

## Column One

### Boost sports WHiZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

#### Competition-118

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm  
July 30, '99 and draw  
shortly afterwards

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?  
Simeone 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) .....

POWERED WITH  
**EN-VITS**  
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

#### SPORTS TALK



#### Muralitharan

(Sri Lankan master off-spinner)

've thoroughly enjoyed my short spell here since the World Cup and I'm delighted to be coming back next year.'

After extending his Lancashire deal by two years on Wednesday.

#### Viquarunnissa in final

Viquarunnissa Noon School and College, reached the final of the Delta Life inter-college-hall women's handball tournament beating Mirpur Girls Ideal Laboratory Institute 5-1 in the second semifinals yesterday, reports UNB.

They will meet Shamsun Nahar Hall of Dhaka University in the final on Saturday.

In the day's second semifinal, Viquarunnissa girls dominated the first half 2-1 at the Dhanmondi Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex.

Sandhya scored three goals while Shyama and Ovi netted one each for the winners. Farju scored the consolation goal for the losers.

The two losing semifinalists, Ispahani Girls College and Mirpur Girls Ideal Laboratory Institute — will face each other in a place-deciding match today at 3:30 pm at the same venue.

#### Kamal to step down

Chairman of the cricket committee of Abahani AHM Mostafa Kamal, MP, will relinquish his club responsibilities before next season begins with a view to devoting himself to the development of the game at grassroots level.

"I will remain a director of Abahani Limited, but not act as chairman of the cricket committee," he told BSS yesterday.

Kamal decided to start a cricket academy with former captain Gazi Ashraf Hossain and national cricket coach Osman Khan as directors at his constituency (Comilla-9) with limited students from his area, free of cost.

#### Charity soccer match in Bagerhat

BAGERHAT, July 29: Bangabandhu Eleven of West Bengal will play an exhibition football match against Bagerhat Eleven tomorrow at the local stadium, reports UNB.

The match will start at 4 pm. Local MP Meer Sakhawat Ali Daru will be the chief guest in the charity match, arranged to raise fund for the family of late Meer Al Mamun, who was a famous footballer of the dis-

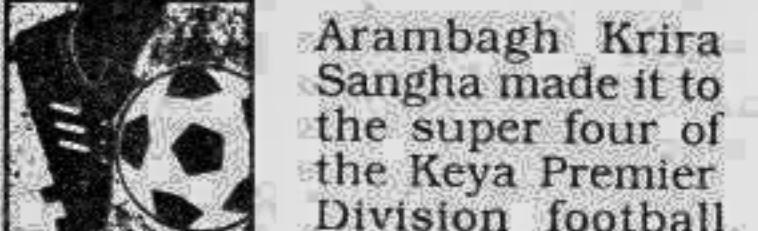


Farashganji defender Palash trying to stop Rahmatganji forward Tipu during their yesterday's Premier Division football league clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

— Star photo

## Arambagh in elite four

Sports Reporter



Arambagh Krira Sangha made it to the super four of the Koya Premier Division football league with comfortable 2-0 win over Brothers Union Club in their last match of the first leg played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday evening.

Forward Mujibur Rahman Ritu and defender Titu struck one goal apiece to help Arambagh register their fourth win in the league on completion of their nine-match first leg campaign and book their berth in the elite foursome with title aspirants Mohammedan Sporting Club, holders Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra and Abahani Krira Chakra.

It was Brothers' fifth defeat which kept them glued to their previous collection of 10 points on completion of the first leg.

Arambagh raised their tally to 15 points—one more than Badda Jagarani Sangsad who finished fifth.

Badda, who recorded a stunning 1-0 win over Abahani in their last match of the first leg, will now play in the relega-

**Yellow card:** Shereki (Brothers Union)

tion league along with Brothers, Farashganji, Rahmatganji MFS, Fakirpool YMC and Mirpur Chalantika.

Arambagh started the match knowing they had to win, got an opportunity to score in the fifth minute when Ritu in front of goal, saw his right footer hit the post.

However, the Motijheel club eventually took the lead after 15 minutes. Brothers Union custodian Saidur Rahman attempting to clear the ball from danger, only pushed it as far as the waiting Arambagh striker Johny, who passed to the advancing Ritu and he did the rest.

With yesterday's goal, Ritu joined his teammate Asif, Zair of Abahani, Mizan of Brothers Union Club and Effani of Muktijoddha Sangsad at the top of the scorers list with five.

Arambagh maintained the tempo for much of the second session and added a second goal in the 69th minute when Titu completed his solo run through the ball past an advancing Saidur.

Farhad put Farashganji ahead in the 52nd minute while Biplab equalised for Rahmatganji in the 86th minute.

With the draw, Farashganji completed their first leg campaign jointly sixth with Brothers having raised their tally to ten points while Rahmatganji finished eighth with eight points.

No matches will be played today. Leaders Mohammedan will face Muktijoddha in their last match of the first round tomorrow afternoon at 5:50 pm.

**Old-Towners**

**SPLIT POINTS**

Earlier in the opening match, Farashganji Sporting Club and Rahmatganji Muslim Friends Society shared points after a 1-1 draw.

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## Interrogation starts



KARACHI, July 29: Star batsman Ijaz Ahmed was questioned for four hours on Thursday by the government's anti-corruption bureau inquiring into charges of match-fixing by Pakistani players, reports AFP.

Ijaz, 31, presented his case to clear his name in front of an official of the Accountability Bureau, a source close to Ijaz said.

"Ijaz is confident because he has never indulged himself in such practices which could damage him," he said.

No comments were available from the player.

Earlier on Wednesday, the bureau interrogated suspended skipper Wasim Akram.

Akram was questioned at the Accountability Bureau in Islamabad, they said. No comment was available from the bureau officials.

The chairman of the Bureau, Senator Saif-ur-Rehman earlier said Akram agreed to cooperate with the investigative process during a meeting in Islamabad yesterday.

"He (Wasim Akram) said he would cooperate and promised his full support to the investigating process," Rehman said.

"Not only Wasim but all other charged players are being questioned by the investigators. The evidence is being corroborated," he said.

The findings will be submitted to Pakistani President Muhammad Rafiq Tarar, who

is a patron of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), and then passed on to a judicial commission which has been conducting a probe since last year, Rehman said.

Wasim Akram, 33, had returned from England Tuesday and held talks with the chairman of the PCB's ad hoc committee, Mujibur Rehman, who is a brother of bureau's chairman.

Wasim and star batsmen Ijaz Ahmed and Salim Malik have been suspended from the national team by the ad hoc Committee over match-fixing charges.

Cricket officials said repeatedly denied any wrongdoings.

Pakistani cricket is embroiled in match-fixing and bribery allegations since three Australian players, including Shane Warne, accused Salim Malik of offering bribes to perform poorly during Test in 1994-95.

Cricket legend Imran Khan has lashed out at the suspension of the trio and said the government had victimised the players.

Former captain Rameez Raja said, "The ball is rolling now and the present ad hoc committee is trying to streamline a system that will give players a chance to clarify themselves."

Former Test cricketer and selector, Salahuddin Salim, said Wasim's absence would be felt badly, adding: "they (players) are diamonds and should be admired."

#### Blondeau banned

PARIS, July 29: Olympique Marseille defender Patrick Blondeau has been suspended for one month for a dangerous tackle on Yves Deroof of Nantes in the two sides' final match of the 1998-1999 season, reports Reuters.

The ban, handed out by the French League's disciplinary committee, starts on Monday.



Members of the Bangladesh Special Olympic team called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the International Conference Centre yesterday.

— PID photo

## Pintoo Football Academy opens today

Country's first private football training institute 'Pintoo Football Academy,' exclusively for the street urchins will be launched today, reports UNB.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader will formally inaugurate the academy named after Zakaria Pintoo, the captain of Swadhin Bangla football team, at a function at the Bangabandhu National Stadium at 5 pm.

Renowned German FIFA coach and the founder of Pintoo Academy Holger Obermann and World Cup star of 1970 Bernd Patzke arrived in the city yesterday to attend the opening ceremony of the region's first academy of its kind.

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) general secretary Harun-ur-Rashid MP and managing director of academy's main sponsor Keya Cosmetics Limited Abdul Khaleque Pathan will be present as special guests.

The opening ceremony will be marked by two exhibition football matches.

Obermann XI will play Patzke XI in the first match while two selections of street children will compete in another match. No entry fee will be required to witness the matches.

Prior to the formal opening, the two distinguished German guests will visit the temporary residential camp of the Academy at the Gazipur Stadium.

The first long batch of the two-month long batch camp with 40 selected children of 14-16 age group will begin on August 1 at the Gazipur Stadium and gradually 240 destitute children will be given basic training in six batches within one year.

Probable line-up of the two teams:

**OBERMANN XI:** Badal Roy (captain), Shamir Sakir, Kanan, Kaiser, Jony, Joshi, Mosharrif, Aloke, Kaikobad, Pratap, Tipu, Mala, Munna, Helal, FI Kamal, Namnu, Bablu, Liton and Sultan.

**PATZKE XI:** Ashrafuddin Chunnu (captain), Pakir Ali, major (rtd) Hafiz, Motaleb, Younus, Anwar, Aslam, Amalesh, Tutul, Khasru, Abdul, Babul, Salam, Mohsin, Manik, Swapan, Wahid, Ajmat, Selim and Wasim.

Instead they will be replaced by four 450 feet masts which stadium designers Lord Foster and American specialists HOK Lobb hope will come to be seen as the new icon for the home of English football.

English Heritage will not try



An artist's impression of the new Wembley Stadium from the inside. — Internet photo

## New Wembley revealed



LONDON, July 29 (Mail/Internet): Stunning designs for the new 475 million pounds national stadium at Wembley were revealed today, consigning the Twin Towers to history.

Although the celebrated landmarks are protected as grade two listed buildings, they have no part in the plans for the new 90,000 capacity state-of-the-art stadium set to open in 2003.

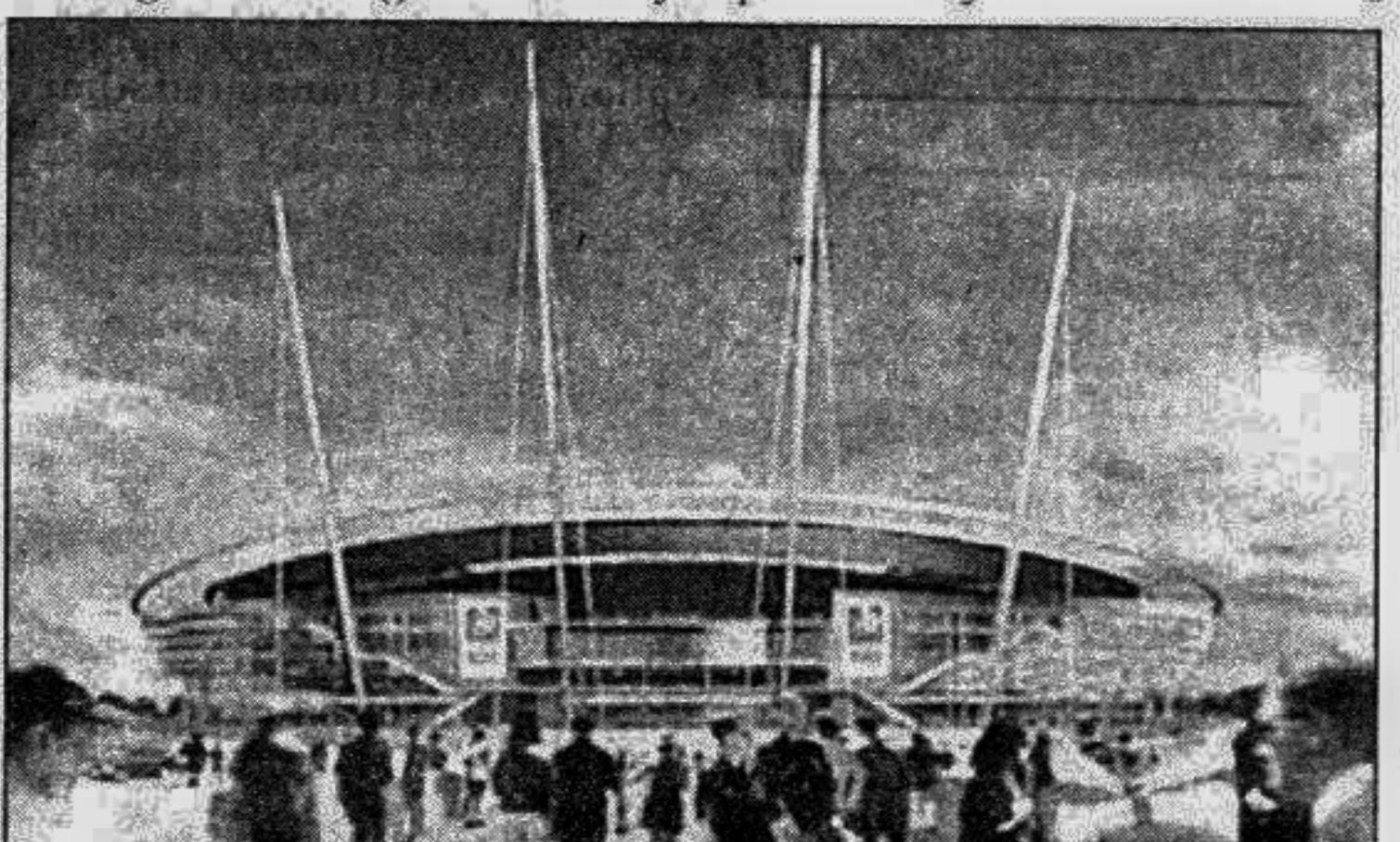
Instead they will be replaced by four 450 feet masts which stadium designers Lord Foster and American specialists HOK Lobb hope will come to be seen as the new icon for the home of English football.

Today's launch revealed that costs for the new stadium, 120 million pounds of which were provided by a National Lottery

grant with the rest coming from the Football Association, are already 100 million pounds over their expected budget.

Other significant details of the plan include the supporters being closer to the pitch, better visibility and more leg room, a retractable and adjustable roof over the seating, provision for a running track on a platform which would lie six metres above pitch level and lavish banqueting facilities in special suites and boxes.

Simon Sperry, chief executive of the London Chamber of Commerce, welcomed the plans. He said: "This is a significant boost for one of London's poorest boroughs and will help tackle unemployment. We are fully behind this project as it will give London and the UK a splendid new stadium for the 21st century."



Furure Wembley from outside. — Internet photo

## It will be gone but never forgotten



UNDATED, July 29 (Mail/Internet): She has witnessed some of sport's most thrilling moments. England's 1966 World Cup triumph, the Olympics of 1948, Muhammad Ali's 1963 World Heavyweight battle with Henry Cooper, Manchester United's European Cup victory in 1968.

Ever since it opened in 1923 the grand old lady of Wembley has watched the history of British sport unfold. But her days are numbered. Designs for the new 320 million pounds national stadium was officially unveiled on Wednesday.

The new state-of-the-art venue, designed by Sir Norman Foster and American stadium specialists HOK Lobb, is expected to be one of the most modern and spectacular arenas ever built.

The blueprint will provide the first step in giving British sport a venue worthy of its greatest stars and one capable of hosting global showpieces like the World Cup and the Olympics.

For too long Wembley's ageing stands, uncomfortable seats, poor catering and restricted views have shortchanged fans. The Twin Towers, certain to be ditched in the new plans, are a fitting reminder of how the nation has changed since the age of empire.

But before we pension off the old lady we should remember why the stadium has provided such an evocative background for sport down the years. After all, it is no accident that the north London site was chosen as the home for the new national stadium, which should be ready by May 2003.