

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Leander Paes

(Indian tennis star)
The art of doing well as a
pro is to win on your bad days
as well."

After India beat South Korea
in the Davis Cup tie.

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?	Hingis	Davenport	Seles
2	Who won the United Insurance IM chess title?	Reefat	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?	Dharmodhi	Cricketers	Khelaghari

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

Div II soccer

Kashaituly Samaj Kalyan Parisad managed a 2-1 victory over BG Press in the Metropolitan Second Division Football League at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday, reports UNB.

Samaulab put the winners ahead in the 7th minute and Tufail doubled the margin in the 21st minute while Sterlin netted the lone goal for the losers in the 55th minute.

In the day's other match, Sadar Bima SC earned a facile 3-1 win against Sheikh Russell KC at the same venue.

Today Kang Bai struck twice and Saiful once for the winners while Liton netted the consolation goal for the losers.

Dhaka-Ctg Club cricket match at BAT ground

Sports Reporter

The friendly cricket match between Dhaka Club and Chittagong Club will be held tomorrow at the British American Tobacco factory ground in Mohakhali this morning instead of City Club ground in Mirpur.

Everything else will remain unchanged, according to a press release yesterday.

The match would feature a few current and former national players of Bangladesh.

Rajshahi soccer

From Our Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Apr 27: Abahani Krira Chakra defeated Alide Club 3-1 in the Rajshahi First Division Football super league played at the Rajshahi District Stadium today.

Jallal of Alide Club scored the first goal at the eighth minute in the first half. Kamal of Abahani equalised the goal just four minutes later. Then he scored two others at the 24th and the 65th minutes, respectively.

Mohammedan Sporting Club will take on Kadiarganj Sporting Club tomorrow.

BCB to appoint a CEO

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) finally set the wheels in motion to bring a professional into the organisation.

The sensational decision to appoint a paid executive secretary in the board came after a meeting yesterday.

"We will invite applications for the post of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in the next few days. He will look after the administrative, marketing and financial matters of the board," said the general secretary of the BCB Ashraf Hug in front of a crowded press after the meeting.

But Ashraf admitted that the function of the administrative officer, first of its kind in our sporting arena, would only be effective after the reconstitution of the present board.

"We have discussed a lot about introducing dynamism to meet the challenges in the years to come. A draft constitution has been drawn up, which I believe would be accepted at our annual general meeting on June

10," said Ashraf. But he refrained from providing details of the document.

"I can only say that there will be no provision for a general secretary or joint secretaries. These functionaries would be replaced by a board of directors," said Ashraf who himself was not sure about his role in the proposed new-look board.

"While I'm not sure about my future but I'm confident that a shake-up in the structure will be beneficial to our cricket," said the charismatic organiser.

Although the present committee under the leadership of Saber Hossain Chowdhury has won the right to run the board till May 2001, Ashraf claimed that there would be no problem in restructuring it before the scheduled tenure runs out.

"There are a lot of legal procedures. Firstly, all 32 committee members must resign. And if they do not then the National Sports Council has the power to dissolve the present body. Moreover, our board president is keen for a change," said the former national cricketer.

Regarding the financial aspects of the Asia Cup, where defending champions Sri Lanka, Pakistan, India and Bangladesh will take part, Ashraf pointed out that the board had already sold the advertisement rights to TWI for 140,000 dollars.

"We will also get 150,000 dollars from the ACC (Asian Cricket Council) to run the event," said Ashraf adding that they are expecting an handsome amount in the form of gate receipts from seven games including the grand finale on June 7.

BFF call up 70 U-19 players

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday called up 70 players in a trial for under-19 team which will take part in the forthcoming Asian under-19 Group Four qualifiers in Dhaka next July.

The trial will begin at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur from May 2.

Iraq, Maldives and Nepal will take part in the qualifying round along with hosts Bangladesh which will be held from July 7 to 11.

The selected 70 have been instructed to report to coach Abu Yusuf with their kits at 7 am on May 2.

Reefat's 3rd victory

Sports Reporter

International Master (IM) Reefat-bin-Sattar of Biman recorded his third successive win in the Professor Abdur Razzak 26th National Chess Championship yesterday.

The top seed defeated Fide Master Enamul Hossain Rajib of Titas Club in the third round

Playing with black pieces against a win-win variation opening of Rajib, Reefat adopted French defence and won the board after 25 moves.

With yesterday's win, Reefat remained atop the table along with qualifier Mainuddin Ahmed of Chittagong, both having three points each.

Mainuddin beat Tayebur Rahman on BUET in the round.

Mainuddin played with whites and needed 35 moves to checkmate Tayeb.

Holder IM Ziaur Rahman of Biman, who was forced to a draw by Ansars Abu Sufian Shakil in the second round, returned to winning ways defeating Arifuzzaman Sikdar.

Zia played with whites in Queen's gambit decline and won the board after 21 moves.

Fellow IM Abdulla Al-Rakib beat Ruhul Kabir Shiplu in the third round.

Playing with white pieces against the Nimzo Indian defence of Shiplu, Rakib ran away with the board after 47 moves.

Both Zia and Rakib are now sharing the second spot with 2.5 points each.

In the other matches of the day, Monir Hossain of Leonine Chess Club beat Dewan Shahidul Amin Tipu of Kamalapur Samaj Kalyan Sangha, Shakir Hossain Palab of Ansars beat Abul Kashem Bhuiyan of Titas Club while Abu Sufian Shakil drew with Khandkar Aminul Islam of Leonine.

The other match between Sheikh Nasir Ahmed and of Ansars and Saifuddin Lovlu of Titas Club was going on till the filing of this report.

The fourth round starts at the same venue today at 2 pm.

TODAY'S MATCHES: Reefat v Kashem, Tayeb v Pallab, Tipu v Mainuddin, Shiplu v Monir, Shakil v Rakib, Arif v Amin, Lovlu v Zia and Rajib v Nasir.

Politics not on Arjuna's mind

COLOMBO, Apr 27: Sri Lanka's World Cup winning cricket skipper Arjuna Ranatunga Thursday denied joining fledgling nationalistic party, his close associates said, reports AFP.

Speculation was rife he had joined the Sihala Urumaya, Sinhalese Heritage Party, after the Daily Mirror newspaper carried a front page picture of Ranatunga at the inauguration of the new party on Wednesday.

"He was there only as an observer and not a member of the party," a close associate of Ranatunga told this news agency.

The Sihala Urumaya party consists of hardline elements from both the ruling People's Alliance as well as the main opposition United National Party.

Ranatunga's father is a deputy minister in the government while another brother is a provincial politician.



Players and officials of Bangladesh football team pose before their departure for Maldives last night.

—Star photo by Anisur Rahman

Confident booters off to Male

Sports Reporter

"Mark's formation is nothing new for us. We had adopted such game plan in the past," said Alfaz.

"Our mission is to win the tournament because we have been left with no other choice. I know India is there but we are not afraid of them. You can remember that we beat them in our last meeting in Kathmandu," said the Bangladesh captain.

Alfaz said they were satisfied with the preparations under the new coach. "Although the time was very short but whatever the coach told us we tried to follow that."

Coach Mark Harrison also appeared to be very happy with his boys.

"Two weeks are not enough for preparations. We worked hard on the system and I am happy that they responded well."

"We had a match against Bangladesh Navy this morning and they looked impressive. They scored six goals and also

FIXTURES
Date Match
May 1 Maldives v Sri Lanka
May 2 Bangladesh v India
May 4 Bangladesh v Maldives
May 5 Sri Lanka v India
May 7 Bangladesh v Sri Lanka
May 8 India v Maldives
May 10 Final

let go a few opportunities. That is a positive sign which encouraged us," said Harrison.

"I am now looking forward to playing against India and win because they will be our first opponents. During the process, I will witness the Maldives-Sri Lanka match on May 1 and then decide my approach against them," Harrison observed adding that attack had been his favourite tactics.

Asked why he did not consider defender Hasan Al-Mamun and striker Shahajuddin Tipu for his squad, Harrison said that he had better players.

Bangladesh will take on India in their first match on May 2 before taking on hosts Maldives on May 4. Bangladesh will meet Sri Lanka on May 7. Top two finishers from the first round will feature in the May 10 final.

SQUADS

Nizam Majumdar, Aminul Haque, Biplob Vattacharya, Pavel Mahmud, Rajani Kanta Barman, Faisal, Ahmed, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Sourav Majumdar, Firoz Mahmud Hossain Tito, Anwar Hossain, Iqbal Hossain (vice-captain), Monwar Hossain, Matiur Rahman Munna, Asadur Rahman, Tanvir Chowdhury, Rokonuzzaman Kanchan, Alfaz Ahmed (captain), Sayeedur Rahman Moni, Zulfiqar Mahmud Mintu and Mizanur Rahman Don.



International Master Ziaur Rahman (L) pondering his next move against Arifuzzaman Sikdar in the third round of the Professor Abdur Razzak 26th National Chess Championship yesterday.

—Star photo

Pakistan's lone warm-up



GEOGETOWN, Apr 27 (AFP/Internet): Fresh from taking the 2000 Trophy limited-overs series from the West Indies, upbeat Pakistan face West Indies Under-23 at Uitvlugt in a four-day, first-class cricket match, starting here on Thursday.

The water-logged state of the Everest Ground in the capital, caused by heavy unseasonal rainfall, forced the Guyana Cricket Board to shift the venue for the match. Pakistan's only first-class fixture prior to the opening Test of three against West Indies here at Bourda Oval.

Uitvlugt Community Development Centre ground is on the west coast of the Demerara River, one of the main tributaries in the South American nation.

The ground is some 20 miles from the capital and hosted last year's match between Guyana and India "A".

It will provide the platform for Pakistan to warm-up for higher intensity tussles with the West Indies, whose record of losing a home Test series only since 1973 will be under threat.

Pakistan are likely to rest some of their established players to give others a chance to catch form ahead of the rubber, but the Under-23s can still expect to be given a stern examination from whatever side Pakistan puts out.

"I had been playing in pain for some time with pain killing injections," Inzamam told. "I cannot afford to have an operation now in the midst of the Test series but I shall have it done immediately after the series is over."

An operation could mean that Inzamam might miss the Asia Cup one-day series in Dhaka later this month or the series in Sri Lanka in June/July.

On the other hand, captain Darren Ganga and left-arm fast bowler Pedro Collins are the only Test cricketers in the West Indies Under-23 squad.

Batsman Sylvester Joseph played in the first of three finals in the 2000 Trophy Series in Bridgetown last Wednesday, but the Under-23 squad represents some of the best budding talent in the Caribbean.

Against ruthless opponents like Pakistan, should any player make a name for himself in the match, he could gain selection to the senior West Indies squad for the summer's tour of England, if not the imminent Test series.

SQUADS

PAKISTAN (from): Moin Khan (captain), Inzamamul Haq (vice-captain), Saeed Anwar, Imran Nazir, Shahid Afridi, Younis Khan, Yousaf Youhana, Abdur Razzaq, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Shoib Akhtar, Mushtaq Ahmed, See page 14



Under-19 hockey players, who will take part in the Asian Youth cup in Malaysia from May 3, get tips from coach Nurul Islam during a practice session at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

—Star photo