

Star Sport

DHAKA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-131

✓ Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm June 30, 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

| | | | |
|--|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| 1 Who is the number one women tennis player at the moment? | Hingis | Pierce | Williams |
| 2 Who won the European Champions' League? | United | Real Madrid | Lazio |
| 3 Who won the UEFA Cup? | Valencia | Galatasaray | Fiorentina |
| 4 Who lifted national schools cricket title? | St Joseph | M Singh Zila | Ctg Khastagir |
| 5 Who is the coach of Bangladesh football team? | Harrison | Van Gaal | Shakir |

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

SPORTS TALK



Frank Rijkaard

(Dutch manager)
The 11 players gave everything they had. I think the crowd today was our 12th player and that's a wonderful feeling. We can be glad about that.

Talking after his side's demolition of Yugoslavia at Euro 2000.

First semi ends in a farce

Sports Reporter

The first 'super four' match of the Ragib Ali Gold Club Cup hockey tournament between Mohammedan Sporting Club and Mariner Youngs Club saw a premature end after Mohammedan refused to play in protest of a goal awarded against them in the 66th minute.

The umpires waited for ten minutes before blowing the final whistle.

It happened in the late second half with the match tied on 1-1 when Mariners got a free hit inside the 21-yard half circle.

Yousuf passed the ball to defender Isa Miah who hit the ball into the net past Mohammedan keeper Aminul Islam.

After umpire Latif Rahaman signaled the goal, Mohammedan players argued with the umpires saying the two Mariners players were inside two yards breaking the five-yard bar while taking a free hit inside 21-yard half circle.

When the umpires refused to cancel the goal, Mohammedan players left the ground.

Earlier, after a barren first half, Isa put Mariners ahead from a penalty corner in the 36th minute while Mahbubul Alam Rana equalised for Mohammedan also from a penalty corner in the 42nd minutes.

After the match, tournament committee secretary Nurul Amin said they would take action against Mohammedan after receiving the umpires report.

Meanwhile, today's match between holders Usha Krira Chakra and Abahani Krira Chakra has been deferred by a day because of today's mass gathering in celebration of the Bangladesh's Test status at the Paltan Maidan.

The match will now be held tomorrow. The remaining fixtures will be shifted.



Tiny tots from different coaching centres of the city parading through the streets near the Bangabandhu National Stadium hailing Bangladesh's attainment of Test status

—Star photo

Yesterday.

Meanwhile, a rally of juvenile cricketers was held in the morning under the auspices of the BCB. Around 300 youngsters took part in the colourful ceremony which began from the Bangabandhu National Stadium and ended at the Jatiya Press Club.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader and BCB coach Dipu Rai Choudhury were present in the rally.

BCB president Saber Hossain

The sweets were distributed to President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia, all the ministers and other government organisations, all federations, clubs, District Sports Associations and leading newspaper offices.

Joint secretaries of BCB Mahmudul Haq and Dewan Shafiqul Arefin Tutul called on the Prime Minister at the Jatiya Sangsad in the afternoon with specially designed packets of the famous Tangail 'Cham'.

The officials then visited Begum Zia at her Cantonment residence. In the evening, the BCB joint-secretaries went to the Bangabandhu residence of President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed.

As the annual conference of the International Cricket Council (ICC) ended at Lord's on Monday, England's representative Lord MacLaurin confirmed that his country's away tour to Pakistan would indeed go ahead this winter.

Our relations with the Pakistan Cricket Board remain entirely cordial and we look forward to entertaining the Pakistani team here in England next summer.

Remarkably it can now celebrate two with the news that England have said they remain committed to their winter tour to Pakistan and Bangladesh have become the 10th country to gain Test status.

As the annual conference of the International Cricket Council (ICC) ended at Lord's on Monday, England's representative Lord MacLaurin confirmed that his country's away tour to Pakistan would indeed go ahead this winter.

Prior to the Lord's get-together, England had been making significant noises that they might cancel the tour if further punitive action was not taken against certain Pakistani players named in the long-awaited judicial report on match-fixing by Justice Qayyum.

Some critics have attacked Qayyum for not urging bans against current international players like Wasim Akram and Moin Khan.

But MacLaurin, the chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), has since assured Pakistan that the ECB has no intention of pulling out of their proposed winter schedule, which comprises three Tests and three one-day internationals and also includes a tour of Sri Lanka in the New

Year.

"As far as the ECB is concerned, we're fully committed to England's tour of Pakistan this winter," he said.

Our relations with the Pakistan Cricket Board remain entirely cordial and we look forward to entertaining the Pakistani team here in England next summer.

From a cricketing point of view, this can only be a good thing because England have not toured Pakistan since their controversial visit in 1987 when the showdown in Faisalabad between captain Mike Gatting and umpire Shakoor Rana dominated the headlines.

As for levelling stiffer penalties against certain Pakistan players, the new ICC president, Malcolm Gray of Australia, said on Monday that Qayyum's report had been passed on to the ICC's Code of Conduct Committee and that no action would be taken for the moment.

Gray added, though, that recent claims made by South African cricket supremo All Bacher that Pakistan's matches against Bangladesh and India at last year's World Cup had been fixed have been referred to the same Code of Conduct Committee.

The subject of Bangladesh brings us very neatly to their much-celebrated elevation on Monday to the Test-playing fraternity.

One or two questions may well be asked about the merits of their collective playing ability in recent months but, with the ICC committed to spreading

the game of cricket around the globe, the addition of Bangladesh as the 10th Test nation can only be applauded.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, the president of the Bangladesh Cricket Board, told reporters at Lord's on Monday: "We owe the family of world cricket a debt and we intend to repay this, not by mere rhetoric or expressions of gratitude, but through our own contributions in developing, strengthening and fortifying the game of cricket."

Saber also said that this was the most defining moment in Bangladesh's history since their independence in 1971.

"Test cricket has now welcomed 130 million people into the fold," he said.

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