham Thorpe, Mark Ramprakash, Aftab Habib and Chris Read all bid farewell for the addition of 23 as England suffered a bad bout of post-lunch indigestion.

Thorpe, lucky to survive an lbw shout by Nash off his second ball, was taken off an angled bat, and Ramprakash fell lbw to a full toss from Nash.

With the light deteriorating, Habib seemed to lose sight of a full toss from Cairns which happily skidded down leg side, after which the umpires conferred about the worsening conditions.

Habib was less fortunate when he left a big gap and Nash gratefully speared a delivery through it to knock back off stump at 123.

Two runs later, a bamboozled Read did not appear to sight another full toss from Cairns which boomed between his pads and flicked off his right heel into the stumps.

Hussain at last got the support he needed from Andy Caddick, whose ability with the bat in the lower served England so well at Edgbaston.

Caddick was into double figures in 25 balls but 15 minutes

before tea he was run out going for a third by a boundary throw from Matthew Horne - and England dipped to 156 for seven at tea.

On the resumption Cairns trapped Dean Headley leg before and then claimed his fifth wicket by having Alan Mullally caught by Astle.

With Phil Tufnell last man in, Hussain decided there was no time to lose and cracked a couple of boundaries before the umpires took the players off for bad light.

Not surprisingly, Nash admitted later he had a real taste for playing at Lord's.

In the morning session, Stewart survived an early run-out scare when Nash missed the stumps before taking the New Zealand bowlers to school with a series of trademark pull shots.

In his previous 11 Tests at Lord's, Stewart had scored 1,031 runs at a handsome average of 51.55, and only Graham Gooch, David Gower and Geoff Boycott have scored more heavily at the ground.

His innings ended 15 minutes before lunch when he glanced a slip catch to New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming off the bowling of Nash.

When he reached 31, Stewart became the 28th player to make 6,000 runs in Test cricket during an innings crucial to his immediate international future.

He is now ninth on the all-time list of England Test run scorers.

Stewart's opening partner Mark Butcher never looked comfortable and compiled just eight runs before snicking an inside edge to wicketkeeper Adam Parore off the bowling of Cairns with the total at 35.

England were without bowler Alex Tudor, a late withdrawal due to his knee problem, while New Zealand, who have never beaten England in a Lord's Test, were missing strike bowler Simon Doull through injury.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard at lunch on the second day of the second Test between England and New Zealand at Lord's on Friday

ENGLAND: First innings

(overnight 183-9)

M Butcher c Parore b Cairns 8

A Stewart c Fleming b Nash 50

N Hussain c Parore b Cairns 61

G Thorpe c Astle b Cairns 7

M Ramprakash lbw b Nash 4

A Habib b Nash 6

C Read b Cairns 0

A Caddick run out 18

D Headley lbw b Cairns 4

M Mullally c Astle b Cairns 0

P Tufnell not out 1

Extras: (b-5, lb-8, nb-14) 27

Total: 186

Fall of wkts: 1-35; 2-79; 3-102; 4-112; 5-123; 6-125; 7-150; 8-165; 9-170.

**Bowler**

Allott 10 1 37 0

Cairns 21.1 1 77 6

Nash 23 11 50 3

Astle 7 3 9 0

**NEW ZEALAND: First innings**

M Horne not out 32

M Eell lbw b Headley 15

S Fleming c Read b Mullally 1

N Astle not out 19

Extras: (lb-6, nb-2) 8

Total: (For 2 wkts) 75

Fall of wkts: 1-43; 2-45.

To bat: C McMillan, R Twose, a Parore, C Cairns, D Nash, D Vettori, G Allott

**Bowler:**

Mullally 10 4 36 1

Caddick 7 3 11 0

Headley 6 0 22 1

Umpires: Mervyn Kitchen (Eng) and Rudi Koertzen (RSA)

### Shamsunnahar Hall

Shatters Shaheen

Sports Reporter

Holders Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University got off to a flying start in the Delta Life Inter-College and Hall Handball Tournament with a 12-2 wipeout of Shaheen College Tejgaon in the inaugural match played at the Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex in Dhanmondi yesterday. The winners led the first session 6-0.

Sharmin scored highest four goals for the winners followed by her teammate Mousumi who added three goals.