

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-125
Tick the Correct Answers
Post to the Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Jan 7 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who was the man-of-the-series in the Australia-Pakistan Tests?
Langer Poring Inzamam
- Who was the highest wicket-taker in the Australia-Pakistan Test series?
Akram Fleming McGrath
- How many Test hundreds has Mark Waugh scored to date?
15 16 17
- Who became champion in the Keya Premier soccer?
Muktijodha Mohammedan Arambagh
- Who lifted the Expatriates' Open chess title?
Reefat Zia Tanveer

Name

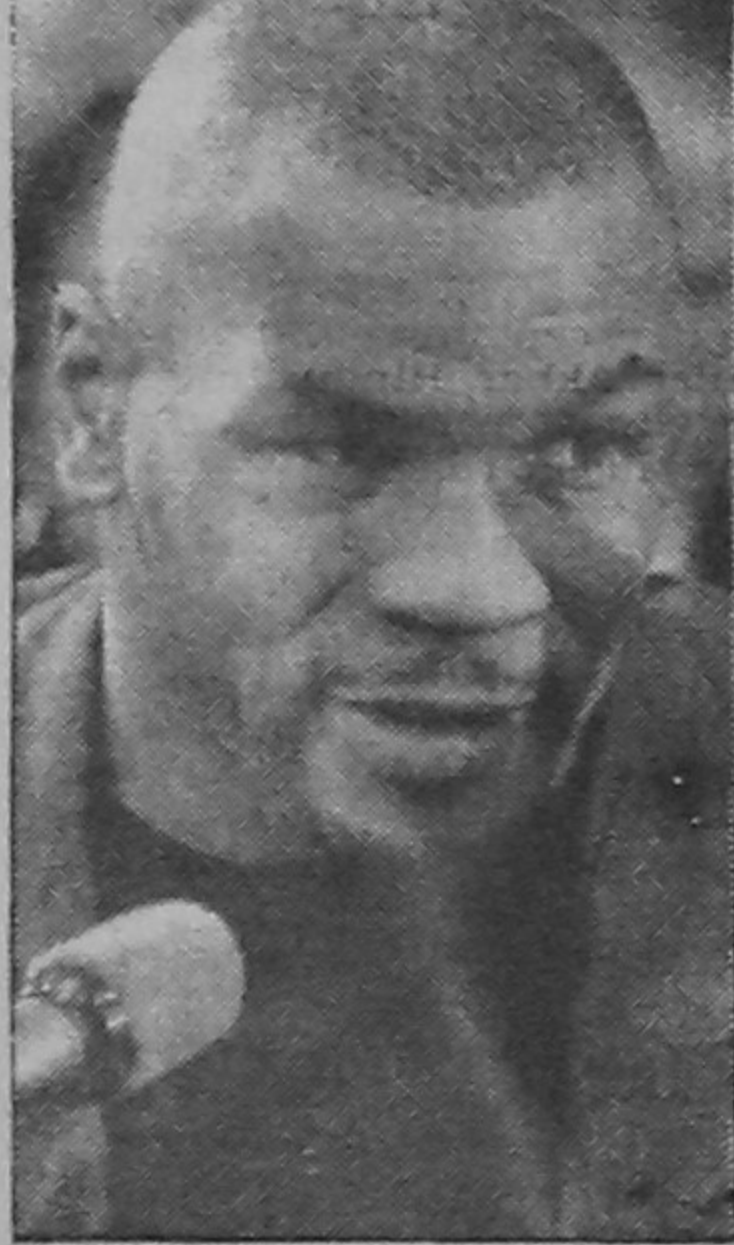
Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



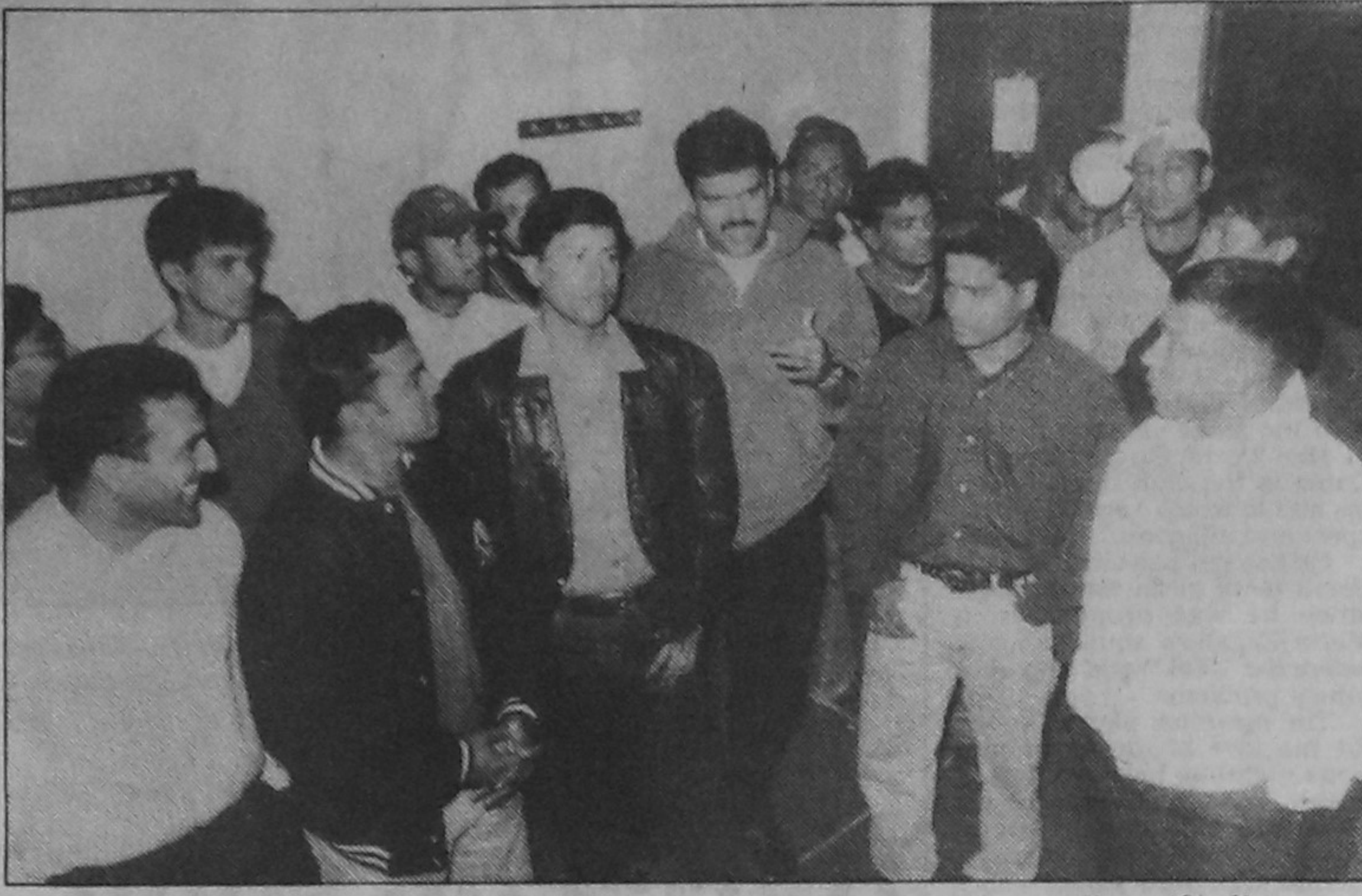
Mike Tyson
(Former world heavyweight champion)
"I always try to catch (opponents) right on the top of the nose, because I try to push the bone right into the brain."

ICC will look into PCB petition

LONDON, Jan 6: Leading world cricket officials Jagmohan Dalmiya and Sir Clyde Walcott are to consider an appeal to suspend a ban on Pakistan fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar over his illegal action, reports Reuters.
A nine-man International Cricket Council (ICC) advisory panel suspended Akhtar for a month last week because of his suspect action. Doubts about it were raised during Pakistan's recent Test tour of Australia.
The ICC said in a statement from its Lord's headquarters on Wednesday: "ICC has received a request from the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to suspend the decision of the advisory panel to remove Shoaib Akhtar from international cricket."

Bomb won't stop World Youth C'ship

COLOMBO, Jan 6: Sri Lankan cricket officials said today they hoped the World Youth Cricket Championship here would go ahead as planned despite a suicide bomb attack that killed 13 people, reports AFP.
Sixteen countries are taking part in the tournament which opens Sunday, with the first three arriving Wednesday, the day a suicide bomber detonated explosives strapped to her body outside prime minister's office.
A tournament organiser said they did not expect any last minute cancellations following the bombing and the shooting of a Tamil politician.
"We are following the developments and are keeping the ICC informed," a Sri Lankan cricket board spokesman said, adding that International Cricket Council Chairman Jagmohan Dalmiya was expected here for the opening ceremony.
Teams from New Zealand, Holland and Ireland arrived on Wednesday.



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Former national skipper Akram Khan (C) discusses something with CWAB president Minhazul Abedin at the BCB office yesterday. —Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Seven players denied tokens CWAB on warpath again

Sports Reporter

The leading cricketers of the country, under the banner of Cricketers Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB), have apparently launched a fresh movement against Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) following the board's decision to refuse seven players from collecting their tokens yesterday for the forthcoming inter-club transfers of the Premier Division League to be held from January 17 to 19.
The board had earlier banned the seven cricketers concerned—Minhazul Abedin, Aminul Islam, Khaled Mahmud, Enamul Hoque, Mohammad Rafique, Mahbubur Rahman and Faruque Ahmed—from taking part in the transfers in its last meeting on December 31 after a complaint from the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM), the organisers of the league.
The CCDM had accused the players of misconduct and making objectionable remarks against top officials during the CWAB's demonstration for an early transfer last November. The BCB has formed a two-member probe committee to look into the complaint. The committee will submit its report on January 21.
On the first day of issuing yesterday, the seven cricketers in question along with some hundred other players went to the BCB office to collect their tokens.
According to Minhazul, who is also the president of CWAB, he asked the two CCDM officials in charge for his token. The officials refused by saying that their hands were tied.
Minhazul along with some other cricketers then went to the acting general secretary of BCB Mahmud Ul Haq Manu and requested for their tokens. Manu also declined to provide them with tokens by showing the BCB instructions.
When Minhazul inquired why they have not been informed by the BCB about this penalty, Manu failed to answer.
The cricketers, after being refused by Manu, then gathered at a corner of the BCB office and announced that they would not take part in the transfers unless the board allows all the seven cricketers to take part in the transfer.
The CWAB also demanded that if the BCB wants to ban players, it has to ban all the 240 cricketers who took part in the November movement for an early transfer.
It was learnt that the CWAB later called on State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader at his NSC office in the evening.
Talking to The Daily Star last night, Minhazul Abedin confirmed about their meeting with the State Minister and said that the Minister has assured them of a solution.
"We have not been served with any notice by the board. How were we expected to know about the ban?" said a frustrated Minhazul.
"We have played the National League after getting as-

Cocaine found in Diego's sample

PUNTA DEL ESTE, Uruguay, Jan 6: A first analysis of a urine sample provided by Argentine football legend Diego Maradona, currently hospitalised after suffering from hypertension and an irregular heartbeat, has revealed traces of cocaine, the Uruguayan police said Wednesday, reports AFP.
Maldonado district police chief Maximiliano Costa Rocha told a press conference that the drug had been detected in the first sample.
He said: "This positive sample is due to an excessive consumption of cocaine."
Costa Rocha made it clear Maradona had not been arrested and said several other people were helping police with their inquiries.
Judge Adriana de los Santos is presiding over the affair and Costa Rocha said: "Numerous other matters are going to be looked into."
The player's agent Guillermo Coppola was questioned for five hours by police chiefs while another businessman and friend of Maradona Pablo Cosentino was quizzed for three hours.
Maradona became a national hero when he inspired Argentina to victory in the 1986 World Cup, winning the quarter-final with England and semi-final with Belgium virtually singlehandedly.
But he has always been a controversial figure and his problems with drugs have been much documented. In 1991 he tested positive for cocaine after the Serie A match in Italy between his team Napoli and Bari.
He was sent home from the 1994 World Cup in the United States after failing a drug test—this time for ephedrine—during the tournament. He was later banned for 15 months.
In 1997 he failed another drug test after a match between Boca Juniors and Argentinos Juniors. That affair is yet to be dealt with.
Meanwhile, Maradona was spending his second day in a Punta del Este hospital officially suffering from hypertension and an irregular heartbeat. However, rumours were intensifying that the player ranked by many as second only



to Pele in the list of all-time greats was suffering from a drug overdose as Uruguay's justice department and medical staff maintained a wall of silence.
But Uruguay's drug czar Alberto Scavarelli told AFP they would not at present be insisting on any drugs test on Maradona although he said he was being informed on the player's condition. He said procedure would be followed "for Maradona as for any other citizen."
Maradona's condition was initially described as a mystery illness. That fuelled speculation, given Maradona's much-documented problems with drugs, that it might be a drugs-related problem.
The exact nature of the problem is still not clear, however, and judge De los Santos would be able to have results within 48 hours if she decided to order tests, Scavarelli said.
Both de los Santos and another investigator Luis Maldonado refused to comment on the case when pressed by AFP.
However, Costa Rocha and other authorities were having further meetings Wednesday to discuss what is being referred to as "the Maradona case."
The same group of people had held a previous meeting Tuesday with another judge Juan Batista Gomez although that was primarily to discuss how to handle the intense me-

BFF announces players' lists

Sports Reporter
Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday announced the players' lists of four divisional teams which will take part in the Nitol-Tata National Football League.
The inaugural league involving eight teams is likely to start at the end of January.
The BFF earlier revealed the lists of Dhaka based giants—Mohammedan Sporting Club, Abahani Krira Chakra and Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra. Rajshahi Abahani Krira Chakra have yet to submit names.

Following are the lists of Khulna Abahani Krira Chakra, Chittagong Abahani Krira Chakra, Netrokona Mohammedan Sporting Club and Chaturanga Jubo Sangha of Sylhet.
Khulna Abahani: Sheikh Saifuddin Ahmed Himu, Fayed Ahmed, Milan Hossain, Zillur Rahman Lajuk, Shaful Bari Barat, Sheikh Nasruddin, Rezaul Ahmed Raj, Moshabbir Morshed, Ashrafur Karim, Shahinor Rahman, Moniruz-zaman Mohsin, Monir SheikhulLutur Rahman Nayan, Hasan Imam Rikto, Proshanto Kumar Dey, Shah Alam Khan Badal, Kamal Hossain, Pranotosh Kumar Das, Mozibur Rahman Lovlu, Abul Hasan, Masud Rana, Imran Mithu, Sheikh Jamal and Prodeep Kumar Poddar.

Chittagong Abahani: Bijan, Amin, Biplab Marmar, Papel Mahmud, Sourav Raju, Biplab, Apu Barua, Nazrul Babu, Al-Amin, Taji, Pavel, Asad, Tareque, Palo, Asif, Nurul Islam, Moni, Farhad, Kaisar and Shafigue.
Netrokona Mohammedan: Milan, Dhanu, Amzad, Ali Mansoor, Chotton, Dil Mohammad, Litu, Govinda, Riadh, Kamal, Shuvro, Haider, Babu, Monir, Rinku, Kowshik, Milan, Jhony, Saiful, Rizak, Jalal and Ashim.
Sylhet Chaturanga Jubo Sangha: Riadh Mahmud, Saiful Islam, Chanchal, Masum Haider, Zahid Hossain, Aminul Islam Mithu, Murad Ahmed, Mahbub Hossain Roxy, Sujed, Kanchan, Tutul, Rahel, Biaka, Milan, Shipu, Shahed, Ekhlak, Habib, Jahangir, Kutum and Juha.

Eskaton SS' New body

Sports Reporter
M Liakat Ali and Mahmud Ul Haq Manu yesterday were named president and general secretary respectively of the newly formed executive committee of Eskaton Sabuj Sangha for 2000-01.
The other members are: Vice-presidents—Ittekarul Islam Titon, Abul Bashar, Rafizuddin Ahmed Babul, Harunur Rashid, Abul Bashar CIP, Golam Kawsar, Yousuf Zinnah, Zainul Abedin Liton, Kabiruddin Ahmed, M Shahabuddin, Khurshid Alam and Rakib Hossain Mukul; treasurer—Mir Ali Hasan; additional general secretary—Ilyas Hossain Jhantu; joint-secretaries—Mehdul Islam Based and Wahid Khan; organising secretary—Nurun Nabi Chowdhury; office secretary—Al-Mamun Barkat; cultural secretary—Kazi Enamul Haque; publicity secretary—Kamrul Hasan Hannan; literature secretary—Syed Firoz Ahmed, social welfare secretary—Abdus Salam; members—Tazul Islam, Khan Saifullah Ponir, Golam Faruque, Sajjadur Rahman, Showkat Hossain Nannu, Hasmat Haider, Badrul Alam Bablu, Dipu Chowdhury, Alamgir Hossain, Shah Alam, Abdul Halim, Golam Mustafa, Arman Hossain, Mehdi, Anwar Fartho and Mubarak Hossain.

PM donates Tk 2 lakh to Munna

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday donated Taka two lakh for better treatment of the ailing former national footballer, Mohammad Monem Munna, reports BSS.
Munna, manager (football) of Abahani and former captain of the Bangladesh National Team, is now receiving treatment from kidney specialist Harun-ur-Rashid at the Kidney Hospital and Dialysis Centre in the city.



State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader handing over a cheque of Tk 2 lakh to ailing former footballer Monem Munna at a city clinic yesterday.

N Zealand zap Windies

NAPIER, New Zealand, Jan 6: New Zealand survived some middle-order heart flutters to beat the West Indies and seal the one-day cricket series here Thursday with two matches to play, reports AFP.
New Zealand reached their target of 160 in the 38th over to win the third match by four wickets following three-wicket and seven-wicket victories in the first two matches.

It was their first one-day series win over the West Indies and just their seventh win overall from 31 matches.
Captain Stephen Fleming was the cool head New Zealand needed in their run chase, finishing unbeaten on 66 with Adam Parore on nine. Fleming earned the man-of-the-match award.
Fleming and Nathan Astle put on 105 for the second wicket to virtually seal the win although Roger Twose, Chris Cairns and Craig McMillan were dismissed cheaply to give the West Indies some hope at 126 for five.
Reon King, the West Indies' best bowler on tour, took three for 35 off 10 overs.
Earlier, Chris Harris was the key man in the West Indies batting collapse, claiming the wickets of Brian Lara, Ricardo Powell and Wavell Hinds to finish with three for 28 off 10 overs.

It was Harris' 144th one-day international, moving him ahead of Martin Crowe to make him the player with the second-highest number of appearances in one-dayers for New Zealand.
The fourth match of the series is at Wellington's new stadium on Saturday, when a 34,500 capacity crowd is expected for the venue's first big occasion.
SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the New Zealand-West Indies third one-day international in Napier on Thursday:
WEST INDIES
Campbell c Parore b Cairns 0

five behind John Wright.
It was another limp batting performance by the tourists.
Lara, after winning the toss and batting first, was sixth out for 30 which basically scuttled any slim hopes of a West Indies recovery.
The loss was the West Indies' fifth in a row on their winless tour after two test losses to New Zealand.



FLEMING ... m-o-m
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Bowler	O	M	R	W
Cairns	8	0	25	3
Nash	4.5	0	11	2
Styris	10	1	37	1
Vettori	10	1	40	0
Harris	10	1	23	3
Astle	7	0	28	1

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Dillon	8	0	45	1
King	10	1	35	3
R'narine	6.2	2	23	0
Perry	10	0	37	1
Hinds	3	0	14	1

Media sacrifice England

CAPE TOWN, Jan 6 (Reuters/AFP): South Africa's media today blamed England's series defeat on the tourists' lack of top class batsmen while the British press accused their side of raising the white flag.
South Africa won the fourth Test by an innings and 37 runs on Wednesday to take a winning 2-0 lead in the five-Test series.
"Today England's flops plan to visit Mandela's prison. The Mirror says: Why not leave them there?" was the headline on the London Mirror's story of the defeat.
"England raise the white flag," claimed the Times while the Daily Telegraph headline said "England fail to rise above mediocrity."
The Cape Times, under the headline "Big three could not carry England", accused the tourists of arrogance after yet another batting collapse led to their defeat in four days.
"England had no right to expect anything other than a series defeat when they decided to come on tour with only three experienced Test match batsmen," wrote respected cricket correspondent Michael Owen-Smith.
"They have been too light in this department from the word go." The British press and South African captain Hansie Cronje agreed.

"We have always felt that Michael Atherton, Alec Stewart and Nasser Hussain have been the three key England wickets and it has always been our goal to get them out cheaply," Cronje said.
The London Guardian said the England batsmen had been outclassed as "England capitulated... in the sortiest fashion imaginable." England collapsed to 126 all out in their second innings after scoring 258 in their first.
The London Sun said Hussain blamed his batsmen for the defeat — "Shame on you — Nasser launches attack at kamikaze batsmen."
The South African Press Association labelled England's performance "a shocking display matched only by that of 'neutral' Sri Lankan umpire BC Cooray who contrived to get just about every call he made wrong."
Both sides suffered and although the final tally of poor decisions read South Africa 4, England 1, the tourists possibly suffered most from the solitary blunder that went against them when captain Nasser Hussain was given out lbw.
On Wednesday, Hussain said England had repeated old mis-

takes.
"We made mistakes we had been making before this tour," Hussain said.
"It was very disappointing to get to 200 for three in the first innings after winning the toss on a good pitch and then get bowled out for 250-odd."
South African captain Hansie Cronje also identified England's first innings collapse to 258 all out as the key to victory but he gave the credit to fast bowler Allan Donald, who took five for 47 to set England back on their heels.
Cronje, whose place as captain had been called into question over his poor form with the bat and a falling out with the selectors over dropping Jonty Rhodes for the third Test, said the second innings collapse had shown how much England relied on three senior batsmen, Hussain, Mike Atherton and Alec Stewart.
"I felt South Africa had the upper hand for most of the series apart from 30 or so overs in Durban. It was important to get those three wickets cheaply and today was the first time we got all of them," he said.
Cronje added that South Africa's convincing win was the result of cumulative pressure.

"The one player who has kept them in the series is (fast bowler) Andy Caddick. I was very happy England had to spend three successive days in the field in Durban because it had to take its toll on a bowler like Caddick."
Hussain agreed that Caddick had not been as effective as in previous matches.
"It's been a very tiring two weeks but it would be weak to use that as an excuse except for Caddick, who has been magnificent on this tour but who didn't seem to have the pump in his legs in this match."
Cronje made a rare comment on an opposing side's deficiencies when he said he was surprised England had not picked a batsman like Graeme Hick, who will be joining the touring party for a triangular one-day series starting on January 21.
Hick, who has been given several chances by England and always failed, and five other one-day specialists will play in a three-day match against an invitation team in Port Elizabeth starting Sunday but Hussain said England would not pick any of them for the final Test starting at Centurion Park on January 14.

Hooper in limbo

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Jan 6 (Reuters/AFP): Former West Indies batsman Carl Hooper will not represent Guyana in the Busta Cup because his Australian club has refused to release him.
"We have always felt that Michael Atherton, Alec Stewart and Nasser Hussain have been the three key England wickets and it has always been our goal to get them out cheaply," Cronje said.
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CARL HOOPER
The Australia-based Hooper, who retired from international cricket in April, was appointed captain of Guyana last month and was due to return to the country shortly after the New Year.
But the Guyana Cricket Board (GCB) said Hooper "failed to secure the release despite his own best efforts, several calls to the club's management by the president of the Guyana Cricket Board Chetram Singh and an appeal from the president of the West Indies Cricket Board Pat Rousseau."
Meanwhile, a Carlton Cricket Club official on Thursday rejected claims that the Hooper club was preventing Hooper from returning to Guyana to resurrect his international career.
Carlton spokesman Gary Schicklering said the former West Indies vice-captain had not asked to terminate his contract.
Schicklering said comments by Guyana Cricket Board president that the club's directors

were forcing Hooper to honour his contract, which expires in March, were inaccurate.
Singh said Hooper told Guyana officials of his intention to return to the West Indies and told them that he had been given verbal clearance to do so. But, after being named Guyana captain, Hooper reportedly said that his request to quit Carlton had been overturned by club officials.
But Schicklering said the claim was news to him.
"We've heard rumors surfacing but all my enquiries have been answered in the negative," he said. "We knew he has been under pressure to return home to the West Indies because they aren't travelling well (after a Test series loss to New Zealand) but he hasn't said anything to us."
Guyana's first match starts on Friday against champions Barbados at the Kensington Oval.
In Hooper's absence, Neil McCarroll has been appointed captain of Guyana. "We had hoped that with so many inexperienced players in the side that Carl would have been available to give guidance and leadership," Singh said.
Trinidad and Tobago host the Leeward Islands in Penal in the opening Busta Cup match starting on Thursday.
The two other matches — Barbados versus Guyana at Kensington Oval and Jamaica against the Windward Islands at Armos Vale in St Vincent — begin on Friday.
The return of the 32-year-old allrounder, a veteran of 80 Tests and 183 one-day internationals for the West Indies before his surprise retirement last April, would be a major boost to West Indies confidence in the buildup to a series of internationals against Pakistan and Zimbabwe starting in March.
However, West Indies Cricket Board rules dictate that players must participate in domestic first-class matches to be eligible for national selection.
The West Indies domestic competitor was due to start Thursday, meaning Hooper would have to leave Australia immediately to qualify for national selection.