

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN Competition-124

✓ Tick the Correct Answers.
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Dec 17, '99 and draw
shortly afterwards

1 Argentine soccer star Batistuta plays for Serie A club

2 Which country will host the 12th Asian Cup football finals?

3 How many Test double hundreds has Sri Lankan batsman Marvan Atapattu scored so far?

4 Where will the ninth SAF Games be held?

5 How many teams are playing in the National Cricket League?

Lebanon	Kuwait	Thailand
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One	Two	Three
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Delhi	Karachi	Peshawar
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Jan	Eight	Six
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Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)

EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASED WITHIN

SPORTS TALK



Navjot Singh Sidhu
(Former Indian Test cricketer)

"I have no regrets whatsoever. I would like to bury the past."
While announcing his retirement from international cricket.

Indians pick up the pieces

TASMANIA, Dec 15 (AFP): The touring Indians flew into Tasmania on Wednesday to pick themselves up after the morale-shattering defeat in the first Test against Australia. The Shantians are reconciled to the fact that the 285-run defeat at Adelaide on Tuesday was as much due to inept batting by the top order as skipper Sachin Tendulkar's controversial dismissals in both innings.
"There is no excuse," coach Kapil Dev said soon after the tourists arrived for the four-day match against Tasmania which starts at the Bellerive Oval on Friday.
"You can give so many reasons for losing, but the main point is that the batting did not click," he said.
"It's better to learn the lessons than moan about this and that."
The Indians were dismissed for 285 and 110 on the two-pac Adelaide Oval wicket, failing to cope with the fury of pacemen Glenn McGrath and Damien Fleming, and the wiles of leg-spinner Shane Warne.
With the second Test to be played on the faster and bouncier track of the Melbourne Cricket Ground soon after Christmas, the Indians need to sort out their troubles against pace quickly.

10 named for this year's Nat'l Award

The government yesterday announced the names of 10 sports personalities selected for the National Sports Awards 1999 for their outstanding performance respective fields, reports BSS.
The recipients are: Abdur Raquib Khondker (organiser), Anwarul Kabir Shamim (cricket), Syed Altaf Hossain (cricket), Sk Ashraf Ali (football), Suvedar Mosharrif Hossain (boxing), Quamrunnihar Dana (badminton/organiser), Quazi Shahana Parvin (shooting), Syeda Mariam Tareq (badminton/organiser), Begum Zuberah Rahman Lina (table tennis), Rabiuddin Ahmed (posthumously-hockey).
The awards will be handed over formally next year on December 15.



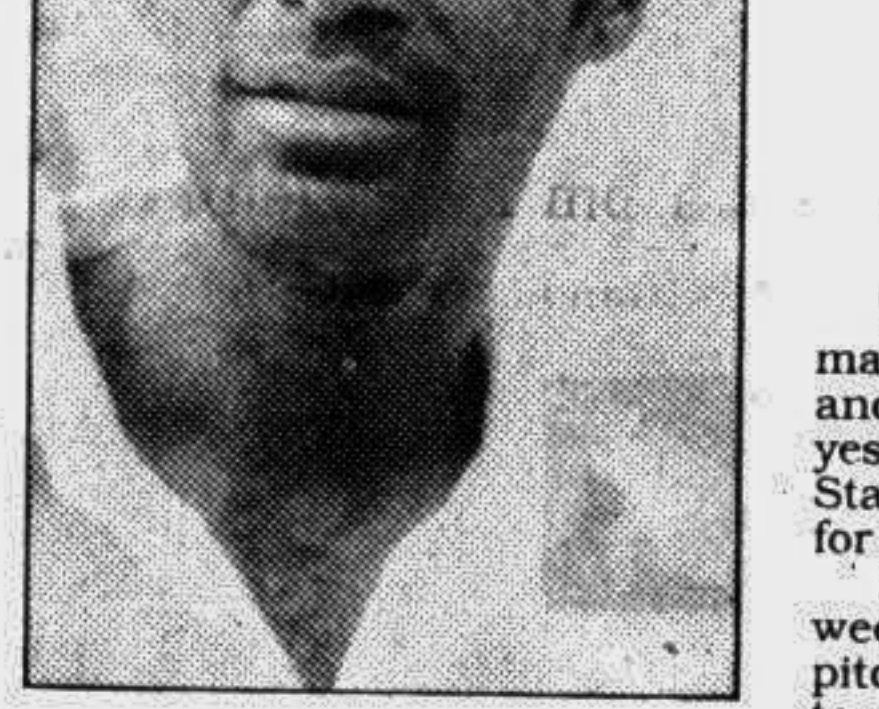
The national sports awardees for the year 1998 basking in glory along with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina (C) at the Osmani Memorial Hall yesterday. —Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Sylhetis brought down to earth

Ctg cruise to the top

On the final day of the three-day match at the Sylhet Stadium, the home side, resuming the day with a stiff task of scoring 142 runs to make Chittagong bat again, caved in for only 98 in their second innings. Sylhetis could add another 61 runs to their overnight total of 37 for three before going down to Chittagong meekly. In reply to Chittagong's 276, they were shot out for a meagre 105 in the first innings.
Two spinners—Enamul Hoque and Shahed Mehmud—tormented the Sylhetis to snare five wickets each.
Left-arm slow bowler Enamul conceded only 14 runs in his 17 overs while leg-spinner Mehmud gave away 43 runs from his 20.1 overs. Pakistani Mehmud also took five first innings wickets of Sylhet.
The Lahore-based spinner took his tournament haul to an amazing 32, playing only three matches in the League. He took 12 wickets in his first match against Barisal in Comilla and then complemented it with 10 Rajshahi wickets in the next match at the Brahmanbaria stadium.
However, Enamul, who scored 62 runs and had a match haul of seven wickets, pipped his partner-in-crime at the post to be adjudged as man-of-the-match later.

Lower middle-order Mohammad Rafique fought for the lost cause with 21. Neeyamur Rashid (10) was the other Sylhet batsman who could reach double figure mark.
Chittagong, with their fourth successive wins, raised their tally to 18 points from 6 matches and took a solo lead in the six-team League. Sylhet,



ENAMUL... m-o-m

who suffered their first defeat in the League, are trailing behind the leaders with 14 points. In their away match against Chittagong, Sylhet earned two points by virtue of their first innings lead.

Neeyamur st Jahangir b Enamul	10			
Alok c Azam b Enamul	22			
Rafique c Enamul b S Mehmud	22			
Nasirul b S Mehmud	8			
Iqbal Iw b S Mehmud	0			
Inran not out	0			
Extras: (lb-5, nb-10)	15			
Total: (All out in 61.1 overs)	98			
Fall of wickets: 1-19; 2-33; 3-37; 4-48; 5-60; 6-61; 7-66; 8-84; 9-85.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Anis	11	5	18	0
Shahuddin	8	4	6	0
Enamul	17	9	14	5
S Mehmud	20.1	6	43	5
Sabbir	4	1	12	0

Result: Chittagong won by an innings and 73 runs.
Man-of-the-match: Enamul Hoque.

No cricket at Barisal

The National Cricket League match between hosts Barisal and Dhaka could not be held yesterday as the pitch of Barisal Stadium was not fully prepared for play.
It was learnt that the last week's heavy rain damaged pitch at large extent. According to a Bangladesh Cricket Board official, the match is likely start today.

Int'l Rating chess begins

The 2nd Prime Bank International Rating chess competition, organised by Leonine Chess Club, began in the capital. After the first round, 22 players were jointly leading the point table.
In the day's matches, Ruhul Islam beat Babi, Refat defeated Al Amin Tipu, Rakib beat Zahid, Rezaul beat Shahidul Islam Tipu, Rajib beat Lavu, Kasem beat Udas, Emron beat Arun, Nasir beat Taherul, Kagal beat Aminul Islam, Sunon beat Sabab, Tipu beat Monir, Sohel beat Muttalib, Monir beat Alam, Firoz beat Kambar, Enayet beat Asaduzzaman, Dilu beat Shakil, Parag beat Lavlu, Mushtafa beat Fahim, Ahmedul beat Moniruzzaman and Alamgir beat Rafiqul Islam.
Also on the day, Shipulu drew with Uten, Anisuzzaman drew with Dipu and Khandakar Aminul Islam shared points with Shafiq Ahmed.

Sunil on batting order

ADELAIDE, Dec 15 (AFP): Former Indian batting great Sunil Gavaskar is pushing for current star Sachin Tendulkar to move up the order for the remaining two Tests against Australia after the thrashing in the first match.
Gavaskar, the first batsman to score 10,000 runs in Test history and with a record 34 centuries under his belt—five more than Australia's legendary Sir Donald Bradman—argues that India must reshuffle its middle-order.
Tendulkar must move from number five to four and Rahul Dravid from four to three, said Gavaskar after the Indian batsmen caved in twice against Australia which powered to a 285-run victory in the first Test.
"It was Australia's fifth Test win in a row after a 3-0 whipping of Pakistan earlier this summer and a one-off success in Zimbabwe in October. Gavaskar said that for India to fight back they must alter their negative mindset and change the top of the batting line-up."
"As senior players, Tendulkar and Dravid have to show the way," he said. "They have to take the bull by the horns, and be there at the top to show they can combat the Australian bowling."

"There is no sense Tendulkar coming in, like he did in the first Test, with three wickets already down and the opposition on top."
"Obviously, the uncertain form of the opening batsmen convinced the selectors effective."



SUNIL GAVASKAR

"It's not often we've seen the top Indian batsmen getting out not offering a shot, and that showed they were reluctant to play at deliveries with the bat and were looking to pad them away."
"This is where the Indians really need to work. They have got to go out and play their normal game, which is to put bat to ball, and if they can do that they will certainly produce better performances over the next couple of Tests."
Gavaskar said Gandhi could find himself out of the reckoning for the remainder of the tour after his failures—four and a duck—and Laxman could join Ramesh at the top of the order.
"But there is also a case for wicketkeeper Nayan Mongia, who has been flown out here as a late addition to the squad," he said.
Mongia made his highest Test score of 152 against Australia in New Delhi as an opener.
"The Indians have a lot of work in front of them to come back, but with their batting line-up they are too good to write off just yet," Gavaskar said.

PM hands over National Sports Award '98

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday called for taking up well coordinated plans and implement those for attaining desired results in the field of games and sports, reports BSS.
She was addressing as the chief guest at a function marking the handing over of the National Sports Award '98 to five recipients at the Osmani Memorial Hall yesterday morning.
The Prime Minister announced that the prize money of the National Sports Award will be increased to Taka 20,000 instead of present prize of taka 5,000.

The Prime Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader and additional secretary of Youth and Sports Ministry Manik Lal Samaddar were also present on the occasion.
The recipients of the 1998 national sports award are: Late Kazi Bahauddin Ahmed (organiser), Amalesh Sen (football), Lt Cdr M Bazir Rahman (swimming), Akram Khan (cricket) and Sabrina Sultana (shooting).

DRU's race to save Buriganga

Sports Reporter
Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU) yesterday organised a two-day race on the river Buriganga to create awareness regarding the encroachment and pollution of the great river.
As many as 100 reporters from various newspapers of the country took part in the 'Save Buriganga' race.
Mayor of Dhaka City Corporation Mohammed Hanif attended the occasion as chief guest while Editor of the Daily Star Mafuz Anam was the special guest.
Mayor Hanif in his speech promised that efforts will be made to stop the encroachment of the Buriganga.
Mahfuz Anam urged the reporters to make the general public aware of the deplorable state of the river so that steps might be taken to save it.
Prizes were distributed to the participants after the race.

Masood plays captain's knock

Sports Reporter
Skipper Khaled Masood led Rajshahi from the front to garner a fighting total on the opening day of their three-day National League match against hosts Khulna yesterday.
Masood scored a gritty 45 off 108 balls as Rajshahi, sent into bat, toiled their way to 206 for seven in 92 overs at close.
The national wicketkeeper hammered three fours in his workmanlike innings. Masood put on 81 runs for the fourth wicket with Mushfiqur Rahman after Rajshahi were reduced to 34 for five against some controlled bowling by Khulna medium pacers—Ahmed Kamal, Khairuzzaman and Jamaluddin.
Mushfiq chipped in with a defiant 29 off 129 balls.
Rajshahi will certainly be looking forward to accumulate as many runs as possible from the remaining eight first innings overs when they resume play today. Left-arm spinner Mustard Litu and Ripon were the two not out batsmen with 26 and 16 respectively.
For Khulna veteran off-spinner Salahuddin captured three wickets giving away 63 runs in his marathon 33 overs, which yielded seven maidens.

Hamilton Test from today

HAMILTON, New Zealand, Dec 15: West Indies veteran fast-bowler Courtney Walsh steps out Thursday on the home stretch of his bid to become cricket's most successful Test bowler—a prize just 12 wickets away, reports AFP.
The once feared Windies are something of a shadow of themselves—in the "re-building" phase that cricket fans here are so used to with their own side.
But the 37-year-old Walsh is still their most effective bowler.
But coach Viv Richards has no doubt Walsh will be firing when the first Test starts.
"He's the senior statesman. For the nature of what he is about to achieve, it is wonderful to have such an individual. Certainly he will be looking to lead the charge," Richards said.
The veteran paceman needs just 12 wickets to better the 434 haul of India's now retired Kapil Dev and become the world's greatest Test wicket-taker.
The also retired Richard Hadlee, currently the second most successful wicket-taker with 431 said Walsh might find it difficult to get the record here, but there was "a sniff of a chance" given his previous performances here.
Hamilton can aid fast bowlers while Wellington's Basin Reserve, venue for the second Test, has even more pace and bounce than it did in 1995 when Walsh took 13 wickets over two innings for 55 runs.
"Some grounds have the right feel," New Zealander Hadlee said. "You can't wait to get back on them."
"Having spearheaded the Windies attack in their last two Test campaigns earlier this year against South Africa and Australia, he knows the record can be a reality."
Walsh did not play county cricket for Gloucestershire this last season and he says that gave him the impetus to stay in the international arena. "I would have been satisfied with 400 but I have the chance of getting past two great bowlers, Sir Richard Hadlee and Kapil Dev."
The West Indies Wednesday were undecided as to whether to take a three or four-pronged pace attack into the game.
Off-spinner Nehemiah Perry



PADDLING FOR A NOBLE CAUSE: Reporters of different newspapers competing in a boat race on the river Buriganga yesterday. The Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU) organised the competition as a mark of protest against the deplorable state of the great absorber. —Star Photo by Anisur Rahman

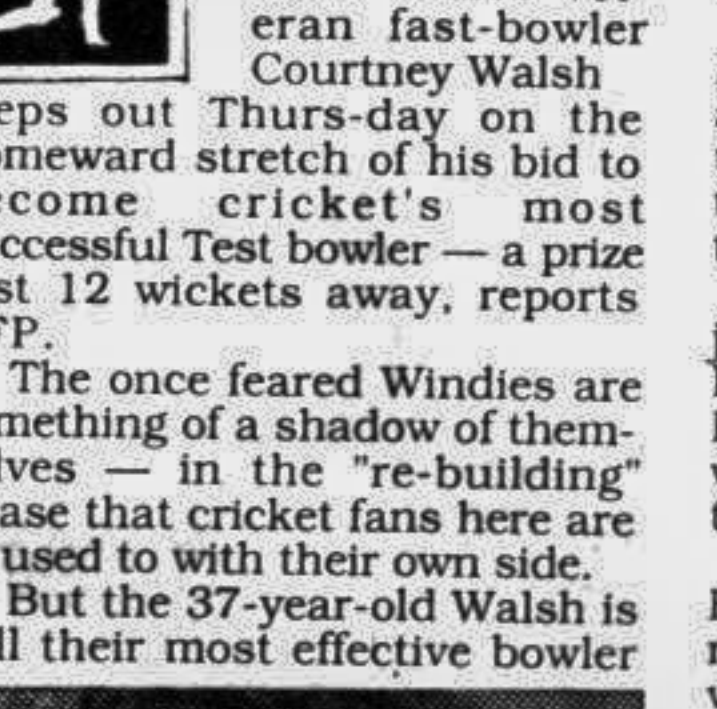
Commeth the hour, Courtney Courtney

Followers of West Indies cricket will remember November and December for all the wrong reasons.
"Since it witnessed the passing away of three worthy sons namely Malcolm Marshall, Conrad Hunte and Sylvester Clarke in rapid succession. Engulfed by such doom and gloom, it's hard to believe that long-serving ambassador Courtney Walsh stands on the threshold of creating history.
When the champion Jamaica and West Indies fast bowler takes the shiny red leather ball, at the start of a two-Test series against the Black Caps, he will be aiming to end Kapil Dev's reign as most successful bowler in the history of the five-day game.
The first Test commences from today in Hamilton.
Walsh, the world record-holder for most number of ducks, must capture 12 more wickets to overtake the 434-haul held by the Indian. Currently he lies third behind New Zealand's Sir Richard Hadlee, who has 431.
Even at 37 and forced to cut down on the amount of cricket he plays nowadays, the senior statesman is still eager to prove he has what it takes to succeed.
When the man has bowled over 24,000 balls day in and day out that is testimony to his inner strength.
Walsh's one-day record is equally impressive—225 wickets from 202 matches.
During the last World Cup of the millennium Walsh was the most economical bowler of the entire tournament with 11 wickets at an average of 9.81 and an economy rate of 2.29. Amazingly West Indies didn't even cross the first round!
Walsh has matured in leaps and bounds since making his debut at Perth in 1984. Used much as a backup to Michael Holding, Joel Garner and Marshall, it wasn't until the second



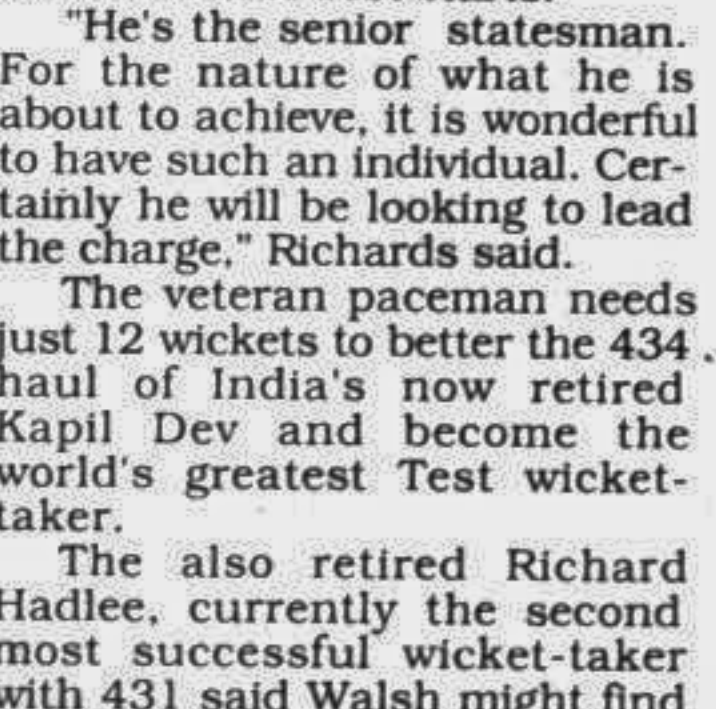
COURTNEY WALSH

great in his own right Curtly Ambrose.
In a remarkable career spanning 110 matches the gentle giant has missed only six matches due to injury. The former skipper has been able to withstand the test of time. That explains why he enjoyed 14 successful seasons at English county side Gloucestershire.
Although the historic tour of South Africa was a public relations catastrophe—the tourists suffering a 5-0 whitewash—Walsh the tireless workhorse claimed 22 wickets in four Tests to emerge unscathed. He also became West Indies' highest wicket-taker of all-time eclipsing Marshall's record 377.
While the drawn home series against Australia was dominated by the brilliance of Brian Lara, Walsh was not to be outdone either.
He ended up taking 26 wickets in the keenly contested four Tests. In fact, during the opening Test the mild-mannered Jamaican also joined the exclusive 400-club.
Never one to gloat on achievements Cuddy, one of his many nicknames, makes it a point to always perform to the best of his ability. Whether it is in the arena of a Test or the end of a one-day match.
The secret of Walsh's longevity apart from maintaining a tough exercise regime undoubtedly must be that classic high-arm chest-on action, allowing him to either extract steep bounce on any surface or late movement in the air to right-handed batsmen.
Different bowlers have various ways of motivating themselves. Walsh relies on constantly changing his facial expressions while approaching the top of his run-up.
New Zealand has been kind to the Mr. Duracell of cricket.
Five years ago he wrecked the home side at Wellington's bouncy Basin Reserve by picking up 13 wickets and also career-best figures. So the hosts will be weary of this fact when the second Test starts there later this month.
Courtney has yet to reveal when he will be calling it a day though we should not rule out the possibility of the lion-hearted West Indian reaching 450 even 500 wickets when the curtain finally falls. If anybody deserves the honour surely it must be him.



STEPHEN FLEMING

and the West Indies will be banking on his Herculean powers when the two Test series against New Zealand starts here Thursday.
Walsh has taken his Test preparation quietly since knocking the top off the New Zealand A order in a warm-up match earlier in the month, missing the later game against Auckland and not training Tuesday.



BRIAN LARA

matches, is confident the finger has healed and he will be in good enough touch.
"I've had a couple of games but it's been limited preparation, and I've been making up for that in the nets and doing everything I can to get up to speed.
"I feel really good. I got through Chris Cairns' testimonial, game and the fracture hurt."
See page 14