

## Column One

**Roost 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  
Sept 3, '99 and draw  
shortly afterwards

1. Who are the current FA Cup champions?  
Man United Arsenal Liverpool

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 Bangladesh cricket captain?  
Munirul Akram Aminul

5. Which stadium will host the final of 2002 World Cup?  
Yokohama Suzaki Nagoya

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
School Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

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## SPORTS TALK



**Christian Vieri**  
(Inter Milan striker)  
"I'm not in top shape at the moment. I'm going to have to work on that."  
After he scored a hat-trick in Serie A last weekend.

## Kenya gets ICC boss' boost

NAIROBI, Aug 31: Kenya stands the best chance of staging the second edition of the Test-nations' knockout tournament in October next year, International Cricket Council (ICC) president Jagmohan Dalmiya said Tuesday, reports AFP.

Addressing a news conference here on his arrival to assess the country's cricket facilities, Dalmiya said Kenya had been given the top priority among the four shortlisted candidates.

"The intention of staging this tournament is to promote the game in the associate member countries which already hold a one-day international (ODI) status," Dalmiya said, pointing out that "having chosen Bangladesh to hold the first edition last year, I believe Kenya has the chance this time."

But he said that the Kenya government needs to guarantee full support for the tournament before he can make his final recommendations when the ICC Board meets in London to name the host city in a week's time.

Dalmiya said Disneyland in the United States had been listed as one of the four likely venues for the tournament, in the event that Nairobi, Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates and Dhaka in Bangladesh failed to satisfy the ICC requirements.

Dalmiya said he knew the cricket facilities in Nairobi, granted one-day status in 1997, were not up to the standard, but once he had been assured of the government support and he was satisfied the facilities would be improved, he would strongly recommend the city.

Part of the requirements is the setting up of four big stadiums, one of which would carry a sitting capacity of 15,000 fans.



Thai defender Preratat Phoruandee rises in vain to block a goal-bound ball during their Bangabandhu Cup encounter yesterday.

## Nothing Brazilian in Rio

Sports Reporter

The eagerly-awaited debut of the Rio de Janeiro FC in the 2nd Bangabandhu Cup miserably failed to live up to the high expectations of the local football fans as the much hyped-about Brazilians barely managed to edge past the Thailand Olympic team by a lone goal at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

In the opening match of the day, both the sides found it extremely difficult to negotiate with the horrendous ground condition, made worse by a shower preceding the game.

The Thais however looked more comfortable in the mud-patch than their opponents and made most of the early running. Still, the first real opportunity came by the way of the Rio selection when Luciano Moura shot wide off a cross from the left by Carlos Andre.

Without any constructive work in the midfield, goal-scoring chances were few and far between and the Thai team, fresh from their 2-7 drubbing at the hands of the South Korean under-18 squad, seemed content in defending and relying on counter-attacks.

The Brazilians could have gone two goals up in the space of two minutes but lack of composure let them down on both occasions. First, Luiz Otavio chipped inside the Thai penalty box and as the ball slowed down in thick mud, Carlos Andre found himself one-to-one with the goalkeeper but he hurried a shot straight into his hands.

Seconds later, captain Mauricio Anastacio received the ball on top of the D box off a faulty clearance and with the custodian far out of his line, slammed his attempt over the bar.

A bizarre incident gave birth

to a rare moment of excitement at the start of the second half when referee Ehsanul Haque blew the re-start whistle apparently unaware that one Rio player was yet to take the field.

The Brazilians made three substitutions as they pressed hard for an opening and in the 74th minute, Luiz Henrique drade corner into the top right corner—the ball taking a deflection off Thai stopper Preratat Phoruandee.

The Rio side were denied a second goal shortly after when substitute Julio Roberto's header smacked the post.

The Thais missed a golden

match despite the poor pitch condition, received 200 US dollars as player of the match.

This was undoubtedly the worst match of the tournament and unless the Brazilians improve their performance against South Korea in their next match, it could be said that someone has taken BFF for a ride. And with them the Bangladesh football fans. The Brazil team has been paid 8000 US dollars as participation money and 2000 US dollars for yesterday's match. Most in the disappointed crowd yesterday thought they deserved no such special treatment.

**Yellow cards:** Jose Inacio, Carlos Andre (Rio de Janeiro SF), Apichet Puttan and Kit-sana Wongdudee (Thailand).

**Teams**  
Rio de Janeiro FC: Marcelo



**TODAY IS REST DAY**  
**TOMORROW'S MATCHES**  
Ghana vs Uzbekistan  
4pm  
Japan vs Kuwait  
6pm  
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

Lourenlo, Guilherme Marques, Jose Inacio, Fabio Paulo, Luiz Otavio (Alexandre Lima), Luiz Henrique, Mauricio Anastacio (Julio Ricardo), Marcelo Fraga (Fauo Roberto), Luciano Moura, Carlos Andre and Alexandre Andrade.

**Thailand:** Wirat Ha, Apichet Puttan, Preratat Phoruandee, Nirut Surasiang, Hansuwan, Udorn Jom Rob, Kistana Wongdudee, Teerasar Po On, Itsaree Pala (Sutee Suksonkit), Barung Boonprom and Pongsar Khonakeaw.

Referee: Ehsanul Haque (Bangladesh).

## Sforza lashes out at coach

COLOGNE, Germany, Aug 31: Kaiserslautern's coach Otto Rehhagel will speak to captain Cifacio Sforza on Tuesday after a weekend outburst by Sforza which saw him slam Rehhagel's coaching methods and authoritarian manner, reports AFP.

In an interview with Sunday's Welt am Sonntag newspaper Sforza said Rehhagel had no real team strategy, that he had bought the wrong players and had antiquated social skills which were inappropriate for leading a modern Bundesliga side.

"Last season we were missing a libero and we are still missing one, instead we have two players with the number 10," Sforza griped in reference to new signing Youri Djorkaeff from Inter Milan.

Both men are classic midfield playmakers - who traditionally wear the number 10 - with their strengths lying more in attack than in defence. Sforza however had expected a true defender to be brought in to relieve him of his months long stopgap role of plugging holes at the back.

In Sforza's eyes this shows a total lack of concept with the proof of the pudding already evident: Kaiserslautern were beaten 2-0 by newly promoted Arminia Bielefeld Friday, their second loss in three games.

The key to the problem, Sforza believes, is the old-fashioned style of management exercised by Kaiserslautern's saviour Otto Rehhagel - who at 61 is the Bundesliga's oldest coach.

Since getting the Red Devils promoted in 1997 and then taking them straight to the league title Rehhagel has been placed on a pedestal at Kaiserslautern.

Known affectionately in Germany as King Otto, he has a dominating personality and suffers no contradiction to his authority.

"The days of giving orders and everyone obeying them is over," Sforza was quoted as saying. "Whoever fails to understand that is going to have problems, issuing commands is no way to run either a global busi-

ness or a small time theatre let alone a football club!"

Sforza is with the Swiss national team until September 9th preparing for European qualifiers and has not been contacted yet to clarify his version of events.

Management at Kaiserslautern are furious at Sforza's interview and insist that whatever the problem it should be worked out internally.

So far they have been restrained in their response though, preferring to wait until Tuesday when they speak to Sforza personally. If the Swiss star confirms his opinions he can expect a hefty fine.

It is rumoured that Sforza may have planned this outburst

deliberately in order to force his departure from Kaiserslautern.

Sforza showed an interest in switching to Borussia Dortmund in the off-season but the transfer failed when Kaiserslautern set too high a fee. Now pundits suggest that Sforza wants to move to Bayern Munich in a direct swap for Mario Basler.

Sforza would fill the shoes of libero Lothar Matthaus when he leaves for the US in December while Basler - who refused to sign a contract extension two weeks ago - would finally have his wish granted of playing for his favourite club Kaiserslautern under old friend and mentor Otto Rehhagel.



Scene from yesterday's Bangabandhu Cup match between Brazil and Thailand.

## Ground for grievance?

Sports Reporter

It was virtually a swamp for the Brazilians, so thought the Rio de Janeiro Soccer Federation team coach Gilson Moreira da Silva. The soft-spoken team elder said this yesterday after their hard fought 1-0 win over the Thailand Olympic team in their first match of the Bangabandhu Cup.

"It was a different ball game for us which we never played before. It is not possible to play passing game on such a ground. You cannot pass, cannot send a through because the ball stops," said Gilson.

"We are sorry for the thousands, who came to the stadium to see our game but were totally disappointed. It is not our fault. The ground did not help us in any way," added the Rio coach.

About his team's performance, Gilson said that he was not going to blame anyone for his team's poor show other than the ground.

"Of course you can not blame anybody other than the weather for this condition," he said, assuring that his team would come up with a better show against the Korean under-18 on September 3.

Thailand's British coach Peter Witte also blamed the ground for his team's defeat saying that the better team lost only for the poor field condition.

"I think both teams had the same problem because the ball was not moving in its original pace. But I'm happy with my team's performance. They played better today than the previous match against Korea," said Witte.

## Farewell to the eliminated

Sports Reporter

Three teams--Thailand, Nepal and Indonesia—who have already been eliminated from the Bangabandhu Cup, will return home today.

Thailand Olympic team lost both their group A matches against Korea under-18 and Rio de Janeiro Soccer Federation. Indonesia also lost their two group D matches against Japan and Kuwait. They will leave the capital early in the morning. On the other hand, Nepal, who lost both their group C encounters against Ghana and Uzbekistan, will fly to Kathmandu at noon.

## Unfit Indians off to S'pore

Sports Reporter

COLOMBO, Aug 31: Indian skipper Sachin Tendulkar led a battle weary team for a new tournament in Singapore on Tuesday warning his players were not fit enough to play, reports AFP.

After a dismal performance in the three-nation tournament against Sri Lanka and Australia, India must now lift themselves to take on West Indies and Zimbabwe in Singapore.

Tendulkar, who missed one match with a back problem, said there was little hope for Indian cricket unless they gently engaged a full-time physiotherapist like Sri Lanka and Australia.

"The team can withstand failures in batting and bowling to some extent but if it fails in fielding too, then we have nowhere to go," Tendulkar said adding that it was essential to improve fitness of players.

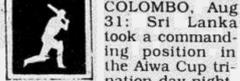
Tendulkar who took over from Mohammed Azharuddin after the country's early exit from the World Cup in England in May said the current team should play a few more matches together before they could show results.

"You have to give us some more time," Tendulkar said adding that everyone was giving their best but fitness problems were worrying.

Medical tests have given Tendulkar the all-clear despite recurring back stiffness, and he will play in an upcoming triangular in Singapore, an Indian official said on Monday.

Secretary of the Indian Cricket Board, V. Lele, said the tests found nothing wrong with Tendulkar and they were yet to explain the back pain that has bothered him since the World Cup in England.

## Australia make 202



COLOMBO, Aug 31: Sri Lanka took a commanding position in the Awa Cup tri-nation day-night final when they bowled out world champions Australia for 202 in 50 overs at the Rana-singhe Premadasa Stadium Tuesday, reports AFP.

Backed up by excellent fielding, the spinners strangled the batsmen on a slow pitch to leave themselves with an asking rate of just 4.06 per over to win.

Australia, choosing to bat first after winning the toss, raced to 37 off the first six overs with Adam Gilchrist contributing an aggressive 21 off 16 balls. But the batsmen were kept in check by the spinners who extracted plenty of turn from the slow surface to capture eight wickets.

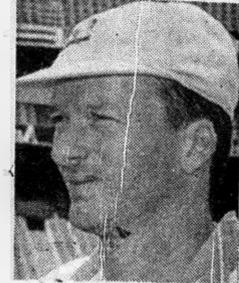
Skipper Steve Waugh top-scored with 43 off 68 balls with three fours and twin brother Mark Waugh made 32 off 52 balls with four fours.

Both were bowled by off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan who finished with two for 36 off 10 overs.

Steve Waugh and Darren Lehmann shared the highest partnership of 51 for the fourth wicket.

But leg-spinner Upul Chan-

dana ended the stand by having the left-handed Lehmann giving an easy return catch at 21. He then bowled Michael Bevan for a duck off the next delivery



as he tried to drive and missed the line.

Andrew Symonds was nearly run out by Chandana off the third ball when the throw narrowly missed the wicket with the batsman well out of his crease.

Russel Arnold and skipper Sanath Jayasuriya picked up the last four wickets as Australia tried to battle it out. Only some lofted hits by tailenders Shane Warne and Jason Gillespie ensured they crossed the

200-mark.

Fast bowler Pramodya Wickremasinghe, who replaced the out of form Chaminda Vaas, bowled tidily to finish with one for 24 off 20 overs.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard of the Australian, innings against Sri Lanka in their day-night final in the Awa Cup tri-nation tournament at the Rana-singhe Premadasa stadium on Tuesday:

**AUSTRALIA**

Gilchrist c Jayewardene	21
b Wickremasinghe	21
M Waugh b Muralitharan	32
Ponting run out	18
S Waugh c and b Chandana	21
b Muralitharan	43
Bevan b Chandana	0
Symonds not out	22
Warne c Silva b Arnold	22
Gillespie b Arnold	14
Fleming st Kaluwitharana b Jayasuriya	0
M-Grath st Kaluwitharana b Jayasuriya	1
Jayasuriya	9
Extras: (lb-3, w-3, nb-3)	202
Total: (All out in 50 overs)	202
Fall of wkts: 1-37; 2-74; 3-75; 4-126; 5-126; 6-144; 7-178; 8-197; 9-198; 10-202.	

**Bowler:**

	O	M	R	W
Zoysa	7	0	31	2
Arnold	8	0	42	2
Wickremasinghe	8	0	24	1
Muralitharan	10	1	36	2
Chandana	10	0	33	2
Jayasuriya	7	0	33	2

## Barlow begins his bout

Sports Reporter

The primary camp of the national cricket team begins at the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan tomorrow under the supervision of BCB's newly appointed Director of Development Eddie Barlow.

The former South African Test cricketer is scheduled to take over his charge from today for the next two years.

The camp will start with 34 cricketers to the camp, but three of them--Min-hazal Abedin, Athar Ali and Mohammad Rafique--retired over the past week and promising youngster Ridwan Hossain has declined because of his academic commitments.

Bangladesh will play against West Indies and England A next month. The West Indies team will arrive on October 1 on a

ten-day tour during which they will play two ODIs and a three-



EDDIE BARLOW

day match. England A will arrive on a 20-day tour on October 17. The English second stringers will play four 4-day matches, 3 three-day matches and a limited over match against the national team.

The primary camp will start with the following cricketers: Aminul Islam, Khaled Mahmud, Mehrob Hossain, Shahriar Hossain, Akram Khan, Enamul Hoque, Khaled Mashud, Naimur Rahman, Shafuiddin Ahmed, Neyyamar Rashid, Monjurul Islam, Mahbubur Rahman, Al-Shahriar, Aminul Islam (jr.), Jahangir Alam, Javed Omar Belim, Hasanuzzaman, Nasirul Islam, Mushfiqur Rahman, Golam Mortuza, Habibul Bashar, Harunur Rashid, Sajid Hasan, Saifur Islam, Rashidul Haque, Salim Shahzad, Anisur Rahman, Atiar Rahman, Ehsanul Haque, Morshed Ali Khan, Ahmed Kamal and Zakir Hossain.

## Robson ready to take over

Sports Reporter

LONDON, Aug 31: He hasn't even been offered the job yet but former England boss Bobby Robson is already relishing the challenge of putting the fire back into Premiership strugglers Newcastle United, reports AFP.

Even at the age of 66, Robson is the man to whom Newcastle are set to turn following Saturday's resignation by Dutchman Ruud Gullit as the club prepare to install their third manager since January 1997.

Robson says he would be happy to get the call.

"We have had no dialogue of any sort and that's the true position. This is all speculation. I've been quoted in virtually every Sunday paper without speaking to anybody."

"If they see me as a candidate and they wanted to speak to me, it's a telephone call I would accept and I would enjoy and relish talking to Newcastle United Football Club about the possibility of joining them as manager, of course, I would."

"Right at this moment with my energy, my fitness, my condition, my ambition, my motivation to be number one, working with players, being responsible for the club's results at Premiership level, that's the job I'm looking for," said North East-born Robson.

A Newcastle spokesman said late Sunday nothing would be decided until after Monday's match at Manchester United.

Robson, who was in the frame to replace Kevin Keegan

two-and-a-half years ago but who at the time insisted on honouring his contract at Barcelona, said his age was no problem.

"I'm in good health, I'm better than I've ever been and I would like to continue to work," he said.

"The job wouldn't worry me. I'm very experienced, I can handle it and in view of all these ingredients, I wouldn't be afraid of the job."

"If Newcastle came to me, I would propose to Newcastle United what I felt the road should be for them to take it on. I see myself as a field coach as well as a football club manager. My job is not to be in the office doing other things. My job is with the players. That's how I see myself."

Robson dismissed the idea that the pressure-cooker atmosphere of yneside would prove too much for him.

"I've been in pressure jobs, Barcelona, Porto was a pressure job, Sporting Lisbon was a pressure job, PSV was a pressure job and so was the England job."

"I've experienced that all my life so es. I can handle that."



BOBBY ROBSON

## Zaccheroni's ultimatum

Sports Reporter

MILAN, Aug 31: AC Milan coach Alberto Zaccheroni warned his midfielders on Tuesday that he'll shoot them if they turn in another performance like last weekend's, reports AFP.

The Italian champions were held to an embarrassing 2-2 draw by Serie A newcomers Lecce on Sunday and Zaccheroni soon lost his temper, claiming that his men had paid the price for slacking in training.

"I get very angry," he admitted. "But I get over things quickly."

"However, I can't forget that below-par performance, particularly by the midfield, at Lecce."

"I can cope with a start to the season like this, but not with certain lapses in concentration. And those lapses are the result of ones that are being made during the week."

And he added: "After this first match, all the players at AC Milan know that from now on I'm going to be like a sentry on duty: with my musket loaded."

"Milan are more than ever in

the spotlight now and the players have to understand that."

"Given that there is so little time left now for training, if people don't behave in a super-professional way, then we need a coach-turned-sentryman."

Focussing on the source of Sunday's problems, he added: "If the midfielders don't work well, then the defence becomes even more fragile than it would be at the start of the season anyway."

"The attack is looking fairly good. We created six scoring chances away from home and that's important," he said. "But Lecce had three chances and both teams ended up converting two of them."

"So even the statistics show that we made more mistakes than they did," he told the Gazzetta dello Sport.

## Thorpe can swim faster

Sports Reporter

SYDNEY, Aug 31: Australian world record holder Ian Thorpe today modelled a new, full-length bodysuit and said he felt the swimwear could improve his times even further, reports Reuters.

Milan's next match is on September 12 against Perugia, with the good news being the expected return from injury of team captain Paolo Maldini.

Brazilian midfielder Leonardo accepted the criticism, but pointed to the muddy conditions last weekend.

"It was just impossible to play," he said. "We haven't been able to work together much and we know that a lot of things still need to be sorted out. But in the mud, even the simplest moves become impossible."

"Lecce were playing at home and were very aggressive. And for a side that has to count on its physical strength, conditions like those can only help."

"And anyway, all the big clubs were struggling. At the start of the season, the sheer enthusiasm of smaller clubs helps to bridge the gap in technique."

But with a week's break coming up, because of international matches, he added: "I think that even though Zaccheroni will be angry because he won't have everyone for training, the pause will do us good."

"I'm sure that (against Perugia) it's going to be a different story."