

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Jeff Crowe

(Former New Zealand cricketer.)

"Personally, I like Test cricket. I think it is the main game."

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-123

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Nov 26, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

- How many Test wickets did Malcolm Marshall grab?
376 380 396
- Who won the Sharjah Cup last month?
Pakistan W Indies S Lanka
- What is the name of Steve Waugh's son?
Austin Jacobs Larry
- Who is the vice-captain of India?
Dravid Jadeja Ganguly
- Who became champions in the Keya Premier Division soccer league?
Abahani Mukti Joddha Mohammedan

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Body to probe into SAF failure

Sports Reporter

The National Sports Council (NSC) has formed a three-member committee, headed by its treasurer and former Sports Secretary ASM Shahjahan, to probe into Bangladesh's dismal performance in the 8th SAF Games, held in Nepal from September 25 to October 4.

Nurul Islam, the director (finance) of NSC and Abdur Razzak Howlader, an assistant secretary of Ministry of Sports, are the other two members of the committee.

Bangladesh got only two golds from the football and the team shooting.

The committee will record statements from players and officials of the Bangladesh contingent at the NSC from November 15 to 18.

Interested persons, apart from players and officials, have also been requested to meet the committee during that time.

Namaz-e-Janaza of Aman today

Sports Reporter

The namaz-e-janaza of former footballer and noted sports organiser, Amanuddin Ahmed Chowdhury will be held at the Mohammedan Sporting Club premises today at 10 am.

The body of Aman, who died of cancer in the United States on November 10, reached the city yesterday.

All the club members and sports lovers have been asked to be present at the janaza.

In the evening, another namaz-e-janaza will be held at his Mohammadpur residence and then his body will be taken to Coyulia for burial.

Refs go to Kazakhstan

Sports Reporter

Four Bangladeshi football referees left the capital for Kazakhstan yesterday to officiate an Asian Club Cup match between Irish Pavlodar of Kazakhstan and Varzov Club of Tajikistan on November 19.

The referees are: Tayeb Hasan, Ehsanul Haque, Sekander Ali and Subhash Roy.

National League deferred by a day

Saber, Tanvir talk with agitating cricketers

Sports Reporter

President of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), Saber Hossain Chowdhury, yesterday entered into the dispute between the rebellious cricketers and the chairman of the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) Tanvir Haider in order to get cricket back on the track.

"I have assured the players that the transfer will be held on schedule. I think this will remove their fear and mistrust", said the BCB president at a press briefing after what he termed a 'positive' discussion with the representatives of the Cricketers' Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB) at his office yesterday afternoon.

Saber however made it clear that he was not in a position to interfere in the activities of the CCDM, the organisers of Dhaka cricket who had earlier rejected the CWAB demand to hold the Premier Division inter-club cricketers' bourse this month.

"The board has already delegated the responsibility of running Dhaka cricket to the CCDM. Since this is an association of clubs it reserves the right to go through with its own plan. I also have a legal obligation of not opposing their decision", said the BCB boss.

"I have explained to the players the extraordinary situation we are facing this year. We will have to start the national league this year to establish the first class cricket structure which is a prerequisite to get the Test status", said Saber.

Bangladesh's application for Test status is lying with the International Cricket Council (ICC), who will review the much-debated matter at its meeting in June next year.

The first-ever National League involving the six divisions is scheduled to start from today. But Saber said they might have to defer it for a few days to ensure the participation of all the leading cricketers.

"I want the involvement of all the players in the national league", said Saber, terming the cricketers as an integral part of the game.

"I have no reservation about the cricketers' association. There might be differences of opinion. But it can be solved through discussion. There will be no solution if threats and counter-threats continue", said Saber.

The BCB chief was perhaps referring to the CWAB threat of

boycotting all domestic competitions if the transfer was not held this month.

"I think the players will come to a settlement when they meet with Tanvir Haider tonight", said Saber, who appreciated the sporting spirit of his senior vice president despite being branded as 'cricket's curse' by the CWAB on Saturday.

CWAB had also demanded the removal of Tanvir, chairman of the CCDM, for his alleged unbridled statements against the players' association a few days back.

The situation was apparently heading for a settlement last night because the CWAB reverted from its decision and sat with Tanvir Haider to end the deadlock.

STOP PRESS

The two-hour long meeting between CWAB and CCDM officials, including Tanvir Haider, ended last night without any decision.

The BCB president in the meantime has deferred the National League by a day to begin now from November 16.

Damal Smriti Cricket Jewel-Tuhin help Orient win big

Sports Reporter

Orient Sporting recorded a cakewalk 84-run win over under-strength Azad Sporting in the inaugural match of the 19th Damal Smriti Cricket Tournament at the Dhamond Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Sent in to bat Orient, demoted to the First Division after a one-year stint in the Premier League last year, piled up a huge total of 234 for seven in the stipulated 50 overs.

Jewel scored a captain's knock of 63 with the help of four fours and a six while middle-order batsman Tuhin hammered a swashbuckling 64 off 84 balls.

Veteran all-rounder Ehsanul Huq, who later captured two wickets, chipped in with 21.

Azad had to field a juvenile selection due to the non-availability of their registered cricketers from BKSF who had their examinations. The Second Division outfit could manage only 150 for eight before exhausting their allotted overs.

Khairul with 28 was the top scorer for the once-revered domestic outfit.

Earlier, the chairman of the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) Tanvir Haider inaugurated the season's curtain raiser in the morning.

The tournament, which over the years had become a very attractive event in the domestic calendar, certainly suffered from a loss of gloss and mirth after the organisers decided to exclude the Premier clubs from the meet this year.

BRIEF SCORES

Orient SC: 234 for 7 in 50 overs (Jewel 63, Tuhin 64, Ehsanul 21, Mithu 2/61, Minto 2/40, Manik 2/34)

Azad SC: 150 for 8 in 50 overs (Khairul 28, Rahim, 23, Manik 20; Ehsan 2/19, Kamal 2/26, Dalim 2/18, Sumon 2/34)

Charity soccer

The charity football match between the Bollywood stars and Bangladesh's cricket heroes ended in a 4-4 draw at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

The match organised by BJ Film International, was supposed to raise funds for the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

However, the game drew a low attendance.

All the ordinary galleries remained almost blank while men and women at the VIP gallery came by invitation.

Although there were very few spectators at the stadium, police had no baton-charge when they thronged the ground after the stars came.

Disorder also broke out when the match was over. Heartthrob Salman Khan had to resort to punches when fans almost jumped on him.

Security forces always kept the stars cordoned off.

State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Qader inaugurated the match. Deputy Minister for LGED and Cooperatives and BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury was present.

Boucher breaks it!

HARARE, Nov 14: South African wicketkeeper Mark Boucher figured in two very different records here Saturday on the third day of the second cricket Test against Zimbabwe. And even that wasn't enough for him, reports AP.

In plundering 125, his second Test century which included 18 fours, he became the highest scoring "night-watchman" in the history of the game, beating the 105 set by Tony Mann of Australia 22 years ago.

With Shaun Pollock, he set up a new South African record partnership for the eighth wicket, their 148 beating by one run that of Brian MacMillan and Lance Klusener against India in the 1996-97 series.

Boucher also broke his own Test record as a batsman, which stood at 100.

In addition he figured in a century partnership for the fourth wicket with Jacques Kallis. And he raised his Test batting average from 25 to close on 30.

Mainly as a consequence of his innings, South Africa reached 462-9 in reply to Zimbabwe's paltry 102, which was their worst in Test cricket.

Malcolm Marshall RIP



BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Nov 14 (AP/Reuters): Thousands of fans, dozens of star cricketers and a former prime minister bid farewell to West Indies bowling legend Malcolm Marshall at his funeral on Saturday.

Marshall died last week aged 41 of colon cancer.

He was buried with a new red ball in his coffin as a symbol of his status as one of the greats of the game.

Wes Hall, the former Barbados and West Indies pace bowler who is now a clergyman, preached the sermon at a televised ecumenical service held in the crowded gymnasium of the Sir Garfield Sobers Sports Complex.

The ceremony was heard over radio throughout most of the Caribbean.

The pallbearers included Conrad Hunte and Vivian Richards, the current West Indies captain Brian Lara and former captain Courtney Walsh as well as former teammates Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes.

Other cricket legends attending were fast bowlers Andy Roberts, Michael Holding, Joel Garner and Colin Croft, who with Marshall formed one of the most feared attacks in Test cricket. West Indies batting stars from the 1950s, Sir Everton Weekes (74) and Sir Clyde Walcott (73) were also present.

Richards also read appreciation's of Marshall's life during the service.

"Until we meet again, my brother, farewell, farewell," Richards, one of Marshall's captains during his years with the West Indies team, said. Also present was Marshall's other West Indies captain, Clive Lloyd.

Rudi Webster, who was at the cricketer's bedside on Novem-

ber when he died, read a prayer written by Marshall's son.

Nine-year-old Mali wrote: "God, please take care of my father, for I love him very much."

The prayer was placed inside the casket.

Former Barbadian prime minister Erskine Sandiford, who was among the 2000 in attendance called for a permanent memorial to pay tribute to Marshall.

Hall spoke of Marshall's career achievements but also drew attention to his charitable work off the field.

"How many of us knew how much he cared for his family, friends, colleagues and his country. How many of us know

of his contributions to charities which deal with causes that affect our people?" he said in the sermon.

Marshall had an interest in higher education and he dreamed of the day when the riches of his work would enable the children to attend a university.

Mark Nicholas, Marshall's former captain at Hampshire cricket club, said in a eulogy that the fast bowler "wanted to be a Gary Sobers, and of course, he came close to it."

"He cared. He cared so much about standards, about commitment to his chosen cause, about quality in all things."



BROTHERS IN ARMS: Members of the West Indies cricketing family carry Malcolm Marshall's casket after Saturday's funeral. Right is Rev Wes Hall and behind him are Gordon Greenidge, Sir Conrad Hunte, Pat Rousseau and Dr Rudi Webster. On the left are Brian Lara, Desmond Haynes and Vivian Richards. Centre is Marshall's widow, Connie Eale-Marshall. —Internet photo

Lennox: King of the ring



LAS VEGAS, Nov 14 (AP): Lennox Lewis didn't dominate Evander Holyfield the way he did in their first fight. This time, though, he won a unanimous decision that made him the undisputed heavyweight champion of the world.

"I won the fight," Holyfield shouted shortly after the final bell. But the three judges clearly favoured Lewis.

The 34-year-old Lewis wasn't nearly as impressive as he was in the first fight, but he was still too big for Holyfield, who will turn 37 next Friday.

The first half of the fight was rather dull. Then Holyfield opened the second half by having a big round in the seventh, the best three minutes of the match.

Lewis, however, wouldn't let Holyfield take control.

The British fans in the crowd roared when the decision was announced and broke into song. There were also a lot of boos.

Judge Chuck Gimpala scored it 116-112. Bill Graham had 117-111, and Jerry Roth 115-113 for Lewis, who added the WBA and IBF titles to the WBC belt he already held.

The AP scored it 116-113 for Lewis.

"It was little tougher than the first fight," Lewis said.

jury draw, which led to a grand jury investigation and several hearings.

In March, Lewis landed 348 punches to 134 for Holyfield, according to a CompuBox punch analysis.

On Saturday night, before an estimated 17,000 fans at the Thomas and Mack Center, Lewis was credited with landing 195 punches to 137 for Holyfield.

Lewis became the first heavyweight to hold all three titles since Riddick Bowe took them from Holyfield on a 12-round decision in Las Vegas on Nov. 13, 1992. Holyfield had

won the undisputed title by knocking out James "Buster" Douglas in the third round on Oct. 25, 1990.

Before the fight, Lewis had predicted it would be Holyfield's last hurrah.

It remains to be seen whether Holyfield, one of boxing's true warriors, will quit after his fourth defeat against 36 victories and a draw. He has scored 25 knockouts.

Lewis is 35-1-1 with 27 knockouts.

The purse for each fighter was 15 million dollars for their pay-per-view rematch.



DECISIVE MOMENT: British challenger Lennox Lewis starts to celebrate after hearing the all important verdict after his heavyweight unification bout against Evander Holyfield. —AFP photo

Of a BFF joke

Sports Reporter

While the sponsor is knocking at the door with money the organisers opt to go out of the city. Nothing seems unusual in this wasteland of sports arena.

Only a few days back Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) invited a Calcutta-based sponsor to come over and have a discussion with the authorities concerned here. A date of discussion was fixed in due course.

Accordingly, SS Das Gupta, the managing director of Leisure Sports Management Private Limited (LSM), flew in to the capital today to meet the BFF authority, which is, according to press reports, desperately looking for a sponsor to hold the first-ever national football league, planned to be held early next year.

A wily Das Gupta, whose company is the sponsor of the Indian national league, had to leave the capital last night without holding the meeting due to the non-availability of his host, the BFF general secretary Harunur Rashid, MP.

Harun went to his constituency in Laxmipur, Noakhali on Saturday and did not return to the city till the filing of this report.

Sirajul Islam Bachchu, the BFF joint-secretary and also the newly appointed secretary for the national league, said that Harun was expected to return for the meeting within the early hours yesterday.

Das Gupta waited for the BFF general secretary at his office till the evening and then finally went back to Delhi.

"I'm still hopeful that the proposed national league will come into being. It's just matter of time. I was supposed to sit with Mr. Harun and finalise a few things. But he is not in the capital. I will try to come again next week," said Das Gupta.

However, Sunanda Dhar, an assistant manager of the LSM, has stayed back for a day and would meet Harun on his return today. And if he does not come back, Sunanda, who also had some meeting with a few multinational companies yesterday, will go back to Calcutta today.

Badda off to Calcutta

Sports Reporter

Premier Division club Badda Jagarani Sangsad left for Calcutta yesterday to take part in the 105th IFA Shield football tournament. The century-old tournament will start at the Ravindra Sarani Stadium in Calcutta tomorrow.

Badda, placed in Group A, will take on Calcutta giants East Bengal in their opening match tomorrow. Badda will next meet Goa-based Churchill Brothers in their second match on November 18 before facing Tata Football Academy in the last match on November 20.

SQUAD

Mohammad Abir, Tito, Riadh Mahmud, Mahmudul Hasan, Papul Mahmud, Lajuk, Liton, Masud Haider, Tanvir Chowdhury, Moni, Asadur Rahman, Sayeed, Khokhon, Sujon, Fattal, Abdullah, Sayeed, Shamsi and Golap Hossain.

Officials: Sayeed Hasan Kanan (coach), Monirul Islam (assistant coach), Abu Hasan Chowdhury (manager) and Omar Faruque (assistant manager).



The Indian film stars.

—Star photo by A K M Mohsin

Pakistan poised for victory



ADELAIDE, Nov 14: Pakistan, hitting form ahead of the second Test, stormed into a commanding position against South Australia on the third day of their four-day match today, reports Reuters.

Strong performances by Ijaz Ahmed with the bat and Waqar Younis and Mushtaq Ahmed with the ball had the tourists closing in on victory at the Adelaide Oval.

After resuming at 425 for six, Pakistan added 101 runs in the morning session to reach 526 for a first innings lead of 278.

South Australia were 181 for seven in their second innings at the close of play, still 95 runs behind Pakistan who are chasing their first win of the tour.

Ijaz, twice dismissed cheaply in the first Test against Australia, was in powerful form today. He hit eight more fours to build on his overnight score of 103 before being caught behind off the bowling of paceman Paul Wilson for 141.

With Younis Youhana scoring 90 and Wajahatullah Wasti 74 the previous day, Pakistan's batting had looked impressive.

Fast bowler Waqar, vying

with Mohammad Akram for a spot in next week's second Test in Hobart, then took four for 48 as South Australia struggled in their second innings.

Waqar's last Test was against India in February, when he had match figures of 0-79, and he only made the trip to Australia because Shabbir Ahmed's action was under international Cricket Council (ICC) scrutiny.

Another plus for Pakistan was a return to form by leg-spinner Mushtaq, who was hit badly in Brisbane but took 3-45 Sunday.

Earlier Wilson had been the most impressive of the South Australian bowlers and recorded his best first-class figures of six for 106.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the four-day match between Pakistan and South Australia at the Adelaide Oval on Sunday:

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: First innings 250 (D. Lehmann 136 not out)

PAKISTAN: First innings (overnight 425-6)
Ghulian Ali c Manou b Wilson 31
Wasti c Harris b Young 74
Saqlain c Manou b Wilson 0
M Wasim c and b McIntyre 50
Ijaz c Manou b Wilson 141
Youhana c Harris b Wilson 90

Moin Khan lbw b McIntyre	66
Anwar lbw b Harry	37
Younis c Manou b Wilson	0
Mustaq c Fitzgerald b Wilson	11
M Akram not out	11
Extras: (b-2, lb-6, nb-7)	15
Total: (All out in 134.3 overs)	526

Fall of wickets: 1-59; 2-65; 3-131; 4-166; 5-317; 6-425; 7-500; 8-502; 9-502

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Wilson	34.3	7	106	6
Harry	29	3	132	1
Young	36	6	139	1
Johnson	7	1	33	0
McIntyre	25	2	96	2
Vaughan	2	0	8	0
Lehmann	1	0	5	0

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Second innings
Harris lbw b Younis 12
Fitzgerald not out 67
Lehmann c Moin Khan b Younis 11
Vaughan c sub b Younis 2
Davies c Mushtaq 38
Johnson c Manou b Mushtaq 7
Young c Ghulian Ali b Mushtaq 7
Manou lbw b Younis 0
McIntyre not out 1
Extras: (b-2, lb-3, nb-6) 11
Total: (for seven wickets in 66 overs) 181

Fall of wickets: 1-22; 2-22; 3-44; 4-102; 5-164; 6-178; 7-179

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Younis	15	3	48	4
M Akram	12	2	50	0
Mushtaq	23	7	45	3
Saqlain	16	5	33	0

Black Caps draw level



GUWAHATI, Nov 14: Inspirational all-rounder Chris Cairns led New Zealand to a 48-run win over India here today, enabling the tourists to level the five-match one-day series 2-2, reports AFP.

Cairns hit a defiant 80 as the Kiwis, sent to bat on a dry wicket, recovered from a precarious 32-3 to post 236 from nine from their 50 overs.

The tall medium-pacer then removed danger man Rahul Dravid with a perfect outswinger as the Indians themselves slipped to 27-3 before being shot out for 188 in the 46th over.

The decisive fifth match will be played at New Delhi's Ferozshah Kotla ground on Wednesday, ringing the curtain down on New Zealand's six-week tour.

Man-of-the-match