

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Competition-127

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Competition closes at 8 pm
March 10, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who won the tri-series down under?
India Pakistan Australia
- How many Test matches has Shepherd officiated in till the Bombay Test?
49 50 51
- What is the name of Sir Stanley Matthews, father?
Jack Stephen Bill
- Who is FIFA's world player of the year?
Ronaldo Raul Vieri
- Who is the captain of Biman cricket team?
Amijul Faruque Athar

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

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SPORTS TALK

Match won but not hearts

Sports Reporter

Premier League

Agrani Bank vs MSC



Mohammedan Sporting Club got back to the winning track after their debacle in a high-scoring drama against Kalabagan Krira Chakra when the popular Motiheel outfit handed a five-wicket defeat on Agrani Bank in the Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

But that victory had hardly bucked up the spirit of their



KALPAGE ... allround show loyal supporters as Mohammedan displayed a mediocre performance against the no-hopers.

Chasing a modest Agrani total of 184 for eight in the reduced 49 overs, Mohammedan reached 188 for five in 44.5 overs for their second win from three games. But the title aspirants lacked the killer instinct while fielding after winning a good toss in the morning and then came up with a docile batting display, much to the frustration of a few hundred fans at the big bowl.

Although Mohammedan

suspect action shortly before the World Cup and asked the Sri Lanka Board not to consider him for selection unless he rectified his style. Since then he did not play a single match for his country.

The offie bowled eight overs and conceded 33 runs without any success in yesterday's match. He also had an unimpressive first match against Kalabagan, where he conceded 52 runs in ten overs and got only one wicket. His compatriot, Kalpage however bowled



MOFIZUL ...55 his off-spinners quite effectively and returned most successful with three for 38 in his ten overs.

Mohammedan, in their chase, looked very uncomfortable despite an aggressive 27 from their young opener Rashidul Haq. Captain Athar Ali failed to reach double figure in successive matches. The veteran opener was bowled for only two, two less than what he made against Kalabagan.

One-down Nasirul chanced his arm to score a struggling 75-ball 31. A seasoned Kalpage scored a

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Wasim wrecks Gopibagh

Sports Reporter

Premier League

Gopibagh FA vs City Club



City Club, aided by a superb show with ball and bat by Pakistani Wasim Nayeem, coasted to a comprehensive seven-wicket win over fellow newcomers Gopibagh Friends Association in their Premier Division cricket league match at the BKSP ground in Savar yesterday.

It was the City's second straight success in the league. Wasim captured four for 25 to restrict Gopibagh to 189 all out in 49.5 overs.

Chasing a modest target the Pakistani scored highest 62 to guide his side to 191 for three in 42.1 overs.

His compatriot Rehan Rafique chipped in with an unbeaten 60 off 65 balls. It contained four sixes and a boundary.

After City Club lost both openers Sajid Hasan (20) and Pappu (24) with 54 runs on the board, the Pakistani pair shared a vital 110-run third wicket partnership. The stand was eventually broken when Wasim struck in the 40th over. By that time the team was in sight of picking up full points.

In his 66-ball knock Wasim

hammered seven boundaries. Earlier Gopibagh batting first never came to terms with Wasim's telling seven-over spell. Off-spinner Saifullah and

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Premier Division cricket League match between City Club and Gopibagh Friends Association played at the BKSP ground in Savar yesterday.

GOPIBAGH FA

Islam c Saifullah b Jewel 32
Farid c Saifullah b Al-Amin 9
S Shaded v Wasim b Haq 7
Gurmeet c b Wasim 8
Asif st Tuhin b Jewel 2
Topu c Rehan b Wasim 24
Shamsul c b Wasim 7

TODAY'S MATCHES

Biman v Sadharan Bima
Venue: BKSP
Abahani KC vs Victoria SC
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Al-Amin	7	0	35	1
Haq	6	2	7	1
Rehan	10	2	28	0
Saifullah	9.5	0	31	2
Jewel	6	0	31	2
Masud	4	0	23	0
Wasim	7	0	25	4

CITY CLUB	O	M	R	W
Sajid b Shamsul	20			
Pappu b Ripon	24			
Rehan not out	62			
Wasim c Farid b Topu	12			
Wahidul not out	62			
Extras: (lb-3, nb-2, w-8)	13			
Total: (For 3 wks in 42.1 overs)	191			

Did not bat: Saifullah
Makki, Jewel Hossain, Tuhin, Masud Rana and Al-Amin.

Fall of wickets: 1-44; 2-54; 3-164

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Sajal	7	0	33	0
Gurmeet	7	1	20	0
Shamsul	7.1	0	33	1
Ripon	9	2	26	1
Sohel	4	0	26	0
S Shaded	6	0	26	0
Topu	2	0	24	1

Result: City Club won by seven wickets.

Miandad reappointed



PESHAWAR, Pakistan, March 5 (AFP) - Reuters - Former Test star Javed Miandad on Sunday was reappointed Pakistan coach for the forthcoming tours of Sharjah, West Indies, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka after attempts to lure a foreign guru fell through.

"He is the best choice available," Pakistan Cricket Board ad-hoc committee chairman Tahir Zia said of Miandad's appointment.

Zia said Miandad would take over from Intikhab Alam at the end of the current three-Test home series against Sri Lanka.

"Initially, Miandad has been appointed coach until July 13 when Pakistan end four months of non-stop cricket," Zia said, adding that Intikhab would return to his international Cricket Council (ICC) duties as a match referee.

Miandad quit as Pakistan coach shortly before last year's World Cup, citing family commitments amid rumours of a rift with senior players.

"I am sure Miandad has learnt from his previous experience. The Board also felt that he is the right person to coach the team, which is struggling to find form and battling fitness (problems)," Zia said.

"While the Board had no doubts over Miandad's skills, the senior players also wanted him as a coach. I am sure the

players have realised his importance."

The PCB had planned to hire England's Geoff Boycott or South African Barry Richards but negotiations fell apart after hefty demands.

The Board fired a string of coaches last year before appointing present incumbent Zia said.

"My first task is the tour to the West Indies and I will do my best to make Pakistan victorious there," Miandad told AFP.

"It's a challenging job and with an eye on the World Cup 2003 we want to develop the team."

"I never had any problems with any senior players. In fact some players wanted me to help the team in Australia last year."

"I have produced results before and I can produce them now as well," he said.

Miandad's tenure will last till July this year. Miandad is also on PCB's five-member advisory council looking after the reforms in domestic cricket.

"This new appointment will not affect my other work," he said.

Miandad, Pakistan's most successful batsman with more than 8,000 Test runs, was appointed coach in August 1998 and guided Pakistan to a 2-1 Test win over arch-rivals India in India.

Pakistan leave for Sharjah on March 19 to face India and South Africa in a limited-overs

Newspapers reports had sug-

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Malaysia tourney

Naimur to lead Bangladesh A

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday announced a 14-member Bangladesh A squad for a four-nation tournament, scheduled to begin in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur from March 16.

Naimur Rahman, the dapper national all-rounder, will lead the shadow national team in the invitational tourney which will also feature USA, Namibia and hosts Malaysia.

However the BCB could not give any reason behind this unscheduled tour in the middle of the Premier Division cricket league.

"I don't know the fixture of the meet. The general secretary (Syed Ashraf Haque) can give you more information", said the joint-secretary of the BCB Mahmud-ul Haq. But Ashraf was not available for comments.

The team has a host of young players including four cricketers, who represented Bangladesh in the World Youth Championship in Sri Lanka early this year. They are left-handed opener Nahidul Haq, all-rounder Ashraf, left-arm seamer Bikash Ranjan Das and middle-order bat Rajin Saleh.

Unheralded wicketkeeper Mizanur Rahman Patwari is a new comer.

The inclusion of opener Sajid Hassan raises a few eyebrows as his form of late has been far from satisfactory. On the other hand Mohammedan's Rashidul Haque Suman or Surjotaran's Parvez should consider themselves extremely unlikely on not getting selected. Both openers have looked impressive in recent times.

The BCB however made a laudable decision by appointing the experienced but seldom tried Nazmul Abedin as coach of the team.

Former national cricketer Jalal Younus will manage the squad.

The players have been asked to report to at the BCB office by 5pm tomorrow (March 7).

BANGLADESH A

Naimur Rahman (captain), Mehrib Hossain, Sajid Hassan, Nahidul Haq, Sanwar Hossain, Mushfiqur Rahman, Mizanur Rahman, Mohammed Rafique, Sahib Khan, Monjurul Islam, Bikash Ranjan Das, Ahmed Kamal, Rajin Saleh and Ashraf.

Chaturanga edge Netrokona MSC

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, Mar 5: Chaturanga Sangha of Sylhet recorded their first victory in the Nitol-Tata National Football League with a solitary goal win over Mohammedan Sporting Club of Netrokona at the local stadium here today.

After a barren first half, Chaturanga mid fielder Milan scored the match winner with a free kick in the 85th minute.

In a boring encounter, both teams failed to live up to the expectation of the small crowd and remained contained in the mid field for most of the time.

Goalkeeper Zahid of Netrokona Mohammedan was later named man-of-the-match.

Yellow cards: Roman, Jalal and Rinku (Netrokona Mohammedan).

TEAMS

Chaturanga Sangha: Apel, Riad, Mahmud, Sujon, Shipu, Mithu, Zahid, Chanchal, Jahangir, Roy, Milan and Walid.

Netrokona Mohammedan: Zahid, Rabbani, Munna, Kamal, Moin, Shuvo, Jalal, Johny, Roman, Reaz and Saiful.

Referee: Shubhash Roy

TOMORROW'S MATCH

Dhaka Mohammedan SC v Rajshahi Abahani KC.

5th IM Masters chess begins today

Sports Reporter

The fifth United Insurance International Masters chess tournament begins at the NSC this afternoon under the auspices of Bangladesh Chess Federation.

Twenty five local rated players including three International Masters Ziaur Rahman, Reefat-bin-Sattar and Abdullah Al-Rakib are taking part in the Swiss-league competition along with six foreigners.

The other IM is Vakhidov Tahir from Uzbekistan. Two rated players from Myanmar and three rated players from Indian state of West Bengal make up the foreign list.

Htun Lynn Kyaw of Myanmar is the highest rated player of the meet with 2527 ranking points while Tahir follows with 2505.

A press-conference was held at the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) yesterday in connection with the competition. Chaired by BCF vice-president Dr AR Khan, BCF general secretary Syed Sajjaduddin and Nazim Ahmed, the additional general manager of United Insurance Company, were present on the occasion.

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Azhar checks Indian slide



BANGALORE, March 5 (AFP): South African spinner Nicky Boje followed his heroics with the bat to take three quick wickets and leave India on the brink of defeat on the fourth day of the second Test here Sunday.

Former captain Mohammad Azharuddin with a fighting 73 and Anil Kumble (14) were the not out batsmen as India crumpled to 196 for five wickets -- still needing 125 to avoid an innings defeat.

Allan Donald for four boundaries, including a pull shot to the mid-wicket fence.

But on the last ball before lunch on 23, he edged another catch to Kallis at slip off a Boje delivery, and this time the South African all-rounder held on.

After lunch, Boje's tight length and sharp turn continued to flummox the Indian batsmen who needed seven overs to score their first run.

Sarav Ganguly, who will take over the captaincy from Sachin Tendulkar after this

run partnership with Kaif and a half-century unbroken stand with Anil Kumble for the sixth wicket.

He lofted Boje over mid-off for a huge six to reach his 22nd Test 50, and the very next ball smashed the spinner down the ground for his sixth boundary.

The 37-year-old batsman brought the crowd to its feet by pulling Mornantau Hayward to the fence and in the last over of the day he hit Donald for two consecutive boundaries.

The South African first innings ended soon after play began, with the tourists adding just seven runs to their overnight score to finish on 479 all out -- a lead of 321.

Kumble was the pick of the Indian bowlers, taking six wickets for 143 runs.

India, who have not lost a Test series at home since 1987, were skittled out for 158 runs in the first day of the match, having lost the first Test in Bombay in just three days.

The home side's play of going into the game with three spinners backfired as the pitch started turning only late on the third day of the match.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the fourth day of the second and final Test match between India and South Africa on Sunday:

INDIA: First innings 158 all out

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings (overnight 472-8)

Kirsten c Jaffer b Kumble 79
Gibbs lbw b Kumble 4
Boje b Kumble 85
Kallis c Jaffer b Kumble 95
Culnan c Jaffer b Kumble 53
Kluseener c Tendulkar b Karthik 97
Cronje c Srinath 12
Pollock c Tendulkar b Karthik 1

Boucher b Karthik 15
Donald lbw Kumble 7
Hayward not out 0
Extras: (b-24, lb-3, nb-4) 31
Total: (All out in 191.4 overs) 479

Fall of wickets: 1-10; 2-17; 3-186; 4-271; 5-435; 6-441; 7-449; 8-468; 9-477; 10-479.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Srinath	30	6	53	1
Kumble	68.4	15	143	6
Chopra	24	3	78	0
Karthik	50	11	123	3
Tendulkar	10	2	33	0
Ganguly	6	1	18	0
Kaif	3	0	4	0

INDIA: Second innings

David c Pollock b Boje 18
Jaffer c Kallis b Boje 23
Ganguly lbw b Boje 13
Tendulkar c Gibbs b Donald 20
Azharuddin not out 73
Kaif lbw b Kallis 23
Kumble not out 14
Extras: (nb-3, b-4, lb-5) 12
Total: (For five wickets) 196

Fall of wickets: 1-47; 2-48; 3-71; 4-95; 5-144.

To bat: N Mongia, J Srinath, N Chopra, M Karthik

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Donald	13	5	52	1
Pollock	18	11	21	0
Hayward	16	4	31	0
Boje	31	12	56	3
Cronje	3	0	17	0
Kallis	6	3	10	1

OLD IS GOLD: Mohammed Azharuddin playing one of his trademark wristy strokes at Bangalore yesterday.

—AFP photo

Boje, who scored 85 runs as

nightwatchman in South Africa's first innings, exploited the breaking track and pulled the plug on India's desperate

run chase by snapping up the wickets of openers Rahul Dravid and Wasim Jaffer.

David had a shaky start when he was dropped at first slip by Lance Kluseener of a Shaun Pollock delivery when he was on 12. But his luck failed to hold and he soon departed, caught at slip off Boje for just 18.

Jaffer, playing only his second Test for India, set the initial pace when he hit paceman

match, spent two hours at the

crease for his 13 runs before he was trapped lbw before he became Boje's third scalp of the day.

Tendulkar disappointed a 20,000-strong home crowd when he was out for just 20 runs, caught by Herschelle Gibbs at point trying to force Donald to the fence.

Kallis then had the final word of the day, when he had debutant Mohammad Kaif out lbw for 23.

Azharuddin, recalled after a seven-month absence for his 99th Test, was the only batsman to really attack the South African bowlers, enjoying a 49-

Tourists 88/2 on wet Day One



PESHAWAR, Mar 5: Sri Lanka were 88-2 against Pakistan as rain shortened play on the first day of the second cricket Test here Sunday, reports AFP.

The start of play was delayed until after tea because of wet patches on the pitch and adjoining areas and only 37 overs could be played.

Put in by Pakistan, Sri

Lankan openers Sanath Jayasuriya and Marvan Atapattu were able to withstand the early pace barrage of Shaoh Akhtar and Waqar Younis, posting 50 in 70 minutes.

Pakistan skipper Saeed Anwar brought off-spinner Arshad Khan on early in the 11th over but it was Akhtar who provided the breakthrough.

Akhtar, dubbed Pakistan,

March 5 (AFP): the Rawalpindi

Express, bowled Jayasuriya for 30 off an inside edge. The batsman hit four boundaries in his 76 minutes at the crease.

Abdul Razzaq chimed in nine runs later, sending Russel Arnold, on two, back to the dressing room when his outswinger was edged to wicket-keeper Atiq-uz Zaman.

Marvan Atapattu, who hit scores of 119, 57 and 77 in the one day series, was patient on the slow paced pitch and took 117 balls for his 29 runs.

The other undefeated batsman Aravinda de Silva, who hit a magnificent 112 in the first test, was on 18 at stumps.

The tourists brought batsman Tillekeratne Dilshan into their second test side in place of injured Arjuna Ranatunga who returned home on Saturday.

Pace bowler Nuwan Zoysa was ruled out due to a stiff back and was replaced by Ravindra Pushpakumara.

Wasim Akram and wicket-keeper Moin Khan were ruled out of the home side while Wahajuddin Wasti and Saqlain Mushtaq were dropped. Zaman made his Test debut behind the stumps and allrounder Shahid Afridi, Akhtar -- out of the opening Test with a groin injury -- and Arshad Khan came back into the side.

Sri Lanka are 1-0 up in the three match series following their narrow two-wicket win in the first Test in Rawalpindi.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecard on the first day of the second cricket Test between Pakistan and Sri Lanka played at Arbab Niaz stadium here on Sunday.

SRI LANKA