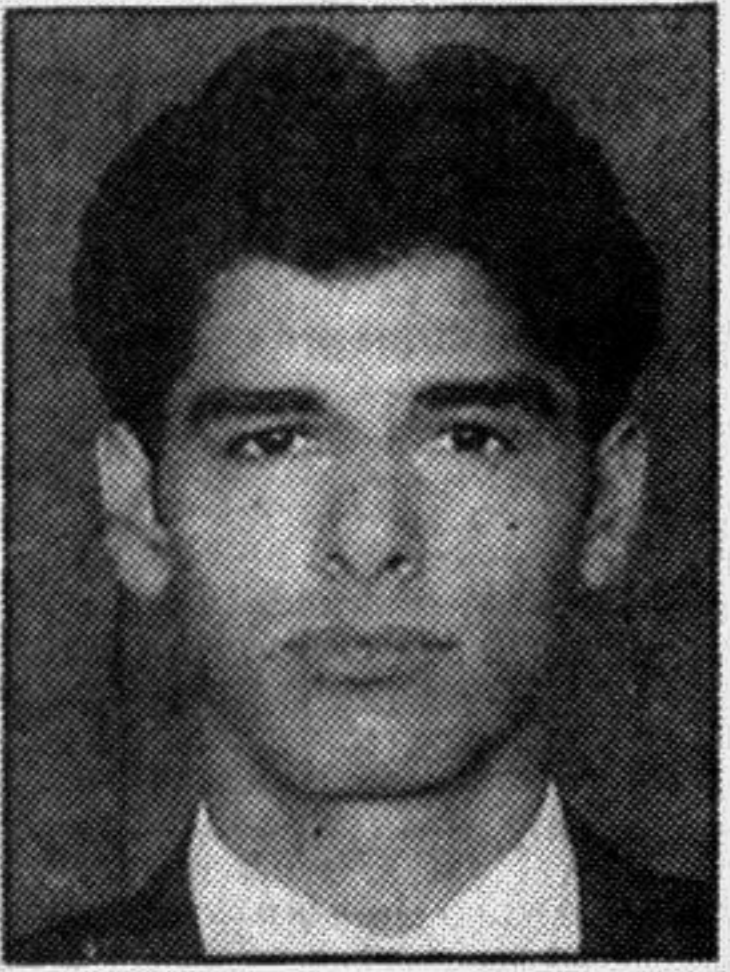


Column One SPORTS TALK



Mohammad Wasim
(Pakistan batsman)

"It was just a small piece of prawn."
After suffering an allergic reaction to the first and last prawn he will ever eat.

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

- Which country won the SAFF 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)



Reefat alone atop

International Master Reefat-bin-Sattar took solo lead in the Padma Distribution Active Chess competition with full six points after the completion of the sixth round yesterday, reports UNB.

Reefat of Bangladesh Biman beat Palash in the fifth round and defeated Milky in the sixth round at the NSC chess room.

Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiplu of Titas Club followed the leader with five and a half points beating Arif in the sixth round.

IM Abdullah Al Rakib, Mizanur Rahman Labu, Mehedi Hasan Parag and Ahmedul Haq secured five points each.

Hockey series Germany level with Australia

TOWNSVILLE, Australia, Oct 30: Germany scored twice in a minute late in the second half to power to a 4-2 win here Friday and a share of the five-match field hockey series with Australia with one game to play, reports AFP.

Christopher Bechmann broke a 2-2 deadlock in the 63rd minute and Bjorn Michael scored his second a minute later to give Germany their second straight win.

The win squares the series heading into Sunday's decider in rural Murwillumbah.

For German coach Paul Lissek it was the confidence his team gained from their second win that was most pleasing.

"We have good counter players, good forwards, so when we come out of pressure situations we always have a chance to score," Lissek said.

"Sometimes it is very difficult to beat Australia, so it will be a good final game."

"I know they have some experienced players to come back and we know it will be more difficult in the future."

"But the boys know it is possible which is a very good sign for Sydney Olympics."

Germany's scorers were Christian Wein in the sixth minute, Bjorn Michael in the 45th, Christoph Bechmann 63rd minute and Michael 64th minute.

Last lap of Keya Premier Football resumes today Titans clash today

Sports Reporter

Abahani Krira Chakra know that anything short of victory would spell disaster while Mohammedan Sporting Club are all too aware that they cannot afford a defeat when the two local giants lock horns at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium today to virtually decide the football league championship.

The Dhaka derby will kick-off at 3.30 pm after a rather insignificant match between holders Mukhtijodha Sangsad Krira Chakra and Arambagh Krira Sangha.

Although the off-the-field battle between Mohammedan and Abahani was settled by the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF), ending a week-long standstill that cast a shadow over the fate of the Keya Premier Division Football League, the rivalry will take another height when they appear in their 49th clash in the league.

The previous 48 meetings hold an even score with both sides winning on 15 occasions while the other 18 engagements ended in draws.

The results of four head-on clashes this season between the two teams however have gone in favour of Abahani, who lost once against two wins.

Abahani defeated Mohammedan 1-0 in the Federation Cup and also picked up an identical margin victory in

their second meeting of the 'Super 4'.

On the other hand, Mohammedan recorded a 2-1 win over Abahani in the first phase of the league while another 'Super 4' match ended in a 1-1 draw.

Mohammedan, who are leading Abahani by two points, will certainly enjoy a psychological edge today, not because they have the extra option of a draw, but that they will face an under-strength Abahani.

Abahani will miss the services of their three regular players—dependable defender Charan Ghansha, midfielders Arman and Iqbal—when the sky-blues meet their perennial foes in the penultimate league match.

"It is a do-or-die battle for us. We will certainly have a tough time without our three key players. But we are ready to take them on," said Abahani's confident captain Partho Pratim Kundu yesterday.

Manager and hero of Abahani's many a triumph over Mohammedan, Monem Munna said that his team was still capable of beating Mohammedan despite the absence of three key booters.

"We have won against them in the Federation Cup with an even weaker team. Besides, we are playing excellent football in the 'Super 4'. Moreover, we have an exciting striker in Kennedy,

who is capable of turning the match any time", said Munna.

Replying to a query, Munna said they will employ an extra defender to fill the void of Ghansha, the tall Ghanaian, who will miss the match for receiving his third yellow card in Abahani's previous match against Mukhtijodha.

Abahani, who started the 'Super 4' with a deficit of eight points against Mohammedan, made a remarkable turnaround to reduce the margin with the black-and-whites, whose performance slid downhill after a fantastic first phase where they finished top with 25 points.

"We are not at all excited about the fact that Abahani will miss three regular players. We are more careful about not committing the same mistake that cost us the title two years back", said Mohammedan football manager Imtiaz Sultan Johnny yesterday.

Mohammedan surrendered the title to Mukhtijodha at the same venue in 1997 when they, needing only a draw, lost the match. Imtiaz said they would field the same eleven that played against Arambagh in the previous match.

Despite the hype in the two camps, both the football teams have lost the magic that could draw plus fifty thousand crowd when they met some years back. Today at Mirpur, anything near half of that would be flattering.



IT'S TIME TO PRACTISE: Abahani footballers jog at their club ground in Dhanmondi yesterday. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman

A trial by the Nine eye

SYDNEY, Oct 30 (AFP): Umpire decisions and bowling speeds will come under greater scrutiny this Australian summer with Kerry Packer's Nine Network introducing a number of innovations to its international coverage.

Network officials said Friday the television company had spent almost one million dollars (650,000 US) introducing Speed Guns, a Snickometer and a Strike Zone.

Two of the innovations will focus on appeals for dismissals with the Snickometer used to determine whether catches are completed and the Strike Zone will highlight leg before wicket decisions.

The Strike Zone, developed from Israeli military technology, will highlight the area between the stumps and show where the ball pitched.

"With the ball pitching in

line, it (the Strike Zone) is infallible, whether it goes on to hit the stumps is another matter, so it's still an umpire's decision," said Nine's director of sport Gary Burns.

Burns said the network was awaiting the arrival of the Strike Zone technology from Israel before next Friday's opening Test between Australia and Pakistan in Brisbane.

The Snickometer, created by an English inventor, is driven by a state-of-the-art computer program and will be used in conjunction with special slow-motion cameras and stump microphones.

Commentator Richie Benaud denied such technology would increase pressure on the umpires and said it had received very positive reviews from umpires after it was trialed in the recent series between England and New Zealand.

"We estimated we had 22 very close decisions that could have

gone either way, 18 the umpires got right and four they didn't. That's pretty good and I think the umpires reckoned it was pretty good also," Benaud said.

Burns said the upgraded Speed Guns contained interfacing computer technology.

"We've got two guns on every ball, so we've got a backup Speed Gun and as soon as it leaves the bowlers hand it can give us an instantaneous reading," Burns said.

One of Burns's hopes for the coming summer is the Speed Guns will capture the first official 100 mile an hour (160 kilometre an hour) delivery, with Pakistan's Shoaib Akhtar tipped to be the paceman most likely to do so.

The changes also extend to the commentary box with former Australian captain Mark Taylor becoming the fifth full-time member of the team alongside former Test captains, Richie Benaud, Ian Chappell, Tony Greig and Bill Lawry.

Mushtaq baffles Q'land

BRISBANE, Oct 30: Pakistan leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed took four wickets as Queensland were dismissed for 274 in their first innings on the opening day of their four-day cricket match today, reports Reuters.

At the close of play Pakistan were 50 for two in reply after an early stumble at Brisbane's Allan Border Field. The not out batsmen were Inzamamul Haq (31) and Abdur Razaq (15).

The tourists lost both openers quickly. Queensland pacemen Scott Muller and Andy Bichel doing the damage.

Muller had Ijaz Ahmed out for two, caught by Martin Love, and Bichel then sent Mohammad Wasim packing for a duck to leave the tourists at 4-2 before they steadied.

Earlier Mushtaq finished with figures of four for 103 off 22 overs to be the chief wicket-taker against the home side in a hot and cold display with the ball. Paceman Shoaib Akhtar took two for 60 off 13 overs.

travelling well when they reached 84-2 at lunch but Mushtaq took two quick wickets after the break, having opener Maher caught behind and Geoff Foley caught at cover for six.

Mushtaq's other victims were Love (12) and Adam Dale (19).

Symonds's big-hitting display included four sixes and eight fours. He was eventually out lbw to Shoaib Akhtar.

The Pakistan paceman's other victim was Queensland captain Stuart Law, out for 14 to a deceptive slower delivery.

Maher's 23rd first class half-century came off 84 balls and included six boundaries.

The four-day match is Pakistan's only first-class clash in the lead-up to the three-Test series against Australia.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the four-day cricket match between Pakistan and Queensland at Allan Border Field on Saturday:

QUEENSLAND: First innings

M. Hayden run out	11
J. Maher c Moin b Mushtaq	70
M. Love lbw b Mushtaq	12
S. Law b Shoaib Akhtar	14

PAKISTAN: First innings

Ijaz c Love b Muller	2
M Wasim c Seccombe b Bichel	10
Razaq not out	31
Inzamam not out	2
Extras: (nb-1, lb-1)	2
Total: (For two wickets in 19 overs)	50

Fall of wickets: 1-2: 2-4
To bat: Wasim Akram, Saad Anwar, Yousuf Youhana, Moin Khan, Azhar Mahmood, Mushtaq Ahmed, Shoaib Akhtar

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Akhtar	12	2	42	1
Mahmood	10	3	27	0
Razaq	11	0	37	1
Mushtaq	22	2	103	4

Damal Smriti cricket from Nov 9

The season's curtain raiser Damal Smriti cricket tournament will begin in the capital from November 9, reports UNB.

However, for the first time, none of the Premier Division teams will participate in the competition.

A total of 18 teams — 12 First Division and six Second Division — will be in the race for the title.

The teams will split into six groups. Each group includes one Second Division team.

Group A: Orient SC, Young Pegasus and Azad SC.

Group B: Ajax SC, Khelagor SKS and GMCC.

Group C: Dhaka Wanderers, Uttara SC and Partex SC.

Group D: Jatrabari KC, Lal-matia Club and Rupali Bank.

Group E: Dhanmondi Club, Bangladesh Boys and Dhaka Mariners.

Group F: Eskaton SS, Young Cricketers and Kalindi KC.

Six group champions will form two groups to play the second round.

Orient SC will take on Azad Sporting Club and Ajax SC faces GMCC in the opening day's matches while Dhaka Wanderers Club meet Partex SC and Jatrabari KC meet Rupali Bank on the following day.

The tournament is likely to be held in Bangabandhu National Stadium and Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

CJKS earns Tk 10 lakh

CHITTAGONG, Oct 30: Chattogram Jila Krira Sangstha (CJKS) made Taka 10 lakh profit from the 3-day cricket match between Bangladesh and England A at the M A Aziz Stadium here.

Bangladesh Cricket Board member Selim Abedin Chowdhury — who was coordinator of the match, told BSS today that spectators' response to the match was more than their expectations.

"We expected Taka five lakh from ticket sales, but we got about Taka six lakh, he added.

He expressed his satisfaction over the management of the match saying he hope to arrange more international matches in future.

Cronje's milestone

BLOEMFONTEIN, Oct 30: South African captain Hansie Cronje became his country's leading run scorer in Test matches as his side made slow progress on the second day of their first home Test against Zimbabwe, reports AFP.

At tea, South Africa were 183 for three in reply to Zimbabwe's first innings of 192, with

Cronje on 34 not out in the first Test match staged in his home town.

When he reached 12 he overtook the record of 3,476 runs set by Gary Kirsten in South Africa's previous Test last season, Kirsten is not playing in the current match because of a broken finger.

It was slow going as Zimbabwe, missing several leading bowlers through injury, opted for containment, bowling mainly wide of the offstump with defensive fields.

After adding 87 runs before lunch, another 67 were scored between lunch and tea.

Jacques Kallis in particular was tied down. By tea he had batted for 226 minutes and faced 166 balls in scoring 47 not out.

The only wicket to fall in the afternoon session was that of Daryll Cullinan, who was well caught by a diving Grant Flower at point off Guy Whittall for 27, chasing a wide ball in an attempt to force the pace.

The finals of men's and women's singles, which were scheduled for yesterday, could not be held due to the afternoon rain. Both the finals will be held today.

The women's singles final between Shifat Nusrat Bais-hakhi and Nomi Cookson will start at 3 pm while men's final pitting Dilip Pasia and Colins will commence at 4 pm.



OH! THANK YOU! Indian master batsman Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar looks up to the heavens after completing his maiden double Test hundred at Ahmedabad yesterday. — AFP photo

Hosts' lead insurmountable Tendulkar breaks the jinx

AHMEDABAD, Oct 30: Sachin Tendulkar scored his first double century in Test cricket as India

defeated New Zealand battling for survival in the third and final Test here today, reports AFP.

The Indian captain smashed 217 and Saurav Ganguly made 125 during a record-shattering blitz as India amassed 583 for seven, before declaring an hour after tea on the second day.

New Zealand, needing 384 to save the follow on, were struggling at 18 for one at stumps, having lost opener Matthew Horne to leg-spinner Anil Kumble for two.

Gary Stead, who flew in as a replacement for the injured Craig McMillan, survived a cordon of eight close-in fielders to remain unbeaten on 11 in the company of nightwatchman Daniel Vettori.

The tourists, who needed a win to square the three-match series, face an uphill struggle over the next three days to prevent India from winning the rubber 2-0.

The overnight pair of Tendulkar and Ganguly batted till an hour after lunch to put on a record stand of 281.

It was India's highest for the fourth wicket against any country, surpassing the duo's own previous best of 256 against Sri Lanka at Bombay two years ago.

Tendulkar, whose highest score in 20 previous centuries was 179 against the West Indies at Nagpur in 1994, hit 29 boundaries during his eight-hour vigil.

He looked set to break Sunil Gavaskar's 16-year-old record of 236 as India's highest individual scorer when he fell to a brilliant diving catch at mid-wicket by Dion Nash soon after tea.

The 26-year-old said he was relieved to get his first double-century after 71 Tests, but would be happier if India went on to win the series 2-0.

"Personal records don't matter if you don't win," Tendulkar said. "We have three

days to bowl New Zealand out twice. It can be done even if the wicket is a bit slow."

Left-arm spinner Vettori, who claimed Tendulkar's prize wicket, saved New Zealand from total surrender by bowling Ajay Jadeja and Mannava Prasad in quick succession.

India slipped from 502-4 to 521-7 soon after tea, but Anil Kumble and Javagal Srinath prolonged New Zealand's agony with a quickfire stand of 62 for the eighth wicket.

Vettori, who toiled under the hot sun for 57 overs, claimed four wickets at a cost of 200 runs. Chris Cairns went for 1-82, Nash 0-86 and off-spinner Pauri Wiseman 0-85 under the Indian assault.

Tendulkar and Ganguly, who resumed at the overnight score of 311 for three, batted through the morning session to take India to 403 without further loss by lunch.

New Zealand's frustration at India's rampage showed when vice-captain Nash threw a tantrum — when Tendulkar brushed him on his follow through while taking a single.

Nash complained to umpires Venkat Ramaswamy and Rudi Koertzen, who urged both teams to show restraint.

A visibly annoyed Tendulkar deliberately ran around Nash the next time he attempted a run.

Tendulkar and Ganguly smashed 60 in the first hour after lunch when the Kiwis earned their first success of the day.

Ganguly, who became the third century-maker in the innings after Tendulkar and Sadaogan Ramesh, played a tiring lofted drive off Nathan Astle to hole out in the deep.

The elegant left-hander hit 17 boundaries in his seventh Test hundred, but fell well short of his previous best of 173 against Sri Lanka.

Jadeja, returning to the Test team after eight months, made 13 when he stepped out to Vettori and was bowled. Mannava Prasad fell in similar fashion off the last ball before tea.

SCOREBOARD on the second

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Cairns	24	5	82	1
Nash	28	6	86	0
Harris	17	3	64	1
Astle	17	2	55	1
Wiseman	24	2	85	0
Vettori	57	5	200	4

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

Horne c David b Kumble	2
Stead not out	11
Vettori not out	0
Extras: (lb-1, b-4)	5
Total: (For one wicket)	18

Fall of wickets: 1-13.
To bat: S Fleming, C Harris, C Spearman, N Astle, C Cairns, A Parore, D Nash, P Wiseman.

Bowler (To date): O M R W	
Srinath	4 0 8 1
Prasad	3 2 4 0
Kumble	4 3 1 1

Millennium chess Murugan on top alone

CALCUTTA, Oct 30: International Master K Murugan emerged the solo leader with 5.5 points after the sixth round of the Millennium Open

international rating chess tournament at the Gorky Sadan here yesterday, reports PTI.

Murugan, who shared the lead with four other players after the fifth round Thursday grabbed the top spot by outplaying K Vishweswaran (4.5) in just 26 moves relying on the king's

Indian open.

IM Ziaur Rahman (5) of Bangladesh drew with Shankar Roy (5) of the railways after a marathon tussle at the first board.

Swati Ghatge (4.5) outwitted GP Singh (3.5) to consolidate her position in the tournament.

Enamul Hossain (5) of Bangladesh drew with IM Tejas Bakre (4.5) while PDS Girinath (4.5) got the better of Nisha Mohote (3.5) who has been struggling to make an impact in the championship so far.

Sandipan Chanda (4.5) of Goodricke National Chess Academy drew with R Balasubramaniam (4.5) while CS Gokhale drew with Lattu Chatterjee, national women's champion S Vijayalakshmi (4.5) drew with Bidhas Bhowmik to share points.

Gough back in action

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 30: England fast bowler Darren Gough, back after a long injury lay-off, was able to bowl flat out in the nets on Friday boosting his chances of a place in the opening match of their South African tour on Monday, reports Reuters.

Fellow seamer Alex Tudor, still recovering from knee problems, had a gentle work out. The team will have another net session on Saturday.

England will name their team to play in the traditional opener for any touring team, against a Nicky Oppenheimer XI in Randjesfontein, north of Johannesburg, on Monday.

Pasia, Colins take doubles title

Dilip Pasia and Colins annexed the men's doubles title of the national Open tennis championships beating Hira Lal and Niranjana 6-3 in the final at the National Tennis Complex in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The finals of men's and women's singles, which were scheduled for yesterday, could not be held due to the afternoon rain. Both the finals will be held today.

India's Saurav Ganguly acknowledges the crowd's applause after reaching his seventh Test century at Ahmedabad yesterday.

— AFP photo

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