

## Column One

### Boost sports WHIZZ KID

#### Competition-128

✓ Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to *Star Daily* Star  
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm  
April 28, 2000 and draw  
shortly afterwards

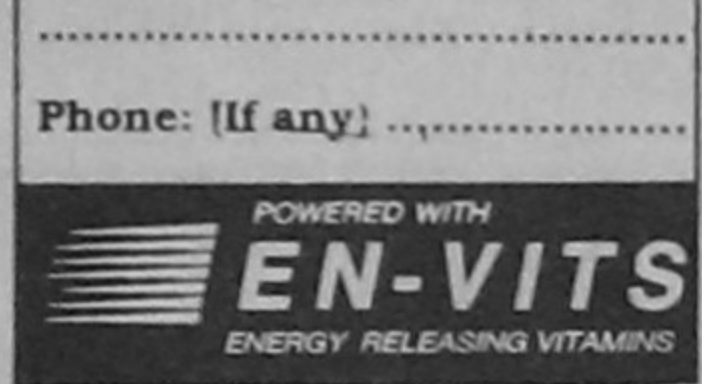
- Who is the number one women's tennis player?  
Hingis Davenport Seles
- Who won the United Insurance IM chess title?  
Refaat Zia Aung
- How many Tests did Walsh need to break Kapil Dev's world record?  
114 115 116
- Who was adjudged man-of-the-series in the West Indies-Zimbabwe Test?  
Rose Walsh Adam
- Who are the First Division cricket champions?  
Dhanmondi Y Cricketers Khelaghar

Name .....

Class ..... Roll No. ....

School Address .....

Phone: (If any) .....



## SPORTS TALK



Sir Alex Ferguson

(Manchester United manager)

"We had a lot of great attacking play but you just have to accept it wasn't our night."  
After losing to Real Madrid in the Champions' League quarterfinals.

### Barisal cricket

From Staff Correspondent  
BARISAL, Apr 21: Shamsul Haq Khan Smriti Ekdosh defeated Arunoday 2000 Sabuj Sangha by 150 runs while Barisal Cricket Institute beat KCC Juba Sangha by 43 runs in the First Division Cricket League here at the Abdur Rab Serniabat Stadium today.

In the first match Shamsul Haq Smriti collected 234 runs losing 5 wickets in 35 overs. Subal scored the highest 44.

In reply, Arunoday bumbled out for 84 losing all the wickets in 20.4 overs.

Rasel was adjudged man-of-the-match.

In the other match, Barisal Cricket Institute scored 223 losing 8 wickets in the stipulated 40 overs.

In reply, KCC Juba Sangha made 180 losing all the wickets in 36.1 overs.

### Korean Cup golf held

The prestigious Korean Cup golf tournament was held at the Kurmitola Golf Club (KGC) yesterday, says a press release.

300 participants took part in the tournament including 26 ladies and 21 juniors.

The tournament was inaugurated and prizes were distributed amongst the winners by the president of KGC Lt Gen Muhammad Mustafizur Rahman.

### WINNERS' LIST

Men's Winner: Zulfikar Rahman; Ladies' Winner: Mrs Hiroko Kosaka; Senior Winner: Brig M Masud Ali Khan; Junior Winner: Moin Imran Chowdhury; Best Gross: C R Kim; Men's Runner up: N H Kyung; Ladies' Runner up: Mrs Eun Sook Choi; Front Nine Winner: Fedae Dashtag; Back Nine Winner: Gp Capt Rashidul Haque; Nearest to Pin: ABM Kamaluddin Khan; Longest Drive: J H Yang.

### NOTICE

Due to some unavoidable reasons draw of the WHIZZ KID Competition 128 could not be held last night. It will now be held next week, April 28.

## Javed, Rafique top locals

Sports Reporter



JAVED OMAR

Opener Javed Omar Belim of Biman has scored highest runs while left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique of Mohammedan captured highest wickets among the local cricketers in the first round of the Janakantha Premier Division cricket league which concluded on Thursday.

Javed, the right-handed national opener, has scored 489 runs in his eleven innings with two centuries and three fifties at an average of 54.33. Interestingly, Kalabagan's marauding Pakistani opener Zahoor Elahi, with three centuries under his belt, has also totalled 489 runs though in seven innings.

Wari captain Halim Shah follows Javed with 427 runs. Although the middle-order batsman hit five fifties in 11 innings he could not convert them into hundreds.

Mohammedan top-order batsman Nasirul Alam is the only other local batsman to score more than four hundred runs. The Sylheti cricketer collected 411 runs from his 11 innings with only two fifties.

Abahani exciting opener Mehrob Hossain and Brothers Union opener Shahriar Hossain have scored 397 and 391 runs respectively.

Mehrab hammered a century and two fifties in ten innings while Shahriar made four half-centuries.

Among the local bowlers, Rafique proved his worth taking 18 wickets in eleven matches. However the Mohammedan all-rounder was nine wickets behind Abahani's

Pakistan left-arm spinner Mohammad Hussain with highest 27 wickets.

Rafique was also very economical conceding only 3.57 runs per over in his 106 overs.

Biman right-arm seamer Annuil Islam Junior and Surjo Tarun's left-arm spinner Enamul Haque took 17 wickets each while Biman off-spinner Shari-ful Haque bagged 16 wickets.



MD RAFIQUE

Following are the top ten local batsmen and bowlers in the first round of Premier Division cricket league.

TOP TEN LOCAL PLAYERS									
Batsmen	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	50s	100s	Avg	
Javed Omar (Biman)	11	11	2	489	102*	3	2	54.33	
Halim Shah (Wari)	11	11	0	427	79	5	0	38.81	
Nasirul Alam (MSC)	11	11	1	411	90	2	0	41.10	
Mehrob Hossain (AKC)	10	10	0	397	123	2	1	39.70	
Shahriar Hossain (BU)	10	10	1	391	89	4	0	43.44	
Ehsanul Haque (BU)	10	10	1	369	98	4	0	41.00	
Naimur Rahman (AKC)	11	10	1	365	95	4	0	40.55	
Habibul Bashar (Biman)	11	11	2	359	74	3	0	39.88	
Minhazul Abedin (ST)	11	11	3	349	65	2	0	43.62	
Mohammad Selim (S Bima)	11	11	0	349	69	3	0	31.72	
Bowlers	O	M	Runs	Wkts	BB	Avg	RPO		
Mohammad Rafique (MSC)	106	3	379	18	4/42	21.05	3.57		
Aminul Islam Jr (Biman)	91	8	337	17	5/34	19.82	3.70		
Enamul Haque (ST)	94.3	2	381	17	4/42	22.41	4.03		
Shariul Haque (Biman)	77	8	279	16	4/38	17.43	3.62		
Imran Rahim (BU)	78	2	266	15	4/48	17.73	3.74		
Zakir Hasan (Wari)	75	2	349	15	3/38	23.26	4.47		
Hasibul Hossain (AKC)	37.5	4	110	14	5/35	7.85	2.93		
Naimur Rahman (AKC)	80.1	9	285	14	3/20	20.35	3.53		
Khaled Mahmud (BU)	94	8	368	14	3/30	26.28	3.91		
Shamsul Huda (Gopibagh)	80	5	397	14	3/43	28.35	4.96		

— (Compiled by Hasan Masood)

## Ijaz doesn't agree

Hasan Masood



IJAZ AHMED

Pakistan Test cricketer Ijaz Ahmed has denied the claims of South African cricket chief Ali Bacher that the

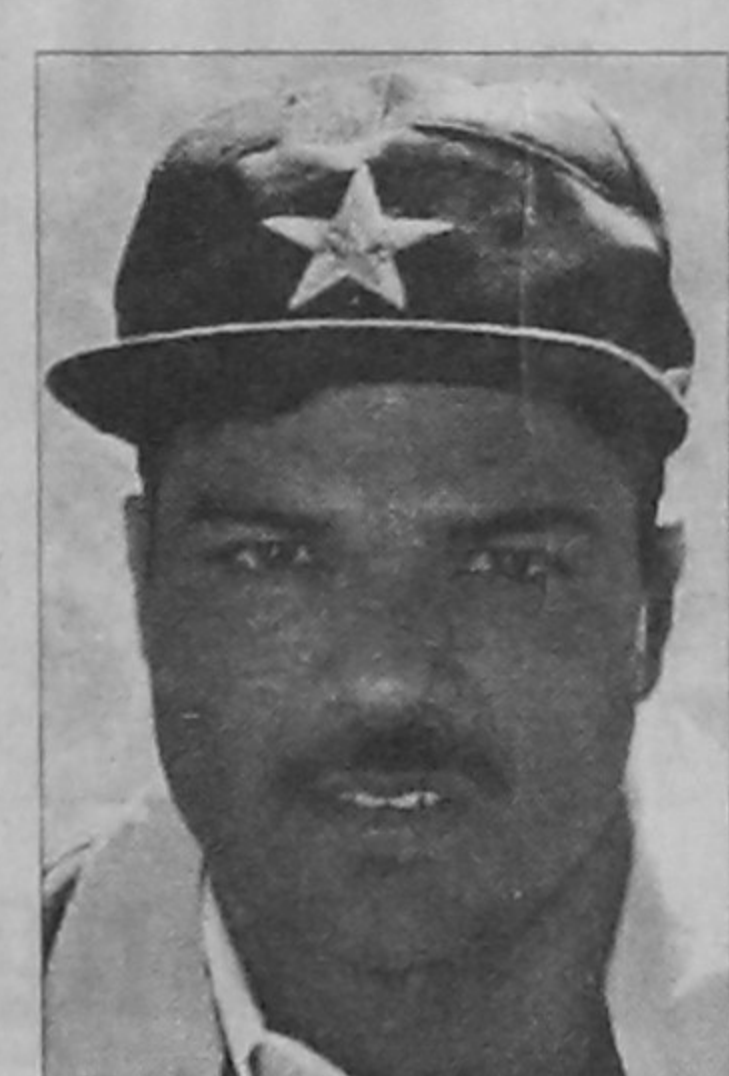
1999 World Cup clash between Bangladesh and Pakistan was a fixed affair.

The veteran Pakistan top order batsman, who arrived on Thursday to play for Mohammedan Sporting Club in the super league stage of the Premier Division league starting tomorrow, was talking to the reporters after spending an hour in the nets at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

"I don't believe this. Bangladesh played well on that given day and won the match," said the 32-year-old batsman adding that the ball was seaming all around and it was difficult to bat.

"We all struggled while batting and the target was more than two hundred. I can tell you from my cricketering knowledge that chasing such totals in England is not so easy," he said.

The Lahore-based cricketer who was dropped from the national team after the Australia tour early this year, said that if that match was fixed then why



IJAZ AHMED

didn't Bacher raise his finger over Kenya's victories against West Indies in the 1996 World Cup and then India a couple of years back.

The out of favour Pakistani also denied his involvement in any sort of match-fixing and said that he has been cleared by several investigations in Pakistan.

"The PCB should however release the Qayyum Commission report and only then will it prove whether I was involved in any unfair means or not," Ijaz said.

Asked to comment on the Hansie Cronje affair, the Pakistani player said he felt sorry for the former South African captain. But he also explained that it was not for the first time someone accepted money for supplying information.

Mark Waugh and Shane Warne have also done that but they were exempted from any action other than being fined," said Ijaz who thinks ICC should issue a code of conduct on what a cricketer should and shouldn't do.

Finally he gave his impression on playing in Dhaka. "They are in a hole as far as title race is concerned. My mission is to play as best as possible to lift them," Ijaz wished.

"I know there is lot of pressure in Dhaka cricket. Wasim Akram told me about his experience."

"You see, I am already under pressure not being in the team. Hopefully I will perform well here and draw the attention of the Pakistan selectors," Ijaz concluded.



AGE NO BAR! Senior members of Wari Club are bubbling in enthusiasm as a rally of them parades through the city streets to mark the inauguration of the club's five-day centenary celebrations yesterday.

—Star photo by Anisur Rahman

## Maldives tourney BFF names squad

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday named a 20-man Bangladesh squad for the four-nation football tournament in Maldives starting on May 1.

Apart from Bangladesh and hosts Maldives, India and Sri Lanka will be the other two nations featured in the meet.

The BFF has called 30 booters for the primary camp which began under the supervision of newly-appointed British coach Mark Harrison from April 16.

Defender Masood Rana and midfielder Bakhtiar who announced their retirement from competitive football, are not in the camp.

**Bangladesh:** Nizam Majumder, Aminul Haque, Biplab Bhattacharyya, Pavel Mahmud, Rajani Kanta Barman, Faisal Ahmed, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Sourav Majumder, Firoz Mahmud Tito, Iqbal Hossain, Monwar Hossain, Matur Rahman Munna, Asadur Rahman Tanvir Chowdhury, Rokonzaman Kanchau, Alif Ahmed, Saifur Rahman Moin, Zulfiqar Mahmud Moin and Mizanur Rahman Dawn.

The team will leave for Male on April 29.

## Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Apr 21: Dargahpara Juba Cricket School-A and Al-Rashed Cricket Club became joint champions in the fourth Hasan Imam-All Imam Pintu Smriti Cricket tournament.

As it began to rain with gusty wind just a few minutes after the start of the final this morning at the Rajshahi District Stadium the match was postponed.

The tournament committee, with the consent from both the sides, then declared the two teams joint champions.

## Schools h'ball

Rajabagh Police Lines High, Motijheel Model High and Bhasantek High earned comfortable wins in the 11th Bata Schools handball tournament at the Outer Stadium handball ground yesterday, reports UNB.

Rajabagh Police Lines outplayed Graduate High by 16-4 goals after dominating the first half 13-2.

Hani and Sobel netted six goals each for the winners while Kabir Hasan scored all the four goals for the losers.

Bhasantek High trounced West End High by 9-0 goals after dominating the first half 7-0. Faiaz netted four and Shakil three for the winners.

The day's another match between BAF Shaheen School and Narinda Government High ended in an 11-11 draw. BAF Shaheen led the first half 8-6.

Tamim and Sadiq scored three goals each for the winners while Sandi netted two goals for the losers.

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## Wari's centenary celebrations begin

A colourful rally was brought out yesterday to mark the inauguration of the Wari Club's centenary celebrations, reports BSS.

Minister for Home, Post and Telecommunications Mohammad Nasim, who is chairman of the club's centenary celebrations organising committee, led the rally from the club tent at Motijheel to the Jatiya Press Club.

Dhaka City Mayor Mohammad Hanif, co-chairman of the organising committee and Awami League central leader Mozaffar Hossain Palto joined the rally.

Saqlain's brother, Zulqarnain, told the Dawn newspaper from Lahore the 23-year-old had been treated well and is now in perfect health. He arrived in Bridgetown on Monday, but did not play in the opening match of the finals at Kensington Oval.

Saqlain will give a greater edge to Pakistan's bowling which has been without the services of its main strike bowler Shoaib Akhtar. He was hardly missed on Wednesday when they gamely defended a modest 157 for eight off 50 overs in Bridgetown.

Even without Shoaib, Pakistan's attack looks formidable. If Saqlain is added, it can only get stronger and will take a substantially improved batting performance from West Indies to get over them.

Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis are still a potent new-ball force, a reminder Abdur Razzaq will offer them support with his fast-medium bowling, along with the spinners, of whom leggie Mushtaq Ahmed has been the best on tour.

Though Wasim and Waqar gave little away in their opening spells, it was Mushtaq's 10-2-23-1 that clinched Wednesday's match for Pakistan, since he bamboozled West Indies' batsmen at a time when they might have contemplated cutting loose.

A cultural programme will take place at the club on April 24.

## Reaching for the sky

Lenin Gani



SABER HOSSAIN

When the International Cricket Council (ICC) convenes in London for its June meeting among topics on the agenda will include Bangladesh's application to become the tenth Test-playing country.

This will be second time that Bangladesh has attempted to do so since winning the ICC Trophy.



SABER HOSSAIN

phy three years ago in Malaysia. An earlier request was turned down by two votes during last year's World Cup.

However this time round there is a general consensus that the governing body is ready to embrace one more full member to join the ranks of Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies and Zimbabwe.

In the past few months advocates such as Dr. Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, have been very vocal in their support of our cause.

In the lead up to the crucial summit a programme on BBC World Service recently broadcast the views of key personalities.

**THE APPLICATION**  
Saber Hossain Chowdhury (BCB president): I believe things will be different this time. I think we have made progress but whether or not it is enough will depend on the ICC meeting.

Essentially if we are looking to globalise the game then cricket needs a tenth-playing country. To globalise requires growth and that has to come from countries such as Bangladesh.

However, the way we come unstuck is in the question of high performance. Because the existing full members or at least some of them believe that we must be delivering at a high level consistently. And I am somebody who always believed that unless one plays at that level they cannot raise their game.

**CRITICAL VIEW**  
Mike Gatting (Manager of England A team): At this present time Bangladesh are going in the right direction. They

So when you ask the question: Is the country ready for Test status? I don't think an Associate Member is ever ready in that sense of the term. One has to be ready play on a regular basis.

What we have to see more closely is whether the infrastructure, potential, crowd and media support is there to make the game commercially viable. And I believe we meet all these requirements.

So that is why we put in this application three years back. And as president of the Bangladesh Cricket Board I think Test status is long overdue.

**COST OF FAILURE**  
I think it would be a major setback if we did not get Test status. Because momentum is not like a tap of water which you can turn on and off. I think we have been building up support. Since winning the ICC Trophy the expectations were high. Then we had a splendid and memorable World Cup which added to the momentum. And now everybody is looking forward to the day we get the status.

**POTENTIAL**  
Eddie Barlow (director of coaching): I think the strength of Bangladesh cricket is far stronger than what people realise.

What is exciting are the young players—the under 19s, under 15s and under-13s that's where I think the real quality of Bangladesh cricket will come out in the next five to six years.

There is an abundance of left-arm spinners, leg-break and googly bowlers. And believe me they are good. The batsmen in that category are excellent as well.

Now what has to happen is for the necessary coaching structures to be developed. Because it's the people that coach who are very important. Then the players can get extra attention.

But coupled with that is of course Test cricket. Whatever a coach says or does is fortified by youngsters watching on television their own players becoming role models. Because then they can actually see things taught being put into practice. So one should not isolate these matters.

What has to be done is say 'look guys go and play Test cricket, draw the crowds, create the revenue and excitement and then a platform will be built for players to stand on. That's the way it works.'

I don't believe just having crowds should be the lone factor. Rather the criteria should be trying make sure one can go the next step before actually taking the whole show forward.

**CRITICAL VIEW**  
Mike Gatting (Manager of England A team): At this present time Bangladesh are going in the right direction. They

dictable sides and it will not far-fetched to see them post a monumental total during the weekend.

Some of the old habits the West Indies had dispensed with over the last month returned to deny them in the opening final. They let Pakistan wriggle free in the dying overs and then literally shot themselves in the foot with some careless batting.

Throughout their two-Test series against Zimbabwe and their clean sweep of the preliminary competition of the tri-nation series, captain Jimmy Adams has consistently asserted there were still areas upon which to improve.

He and his side found it out the hard way on Wednesday. Chasing runs for the first time in the series, the batting could not carry them and they subsided to their seventh defeat in ten matches batting second in limited-overs cricket.

In a few areas we were a bit exposed (on Wednesday), but I think the main thing was more on the mental side and I sure with a bit more experience and a few more matches, we will definitely improve in this area," Adams said.

Similar to Pakistan, West Indies' strength is their bowling with Ambrose, King, Franklin, Rose and Nixon. McLean forming a competent attack. Batting will be the key to them winning two matches this weekend, though.

Wednesday's opening stand of 13 between Sherwin Campbell and Philo Wallace was the smallest, if not the shortest, between the two Barbadians, whose partnership dates back to their days at Ellerslie Secondary School almost two decades ago.

Like their opponents, they found it hard building from such a weak foundation, though there was a stand of 86 between Wallace and Wavel Hinds for the second wicket which gave them a chance.

Apart from Wallace's pyrotechnics late in his innings, Adams said.

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## Saqlain boost for Pakistan



SAQLAIN MUSHTAQ

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Apr 21: Leading the three-match final series 1-0, Pakistan has been given another bowling option.

for the last two matches against West Indies at Queen's Park Oval on Saturday and Sunday with the arrival of off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq, reports AFP.

In a relatively brief career, Saqlain has established himself alongside Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan as one of the leading off-spinners in the modern game. His arrival in the Caribbean had been delayed by two weeks after he underwent several tests in England for blood clots.

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Though Pakistan's bowlers will be proud of successfully defending 14 times out of 19 matches since last year's World Cup in England, they will want much more from their batsmen.

"We were aiming to get about 250 (on Wednesday) because the

pitch was playing very good, but in the middle of the innings we collapsed," captain Moin Khan, whose form has been sporadic, remarked.

Saeed Anwar's missing experience at the top of the order has meant Pakistan has not received