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Column One

Boost sports **WHIZZ KID**

Competition-135

Tick the Correct Answers
 Post to Utr 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 Tanveer
- Who is Pakistan's cricket team captain?
 Wasim Waqar Motin
- Who is the captain of Bangladesh cricket team?
 Aminul Akram Natunur
- Who won the AB Bank Men's TT title?
 Armanifola Bisan Motters
- Who was voted Germany's footballer-of-the-year in 2000?
 Kahn Summer Reuter

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SPORTS TALK



Pete Sampras
 (American tennis great)
 "Breaking the record was definitely a big weight off my shoulders."
 On surpassing Roy Emerson's 12 Grand Slam titles.

BAAF names 12-member team

Sports Reporter
 Bangladesh Amateur Athletic Federation (BAAF) yesterday named a 12-member Bangladesh team to take part in the Nike Salwan International meeting. The five-day competition begins at New Delhi's Nehru Stadium from September 9.

The team comprises ten athletes and two officials. Top sprinters Malibub Alam and Fouzia will however be missing. They are training for the Sydney Olympic Games.

Following athletes have been selected for the meet: M. Shahidul Islam (100m and 200m), Biplabuddin Bhuiyan (400m), Solaiman Mojumder (110m hurdles), Amirul Rahman (long jump), Hivas Uddin (5000m), Bashiruddin (javelin), Abdul Hannan (500m), Kaniz Farhana Shammi (100m), Nazmun Nahar Beauty (400m) and Mallika Khanum Bithi (1500m).

Asian jr chess

Rajib, Poppy off to India

Sports Reporter
 National junior champion Enamul Hossain Rajib and Poppy Haque Chowdhury left Tuesday for Mumbai to take part in the Asian Junior Chess Championships.

The championships that got underway in the Indian metropolis yesterday will be held on 11-round Swiss League basis.

Teaybur Rahman Simon is accompanying the pair as coach.



Jessore District Sports Association general secretary Shafiquzzaman (L) receives some gifts from Bangladesh Cricket Board joint-secretary Mahmud-ul Huq (3rd from R) at the BCB office yesterday. Shafiq is one of the 126 councillors who will be attending BCB's lavish Annual General Meeting in Cox's Bazar on September 2. —Star photo

BCB goes Baywatch

Councillors collect gifts, start out today

Al-Amin

Councillors from different districts started arriving in the city yesterday to attend the much-talked-about Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB).

The first-ever AGM will be held in Cox's Bazar on September 2 with all 126 councillors attending it in the tranquil surroundings of the sea resort.

Although the extravagant budget of Taka 24.6 lakh for the grand meeting-cum-pleasure trip has already come under severe criticism from different quarters, enthusiasm in the BCB was never in short supply.

The festive mood was quite striking even on a day, when the whole country was paralysed due to a dawn-to-dusk hartal called by the major opposition political parties yesterday.

The committee of the co-ordination committee for Cox's Bazar bonanza, Nizamuddin Ahmed, had a busy day at the BCB office, supervising the distribution of token gifts for the councillors and their spouses. Gifts in wraps were handed over to the councillors. Sources say each councillor gets 20pc crockery set, two mugs, coat pin, crest and a leather bag.

But still, there was a sense of confusion among the recipients as the expensive South Korean watches, designed exclusively by the Board, was not available for delivery.

Probe into Pak scandal on
 KARACHI, Aug 30: Three Pakistani cricketers allegedly caught up in a sex scandal before the recent Singapore tri-series appeared before a Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) inquiry Wednesday, reports AFP.

The players issued statements to Brigadier Khawaja Mohammad Nasir, manager of the national cricket team and the investigative officer in the case, PCB director Yawar Saad said.

"The players recorded their statements," Saad told this news agency, without giving details.

The cricketers facing the inquiry are all-rounder Shahid Afridi, batsman Hasan Raza and wicketkeeper Afquzzaman.

Chanderpaul blow for Windies

Final Test begins Today

LONDON, Aug 30: West Indies' preparations for the fifth and final Test against England at The Oval on Thursday have been far from perfect, reports AFP.

In their last first-class match they lost to Somerset by an embarrassing 269 runs and at a practice session here on Tuesday Brian Lara, their most gifted strokeplayer, was bowled by unknown 22-year-old left-arm spinner Giles Puckle.

To make matters worse they will be without Shivnarine Chanderpaul, one of their most durable batsmen, in a match they must win if they are not to lose a Test campaign against England for the first time since 1969.

There is no denying that the West Indies would much rather have the Guyanese left-hander back in his usual middle-order position, bolstering their frail batting line-up, rather than seeing him off on a plane to the Caribbean.

Chanderpaul has frustrated the world's best attacks but tendonitis in his right elbow has forced him to miss the last two Tests and left him a helpless spectator as a 1-0 lead for the tourists has turned into a 2-1 deficit.

He played against Somerset but scores of 10 and four not out were hardly the moral-boosting innings Chanderpaul needed.

West Indies manager Ricky Skerritt said: "He's had the best possible care, quality specialists have looked at and we've given the okay for him to test it out in the game at Somerset."

"He just wasn't happy and he chose to give it some more rest and that meant he was no longer available to participate on this tour."

Rannarath Sarwan who is returning from Guyana following a family bereavement. Sarwan, aged 20, kept his head while more experienced colleagues were losing theirs in the fourth Test innings and 39 run defeat at Headingley and he was twice not out.

Skerritt said of his young charge: "We think he is ready. Sarwan has been a breath of fresh air, very promising and good for the future of cricket."

Few would disagree.

As well as Chanderpaul fast bowler Reon King will be absent although his recent form makes his loss more bearable. His 11 overs in the two-day drubbing at Headingley yielded no wickets and cost 48 runs.

King has a stress injury of the inside but Franklyn Rose, who missed the Headingley match because of an ankle problem, is expected to be fit.

The former Northamptonshire pace bowler played without

READERS' ZONE
The Beach AGM
 Do you have any observation regarding sports and its management in Bangladesh? Do you feel certain issues need to be addressed before time runs out? Then, hurry up and send us your burning questions, critical views and thoughtful suggestions not in excess of 400 words. You may be the next contributor of our just introduced READERS' ZONE. —Sports Editor

I am flabbergasted to learn from Asif Haque's letter published in the Readers' Zone under the title "Cox's Bazar hoax" that BCB has embarked on an unprecedented act of holding its AGM at the beach resort of Cox's Bazar at a colossal expense of Taka 25 lacs.

I do not know whose brainchild is this and what good it will bring to the country's cricket. It is surprising to note that most of the print media with one or two in exception is silent about the whole episode.

I think, there should be a concerted all out effort to stop this wasteful expenditure, which a poor country like ours can hardly afford. For the last few months, the BCB officials were busy in organising this AGM and their personal tour abroad. As a result, they have failed to convince the National Sports Council that it should stop playing musical chairs with the Bangladesh National Stadium for the good of both games -- cricket and football.

Bajwa comes to join Usha

Sports Reporter
 Former Pakistan international Asif Bajwa arrived yesterday to play for Usha Krishna Chakra in the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League.

Asif completed registration formalities last evening and is likely to make his debut today when Usha take on Mariner Young's Club in a crucial match at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium at 4 pm.

He will be the old-town outfit's third Pakistani recruit and joins midfielder Mohammad Saqlain and defender Naveed Alam.

Usha are currently lying in third in the nine-team table with one match left to play.

Leaders Mohammedan, who take on arch rivals Abahani in the last match of the first phase tomorrow, have a maximum 21 points from seven matches. Second place Abahani have collected 17 points, two more than Usha who lost to both hockey giants after winning five outings in a row.

NBL to sponsor Sr Div soccer
Sports Reporter
 National Bank Limited will sponsor the Senior Division football league that begins at the Bangladesh National Stadium tomorrow. This was confirmed in a Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee (DMFLC) press release yesterday.

It was learnt that NBL has agreed to pay Taka 15 lakh per year to sponsor the league for the next three years.

The DMFLC has organised a press conference today to formally announce the deal as well as provide other details of the league.

Holder Mohammedan Sporting Club have newly-promoted Diamonddi Club in the opening match.

An error in millions
 BREMEN, Germany, Aug 30: Werder Bremen have called in the German Football Federation (DFB) to help mediate in a dispute with Croatian club NK Zagreb which is based on an embarrassing typing error, reports AFP.

When 19-year-old defender Ivan Banovic was signed from Zagreb a transfer fee of 3.7 million marks (1.7 million dollars) was inserted into his contract.

However in brackets, written in full after the figure, is the amount "seven and a half million marks" (3.45 million dollars).

Bremen insist on paying the lower amount while Zagreb are claiming the higher fee.

If the DFB can not sort out the dispute, European governing body UEFA may have to be called in to arbitrate.

"This is not our agreement, the amount is 3.7 million marks and not a penny more," Bremen's marketing boss Manfred Muller said.

Star Sports television will be showing the match live with telecast beginning at 3:55pm BST everyday.
 Travelling in the opposite direction is batsman

NSC sitting on the fence

Football for conditional cooperation

Hasan Masood
 "But we are not going to rush into anything. Everything will be done through collective discussions. I don't have to announce now the exact date on which cricket gets back the stadium. It can wait another month," Quader told the Daily Star Sport.

The state minister added that he would soon sit with the BFF to discuss and find out an agreeable solution.

Harun (BFF General Secretary Harunur Rashid, MP) is out of Dhaka at the moment. We will sit immediately after he returns," he said.

Interestingly, football officials seemed willing to cooperate with their BCB counterparts on the issue.

Talking to this correspondent, Golam Mohammad Alamgir, treasurer of Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee (DMFLC), said they were prepared to make the necessary concessions if the NSC assures them that they will get back the BNS.

"We are ready to hand over the stadium on October 16. But NSC will have to guarantee us that we get back the stadium for the remaining 15 days from November 15," said Alamgir, who is also a senior official of Arambagh Kirta Sangha.

"But, I don't think they (the BCB) should require more than ten days for preparation because they will only have work on the western side of the field. Three pitches on the east side are absolutely intact. Still, if they want the stadium

earlier, we are ready to sacrifice," Alamgir added.

Meanwhile, secretary of BCB's grounds committee Alam Chowdhury expressed his guarded optimism regarding the preparation of the pitches and the outfield.

Two pitches have been kept in perfect condition, so I am not worried about that. But it's very difficult to say how much time we would require to prepare the western side of the outfield where football is being played now. What I can tell you is that if I get the ground as it is right now, I will be able to get it ready for the Test in 25 days."

"But I know the condition will be far more worse when we hope to get the ground back. Because, there will be lot of rains which would certainly cause a great extent of damage to the outfield. That's why we need at least six weeks' time for preparation," said Alam.

Alam however sounded sceptical about the fate of the forthcoming domestic season.

"We have to make four new pitches (which had been tore apart for the commencement of football in July) on the western side for the domestic season. To make new pitches you need at least ten weeks," he said. "If NSC returns BNS to football after the Test, we would supposedly get it back on December 1, meaning that the pitches will not be ready before February 15."

In last season, the National League started in November while the domestic league on February 23.

Ambrose's swansong

LONDON, Aug 30 (Reuters): A fast bowling era will come to an end at The Oval during the next week.

When Curtly Ambrose and Lyndwall Ambrose bow out of international cricket, the equivalent of the Ambrose-Courtney Walsh partnership is unlikely to be seen again in the annals of West Indies' cricket, perhaps even in the world game.

In his 97 Tests to date, Ambrose has taken 402 wickets, while his partner Walsh, the world record holder, has 476 from 121.

"I know when I have had enough," said Ambrose, as he looked forward to the fifth Test against England starting on Thursday.

"I am not enjoying my cricket as much as I used to. I am very certain that the time for me to take my exit is now. I have always given my best at all times but it is just about time now for the youngsters to take over the mantle."

"I hope that I have passed on as much as I can about fast bowling to the youngsters so it is now up to them."

Many international teams have had great fast bowling pairs: Harold Larwood and Bill Voce for England, Ray Lindwall and Keith Miller for Australia, Wes Hall and Charlie Griffith (West Indies), Dennis Lillee and Jeff Thomson (Australia) and Waqar Younis and Wasim Akram (Pakistan).

Then came the four-pronged attacks starting with Dennis Lillee, Jeff Thomson, Gary Gilmour and Max Walker of Australia followed by the great West Indies' quartets.

Somewhat the duo have more romance associated with them and the feats of Ambrose and Walsh will live forever.

They have played an incredible 94 Test matches together with Ambrose taking part only three times when his senior partner was not present.

Up to Thursday's Test, of those 94, West Indies won 42 and lost 24. No two players have been more responsible for their team's success than Ambrose and Walsh since they came together in 1988.

Ambrose has bowled 21,786 deliveries in Test cricket while Walsh has delivered 26,804. At least 21 times.

Ambrose had conceded 2,322 runs an over, Walsh 2,59. Their respective bowling averages are an astounding 20.96 for Ambrose and 24.31 for Walsh.

"I really do not know which of my spells was the absolute best," Ambrose said. "I surely remember that my first Test wicket was that of Mohammad Nazir (Pakistan) and that, even more special, Michael Atherton (England) was my 400th."

"Of my spells, the six for 24 (against England Port of Spain, 1994) was good but the eight for 45 (England, Barbados 1990) was also good while the seven for 25 (Australia, Perth 1992-3) was also special."

"All these were in different circumstances, with one common factor — we might have lost the respective Test matches without my input and performance."

"Each allowed us to win the specific Test, so they were all special in their own right. Even here, in the second Test at Lord's, I kept the pressure on by bowling 22 tight overs and had 1-22, not fantastic figures but I kept the pressure on at all times."

The pressure, described by Atherton as a "tremendous weight on batsmen", allowed Walsh to take six for 74 as England crept home by two wickets.

Ambrose paid tribute to his long-time Walsh.

"I am going to miss my great partner and friend. We have gone through a great lot together, good and bad, ups and downs."

"He was so eager and happy for me to join him in the '400 club'. Man, I am going to miss him terribly."

Seven million people throughout the Caribbean will miss Ambrose and many millions more throughout the world.



CURTLY AMBROSE
 an average of about 20 metres for their runups. Ambrose will have covered approximately 440,000 metres and Walsh around 540,000.

Before Thursday, Ambrose and Walsh had taken 10 wickets on three different occasions in Tests. Ambrose has taken five wickets in an innings 22 times while Walsh has managed the

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	40 Blueprint	DOWN	18 Bottom line
1 Females' opposite	42 Fit of	2 Law-rence's territory	21 Cabinet Dept.
6 Daily trio	peevish-	3 Singer in the ring	23 Rinds
11 Beales' "Ticket"	43 Head of st.	4 Biblical kingdom	25 Decks in the ring
12 Chip in a chip	44 Firm	5 Man of La Mancha	27 Service-woman
14 Jeff	46 Uruguay-an's	6 Bullfighter	29 "Ms." founder
15 - del	47 Pyrenean region	7 Okla-homa city	31 1995
16 Syr-neighbor	49 Runny-mede, e.g.	8 Homo-phone of a number	32 Puts on a pedestal
17 Unit	51 Change 12/31/99	9 "Paint Your Wagon" crowd lyricist	33 Comstock Lode
19 Star of four state names	52 UFO	10 France's 31st	34 Malt, subj
20 Heal, osteally	53 Massa-chussets	11 Chats	36 Garland
22 Roulette bet	54 Alabama city	13 Man-handled	37 Actress
23 Rose or Rozelle			38 Packs away
24 Downtight			41 Succotash
26 Stood tall			44 Memor-ization method
28 Dawn goddess			45 Take out of context?
30 "Norma"			48 Guy's companion
31 Card game			50 Have a hug

CRYPTOQUIP
 Y A V L K Q G K V G M Z J J L
 C Q D Q F S J L S K V F F A V R
 Y S U U Z V L V G Q U R G Q C V U
 J L D U S B V V G M A S B M

Yesterday's Cryptiquip: A SEARCH CONTINUES FOR THE CRAFTY CUTLERY: HIEF, ALIAS "THE STAINLESS STEALER."

Today's Cryptiquip clue: S equals 1

The Cryptiquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals Q, it will equal Q throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words, and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.