

SPORTS TALK



Pele

(Brazilian football legend)
"I respect Luxemburgo as a coach (...) but it's bad to constantly change players for matches."

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition-135

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

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

1 Who scored the first hat-trick
in this year's Fed Cup
football?

Ritu Kanchan Tanver

2 Who is Pakistan's cricket
team captain?

Wasim Waqar Moin

3 Who is the captain of
Bangladesh cricket team?

Amrul Akram Naimur

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

Armanjola Biman Marjones

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

Kahn Sommer Reuter

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

NOTICE

Due to some technicalities
we could not hold the draw
of WHIZZ KID Competition-
135 last night. It will now be
held on September 8.

Sports Editor

Boycott urges
Atherton to
carry on

LONDON, Sept 1 (Internet re-
port): Former England cricket
star Geoffrey Boycott has in-
sisted that opener Michael
Atherton should banish any
thoughts of retiring from the
international scene.

Atherton, the former
England captain, has hinted at
hanging up his bat following
next year's Ashes series.

But Boycott, who played on
until he was 46, has warned
that the Lancashire star should
not be so rash.

"My advice is to play as long
as you can because once you
finish nothing else will give you
the same pleasure."

"There are two factors which
should govern any decision,
regardless of ability."

"One is how much you enjoy
the game—if you are not enjoy-
ing it, then it is time to go. A lot
more players now play for the
money, rather than the love of
the game."

"The other is fitness, and
whether you can withstand the
rigours of Test cricket."

Yorkshire
punished

LONDON, Sept 1: Yorkshire
have been deducted eight points
in the County Cricket
Championship for a "poor"
pitch at Scarborough for their
current Division One match
against Surrey, reports Reuters.

The penalty was announced
today by the England Cricket
Board (ECB) after its pitch panel
met in Scarborough yesterday
to discuss the surface.

The panel decided that, due
to the amount of grass left on
the pitch from the start of the
match, there was undue seam
movement and undue uneven-
bounce. There were no extenuat-
ing circumstances to take into
account.

Losing the eight points is a
further setback to Yorkshire's
title ambitions after already
having the worst of the four-day
match against leaders and
champions Surrey.

Councillors meet today

Beach bonanza becomes bitter

Al-Amin from Cox's Bazar



CHITTAGONG, September 1: The annual general meeting of the Bangladesh Cricket Board that begins here tomorrow might turn out to be a source of inexplicable agony for a cricketer with a glorious playing career.

It might sound funny but the harsh reality is that former national captain Roquibul Hassan will find himself in a quite embarrassing position when he sits with the 126 councillors to assess the BCB activities and expenses for the last three years.

A nominee of the National Sports Council (NSC), Roquibul is yet to be legally absorbed in the existing constitution of the Board. He became the 32nd executive member of the present Board, which was elected in the first-ever polls of sports federations in 1998, only when NSC, as being the governing body of all sports, asked the Board to treat him as its 'nominated' representative.

The gutsy opener of the yore did play with a festive bunch of non-cricketers on the beach, but under the fading lights the face of the former cricketer only reflected the look of a tragic hero.

His boon companion Syed Ashraful Huq, the general secretary of the BCB, has however remained hopeful about the first-ever AGM of Board. He hoped that the councillors would be able to formulate a guideline for the Board, and that would surely help the Board to cope with the challenges in the tough world of international cricket.

"I'm happy that we have finally managed to hold the AGM. It will provide an ideal opportunity for everybody to know what is happening in the Board," Ashraful said.

"With an open mind, they would discuss on the mistakes we've made and also formulate a guideline for us so that we can turn Bangladesh into a force to reckon with. The AGM will also give them an opportunity to renew their confidence in the Board."

Preaching the necessity of having a small but effective Board, Ashraful said that they needed a professional set-up for smooth and efficient running of the Board affairs.

"We will have to change our attitude and policy if we are to cope with the challenges of modern day cricket. We are badly in need of professional persons to run the Board."

"The day of amateurism got over once we were elevated to a Test-playing nation. It's now the demand of the time that we have members of substance rather than those in abundance."

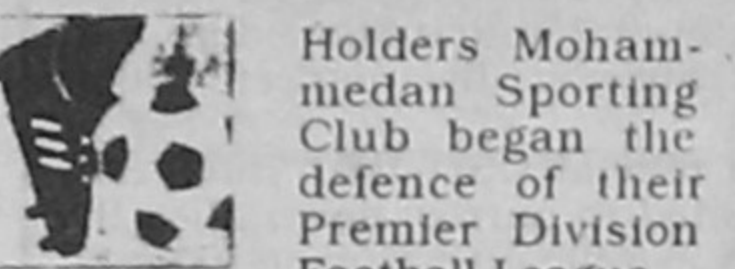
But his expectation belies the reality where the merry-making councillors seemed occupied more with their own interests in the board than cricket. Visibly divided into two groups, the councillors seemed to have reached a consensus so far as their common interest is concerned. Zafar Iqbal, known as the jack of all trades, came up with a proposal

See page 9

Nakib slams first hat-trick

Mohammedan drub D'mondi

Sports Reporter



Holders Mohammedan Sporting Club began the defence of their Premier Division Football League in awesome fashion. The popular Motijheel club thrashed lowly Dhamondi Club 5-0 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The architect of the black and whites' easy sail was former national striker Nakib with a hat-trick. The other goals came from skipper Alfaz Ahmed and Shoaib.

The winners dominated proceedings right from the start and carved out a 4-0 lead by the half time.

A powerful Shoaib header put Mohammedan ahead in the 11th minute thanks to a neat cross from the right by Alfaz.

Nakib doubled the margin in the 32nd minute tapping the ball into the net after a defence splitting pass from Alfaz.

Shortly afterwards it was the turn of Alfaz to add his name on the tally. This time Nakib providing an inch perfect pass to the dark and dapper striker to put the ball away.

Just before the breather Nakib completed the demolition with probably the easiest of goals he will ever score. Once more Alfaz did the spadework.

Mohammedan did not relent even in the second period. They continually bombarded the Dhamondi half with attack after attack. Fortunately poor finishing prevented the score from getting out of hand.

Probably the 2-1 loss to arch rivals Abahani in the Federation Cup was still fresh in the minds of the Mohammedan players. So obviously the Dhaka giants wanted to send a message to potential challengers that they had not lost any of their hunger for success.

Yellow card: Tito (Mohammedan)

TEAMS
MOHAMMEDAN SC: Nizam (Rezaul) (Hakim), Jahangir, Faisal, Jewel, Matinul, Nakib, Shah Alam (Rezaul), Alfaz Ahmed, Nakib, Tito and Shoaib (Liakat).

DHAMONDI CLUB: Anwar (Nayan), Uzzal (Mutaleb), Shaiful, Parimal, Narayan, Hanif, Asad, Parvez, Ashraf, Tapu and Babu.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Premier Division
Muktijoddha v Rahmatganj (4pm)
Abahani v Victoria (6pm)
First Division
Mirpur Chalanika v PWD SC (4pm)
Fakirpool v S Bima (6pm)

NAKIB

West Indies claw back



LONDON, Sept 1 (Reuters/AP): England reached 281 all out in their first innings against the West Indies on the second day of the fifth and final Test at the Oval on Friday.

Darren Gough was the last man to go bowled by Courtney Walsh.

The match had been delayed for some time after lunch due to heavy rain and shortly after the resumption Andrew Caddick was dismissed for 4, mistiming a hook off Walsh.

The rain had stopped play seven minutes after lunch forcing the players off the field until 3.30pm.

The interruption made it increasingly difficult for West Indies to push for the victory they need to square the series and preserve their 31-year unbeaten record against England.

Before the lunch interval the West Indies had fought back well after breaking an obdurate sixth-wicket partnership between Graham Thorpe and Graeme Hick.

Three wickets fell to lbw decisions in the final 30 minutes before lunch as England, who had resumed on the second day at 221 for five, crawled to 255 for eight.

Thorpe and Hick brought the score to 254 for five after 90 minutes, including the 10-minute break for rain, before Hick fell lbw to Courtney Walsh for 17.

SCOREBOARD
ENGLAND: First innings (overnight 221-5)
Atherton b McLean 83
Trescothick c Campbell 78
b Nagamootoo 70
Hussain c Jacobs b Nagamootoo 40
Thorpe lbw b Walsh 17

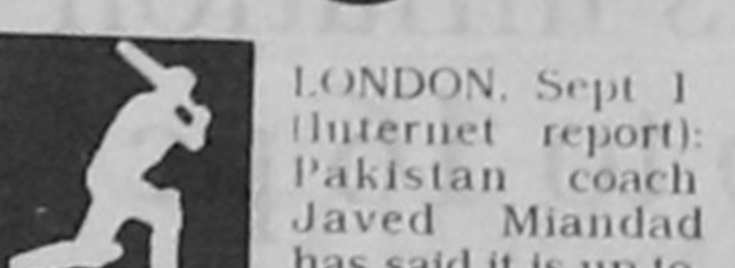
Stewart lbw b McLean 10
Vaughan lbw b Ambrose 10
Hick lbw b Ambrose 17
White not out 11
Cork lbw b McLean 4
Caddick c Hinds b Walsh 4
Gough b Walsh 8
Extras (b-4, lb-15, w-1, nb-10) 30
Total (All out in 234 overs) 281
Fall of wickets: 1-159, 2-159, 3-184, 4-184, 5-214, 6-254, 7-254, 8-255, 9-264

Bowler: D M R W
Ambrose 31 8 38 2
Walsh 35 16 68 3
McLean 29 6 80 3
Nagamootoo 24 7 63 2
Adams 4 0 13 0

WEST INDIES: Sherwin Campbell, Adrian Griffith, Wavell Hinds, Brian Lara, Jimmy Adams, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Ridley Jacobs, Mahendra Nagamootoo, Curtly Ambrose, Nixon McLean, Courtney Walsh

Umpires: David Shepherd (England) and Daryl Harper (Australia)

'Eng must heal wounds'



JAVED MIANDAD

LONDON, Sept 1 (Internet report): Pakistan coach Javed Miandad has said it is up to England to heal the wounds they left behind after their controversial tour in 1987.

In October, Nasser Hussain will take an England side to the Asian country for the first time since former captain Mike Gatting clashed with umpire Shakoor Rana during the Faisalabad game - leading to the loss of one day of Test action.

Relations between the two Boards and teams have soured since the incident and England have turned down several full tours in the decade that followed.

England's World Cup in the sub-continent in 1996 was also scarred by an incident when Mike Atherton described a

Pakistan reporter as a "buffoon" during a press conference.

But 13 years on, England have finally agreed to return to Pakistan, with Miandad hoping for a trouble-free two months.

"I have forgotten about the 1987 incident a long time ago. We have gone to England twice after that but the fact is people still remember that unhappy series and subsequent behaviour of the English players and the Board," said Miandad, who was captain during the last England tour.

"Now it is up to them to heal old wounds on this tour. Now we have a match referee, neutral umpires and more importantly a wider and closer media coverage of matches."

"But the fact is the England team or any foreign team while visiting Pakistan should learn to accept the different culture, environment and playing conditions in this part of the world."

"Frankly speaking, the onus of leaving a good impression of themselves and being appreciated by the host country is upon the visiting team. This can only be done if they accept and re-

Calcutta, India, Sept 1: Latin American giants Uruguay and Colombia will head a star-studded field for India's biggest football tournament being organised next year, officials said here on Friday, reports AFP.

Teams from Europe, Africa and Asia are also expected to take part in the Millennium Soccer Cup to be held between January 10-25 in various cities across India.

Tournament co-ordinator Kulbir Juneja said 13 countries had so far confirmed their participation, and efforts were underway to rope in Australia or New Zealand and more teams from Europe.

Chile, Uruguay, Colombia, Jamaica, South Africa, Cameroon, Uzbekistan, Iraq, Japan, Qatar, Bahrain, Jordan and Czech Republic had all accepted invitations to play, Juneja said.

"This is the first time so many international teams will be playing in a tournament in India," he said.

"We are also negotiating with Croatia, Scotland and Bulgaria."

Women's b'ball

Sports Reporter

Mariner Young Club survived a first half scare to tame a defiant Sunbeams School in the first match of the Rabhani Sports Women's Basketball tournament at the Dhamondi Gymnasium yesterday.

Sunbeam fought neck and neck with their more powerful opponents and held them to an 8-8 tie in the first half. But Mariner girls regrouped themselves after the breather and eventually went on to win the match 28-13 with Santana basketting highest eight times. For Sunbeams, who crushed Green Herald School 53-11 in the tournament opener on Thursday, Kashfi caged in seven times.

In the day's other match, Green Herald suffered their consecutive defeat as Scholastica thrashed them by 33-13. The winners led the first half 17-9. Naomi of Scholastica scored highest 13 while Elizabeth of Green Herald caged in 5 times.

Mike dismisses report

LONDON, Sept 1 (Internet report): Michael Atherton revealed he is happy to continue playing cricket for the time being after top scoring with 83 in England's innings of 221 for five on the opening day of the final Test against the West Indies.

An article in the New Statesman magazine suggested Atherton was close to quitting the game having struggled with a longstanding back problem.

However, the former England captain said: "I don't look too far ahead. Obviously I won't be around forever but I've a year left on my contract with Lancashire and I haven't said I'm quitting."

"I'm still enjoying my cricket and I intend to play for a while."

Surrey in control

LONDON, Sept 1: Surrey took another significant step towards retaining the County Championship title by dismissing third-placed Yorkshire for only 158 at Scarborough yesterday, reports Reuters.

Surrey did not enforce the follow on after reaching 356 in their first innings and finished the second day 251 ahead with eight wickets standing.

Yorkshire never recovered from losing their first three wickets for four runs. Paceman Alex Tudor sent back Simon Widdup and Anthony McGrath with the first two balls of the innings and finished with four for 75.

Australian Darren Lehmann hit a defiant 66 but Yorkshire still trailed by 198.

Anthony Penberthy made 116 as Division Two leaders Northamptonshire amassed a first innings total of 469 against Gloucestershire at Northampton.

Gloucestershire were 65 for three at the close, still 404 behind.

Glamorgan led Essex by 68 at Southend with four first innings wickets in hand after a fourth wicket stand of 227 between Michael Powell (128) and Matthew Maynard (102).

Mark Waugh (118 not out) and Michael Powell (69) scored 166 for the first wicket as Warwickshire dominated a rain-affected second day at Edgbaston. They closed on 224 for one in reply to Worcestershire's 263.

Darren Bicknell added only five runs to his overnight 139 as Nottinghamshire were all out for 351 against Sussex at Trent Bridge.

Sussex were indebted to Richard Montgomerie's unbeaten 116 as they avoided the follow on and reached 235 for six.

India to host international football gala

CALCUTTA, India, Sept 1: Latin American giants Uruguay and Colombia will head a star-studded field for India's biggest football tournament being organised next year, officials said here on Friday, reports AFP.

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"We are also negotiating with Croatia, Scotland and Bulgaria."



Mohammedan's Pakistani star Tahir Zaman takes a tumble while trying to cross the ball to forward Ramiz (X) during their Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League encounter at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday. Ramiz, who struck twice, cashed in on the pass to score his first.

Abahani no match for MSC

Sports Reporter



Leaders Mohammedan Sporting Club in another display of their invincibility routed bitter foes Abahani 4-1 in a crucial Green Delta Premier Division hockey league fixture at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

In the last game of the first phase, Sheikh Ramiz Ahmed struck twice while Pakistani superstar Tahir Zaman and the season's leading scorer Shamim Reza also got on the score sheet for Mohammedan as the Black and Whites maintained their fantastic all-win run. They now have 24 points from eight matches.

Abahani are seven points behind in second place with an uphill task waiting for them in the second round which begins Monday.

Interestingly it was Abahani who made a wonderful start in front of a 4000-plus crowd (the highest of the year) when Navid Iqbal put them ahead in only the sixth minute, though in controversial circumstances.

His goal from an acute angle from the left of the post was at first ruled out by Indian umpire HS Sokhi who thought that the ball had been hit from outside of the D. But after consultation with fellow Indian official Akbar Ali, he awarded the goal (1-0).

This incident sparked off protests from the Mohammedan players and the game was stopped for a few minutes.

However, within seconds of the re-start, Mohammedan

went level.

Abahani defender Roni half cleared a Tahir Zaman cross from the right and the ball fell to an unmarked Ramiz who easily found the target (1-1). There were no more goals before the break.

If Abahani had played on equal terms in the first half, they had no answer to a marauding Mohammedan in the second.

Two minutes into the half, Tahir Zaman converted a penalty corner, his fierce hit finding the top of the net (2-1).

Tahir was in unstoppable form and along with Asique and Reza, created havoc in the Abahani defence. One disappointing moment for the Mohammedan followers, however, was the indifferent showing of the legendary Shahbaz Ahmed who once again failed to make his presence felt.

Reza made it 3-1 after receiving a Tahir Zaman push from a goalmouth scramble. This was the 14th goal of the league for the talented marksman.

Seven minutes from time, Ramiz finished off any glimmering Abahani hope when his reverse hit gave goal-keeper Russell Khan Bappi no chance (4-1). Ramiz's double strike puts him in second position behind team-mate Reza.

In the goal-scorer's chart, the Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Prottsahan (BKSP) product has 10 goals so far to his credit.

Despite their resounding record, Mohammedan captain Sharafat feels his team has no

room for complacency for the remainder of the league.

"We mustn't forget that only last year, Abahani had a lead of six points going into the second phase but still lost the title. We should not take things easy," Sharafat said after the match.

His Abahani counterpart Russell Khan on the other hand seemed to have resigned to the fact that only a miracle can now stop Mohammedan.

"It would be unrealistic to expect the championship. Seven points is a massive deficit. It's practically impossible to close that gap unless they (Mohammedan) slip very badly."

TEAMS

MOHAMMEDAN SC: Amul, Shipu, Tahir, Faruque, Sharafat, Mitul, Ashiq, Rana, Tito, Shamim, Ramiz, Tahir and Shahbaz.

ABAHANI: Bappi, Roni, Nakib, Selim, Miraj, Mukdes, Ashifur, Alamgir, Rubel, Khalid, Hedayetul, Ashiq, Navid and Mahfuzul.

Mykland fined

OSLO, Sept 1: Norwegian midfielder Erik Mykland was hit with a 3,400 dollar fine on Friday for being drunk in an Oslo bar Wednesday night in violation of Norwegian Football Federation rules, reports AFP.

However, the player nicknamed "The Mosquito" for his tireless pestering of opponents, will keep his place in the national squad for Saturday's World Cup qualifier against Armenia.

The 29-year-old, who plays for German Bundesliga side 1860 Munich, apologised during a press conference here Thursday.

"I'll be frank. I went out and had a few beers. There were obviously some journalists who were out that evening as well," he said. "I accept the consequences and apologise for what happened."

Mykland, a veteran of the Norwegian midfield enjoyed a long run in the team including the 1994 and 1998 World Cup finals. He was also prominent in the Euro 2000 finals in Belgium and the Netherlands in June.

POINTS TABLE

Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Mohammedan SC	8	8	0	0	47	6	24
Abahani KC	8	5	2	1	23	6	17
Usha KC	8	5	1	2	35	15	16
Mariner YC	8	4	2	2	21	15	14
Farashganj SC	8	4	0	4	14	19	12
Bangladesh SC	8	2	2	4	6	22	8
Sonali Bank	8	2	1	5	8	26	7
Azad SC	8	1	1	6	14	28	4
Ajax SC	8	0	1	7	10	40	1

Hattricks: Kamal (Usha KC) against Ajax SC; Prince (Usha KC) against Azad SC and Shamim Reza (Mohammedan SC) against Usha KC.

Leading goalscorers: 14 - Shamim Reza (MSC); 10 - Ramiz (MSC); 9 - Kamal (Usha); 8 - Tahir (MSC); 7 - Prince (Usha); Shuvo (Usha