

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-119

✓ Tick the correct answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Aug 27, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

1	Who are the current FA Cup champions?	Man United	Arsenal	Lpool
2	Who is Sri Lanka's cricket coach?	Whitmore	Yardley	Fernandez
3	Who won the Confederations' Cup title?	Brazil	Mexico	USA
4	Who is the Bangladeshi cricket captain?	Minhazul	Akram	Aminul
5	Which stadium will host the final of 2002 World Cup?	Yokohama	Suzuki	Nagoya

Name

Class

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Sir Alex Ferguson
(Manchester United manager)

"It was quite an enthralling match to mind, so to get it with a result is a good one."

After his side beat Arsenal in the Premiership this week.

Vodafone not unhappy

LONDON, Aug 24 (Internet report): Vodafone insist they are delighted to be associated with the England team.

The mobile phone company is happy with their deal to back England, who lost the series with New Zealand on Sunday.

Mike Caldwell, Vodafone's corporate communications director, said: "We have a long-term contract to support the England cricket team and from our point of view, as sponsors, we've had excellent value out of it."

"Last year we beat South Africa in the home series and this year we've had the World Cup which, while England didn't get as far as we would have liked them to, we had great exposure and TV coverage."

"As a sponsor, what happens when England win is we get front page and back page coverage, and the same happens when England lose."

Game Two drawn

LAS VEGAS, Aug 24: Alexander Khalimian of Russia and Vladimir Akopian of Armenia agreed to an 18-move draw in the second game of six in the final of the World Chess Championship, reports AP.

Khalimian admitted Monday to being tired and not wanting to risk losing. He was satisfied to preserve the one-game lead he acquired with Sunday's victory.

Norris named as Tyson's opponent

LAS VEGAS, Aug 24: Orlin Norris has emerged as the likely comeback opponent for Mike Tyson, whose first fight since getting out of a Maryland prison will take place in late October, reports AP.

Sources close to Tyson's camp said Monday Norris is expected to sign this week for a fight that will take place either October 22 or October 23.



Chairman of the organising committee for Bangabandhu Cup and Home Minister Mohammad Nasim briefing the media at a city hotel yesterday. — Star Photo

Brazil, Ghana, Hungary demand big pay cheques

Nasim appeals for concord from all political parties

Sports Reporter

With footballers from across the world starting to arrive in the capital from today, the organising committee chairman of the Bangabandhu Cup, Mohammad Nasim made an ardent plea to all the political parties to refrain from any agitation programme and invited everyone to join the football feast.

"I invite all the political parties to join the football festival," said Nasim, who is also the Home Minister. He was addressing a press briefing at a local hotel yesterday in connection with the 2nd Bangabandhu Cup, scheduled to begin at the Bangabandhu National Stadium from August 27.

"I appeal to all the political parties to ensure a peaceful atmosphere during the 12-day tournament, where eleven teams from across the world and the hosts will take part," said Nasim.

"We have seen the glorious chapter of our cricket. Now, it is time for football to make a mark in the world stage. I believe the opposition political parties will extend their helping hand to make the tournament a success as they did for the mini cricket World Cup last year," the minister said.

Nasim, the man at the helm of affairs for the second consecutive time after a disappointing first edition of the tournament three years back, said that this time around it would be a more colourful event with the inclusion of world-beater teams like Brazil, Hungary and Ghana.

"I think the tournament will be a shot in the arm for reviving our football. Besides, after the cricket fever, I believe this tournament will provide the much-needed thrust for our young footballers," said the seasoned Awami League leader.

The press briefing presided

over by the BFF president Mohammed Hanif failed, however, to provide details of the tournament, dedicated to the memory of the nation's undisputed leader Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Moreover, the BFF has one more reason to be worried; that about the persistent inclement weather condition.

With a tight schedule on the card, BFF's hopes of getting an extra day of using the Bangabandhu National Stadium after September 7, which is billed for the final, appears quite impossible.

"Cricket will get the ground from September 8. I don't think it would be possible to violate the agreement reached between the BFF and the BCB earlier," said the State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader, who is the co-chairman of the organising committee.

Meanwhile, the secretary of the tournament committee Sirajul Islam Bachchu said that BFF is spending a lot of money for the three professional sides from Brazil, Hungary and Ghana.

"Both the Brazilian side and the Ghanaian Olympic team have demanded an appearance fee of US \$3.5 crore," said Hanif. But his knowledge seemed to end at that point, as he could not provide any further details of the monetary situation.

While Hanif, an occasional visitor at the BFF, was uncertain about the fiscal matters, his able deputy and BFF general secretary Harunur Rashid, MP shelved the issue with the words: "We will provide the breakdown of the budget after the tournament".

Sadly though, Harun and Co. are yet to provide the final account of the last Bangabandhu Cup, held in 1996-97.

Although the organisers are being enigmatic regarding the monetary aspect of the tourna-

ment, a senior BFF official said that chances of making a profit from the multi-million Taka event looked distant.

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