

Column One SPORTS TALK



Ravi Shashtri
(Former India cricketer)
(Former India cricketer)
(Former India cricketer)
The best bowlers he has faced.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID Competition-132

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
July 14, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. When did ICC recognise Bangladesh as the tenth Test playing nation?

June 25	June 26	June 22
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2. Who is the new ICC president?

Gray	Blue	Green
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3. When did Bangladesh become ICC's associate member?

1977	1987	1997
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4. When will the next cricket World Cup be held?

2002	2003	2005
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5. Which country will host the next cricket World Cup?

Zimbabwe	New Zealand	South Africa
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Name: _____

Class: _____ Roll No.: _____

School Address: _____

Phone: (if any) _____

EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

WHIZZ KID-131 Boost winner

Samia Soumic (Tanne)
Vigarnunna Noun School,
(Please bring your ID card
and a passport size photograph
while collecting the winner's
prize from the Sport Desk of
The Daily Star at 7pm on
July 6)

WHIZZ KID-131 Correct answers

1. Who is the number one women tennis player at the moment?
Ans. Hingis.

2. Who won the European Champions' League?
Ans. Real Madrid.

3. Who won the UEFA Cup?
Ans. Galatasaray.

4. Who lifted national schools cricket title?
Ans. M'singh Zila.

5. Who is the coach of Bangladesh football team?
Ans. Harrison and Shakir.

(Whiz kids, we think we need to explain one thing about the No. 5 question. When we prepared this question over a month ago, Harrison was the coach then. But as the days went on, Harrison quit the seat and coincidentally Shakir took up the post. So, we decided to regard both Harrison and Shakir's names as the correct answer.)

Youth booters back home

Bangladesh national youth football team, which became Group Four champion in the Asian Youth Championship, returned home from Calcutta yesterday, reports UNB.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Obaidul Quader welcomed the players at the airport and congratulated them for their success.

Senior officials of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) and some players of the national team were also present.

Bangladesh clinched the Group Four title in the qualifying round held in Jamshedpur in India beating both Sri Lanka and India by 1-0 and drawing with Pakistan 2-2.

More praises Bangladesh

Sports Reporter



Former Indian wicketkeeper Kiran More thinks Bangladesh has good potential and in the near future would be considered as a force in the cricket world.

The man from Baroda made the comment yesterday before leaving for home after supervising a week-long wicketkeeping camp for the youngsters at the BKS.

Bangladesh Cricket Board organised the camp under the development programme of International Cricket Council (ICC).

Former Pakistan captain Mushtaq Mohammad is also in the city to impart his knowledge in the art of leg-spin. His camp will continue for another week, said BCB joint-secretary Mahmud Ul Haq.

Talking to The Daily Star, More said that the overall standard of the game has improved tremendously since his last visit way back in 1988, when he accompanied Indian team in the third Asia Cup.

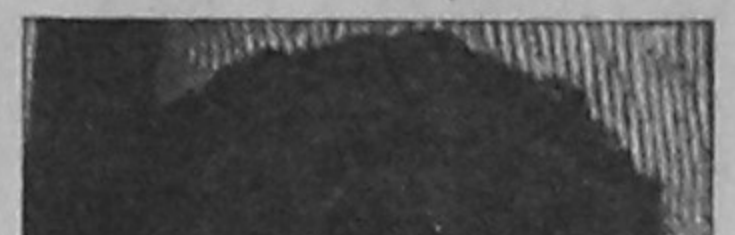
"It's amazing how quick everything has changed in Bangladesh," he said.

"I trained 26 wicketkeepers in just a week and I expect they

will represent Bangladesh in the future," he added.

"Because of their love for the game it enabled me to make them understand whatever I tried to explain. What they need now is more exposure. I hope Bangladesh will now play more international matches after getting the Test status."

"It was a good camp and I hope they have learnt a lot. They will have to work hard now to muster every action of a



KIRAN MORE

good wicketkeeper," he said.

More said he would try to get involved in coaching in Baroda. Meanwhile, former Sri Lankan captain Roshan Mahanama arrived yesterday on a week-long visit. The dependable batsman and specialist slip fielder, who played couple of matches for Biman in the Dhaka Premier league early this year, will train 18 batsman at the BKS on Sunday.

Talking to this correspondent, Mahanama revealed that he would be having a briefing session with 18 cricketers at the Bangabandhu National Stadium this afternoon.

"It's good to come here with a different identity this time," said Mahanama.

I will give a detailed account of my visit after assignment is over," he added.

The 18 players, who have reported to the Board yesterday, are: Sajid Hasan, Hanifal Haque, Ehsanul Haque, Rajin Saleh, Nasirul Alam, Imran Ahmed, Halim Shah, Azam Iqbal, Parvez Ahmed, Rashedul Haque, Javed Omar, Belim, Shahriar Hossain, Habibul Bashar, Naimur Rahman, Mushfiqur Rahaman, Mohammad Sadiq, Hasanuzzaman and Al-Shahriar.

'Azzurri' break 'Oranje' hearts

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands, June 30: Ten-man Italy lined up a Euro 2000 final with France here on Thursday, beating Holland 3-1 on penalties after the Dutch had sensationally missed two spot-kicks during the opening 90 minutes, reports AFP.

The match was deadlocked at 0-0 after extra-time and Italy, whose last three World Cup campaigns have all ended in defeat in penalty shoot-outs, sealed victory when Dutch defender Paul Bosvelt saw his spot-kick saved by Francesco Toldo.

Frank De Boer, Jaap Stam and Bosvelt all missed for the Dutch while only Patrick Kluijert netted successfully in the shoot-out for the 'Oranje'. De Boer and Kluijert had, meanwhile missed their spot-kicks during regulation time.

By contrast, Luigi Di Biaggio, Gianluca Pessotto and Francesco Totti all hit the target in the shoot-out for Italy with only skipper Paolo Maldini seeing his shot saved by Juventus keeper Edwin van der Sar.

Holland coach Frank Rijkaard resigned immediately after the match.

"I set my sights too high," said Rijkaard, a playing member of Holland's 1988 European Championship winning team. "I did not work and I must now take the consequences. I have now turned the page."

Italy coach Dino Zoff paid tribute to his men for their efforts, but urged them not to stop now that they face France on Sunday.

"We've won this battle," he said. "Now we have a final against truly great side. But we are certainly going to go out to win it."

Zoff was asked to smile by Italian journalists but retorted in his usual deadpan manner: "Let's wait until the final - but this is a good result for us."

Toldo, who received the Man-of-the-Match award, said: "The whole team deserved to win - especially in the second half when they worked their socks off."

The semi-final was a victory for Italian defending over Dutch attacking, with Zoff's back line putting in a heroic performance after playing almost 90 minutes of football with only 10 men against the tournament hosts and favourites.

Gianluca Zambrotta got his marching orders in the 33rd

minute from German referee Markus Merk after a second yellow card - tripping midfielder Boudevijn Zenden, who had been booked minutes earlier for taking a dive in the penalty area.

Six minutes after the Juventus winger was dismissed, Holland were awarded their first penalty when Lazio skipper Alessandro Nesta tugged at Kluijert's shirt as the Dutchman controlled the ball in the area.

Toldo was booked for protesting at the decision but took his revenge almost immediately.

De Boer cracked in his shot but Toldo guessed it would go to his left and pulled off a spectacular save, arms flailing to push the ball away for a corner.

It was the second setback for the Dutch in a half which had also seen Arsenal forward Dennis Bergkamp hit the post after delightfully sidestepping Mark Iuliano.

The Dutch pressure and dogged Italian defending continued in the second half - causing another penalty in the 61st minute when Iuliano tripped Edgar Davids as his Juventus teammate accelerated past.

Kluijert stepped up for the kick and beat Toldo with a low shot - but could only watch in horror as it slammed against the base of the left-hand post and was scrambled away by the Italian defence.

The miss set up a finale to a match which had initially gone to both teams' plans, with Holland doing all the attacking and Italy doing all the defending.

Unfortunately for Italy, their expected chances on the counter-attack simply never materialised, due a mixture of poor passing and tight defending, and they didn't manage a single shot at goal in the first half.

By contrast, Holland needed

only three minutes to pierce Italy's defence with Kluijert and Bergkamp linking up well to put Phillip Cocu through for a job which the Barcelona midfielder hooked over the crossbar.

Bergkamp was never going to beat Toldo from a dozen metres when he met Giovanni van Bronckhorst's cross with a well-coordinated header in the 12th minute.

But only a couple of centimetres denied him two minutes later, when Bergkamp picked up the ball outside Italy's area, ghosted past defender Iuliano and steered a daisy-cutter onto the Toldo's right-hand post.

Italy continued to live dangerously with Iuliano's back-header nearly catching Toldo out as he challenged Kluijert in the 22nd minute.

However, there was much worse to come with Zambrotta's red card, Nesta's penalty tug and a closing 10 minutes to the half in which both Kluijert and Bergkamp came close to breaking the deadlock.

Italy, despite being a man down, showed more initiative at the re-start with Stefano Fiore sending in a looping shot which van der Sar turned unnecessarily round the post and Alessandro Del Piero driving one free-kick against a Dutch wall and another into a packed penalty area.

But Holland soon settled back into their rhythm and Zenden forced a fine save when he swiped at a loose ball on the edge of the area in the 56th minute.

Five minutes later, it looked to be all over - only for Kluijert to smack his penalty against the woodwork.

Holland kept up the pressure while Zoff, who had dropped Francesco Totti for Del Piero in the starting line-up, threw on the AS Roma playmaker for Fiore, and replaced Filippo Inzaghi with Marco Delvecchio.

Bergkamp made way for Clarence Seedorf in the closing minutes and the Inter Milan midfielder nearly scored within seconds after getting in a close-range shot after communication breakdown between Maldini and Iuliano.

Holland stepped up the pace in extra-time, but both sides had a chance to score a Golden Goal.

Delvecchio saw his shot on the break turned round the post by van der Sar, while Kluijert's angled effort from half a dozen metres beat Toldo but flew just wide of the far post - sending his team into the fatal shoot-out.

Afridi going to Sri Lanka

KARACHI, June 30: Hard hitting all-rounder Shahid Afridi will join the Pakistan squad in Sri Lanka for a limited-over triangular series, Pakistan Cricket Board official said Thursday, reports AFP.

Pakistan, South Africa and hosts Sri Lanka will compete in the tournament starting from July 5.

The Pakistan side is already in Sri Lanka, playing their last match of the three Test series.

U-15 cricketers play India today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh will take on India in their opening match of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) under-15 cricket tournament at the Royal Selangor Club in Kuala Lumpur today.

The seven-nation inaugural Asian under-15 meet involving Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Hong Kong and hosts Malaysia began in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

After the robin league first round, top two teams will vie for the championship in July 9 final.

The 14-member Bangladesh team, led by Kamrul Hasan Imon, has already reached Malaysia on Thursday.

Bangladesh will meet Sri Lanka in their next match on July 2 and Pakistan on July 4.

The other matches against Hong Kong, Thailand and Malaysia are scheduled for July 5, 6 and 8.

Mohammedan protest action

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club has pulled out of the Rabig All Gold Cup hockey tournament in protest of suspensions imposed on three players - Sharafat, Ramij and Shipu.

The tournament committee suspended the trio on Thursday night following a report of misbehaviour with the umpires during their match against Mariner Youngs Club on June 27.

Mohammedan refused to play after 66 minutes in protest of a controversial goal decision awarded against them.

Mariners, with that goal, went 2-1 up against the Motijheel outfit.

The tournament committee meeting was held after Mohammedan in a written petition requested the remaining four minutes to be played out with the score at 1-1.

But the league committee turned down the plea. Instead, they imposed year-long ban on the threesome.

Mohammedan instantly lodged protest against the verdict and submitted another petition in the same meeting mentioning that they have withdrawn their team.

The league committee accepted the plea and declared Abahani and Usha, the other two teams in the four-team second round, 2-0 winners against Mohammedan.

According to the latest decision of league committee, Abahani will take on Mariner Youngs tomorrow while Usha will then meet Mariner on July 4.

Meanwhile, Sajed Adel, the hockey secretary of Mohammedan Sporting Club, has termed the deeds of league committee as totally biased.

"They (league committee) don't want us to win. Last year they tried their best but failed to stop us from winning the Premier League. This time they have started with suspending our three key players," said Adel while talking to The Daily Star over telephone last night.

"We might not even play in the Premier league if they don't withdraw the bans."

Mehrab well

Sports Reporter

Injured national opener Mehrab Hossain returned home on Thursday after a successful operation on his right knee in Bangalore, India.

Dr. Tomas Chandi and Dr. Shahadat Hossain performed the surgery on June 20. Mehrab told The Daily Star by phone yesterday that it went well.

"There is hardly any pain in the knee now. I can walk without any help," he said.

He revealed that he would now go through a three-month long exercise programme.

"If everything goes fine, I will be able to run 100 metres from mid-August."

Gloucester and Worcester to meet again

Sports Reporter

LONDON, June 30: Gloucestershire have been given a second chance to defend the NatWest Trophy after a replay was ordered because winning opponents Worcestershire fielded an ineligible player, reports Reuters.

The governing England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said on Friday that Worcestershire had "inadvertently fielded an ineligible player" in the third round at Worcester on June 21.

An ECB spokesman said it was the first time a re-match had been ordered after a breach of the rules relating to ineligible players.

"I just think it is the most fair decision for both counties," said Mark Hodgson.



West Indies players celebrate the fall of Mike Atherton's wicket on the second day of the second Test against England at Lord's yesterday. —Internet photo

Teams collapse on Day 2



LONDON, June 30: Curtly Ambrose spearheaded another fine display of West Indies fast bowling as England suffered one of their routine batting collapses here at Lord's on Friday, on the second day of the second Test, reports AFP.

After bad light forced an early tea England were 100 for eight in reply to the West Indies 267. Andrew Caddick and Darren Gough both nought out in reply to the West Indies 267.

The main damage had already been done: England were 58 for five at lunch. Alec Stewart and England's West Indies captain Jimmy Adams whose direct hit had White comfortably run out.

A steered four to third man from White at least took England past the follow-on target of 67.

But after a couple of forthright stokes Stewart was caught behind off Courtney Walsh for 28, following a ball that moved away off the pitch to leave England 85 for six in the 32nd over.

England then lost their next two wickets on 100. Dominic Cork pushed the ball into the covers and set off for a single. The ball cutting back sharply the alertness of West Indies captain Jimmy Adams whose direct hit had White comfortably run out.

The third umpire confirmed the obvious and White's 83 minute vigil for 27 was over.

So upset was Cork he promptly got out himself for four waiting loosely outside off stump against Walsh to give keeper Ridley Jacobs another easy catch. Walsh now had figures of 12.3-6-24-3 and Curtly Ambrose, his partner in crime, 10.5-17-3.

Earlier the magnificent Ambrose's opening spell of 9-4-17-3 brought him his 150th Test wicket against England.

Mark Ramprakash started the slide in the first over. The Middlesbrough batsman who made a duck in the second innings of England's first Test defeat at Edgbaston suffered the same fate on his home ground.

To the sixth ball of the in-

nings he was drawn forward by a well-pitched up delivery from Ambrose, menacingly charging in from the Pavilion End and gave a routine chance to Brian Lara at first slip, England one for one.

It was Ramprakash's third successive nought in Tests against West Indies at Lord's where his overall Test average is a meagre 8.77.

This soon became one for two when Mike Atherton was out to the sixth ball of the second over. He inexplicably fended outside off-stump against Walsh with an indeterminate cut shot to give Lara another easy catch.

England had lost arguably their best batsman for one. They were left with Michael Vaughan, aged 25 and with four Tests behind him their least experienced batsman and Graeme Hick, a proven failure against the West Indies at the crease.

Vaughan could also have been out for a duck when he edged Ambrose to second slip where the diving Sherwin Campbell could not hold on to the tough chance before the ball went to the third man boundary.

But it scarcely mattered when in the ninth over Vaughan on four left too much daylight between bat and pad, the ball cutting back sharply before bowling him to give Ambrose his 150th England victim.

The home side were now nine for three.

Franklyn Rose replaced Walsh at the Pavilion End. Walsh had superb figures of 5-4-4-1.

But Rose, not learning from the senior bowlers pitched too short in his opening over.

Hick cut his first ball for four, pulled his third for four and cover-drove his sixth, a no-ball for four more before repeating the dose of the back foot for another boundary. 17 runs in total coming off the over.

But it could not last and Hick became Ambrose's third victim when what was effectively an 80 mph off-break knocked back the leaden footed Hick's off-stump.

Hick had made 25 off 33 balls including five fours but England were 37 for four in the 15th over.

This should have become 47 for five when Alec Stewart on nine edged Rose straight to Lara at first slip. But Lara spilled the chance despite getting two hands to the ball.

But three runs later England lost another wicket when Nick Knight on six fended a lifting delivery from Reon King and Campbell at second slip took the catch.

Earlier the West Indies innings finished with the first ball of the day Walsh plumb lbw to Andrew Caddick for one. King was 12 not out.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the second day of the second Test between England and West Indies at Lord's on Friday.

West Indies: First innings (overnight 267/9)

Campbell c Hoggard b Cork 82
Griffith run out 27
Hinds c Stewart b Cork 59
Lara c Stewart b Gough 6
Chanderpaul b Gough 22
Adams lbw b Gough 1
Jacobs c Stewart b Cork 10
Ambrose c Ramprakash b Cork 5
Rose lbw b Gough 29
King not out 12
Walsh lbw b Caddick 1
Extras: (b-1; lb-8; w-2; nb-2) 13
Total: (All out in 89.3 overs) 267

Fall of wickets: 1-80, 2-162, 3-175, 4-185, 5-186, 6-207, 7-216, 8-253, 9-258

Bowler O M R W
Gough 21 5 72 4
Caddick 20.3 3 58 1
Hoggard 13 3 49 0
Cork 24 6 39 4
White 8 1 30 0
Vaughan 3 1 10 0

England: First innings
Atherton c Lara b Walsh 1
Ramprakash c Lara b Ambrose 0
Vaughan b Ambrose 4
Hick b Ambrose 25
Stewart c Jacobs b Walsh 28
Knight c Campbell b King 6
White run out 27
Cork c Jacobs b Walsh 4
Caddick not out 0
Gough not out 0
Extras: (lb-3; nb-2) 5
Total: (For 8 wks in 39.3 overs) 100

To bat: M Hoggard
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-1, 3-9, 4-37, 5-50, 6-85, 7-100, 8-100

Bowler O M R W
Ambrose 10 5 17 3
Walsh 12.3 6 24 3
Rose 7 2 32 0
King 10 3 34 1

Proteas promise honesty



JOHANNESBURG, June 30: South Africa's entire cricket squad - trying to recover from the Hansie Cronje scandal - signed "declarations of honesty" Friday, hours before they were due to leave for Sri Lanka for a three-Test tour, reports AFP.

The pledges aim to prevent future corruption in cricket, which has been tarnished by the admissions from sacked skipper Cronje that he accepted money at least five times from gamblers during his captaincy.

New captain Shaun Pollock said the squad did not have any qualms about signing the declarations, which threatens a life ban from the game if its provisions are breached.

"We have nothing to hide so there was no reluctance whatsoever by anybody to sign," he said.

By signing the declarations, the team sought to allay fears that they might not be performing at their best. Pollock said, admitting that his team's public image had been tarnished by Cronje's admissions.

"If a catch is dropped during a match it will be because the fielder concerned hadn't taken enough catches at practice," he assured.

Acting president of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) Percy Sonn pleaded with the media and

public to support the team which was striving for a morality based on "honesty and sincerity."

"And it may be said that we have fallen foul of that and we are not very happy about it," he said.

Sonn said the International Cricket Council (ICC) meeting in London had not been pleasant for South Africa in the wake of the scandal.

South Africa attracted the ire of other cricketing nations when UCB managing director Ali Bacher claimed to the King Commission into corruption in cricket that he had been told that two matches of the 1999 World Cup - involving India, Pakistan and Bangladesh - were fixed.

The commission was appointed in the wake of Cronje's admissions and is due to submit a preliminary report on August 11.

Sonn of the ICC meeting, "I felt our country is a little bit of a pariah at the moment."

South Africa did not want to point fingers, he added. "I think we must clean up at home and not be overly concerned about what happens in other countries."

The UCB had turned down the ICC request that Bacher continue to chair the council's development committee.

"We felt that all his time should be dedicated to South

African cricket, to the problems which we have," he said.

The declarations signed by the cricketers reads:

"I..... declare that I.....

"1. Have never, for personal reward, intended, nor agreed, to act in breach of any rules governing cricket or the ethics of cricket."

"2. Have never, for personal reward, furnished information to any party concerning any cricket match, pitch or weather conditions or the likely outcome of any match."

"3. Have never personally, or encouraged others to, deliberately play below normal standards."

"4. Agree to bring immediately to the attention of the United Cricket Board any approaches, suggestions or knowledge relating to the above matters should I become aware of such information."

"I acknowledge that if I should be in breach of any of the above provisions, I could be banned from representative cricket for life and, furthermore, could be subject to an appropriate fine as decided by the United Cricket Board."

"I also undertake to ensure that no dishonesty or corruption in any form will take place or affect an match in which I participate."

The team arrive are due to arrive in Sri Lanka on Saturday.



WE ARE IN THE FINAL! Ecstatic Italian players (L-R) Mario Delvecchio, Paolo Maldini, Mark Iuliano, Luigi Di Biaggio and Alessandro Del Piero rushing towards goalkeeper Francesco Toldo (Not