

Star Sport

DHAKA, TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID
Competition-131

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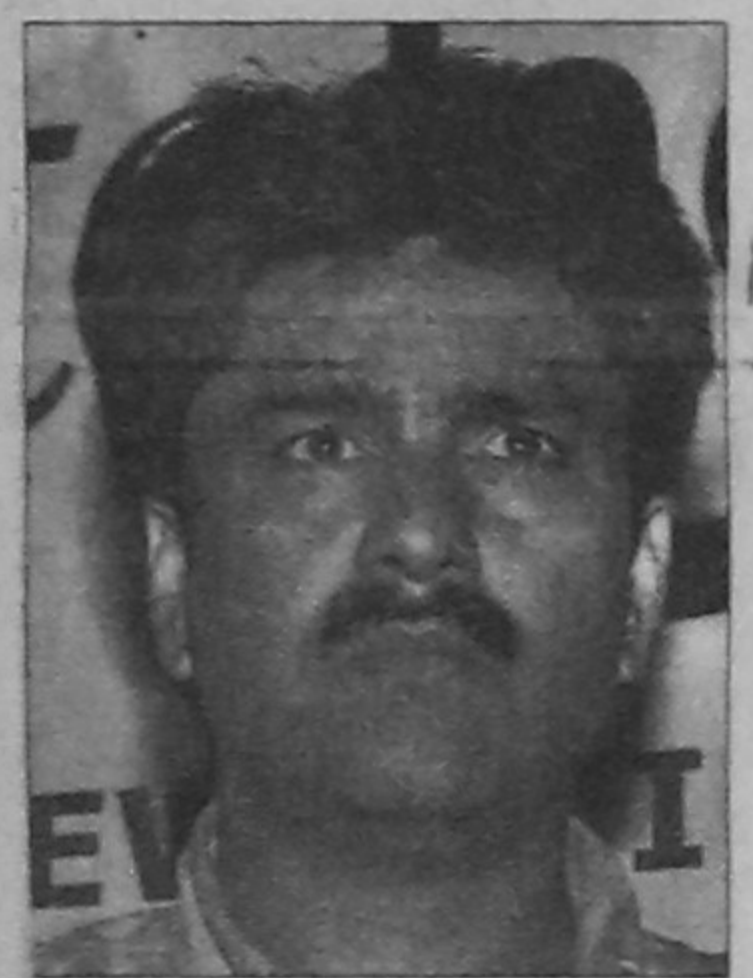
Competition closes at 8 pm
June 9, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who is the number one women tennis player at the moment?
Hings Pierce Williams
- Who won the European Champions' League?
M United Real Madrid Lazio
- Who won the UEFA Cup?
Valencia Galatasaray Fiorentina
- Who lifted national schools cricket title?
St Joseph M Singh Zila Cig Khastagr
- Who is the coach of Bangladesh football team?
Harrison Van Gaal Staker

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

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SPORTS TALK



Manoj Prabhakar
(Former Indian all-rounder)
"I know after having done this, I will have no friends left in the cricketing circle."
After he released the tape to the media.

Courtney calls for some rest

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, May 29: Veteran fast bowler Courtney Walsh has urged the West Indies management and coaching team to ensure that he and ageing pace partner Curtly Ambrose are rested and at their peak ahead of the Test series in England, reports Reuters.

The world's leading test wicket-taker wants two bosses to make sure he and Ambrose are fresh for the five-day games. That is very, very important," he was quoted as saying by the Sunday Advocate newspaper.

Walsh, currently making his 117th Test appearance in the game against Pakistan in St John's, has 449 Test wickets to his credit.

He said he would consider his international future after the tour of England, starting on Friday.

Walsh said the tour was critical because the West Indies are still searching for their first overseas series win since 1995 when they defeated New Zealand 1-0 in a two-match rubber under his captaincy.

"As I said before, I am looking at the English tour first before I make any other remarks. I am trying to focus on that. We haven't done well overseas for a while and I think it is very, very important that we try to go to England with our best and strongest team and try and win that series," he said.

Walsh believes the young West Indies fast bowlers have the potential to hold their own when he and Ambrose leave the international arena but he stressed that they need to be more consistent in their performances.

"I think that given time they will. I think the consistency is where they haven't really come forward as yet and I am hoping that before myself and Curtly leave that they will take over the mantle fully," he said.



AKRAM IN HIS ELEMENTS: Bangladesh batsman Akram Khan goes for a lofted on-drive during his knock of 41 yesterday. — Star photo by A K M Mohsin

Target to break 'Nine' spell

Syed Ashfaqul Haque

Having been thrashed by Sri Lanka in the opening match of the Pepsi Asia Cup yesterday, Bangladesh enter their next match today with a promise to do better against India.

"We did not bat and bowl well today... just had a bad day. We hope to overcome it tomorrow," said Aminul Islam, captain of the Bangladesh team, after his team conceded a nine-wicket defeat.

However, the passionate home audience will keep their fingers crossed for Bangladesh to do well in their 15th Cup appearance against their next-door neighbours. Since making their Cup debut in 1986, the whipping boys of the three former world champions failed to put up even a decent showing, let alone winning a match.

The result is always the easiest thing to predict whenever Bangladesh take on their illustrious Asian opponents. But, today, Aminul's men would probably try hard to break the 'quizzical' losing spell against the Indians. In their four previous Cup encounters against India, Bangladesh conceded an identical nine-wicket defeat. The jinx however started at home when they faced India at the Chittagong Stadium in 1988 where Bangladesh made their lowest one-day score of 99 for nine in 45 overs.

When approached prior to the yesterday's match, Aminul however appeared optimistic: "We would be already playing our first match before we take on India. This would be their first match in the tournament, and they might need some time to get into their usual strides. And, I deem it as our advantage."

"We will play for a win against India and all other teams. We will go in to the middle with a positive frame of mind and try our best to achieve this objective."

Meanwhile, his counterpart Saurav Ganguly yesterday made it clear that there was no way they could take their match against the hosts lightly. When asked how seriously were they taking the opening match against Bangladesh, Saurav said, "It's an international game and we can't afford to take any team lightly."

Weather willing, the match will start at 2.30 pm with the satellite channel Star Sports and the Bangladesh Television airing the match live. And if the match does not take place due to inclement weather, the match will take place tomorrow, a day scheduled originally for rest day.

PEPSI ASIA CUP

CLEAR
ANTI-DANDRUFF SHAMPOO

TEAMS

INDIA (Probables): Saurav Ganguly (captain), Rahul Dravid (vice-captain), Sachin Tendulkar, Mohammad Azharuddin, Ajay Jadeja, Robin Singh, Hemang Badhani, Saba Karim (wkt), Anil Kumble, Sunil Joshi, Nikhil Chopra, Ajit Agarkar, T Kumaran and Amit Bhandari

BANGLADESH (Probables): Aminul Islam (captain), Javed Omar, Shahriar Hossain, Habibul Bashar, Akram Khan, Naimur Rahman, Khaled Masood (wkt), Mohammad Rafique, Khaled Mahmud, Mushiqr Rahman, Hasibul Hossain, Monjurul Islam, Ena-

Bangladesh Cricket Team

We wish you success!

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BANGLADESH-SRI LANKA SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the opening match of the seventh Pepsi Asia Cup between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday:

BANGLADESH	R	B		
Shahriar c Aravinda b Vaas	2	11		
Javed Omar not out	85	146		
Habibul c Chandana b Vaas	1	5		
Aminul c Chandana b Weeraratne	5	20		
Akram c Vaas b Aravinda	41	72		
Naimur run out	0	0		
K Masood c J'wardena b M'tharan	18	38		
Rafique not out	11	7		
Extras: (b-2, lb-4, w-3, nb-3)	12			
Total: (For 6 wks in 50 overs)	175			
Did not bat: Khaled Mahmud, Hasibul Hossain, Monjurul Islam				
Fall of wickets: 1-6; 2-11; 3-27; 4-102; 5-102; 6-159.				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Vaas	10	0	28	2
Zoysa	7	0	30	0
Weeraratne	7	1	18	1
M'tharan	10	0	35	1
Chaudana	4	0	17	0
Jayasuriya	8	0	23	0
Aravinda	4	1	18	1
SRI LANKA:	R	B		
Jayasuriya st. K Masood b Rafique	28	39		
Aravinda not out	96	93		
Atapattu not out	41	56		
Extras: (b-2, w-6, nb-5)	13			
Total: (For 1 wicket in 30.4 overs)	178			
Fall of wkt: 1/66				
Did not bat: Kaluwitharana, Arnold, Mahela, Chandana, Vaas, Zoysa, Muralitharan and Weeraratne				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Hasibul	5	0	38	0
Monjurul	7	0	33	0
K Mahmud	4.4	0	40	0
Rafique	10	0	42	1
Naimur	4	0	23	0
Result: Sri Lanka won by 9 wickets.				
Man-of-the-match: Aravinda de Silva (Sri Lanka).				

Sher-e-Bangla Cup N'singdi move into final round

Hosts Narsingdi emerged zonal champions and advance to the final round of 21st Sher-e-Bangla Cup National Football Championship beating Gazipur by 1-0 goal yesterday, reports UNB.

At Narsingdi Stadium, Shoab scored the match-winner for home side in the 57th minute.

They will join the 12-team final round begins on June 6 at Noakhali Shaheed Bhullu Stadium.

Seven teams — Chittagong, Khulna, Jessore, Bhola, Rajshahi, Comilla and Tangail DSAs — reached final round as the zonal champions along with holders Dhaka University and hosts Noakhali.

BFF General Secretary Harun-ur-Rashid, MP, was present as chief guest in the zonal final and distributed prizes.

Glamorgan in final

LONDON, May 29: Glamorgan pulled off an historic 32-run victory over Surrey to reach their first ever Benson and Hedges Cup final at Lord's, reports Reuters.

But the Welsh county will have to wait until Monday before knowing their opponents after rain washed out the other semifinal tie at Bristol between defending champions Gloucestershire and Lancashire.

Glamorgan captain Matthew Maynard took the Gold Award at Cardiff for a match-winning century in his side's total of 251 in 49.1 overs.

The former England batsman scored 109 off 115 balls with one six and six fours, adding 133 for the third wicket with Michael Powell (67).

Surrey were set a revised target of 245 from 46 overs under the Duckworth-Lewis system, due to rain.

But they were all out for 212 in the 43rd over, with England batsman Alec Stewart making the top score of 85.

Owen Parkin took the last two wickets to finish with four for 60, with Robert Croft (three for 42) and Alex Wharf (three for 37) sharing the others.

Stewart hit Parkin for a four and a six off successive deliveries to leave Surrey needing 33 runs to win off the last 19 balls. But he was the last man out off the next delivery.

Worcester winners

WORCESTER, England, May 29: Australian fast bowler Glenn McGrath took two wickets in two balls here on Sunday as Worcestershire beat Northamptonshire here on Sunday by 47 runs in Division One of the National League, reports AFP.

McGrath dismissed both Northamptonshire openers, Mal Loye caught by Elliott Wilson for five and fellow Australian Matthew Hayden snapped up by wicketkeeper Steve Rhodes for six to leave the visitors struggling.

McGrath finished the day with final figures of 6-2-15-2 as Northamptonshire managed 133 for nine in reply to Worcestershire's 207 for four to give the home side an easy victory under the Duckworth/Lewis method. Worcestershire opener Paul Pollard made 89 from 90 balls.

In the only other League match to avoid the rain Australian batsman Simon Katich just failed to steer Durham to victory against Nottinghamshire in Division Two.

Katich, originally of Western Australia, had made 45 when he was well-caught by John Morris with Durham needing 66 off 10 overs with seven wickets left.

Durham finished on 190 for eight after rain had given them a revised target of 194 off 43 overs after Nottinghamshire had made 199 for six.

Durham, seeking their first win of the season in this competition, were always ahead of the rate until Katich was out.

They slipped to minus 10 when 62 were needed off eight overs, but Jon Lewis and Paul Collingwood got it back to level with 30 required off four.

Then Lewis was caught off mid-wicket for 17 to give Paul Franks his third wicket and in the 42nd over he bowled Collingwood for 28, had Martin Speight caught at deep mid-on then yorked Nicky Phillips first ball.

Left-arm seamer Franks then took three wickets in the penultimate over to finish with a career best six for 27 seven as Notts won by three runs under the Duckworth/Lewis method.

Earlier Morris had made an important 73 against his old county to set up Nottinghamshire's total.

Morris made only six half-centuries in 68 innings in this competition for Durham, but his record against them this season is two out of two.

He barely put a foot wrong in reaching 50 off 60 balls and although he was dropped twice in the 50s he added a second leg-side six to his four fours.

Singles from the Gallery

PEPSI ASIA CUP

The presence of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during the opening ceremony of the Pepsi Asia Cup caused a lot of problems for the VIPs in the hospitality boxes at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The high-profile guests on both sides of the President's Box were not allowed to carry cellular phones for security reasons.

The VIPs had to put their cell phones in their respective vehicles.

Some, who did not have their cars around, were seen keeping their phones at the nearby electronic shops.

An angry person, who had a phone but not a car, suggested that the BCB should inform them when the Prime Minister would come to the stadium and what were the security instructions to be followed to avoid such harassment in future.

Sports Reporter
ATHAR'S NEW INNINGS
Former national opener Athar Ali Khan made a brilliant debut as a TV commentator for Star Sports during the opening match.
"It's a great feeling for me because I wanted to become a commentator when I retired from the game and I thank Star Sports for giving me the break," said the tall top-order batsman who has two fifties to his name in Asia Cup.

"It's nice to be with all those great personalities up in the box. I hope to do well in this job and bring honour for my country," said Athar.

ASHOKA'S MISSION
Ashoka de Silva is a well-known face among the local cricket fans. The former Sri Lankan Test cricketer has played club cricket for both Abahani and Mohammedan in the eighties and early nineties.

The lanky Lankan then came as an umpire to conduct local league matches a couple of years back.

And this time he is an international umpire.

"This is my first mission abroad as an international umpire and I'm quite happy to be in Dhaka where I have passed a good amount of time playing cricket," said Ashoka yesterday.

"I heard that Athula (Sanarasekera) played here this season. I wish I could come here as player again," he added.

Ashoka will officiate in two matches in the first round --
See page 15

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Forget the fixing things

Hasan Masood

his long-time strike bowlers Javagal Srinath and Venkatesh Prasad would affect the team's performance, he said.

"Obviously they have served the country for quite some time. But it's time we also try out fresh blood. They can't go on forever."
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PEPSI ASIA CUP

Saurav Ganguly has come to Dhaka with a mission and that is to regain the Asia Cup.

The bespectacled Indian skipper was addressing a crowded press conference at the Hotel Sheraton yesterday.

Coach Kapil Dev, vice-captain Rahul Dravid and manager Samiran Chakraborty were present during the briefing which began with a pre-condition that questions related to match-fixing would not be answered.

"We have come here to do well and to win the tournament," said Ganguly, who is now playing for English county Lancashire.

He added that Bangabandhu National Stadium has been a lucky ground so far for India.

"Last time, I think it was in the Independence Cup that we won here. But this is a new series and we will have to play well to do well."

When asked how seriously were they taking the opening match against Bangladesh, Saurav said, "It's an international game and we can't afford to take any team lightly."

On whether the absence of

PEPSI ASIA CUP

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