

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Roy Keane
(Manchester United captain)
"This is a fantastic honour. I am very excited personally."
After he was named England's footballer-of-the-year.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-129

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
May 12, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who won the 2000 Trophy in West Indies?
Windies Pakistan Zimbabwe
- Who was the man-of-the-series in 2000 Trophy?
Inzamam King Ambrose
- Who is South Africa's cricket captain?
Kirsten Gibbs Pollock
- Who was the man-of-the-match in the Asia vs World Eleven cricket match?
Tendulkar Bevan De Silva
- Who is the fastest man in the country now?
Mahbub Sattar Mizan

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)



K'bagan-AKC fiasco

Court issues show cause

Sports Reporter

Kalabagan Krira Chakra have scored a moral-victory against the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) when the High Court Division of the Supreme Court sought an explanation from the Secretary of Ministry of Youth and Sports, Secretary of Bangladesh Cricket Board and Secretary of the CCDM and others related.

The High Court bench, comprising Justice Mainur Reza Chowdhury and Justice Mohammad Mozammel Hossain, asked the above mentioned to show cause as to why the scorecard dated April 9, 2000 issued by the CCDM declaring Abahani to have won the Janakantha Premier Division cricket match on that day Kalabagan would not be declared illegal and hence of no effect, and also as to why CCDM shall not be directed to declare that match to have ended in a tie and as to why Kalabagan Krira Chakra shall not be declared to have won the match by virtue of losing fewer wickets.

The persons mentioned have given three weeks to reply.

Cricket today

Sports Reporter

After a week-long break due to inclement weather, the Super and the Relegation Leagues of the Premier Division Cricket resume at different city venues today.

Kalabagan Krira Chakra will take on Brothers Union Club in a Super League clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium while City Club will face Agrani Bank in the Relegation League at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Both the matches will start at 9 am.

BDR v'ball

Khagrachhari Sector emerged champions of the Bangladesh Rifles inter-sector volleyball competition beating Dinajpur Sector by 3-0 sets at the Kushiha Sector ground yesterday, reports UNB.

Barlow regains consciousness

Sports Reporter



Eddie Barlow regained consciousness yesterday, but many feel life will never be the same again for the jovial South African. The coach of the national cricket team suffered cerebral artery blockage at his Gulshan residence on Saturday evening.

But the left side of the 60-year-old Director of Development is still not functioning.

"We are suspecting that he (Barlow) had suffered cerebral infarction. The CT scan revealed no sign of such occurrence at the moment. But it could show up in seven days," said Col Rahman Siddiqi while taking to the Daily Star over his cell phone last night. Barlow is now under Siddiqi's treatment at the CMH.

"I do not know how long it will take him to recover. But I'm afraid he will not be cured totally," added Siddiqi. The doctor also said that the CMH authorities would provide an official statement for the press to stop any misleading information about Barlow's condition.

Barlow collapsed at his home while having a chat with his wife Gally at around 7 pm. He was rushed to the CMH, where he is now under observation at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

A pale of gloom gripped the

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) office after news spread about Barlow's condition. National captain Aminul Islam and a number of his teammates rushed to see their ailing coach.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader also visited Barlow in the morning and assured of all possible assistance from the government. He said, "If necessary he would be sent abroad."



EDDIE BARLOW

Meanwhile, back in South Africa cricket authorities were in shock. Managing Director of United Cricket Board (UCB) Dr. Ali Bacher phoned the BCB office in the afternoon and

wanted to know the present state of Barlow, who played the pivotal role of reinstating his country back into the international fold.

A person of strong will, the man from Pretoria amazed the attending doctors for his sense of humour.

"I'm not having any problem," Barlow once remarked to the doctor.

"When I came to see him in the morning he was in good spirits. He even ordered a rickshaw to take him home when I said he could not drive the car," informed Barlow's wife in a written statement.

She was also happy about the treatment her husband was receiving and thanked all concerned for rendering their support especially the BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury.

The timing of Edgar John Barlow's illness couldn't have come at the worse possible stage. The Asia Cup is later this month and he was supposed to be formulating plans for the prestigious tournament. Besides, Barlow was not only one of the architects in the rebuilding of our cricket structure but also a driving force in our aspirations for Test status.

But it is now feared that the revered coach's career, which started last September, has been put in jeopardy, if not over for good.



Indian men's team launches an offensive against Bangladesh in the second South Asian Handball Championships yesterday. —Star photo

New idea dawns on Richards



LONDON, Apr 30: Cricketers involved in any form of corruption in the sport may be offered an amnesty if they can provide information to help clear up the biggest crisis facing the game, reports Reuters.

The idea is to be put forward at an emergency meeting of the International Cricket Council (ICC) at Lord's on Tuesday and Wednesday, when members of the sport's ruling body are to discuss match-fixing.

ICC chief executive David Richards was quoted by British Sunday newspapers as saying: "What we must do is get together all the people who have the best interests of cricket at heart and bring forward the evidence."

"We might have to do that in a discreet fashion; we might have to give an amnesty for people to bring forward that information."

"I don't have a personal problem with that. We have one day to clean all this up, put it behind the sport and move into the rest of the century in a fine way."

Richards was speaking during an interview on Sky Sports television that is to be screened during their coverage of an English National League limited-overs match on Monday.

The match-fixing summit at Lord's is to be attended by ICC president Jagmohan Dalmiya of India, his successor later this year, Australian Malcolm Gray, plus representatives of all nine Test-playing teams.

Calls for the ICC meeting have mounted since four South Africans were charged on April 7 with "cheating, fraud and 7 with conspiracy related to match-fixing and betting" during their team's one-day series in India in March.

The charges were levelled by Indian police against Hansie Cronje, Herschell Gibbs, Nikky Boje and Pieter Strydom. They have all denied the accusations.

Cronje was subsequently sacked as South Africa's captain after admitting he took between 10,000 dollars and 15,000 dollars from bookmakers for

information and forecasting on matches during a triangular tournament with England and Zimbabwe in South Africa last January.

The crisis grew as Ali Bacher, managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA), alleged that two matches at last year's World Cup in England were fixed.

Bacher, whose allegations were reported in The Australian newspaper 10 days ago, is to be quizzed about his claims at the Lord's meeting.

LIFE BANS FOR GUILTY PROTEAS

However, Reuters adds from Johannesburg, South Africa's cricketers face life bans from the game for conspiring with bookmakers under the terms of new player contracts, according to press reports.

The Johannesburg Sunday Times reported: "The South African players' new contracts contain three pages devoted entirely to all forms of dealing with bookmakers."

"These include a ban on bet-



Bangladesh captain Syed Rebecka Nazneen makes an attempt to score against India during their second South Asian Handball Championships clash at the Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium yesterday. —Star photo

Male tourney starts today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh will take on arch-rivals India in their opening match of the four-nation Golden Jubilee Cup football tournament at the Male National Stadium in Maldives tomorrow.

Bangladesh Betar will broadcast the game from 4:30 pm (BST).

Hosts Maldives are scheduled to meet Sri Lanka in the opening match today.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh captain Alfaz Ahmed came down with fever after reaching Male on Saturday morning. This was revealed by Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday.

BFF informed that Alfaz started to feel unwell during a stopover in Colombo.

Bangladesh team had a practice session yesterday afternoon.

Later Bangladesh's Kazi Usha Mishu was scheduled to attend a managers' meeting last night.

Bangladesh will take on Maldives on May 4 and then face Sri Lanka in their last robin league clash on May 7.

Top two teams of the robin league will play in the May 10 final.

Reefat going great guns

Sports Reporter

International Master Reefat-Bin-Sattar of Bangladesh Biman recorded his sixth successive win in the Professor Abdur Razzak 26th National Chess Championship with an easy sail over Tayebur Rahman Sumon of BUET at the NSC chess room last night.

Playing with white pieces against the Sicilian Defence of Sumon, Reefat won the board after 31 moves to raise his tally to six points.

The result also kept him atop the table with half-a-point lead over fellow IM and defending champion Ziaur Rahman.

In the sixth round, Zia beat Sheikh Nasir Ahmed of Bangladesh Ansars.

Zia also opted for Sicilian Defence to earn his fifth win after 46 moves.

IM Abdullah Al-Rakib of Biman and Mainuddin Ahmed of Chittagong were sharing third spot with four points apiece.

Rakib drew with Saifuddin Lovlu while Mainuddin beat Abu Sufian Shakil.

In the other matches, Enamul Hossain Rajib beat Khondkar Aminul Islam, Shawkat Hossain Pallab beat Ruhul Kabir Shipilu, Monir Hossain beat Arifuzzaman Siddik while Khondkar Shahidul Amin Tipu beat Abdul Kashem Bhuiyan.

Standings: 6 points-Reefat, 5.5 points-Zia, 4 points-Rakib and Mainuddin, 3.5 points-Shakil, 3 points-Rajib, Pallab and Tipu, 2.5 points-Aminul and Shipilu, 1.5 points-Lovlu and 1 point-Nasir and Kashem.

No matches will be played today.

Tomorrow's matches: Zia v Reefat, Amin v Nasir, Rakib v Rajib, Monir v Lovlu, Mainu v Arif, Pallab v Shipilu, Sumon v Tipu.

S Asian h'ball

Bangladesh eves move into final

Hosts Bangladesh reached the women's final of the second South Asian Handball Championships eliminating Nepal by 31-9 goals at the Shaheed Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium in Mirpur yesterday, reports UNB.

The winners led the first half 11-5.

Defending champions India registered their third successive victory, also to reach the final of the women's competition beating Nepal 31-13 after dominating the first session 16-4 in the morning.

Mukta scored eight goals, Chitra six and Kalyani four for the winners while Laila Maya Thapa netted six, Maha Luxmi three and Aruna two for the losers.

Holders India reached the men's final with an all-win record beating Nepal and hosts Bangladesh in their two engagements.

In the day's first match, India crushed Nepal by 36-6 goals after dominating first half 16-2 in the morning.

Firoz Khan scored nine goals, Rashid seven and Nagesh and Shib Prasad six each for the winners while Abhay Lal Shrestha netted three for the losers.

India notched their fourth consecutive win beating Bangladesh 35-26 in the day's other match in the afternoon. The winners led the first half 18-12.

Bangladesh men's side will take on Nepal at 9 am while Bangladesh women play India at 10:20 am today (Monday) in the last league matches at the same venue.



International Master Ziaur Rahman (R) and his sixth round opponent Sheikh Nasir Ahmed during their Professor Abdur Razzak National Chess Championship engagement yesterday. —Star photo

Younis builds Pakistan



GEORGETOWN, Apr 30: Younis Khan hit an unbeaten century and fast bowler Mohammad Akram captured six wickets to put Pakistan in an impregnable position against the West Indies Under-23s on the third day of their four-day match here on Saturday, reports AFP.

With a lead of 156 on the first innings after Mohammad Akram had earlier captured five wickets to send the Under-23s tumbling to 143, Pakistan raced to 172 for four in their second innings thanks to Younis' unbeaten 103.

Set 329 to win in just over a day, the Under-23s were 12 for one when stumps were drawn early because of fading light.

Mohammad Akram picking up the wicket of Darren Ganga lbw for four in the last of his four overs.

In a morning period which was cut short by 45 minutes by overnight rain which left some wet spots on the outfield, Mohammad Akram removed Marlon Samuels, Wayne Phillip and Camilus Alexander while conceding just one run.

After lunch, he gained an lbw verdict against Pedro Collins to end with five wickets for 16 runs from 14 overs.

Enterprising batting, led by Younis, helped catapult Pakistan forward after they were 79 for one at tea. He dominated a stand of 84 for the second wicket with Mohammad Wasim (25) and later shared 52 with

Shahid Afridi (25) during which time he reached his landmark.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the four-day first-class cricket match between the West Indies Under-23s and Pakistan on Saturday.

PAKISTAN: First innings 299 (Yousuf Youhana 81, Mohammad Wasim 59, Mushtaq Ahmed 39; Kerry Jeremy 3/46.

West Indies: First innings 143 (Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-29, 3-115, 4-116, 5-119, 6-131, 7-135, 8-135, 9-137.

Bowler O M R W
M Akram 14 7 16 5
Shabbir 7 3 11 0
Mushtaq 20 6 60 1
Saqlain 14.1 2 32 2
Arshad 11 7 6 2

PAKISTAN: Second innings
Wasim lbw b Jeremy 1
M Wasim lbw b Alexander 2
Younis not out 103
Youhana st Phillips b Samuels 11
Afridi c Joseph b Cunningham 25
Extras: (w: 1; lb: 6) 7
Total: (For 1 wkts dec in 38.1 overs) 172

Fall of wickets: 1-8, 2-92, 3-119, 4-171.

Bowler O M R W
Collins 5 0 19 0
Jeremy 6 1 22 1
Cunningham 8.1 2 10 1
Alexander 11 0 56 1
Samuels 10 0 32 1
Joseph 8 2 33 0

WEST INDIES UNDER-23S: Second innings
Ganga lbw b M Akram 4
Haniff not out 7
Jeremy not out 0
Extras: (lb: 1) 1
Total: (For 1 wkts in 8.2 overs) 12

Fall of wicket: 1-12.

Bowler O M R W
M Akram 4 2 9 1
Mushtaq 4 3 2 0
Saqlain 0.2 0 0 0

WEST INDIES UNDER-23S: First innings (overnight 119/4)
Ganga c M Wasim b M Akram 5
Haniff st M Wasim b Arshad 46
Morton lbw b Mushtaq 8
Joseph lbw b Arshad 45

YOUNIS KHAN
Camilus Alexander 2/48, Ryan Cunningham 2/58, Pedro Collins 2/63.

No contest in the ring



NEW YORK, Apr 30: Britain's Lennox Lewis left no doubt he is the undisputed king of heavyweight boxing, delivering a devastating second-round knockout upon previously unbeaten American challenger Michael Grant, reports AFP.

Lewis stopped Grant two minutes and 55 seconds into the second round at Madison Square Garden Saturday, improving to 36-1 with one drawn after his 28th knockout.

The champion slammed a devastating right uppercut to Grant's chin that sent the challenger onto his back, sprawled in defeat, stumbling to reach his feet as referee Arthur Mercante Jr counted him out.

"He has been boxing B-class fighters," Lewis said. "Now he has moved up to the A-class. Michael Grant had never seen a boxer like me."

"I just came to conquer," Grant, who fell to 31-1, had been flattened three times by Lewis in round one, twice hitting the canvas and being saved another time by a corner buckle.

"Every time I hit him he went down. So I just kept hitting him," Lewis said. "I don't get paid for overtime."

Lewis, 34, made 10 million dollars and left no doubt he is the undisputed ring king. Grant, 27, took home four million dollars and some hard-learned lessons.

"Charging him was stupidity on my part," Grant said. "I was just too anxious. People were looking to me to bring this thing home. I didn't execute the things my corner was telling me and what I needed to do."

Lewis sent Grant staggering again with a series of overhead right hands as Grant was trying to hang on and escape the first round. After that punishing pummeling, Grant was never the same.

Lewis used a left jab to set up a powerful right hand that knocked him to the canvas again at the end of the round. He barely rose as the bell ended the round and a non-sellout crowd of about 17,324 crowd sensed the end was near.

That only left Lewis to deliver the finishing blow with the right uppercut that worked so well.

"He actually put his head down so I put myself in position to get a good shot at him," Lewis said. "Michael grant was the perfect style to showcase my talent."

The triumph was a far cry from the 12-round tactical battle Lewis staged here 13 months ago with Evander Holyfield, a fight stunningly judged a draw when most who saw it thought Lewis had won.

"I brought my own two judges this time," Lewis said, proudly displaying his gloved fists.

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Grant attacked Lewis at the start but was sent sprawling by the first of many Lewis uppercuts only 98 seconds into the fight -- 37 seconds less time than it took the United States national anthem to be sung.

"It was only a matter of time," Lewis said. "I was shocked and very surprised when he came at me. I realized then I had superior hand speed. Most of the time, I could see when he was winding up. I just held my position so I could get a good shot."

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THE KING OF THE RING: Lennox Lewis poses with the belts he has collected so far after knocking challenger Michael Grant out in their title bout at the Madison Square Garden on April 29. —AFP photo