

DHAKA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

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

1 Who scored the first hattrick in this year's Fed Cup football?
 Ritu Kaushan Tamveer

2 Who is Pakistan's cricket team captain?
 Wasim Waqar Moin

3 Who is the captain of Bangladesh cricket team?
 Aminul Akram Naimur

4 Who won the AB Bank Men's TT title?
 Armanita Binan Martens

5 Who was voted Germany's footballer-of-the-year in 2000?
 Kahn Sammer Reuter

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
 ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS



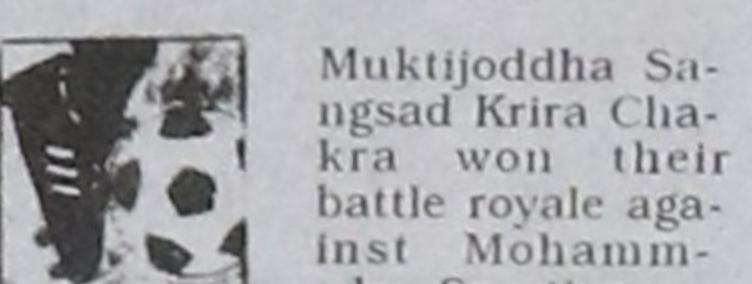
Mohammedan striker Nakib (L) makes an abortive attempt to head the ball into the Muktijoddha net during their Federation Cup encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo

Muktis beat Mohammedan

Abahani factor plays big role

Sports Reporter



Muktijoddha Saingsad Krira Chakra won their battle royale against Mohammedan Sporting Club by a solitary goal in the last round robin league match of the 16th Federation Cup yesterday.

At the floodlit Bangabandhu National Stadium, substitute Liton scored the all-important goal two minutes from the final whistle much to the disappointment of a strong band of black and white supporters.

Although Muktijoddha won the prestige battle, the outcome turned out to be a blessing in disguise for Mohammedan as they could avoid a rather untimely clash against their archrivals Abahani Krira Chakra in the semifinal.

Mohammedan, who had earlier ensured their semifinal berth along with their last night's conquerors from Group B, will now take on Group A champions Arambagh Krira Sangha in the first semifinal on Friday.

Muktijoddha, who topped Group B, will face holders Abahani in the second semifinal on Saturday.

Before the match, both Muktijoddha and Mohammedan were however in a peculiar dilemma since there was more risk factor involved for the winners on the day. Avoiding Abahani in the semifinal became the goal for the two titans.

Understandably, Mohammedan preferred a draw so that they could finish second behind Muktijoddha on inferior goal aggregate while for the all-reds it was a far more per-

plexing proposition of losing the match to avoid a meeting with Abahani, who became runners-up from Group A.

The mute expectation of Mohammedan was quite evident when they rested their inspirational captain Alfaz Ahmed and hard-working midfielder Jahangir from the game. Muk-

tijoddha on the other hand had not included their right-wing back Hasan Al Manan in the line up.

As the game grew older, it looked like that the Mohammedan decision for a draw was going to be materialised, but Liton came from nowhere to

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GROUP B STANDINGS

Team	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Muktijoddha	3	3	0	0	7	1	9
Mohammedan	3	2	0	1	6	3	6
Rahmatganj	3	0	1	2	3	7	1
Prantik	3	0	1	2	4	9	1



Rahmatganj's Deen Mohammad (L) and Roza of Prantik are in pursuit of the ball during their Federation Cup match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo

PCB awaits coach's report

Culprits are Raza, Atiq & Afridi?



KARACHI, Aug 23: Pakistani cricket coach Javed Miandad will name the three players involved in an alleged sex scandal in his report on the incident to the Pakistan Cricket Board, an official said Wednesday, reports AFP.

India pulled out of the series in which it was due to play Pakistan because of violence in the disputed territory of Kashmir, and efforts to find a replacement country failed, the organisers said.

The IMG tried to entice world champions Australia, South Africa, New Zealand or Sri Lanka into the series, but without success.

IMG representative Arshad Gillani told this news agency a statement would be released later to "describe why the series could not take place this year."

The five-match limited over series was scheduled to be held between September 9-17.

A Pakistan Cricket Board official expressed disappointment over the cancellation.

The series between arch-rivals Pakistan and India was initiated in 1996 and was due to run for five years.

India also refused to play Pakistan in 1999 following clashes in Kashmir, but the series was divided into two three-match events with India and Pakistan playing the West Indies separately.

Pakistan won the series in 1996 and 1998 while India won the event in 1997.

Some names did appear in the press but we cannot say if it is true or not, he said, referring to reports in the Urdu-language press naming batsman Hassan Raza, wicketkeeper Atiquzzaman and all-rounder Shahid Afridi.

"The chairman of the board will take the final decision if the players are found guilty. We cannot make up our mind about the incident before hearing from the coach," Saeed said.

PCB chief General Tauqir Zia called Miandad in Singapore on Saturday to discuss the reported incident and asked him to provide a report as soon as he returned to Pakistan.

A total of 11 events will be held during the two-month long competition which will include table tennis, football, cricket and water polo and will end with a mini-marathon.

The meet will be inaugurated at 10 AM at the DRU office premises with indoor games.

Muktijoddha's former national player Mamun Joarder was garlanded after his final appearance in competitive football during the Federation Cup fixture against Mohammedan yesterday. Badal Roy (R), assistant secretary of Bangladesh Football Federation, was present during the ceremony.

— Star photo

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The scandal is the latest blow to Pakistani cricket following recent allegations of match-fixing raised in the

commission of inquiry set up on South Africa to investigate the Hansie Cronje affair.

The news daily said the women were "followed by some shady characters" who demanded money from the cricketers to hush up the matter, which was paid in dollars.

On Wednesday it quoted Zia as saying he was concerned with the rising number of cases of indiscipline among Pakistani players.

"No player will be allowed to take the board for a ride," Zia said.

But he also blamed the media for blowing up the alleged incident out of proportion.

Three unnamed players allegedly invited women into their hotel rooms in the eastern city of Lahore before the squad left last week to play in the limited-overs 2000 Singapore Challenge.

"We cannot declare anyone guilty until we get the report from the coach," Zia said.

But he also blamed the media for blowing up the alleged incident out of proportion.

The judge also recommended tough reforms to curb match-fixing and discipline players caught breaking the rules of conduct.

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REEFAT-BIN-SATTAR

On completion of the ninth round yesterday, Reefat, who previously upset three Grand Masters, raised his tally to five points and joined local Harikrishnan in the third position.

Kazakh GM Yevgeny Vladimirov and Indian GM AV Prakash are jointly leading the race with six points each while Indian GM Shashikiran closely follows them with half a point less.

Reefat will enjoy a day-off today.

Bangladesh's first Test in November?

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh is planning to play their maiden Test in coming November, according to Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury.

Talking to a group of reporters at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday, Saber expressed his disappointment for not being able to play the first Test against England. He said that England were invited to come and play a one-off Test against Bangladesh in January but that did not suit their schedule.

The BCB is now making contacts with some other Test playing nations including India to play the first Test but none of them have confirmed anything yet.

"We are trying to hold our first Test in November but it is yet to be confirmed against whom we are going to play," Saber said.

When asked about the venue for the historic occasion, Saber said that it would be decided after confirmation of the date.

He however added that it would be unfortunate if the first Test was not held in Dhaka.

The BCB boss also disclosed that Bangladesh is likely to appear in two four-day and three limited overs matches when they tour South Africa after the ICC knock-out tournament in Kenya.

Vijayan due today

Sports Reporter

Veteran Indian striker IM Vijayan will arrive in the capital today to play in the ongoing 16th Federation Cup football tournament for Muktijoddha Sangsads. This was confirmed by Muktijoddha manager Jahangir Alam over telephone last night.

Vijayan is scheduled to make his debut in Bangladesh football when Muktijoddha take on defending champions Abahani Krira Chakra in the second semifinal at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on August 26.

Meanwhile, two Ghanaian footballers—Charls Ghansha and Kennedy—arrived in the city yesterday to play for Abahani Krira Chakra.

Both players had appeared for the popular Dhaimondi outfit last season.

Reefat's fourth win in a row

Sports Reporter

International Master (IM) Reefat-bin-Sattar yesterday recorded his fourth victory on the trot, beating Indian IM Devaki Prasad in the Penta Media Grand Masters chess tournament in Madras.

Playing with black pieces, Reefat adopted French Defence and brought his counterpart into submission after a marathon spell of 51 moves.

After winning the toss, Pakistan made 227 for nine of their 50 overs and had South Africa all out for 199 with eight balls remaining.

Atiq and Azhar combined again eight overs later to send Kallis back to the pavilion for five and Kirsten, the top South African scorer with 54, was run out soon after.

Only Neil McKenzie with 41

and Pothas provided any further resistance, putting on 63 runs for the sixth wicket but the rate was slow.

South Africa, needing to bat at seven an over for the last five overs instead saw their last five wickets fall in the space of seven runs.

Wicketkeeper Pothas, on his one-day international debut, scored 24 to go with the three dismissals he had a hand in during Pakistan's innings.

For Pakistan, Mahmood and Razzaq took three wickets apiece.

The win confirmed Pakistan's place in Sunday's final of the tournament, booted down to a staunch middle wicket partnership of 104 by Ijaz and all-rounder Razzaq who gave an equally commanding performance with the ball.

After Imran Nazir and Shahid Afridi put on 56 in 11 overs for the first wicket, Pakistan fell apart, losing four batsmen in the space of 25 runs before Ijaz and Razzaq came together with the score at 81-4.

Methodically seizing ones and twos as they could—boundaries were rare—they worked the score up to 185 before Ijaz was stumped by Nic Pothas off Nicky Boje for 56 in the 42nd over.

Razzaq was back in the pavilion soon after, run out for 47.

There was little life in the Pakistan tail, and a score of 228 on a small ground seemed light against a South African side fired up after beating Australia three days ago in Melbourne.

Reefat will enjoy a day-off today.

Div II chess

Sports Reporter

Dhaka Daba Ghar maintained their solo lead in the Second Division Chess League with a 2.5-1.5 win over Fighter Chess Club at the NSC chess room yesterday.

At the end of the fourth round, they raised their collection to 13 points, one point clear of the second-placed Fire Service, who also recorded an identical win over Bangladeshi Progott Samaj Kalyan Sangsads.

In the day's other matches, Crescent Chess Club 4-0, Sat Raab Nabin Sangha beat Faith Chess Club 2.5-1.5 and Crescent Club (old) beat Swanirvar Amra 3-1.

Reefat will enjoy a day-off today.

Abahani lesson for Usha

Sports Reporter

