

Star Sport

DHAKA TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-128

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Feb 4, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

1 How many centuries did Tendulkar score in the Tests series against Australia recently?

One Two Three

2 Who won the last ever European Cup Winners' Cup soccer?

Lazio Barcelona Man United

3 Who was named player of the cricket World Cup?

Klusener S Waugh David

4 Where did Maurice Greene break the 100m world record?

Athens Seville Toronto

5 Who lifted the National Cricket League title?

Chittagong Sylhet Khulna

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Jennifer Capriati

(American tennis player)

"I think I'm just a lot stronger mentally."

After reaching the quarter-finals at the Australian Open on Sunday.

Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Jan 24: Birshreshtha Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir Smriti Club beat Friends Club by 41 runs in the Shaheed Zia Smriti tournament played at the Rajshahi Government College ground today.

The winners made 162 for seven in stipulated 25 overs after winning the toss. Pappa 50 was the top scorer. Russel followed him with 38.

In reply, Friends Club were all out for 121 in 19.5 overs.

Diganta Prasari Sangha defeated Alami Ekadashi by seven wickets in other match of the day.

Meanwhile, Sun Rise Sporting Club defeated Rani Nagar Cricket Club by 29 runs in the Rajshahi First Division Cricket League at the Rajshahi Stadium today.

The winners made 109 in 23.4 overs after winning the toss. Renu 29 was the top scorer for the winners.

In reply, Rani Nagar were bundled out for 80 in 18.1 overs.

Schmeichel-less MU doesn't impress Wenger

LONDON, Jan 24: Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger claimed on Saturday that the reigning champions are not such a great team without goal-keeper Peter Schmeichel who left for Sporting Lisbon in the summer on a free transfer, reports AFP.

Wenger believes United have failed to fill the huge gap left by their Danish goalkeeping giant.

Peter Schmeichel played an important part. He had a kind of charisma and was a winner, Wenger told The Sun newspaper.

"Maybe Mark Bosnich will do the same this season but I feel Schmeichel had the kind of belief and aggression that makes winners. They have struggled to replace him."

Schmeichel was a thorn in the Gunners' side last season, saving a Dennis Bergkamp penalty as United beat the London side in a classic FA Cup semi-final at Villa Park.

Wenger added: "I'm not saying they don't have a great keeper now, but last year Peter Schmeichel was involved in important moments, especially in crucial games, and that was an important part of their suc-



PUTTING THE FINISHING TOUCHES: Workers and groundstaff smartening up the Bangabandhu Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

Three-day match starts today

MCC versus Bangladesh

Sports Reporter

Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) get the chance of testing the strength of Bangladesh for the first time on their tour when they take on the hosts in a three-day match, starting at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

Weather permitting, the First Class match kicks off at 9:30 am with both the state-run electronic media—Bangladesh Television and Bangladesh Better—providing live coverage from the big bowl.

This would be their fourth match since they arrived in Dhaka on January 10 on a three-week tour. The first two matches—a three-day affair against BCB President's Eleven in Rajshahi and a four-day encounter against Dhaka Metropolitan Eleven played at the Bangabandhu National Stadium last week—ended in dull draws. The visitors got a big boost before their important match against the national team when they beat BCB Eleven by six wickets in a limited-over match at the Jessore Stadium on Sunday.

The four-day match at the Bangabandhu National Sta-

overlooked by the selectors in the 14-man squad, has been called up in place of Akram. Aminul revealed. He, however, refused to name the playing eleven saying that would be decided after inspecting the pitch in the morning.

MCC skipper min Patel on the other hand looked pretty confident yesterday.

Talking to the reporters at his hotel lobby last evening, the Kent all-rounder said that his team wanted to remain on the winning way that started in Jessore.

MCC are to make one change in the squad that played in Jessore, said Patel. Opener Bill Athey will be replaced former Australian Test all-rounder Tony Dodemaide.

Bangladesh umpire Nadir Shah and English umpire John Hampshire will officiate the match.

TEAMS
Bangladesh: Aminul Islam (captain), Khaled Masood, Javed Omar, Shahriar Hossain, Mehrab Hossain, Habibul Bashar, Al-Shahriar, Naimur Rahman, Khaled Mahmud (wicketkeeper), Enamul Hoque.

Meanwhile, national skipper Aminul Islam, who led the BCB Eleven to the crushing six-wicket defeat in Jessore, appeared adamant to stage a turnaround against the combination of English county cricketers.

"We had a little bit of co-ordination problems in Jessore as I had four young boys in the side. But now I've got my full strength back. I am looking forward to winning this match," said Aminul after having a three-hour long net at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the morning yesterday.

He however admitted that much was depending on his bowlers to do well in the match. "The bowlers have to give their best as we need to bowl them out twice in three days," he added.

His batting line-up meanwhile seems to be a bit weaker in absence of in-form middle-order batsman Akram Khan. The former national captain is now attending his ailing elder brother in Chittagong.

Opener Mehrab Hossain, Thanks to the intervention Board president Saber Hossain

AMINUL ISLAM

dium last week was supposed to be held between Bangladesh national team and the visitors. But because of the cricketers' boycott, BCB (Bangladesh Cricket Board) was forced to field an inexperienced side under the banner of Dhaka Metropolitan Eleven.

Thanks to the intervention Board president Saber Hossain

FIFA gala to declare year's best

It could be Rivaldo's night



BRUSSELS, Jan 24: Barcelona's Brazilian midfielder Rivaldo is widely expected to be named FIFA's World Player of the Year here Monday as football's world governing body holds its ninth annual gala evening, reports AFP.

Rivaldo is tipped to finish ahead of Manchester United's English international David Beckham and Fiorentina's Argentinian forward Gabriel Batistuta when the successor to France's World Cup winning hero Zinedine Zidane is announced.

Batistuta is expected to finish third with Rivaldo and Beckham contesting the award, but most expect the Brazilian to get the nod when the votes cast by 140 international coaches are counted.

Ironically both Rivaldo and Beckham have seen a glittering 12 months end in controversy with the Brazilian falling out with his Dutch coach at the Nou Camp Louis Van Gaal over what is his best position and Beckham back in the doghouse following his sending off for United in the World Club Championship match with Necaxa at the Maracana.

Rivaldo—full name Rivaldo Vitor Borba Ferreira—comes from the northern Brazilian city of Recife and would be the third Brazilian to win this award after Romario (1994) and Ronaldo (1996, 1997), who also

both played for Barcelona.

He had a magnificent 1998 inspiring his club to the Spanish title and being named player of the tournament after inspiring Brazil to the Copa America, scoring twice in the final against Uruguay in the Paraguayan capital Asuncion.

Batistuta too has had a memorable year. He prompted Manchester United to an unprecedented treble of European Cup, English Premiership and FA Cup and also helped them to be crowned England's first ever World Club Champions when they won the Intercontinental Cup Final against Brazilian side Palmeiras in November.

But United had to surrender that unofficial world title in January when FIFA's inaugural truly global club tournament was won by Brazil's Corinthians although they remain Intercontinental champions.

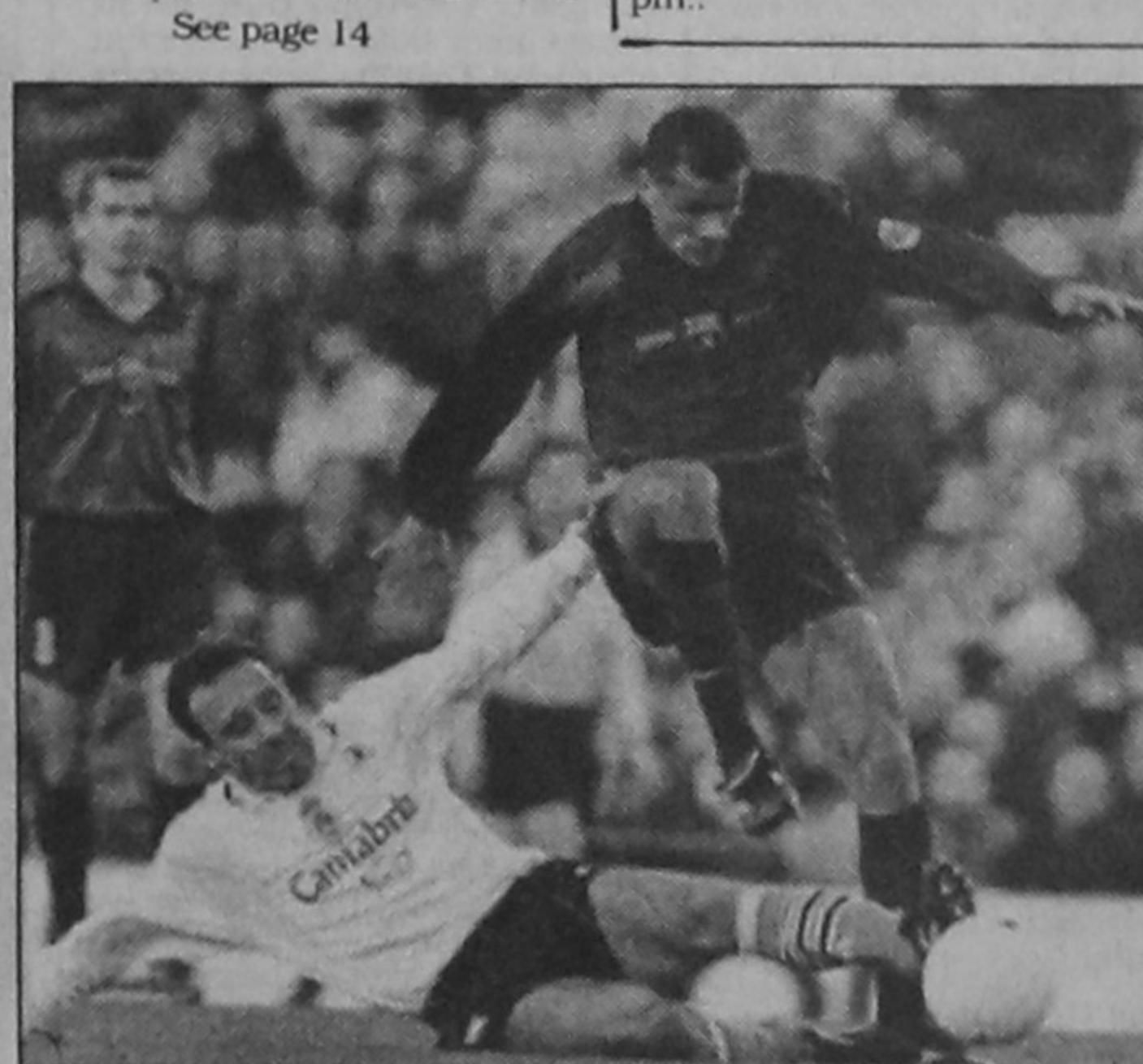
At least this year it will be a contest. Last year it was inevitable that Zidane would win.

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WORLD PLAYER OF THE YEAR WINNERS

BRUSSELS, Jan 24 (AFP): Previous winners of FIFA's World Player of the Year award ahead of ninth annual FIFA gala here Monday:

1991: Lothar Matthaeus (Ger)
1992: Marco Van Basten (Ned)
1993: Roberto Baggio (Ita)
1994: Romario (Bra)
1995: George Weah (Lbr)
1996: Ronaldo (Bra)
1997: Ronald (Bra)
1998: Zinedine (Fra)



THE MAESTRO: A combo picture of Rivaldo evading a desperate lunge from a Racing Santander defender at Barcelona on January 23 (left), and the superstar being presented with the Golden Ball before the start of the match by France Football magazine director Gerard Ernault for becoming the European Footballer of the Year (right).

—Internet photo

World Youth C'ship

SL reach final

GALLE, Sri Lanka, Jan 24: Sri Lankan paceman Prabath Nissanka bowled a telling final over against Pakistan to clinch a 10-run victory that put his team in the under-19 cricket World championship final today, reports Reuters.

Pakistan, chasing Sri Lanka's 219 all out in 49.1 overs, were dismissed for 209 in exactly 50 overs in the first semi-final.

Pakistan needed 15 runs in the last over to win but Nissanka conceded only four runs off his first five deliveries.

He then bowled Zahid Saeed with the last ball of the match to take Sri Lanka into Friday's final where they will play India or Australia, who contest the second semifinal in Colombo on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka's innings was lifted by Ian Daniels with a fine 58 which included seven fours. Pakistan lost two early wickets but were steadied as Faisal Iqbal scored 53 off 72 balls, hitting one six and five fours.

BRIEFSCORES

Sri Lanka 219 in 49.1 overs (Ian Daniels 58, M Pushpakumara 47; Irfan Fazil 2-28)

Pakistan 209 in 50 overs (Faisal Iqbal 53, Hassan Raza 44).

ADELAIDE, Jan 24: Sachin Tendulkar's beleaguered India play four one-dayers in the next six days in

from Tuesday in a last-ditch attempt to salvage the dismal Australian tour, reports AFP. The Indians have lived up to

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