

Column One

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 27

2 Who is the new ICC
president?

Gray Blue Green

3 When did Bangladesh
become ICC's associate
member?

1977 1987 1997

4 When will the next cricket
World Cup be held?

2002 2003 2005

5 Which country will host the
next cricket World Cup?

Zimbabwe New Zealand South Africa

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

EN-VITS

SPORTS TALK

Gabriel Batistuta

(Argentine goal-scoring machine)

"I don't want to promise that
we'll win the championship,
but I can promise I'll fight until
death for this jersey."

After joining AS Roma from
Fiorentina in the Serie A.

Rain enforces a
draw in Kandy

KANDY, Sri Lanka, July 2: Pakistan won the three-Test series against Sri Lanka 2-0 when the third and final cricket Test was abandoned as a draw due to rain at the Asgiriya International Stadium here Sunday, reports AFP.

Play on the fifth day was not possible after heavy overnight rain left pools of water in the uncovered areas of the ground.

There was no play on the fourth day either because of adverse weather.

Sri Lanka batting first made 467 for five wickets with captain Sanath Jayasuriya scoring 188 and vice-captain Marvan Atapattu an unbeaten 207.

Pakistan won the first Test played at Sinhalese Sports Club ground by five wickets and the second at Galle by an innings and 103 runs.

Pakistan will stay back to participate in the three-nation one-day series with Sri Lanka and South Africa which begins at Galle on July 5.

Asia to call the shots

London, July 2 (PTI): The International Cricket Council's position as the sole organiser of worldwide cricket matches faces a challenge from Asian administrators, media reported today.

The Sunday Times said the Asian circuit of Tests and one-day internationals, played virtually all year round and supported by television, is fast growing.

Jagmohan Dalmiya, who the previous day completed a turbulent three-year term as ICC President by severing all personal links with the world governing body, was in the chair of the newly formed Asian Cricket Foundation (ACF) but a breakaway from the rest of the world was not on the agenda.



STARS FOR THE FUTURE: Chess kids at work on the opening day of the second Standard Chartered Bank School Tournament at the Bangladesh Chess Federation Auditorium yesterday. —Star photo

Foul play with football

Hasan Masood

A practice match between the England-bound national team and the under-19 squad could not be held yesterday due to the poor ground condition at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

The ground was found in a miserable state with a fertile growth of knee-height long grasses and plenty of big holes exposing how badly the National Sports Council maintained the ground. The match was scheduled to start at 5 pm.

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF), which had thought of ensuring both the national selections a chance to have tough practice match ahead of their important engagements, found no other way but to postpone the match. The youth team will take part in the Group Four qualifying round of the Asian Under-19 football championship, starting in Rajshahi from July 7.

The under-19 team came all the way from BKSP to play the match. Understandably, their coach Abu Yousuf was quite perturbed, as he could not make his final assessment on his side yesterday.

While the BFF officials and players were expressing their frustrations, the NSC-paid administrator of the stadium watched them with a kind of embarrassment from outside the ground.

After being persuaded by the BFF general secretary Harunur Rashid, MP and his joint-secretary Badal Roy, who is also the manager of the under-19 team, the administrator brought in a small mower on loan from the nearby Swimming Federation and started cutting the grass.

"I had nothing to do. Because everything is being controlled by the men in our head office at Purana Paltan. I was informed about the match only this morning. But I have not got any mower. We had two machines, but both were out of order. That is why I had to borrow one from the Swimming Federation," said Saiful Islam, the administrator.

But Badal Roy claimed that they had informed NSC about the game four days back.

The NSC is not looking after football properly. This is the main football venue of the coun-

try. But it is worse than the ground we have outside the stadium where Pioneer league is being played," said another BFF official.

Meanwhile, footballers at the national football camp alleged that they faced with acute scarcity of water at the Krira Palli in Mirpur.

Talking to The Daily Star, coach Hasanuzzaman Khan Bablu said his players did not get enough water to flush the toilets even.

"We began this camp ten days ago and still there is no water at the dormitory," he claimed.

"I don't know what to do when they appeared for their morning practice and said they could not use the toilet for the lack of water."

"It definitely affects the practice of the boys. I can't ask them to run knowing well of their inconvenience," said a frustrated Bablu.

Twenty-two are now attending the national camp. They are likely to leave for London on July 21 to play an exhibition match against India on July 29.

Abahani keep Mariner at bay

Sports Reporter

Abahani Krira Chakra moved into the final of the Ragib Ali Gold Cup hockey tournament when they recorded hard fought 2-1 win Mariner Youngs Club in their last second round robin league clash at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

All the three goals were scored in the first session. Giasuddin Ahmed Rubel and Pakistani Shahid Rabbani found the net for the winners while defender Isa Miah pulled one goal back for Mariner who otherwise played better than Abahani but

lost the match with a poor luck. With yesterday's win, Abahani finished the four-team second round with highest seven points with two win against a draw.

Abahani drew with Usha 1-1 and were awarded with a 2-0 win against Mohammedan Sporting Club who have withdrawn from the tournament.

The outcome of the match made tomorrow's last match between Usha and Mariner a virtual semifinal battle.

Usha, with four points from two matches, need a draw to book their berth in the July 6 final. On the other hand, Mariner, who have three points

from two matches, require a victory to earn their place in the final.

Back to the match, Abahani went ahead as early as in the fourth minute when Rubel sounded the board from a short corner. Rabbani, the Faisalabad-based midfielder, then doubled the margin with a field goal after 13 minutes.

After conceding the second goal, Mariner made a brilliant comeback and got four short corners in the remaining first half. But they capitalised on one in the 22nd minute when Isa found the net.

After the breather, Mariner

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BKSP holding its ground

Following is BKSP's view on a Star Sport report on the Savar-based sports institute. We are publishing the BKSP letter (on 21.06.2000), undersigned by its Director General, with some minor editing.

An article has been published on 20th June in Star Sport page of "The Daily Star" in the name "BKSP losing ground." Sports Reporter of The Daily Star started his writings with the scenario of selection of under-15 cricket team which was the responsibility of BCB's selection committee. Three cricketers from BKSP have been selected into a team of 14 members and there were four more BKSP players who deserved to be in the team on the basis of merit. What BKSP can do if they are not selected by BCB's selection committee? Reporters mentioned about the names some of the star players who donated the Bangladesh jersey while they were the students at BKSP. These were simply the distortion of the facts. Players like Bimal Chandra Tarafder, Naimur Rahman, Masud Rana etc became national players after passing out from BKSP. Production line of BKSP as mentioned has not been dried up in recent time rather more talented players are coming up from BKSP. In this event, we can have a look into the recent performances of BKSP.

(1) Bangladesh Junior National Hockey team is now participating in Asian under-16 hockey tournament in Singapore. It is to be noted that the

entire team is comprised of BKSP students. (2) Fauzia Akhter Jui, the fastest woman of Bangladesh born in BKSP became the fastest woman in the International Athletic Meet held in Pakistan. We do not understand how BKSP has become a money-spinning machine for the fortune seekers. There is no way to earn money out of BKSP

activities. It is a statutory body of the government. Long term education and training programme is being carried out from the revenue budget of the government. 165 permanent employees salary and day to day expenditure of BKSP is carried out from Govt grant in aid. Besides, the revenue budget, 5 projects of BKSP are on the verge of completion. These are BKSP establishment 4th phase, shooting complex, trainees hostel construction, bringing foreign coaches for better training and coaching at grass-roots level as well as improvement of training facilities. A master plan was approved in 1977 for 20 years. As per the master plan 84 crore taka was needed to complete the whole project of BKSP. But till now only 51 crore taka has been allotted to BKSP in 4 phases in the last 23 years. So no chance is left for the vested quarters to try to keep BKSP as permanent project after completion of all works in the master plan.

There is no nepotism in the admission procedure of the students. Talents are identified after medical examination and sports ability tests are done by the doctors and coaches only. Written test for general education is also taken for the purpose. Combining all these result are tabulated. It is very much transparent. Hon'ble State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs has also ordered not to accept any accommodation from any corner in respect

of BKSP.

The allegations of nepotism and corruption has come from present officials (who preferred anonymity) of the BKSP and we reported accordingly without being conclusive or prejudiced.

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Star Sport stands by its report

The Daily Star Sport stands by its report "BKSP losing ground" published on June 20, 2000. We want to make it clear that the item was not designed in any way to tarnish the image of the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP). Rather, we wanted to put forward a very honest question on behalf of the sports loving millions of the country. The fact that only three cricketers from BKSP made it to the national Under-15 squad is a worrying sign and we are sure that the authorities there are also concerned about it. We projected this situation which also included the version of BKSP's chief coach for cricket.

The allegations of nepotism and corruption has come from present officials (who preferred anonymity) of the BKSP and we reported accordingly without being conclusive or prejudiced.

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Oh! Samir

Sports Reporter

Samir Shakir has yet to return from Baghdad.

The temperamental Iraqi football coach, who guided Bangladesh to their maiden SAF Games gold in Nepal last October, was scheduled to be back on June 29 after a six-day break and take over the national team from Saturday.

Yet again Bangladesh Football Federation has been left in a dilemma ahead of the England tour.

Coach Hasanuzzaman Khan Bablu, who assisted Englishman Mark Harrison during the four-nation tournament in Maldives in May, is now supervising the training schedule of the national team.

"We don't know what to do now because we counted on him. If he does not come, we might have to continue with Bablu," said Badal Roy.

However, another source revealed that Samir might return tomorrow along with the Iraqi national youth team.

U-15 Cricket Bangladesh lose again

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh suffered their second successive defeat in the ACC U-15 Cricket Championship when they lost to Sri Lanka by three wickets in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Bowled out for a meager 65 in their opening match against India on Saturday, the Bangladesh batting failed once again yesterday, making only 87 all out in 33.5 overs.

The islanders however lost seven wickets on their way to 88 in 30 overs with Madrof notching highest 24.

According to a faxed message received here late last night, Imron scored highest 28 in the match and opener Nafis, who scored 21 against India, chipped in with 18.

The Bangladesh bowling however fared well in a low-scoring affair with Taibur and Sunny claiming two wickets each. But at the end of the day there was not enough total to defend for Bangladesh.

Today is the official rest day. Bangladesh will play their next match against Pakistan at the Kilat Club ground on Tuesday.

Brief Scores:
Bangladesh: 87 all out in 33.5 overs (Imron 28, Nafis 18)

Sri Lanka: 88 for 7 in 30 overs (Madruf 24, ISD Silva 15; Taibur 2/11, Sunny 2/10, Arif 1/9, Rubayati 1/15)

Result: Sri Lanka won by 3 wickets.

Monwar named captain of U-19 soccer team

Sports Reporter

Midfielder Monwar Hossain of Badda Jagarani has been named captain of the under-19 national football team which will take part in the Group Four qualifying round of the Asian Under-19 Football Championship to be held in Rajshahi from July 7 to 11.

The announcement was made by Bangladesh Football Federation General Secretary Harunur Rashid MP at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

Mohammedan midfielder Shamim is Monwar's deputy.

The 20-member team will leave BKSP for Rajshahi tomorrow. Iraq, Maldives and Nepal are the other teams involved in the group.

Bangladesh will take on Maldives in their opening match on July 7. They will meet Nepal on July 9 before facing powerful Iraq on July 11.

Iraq and Maldives will arrive in the capital tomorrow while Nepal is yet to inform the time of their arrival.

Surrey easy winners

LONDON, July 2: Surrey needed only nine minutes and 14 balls to polish off Hampshire's resistance at the start of the fourth and final day of their County Championship clash at Southampton Sunday, reports AFP.

Hampshire began the last day in a seemingly doomed position at 265 for nine in their second innings and with last pair Adrian Aymes and Simon Francis still 128 runs away from an unlikely victory.

Aymes was batting with a badly swollen left eye as a result of being struck by a delivery from Shane Warne on the second day of the match.

He and Francis had prevented Surrey winning inside three days even after the defending champions' captain Adam Hoolioke had taken the extra half hour on Saturday evening in an attempt to complete the Division One match.

In the course of the little play needed on the fourth day, Aymes reached his second half-century of the season as reward for almost two-and-a-half hours of defiance.



Security personnel at Lord's protecting England's Darren Gough (C) from the rushing crowd after their victory over West Indies in the second Test on July 1. —Internet photo

Cork uncorked at Lord's



LONDON, July 2: In one of the tensest finishes ever seen at this historic ground, the 100th Test match at Lord's ended with England beating the West Indies by two wickets here on Saturday, leaving the five-match series balanced at one apiece, reports AFP.

Dominic Cork was England's hero. Having earlier taken four for 72 in the West Indies first innings on his Test recall, his unbeaten 33 off 49 balls including one six and four fours steered England to a memorable victory in the gathering gloom, three lights showing under the Tavern clock.

Darren Gough, a steadfast partner was four not out. England finished on 191 for eight, having passed the winning post of 188 with Cork's final stroke, a four off Courtney Walsh.

Derbyshire captain Cork aged 28 and playing his first Test since November 1998, was made man of the match by England great Ian Botham.

But the victory foundations were laid with a second wicket stand of 92 between Michael Atherton (45) and Michael Vaughan (41), the batsmen having to contend with superb fast bowling from Walsh and Curtly Ambrose.

Vaughan received a standing ovation from some MCC members in the Pavilion after his disciplined effort.

The match turned decisively in the 62nd over when Cork took a dozen off Franklyn Rose, including a handsome six pulled into the Grandstand.

At the 1803 GMT close the result was England's narrowest margin of victory, disregarding the controversial innings forfeit match against South Africa at Centurion last winter, since they also won by two wickets in Durban in 1948.

England captain Alec Stewart said afterwards: "It was a game of swings and roundabouts. They looked like winning but then Cork and Gough got us over the line."

"The fightback started last (Friday) night. We could have let

them get 600 but that would have been the series."

"Andrew Caddick led the fightback but I thought Vaughan and Atherton's 40s at the start of the day were vital."

"Walsh and Ambrose in partnership were quite outstanding."

Jamaican world Test wicket record-holder Walsh returned innings figures of 23.5-5-74-6, his best against England.

But Stewart's side, 109 for two at tea, were now 120 for four.

Taking the reins in place of injured successor Nasser Hussain, Stewart was now at the crease.

After missing with a wild cut against Rose, next ball Stewart went up onto one leg and pulled him in front of square for four.

Then two balls later he repeated the dose scoring his 1,000th run as England captain.

But just when he seemed set to take charge he was lbw for 18 to one that kept low from Walsh. It was the 21st time in all Walsh had taken five wickets in an innings, the fifth time against England.

Craig White then survived a concerted appeal for a catch at first slip by Lara although when it was referred to the third umpire the replay clearly showed the ball had bounced in front of the former West Indies captain.

Not that it was much of a reprieve. To his third ball White was given out caught behind for nought. England were now 140 for six, 48 runs short of victory, the balance swinging in the tourists' favour.

The ageing Walsh had now recorded his best bowling figures against England and taken 10 wickets in a Test match for the third time in his illustrious career, the first against England.

Nick Knight, batting with a broken finger, also failed to make the most of being dropped, caught behind for two.

England had lost three wickets for nine runs in 23 balls.

Then after making seven Caddick was plumb lbw to Ambrose, failed to add to his

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Moin exudes confidence



KANDY, Sri Lanka, July 2: Having accomplished his first task by winning the three-Test series against Sri Lanka 2-0 (1 drawn), Pakistan's cricket captain Moin Khan sounded a warning to his hosts and South Africa, reports AFP.

Pakistan's next target was the one-day triangular series starting on July 5 in the southern Sri Lankan town of Galle with Sri Lanka and South Africa, he said.

"Our team morale is very high after the Test series win over Sri Lanka, and we are looking forward to winning the one-day triangular tournament," said Moin.

"We have won the last three one-day tournaments we've taken part in. We have a very good combination. We have won against South Africa at Sharjah and hopefully we will do it again here," he said.

Big-hitting Shahid Afridi has been recalled to strengthen the Pakistan team for the seven-match triangular.

Batsmen Mohammad Wasim and Qaiser Abbas left for Pakistan as they will not be part of the one-day squad. All-rounder Wasim Akram who is also unavailable for the tournament will leave Monday.

Akram, named man-of-the-series at the end of the Tests, said that this would be his last tour to Sri Lanka.

"I am 34 and I don't think I will be around by the time they

next Sri Lanka tour comes along. I would like to visit the country as a tourist in future," said Akram.

"I really had a great time. I enjoyed my batting and I think it's about time I concentrated on it. I have been doing so for the last couple of series," he said.

"Wasim is a great one-day

player. He always gives 100 per cent. We will definitely miss him. We have a few youngsters who need to get some experience. It's a good opportunity for them," said Moin.

"We came here looking to win the Test series, and I am really glad we are taking the trophy home," said Moin after the fifth and final day's play was washed out by rain and the third test abandoned as a draw.

"It was a tremendous effort

from our boys, the way they have been performing in the last four months. It was a totally combined effort and everybody performed well in the series, that's why we won," said Moin.

"The series was a great opportunity for the young players to play with the seniors. The absence of Saqlain (Mushtaq) put a lot of responsibility on Arshad Khan, and he responded well," he said.

"The turning point was the innings of Wasim Akram and his partnership with Arshad in the first Test. The way we were performing in the last few months, we were positive and we were thinking of a 3-0 win."

"Sri Lanka came back very hard in this game and it could have been a good match had it not been for the rain," Moin said.

Akram and Arshad shared a 90-run last wicket stand that turned the first test on its head after Sri Lanka had looked like taking a big first innings lead.

A disappointed Sri Lanka captain Sanath Jayasuriya said: "Unfortunately, we can't do anything with the weather. We started doing very well in this Test."

"We have been going down in the batting until we got this record partnership. We got a big score which has lifted up our confidence for the future games."

Jayasuriya made 188 and his vice captain Marvan Atapattu an unbeaten 207, putting

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