

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-125

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Competition closes at 8 pm
Jan 7 and draw shortly afterwards

- 1. Who was the man-of-the-series in the Australia-Pakistan Tests?
Langer Ponting Inzamam
- 2. Who was the highest run-taker in the Australia-Pakistan Test series?
Akram Fleming McGrath
- 3. How many Test hundreds has Mark Waugh scored to date?
15 16 17
- 4. Who became champion in the Kenya Premier soccer?
Muktijodha Mohammedan Arifan
- 5. Who lifted the Expatriates' Open chess title?
Rezaul Zia Tanveer

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

POWERED WITH

EN-VITS

ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS



Mike Atherton
(England cricketer)
"I don't think mine was the wrong ball to hit, but you win some and you lose some."

Final 12 named

Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation announced a 12-member final squad for the first Junior Asian international competition to be held in Fariadabad, Haryana in India from January 21, reports UNB.

M A Gafur will accompany the team as manager while Abdul Jalil the coach. Two referees - Amir Hossain Patuani and Muzaffar Hossain will also be with the team which will leave on January 16.

The final squad was picked up from the 37 selected preliminarily.

The players: Mohaimenul Islam, Abdul Barea, Mizanur Rahman, Abdul Mannik, Abdul Jalil, Mehedi Hasan, Abdul Samad, Selim Miah, Hasan Ali, Shamim Hossain Bablu, Chand Miah and Rafiqul Islam.

The players have been asked to report at the federation office on January 12.

Arjuna, De Silva drafted

COLOMBO, Jan 4: Sri Lanka included sacked skipper Arjuna Ranatunga and his deputy Aravinda de Silva in a 22-member squad for next month's tour of Pakistan, reports AFP.

The Board of Control for Cricket here said today the two players will be in the squad led by new skipper Sanath Jayasuriya and deputy Mahela Jayawardene.

De Silva was dropped from the one-day series against Australia in September but was included in the three-Test series against Australia in October. Ranatunga was dropped completely from the Zimbabwe tour last month.

Ranatunga was included in the Pakistan tour because of his good performance in domestic cricket, officials said.

SQUAD

Sanath Jayasuriya (captain), Mahela Jayawardene (vice captain), Aravinda de Silva, Arjuna Ranatunga, Marvan Atapattu, Russel Arnold, Muttiah Muralitharan, Upul Chandana, Ramesh Kaluwitharana, Promodya Wickramasinghe, Chaminda Vaas, Chamara de Silva, Indika de Seram, Indika Galle, T M Dilshan, Prasanna Jayawardena, Ranga Herath, Nimesh Perera, Upekka Fernando, Kumara Sangakkara, Ravindra Pushpakumara and Nuwan Soysa.



Members of the Colombo-bound team, which will take part in the World Youth Cricket Championship, pose for photographers at the BKSP in Savar yesterday. —Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Squad leaves for Colombo today

Youths exude confidence

Bangladesh youth team leaves for the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo today with a pronounced intention of making a bigger impact than they did in South Africa when the World Youth Cricket Championship begins in the emerald islands from January 10.

After pushing their way into the spotlight in South Africa two years ago, where they lifted the Plate title and defeated eventual champions England, the youngsters of Bangladesh appeared confident to cross the first round barrier and play in the elite eight-team super league, a feat they have never achieved.

"The success in South Africa was certainly a big achievement for us. But this time around we are keen to better our performance. We finished ninth in South Africa but now we are looking forward to playing in the Super League if not going all the way to win the trophy," said the coach of the team Dipu Rai Chowdhury while talking to this reporter at the BKSP yesterday.

Placed in Group B of the sixteen-nation meet, which includes youth teams from all the nine Test-playing countries, Bangladesh will play their first match against India on January 12.

Bangladesh, who made it to the finals as winners of the Asian youth championships in Singapore last year, will play their second match against New Zealand on January 14.

Hannan, who played for Abahani last year, admitted that the present team will certainly miss the services of seasoned cricketers like Al-Shahriar and Mehra, but looked determined to face the challenge.

"The presence of Al-Shahriar and Mehra in South Africa was a great help for us. We will definitely miss their experience. But I think this is a more talented side than the previous one," said Hannan.

Replying to a query Hannan said that the wickets in Sri Lanka would be more conducive for his team than the fast and bouncy pitches in South Africa.

"The South African wicket suited teams like New Zealand last time around. But this time we will find it extremely difficult negotiating with the slow and turning wickets of the sub-continent," said Hannan while elaborating his team's chances of making it into the Super League.

"We are capable of defeating Holland. The toughest match for us in the first round should be against India," felt the Bangladesh captain.

SQUAD

Hannan Sarkar (Captain), Nahidul Haque, Rajin Saleh, Mohammed Kalim, Mohammed Selim, Kuntal Chanda, Mahfuz Kabir, Arman Hossain, Ashraf, Mossadek Hossain, Abu Nasser, Anwar Hossain, Bikash Ranjan Das, Tariqul Hassan.

Manager: Azmal Ahmed Chowdhury

Coach: Dipu Rai Chowdhury

Physio: Gavin Benzafeld

Mushfiq in thick of things

Sports Reporter

stunning boundaries off 190 balls.

After Mushfiq departed with the score on 240 in the 94th over, the visitors lost three wickets for the addition of eight runs.

Saifullah Maki was the wrecker-in-chief with six for 46 from 22.3 overs while left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique took three wickets conceding 53 runs from 30 overs.

In reply, Sylhet, needing 147 to avoid an innings defeat, had reached 156 for three at stumps.

Saifullah also shone with the willow as the Pakistani all-rounder, who scored the first century (173) of the league, was undefeated on 66.

Skipper Nasirul Alam chipped in with 43.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the second day of the three-day National Cricket League match between Sylhet and Rajshahi at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday:

SYLHET: First Innings 101 all out in 44.3 overs (Tushar 46, Alok 29, Parvez 15; Mushfiq 7/33, Imran 2/20)

RAJSHAHI: First Innings (overnight 107 for 4 in 45 overs)

Rafique b Rafique 23
Imran b Rafique 25
Fariq b Saifullah 5
Sanchoy lbw b Saifullah 0

Black caps' second in a row

TAUPO, New Zealand, Jan 4: New Zealand cruised to victory over the West Indies by seven wickets in the second one-day cricket international here today, reports AFP.

They had more than five overs to spare as they reached their target of 192 in the day/night game.

Captain Stephen Fleming hit the winning runs with a four through wide mid-on after the bowling of Jimmy Adams in the 36th over of the rain-shortened 42-over match.

Chris Cairns continued his solid form to be 27 not out off 25 balls.

The win gave New Zealand a 2-0 lead in the five-match series, with the third game in Napier on Thursday.

The result kept the West Indies without a record in six games of their tour so far.

Fleming led the way for New Zealand, scoring 59 not out off 87 balls and bringing up his 18th one-day half-century.

New Zealand bowled the West Indies out for 192 with three balls left in their 42-over innings, with left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori the standout with four for 24 off eight overs.

It was easily his best one-day international bowling effort, surpassing his four for 49 against Zimbabwe in Hamilton in 1998.

Vettori's performance won him the man-of-the-match award.

New Zealand were always in control in their run chase, with Nathan Astle and Craig Spearman scoring 50 runs inside the first eight overs.

Astle departed for 32, and by the time Spearman had gone for 42 New Zealand were well in control at 98 for two.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard from the West Indies v New Zealand rain reduced one-day international cricket match here on Tuesday:

WEST INDIES

Campbell c Fleming b Cairns 0
Jacobs c Cairns b O'Connor 13
Adams b Vettori 69
Lara c Vettori b Cairns 28
Chanderpaul c Vettori b Harris 35
Powell c Cairns b Vettori 0
Perry b Vettori 0
Rose not out 21
Dillon c Astle b Vettori 10
King lbw Astle 0
Walsh c Twease b Nash 0
Extras: (b-5, lb-4, w-5, nb-2) 16
Total: (All out in 41.3 overs) 192

Fall of wickets: 1-0; 2-29; 3-31; 4-88; 5-150; 6-151; 7-171; 8-183; 9-187.

Bowler O M R W

Cairns 9 1 25 2

Saber leaves cricketers in the lurch

Sports Reporter

Seven leading cricketers under investigation were left to live on their nerves for five more days as Saber Hossain Chowdhury departed for the United States on Sunday.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board president, who is supposed to defuse the dispute between the players and the CDM (Cricketer Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan), will not be able to reconsider the Board's decision not to allow the seven cricketers to take part in inter-club players' transfer, starting from January 17.

On Sunday, the Board, acting on the suggestion of CDM, has slapped temporary ban on Bangladesh captain Aminul Islam, vice-captain Khaled Mahmud, Minhazul Abedin, Faruque Ahmed, Enamul Hoque, Mohammed Rafique and Mahabubur Rahman until an investigation against them is completed.

The two-member probe committee, headed by the Additional DG of Special Branch Nurul Alam, will look into the alleged 'misconduct and objectionable remarks' hurled by the seven cricketers at top CDM officials and then submit its report by January 21.

On hearing the BCB ban, cricketers, gathered under the umbrella of Cricketers Welfare Association of Bangladesh, immediately sent a letter to Saber requesting him to allow the seven players to participate in the transfer, whose token will be on offer on January 6.

Saber will be back on January 11.

Khulna edge past Barisal

Sports Reporter

Khulna took a 44-run first innings lead over Barisal on the second day of their three-day National Cricket League match at the Abdur Rab Serniabad Stadium in Barisal yesterday.

Resuming the day at 93 for 3 in reply to Barisal's 158, the visitors were all out for 202 in 87.1 overs, thanks to a patient 82 from opener Sajid Hasan.

In his 228-ball innings, the young right-hander smote 10 boundaries.

Sajid apart, Saeed (32) and lower middle-order Mofizul (26) were the other notable run-getters for Khulna.

Off-spinner Saleh Ahmed returned most successful as he finished with five for 72 while Moin took two wickets for 22 runs.

In reply, Barisal were 125 for 5 at stumps.

Opener Rashedul scored highest 51 off 59 balls with the help of eight boundaries while skipper Habibul Bashar added 31 runs.

Khulna offie Sohail and medium pacer Jamaluddin captured two wickets each conceding 24 and 34 runs respectively.

Sanwar shines for Dhaka

Sports Reporter

Chittagong earned a comprehensive 55-run first innings lead over visiting Dhaka in their final National Cricket League clash at the Comilla Stadium yesterday.

On the second day, Dhaka, in reply to Chittagong's 280 in the first innings, scored 225 before they were all out in 69.4 overs.

Middle-order Sanwar Hossain scored an unbeaten 90 followed by lower middle order Saiful Islam who chipped in with 47. Besides, opener Harunur Rashid added 33 runs.

For the home side, right-arm seamer Shaikhuddin Ahmed and leg-spinner Shaheed Mohammad evenly shared six wickets among them, conceding 25 and 72 runs respectively.

With yesterday's three wickets, Mehmd has completed an amazing haul of 55 in only seven matches.

Chittagong, who have already confirmed the league championship title having collected 30 points from nine matches, will run-away with two batting points if the match ends in a draw today.

BRIEF SCORES

Chittagong: First Innings (280 all out in 91.1 overs) (Minhazul 108, Enamul 46, Azam 23, Ehsanul 18, Akram 18; Muzak 3/41. Sanwar 2/42, Saiful 2/35)

Dhaka: First Innings 225 all out in 69.4 overs (Sanwar 90 n.o., Saiful 47, Harun 33; Shaikhuddin 3/25, S-Mehmd 3/72)

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Dist-level nat'l schools cricket

BARGUNA, Jan 4: The district-level National Schools Cricket tournament began here on Monday, reports UNB.

On the opening day, Barguna Zilla School team defeated Keorabanda Secondary School by 113 runs.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Fakhrul Islam inaugurated the competition at 10 am.

The Australian captain also

Clean Australian sweep

SYDNEY, Jan 4 (Reuters/AFP): Australia thrashed India by an innings and 141 runs in the third and final Test today to complete a 3-0 series whitewash.

Australia reached a massive 552 for five declared in their first innings then dismissed India for 261 to seal victory inside three days.

Justin Langer hit a record 223 and Ricky Ponting 141 not out to finish the series with 375 runs at an average of 125.

Venkat Laxman made a defiant 167 for India but the rest of the batting failed on a day which yielded 482 runs and the Sydney Cricket Ground.

Paceman Glenn McGrath was named man-of-the-match

"It's an incredible team to be a part of," Langer said.

The bowlers are bowling brilliantly, all the batsmen are chipping in and I'm just having the time of my life.

Ponting pounded a six and 17 fours to post his second highest Test score and his third century in his past four Tests.

The Indians have not won a Test match away from the sub-continent since 1986, although they have not lost a series at home in the same period.

To add to their woes, the Indians were fined 10 per cent of their collective match fees by referee Ranjan Madugalle of Sri Lanka for their slow over rates during the final Test.

A similar penalty was imposed by the referee after the second Test in Melbourne, but the Indians refused to hasten



India's Anil Kumble (L) congratulates Venkat Laxman after the latter reached his maiden century on the third day after taking five for 55 in the second innings to finish with match figures of 10-103. India captain Sachin Tendulkar was named man-of-the-series after scoring 278 runs at 46.33 despite Ponting's more obvious claims to the award.

the pace of the game.

The Indians, needing 403 to avoid an innings defeat, were shot out for 261 shortly before the end of the extended third day's play.

India slipped to 33 for three, including the crucial wicket of captain Sachin Tendulkar, before opener Venkat Laxman restored some pride with a superb maiden hundred.

It was only the second century by the tourists in the series, following Tendulkar's 116 in the first innings of the second Test at Melbourne.

Playing a lone hand, Laxman took advantage of Australia's attacking field placings to blast a succession of boundaries.

Like Langer the previous day, he survived after being caught by Shane Warne off a no ball on 54.

He seemed certain to lead his team into a fourth day until McGrath dismissed Kumble and Ajit Agarkar in the final over of the day.

Waugh asked for the extra half-hour after McGrath took

Waugh doesn't spare India

SYDNEY, Jan 4 (Reuters/AFP): Australian captain Steve Waugh said India only had themselves to blame after crashing to a 3-0 series loss with an innings defeat in the third and final Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Tuesday.

The Australian captain dealt swiftly with that suggestions India's players had been hard done by the umpires and said their defeat had more to do with their own approach than against them.

"After that their confidence was down and once we get on top of a side we are hard to stop."

Before the season started, we sat down and aimed to win all six Tests at home," Waugh said.

Waugh said the most pleasing aspect of Australia's emphatic series win was the emergence of players like Brett Lee and Adam Gilchrist which he said augured well for the future of Australian cricket.

"We have got the basis of a great team," Waugh said.

"Once the older guys depart, whenever that is, it's going to be a team that can take over and continue the mantle of being the number one cricket side."

The Australian captain also complimented his main fast bowler Glenn McGrath, who sealed India's fate with five wickets in each innings of the final Test.

"Any side with a couple of Glenn McGraths will not be easy to beat," he said.

Waugh said the only real injustice was Tendulkar being chosen as the player-of-the-series.

"I'm not surprised because it always happens to us," Waugh said.

Only two Indian players, Tendulkar and Venkat Laxman averaged over 30 with the bat while Ajit Agarkar and Venkatesh Prasad were the only bowlers to take 10 or more wickets.

"It's been a tough tour for the bowlers and the batters," Tendulkar said.

"It's an altogether different ball game when you play in Australia compared to India."

"But there are quite a lot of things we have learnt on this tour and they should help to broaden our knowledge."

"Our batting and bowling did not click," said the Indian skipper.

"It's not that we don't know how to play abroad, but this time we were beaten by a superior team which outplayed us in all departments."

Indian coach Kapil Dev, Test cricket's leading wicket-taker, said the slow wickets at home contributed to the team's dismal record overseas.

"At home we play on wickets that are low and slow," Kapil said.

"The batsmen make a lot of runs and the bowlers take a lot of wickets, but the problem comes when they are confronted with wickets that have bounce."

Tri-nation series

Lee gets the nod

SYDNEY, Jan 4 (AFP/Reuters): Explosive Test fast bowler Brett Lee was Tuesday the surprise inclusion and Darren Lehmann the shock omission from the 13-man Australian one-day cricket squad for the first four games of the cricket tri-series involving Pakistan and India, starting this weekend.

"We will request the selectors if they can allow Laxman to stay on," Kapil said. "He batted superbly and deserves a chance in the one-dayers."

SQUAD

Steve Waugh (captain), Shane Warne, Michael Bevan, Adam Dale, Damien Fleming, Adam Gilchrist, Brett Lee, Shane Lee, Damien Martyn, Glenn McGrath, Ricky Ponting, Andrew Symonds, Mark Waugh.

SCOREBOARD

Final scorecard of the three and final cricket Test between Australia and India at the Sydney Cricket Ground here on Tuesday:

INDIA: First Innings 150 (S Tendulkar 45; G McGrath 5-48, B Lee 4-39)

AUSTRALIA: First Innings (overnight 331-4):

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Slater c Prasad b Srinath	19			
Langer c V Prasad b Tendulkar	23			
M Waugh b Ganguly	22			
S Waugh lbw b Srinath	57			
Ponting not out	141			
Gilchrist not out	45			
Extras: (b-2, lb-21, nb-11)	34			
Total: (For five wickets dec 140.2 overs)	552			
Fall of wkts: 1-9; 2-49; 3-146; 4-267; 5-457				

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Srinath	28	4	105	2
Agarkar	19	3	85	1
Lee	28	10	85	1
Kumble	33.2	6	126	0
Ganguly	12	1	46	1
Bharadwaj	12	1	35	0
Tendulkar	7	0	34	1
Kanitkar	1	0	2	0

INDIA: Second Innings

Laxman c Gilchrist b Lee 167
M Prasad c Warne b McGrath 3
Dravid c Warne b McGrath 0
Tendulkar c Langer b Fleming 4
Ganguly c M Waugh b McGrath 25
Kanitkar c Slater b Lee 18
Kumble c Ponting b McGrath 10
Agarkar c Gilchrist b McGrath 0
Srinath not out 15
V Prasad run out 3
Bharadwaj absent injured 21

Extras: (b-4, lb-2, w-1, nb-14) 23

Total: (All out in 58 overs) 261

Fall of wickets: 1-22; 2-26; 3-33; 4-101; 5-145; 6-234; 7-234

Bowler	O	M	R	W
McGrath	17	1	55	5
Fleming	13	2	47	1
Lee	21	2	67	2
Blewett	2	0	16	0
Warne	13	1	60	0
Ponting	1	0	8	0
Slater	1	0	2	0

Result: Australia won by an innings and 141 runs.

Man-of-the match: Glenn McGrath

Man-of-the-series: Sachin Tendulkar