

Star Sport

DHAKA THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-128

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

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

1 Who is the number one women's tennis player?

Hings Davenport Seles

2 Who won the United Insurance IM chess title?

Refaat Zia Aung

3 How many Tests did Walsh need to break Kapil Dev's world record?

114 115 116

4 Who was adjudged man-of-the-series in the West Indies-Zimbabwe Test?

Rose Walsh Adam

5 Who are the First Division cricket champions?

Dhanmondi Y cricketers Khelaghar

Name

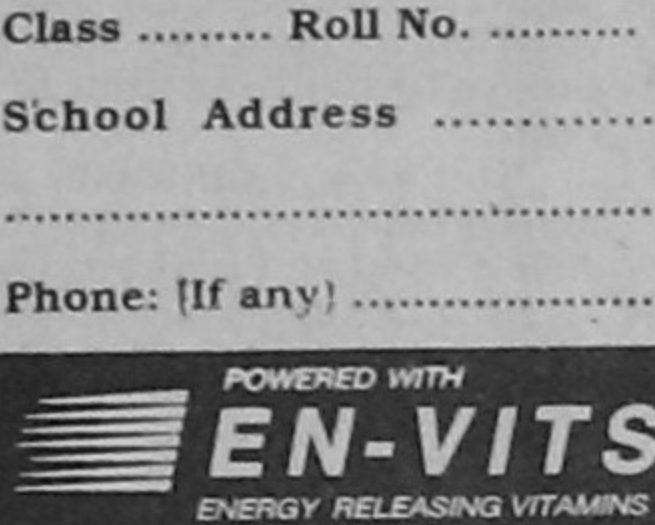
Class Roll No.

School Address

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POWERED WITH EN-VITS ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Allan Donald

(South African fast bowler)

"If he is guilty, he deserves it."

After Hansie Cronje was sacked from captaincy.

Still no cricket

Sports Reporter

The Janakantha Premier Division Cricket League has been deferred for another three days.

The Super and Relegation leagues will now start from April 30.

Brothers Union and Biman will take on at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in a Super League encounter while Agrani Bank face City Club in a Relegation League fixture at the Dhanmondi Stadium on the opening day.

Meanwhile, the Third Division League will commence a day earlier.

The CCDM initially postponed the league for three days on April 24 due to inclement weather conditions.

Footballer killed in road mishap

From Our Correspondent BANDARBAN, Apr 26: Footballer Aung Chia Marma died in a road accident at Galachipa under the Sadar Thana on Tuesday.

A young booter, Marma was travelling on a motorcycle along with a friend who also died on the spot.

The tragic mishap occurred when a truck from opposite direction ran over them.

Police later recovered the bodies and sent to Sadar Hospital for autopsy. A case with local police has been filed.

Dhaka-Ctg Club friendly cricket

Sports Reporter

A friendly cricket match between Dhaka Club and Chittagong Club will be held at the City Club ground in Pallabi, Mirpur tomorrow.

The match was supposed to be held at the BAT ground in Mohakhali. Members of the respective clubs have been asked to be present at the venue at 10am.



English coach of the national football team Mark Harrison briefs his charges during Wednesday's practice session at the BUET ground yesterday. The Bangladesh team leaves for Maldives today to take part in a four-nation tournament. —Star photo

Booters leave for Maldives today

Acid test for Harrison

Sports Reporter



The national football team leaves for Maldives tonight to participate in a four-nation international tournament.

The meet to mark the golden jubilee celebration of the emerald island will kick off on May 1, Bangladesh apart, India, Sri Lanka and the hosts will vie in the round robin meet, from where top two finishers will play in the May 10 final.

SAF champions Bangladesh will take on India on May 2.

They will face Maldives on May 4 and Sri Lanka on May 7.

The event will also be the first acid test for Mark Harrison, the newly appointed English coach of the national team. The Briton however seemed very aware of the fact that it was not going to be an easy task for him to motivate the players after only a week-long training session.

The main problem with the boys is that they are not educated. They lack football knowledge. They do not even know how to play against an opposition," Harrison said to the Daily Star at the Bangladesh Football Federa-

tion (BFF) office last evening.

Although expectations will be at an all-time high on Harrison, who has the demanding task of emulating, if not better, the standard set by his predecessor Shamir Sakir, the Englishman considers the Maldives tournament as a launch-pad for his ultimate target.

The Maldives meet will be the first test for the booters to accept a new challenge. I'm actually looking forward to take Bangladesh into the second round of the World Cup qualifier," said Harrison.

"The camp before the Maldives meet was too short. But the boys showed that they could learn quickly. I want to see them play exactly the way I have taught them to play," said Harrison adding that his boys would certainly play attacking football.

The soft-spoken Briton however felt that to win a tournament in Maldives would not mean anything for Bangladesh football nor would there be no love lost if the boys failed there.

"Development is a long-term process. The Maldives meet should serve as a warm-up game before the World Cup qualifier," said Harrison.

Replying to a query, Harrison said that the boys needed qualified coaches, be it at the national or at the club level.

"They are getting developed training when they are in the national side. But when they are playing for the clubs they hardly get any training from a qualified coach. I have seen them in action during the recent National League and am surprised at their lack of any game plan. It appeared to me that they have just strolled in the middle to play for the sake of play and waited for a win to come by," Harrison said acidly criticising the existing football structure of the country.

"The football authorities must be serious if they really want to improve the game. They will have to arrange a lot of qualified coaches and organise more competitive matches against better teams," said Harrison.

SQUAD

Nizam Aminul, Biplob, Pavel, Rajani, Faisal, Nazrul, Saurav, Firoz Mahmud Titu, Iqbal, Monwar, Mottur Munna, Asadur Rahman, Tanvir, Rokonzaman, Alfaz, Saidur Rahman Moni, Mintu and Mizanur Rahman Don.

Peace through football

SARAJEVO, Apr 26 (Reuters/AP): A penalty seven minutes from time by Inter Milan striker Roberto Baggio gave a FIFA World XI a 1-0 victory over Bosnia in a disappointing "Football for Peace" charity match on Tuesday.

Baggio scored after Ghanaian veteran Abedi Pele was pulled down in the area, while Fenerbahce striker Elvir Bolic's header against the bar was the closest Bosnia came to scoring.

The match featured no fewer than 20 substitutions but few of the 42 players on show were able to make much of an impact.

The result is not important," Carlos Alberto Pereira of the World Stars told reporters before the game. "We are here in a peace mission. We want to help the development of soccer in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

Before the match started, each player entered the field walking hand-in-hand with boys from the orphanage, whom they had visited earlier Tuesday. In their free hand, each boy held a rose.

"This is great," said Sakib Hodzic, 44, who brought his 6-year-old grandson, Sanjin. "I don't know the reason for this game is, but it's a super move."

The only element missing from Tuesday's match were the

Bosnian Serbs, who have refused to cooperate with FIFA by forming one Bosnian national team that would include members of all three of the country's ethnicities.

FIFA gave the two teams until last month to unite, but when the Serbs failed to join the Muslims and Croats, the Soccer Association of Bosnia's Muslim Croat federation was chosen to represent the country.

"The goal of our association throughout the postwar years was the unification of soccer in our country," the head of the Bosnian Soccer Association, Jusuf Pusicina.

Osman Galijasevic, 32, travelled 80 kilometers (50 miles) from Zenica to be a part of the event.

"There are players that I only could see on TV before," he said.

The players, too were pleased to be a part of the event.

"I don't know what the current situation is in your country, but this match is surely going to improve it," said Abedi Pele.

Part of the proceeds from the match, attended by some 25,000 fans, went to a village for orphans in Sarajevo run by the Austrian humanitarian agency SOS-Kinderdorf which the World Stars visited before the game.

A FIFA official said on Monday that veteran Brazilian defender Dunga has donated 206,000 dollars for the international project of villages for orphans.

The game was attended by FIFA chief Joseph Blatter, who said: "Today we play football for peace. What we want to do tonight is just to show and to give a message of peace."

The game, which was postponed last year because of the war, was also a testimonial for three Bosnian players - goalkeeper Fahrudin Omervovic and midfielders Mehmed Bazdarevic and Vlatko Glavas.

Inter-varsity badminton, TT

From JU Correspondent

Inter-varsity badminton and table tennis competitions will begin today at the central gymnasium of Jahangirnagar University.

Vice Chancellor of JU Prof Abdul Bayes will inaugurate the four day meet at 9.00 am.

Ten teams (5 male and 5 female) from JU, DU, RU, CU and Agricultural Varsity will take part in the competition.

The competition will be held in league basis.



GATHER FOR A NOBLE CAUSE: Players of the FIFA World XI and orphans from an SOS village in Sarajevo line up during a ceremony prior to the start of the friendly football game against Bosnia on April 25. —AFP photo

24 report to Barlow

Sports Reporter

Twenty four cricketers reported to Bangladesh Cricket Board's director of development Eddie Barlow yesterday evening.

Only wicketkeeper Mizanur Rahman of Abahani Krira Chakra was absent. He is expected to be present at the camp which begins tomorrow at the BUET ground.

According to captain Aminul Islam, importance will be given to the physical fitness of the 25 players during the month-long conditioning.

All players can join the session from home. In case of Premier League matches, he will be entitled to a two-day exemption.

The quadrangular tournament featuring India, Pakistan and defending champions Sri Lanka begins on May 28 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The following 25 cricketers have been called: Javed Omar, Shahriar Hossain, Mehrob Hossain, Aminul Islam, Akram Khan, Habibul Bashar, Khaled Masood, Mizanur Rahman, Mukhtar Siddique, Khaled Mahmud, Musfiqur Rahman, Al-Shahriar, Naimur Rahman, Enamul Hoque, Mohammad Rafique, Sabbir Khan, Hasibul Hossain, Monjurul Islam, Bikash Ranjan Das, Shafiqul Alam, Ahmed, Rajin Saleh Alam, Aminul Islam junior, Nasirul Alam, Fahim Muntasir and Halim Shah.

S Asian H'ball

Pakistan, SL withdraw

Sports Reporter

Pakistan and Sri Lanka have pulled out of the Second South Asian Handball Championships that begin at the Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium in Mirpur tomorrow.

This was revealed by Bangladesh Handball Federation (BHF) officials at the press conference yesterday. Speaking on the occasion, BHF president MA Hamid said they have invited all the seven SAARC member nations but only Holders India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal initially expressed their interest.

The BHF president said Sri Lanka failed to get clearance from their respective sports ministry while Pakistan asked to defer the competition for one month.

Both men's and women's teams of India, Nepal and Bangladesh will play in the two-tier robin league from which top two teams will qualify for the April 2 finals.

The BHF had estimated a budget of Taka 12 lakh but it will be reduced in light of Sri Lanka and Pakistan not taking part, said BHF general secretary Asaduzzaman Kohinor.

He added that India were favourites in both men's and women's events. Bangladesh would fight for the runners-up spots.

India won both men's and women's title in the first South Asian Handball Championship held in Jaipur, India in 1996. Bangladesh were runners-up in the women's competition and earned the third spot in men's group.

The Nepalese teams were scheduled to reach the capital last night while India will arrive tomorrow.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader will inaugurate the meet tomorrow afternoon.

Bangladesh Television is likely to telecast the finals live on May 2.

Barisal cricket

From Staff Correspondent

BARISAL, Apr 26: Brothers Club defeated Mukta Bihanga Pathagar by 136, runs in the First Division Cricket League here at the Abdur Rab Sernabat Stadium today.

Due to inclement weather there was only one match played.

Winning the toss and decided to bat first Brothers collected 202 runs losing 9 wickets in 20 overs.

In reply, Mukta Bihanga scored only 66 runs losing 8 wickets in the stipulated 20 overs.

At took 6 wickets for only 15 runs and was adjudged man-of-the-match.

Rajshahi soccer

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Apr 26: Diganta Proshery Sangha defeated Helenabad Colony Club 4-1 in the first Division Football Super League played at the Rajshahi District Stadium today.

Riad opened the account for Diganta Proshery at the 24th minute of the first half. Ripon (1) added another goal for the winners. Ripon (2) of the losers netted one goal at the 28th minute. But Suresh made another goal for Diganta at the 38th minute.

The last goal was scored by Ripon (1) just two minutes before the final whistle.

Abahani Krira Chakra will take on Alde Club tomorrow at the same venue.



LISTEN UP BOYS: Eddie Barlow, the South African coach of the national cricket team, explaining the training schedule to the called up 24 players, who reported at the BCB office yesterday. —Star photo

'Aussies could lose shine'



SYDNEY, Apr 26 (AFP/Reuters):

Former Pakistan great Imran Khan says the gloss could be wiped off Australia's record-breaking run because of cricket's match-fixing scandal.

While not questioning Australia's ethics, Imran said the scandal, sparked by disgraced South African Hansie Cronje, has created suspicion among fans.

"At the moment, my mind boggles," Imran told Cricket Talk magazine.

"I would have never suspected South Africa of being involved and it makes me unsure about everything now."

"God knows what's been going on. Maybe even Test matches are fixed."

"Here is Australia -- the best team in the world. They have won 10 Tests in a row and they lose the one-day series in South Africa."

"That might be reason enough for people to be suspicious."

An Australian squad lost to South Africa earlier this month, days after the Proteas had been rocked by Cronje's admission that he took money in exchange for information on matches.

Cronje was sacked as captain before the series began and he now faces inquiries in South Africa and India.

Imran cast further doubts on the scope of betting scandals when he said an Indian bookmaker told him 23 years ago

that Indian players were involved in match-fixing.

Imran said a bookmaker approached him on several occasions during a benefit tour in India in 1977 to offer him information on players and crick-

think he talked about players from another international team.

"He said they were involved in match-fixing too."

Imran blamed the problem of match-fixing on the frequency of one-day matches and said cricket boards were reluctant to take action.

Referring to the fines imposed on Shane Warne and Mark Waugh for supplying information to bookmakers for payment, he said: "From the Australian board's reaction, it is quite clear that boards protect their own."

"Players get paid more now than ever in cricket history so it's quite clear that the amount you get paid has nothing to do with whether or not you're being tempted," Imran said.

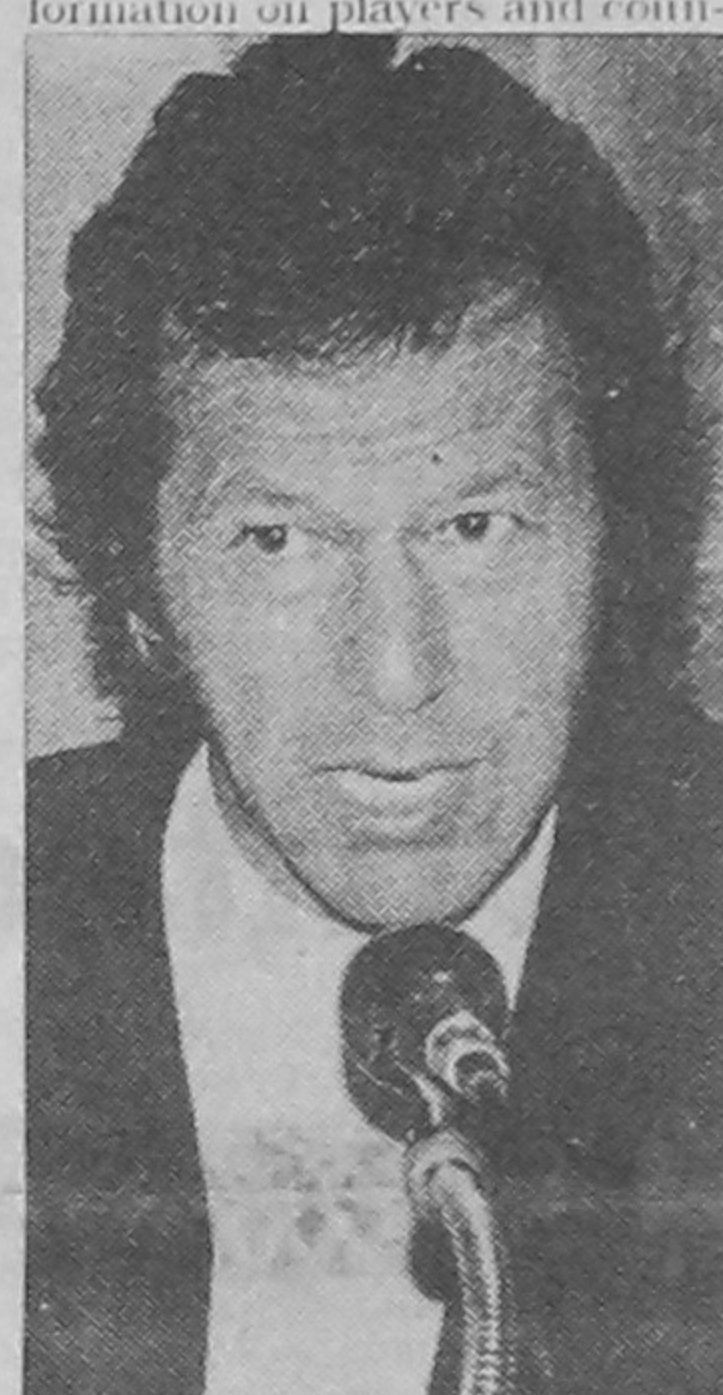
Cricket is the essence (and) the amount of one-day cricket being played has devalued its own importance."

The former all-rounder said he was also confronted with talk of match-fixing during the Australasia Cup in Sharjah in 1989 and told his team about it.

"I told them what I had heard and warned them that anyone not playing to his ability would not only never play again but would also be jailed," he said.

Imran said he believed cricket could survive the corruption crisis but said a thorough inquiry was needed.

"People have to come clean, all boards have to come clean. Players, no matter who they are, have to be punished. Even talking to a bookie should be considered an offence."



IMRAN KHAN

tries involved in fixing matches.

He is the one who told me about a few names who were fixing matches but he never dared to offer me," he said.

"He was always at cricket grounds. I never took him seriously. He named a few players. I



International Master Reefat-bin-Sattar ponders his next move as his rival Pallab looks on during their second round game of the 26th National Chess Championship at the NSC chessroom yesterday. —Star photo

Roberto reflects on Italian game



MILAN, Apr 26 (AFP):

Italian football is on the wane because there's too little skill and too much muscle, according to national idol Roberto Baggio.

Baggio is the latest footballing icon to be tackled by the Gazzetta dello Sport since the paper began a campaign last week to find out the causes of Italy's woes.

The national side, World Cup finalists in 1994, have slumped to a dismal 14th in the FIFA rankings, while none of their club sides have made it into either of the European cup semi-finals this season - the first time in 13 years.

Baggio believes that Italian soccer is now all about physique rather than technique, and that coaches are more interested in systems of play than bringing out the best in players.

"When I was little, I was taught how to stop the ball, how to hit it when it was stationary

and when you were running forward," he told the paper.

"Today, three quarters of training is done without a ball."

"Players run. Once I even got injured because I was made to run with weights. It felt like I was pulling a train."

And things are little better on the pitch, he claimed.

"The real problem is coaches who put their system of play above everything else. Organization is useful, but it should come afterwards - as a way of putting together 10 footballers. But first, you need the footballers."

"Today, unless you run, they don't just tell you that you're slow, they say you don't understand the new kind of football."

"I, on the other hand, would always pick players who are on first-name terms with the ball. It's better to have 10 disorganised people who can play football, than 10 organised people who just run."

Baggio also painted a portrait of a high-pressure game where there is no room for a moment's fun, not even in training.

"During the week, if you try a joke or do something different, you'll be criticised and accused of not being concentrated," he said. "It's hard now to have any fun, even in training."

"And yet, passion and entertainment should come first in this job."



ROBERTO BAGGIO