

Star Sport

DHAKA WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-127

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to Us Daily
Win attractive prizes


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 Matthew, father?
Jack Stephen Bill
- Who is FIFA's world player-of-the-year?
Rivaldo Raul Vieri
- Who is the captain of Birmah cricket team?
Aminul Faruque Athar

Name:
Class: Roll No.:
School Address:
Phone: (If any)

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SPORTS TALK



Bagan jive with Z beat



Zahoor Elahi continued his explosive form with the bat as Kalabagan Krira Chakra walk away with a surprisingly facile nine-wicket victory over big-



ZAHOOR ... third ton
spehding Surjo Tarun Club in a crucial Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.



K MASOOD ... unbeaten 66
The Pakistani stroke-maker scored a blazing unbeaten 110.

Premier League Kalabagan v Tarun

his third century from four games, as Kalabagan overhauled a moderate Tarun total of 198 in only 31.5 overs and with nine wickets in hand. The defeat, first for Tarun after three successive wins, served a blow to their chase for the maiden league title.

Zahoor, who took the Dhaka cricket by storm since his first match against Agrani Bank, made a mockery of a contest, putting on 177 runs for the undefeated second wicket with Rajin Saleh. He scored an unbeaten 100 against Agrani Bank and followed it up with a magnificent 144 in the next match against Mohammedan Sporting Club.

Fell early in Kalabagan's low-scoring drama against Brothers Union in the previous match, the stocky right-hander revived his terrific form when he raced to his fifty of only 40 balls. He needed another 42 balls to complete his century.

Zahoor was in so marauding mood that he simply toyed with the Surjo Tarun bowlers including former Indian off-spinner Rajesh Chauhan, who conceded 30 runs in four overs without any success in his Dhaka cricket debut.

Zahoor set the big bowl alight right from the beginning, hitting his compatriot Ramzan over cover for a massive sixer in the second over. He hammered fourteen boundaries in his chanceless 87-ball knock.

The kingpin of Kalabagan's dream chase for the maiden league title, Zahoor was also equally impressive with his off-spinners and agility on the field. He captured two wickets for 39 runs in his ten overs and clung on to two sharp catches in the slips.

But Zahoor's all-round brilliance failed to undermine the superb show by Rajin Saleh and Bkash, the young cricketers of Kalabagan.

Rajin, a member of the



RAJIN ... superb 71
the rope.
"I think Rajin's 71 was a better knock than Zahoor's hun-



BIKASH ... 3 for 27
dred if you take the experience and exposure in consideration".
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Draw darkens Rajib's dream

Sports Reporter

Enamul Hossain Rajib suffered a setback in his bid to earn second International Master (IM) norm when Aminul Islam Palash enforced a draw in the second round of the 5th United Insurance International Masters chess tournament at the NSC yesterday.

With this draw, Rajib, who beat Shahidul in the opening round, and Palash landed at the crowded second spot along with IM Ziaur Rahman, IM Refaat-bin-Sattar, IM Vakhidov Tahir of Uzbekistan and Indian Shuvrojit Saha.

Saifuddin Lovelu, who began his campaign with an upset win over top seed Htun Lynn Kyaw of Myanmar in the first round, extended his winning streak defeating another Myanmar player Ye Win Aung yesterday.

On completion of the second round, Lovelu raised his tally to two points and maintained the lead in the 30-player meet along with IM Abdullah Al-Rakib and Indian Deepanjan Das.

In yesterday's round, Rakib beat Tabeur Rahman while Deepanjan defeated Anisuzzaman Mallik.

The third round begins at the same venue today at 2 pm.

Office Hockey

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Army and Blue Berry Travels won their respective Super League matches of the Office Hockey at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

In the first match, Bangladesh Army beat Sonali Bank 2-0.

Aby Sayeed put the winners ahead with a field goal in the 13th minute while Siraj sealed the bankers' fate with another field goal in the 52nd minute.

In the day's other tie, Blue Berry posted a 2-1 win over Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha.

After a barren first half, Alamgir Alam put Blue Berry ahead with a field goal in the 41st minute while Hasan Rony doubled the margin after a minute. Jamal pulled one back for Bima in the 53rd minute.

Wasim to lead Asia XI



Wasim Akram will lead a star-studded Asian XI against the might of the impressively lined-up Rest of the World XI to be

announced the team in New Delhi early yesterday. The players were picked by a panel of five judges--ex-Test stars Sunil Gavaskar, Tony Greig, Ian Chappell, Asif Iqbal and Mike Procter. Former Indian all-rounder Ravi Shastri was the moderator of the panel.

Despite the prospect of a fascinating encounter, one sour note in the selection was the ab-



SACHIN TENDULKAR, arguably the best in the world, has gifted partners like Pakistan captain Saeed Anwar and Sanath Jayasuriya, the back-in-form present Sri Lankan skipper.

The middle order boasts the class of Sri Lanka's evergreen Sachin Tendulkar, arguably the best in the world, has gifted partners like Pakistan captain Saeed Anwar and Sanath Jayasuriya, the back-in-form present Sri Lankan skipper.

The bowling will be spearheaded by the Pakistanis 'Rawalpindi Express' Shoab Singh, captain Akram form an exciting big-hitting trio.

All-rounders Abdur Razaq of Pakistan, India's Robin Singh, captain Akram form an exciting big-hitting trio.

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RATE OF TICKETS

Air Conditioned Hospitality box- Tk 50,000
Non-airconditioned Hospitality box- Tk 40,000
VIP Gallery (Shahed Jewel Gate) Tk 2,000
Western Club House-Tk 1,500
Eastern Club House-1,000
International Gallery-Tk 800
Western Gallery-Tk 150
Eastern Gallery-Tk 100

Brothers win in record style



SHAHRIAR ... 84
off 31 balls with one six and two fours while Jahangir remained unbeaten on 27.

Earlier, the Agrani Bank's big total was built around an unbeaten 93 from middle-order batsman Shahin Malik, 67 from opener Abid Hanif and a blazing 36 by discarded national all-rounder Mofizur Rahman.

Pakistani Malik hammered a dozen of boundaries in his 83-ball innings while his compatriot Abid Hanif faced 87 balls for his 64 which included 13 fours. Together they put on 101 runs for the fourth wickets off

Premier League Brothers V Agrani

two consecutive defeats when they gallantly chased 299 runs of Agrani Bank in a Janakantha Premier League match at the BKSP ground yesterday.

In a high-scoring match, Brothers, going after a mammoth Agrani Bank total of 299 in 50 overs, scored 300 runs in 48.1 overs with five wickets in hand.

It was however a record in the history of Dhaka league with a side scoring 300 runs in the second innings for a win.

Opener Shahriar Hossain led the Brothers charge for a stiff target with a superb 84.

The in-form national opener set the pace with a 125-run opening stand along with Ehsanul Haque in just 19 overs before the latter departed for a run-a-ball 65 that included one six and five boundaries.

Shahriar, who missed the last match against Kalabagan due to fever, added 52 runs for the second wicket with Pakistani Amir Hanif (29) and 42 for the third wicket with another Pakistani Shahed Mehmod before he was out in the 36th over. Shahriar hammered one six and four fours in his 99-ball stay at the crease.

But, by the time Shahriar departed Brothers reached the 200-figure mark.

Skipper Khaled Mahmud and former national opener Jahangir Alam then took Brothers to an amazing victory producing 59 runs for the undefeated sixth wicket.

Mahmod scored a breezy 38



SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Premier Division cricket league match between Brothers Union and Agrani Bank played at the BKSP ground in Savar on Tuesday.

AGRANI BANK
Faisal c Mukhtar b K Mahmud 0
Abid c Mukhtar b Imran 64
Sajjad c Imran b Shaifuddin 9
Haidar c K Mahmud b Jamal 30
S Malik not out 93
Zaiddin c Shaifuddin b S Mehmod 37
Mofizur not out 36
Extras: (b-4, lb-4, nb-4, w-18) 30
Total: (For 5 wks in 50 overs) 299

Did not bat: Russell Khan, Mosaddiq Hossain, Moni and Champak.

Fall of wickets: 1-11; 2-37; 3-38; 4-139; 5-229.

BROTHERS UNION
K Mahmud 10 0 55 1
Shaifuddin 9 0 57 1
S Mehmod 10 0 61 1
Amir Hanif 7 0 47 0
Jamal 6 0 29 1

Today's matches

Mohammedan SC v City Club
Club (Bangabandhu National Stadium)
Wari Club v Gopibagh FA (BKSP)



International Master Ziaur Rahman makes a move while his opponent Sohel Chowdhury watches during their match in the United Insurance International Masters chess tournament at the NSC yesterday.

Walsh injury healing fast

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Mar 6 (AFP): West Indies fast bowler Courtney Walsh is recovering well from an ankle injury and should be bowling within a few days.

"He still feels very minor pain when some exercises are done, but the evidence is that it is improving significantly," West Indies sports therapist Ronald Rogers said Monday.

"He will see the doctor again and I expect that within the next few days he will be able to do some bowling," he added.

Walsh, who needs nine wickets to beat Kapil Dev's world record of 434 Test wickets, damaged ligaments in his left ankle on the third morning of the recent final in the Busta Cup West Indies first-class championship between champions Jamaica and Leeward Islands a week ago here.

He was unable to bowl for the rest of the match and his participation in the imminent series against Zimbabwe was placed in doubt.

Walsh is attending the nine-day camp for 19 West Indies cricketers preparing for the home series against Zimbabwe and Pakistan. He did light stretching on Sunday, but did not bowl in net practice.

SL hit back with Murali



PESHAWAR, Mar 7 (AFP): Off-spinner Muralitharan grabbed four quick wickets to give Sri Lanka a slight advantage over Pakistan on the third day of the second cricket Test here Tuesday.

due to stomach and back problems, dismissed Sanath Jayasuriya (6) and Mahela Jayawardene (10) to restrict Sri Lanka's progress.

The Sri Lankan captain looked dangerous when he hit Shoaib Akhtar for a six to point but was trapped leg before.

Jayaswardene accompanied Marvan Atapattu in a second wicket stand of 62.

Atapattu made 29 with four fours before top edging Arshad Khan to Aamir Sohail at short mid-wicket.

Arnold punished the Pakistani bowlers to all parts of the field. He completed his fifty in 165 minutes hitting eight boundaries.

In Pakistan's innings captain Saeed Anwar hit a fine 74 while Inzamam-ul-Haq was left stranded at 58 not out as the home team lost seven wickets in the second session for just 46 runs.

Pakistan conceded a lead of 69 runs.

Pakistan were well placed for a lead at lunch with 153-3

but Muralitharan, who finished with figures of 4-77, struck in the third over after the interval, claiming Younis Khan for 8.

"We spoiled a good chance of taking lead and then dictate terms through some irresponsible batting. Now we have to restrict them to make a match out of it," Pakistan captain Anwar said.

Younis, who made century on debut in the first Test, was ruled out caught at silly mid-off by English umpire John Hampshire after Sri Lankans appealed for a leg before.

Muralitharan snapped up Abdur Razaq's wicket in the same manner for nought leaving Pakistan struggling at 166-6.

In between, Chaminda Vaas had Shahid Afridi for 4, caught off an uppish drive by Arnold at covers.

Pakistan lost debutant Atiqur Zaman for 4 when he edged an out-swinger from Pramodya Wickremasinghe to

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Alam vents his anger



PESHAWAR, Mar 7 (AFP): Ousted Pakistan cricket coach Intikhab Alam said Tuesday he would resign as soon as the current Test against Sri Lanka was finished and lashed out at the way authorities handled his dismissal.

that Alam would be replaced as coach by another former captain Javed Miandad after the current three-match Test series.

"I told General Zia that I have been humiliated. This is not the way to do things when the series is still not finished," he said.

"I have served the team, the nation and the boys and deserve better treatment," he said.

Alam said he was particularly angry because he had been reluctant to take the job, which he had held a number of times in the past, in the first place.

"I am not interested in the job, in fact I was not interested before. It was forced on me," he said.

The 58-year-old Alam was one of five coaches the unsettled Pakistan team has had in the past 12 months.

He was appointed coach for the tri-series in Australia last month and was later given an extension until the series against Sri Lanka.

"I am not concerned who they make the new coach because it's the board's prerogative. But there should be a proper way of dealing with these things," said Alam, who played 47 Tests for Pakistan.

Alam warned Miandad would have a tough time ahead of him.

Miandad took over the coach's job in August 1998 but quit in a controversial manner two weeks before the 1999 World Cup, citing family commitments.

Reports suggested he fell out with senior players including the present captain Saeed Anwar.

"If one man resigns for some reasons so recently, I don't think he will have harmony with the team," Alam said.

"He will have problems, time will tell," he said.

Alam said the present board should learn from its mistakes.

"The decision to replace Wasim Akram as captain was premature, every team struggles in Australia," he said.

Wasim stepped down from captaincy after Pakistan was whitewashed 3-0 in Tests in Australia and later defeated 2-0 in the finals of the tri-series.

"There is no substitute for experience and if you analyse our 3-0 loss against Sri Lanka the board should take responsibility," he said.

Alam said the induction of youngsters had disturbed the combination of the team.

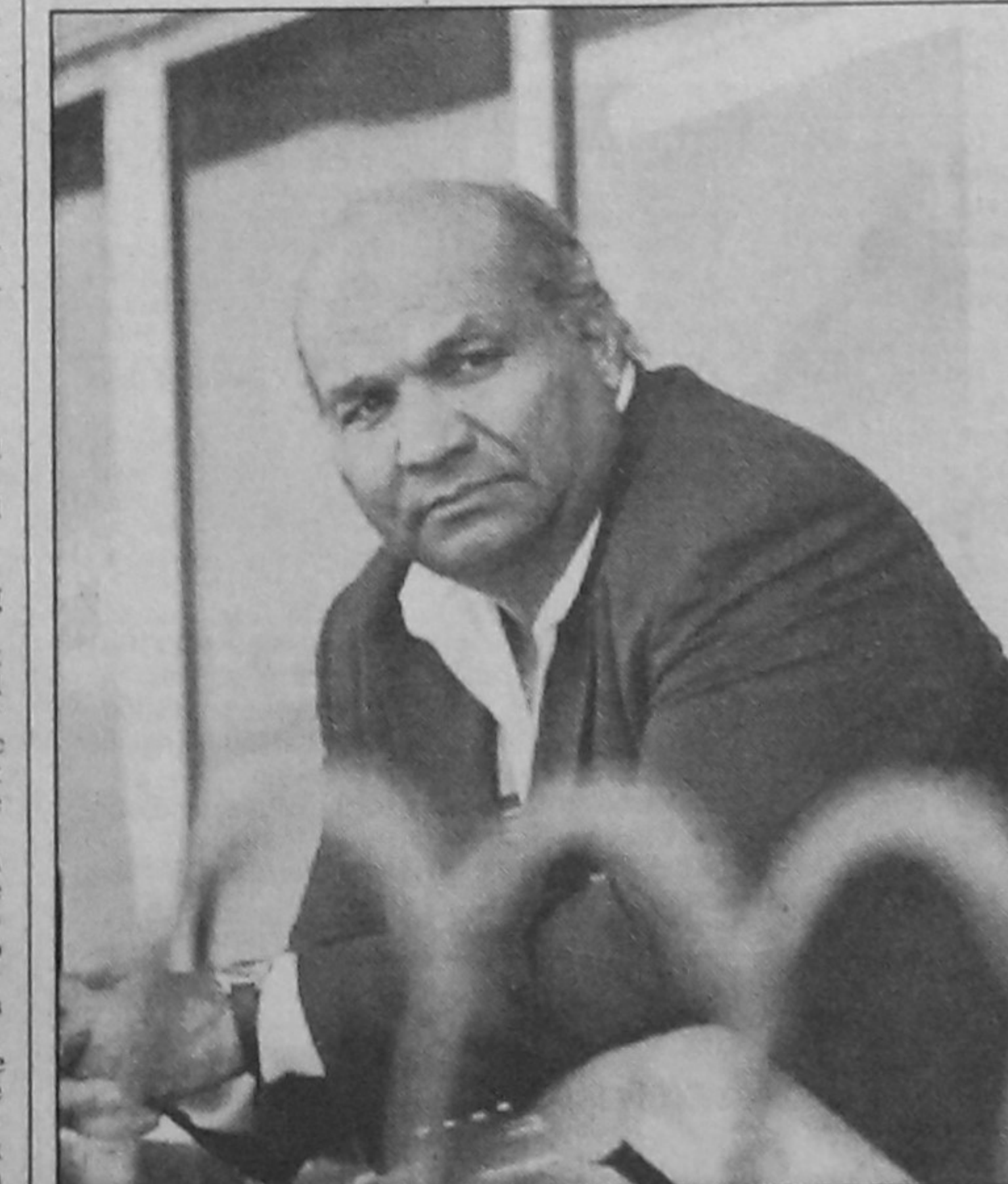
"Nobody knew about the selection of the team and nobody knew what type of pitches will be made against Sri Lanka."

Alam said he would not take any post with the Pakistan team in future.

"Never ever after all this, I have not considered doing a match referee's job after I leave the coach's job," he said.

Alam is one of two International Cricket Council (ICC) match referees from Pakistan.

"Pakistan cricket needs continuity and until and unless this is maintained the team, the set-up and every other related thing will be affected," he said.



A worried looking Pakistan coach Intikhab Alam watching the proceedings at Peshawar yesterday.

Javed Miandad

(Pakistan's re-appointed coach)

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

Widener World C'ship SA stay on Aussies' heels

LONDON, Mar 7: South Africa closed the gap on Australia at the top of the Wisden World Championship with their 2-0 series victory in India, according to the latest rankings issued yesterday, reports Reuters.

India dropped to seventh in the table, with only England and Zimbabwe below them.

If Australia lose their forthcoming series in New Zealand—the last was drawn—their record will be identical to that of South Africa and the two countries will share top billing.

Further ahead, if England beat Zimbabwe and West Indies in their Test series this summer they would move up to equal seventh.

RANKINGS

- Australia
- South Africa
- West Indies
- Pakistan
- Sri Lanka
- New Zealand
- India
- England
- Zimbabwe

WICB makes one change

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, Mar 7: Only one change has been made to the West Indies Cricket Board XI which played against Zimbabwe last weekend in Grenada, for the WICB President's XI against the tourists in a four-day, first-class match, starting Friday, reports AFP.

The WICB announced yesterday that leg-spin bowler Rawl Lewis replaces Guyanese Keith Semple in the 13-man team for the match at Guayacora Park in Trinidad.

Once again, the side will be led by Test wicketkeeper Courtney Browne.

SQUAD

Courtney Browne (captain), Philo Wallace, Daren Ganga, Ryan Hinds, Ramnareesh Sarwan, Denis Rampersad, Sylvester Joseph, Cameron Cuffy, Marlon Black, Kerry Jeremy, Goldwyn Prince, Rawl Lewis, Rodney Sooklal.