

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-122

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star, Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm Oct 29, '99 and draw shortly afterwards

- Which country won the SAFF football gold?

Bangladesh	India	Nepal
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- Who is the captain of Brazil?

Cafu	Rivaldo	Ronaldo
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- How many teams will play in next year's Asia Cup cricket?

4	5	6
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- Who won the men's 100 m in the Summer Athletics?

Mahbub	Yasin	Ratan
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- Who lifted the Grand Slam Cup title?

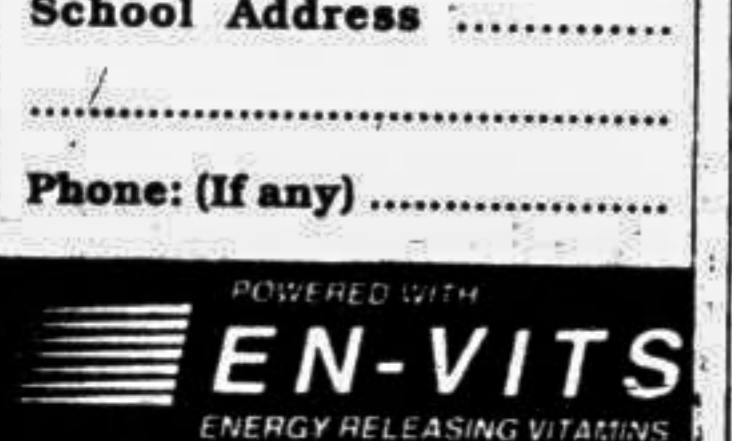
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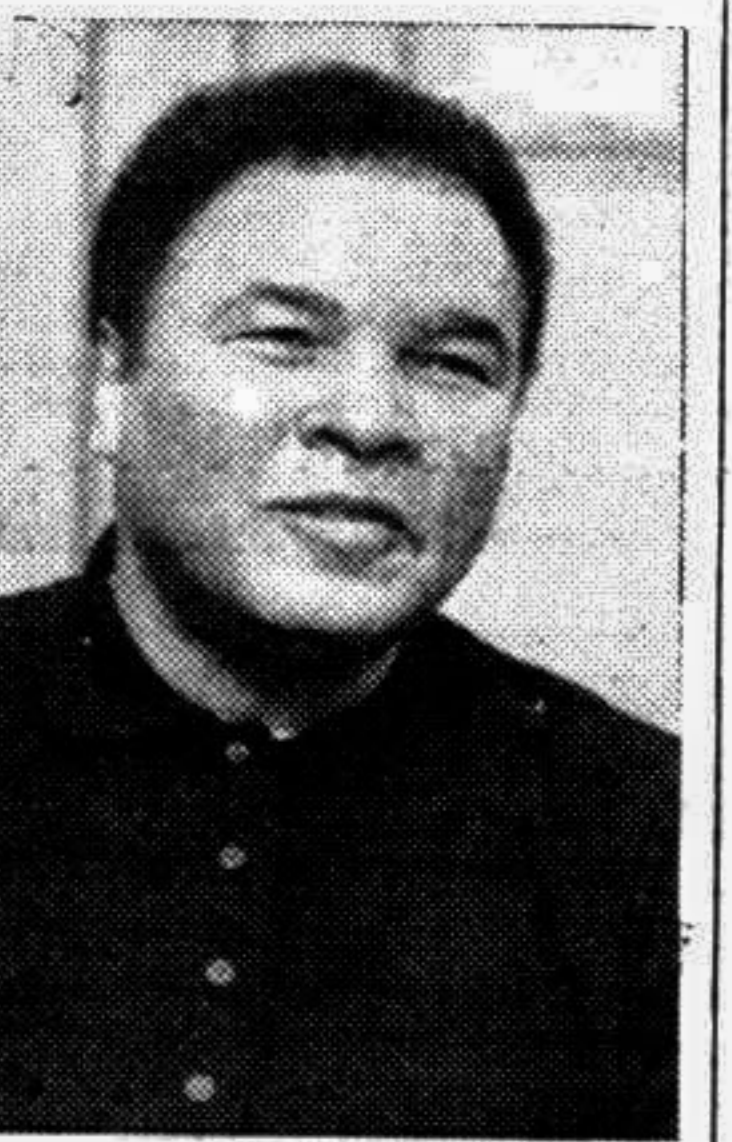
Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)



SPORTS TALK



Muhammad Ali
(Boxing legend)
"Now I'm fighting Parkinson's disease. But I don't let it stop me. I still travel, attend to my business, do interviews."
While revealing that he intended to fight an exhibition bout, of course jokingly.

Jamaica honours Walsh, Rhone

JAMAICA, Oct 20 (Internet): Champion West Indies fast bowler Courtney Walsh and president of the Jamaica Netball Association (JNA) Molly Rhone were the recipients of national honours at King's House yesterday.
Walsh received Jamaica's third highest national honour, the Order of Jamaica (OJ), whereas Rhone got the Order of Distinction (Officer Class), the nation's fourth highest honour.
37-year-old Walsh is the second highest wicket taker in the history of Test cricket with 423 scalps to date.

NSW hit by Love

BRISBANE, Australia, Oct 20 (AFP): Queensland batsman Martin Love completed a 10-hour assault on New South Wales Wednesday before the home side's pacemen rammed home the advantage in their Sheffield Shield cricket match at the Gabba.
NSW were 66 for four at the close on the second day, still 257 runs short of the follow-on after a Love-inspired onslaught left the Queenslanders in a formidable position.
The 25-year-old Love showed NSW no mercy on his way to his highest first-class score of 228 steering Queensland to 473 for eight before captain Stuart Law declared at tea.
NSW were 17 for three after pacemen Michael Kasprovic and Scott Muller staked their claim for a Test berth against Pakistan at the Gabba in two weeks.

With national selector Trevor Hohns watching, Kasprovic (2-13), not long back from a stint with England's Leicestershire, claimed two wickets in four balls after Muller (1-8) started the rot when he had opener Rodney Davison caught at third slip for five.

BCB XI, Youth squad named



The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday announced a 14-man second-string national side for a limited-over match against the visiting England A. The board also announced a 14-member Youth team, which will play a limited-over exhibition match against the same opposition at the BKSP in Savar tomorrow.



HARUN-UR RASHID

Harun-ur Rashid, the balding former national opener, will lead the shadow national team under the banner of BCB XI in the day-night limited-over match, to be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on October 23.

For Harun it is a welcome recall to any national side after a long break. The hard-hitting right-hander of Kalabagan was not considered for national selection because of his inconsistent performance in domestic cricket for the last couple of years.

The match will also provide an opportunity for some talented young players to show their mettle against a Test-playing nation.

Although the team includes some experienced cricketers like opener Mehrab Hossain, right-arm seamer Hasibul Hossain, all-rounders Sanwar Hossain and Habibul Bashar, the match will provide a lucky break for Imran Ahmed and Bikash Ranjan Das.

The chances of the two young cricketers getting into the playing eleven will mostly depend on their performance in the practice match at the BKSP, Imran, the right-handed Victoria opener, and seamer Bikash have also been selected for the Youth team.



MUSHFIQUR RAHMAN

Incidentally, another Kalabagan player, Mushfiqur Rahman, will lead the Youth team. Considered as a bright national prospect, the young all-rounder, however, has hardly lived up to his potential this far.

BCB XI: Harun-ur Rashid (captain), Habibul Bashar, Mehrab Hossain, Imran Ahmed, Nasirul Alam, Sanwar Hossain, Atiar Rahman (wicketkeeper), Neezamur Rashid, Sabbir Khan, Mosaddek Hossain, Aminul Islam, Hasibul Hossain and Bikash Ranjan Das.

Youth team: Mushfiqur Rahman (captain), Fahim Muntasir, 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 Kalin and Rezaul Hoque.



As the sun finally shone, though briefly, yesterday afternoon, a worker at the Bangabandhu National Stadium chocking up water from the outfield. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

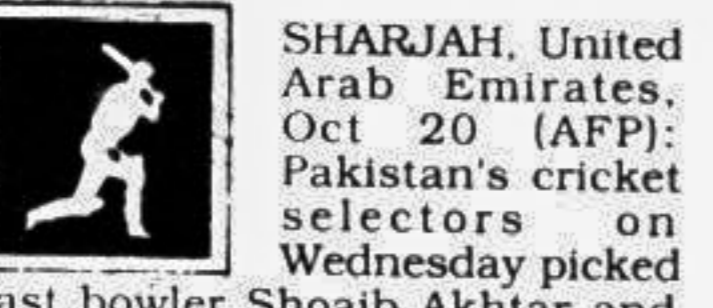
Outside rain, inside England

The visiting England A cricketers finally found a place to defy the inclement weather and had some practice, thanks to the wonderful indoor facilities at the BKSP in Savar.

The tourists, who have been deprived of any outdoor practice since their arrival in the capital on Monday due to persistent rain, went to BKSP yesterday to go through a three-hour indoor training.

England A, who are here on a 19-day tour, will play a series of matches against different local sections at different venues. They will start the tour with a practice match, a limited-over affair, against the Youth team at the BKSP tomorrow.

Pak selectors ignore media report Ijaz, Mushtaq get surprise nod



IJAZ AHMED

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct 20 (AFP): Pakistan's cricket selectors on Wednesday picked fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar and recalled Ijaz Ahmed and Mushtaq Ahmed for the upcoming tour of Australia.

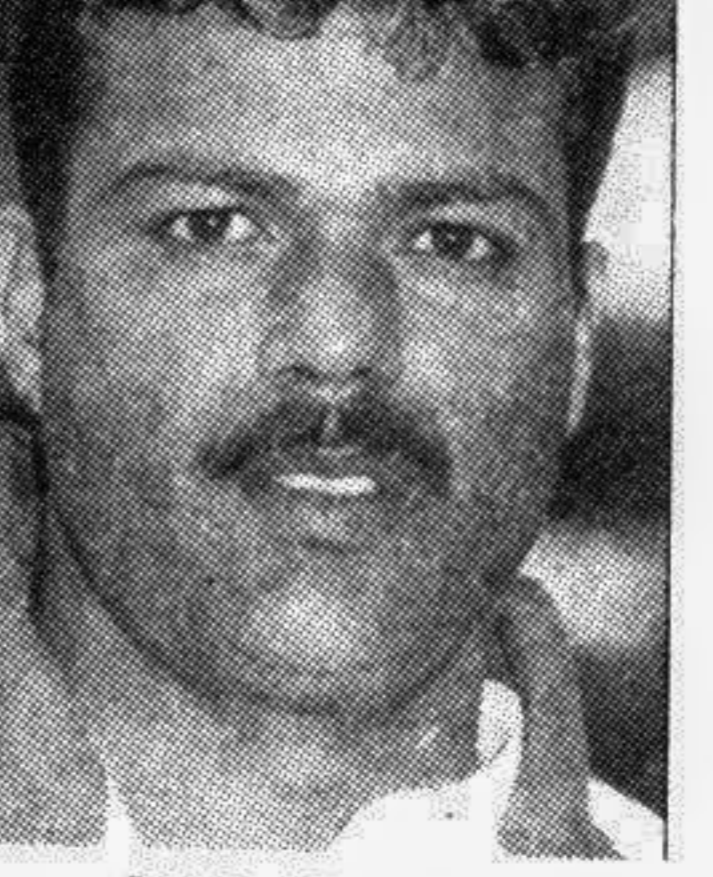
Shoaib, who missed the ongoing Sharjah Cup one-day tournament because of a shoulder injury, was picked after passing a strenuous fitness test before the selectors and team officials here.

The 22-year-old was asked to fly in from England to undergo the test ahead of the selection.

The selectors also ignored experienced opening batsman Aamir Sohail and included Ghulam Ali as the third opener alongside Anwar and Wajahatullah Wasti.

Mushtaq Ahmed and wily off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq, fully recovered from a knee injury, are the two slow bowlers in the side.

The middle-order will be manned by Ijaz, Inzamam, Yousuf Youhana and the recalled Mohammad Wasim, who will also double up as the reserve wicket-keeper to vice-captain Moin Khan.



MUSHTAQ AHMED

Asked what would happen if President Tarar recommends action against any player midway through the tour, Naushad said: "We cannot go on ifs and buts."

The team boasts of six fast bowlers, including the 17-year-old pace sensation Shabbir Ahmed, but there was no place for veteran Waqar Younis.

Akram, Shoaib and Shabbir will be supported in the new-ball attack by Mohammad Akram and all-rounders Abdur Razaq and Azhar Mahmood.



WASIM AKRAM

which was advanced by a day to enable travel formalities to be completed.

The 16-member squad, led by Wasim Akram, flies out from here after Friday's Sharjah Cup final against Sri Lanka for three Tests and a triangular one-day series against hosts Australia and arch-rivals India.

The three-member selection committee, headed by Naushad Ali, ignored the imminent re-

leuse of the judicial commission report on match-fixing and recalled trusted middle-order batsman Ijaz Ahmed and leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed.

Five of the six players who were named in Pakistani media reports on Tuesday as being held guilty by the commission—Akram, Mushtaq, Saeed Anwar, Inzamam-ul-Haq and Ijaz—were picked in the touring party.

The only exception was veteran Salim Malik, who was anyway not in contention for a place in the team.

The report by Judge Malik Mohammad Qayyum of the Lahore High Court has been referred to the country's President Rafiq Tarar, chief patron of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), for further action.

"We cannot go by speculative media reports," Naushad Ali said. "No one has told us not to select a particular player."

"We have picked the best available team which is bound to do well in Australia."

Naushad, a retired colonel in the Pakistan Army, said the team had been ratified by Javed Zaman, the lone member of the ad-hoc committee running the PCB.

The other member of the ad-hoc committee, Mujeeb Rehman, a close aide of deposed Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, is reported to be under detention after last week's military coup.

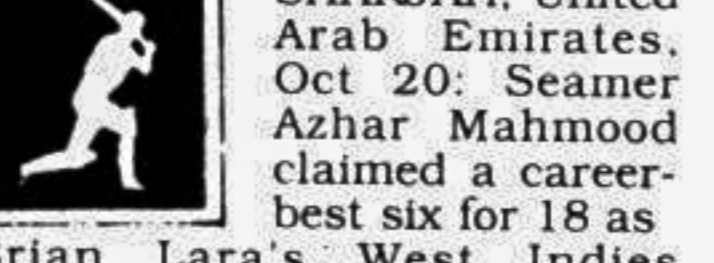
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Manager: Yawar Saeed. Coach: Richard Pybus.

WI bow out of Sharjah Cup



SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Oct 20: Seamer Azhar Mahmood claimed a career-best six for 18 as Pakistan romped to a 130-run romp in the first leg here last Thursday.

Inzamam-ul-Haq contributed 61 during a 98-run stand for the third wicket with Raza after the West Indies had restricted Pakistan to 47 for two by the 18th over.

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 legbefore.

The other opener Wajahatullah 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 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.

The West Indies made a shaky start, losing Sherwin Campbell in the third over to a low catch by stand-in captain Moin Khan off Mohammad Akram.

Mahmood, whose previous best was 5-38 against India at Bangalore earlier this year, began his rich haul by having Chris Gayle caught at point by Inzamam.

He then clean bowled Ridley Jacobs to make it 65 for three in the 15th over.

Inzamam took another fine catch to dismiss Shivnarine Chanderpaul off spinner Shoaib Malik, before Mahmood again got into the act.

He had Ricardo Powell and Wavell Hinds caught behind for no score and then trapped both Nehemiah Perry and Reon King leg-before.

Scoreboard of the Sharjah Cup one-day international between Pakistan and the West Indies here on Tuesday:

PAKISTAN: 255 for five (Raza 77, Youhana 71 not out, Inzamam 61, King 2/52)

WEST INDIES:

Jacobs b Mahmood	28
Campbell c Moin b M Akram	4
Gayle c Inzamam b Mahmood	22
Lara c Wasti b Malik	30
Chanderpaul c Inzamam b Malik	14
Powell c Moin b Mahmood	8
Hinds c Moin b Mahmood	8
Perry lbw b Mahmood	1
Dillon run out	0
King lbw b Mahmood	0
Collins not out	0
Extras (b-2; lb-3; w-2; nb-3)	10
Total (All out in 31.3 overs)	117
Fall of wickets: 1-8; 2-55; 3-65; 4-92; 5-93; 6-109; 7-111; 8-111; 9-111	

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
M Akram	6	1	18	1
Shabbir	4	0	27	0
Razaq	5	0	28	0
Mahmood	10	2	18	6
Malik	6.3	1	21	2

Result: Pakistan won by 138 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Azhar Mahmood

Final: Pakistan vs Sri Lanka on Friday.

Premier football 'Super 4' resumes from tomorrow

Three referees from Thailand arrived in the capital yesterday to conduct the six remaining 'Super 4' matches of the Keya Premier Division Football League.

The Premier League will resume tomorrow at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur after a long 64-day break due to the Bangabandhu Cup and the SAF Games.

League leaders Mohammedan will play the first match against Arambagh at 3.30 pm.

Abahani, who are trailing Mohammedan by two points, will take on holders Muktijoddha in the second match of the day at the same venue.

The Thai trio is - Hanilumyong Panyan, Piromya Chatchai and Tanadernkao Ekachai.

Afroza clinches open chess title

Afroza Khanam Bablee of Bangladesh Ansars emerged champion, in Professor Omdatul Islam memorial open chess tournament which concluded Tuesday at the Dhanmondi Sultana Kamal Women's Sports Complex, reports UNB.

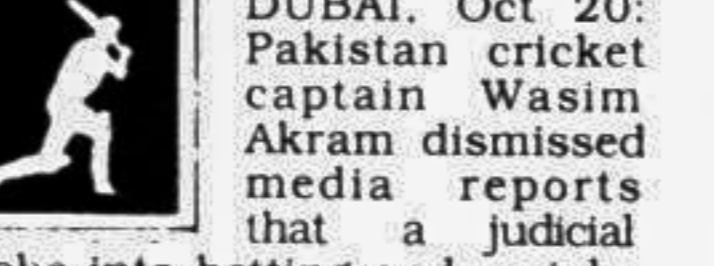
On completion of the five-round tourney, two players — Bablee and Tanima Farveen — secured 4.5 points each but in the progressive score of the breaker Bablee clinched the title.

Zakia Sultana of Ansar became third.

Mazharul Islam, the eldest son of Prof Omdatul Islam, distributed the prizes among the top six players yesterday.

The meet organised by Dhaka Divisional Women's Sports Association.

Wasim puts on brave face



DUBAI, Oct 20: Pakistan cricket captain Wasim Akram dismissed media reports that a judicial probe into betting and match-fixing charges had recommended life bans and hefty fines on leading players, saying his 'boys' were not bothered, according to PTI and news reports.

Wasim said speculative media reports only tended to strengthen the resolve of his teammates to perform better, in obvious reference to his team's brilliant run in the tri-nation Sharjah Cup, which also included Sri Lanka and India.

He has reaffirmed that his boys are "fully focussed" on cricket and there are "no tensions whatsoever in the Pakistan camp."

"We are professionals and play our cricket hard to win games for the country," he said. "Our team selection for Australia will be based on the time-tested principle of horses for courses. We'll pick the best of the lot and will go all out to win the series down under."

"I have had word with the Pakistan Board in the morning and my worries are over now," he told the Khaleej Times.

"The boys are looking forward to the Australian tour. As far as we are concerned, nothing has changed."

Meanwhile, Pakistan manager Yawar Saeed played down the newspaper report as being "a speculative leak of the recommendations."

from publishing such reports," he said.

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

Saeed 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 decision not to play Wasim, who apparently had a pulled muscle, and Anwar yesterday in the final league tie against West Indies was taken the night before the match and not due to the adverse media report.

"You can't stop newspapers

Pakistan middle-order batsman Yousuf Youhana takes a swipe at a Chris Gayle delivery during the Sharjah Cup match against West Indies on Tuesday. — AFP photo

Make 'fix' report public: Imran

KARACHI, Oct 20: Former cricket star-turned politician Imran Khan on Wednesday demanded the report of a judicial commission on match fixing and betting against star players be made public.

"Not only us who have served the game but the entire country wants to know the findings. The report has to be made public," the 45-year-old former captain told AFP.

"Otherwise it will give birth to more speculation and bring a bad name to the game and country," said the cricket legend.

Imran retired from the game after leading Pakistan to victory in the 1992 World Cup to form his own political party, the Tehrik-i-Insaf (Movement for Justice).

The team was on Tuesday rocked by reports the commission had found six players, including captain Wasim Akram, guilty of wrongdoing.

The News daily said Judge Malik Mohammad Qayyum, head of the one-man commission had recommended that Salim Malik and Mushtaq Ahmed be banned.

The commission has also recommended that Akram and three others, Ijaz Ahmed, Inzamam-ul-Haq and Saeed Anwar, be fined, according to the report.

The judge is also reported to have said that Akram should be stripped of the captaincy.

There had been rumours in the past. And we do not know what is true and what is false. So I strongly demand that the report be made public to present the true picture," Imran said.

But he said no action should be taken against the star cricketers in haste.

"They (the players) are innocent unless found guilty. So people should wait for the report of judicial commission before reaching any conclusion," he said.

Imran criticised the cricket board officials for delaying the whole process which "created a mess as they should have com-

pleted the investigation when the allegations of match fixing and bribery cropped up years ago."

The match fixing charges first surfaced in Pakistan cricket in 1994 when three Australian players, Shane Warne, Mark Waugh and Tim May, alleged then Pakistan captain Salim Malik offered them a bribe to play poorly.

Former Pakistan captains Rashid Latif and Aamir Sohail, and pacer Ataur Rehman have also accused fellow players of match fixing.

Yawar Saeed, the manager of the team playing now in the

press

Former Pakistan cricket captain Imran Khan speaking at a press conference in Karachi on October 19. — AFP photo