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## Column One

### SPORTS TALK



**Waqar Younis**  
(Pakistan fast bowler)  
"Indeed it's an honour for me and I think it's a reward for my perseverance and performance."  
After being appointed as skipper.

## Boost sports WHIZZ KID

### Con petition-134

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

Competition closes at 8 pm  
Aug 18, 2000 and draw  
shortly afterwards

- Who is the world's most expensive football player?  
Crespo Zidane Pigo
- Who won the ICC Under-17 Asia Cup?  
Pakistan Sri Lanka India
- Bagladesh's opening match in the second ICC Knock-out tournament is against:  
South Africa West Indies England
- Who won the NatWest tri-series?  
West Indies Zimbabwe England
- Name the winner of the British Open golf:  
Faldo Woods Els

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School Address .....

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## Weak Windies good enough

GLASGOW, Aug 14: West Indies, warming up for the fourth Test against England, kept their big names under wraps as they beat Scotland by 21 runs in a one-day match yesterday, reports Reuters.

The touring team, who rested batsman Brian Lara and pace bowlers Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose, made 204 for seven from 43 overs before restricting Scotland to 183 for seven.

Captain Jimmy Adams top-scored with 48 from 60 deliveries before off-spinner Chris Gayle, who made 45, took three for 37 from nine overs.

## LA Open Serena's

MANHATTAN BEACH, California, Aug 14: Serena Williams, doing her part to make the women's tennis tour the private property of the Williams family, overcame Lindsay Davenport 1-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/5) yesterday to successfully defend her title at the \$35,000 Los Angeles Open, reports Reuters.

## Enqvist breaks Henman's heart

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Aug 14: Briton Tim Henman yesterday brushed away the drama of losing a seventh consecutive final, saying his game is poised to kick into top gear soon despite going out in the trophy match of the 2.95-million-dollar Masters Series to Swede Thomas Enqvist, reports AFP.

# Saber dreams of new style

## Naimur will have a say in selection

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president is expecting an altogether different approach from Naimur Rahman, the new captain of Test rookies.

Naimur has become the eighth national captain when the BCB decided in a meeting late on Sunday night to pick a 'team for future'.

Terming Naimur as the most acceptable player to lead the national team, Saber Hossain Chowdhury also emphasised the need of more off the field involvement from the new captain.

"The captain will play an important role in the team selection. We also want to involve the captain in different development programmes of the Board," the BCB chief told reporters yesterday.

"We took the future of Bangladesh in consideration while appointing Naimur as captain. This is a collective decision, and the Board felt that the burden of captaincy had been hampering the batting potential of Aminul Islam," Saber said.

The 26-year-old Naimur fills

in the shoes of Aminul Islam for the forthcoming tours to Kenya (ICC knock out tournament) and South Africa.

Aminul, who took over from Akram Khan in 1998, led Bangladesh to two victories in the England World Cup including the famous win against Pakistan. But the dapper right-hander, considered as the most compact Bangladesh batsman, had been struggling for form throughout his two-year stint.

"We have also communicated with Aminul before taking the decision," Saber said, adding that the crest-fallen captain is still a vital cog in Bangladesh team. Aminul is now in England where he plays for a minor county club.

Interestingly, this is for the first time the BCB has announced the name of a captain while selecting a list of probabilities. Earlier, the Board had maintained a policy of naming the captain at the eleventh hour and had hardly offered him any say in the selection of team.

The strange practice of BCB had effectively put the chance of grooming a captain to rest. Board's change of hearts would certainly give the new captain a

confidence to build a cohesive force.

Apart from the selection of the team, the Board, which has recently brought 18 players on its pay-roll, has drawn up an interesting training schedule for the selected 26 cricketers.

The camp will start on August 16 at the BKSP, where the players will undergo extensive fitness training under South African physio Gavin Ben-zuifeld. The players will be sent to Cox's Bazar on August 20 in a bid to enable them a five-day workout in the sea resort. They trainees will again return to BKSP.

Meanwhile, BCB has appointed two local coaches — Sarwar Imran and Dipu Rai Chowdhury — to conduct the training. Of the two, Imran coached the national team in the Pepsi Asia Cup that held in Dhaka in May-June.

The BCB turned to local coaches after its South African Director of Development Eddie Barlow ruled himself out due to illness. Barlow suffered brain haemorrhage in May. The former South African all-rounder is likely to return to Dhaka early next month.

## Fed Cup S'nagar, R'ganj move into group finals

Sports Reporter

Shantinagar Club moved into the Group C final of the Fed Cup first round with a 6-5 tie-break win over Youngmen's Club Fakirpool at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The sides were locked 1-1 after 90 minutes.

Rintu put Fakirpool ahead in the 11th minute but Shantinagar were back on level terms thanks to a Shipon goal 11 minutes later.

In the shootout Lovlu, Shipon, Zahid, Shankar and Mithu were successful for Shantinagar while Nasir, Akbar, Sohag and Quader converted for Fakirpool.

Shantinagar will face Brothers Union in the group final tomorrow at 4 pm.

The day's second match saw Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society book their berth in Group D final with a 2-0 win over Sadharan Bima.

After a barren first half, Ramzan put the winners ahead in the 75th minute while Jalal doubled on the stroke of the final whistle.

Rahmatganj will meet either Bangladesh Army or Agrani Bank in the group final on August 17.

No matches will be played today.

## English treat awaits MSC

Sports Reporter

Mohammedan Sporting Club are likely to experience a real European treat today when the Dhaka football giants take on the Under-19 side of West Ham United in a friendly match at the East London Stadium.

Their much-expected encounter with the youthful team of English Premier League will kick off at 7pm. With this game curtain also falls on the first ever tour to European soil by a Bangladeshi club.

Dubbed as the Manchester United of Bangladesh by the English media, Mohammedan had earlier won their first match against Sporting Bengal United 3-2.

With two goals, captain Alfaz Ahmed played a pivotal role in the black and whites' victory against the semi-professional outfit.

The Mohammedan tour has been arranged by the Bangladesh Football Association in UK and sponsored by Canary Wharf, a leading property developer in England.

## Salas boost for Chile vs Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Aug 14 (Reuters/Internet): Striker Marcelo Salas is set to return to the team when Chile face Brazil at home in the South American World Cup qualifying match on Tuesday.

Salas, who has scored only one goal so far in the campaign, sat out the last two matches after being sent off for fighting in the match against Paraguay in June.

He trained with the first team on Sunday and his return is a match needed boost for the Chileans, who are sixth in the qualifying group with seven points from their six matches.

The match will be the first qualifier between the two countries since 1989, when Chile walked off the pitch at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro after a firecracker landed near goalkeeper Roberto Rojas.

Governing body FIFA judged that Rojas was feigning injury and gave him a life ban while Chile were kicked out of the qualifiers for 1994.

Brazil, second in the table, will be without midfielder Vanderlei, who scored two goals in last month's morale-boosting 3-1 win at home to Argentina but also picked up a second yellow card. Brazil have also lost midfielder Flavio Conceicao and defender Roque Junior through injury.

**Doordarshan Sports National will provide live coverage of the Brazil-Chile match from 6am Wednesday BST.**

This week's matches kick off in Bogota earlier on Tuesday, where Colombia, fifth with nine points, take on Uruguay, third with 11, in a match which is crucial to both sides. Although Colombia have picked up four points in their last two matches away to Peru and Ecuador, they have scored only one goal and depended heavily on the heroics of goalkeeper Oscar Cordoba.

The team were so short on creativity that former captain Carlos Valderrama said he was thinking of making an international comeback at the age of 38 before having second thoughts.

Uruguay, who have to overcome the absence of injured striker Alvaro Recoba, made a good start to the qualifiers.

# Man on a mission

## 'I want to reduce the standard gap'

Sports Reporter

All-rounder Naimur Rahman Durjoy has been named new captain of Test rookies Bangladesh for the upcoming International Cricket Council (ICC) Knock-out World Cup in Kenya later this year.

The 26-year-old replaced Aminul Islam, as the squad for Nairobi meet in October was announced by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) late on Sunday.

Aminul was however included in the 26-member squad national team named provisionally for Nairobi, Kenya.

Naimur joined Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) as a cricket trainee in 1987 (first batch of cricket), and has since developed himself into a fine all-rounder. Uddity Club, a First Division outfit, recognised his talent in 1991 even before he passed out from BKSP two years later.

The dapper right-hander from Manikganj got his major break by joining Premier League giants Abahani Limited in the 1994-95 season. A fanatic fan of the West Indies and Brazil, Naimur's childhood idol was West Indian great Vivian Richards. A predominantly on-side player and compulsive puller and cutter, Naimur started out as a leg-spinner but changed into an off-break bowler.

His first major trip was the tour of England as a member of the Bangladesh Under-19 team while a student of class nine. He skippered the BKSP cricket team during the institute's tour to India in 1990-91. Naimur is a firm believer of attacking and aggressive cricket.

**Rabed Imam of The Daily Star Sport (DSS) spoke to the newly appointed Bangladesh cricket captain last night. Following is the excerpt of**

the exclusive interview:  
DSS: How did you learn the news?

Naimur Rahman (NR): It was unexpected. I was in Manikganj when I got the news that I was made captain of the national team. But I'm ready to take up

any cricket? NR: Actually I don't know whether I will lead the side in Test cricket. I have been made skipper for the tours to Kenya and South Africa. Those are my first priority.

I am not thinking too far ahead than that. DSS: What kind of approach will you adopt as a captain?

NR: I believe in an attacking and aggressive approach. I want my team to play as attacking as possible with respect to our obvious limitations. Without that attitude, we can never bridge the big gap with the rest of the cricket's elites. We may lose a few on the way, but the experience gained will be of paramount importance.

DSS: What type of support do you expect from the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB)?

NR: I have had a talk with the BCB President today. I have received encouraging signs regarding the board's total co-operation. The board is planning to give more freedom to the captain. I have been told that the captain and vice-captain will have a say in the team selection and also overall planning involving the national squad.

DSS: How are you expecting to tackle both forms of the game?

NR: It is not possible to mentally prepare for the challenge of Test arena until we play in it. To get prepared for the rigours of five-day cricket we need an extensive physical work outs as well as exposure at the highest level.

However, Test and one-day games deserves equal levels of preparations. My mission is to reduce the standard gap between us and the other nine Test playing teams.

DSS: Is the added responsibility going to put extra pressure on you?

NR: Well, the pressure is always there. Even as a normal player. I feel it all the time. You have to live with it. But I am aware that the whole country is looking towards me and the team with a lot of expectations. We have to return that faith.

Personally, I feel that I have to lead by example. I shall be concentrating extra hard to improve my game.

DSS: What type of relationship do you want with the media?

NR: The media is the strongest tool in influencing the public sentiment. The fans sometimes may go beyond the reality in their expectation. But it will be foolish to expect extraordinary deeds from the team overnight. The media can make them accept this fact with grace.

## Wisden rankings Sri Lanka best Test nation in Asia

UNDATED, Aug 14 (Internet report): Sri Lanka strengthened their position ahead of Pakistan as Asia's strongest Test side as the newest edition of the Wisden World Championship standings were released on Monday.

There were no positional changes, since the island nation drew its recent series against South Africa.

Because South Africa won the corresponding series in 1993-94 but now only managed a draw, Sri Lanka gained a point and South Africa lost one. Sri Lanka would have moved into third ahead of the West Indies had they won the gripping second Test at Kandy, which would have meant a 2-0 series win.

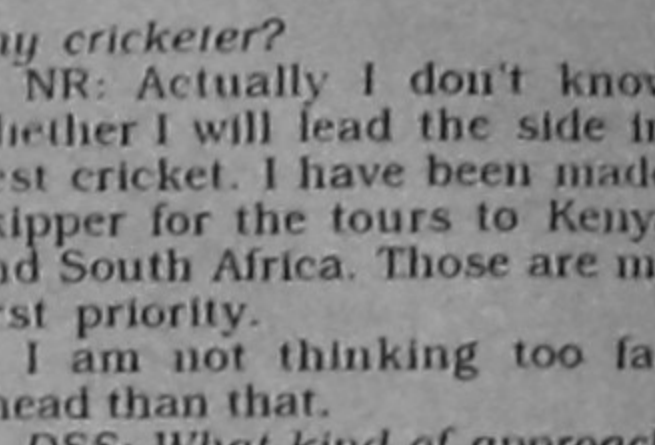
The Iraqi World cupper had

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

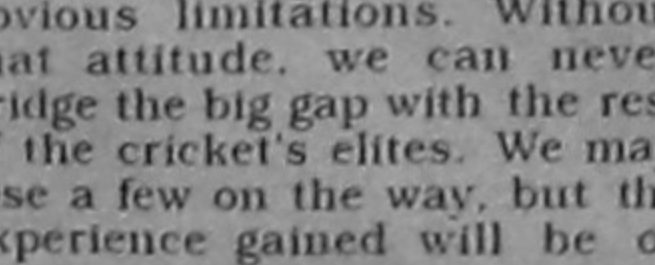
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|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>           | 27 Letter-head abbr.   | <b>DOWN</b>                  | 1 Cafeteria slack         | 12 Gang members      |
| 1 Living room sets?     | 28 Broken bread        | 2 "I con- quered," to Caesar | 14 Chutzpah               | 15 Third degree      |
| 4 Shriner's chapeau     | 30 "Eureka!"           | 3 Design- ers' cultout       | 19 Sermo subject          | 20 Auction action    |
| 7 Deter- mination       | 33 Making one's escape | 4 Skirmish                   | 21 "Is that your answer?" | 22 Space capsule     |
| 8 Longish skirts        | 36 Bank's client       | 5 Rims                       | 23 Incuba- tor noise      | 24 Irked             |
| 10 U.N. goal            | 37 Leaven- ing agent   | 6 Galvan- izing stuff        | 25 Torched                | 26 Open              |
| 11 Yule quiff           | 38 Sen. Lott           | 7 Neuter                     | 28 Done                   | 29 Spy               |
| 13 Making one's escape  | 39 "Desire Under the—" | 8 Paris' subway              | 30 First vice president   | 31 Dame              |
| 16 LP's suc- cessors    | 40 Summer NYC hrs.     | 9 Okla- homan                | 32 Illustra- tions        | 33 Myra              |
| 17 Super- market supply | 41 Dentist (Abbr.)     | 10 Army rank (Abbr.)         | 34 Con- cerning           | 35 Use a blow- torch |
| 18 Japan- ese drama     |                        |                              |                           |                      |
| 19 Fodder structure     |                        |                              |                           |                      |
| 20 Hairpin turn         |                        |                              |                           |                      |
| 21 Luxury               |                        |                              |                           |                      |
| 23 Skating competition  |                        |                              |                           |                      |
| 25 Celebrity            |                        |                              |                           |                      |
| 26 Fax                  |                        |                              |                           |                      |

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer**



NAIMUR RAHMAN



YORDAN STOYKOV

## Stoykov due today

Sports Reporter

Bulgarian Yordan Stoykov is all set to become the newest football coach of Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP).

The former Bulgarian international is arriving in the city today to finalise the details of his contract with the Ministry of Youth and Sports. If everything goes well, Stoykov might also be asked to take up the responsibility of national team in future.

The 49-year-old had earlier served as the chief coach of Maldives national team. He started his career as an assistant coach of Locomotive Sofia in 1983. During his 16-year coaching career, he has travelled to Libya, China, and Tanzania before becoming coach of the islanders.

In his one-year stint, he transformed a tiny Maldives from no-hopers into a respectable force in South Asia.

Stoykov is likely to replace temperamental Iraqi coach Samir Shakir, whose contract expired in June. Samir, who inspired Bangladesh to their maiden SAF Games gold last year, had a history of walking out on his team.

The Iraqi World cupper had

been the coach of BKSP and was supposed to take over the responsibility of national team that toured England on July 1. But, like his predecessor British Mark Harrison he never turned up.

Mark was an AFC (Asian Football Confederation) sponsored coach of Bangladesh and eventually resigned after the disastrous tour to Maldives, where the SAF gold winners were eliminated from the four-nation invitational tournament at nascent stage.

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# Prince powers Usha

Sports Reporter

Ariful Haque Prince slauined the second hat-trick of the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League to power tie contenders Usha Krira Chakra to a 7-1 rout of Azad Sporting Club at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

The lanky national team forward's four-goal blitz put him alongside prolific partner Rafiqul Islam who earned the distinction against Ajax Sporting Club last week.

Usha's other goals came from a double strike by Moududur Rahman Shuvo and defender Navid Alam.

Rahul grabbed a consolation goal for Azad.

Usha raised their tally to 15 points from five matches and joined defending champions Mohammedan Sporting Club atop the nine-team elite league table. Both boast all-win records so far.

Azad with only one victory against four defeats remain on three points.

Right from the start Usha went on the offensive against the Motihheel-based club. But for all their possession the Ragbi All Club Cup managed to go into half time with a two-goal lead.

Prince opened Usha's account pushing home a Shuvo pass in the fifth minute. And three minutes later the young forward returned the compliment by feeding Shuvo.

Usha had to wait for another 40 minutes for their third goal.

Navid Alam, one of their Pakistani recruits, converted a short corner in the 48th minute.

Prince then completed his hat-trick with goals in the 53rd, 55th and 60th minutes. Pakistani midfielder Muhammad Saqlain assisted him with a couple of intelligent passes.

## Teams ready to go indoors

MELBOURNE, Aug 14: The unprecedented playing conditions at Colonial Stadium received support from the Australian and South African cricket teams here Monday, despite some misgivings over the venue, reports AFP.

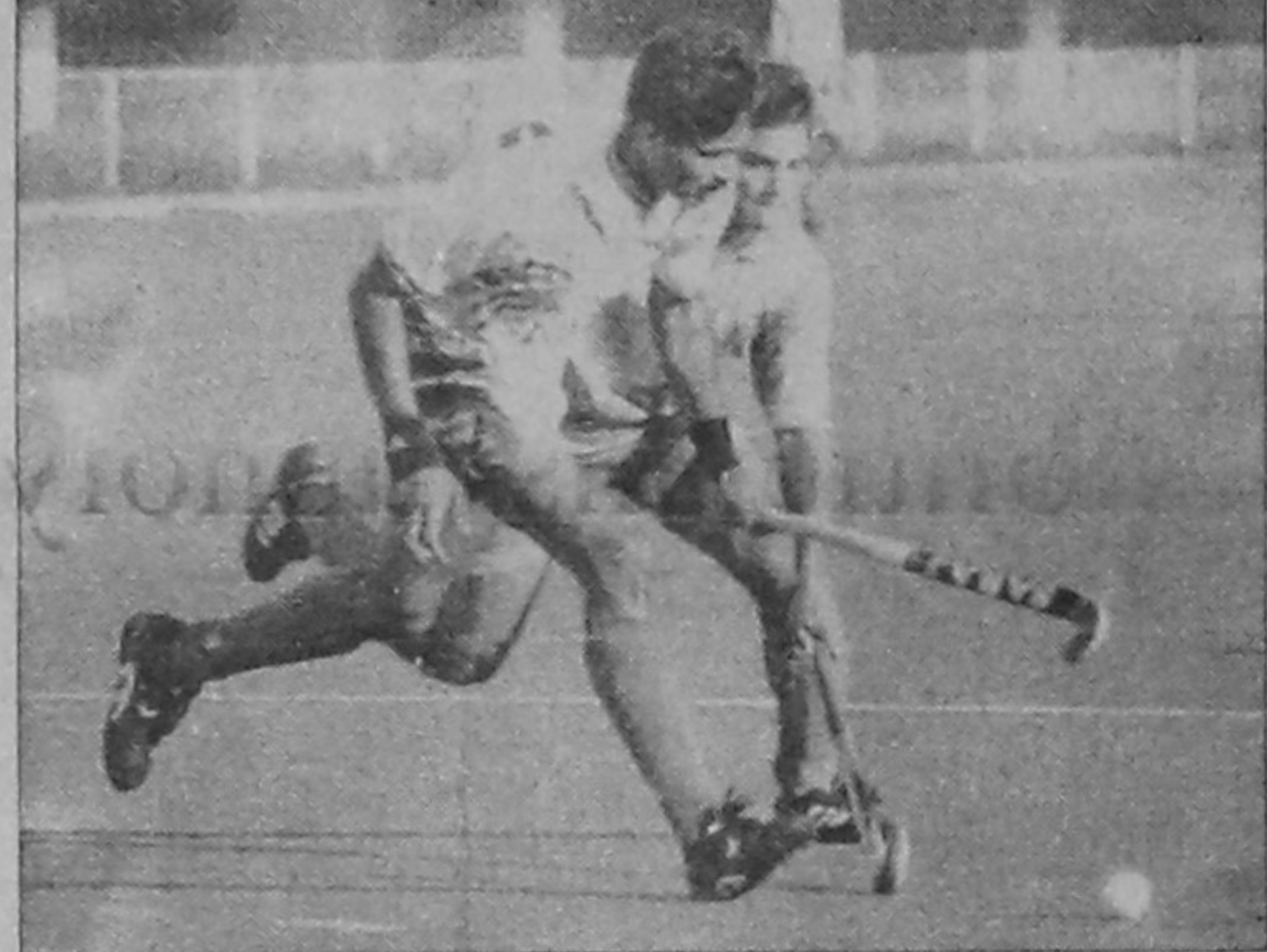
While the riskiest feature of this week's historic one-day series — the drop-in pitch — already appears a success, the patchy and damp outfield, the bowlers' run-ups and the lighting had the players wary.

The two teams had their first training sessions at the ground late Monday ahead of the one-day series on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

These will be the first official cricket matches played indoors and South African captain Shaun Pollock was impressed.

Speaking after a nets session on the practice wickets, specially-laid on Sunday, he said: "They (deliveries) were coming on beautifully. I presume it will be pretty similar to the middle so there should be a lot of runs scored."

"It's going to be a good one-day wicket, it's probably got



Navid Alam of Usha (L) trying to dodge past an Azad player during their Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League encounter at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

Azad finally got on the scoresheet in the 61st minute when Rahul took advantage of a melee in the Usha goalmouth.

But Shuvo sealed their fate with his second goal of the match from a counter attack in the next minute.

There will be no matches today and tomorrow.

match. Sadharan Bima recorded a 3-2 win over Bachelors Sporting Club in a First Division engagement.

Chunnu, Murad and Shahenshah scored for Bima while Atique and Aqil replied for Bachelors.

Leading goalscorers: 9 — Shamim Reza (MSC); 8 — Kamal (Usha); Ramji (MSC); 7 — Prince (Usha); 6 — Musa (Mariner); 5 — Tahir (MSC); Shuvo (Usha); Navid (Usha); 4 — Bachchu (Azad); Aleem (Ajax); Moksed (AKC); Shipu (MSC); 3 — Rubel (AKC); Rana (MSC); Mukti, Nadeem, Jagnohan (F/G).

## FIRST DIVISION

### POINTS TABLE

Sri Lanka. The roof was closed Monday as the South Africans battled and the Australians inspected the ceiling, which was allowing the players to gain a feel for this week's playing conditions.

Spinner Shane Warne described it as 'sensational', but the rain was not expected to cause run-ups would need close attention.

The South Africans are aware of Australian Football League players' concerns during this year about the stadium surface and cricketers are likely to use moulded soles to ensure solid footing.