

## 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

Nov 5, '99 and draw

shortly afterwards

1. Which country won the SA

Bangladesh India Nepal

2. Who is the captain of Brazil?

Cafu Rivaldo Ronaldo

3. How many teams will play in next

year's Asia Cup cricket?

4 5 6

4. Who won the men's 100 m in the

Summer Athletics?

Mahub Yasin Ratan

5. Who lifted the Grand Slam Cup

Rusedski Agassi Kafelnikov

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (if any) .....

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Due to some unavoidable

reasons draw of the WHIZZ

KID Competition-122 could

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November 5. —Sports Editor

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Bangladesh opener Javed Omar plays defensively against England A during the one-day match yesterday. —Star photo

## Bangladesh fail to ride on sound start

### Fag end meekness proves vital

Al-Amin



Consistency, it seems, will never be the hallmark of Bangladesh cricketers when it counts most.

Bangladesh got off to a sparkling start, scoring 50 runs in the ninth over without loss. But then suffered an all-too-familiar spectacular middle-order collapse to end up with a modest 226 in their one-off Starship limited-over match against the visiting England A at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Although there was no devil in the wicket, Bangladesh batsmen wilted under the pressure of their own creation when the stage was all set for a 250-plus score.

Opener Shahriar Hossain more than justified his skipper Aminul Islam's decision to bat first with a typically aggressive 34 off 40 balls with the help of five fours to give the home side a resounding start.

Runs however dried up after Shahriar departed at the score 56 in the 11th over, offering a tame catch at mid-off. Javed Omar cut his way to a disciplined 48 to lay the foundation of what promised to be a big total. The right-hander, with limited strokes up his sleeves, put on 62 runs for the second wicket with one-down Habibul Bashar before both fell at the score of 118. Javed was clean bowled by a wicked yorker from England captain Alleyne while Bashar, who scored a brilliant 83 for BCB XI in the first limited-over match against the visitors at the same venue on October 23, never looked comfortable and departed for a sedate 25 off 46 balls.

The fall of two quick wickets

paved the way for the most absorbing 55-run fourth wicket stand between the two most experienced campaigners, Aminul Islam and Khaled Mahmud.

Mahmud, who was in a mauling mood, broke the shackles put around by the England bowlers with a massive six against Mark Alleyne in the 33 over. With Mahmud on fire, the quickest 50 of the Bangladesh innings came off only 43 balls.

The rot started when Mahmud risked his arm beyond the call of the hour and paid for it behind the stumps. He departed for a breezy 32 off 30 balls that included a quartet of lousy blows across the rope and a six, leaving Bangladesh on 173 for 4 in 37.3 overs.

Bangladesh lost their way completely in the last ten overs, losing six wickets with the addition of only 27 runs. Aminul Islam and Al-Shahriar stayed on the wicket for a while, but the most ominous aspect of the Bangladesh innings was the absence of a long innings.

Recalled to the national side after a long layoff, Al-Shahriar scored only 11 before holing out in the deep off Franks. But Bangladesh suffered a bigger blow when skipper Aminul quickly followed Al-Shahriar after making 30 off 37 balls.

The right-handed skipper became the victim of a soft dismissal when he played an attempted off-drive into the safe hands of Schofield, the most successful English bowler with 4/49 in his 10 overs.

After the departure of Aminul at 200/6 in the 44th over, the visitors with their tails up ran over the lower order; thus effectively evaporating Bangladesh's hopes of

throwing a challenging total.

With wickets tumbling one after another and when they were reduced to 204 for 8 in 45.2 overs, prospects of Bangladesh batting out their share of 50 overs looked bleak. But, thanks to some enterprising batting from Aminul Islam Jr. and freshman Bikash Ranjan Das, Bangladesh put up a face-saving total.

Aminul Jr. hammered a sweetly timed six against leg-spinner Schofield in the 47th over that landed on the sight-screen at the Paltan End. But Bikash smote the biggest sixer in the final over, a huge heave over mid-wicket against Ronnie Irani.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Bangladesh innings in the one-day limited overs match against England A at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on Friday:

Shahriar c Irani b Franks	34
Javed Omar b Alleyne	48
Habibul c Habib b Schofield	25
K Mahmud c Turner b Schofield	32
Aminul c and b Schofield	30
Al-Shahriar c Ward b Franks	11
K Masood c and b Irani	7
Enamul c Turner b Franks	1
Sabbir c Ward b Schofield	1
Aminul Jr c Habib b Irani	9
Bikash not out	7
Extras: (lb-5, w-8, nb-8)	21
Total: (All out in 49.5 overs)	226
Fall of wickets: 1-56; 2-118; 3-118; 4-173; 5-199; 6-200; 7-203; 8-204; 9-216	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Silverwood	10	3	41	0
Franks	10	2	35	3
Irani	8.5	0	48	2
Alleyne	9	2	36	1
Schofield	10	1	49	4
Trescott	2	0	12	0



England cricketers, who arrived in South Africa a couple of days back, stretching during a practice session at the Centurion Park stadium in north of Johannesburg yesterday. —AFP photo

## Soccer league resumes Oct 31

The super-four matches of the Keya Premier Division football League will resume tomorrow at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, reports UNB.

The matches became uncertain as Mohammedan SC had refused to play in the wake of Abahani's allegation of a fixed match between Mohammedan and Arambagh on August 11. They, however, agreed to play after reaching settlement yesterday.

According to the new schedule, league leaders Mohammedan will take on Abahani, who are two points behind the leaders, at 3:30 pm while in the first match Mukti Joddha face Arambagh at 1:30 pm.

Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee (DMFL) chairman Abdul Rahim told newsmen that both Abahani and Mohammedan had agreed to play after a successful dialogue between Lukman Hossain, Mohammedan Club general secretary, and Anjan Chowdhury Pintoo and Ashrafuddin Ahmed Chunnun of Abahani.

The dates for the remaining two matches are yet to be confirmed.

## Believe it or not!

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board last night set a new precedent by fielding a national team without including any players from the country's two most popular clubs Abahani and Mohammedan.

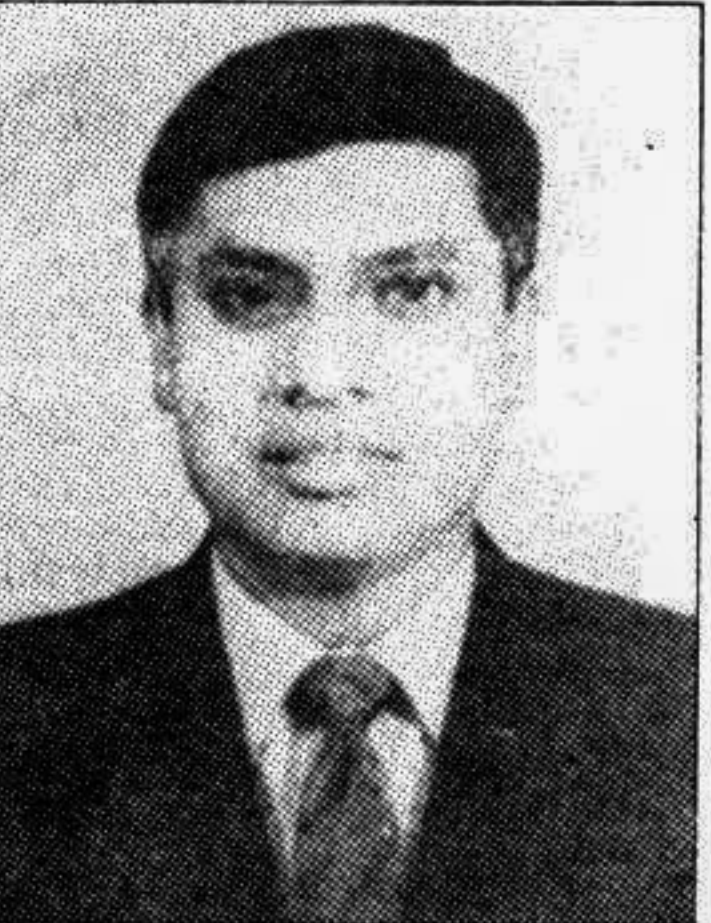
The team selected to play England A was done maybe on merit rather than opting to bow to popular demand which is the norm.

The team included three players each from Bangladesh Biman (Aminul, Javed Omar and Habibul Bashar) and Surju Tarun (Khaled Masood, Al-Shahriar and Enamul Hoque), two from Brothers Union (Khaled Mahmud and Shahriar Hossain), one each from Ajax (Aminul Islam Jr), Victoria (Sabbir Khan) and Wanderers (Bikash Ranjan Das).

Among the players Bikash donned the national cap even before playing in the Premier League.

## Ashraful suffers heart attack

Sports Reporter



The general secretary of Bangladesh Cricket Board Syed Ashraful Huq suffered a mild heart at his Tejnipara residence yesterday afternoon.

He was admitted to the National Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases (ICVD) and kept in the Coronary Care Unit (CCU).

A BCB member quoting doctors said, his condition is stable.

## Itinerary irritates Akram

BRISBANE, Oct 29: Pakistan captain Wasim Akram has criticised the itinerary for the early part of their tour of Australia because it has not allowed his side enough time to prepare for the three-Test series, reports Reuters.

Akram's team played two one-day games in Perth earlier this week and have only one first-class match — against Queensland starting here on Saturday — before the opening Test against Australia begins next Friday.

"The Australian Cricket Board should think, 'Let's give them a fair chance, give them two games and let them settle into the different climate,'" Akram was quoted as saying in newspapers on Friday.

"Since we played Sri Lanka (in a Test last March), we've played the World Cup (in England) and one-day games in Canada and Sharjah."

"Nobody asked me from the Pakistan board about the itinerary. I go tour by tour and when I arrived here I was shocked."

However, Akram said he had faith in his squad, and would probably field a Test-strength side against Queensland. "Our Test players need to be playing this weekend," he said.

Akram is set for his first appearance of the tour in the match against Queensland while wicketkeeper-boatsman Moin Khan, who missed the second limited overs game in Perth because of illness, is expected to return.



THE CENTURIONS: India opener Sadagopan Ramesh (L) and skipper Sachin Tendulkar are in action during the first day's play of the Ahmedabad Test yesterday. —AFP photo

## Tendulkar, Ramesh dictate



AHMEDABAD, Oct 29: Sachin Tendulkar and Sadagopan Ramesh cracked sparkling centuries as

India flogged New Zealand's bowling in the third and final cricket Test here today, reports AFP.

Tendulkar played a captain's knock of 104 not out and Ramesh made 110 as India unleashed their batting might on the hapless Kiwis to reach 311 for three by close of the opening day's play.

Saurav Ganguly was unbeaten on 51 at stumps, having added 129 runs for the unbroken fourth wicket with his captain.

The Indians, leading 1-0 in the series, gained the initial advantage when Tendulkar won the toss and elected to take first strike on a dry wicket that is expected to crumble later.

The wicket did not turn on the first day, unlike the one at Kanpur where India won the second Test by eight wickets, but it was too slow to help the six Kiwi bowlers.

Ramesh, the stylish left-hand opener, followed half-centuries in the first two matches with his second Test hundred studded with 14 boundaries.

Tendulkar reached his 21st century and the second in the series, after surviving two chances with the second new ball late in the day.

He was on 93 when Nathan Asle, running back from the slips, spilled a top-edge off Chris Cairns. Three runs later, wicketkeeper Adam Parore floored an easy catch off Dion Nash.

Tendulkar, however, raced

to 100 later in the over when he cut Nash for his 16th boundary.

Ramesh put on 82 for the second wicket with Rahul Dravid and 80 for the third with Tendulkar, before falling shortly before tea.

India scored 93 in the first session, 96 in the second and 122 in the third as the Kiwis toiled in vain in stifling heat and humidity at the Motera stadium.

Both teams went in with just four specialist bowlers in a match New Zealand must win to draw the series.

India dropped young all-rounder Vijay Bhadrawaj to play one-day regular Ajay Jadhava in only his 14th Test match.

Seamer Venkatesh Prasad was also brought back in place of left-arm spinner Sunil Joshi, whose bowling in the Kanpur Test left Tendulkar unimpressed.

The New Zealanders were forced to make two changes, leaving out the injured Craig McMillan and out-of-form opener Matthew Bell. They were replaced by Canterbury captain Gary Stead, who flew in on Wednesday as a reinforcement for McMillan, and all-rounder Chris Harris.

Left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori went for 1-103. Cairns 1-56 and off-spinner Paul Wiseman 0-50 as the Indians took a heavy toll of the bowling.

India lost just one wicket in the morning session when Devang Gandhi, whose 88 was the highest individual score in the Kanpur Test, edged Cairns to the wicketkeeper after making six.

Dravid, who went to lunch

on 29, added just four more af-

ter the break when he was caught on the second attempt by Parore while trying to cut Vettori.

Ramesh moved from 89 to 97 with two boundaries off Vettori, before reaching the three-figure mark with a quick dash for a single as the throw by Cairns narrowly missed the stumps.

Ramesh celebrated the feat with another four off Vettori, but his innings was cut short by the gentle medium pace of Harris shortly before tea.

Harris, playing his first match in the series, moved one away from the left-hander's bat and the edge was snapped up low at first slip by Craig Spearman.

#### SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the third Test between India and New Zealand on Friday:

INDIA: First innings	
Gandhi c Parore b Cairns	6
Ramesh c Spearman b Harris	110
Dravid c Parore b Vettori	33
Tendulkar not out	104
Ganguly not out	51
Extras: (lb-1, b-3, nb-3)	7
Total: (For three wickets)	311
Fall of wickets: 1-20; 2-102; 3-182	

To bat: A Jadhava, M Prasad, J Srinath, A Kumble, V Prasad, H Singh

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Cairns	17	4	56	1
Nash	17	4	46	0
Harris	12	3	40	1
Stead	2	0	12	0
Wiseman	14	2	50	0
Vettori	24	2	103	1

NEW ZEALAND: Stephen Fleming (captain), Matthew Horne, Chris Harris, Craig Spearman, Nathan Asle, Gary Stead, Chris Cairns, Adam Parore, Dion Nash, Daniel Vettori and Paul Wiseman.



An AFP file photo shows South African cricketer Makhaya Ntini (C), accompanied by a policeman (R) and an unidentified man, leaving the Grahamstown High Court after a hearing on October 20.

## Ntini's nightmare over



JOHANNESBURG, Oct 29: Top black South African cricketer Makhaya Ntini today won his appeal

against a rape conviction and a six-year jail term that had nearly ruined his sporting career, the South African Press Association reported, says Reuters.

The High Court judge in the eastern Cape Town of Grahamstown said there were too many deficiencies in the state's case, the news agency stated.

It said Grahamstown acting High Court Judge Chris Whitehead had ruled that the guilt of Ntini, who made history as the first black African to play for South Africa, had not been proved beyond reasonable doubt.

He said the "probabilities were overwhelmingly against the version of the complaint."

Ntini was convicted on April 23 of the rape last December of a 22-year-old woman in the tol-

lets of the Buffalo Park cricket ground in the east coast town of East London where he plays provincial cricket for the Border team.

His conviction at that time dealt a blow to South Africa's hopes of presenting a more racially balanced team at the World Cup played in June.

Ntini made his Test debut in England last year and had been used as a flag-bearer for multiculturalism in cricket, a sport still heavily dominated by whites at all levels in South Africa.

South Africa has one of the highest rape rates in the world with an estimated two women being raped every minute.

Rape has recently been placed high on the national agenda, with debates in parliament and protests against lenient sentences for rapists, including a seven-year jail term for a man who raped his 14-year-old daughter.