

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-122

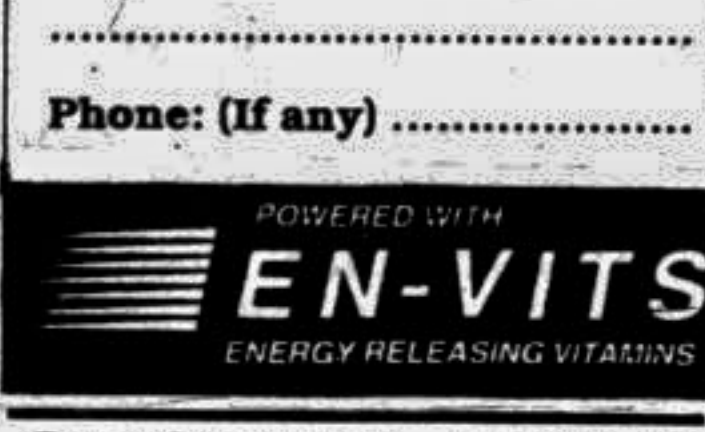
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to the Editor, Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Oct 29, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Which country won the SA Cup football gold?
Bangladesh India Nepal
- Who is the captain of Brazil?
Cafu Rivaldo Ronaldo
- How many teams will play in next year's Asia Cup cricket?
4 5 6
- Who won the men's 100 m in the Summer Athletics?
Mahbub Yasin Ratan
- Who lifted the Grand Slam Cup title?
Rusedski Agassi Kafelnikov

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

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



David Beckham

(England's star playmaker)
"Each time I watch Rivaldo or Ronaldo on TV, I try to take in what I see. I become like a sponge."

Cricket for Africa

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 19 (Internet report): With the field almost certain to be increased to 14, South Africa are already gearing themselves up to host the largest ever World Cup cricket competition in 2003. And the theme as far as United Cricket Board managing director Al Bacher is concerned is going to be "Cricket for Africa".

For starters, both Zimbabwe and Kenya will in all probability be staging pool games, but at the same time Bacher is also intent on keeping his "township development" fires burning. Anything from three to five Cup games will be designated to township grounds and in addition Durban's Chatsworth stadium is assured of a match or two.

All eleven of our major venues will obviously come into the reckoning," said Bacher, "but we will also be looking at areas like Langa, Zwarte and Soweto. That's imperative."

Certain stadia, he added, would obviously have to be upgraded and with this in mind Professor Eugene van Vuuren, a lecturer at Pretoria University and a specialist on world stadiums, has been appointed to investigate the current status of all possible venues.

He will be reporting back to us at the end of March next year," said Bacher, "but it's actually going to be a three-year project and the costs of any upgrading will be borne by the UCB."

Gloucs to play SA champs

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 19 (Internet report): English cricket's one-day champions Gloucester will lend some added spice to this summer's Standard Bank Cup here by way of a one-off "international" against the SA champions on March 31.

Gloucester, who lifted both the Super and Natwest cups this year, will be making a two-week tour to south Africa as part of their build-up to next summer's county programme.

The final of the SA Cup competition is scheduled to be played on March 24 the winners of which will then meet Gloucester in a day-night game on their home ground.



National Sports Council awardee footballer, shooters and cricketers pose with NSC chairman and Youth and Sports Minister Obaidul Quader (sitting 2nd from R) and other officials during the prize-giving ceremony yesterday.

Weather upsets Alleyne & Co

ports Reporter
England A captain Mark Alleyne expressed his deep concern about the wet weather prevailing in the country for the last couple of days.

"I'm worried about the weather, which looks very unfriendly at this moment," said Alleyne, who is leading the second-string England side against different local selections in a series of matches during their 19-day tour.

The visibly disappointed Gloucestershire all-rounder, however, said that they were eagerly waiting to experience the sub-continent wicket and the tough challenge from the hosts.

"We have seen Bangladesh playing in the World Cup. I think this will be a very exciting one for us," said Alleyne while talking to a host of journalists at a press briefing at the BCB conference room yesterday.

England A coach Mark Moxon said, "We have practised together for only three days before coming here. But I think the visit to Dhaka ahead of our New Zealand tour will provide us the opportunity to have the taste of the slow and turning wickets as well as a very tough competitor."

The persistent rain has cast a gloom on the tour. Alleyne and company experienced a wet reception on arrival in the city on Monday to feature in a couple of one-day matches, a three-day and a four-day match. Alleyne's concern was compounded when his team had to be confined to the Sheraton Hotel, the temporary abode of the 14-man England side, for the whole day Tuesday as rain continued to play foul.

The players however had a light warm-up session at the hotel's tennis court. Although the rain was forecast for today, the England team is all set to engage in an indoor practice session at the BKSP in Savar.

The visitors will start the tour with a practice match (limited-over affair) at the BKSP against the Bangladesh Youth team on October 22.

The secretary of the grounds committee Alam Chowdhury said if the rain continues they might be forced to postpone the practice match at the BKSP.

We are hopeful that the sun will shine tomorrow. But if it rains then it would be difficult for us to prepare the BKSP ground for October 22. The wicket is all right. Our main cause of concern is the outfield," said a grim-faced Alam yesterday.

"The condition of the Bangabandhu National Stadium is awfully bad at this moment. We have covered the pitch and it will be fine. But the ground is soggy. We need at least two days of sunshine to make the ground playable," said Alam.

Alam also said that heavy rain would also affect the wickets at Chittagong, where the three-day match will start from October 25. Alam however said they were expecting a sunny break within the next couple of days.

Six cricketers — Enamul Haq Khaled Mashud, Javed Omar Belim, Manjural Islam, Al Shahriar and skipper Aminul Islam — received different amounts of prize money for their good performances against the Caribbeans.

Left-arm spinner Enamul, who took his career best five wickets in the 3-day, received 500 dollars while wicketkeeper-cum-batsman Masood, who made an unbeaten 59 also in the 3-day, and again scored 53 in the first one-dayer, got 400 dollars.

Opening batsman Javed for his 53 in the 3-day, newball bowler Manjural for his three wickets in the same match, Al-Shahriar for his unbeaten 62 in the first one-dayer and Aminul for his 66 in the second one-dayer, received 200 dollars each.

Raza, Youhana propel
West Indian attack lacking firepower in the absence of the rested Curtly Ambrose.

The burly Inzamam, who came close to being run out twice, hit five boundaries and a six, before pulling off-spinner Nehemiah Perry to Ricardo Powell on the mid-wicket fence.

Youhana, who added 81 for the fourth wicket with Raza, hit three boundaries and four sixes as Pakistan took 99 runs off the last 10 overs.

Hasan Raza hit 77 and Inzamam Haq contributed 61 during a 98-run stand for the third wicket after the west Indies had restricted Pakistan to 47 for two by the 18th over.

Pakistan, already assured of a place in Friday's final, rested captain Wasim Akram and Saad Anwar for the last league match of the three-nation tournament. Wicketkeeper Moin Khan, who led the side, won the toss and elected to bat.

The West Indies, needing a win to qualify for the final ahead of Sri Lanka, struck in the fifth over when Reon King trapped Shahid Afridi leg-before.

The other opener Wahajullah Wasti made 19 when he lofted part-timer Shivnarine Chanderpaul straight to King at long-on.

Inzamam and Raza dug in to retrieve the situation against a

Akram, Naimur in, Mehrab rested

Sports Reporter
The Bangladesh squad is likely to see some changes when it is announced in a couple of days. The team will play a series of matches against the visiting England A.

In all likelihood, Akram Khan will be back in the Bangladesh team after nursing an injury for over a month.

Naimur Rahman is also set to make it back to the first eleven after overcoming eight stitches that he required after sustaining an injury in the match against the West Indies at Dhaka earlier this month.

The chances of Mehrab Hossain making it to the Bangladesh team are rather slim. The young opener injured his shoulder, also against the West Indies. He will however in all probability play for BCB XI in the one-day match at Dhaka.

Probable BCB XI: Habibul Bashar (captain), Mehrab Hossain, Imran Ahmed, Harun Rashid, Nahid, Sanwar Hossain, Atiar Rahman (wicketkeeper), Neeamur Rashid, Sabbir Khan, Mosaddek Hossain, Aminul Islam, Hasibul Hossain and Bikash Ranjan Das.

Probable Youth team: Fahim Muntasir (captain), Hannan Sarker, Sadiq Hassan, Imran Ahmed, Rajin Saleh, Mushfiqur Rahman, Mazharul Haq, Golam Murtaza (wicketkeeper), Bikash Ranjan Das, Mosaddek Hossain, Imran Rahim, Nahidul Haq, Mohammed Kalim and Rezaul Hoque.

CTg 3-dayer on BTV
From CU Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Oct 19: Bangladesh Television (BTV), Chittagong Centre will telecast the three-day match between Bangladesh and England A team scheduled to be held at the M A Aziz Stadium in Chittagong from October 25 to October 27.

NSC awards the stars
National Sports Council (NSC) yesterday awarded three shooters, one footballer and six cricketers for their outstanding performances in the recently concluded eighth SAF Games and against touring West Indies.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader, who is the chairman of National Sports Council, distributed the prizes at the NSC conference room in the afternoon.

The three gold winning women shooters in the SAF Games — Sabrina Sultana, Kazi Shahana Parveen and Lovely Chowdhury Anki — received a prize money of Tk one lakh each while the outgoing captain of the gold winning football team Jewel Rana also got the same amount.

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Inter-service aquatic ends
Two SAFF Games records, seven national and eight inter-service records were improved in the inter-service swimming championship which concluded yesterday at the Bangladesh Navy central swimming pool, says an ISPR press release.

Two new records were established yesterday. KS Islam, Steward-II of the Bangladesh Navy improved SAFF Games and inter-service records in 100m breaststroke taking 1 minute 09.22 seconds. SAFF Games record in the event was 1 minute 19.33 seconds while the inter-service record in the event was 1 minute 09.42 seconds.

M A Hamid, also of the Bangladesh Navy improved national and inter-service record in 200m. Freestyle taking 2 minute 5.37 seconds. Previous national record in the event was 2 minute 7.50 seconds.

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Goodwin doesn't feel good
PERTH, Oct 19: Zimbabwe's star number three batsman Murray Goodwin is fed up with the "unprofessional" game at home and wants to move back to Australia, a report here said today, reports AFP.

Goodwin, who made a stylish 91 at Harare in Zimbabwe's historic one-off Test against Australia at the weekend, told The West Australian newspaper he would leave Zimbabwe if he could get a contract to play in Australia, preferably in Western Australia state.

Goodwin, 26, was born in Zimbabwe, but moved to Australia with his family in his teens. He was a fringe player for Western Australia for several seasons, and returned to Zimbabwe three years ago.

He was an immediate success in the Zimbabwe Test side and now averages 52.64 after 10 Tests.

The newspaper said Goodwin had told it from Harare that player payments in Zimbabwe were so low, despite good income from television rights, that he could not plan for his future.

He was paid at the annual level of a good Australian Sheffield Shield player, about 30,000 Australian dollars (19,350 US), but was frustrated at the lack of professionalism.

"The way the administration is being run in Zimbabwe at the moment, I would come back to Australia if I could get a good contract," he said.

"It would be a permanent move. It is very unprofessional here and they want us to play for the honor of the country, with minimal pay compared to their own income."

"Zimbabwe cricket is bringing in a lot of money for TV

Six named in Pak probe: report Ban on Malik, Mushtaq?

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct 19 (AFP/The News): Pakistan's cricket team was on Tuesday rocked by a media report back home that six players, including captain Wasim Akram, were found guilty of wrongdoing by the judicial commission on betting and match-fixing.

Pakistani newspaper "The News" reported that Judge Malik Mohammad Qayyum had recommended that Salim Malik and Mushtaq Ahmed be banned and three others, Ijaz Ahmed, Inzamamul Haq and Saad Anwar.

The judge is also reported to have said that Akram should be stripped of the captaincy because "he was not a reliable

character and the authorities need to keep a close eye on him," the paper said.

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for further action.
The newspaper report says, Justice Qayyum has recommended that fines ranging between 2.5 lakh Pakistan rupees should be imposed on Wasim, Ijaz, Anwar and Inzamam. The judge believes that enough material has come before the commission to convince it they were not entirely straight in their statements given to it or in their activities at some period of time. He however reportedly noted that no direct evidence was found against these four players.

The judge is alleged to have recommended a token fine of 1000 rupees on Pakistan player Basit Ali. The token fine being recommended on the basis of what the commission observed during the course of its inquiry.

The commission has also noted that the government and the PCB can further take up cases against the players, against whom action has been recommended in criminal courts.

Meanwhile, Yawar Saad, the manager of the team playing in the ongoing three-nation Sharjah Cup here, played down the newspaper report as being "a speculative leak of the recommendations."

"You can't stop newspapers from publishing such reports," he said.

This is all speculative. We have not received any official word from either the PCB or the President."

Saad stressed the team was in good spirits and looking forward to both the Sharjah Cup final on Friday and the upcoming tour of Australia.

"I can assure you the players are not worried," the manager said. "They are here to play cricket and that's all there is in their minds."

The Australia-bound squad will be picked here on Thursday. The team leaves for Perth soon after the final on Friday.

Malik is the only one among

the six players who is not in contention for a place in the touring squad."

Malik, after representing Pakistan in the World Cup, has more or less faded out and chances of him being selected again for Pakistan have appeared bleak. Unconfirmed reports in Pakistan suggested that the former captain was contemplating settling down in Canada.

Wasim was last month appointed captain for the rest of the season by Mujeeb Rehman, the chief executive of the PCB. The other players were also cleared to play pending the findings of the judicial commission.

Rehman, who had close links with deposed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, has been untraced since last week's

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