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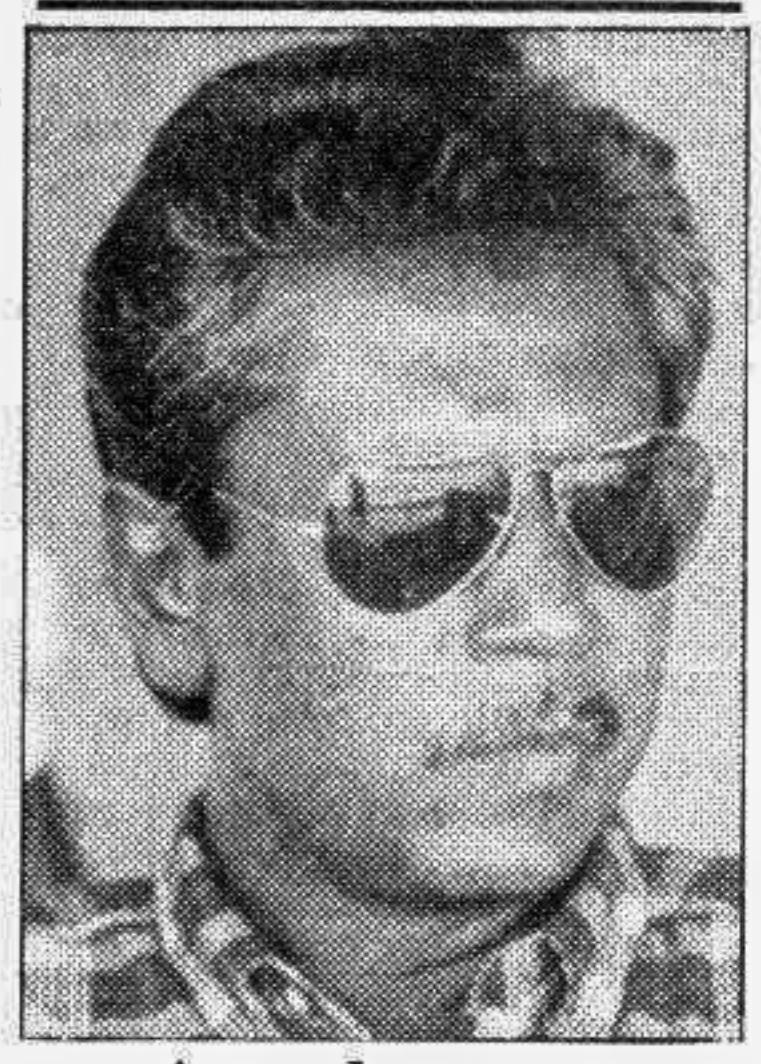
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Star Sport

DHAKA THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Aunshuman Gaekwad

(Indian cricket coach)
"We need at least 24 players to have separate Test cricket and one-day international teams. But we don't have so much talent."

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

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?

Whatmore | Yardley | Fernandez

3 Who won the Confederations Cup title?

Brazil | Mexico | USA

4 Who is the Bangladesh cricket captain?

Minhazul | Akram | Aminul

5 Which stadium will host the final of 2002 World Cup?

Yokohama | Sutdkt | Nagoya

Name

Class

Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

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Star bridge columnist passes away

Sports Reporter
Dr. AK Sayeedul Haque, a popular bridge columnist of the Daily Star, died of cardiac failure at his Baridhara residence on Tuesday. He was 63.

Haque, president of the Dhaka House of Consultants Limited and the chairman of Information Services Network, left behind his wife, a son and daughter.

Born in Noakhali, Haque obtained a PhD in Economics from Oxford University. His 'Six No Trump' column, gained tremendous popularity among the readers of The Daily Star.

The quirkiness of the deceased will be held at his Baridhara residence (House-20, Road-13) after Asr prayers on Friday.

Yorke honoured

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago, Sept 1: Trinidad and Tobago honoured one of its most famous sons, Manchester United soccer star Dwight Yorke, in its Independence Day awards yesterday, reports Reuters.

Yorke, the 1998-99 English Premier League player-of-the-year whose goals helped United to a prize-winning treble last season of the league, the English FA Cup and the European Championship Cup, was awarded the Chaconia Gold Medal, his country's second highest honour.

Yorke, 27, was born on the island of Tobago.

Onus on Japan, Ghana

Sports Reporter

The second Bangabandhu Cup International Football Tournament resumes today after a day's break with Japan and Ghana as clear favorites to reach the semifinals.

Both Japan and Ghana require only a draw against Kuwait and Uzbekistan in their respective final group league matches to advance into the last four of the 12-team meet.

The matches will be held at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur instead of the Bangabandhu National Stadium. The organisers Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has taken the decision of switching the venue for the second time in a desperate bid to bring its damaged original ground back into some sort of shape.

The BFF have come under severe criticism from all the participating teams for forcing them to play at the muddy and under-prepared Bangabandhu National Stadium.



spirited Nepal side by the odd goal in three.

The Uzbek side too, had a disappointing start against Nepal. They won the match by a

lone goal, but it were Nepal who played the better brand of soccer than their more colorful Asian counterparts.

Although both Ghana and Uzbekistan attributed the poor ground condition as cause for their dismal performances, Japan, surprisingly, had a happy harvesting at the same venue.

The JFL, a semiprofessional side from Japan who made a wonderful start with a 5-0 thrashing of Indonesia in their opening Group D match, will take on Kuwait in the second fixture, billed for a 6 pm start.

The Kuwait Olympic team, however, were lucky enough to play their opening game on a far superior ground of the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur where they blanked Indonesia 2-0.

But the inexperienced booters from the desert kingdom are expected to have a tough time against a spirited Japanese side.

Akram Khan also turned up at the BCB office, but reportedly have sought a couple of day's rest before joining the camp.

Sajid Hassan, called in the national team after a long time, is now in the United States along with national opener Mehrab Hossain and left-arm spinner Enamul Hoque.

Besides, left-arm seamer Anisur Rahman and Jahangir are now in the UK to play in the minor counties.

This scenario of so many cricketers missing a national camp owing to personal reasons is unprecedented.

Bangladesh will play a couple of ODI's and as many three-day matches against the visiting West Indies team, who are scheduled to arrive in the capital on October 1. Besides, the second string England team will also tour Bangladesh in the second week of October.

Truants order of Barlow's camp

Sports Reporter

Twenty-five out of the 38 cricketers called up in the selection trial for the national team have joined the residential camp at BKSP yesterday.

Among the 13 absentees, three cricketers—Minhazul Abedin, Athar Ali Khan and Mohammed Rafique—had announced their retirement after they were called in the national camp. The rest have skipped the opening session of training under the tutelage of the newly appointed South African coach Eddie Barlow.

Skipper Aminul Islam was one of the notable absentees. The dapper right-hander is reported to have sought a seven days leave from the board to play league cricket in the United States.

Off-spinner Naimur Rahman, who turned up to report at the BCB office yesterday, did join the camp but is also planning to unite with his captain in the USA soon.

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Aminul blow for Bangladesh

Sports Reporter

The celebration of the national footballers after their 1-0 victory over the Malaysian Olympic team turned sour to some extent when doctors ruled custodian Aminul out of action for not only this tournament, but also for the forthcoming SAF Games.

The dependable national goalkeeper, who sustained a severe injury in Bangladesh's opening match on Tuesday, has been advised to take at least a six-week rest by panel of renowned doctors yesterday.

An X-ray report confirmed two broken fingers on Aminul's right hand. The tall goalie, who had a wonderful domestic season under the bar for Abahani, is also a doubtful starter for the remaining part of the Premier League, which is likely to resume after the SAF games.

Aminul's absent will be a great loss for Bangladesh in the SAF Games, which will begin in Kathmandu later this month.

The manager of the Bangladesh team Abdul Gaffar said that apart from Aminul central defender Rajani had also sustained injury in the game against Malaysia. Rajani had cuts around his left eye, which required two stitches.

But he is expected to play in Bangladesh's next match against Kerulet FC of Hungary tomorrow.

Newspapers stopped the presses to report the home team's victory in the day-night finals in the tri-nations contest that also included India.

"Sri Lanka got off to a flying start. There was no pulling them back thereafter," said Australian captain Steve Waugh.

Both Whatmore and team manager Schaffter played down the exchanges in the middle and said there were no complaints by the players.

Victory eased the pain of Sri Lanka came following a series of changes in the team after the side's dismal performance at the World Cup tournament in England. Sri Lanka had also lost 18 of the 25 one-day internationals played since last October.

Opposition leader Ranil Wickremesinghe said radical changes which included the dropping of former skipper Arjuna Ranatunga and his deputy Aravinda de Silva had paid dividends.

Whatmore and team manager Chandra Schaffter said they had been confident of victory despite being the underdogs.

"Deep down I was silently confident that we will win."

COLOMBO, Sept 1 (AFP/Reuters): Sri Lankan leaders heaped praise on the national cricket team as the country celebrated a shock victory over Australia in a tri-nations tournament as if it were a replay of their World Cup triumph three years ago.

President Chandrika Kumaratunga thanked Australian coach Dav Whatmore and skipper Sanath Jayasuriya for delivering a morale-boosting victory that ended an year-long drought of tournament trophies.

The victory for Sri Lanka came following a series of changes in the team after the side's dismal performance at the World Cup tournament in England. Sri Lanka had also lost 18 of the 25 one-day internationals played since last October.

A resurgent Sri Lankan team had terminated Australia's World Cup euphoria and raised the side's morale to a new level with a well acclaimed eight-wicket victory, the independent Midweek Mirror reported.

"Lanka bring world champs Aussies down to earth with a thud," read the headline of the state-owned Daily News. "Sri Lanka strike like thunder and dethrone World Cup champions Australia."

Sri Lanka will now meet Australia in a three-test series, the first of which begins on September 9 in the central hill town of Kandy, reports Reuters.

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