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Star Sport

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Column One

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-135

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 1, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who scored the first hat-trick in this year's Fed Cup football?
Ritu Kanchan Tanver
- Who is Pakistan's cricket team captain?
Wasim Waqar Moin
- Who is the captain of Bangladesh cricket team?
Anisul Akram Naimur
- Who won the AB Bank Men's TT title?
Armanul Buman Martiros
- Who was voted Germany's footballer-of-the-year in 2000?
Kahn Sommer Reuter

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

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SPORTS TALK



Anna Kournikova
(Russian tennis star)
"The match was awesome."
After shocking American Lindsay Davenport at the Carlsbad women's tournament.

Div. II chess underway

Sports Reporter

The Second Division Chess League began at the NSC chess room yesterday with 22 teams taking part in the eight-round Swiss League.

On the opening day, Fire Service beat Protibadi Tarun Samaj 3-0. Hazaribagh thrashed family Chess Club 4-0. Anirban Daba Sangha blanked Pallabi Chess Club 4-0. Sat Raza Nabin Sangha overcame Six Stars 3-1. Dhaka Daba Ghar humbled Swanirvar Daba Club 4-0 while Faith Chess Club saw off Merul Spandan 3-5.

The second round will start at the same venue today at 3 PM.

Ganguly on the silver-screen?

CALCUTTA, Aug 20 (PTI): Accustomed to being the cynosure of all eyes as skipper of the Indian cricket team, Saurav Ganguly for once is playing second fiddle — to wife Dona.

A renowned Bengali commercial filmmaker has offered Dona, a dancer, the heroine's role in one of his upcoming movies and is even prepared to cast the cricketer as the hero if he has reservations about his wife pairing on celluloid with another man.

"I could have done with some other hero, but Dona, who suits the heroine's role perfectly, says that she can act in the movie only if Saurav gives the green signal. So, I am even prepared to cast Saurav as the hero," Anjan Chowdhury, director of Bengali block-busters like "Shatru" and "Gurudakshina", told here yesterday.

Jr athletics Sept 22

The 18th junior athletics tournament will begin at Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur on September 22, reports UNB.

The two-day meet will be held in two groups — under-16 and under-20.



Arambagh's delight (L) in Abahani's plight (R).

Arambagh torment Abahani

Sports Reporter



Arambagh Krira Sangha has a history of being the boggy team of most of the big clubs. The media-ore Premier League side had however enjoyed little success against Abahani Krira Chakra until last night when they handed the popular Dhamondit outfit a stunning 3-1 defeat in their 16th Federation Cup match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

The winners led the first half 2-0.

Interestingly young and talented striker Khokon, who has earned the reputation as tormentor when it comes to confrontations with Abahani, once again played the stellar role in Arambagh's first ever win against the defending champions.

The nimble attacker, who scored the all important goal in Badda Jagarani's historic 1-0 win against Abahani in the Premier League last year, struck twice for his new club to cause the biggest upset in this season's curtain-raiser.

It was hugely a disappointing day for Abahani, who will remember this match for all the wrong reasons. They conceded the first goal as early as in the first minute. If that wasn't enough trouble, their inspirational midfielder Arman, who played a pivotal role in their 3-1 win against Shantinagar in the opening match, had to be carried off the ground after only fifteen minutes following an injury. The defeat also opened up the prospect of an early elimi-

nation of Abahani from the Cup.

The holder are now left with a daunting task of defeating an impressive Badda Jagarani in their last Group A match on Tuesday by a minimum margin of two goals.

While Abahani will try to forget the day, Arambagh would relish the stupendous success in the year's to come. The boys of Wazed Gazi walked out as deserving victors in a match, where their supposedly superior counterparts chased the ball for most of the 90 minutes.

The spirited Arambagh outplayed Abahani in every department of the game. Their attacking trio of Ritu, Khokon and Nayan were too hot to handle for the depleted Abahani defense. They ruled the midfield with Bakhtiar, Taj and an overlapping right-back Gobinda and made threatening runs at the Abahani defence at will.

Abahani on the other hand were totally out of sorts. Their presence in the match was only recognised by their famous sky blue shirts, as the players hardly made any impression.

Khokon silenced the strong Abahani crowd even before they



ARAMBAGH'S HEROES OF THE NIGHT: Khokon (L) who struck twice, and Nayan flash V-signs after they led Arambagh to a 3-1 victory over Abahani in the Federation Cup at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

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Australia, SA equal



MELBOURNE, Aug 20: Australian captain Steve Waugh was angry with his team and match referee Brian Hastings after relinquishing another strong position to lose to South Africa by eight runs in the final one-day cricket international here Sunday, reports AFP.

Chasing a 206 for seven after the Proteas had been tottering at 19 for four, Australia could not overcome a two-over penalty for a slow over-rate and finished their 48 overs at 198 for nine.

It left the three-game series played indoors at Colonial Stadium tied at one win each after Australia won by 94 runs on Wednesday night and South Africa staged a fightback similar to Sunday's effort to tie Friday's match.

Waugh Sunday made no excuses for his side's batting, calling it "not good enough", but added he was "astonished" when told of the two-over penalty handed down by New Zealanders Hastings.

The Australian innings also finished late and the two sides were fined 10 per cent of their match earnings.

This was the first time the side batting second had been docked overs in the tournament, but all three first innings finished over their scheduled time.

Sawdust was frequently needed for the bowlers' footmarks, the players had to scrape the bottom of their boots because of the damp outfield and Waugh said the sightseeing was slow to move.

The Australians also hurt their own cause by fielding three pace bowlers — Glenn McGrath, Brett Lee and Jason Gillespie.

But that play looked a winning one early when South Africa were reduced to 19 for four after seven overs.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the third and final one-day cricket international between Australia and South Africa at Colonial Stadium Sunday:

SOUTH AFRICA
Kirsten c M Waugh b McGrath 9
Hall c M Waugh b McGrath 1
Kallis c Gilchrist b B Lee 3
Cullinan b B Lee 0
McKenzie b McGrath 45
Kluseener c Gilchrist b B Lee 49
Dipenar run out 21
Pollock not out 34
Boje not out 28
Extras: (b-4; lb-6; w-1; nb-5) 16
Total: (For 7 wks in 50 overs) 206
Fall of wks: 1-16, 2-19, 3-26, 4-19, 5-117, 6-119, 7-150

Bowler
McGrath 10 4 26 3
B Lee 10 1 56 3
Warne 10 2 30 0
Gillespie 10 1 39 0
S Lee 5 0 23 0
Bevan 5 0 22 0

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Gibbs may be banned for a yr



JOHANNESBURG, Aug 20: South African opening batsman Herchelle Gibbs is likely to be banned from international cricket for at least a year for his role in the Harrie Cronje match-fixing scandal, the SAPA news agency said Saturday, reports AFP.

Another cricketer, pace bowler Henry Williams, is likely to be fined, with a third, Pieter Strydom, expected to escape with a caution, the agency said.

All three players appeared before a United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) disciplinary committee here Saturday. Gibbs and Williams pleading guilty to match-fixing with Strydom maintaining his innocence.

The disciplinary hearing follows evidence given by the three players to a commission of inquiry into the Cronje match-fixing scandal by retired judge Mervyn King in June.

Gibbs, at 26 one of South Africa's most promising batsmen, and Williams, who is in his early thirties, admitted before the King Commission to accepting an offer of 15,000 dollars from Cronje to throw a match in Nagpur earlier this year.

Gibbs said, however, he had

"forgotten" to lose his wicket for less than 20 runs as he had agreed and went on to make 74.

Williams, who was to concede more than 50 runs from his 10 overs, only bowled 11. Neither player was paid the promised 15,000 dollars as South Africa won "the match."

Gibbs has also been charged with bringing the game into disrepute by lying to the UCBSA when he denied receiving any offers of financial reward after the scandal broke.

Lawyer for the two players, Mike Fitzgerald, said he had called for a suspended sentence for his clients, arguing that

both Gibbs and Williams had not carried out the plan to throw the match and were heavily influenced by Cronje.

UCBSA representative Brendan Manca called, however, for a harsher sentence saying that the commission should not lose sight of the seriousness of the charges against the cricketers.

SAPA said the panel had intimated that the signal to South Africa's cricketers should be clear.

"A total suspended sentence would not be a signal," said panelist Michael Kuper in reply to Fitzgerald's plea for leniency.

The agency said it appeared that Gibbs would be given a minimum of a year's banishment from the game and Williams a financial penalty and possible suspended sentence.

Strydom, who only appeared before the panel after the Gibbs/Williams hearing had been completed, pleaded not guilty to a charge of having conspired to place a bet on South Africa winning the Test against England at Centurion Park on January 18.

The hearing agreed his offence was relatively minor and Manca said the UCBSA would be satisfied with a cautioning.

The findings of the disciplinary hearing are to be released on August 28.

HERCHELLE GIBBS

Badda blank Shantinagar

Sports Reporter

Badda Jagarani Sangsad recorded their second successive win in the second round of the 16th Federation Cup when they saw off Shantinagar Club 3-0 in their Group A clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Midfielder Masud Haider, defender Lajuk and forward Bulbul scored one goal each for the winners who are now leading the four-team group table with maximum six points from two outings. Holders Abahani Limited and Arambagh Krira Sangha are behind them with three points from two matches. Shantinagar have lost both their games so far.

Badda, who beat Arambagh 2-1 in their first match on Friday, dominated the first half and were.

Their enterprise was rewarded when Haider curled in a 25-yard free kick at the stroke of the first half.

Inspired by the first half lead, Badda maintained their initiative in the second session and scored two more goals against the First Division side.

Lajuk doubled the margin with another 25-yard left footer in the 79th minute while Bulbul sealed Shantinagar's fate capitalising on a goalmouth rebounder in the 87th minute.

The margin could have been greater had Walid's header from a Lajuk cross not come off the post in the 65th minute.

Badda will take on Abahani in their last, Group A clash tomorrow.

Yellow cards: Nurul Islam (Badda) and Shankar (Shantinagar).

BADDA JAGARANI: Titumeer, Riad (Badda), Lajuk, Papul, Fatah (Sajedul), Haider, Bulbul, Monwar, Nurul Islam (Asad), Tanveer and Walid.

SHANTINAGAR CLUB: Sha-kil, Ramjan, Mizan, Mithu, Arman, Lovlu, Shankar, Faruque (Sudhir), Shipon (Zahid), Masud and Munna (Ankur).

Referee: Tayeb Hasan.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Mohammedan SC v Rahmatganj MFS (3:30 PM)
Muktijoddha Sangsad v Prantik KC (5:30 PM)

Reefat back in form

Sports Reporter

International Master Reefat-bin-Sattar got back his bearings in the Penta Media Grand Masters (GM) Chess Tournament in Madras after defeating two Grand Masters on Friday and Saturday, according to a Bangladesh Chess Federation e-mail yesterday.

Reefat, who had only one point in five matches, drew attention among the chess lovers in India when he upset Russian GM Alexander Fomina in the sixth round on Friday.

It was the first defeat for Alexander in 44 matches he played so far in India over the last two months.

After the remarkable win, Reefat maintained his form and defeated Uzbekistan GM Saidali in the seventh round on Saturday to raise his tally to three points from seven matches.

The BCCI, which was expected to take action against Kapil during its meeting here today, instead authorised president A.C. Muthiah to speak to the former star.

Kapil is obviously a very disturbed person at the moment, and the interview was an emotional outburst," Muthiah

finished with cricket. It's not worth it."

Muthiah had said earlier that players being investigated, like Kapil, former captain Mohammad Azharuddin and Ajay Jadeja, will not be punished unless they are found guilty by federal authorities.

But the BCCI is under pressure from sports minister Sukhdave Dhindsa, who wants the tainted players to step down on moral grounds.

Kapil argues: "I have done nothing wrong. Why should I resign because my house has been raided?"

"By that reckoning, everyone who has been raided should step down."

Among those whose premises were searched were Jagmohan Dalmiya, former president of the International Cricket Council who remains a powerful player in BCCI affairs, and board treasurer Kishore Rungta.

Kapil, who is at the centre of a federal investigation into corruption in cricket, suffered income tax raids on his offices and home last month as part of the probe.

"If this is what I get for being a cricketer, I don't want to be part of it," an emotional Kapil had told AFP.

"I know I am clean, I have nothing to hide. The investigations will prove that. But I am

Abahani amerce Ajax

Sports Reporter



Title aspirants Abahani Krira Chakra recorded their fourth win in the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League with a 7-0 whitewash of lowly-rated Ajax Sporting Club at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

Mohammad Khalid, one of three Pakistani recruits playing for Abahani, struck three goals while Glasuddin Rubel, Mirajul Ahsan, Hasan Roni and national defender Mahfuz Alam Nixon added one apiece.

The winners enjoyed a 2-0 lead at the breather.

Abahani, third in the table behind leaders Mohammedan and Usha because of a 1-1 draw in their second match against minnows Sonali Bank, finally got their act together against an Elephant road outfit winless so far in seven matches.

Forward Khalid opened the floodgates in the 12th minute flicking a Naved Iqbal cross from the right. And four minutes doubled the margin slamming a waist height pass from Rubel.

After the lemon break it was all one-way traffic with Abahani netting five goals.

It started with Rubel pouncing on a Saleem Amir free hit in the 37th minute. Munjarul got on the scoresheet sixty seconds later converting a penalty.

Khalid scored his third goal in the 62nd minute after brilliantly fed by Naved from the

left. Roni made it 6-0 converting a short corner in the 66th minute.

Nixon, after returning from Australia two days ago left Usha under mutual understanding, marked his debut by converting a short corner on the stroke of the final whistle.

Abahani raised their tally to 13 points from five matches while Ajax remained at the bottom with six defeats and a draw.

FIRST DIVISION
Earlier, in the day's First

Division action, Bangladesh Railway recorded a 2-0 win over Victoria Sporting Club.

Sudhir put the winners ahead from a short corner in the 23rd minute while Zahid ensured the win with a field goal in the 57th minute.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Premier Division
Farashganj SC v Bangladesh SC (2:15pm)
First Division
Wari Club v Mukta Bihanga (4pm)



Action from the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League encounter between Abahani and Ajax Sporting Club at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

Pakistan's winning start



SINGAPORE, Aug 20: Pakistan were forced to work hard for a 12-run win over New Zealand in the opening game of the 2000 Singapore Challenge cricket tournament at the Kallang ground on Sunday, reports AFP.

In murky conditions and on a wet outfield, Pakistan prospered with some adventurous batting in the middle-order to post a total of 191 for six in the stipulated 25 overs.

Early rains had restricted the game to just 25 overs for each side instead of the usual 50.

The Kiwis were faced with the tough task of scoring just less than eight runs an over and made a brave attempt to close in on the target, but were bowled out for 179 in the final over.

Man-of-the-match Ijaz Ahmed struck a fine 49 off a mere 37 balls to boost the middle-order after Shahid Afridi had given them a flying start with 33 off only 23 balls.

Afridi was severe with his favourite straight drives fetch-

ing him five fours.

Ijaz teamed up with Yousuf Youhana to add 89 runs for the fourth wicket, leaving the finale for Abdur Razaq, who made 16 runs off the final five deliveries of the innings to reach a total of 191.

New Zealand also made a bold start, opening the innings with Chris Cairns who smashed two sixes in his 21 off 16 balls.

But Nathan Astle and skipper Stephen Fleming perished under pressure for 15 each.

Roger Twose and Chris Harris also showed some smart stroke-play in their 65-run stand for the fourth wicket, but as they both fell in quick succession it looked like curtains for the Kiwis.

But the late order was not willing to give in that easily, and Scott Styris lofted Arshad Khan for two straight sixes in the penultimate over to bring the target within striking distance.

Waqaar Younis came on to bowl the final over of the innings and gave the batsmen little room. Styris finally missed a ball and the innings folded 12

runs short.

Pakistan were fined 15 per cent of their match fees by referee Justice Ahmad Ebrahim of Zimbabwe for their slow over-rate.

Pakistan face South Africa on Wednesday in the next match of the tournament.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the opening match of the Singapore Cricket Challenge 2000 between New Zealand and Pakistan at the Kallang ground on Sunday:

PAKISTAN

Nazir b Allott 12
Afridi c McMillan b Vettori 33
Anwar c Twose b Vettori 22
Youhana c O'Connor b Allott 49
Ijaz c Astle b Cairns 49
Razaq not out 12
Mahmood c Styris b Allott 7
Atiq not out 0
Extras: (lb-3; nb-5; w-2) 10
Total: (For 6 wks in 25 overs) 191
Fall of wickets: 1-26, 2-63, 3-76, 4-165, 5-175, 6-175

Bowler
Allott 5 0 33 3
Cairns 5 0 48 1
O'Connor 1 0 11 0
Styris 1 0 12 0
Vettori 4 0 23 2
Astle 4 0 28 0
Harris 5 0 33 0

NEW ZEALAND
Cairns c Afridi b Waqaar 21
Astle b Kabir 15
Twose lbw b Arshad 35
Fleming c Mahmood b Kabir 15
Harris c Youhana b Mahmood 40
McMillan st Zaman b Arshad 5
Parore c Sub (Younis) b Razaq 9
Vettori b Arshad 6
Styris b Waqaar 16
O'Connor b Razaq 0
Allott not out 1
Extras: (lb-7; nb-2; w-7) 16
Total: (All out in 24.4 overs) 179
Fall of wickets: 1-34, 2-39, 3-70, 4-135, 5-139, 6-148, 7-157, 8-177, 9-177

Bowler
Waqaar 3.4 0 22 2
Kabir 5 0 27 2
Razaq 5 0 32 2
Mahmood 5 0 36 1
Afridi 1 0 10 1
Arshad 5 0 45 3

Result: Pakistan won by 12 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Ijaz Ahmed.

Next match: Pakistan vs South Africa, August 23.



Pakistan's Ijaz Ahmed, who was adjudged man-of-the-match, follows through on a pull-shot during the 2000 Singapore Challenge opener against New Zealand yesterday.

Kapil given reprieve



BANGALORE, Aug 20: India's cricket chiefs shied away from sacking a reluctant Kapil Dev as national coach on Sunday, saying they wanted to speak to him before taking any action, reports AFP.

Kapil had put his job on the line in an interview to AFP last week, in which he said the match-fixing charges and the "unprofessional" attitude of officials had put him off the game.

But he had left it to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to determine whether he should serve out the second part of his two-year term as national coach.

The BCCI, which was expected to take action against Kapil during its meeting here today, instead authorised president A.C. Muthiah to speak to the former star.

Kapil is obviously a very disturbed person at the moment, and the interview was an emotional outburst," Muthiah

told reporters after the day-long meeting.

"He is normally a very confident person. I don't know what has gone wrong, but I intend to find out."

"The board has authorised me to call on Kapil and speak to him. I have also been told to take whatever decision is deemed fit."

"I will be meeting Kapil shortly," Muthiah said.

With India not slated to play international cricket until the mini-World Cup in Kenya in October, Muthiah has enough time to either convince Kapil to continue or find a successor.

Kapil, who is at the centre of a federal investigation into corruption in cricket, suffered income tax raids on his offices and home last month as part of the probe.

"If this is what I get for being a cricketer, I don't want to be part of it," an emotional Kapil had told AFP.

"I know I am clean, I have nothing to hide. The investigations will prove that. But I am

finished with cricket. It's not worth it."

Muthiah had said earlier that players being investigated, like Kapil, former captain Mohammad Azharuddin and Ajay Jadeja, will not be punished unless they are found guilty by federal authorities.

But the BCCI is under pressure from sports minister Sukhdave Dhindsa, who wants the tainted players to step down on moral grounds.

Kapil argues: "I have done nothing wrong. Why should I resign because my house has been raided?"

"By that reckoning, everyone who has been raided should step down."

Among those whose premises were searched were Jagmohan Dalmiya, former president of the International Cricket Council who remains a powerful player in BCCI affairs, and board treasurer Kishore Rungta.