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SPORTS TALK



Viv Richards

(West Indies cricket legend)
"Ganguly looks to me a classy player, but like a bad dog he should be able to bark across the border."

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

- 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 Mohi
- Who is the captain of Bangladesh cricket team?
Amrul Alam Naimur
- Who won the AB Bank Men's TT title?
Armanola Biman Marjies
- Who was voted Germany's footballer of the year in 2000?
Kahn Sammer Reuter

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Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

POWERED WITH
EN-VITS
ENERGY RELEASING VITAMINS

DRU badminton

Azad Hossain Sumon of Ajker Kagoj and Badrul Alam Khokon of Dainik Prabhat moved into the singles semifinals of the Dhaka Reporters Unity badminton competition from Group B eliminating their respective rivals at the NSC wooden floor gymnasium yesterday, reports UNB.

Khokon defeated Mohiuddin Palash of Bangladesh Patrika and Mujtaba Danish of Muktakantha by 2-0 sets each.

Sumon outplayed Mohsinul Karim Lebu of Muktakantha, Abdul Baki of Dinkal and Quamruzzaman Hiro of Sangram by 2-0 sets each on way to the semifinals.

Besides, Zakaria Hossain of Banglar Bani, Abdullah Al Faruk of Jugantor, Akhteruzzaman Lavlu of BNS and M Kaisar of Manabzamin moved into the singles quarterfinals from Group A.

Zakaria beat Mahmudur Rahman Khokon of Abash and Shahidul Islam of Protham Alo by 2-0 sets.

Lavlu defeated Ujjal of Banglar Bani 2-1, Kaisar beat Mustafa Hossain Chowdhury of Ajker Kagoj and Mozammel Hossain Chanchal of Jugantor by 2-0 sets each.

The singles semifinals and the final match will be held today.

Parore props Black Caps

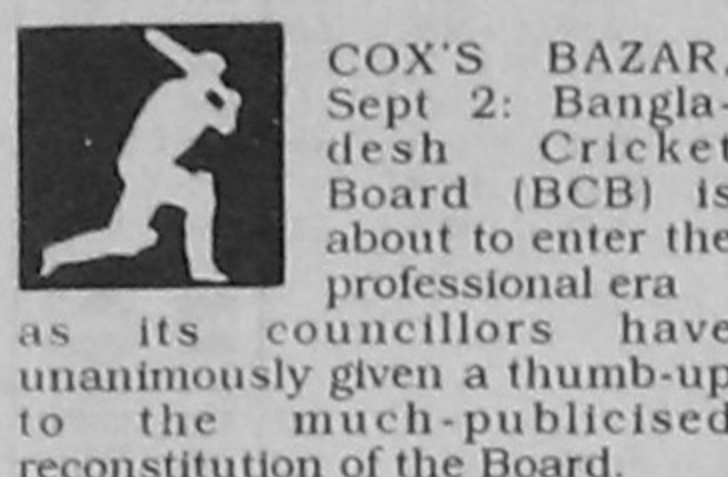
MUTARE, Zimbabwe, Sept 2: Adam Parore rescued New Zealand with an undefeated century on the opening day of their three-day match against Zimbabwe's President's XI on Friday, reports Reuters.

The President's XI were 20 for one at the close in reply to New Zealand's 339 for nine declared.

Parore came to New Zealand's rescue after they had been reduced to 193 for seven.

Mixed day for Saber BCB to go professional

Al-Amin from Cox's Bazar



COX'S BAZAR, Sept 2: Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is about to enter the professional era as its councilors have unanimously given a thumbs-up to the much-publicised reconstitution of the Board.

It became a landmark decision in the history of country's sports when 99 out of the 126 BCB councilors attended the first ever annual general meeting (AGM) here to vote for a professional set-up in the Board.

It was mixed day for Board president Saber Hossain Chowdhury who won the councilors' vote of confidence to run the BCB professionally but failed to trim down the size of it.

"The councilors have agreed to have a professional management. I think it's a historic decision," Saber told the reporters after the AGM at the Motel Shatrat in the afternoon.

The AGM ended in a peaceful manner and the councilors heaved a sigh of relief since they successfully prevented Saber from slicing off the Board to a 22-member representation from the 32-member one.

The witty president however replied diplomatically, "We were mentioning the name of the odd person in the Board." The unfortunate 32nd member is former national captain Roquibul Hasan, who was nominated by the National Sports Council as its representative.

As the last obstacle is removed in the BCB's build-up to go professional, the Board gets out of the conventional set-up of general secretary, joint-secretaries and treasurer.

There will be Board of Directors instead of Executive Committee. We have agreed to elect a 31-man committee. Sixteen from Dhaka-based clubs, 12 from districts, one each from educational institutions and Bangladesh Cricket Development Foundation will fill the posts of directors," said Saber, who presided over the day-long AGM.

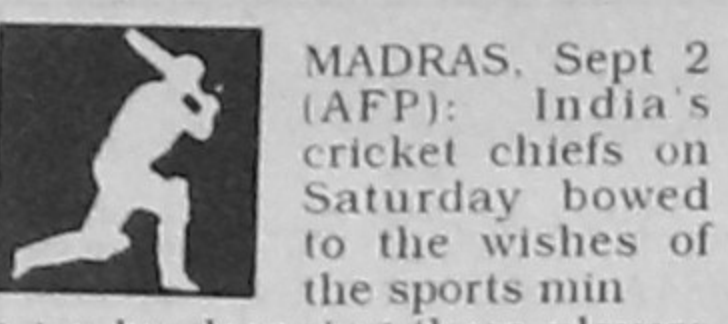
Since it would require an amendment to the constitution for an elected chairman, Saber said that the councilors have left the option open. It can be either a government appointed chairman or an elected chairman from the Board of Directors.

Saber termed himself a relieved person as he would now be dealing with a professional set-up, which includes a general manager and six standing committees -- administration, management, cricket committee, planning, development, finance and marketing. Only professional guys (managers) will head the standing committees.

Termining the AGM a grand success, Saber said that they have decided to hold it on regular basis and rotate the venue each time. "We have also decided to grant Taka 5 crore -- three crore to districts and two crore to Dhaka clubs -- for the next five years. But this amount has to be spent for development

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Azhar left in the cold



MADRAS, Sept 2 (AFP): India's cricket chiefs on Saturday bowed to the wishes of the sports ministry by dropping three players who are being investigated for match-fixing charges.

Former captain Mohammad Azharuddin, Ajay Jadeja and Nikhil Chopra, whose homes were raided by tax officials last month, have been kept off a preliminary squad of 23 for the ICC Knockout tournament in Kenya next month.

However, chairman of selectors Chandu Borde said there was no pressure on him to axe the players and they were dropped for the sake of introducing youngsters in the squad.

No decision, however, taken on the future of national coach Kapil Dev, another tainted star who put his job on the line recently by saving the match-fixing charges against him had dimmed his enthusiasm for the game.

Jaywant Lale, secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, told reporters after the selection committee meeting in the southern Indian city of Madras that Kapil's fate will be known later this month.

The BCCI president, A.C. Muthiah, will take a decision on Kapil before the training camp for the probables starts on September 14, Lale said.

All 10 Test-playing nations, including rookies Bangladesh, will take part in the International Cricket Council's tournament.

The omission of Azharuddin, Jadeja and Chopra was expected after sports minister Sukhdev Dhande's pleas to the BCCI that the players being investigated should be dropped till they are proved innocent.

The Central Bureau of Investigation and federal tax officials, who are inquiring into the matter, are expected to submit preliminary findings by the end of September.

Borde, explaining his decision to leave the trio out, said: "I was not told to drop any one. But the selectors decided to

century in 11 matches this year. Jadeja has two half-centuries in as many games, while off-spinner Chopra managed just three wickets in four matches.

Pace spearhead Javagal Srinath was not considered since he wanted to be kept out of one-day matches, Lale said.

There was also no place for veteran wicket-keepers Nayan Mongia and Saba Karim, who have alternately kept wickets in one-day matches over the past few years.

Their place has gone to three untested, but promising keepers in Ajay Ratna, Reuben Paul and Vijay Dahiya. One of them will make the trip to Nairobi.

Elegant left-hander Sourav Ganguly has been retained as captain, with middle-order batsman Rahul Dravid as his deputy.

There are six new faces among the probables, including three who helped India win the junior World Cup in Sri Lanka in January.

The final 15-man squad will be picked on September 20.

PROBABLES
Saurav Ganguly (capt), Rahul Dravid (vice-capt), Sachin Tendulkar, Sadagopan Ramesh, Vinod Kamble, Hemang Badani, Sridharan Sri-rani, Yuvraj Singh, Jacob Marlin, Mohammad Kaif, Ajay Ratna, Reuben Paul, Vijay Dahiya, Robin Singh, Sunil Joshi, Reetinder Sodhi, Anil Kumble, Ajit Agarkar, Venkatesh Prasad, Amit Bhandari, Zakir Khan, Thiru Kumaran and Debashish Mohanty.

AZHARUDDIN
groom youngsters keeping the 2003 World Cup in mind.

All three may have contributed to their omission by their poor form this year.

Azharuddin, the most experienced one-day player in the world, has made just one half-

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Shame on DMFLC

Sports Reporter

The Dhaka Mahanagar Football League Committee (DMFLC) in a blunt show of insensitivity shifted a scheduled National Bank Premier Division football league match yesterday without notifying the media or the fans.

There were two matches scheduled to be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium with Muktiyoddha Sangsad up against Rahmatganj in the first at 4 pm while Abahani were to take on Victoria in the next at 6 pm.

But to the utter surprise of the sports reporters who gathered at the press box much before 4 pm for their professional duties, the first match was not held.

It was then learnt that the DMFLC, the organisers of the league, has made an amendment to the fixture after allegedly being pressurised by Muktiyoddha who did not want to play in daylight.

Strangely the DMFLC had changed the fixture on Thursday immediately after a press conference regarding launching of this year's league, but they never bothered to inform the media.

Besides, another point raised major dissatisfaction among the sports journalists. In Thursday's media conference, most of the reporters demanded that the matches be held at 3pm and 5pm instead of the present 4pm and 6pm schedule so that maximum coverage can be provided. But the DMFLC officials, who had promised that they would consider the issue, didn't care to adjust the timing of the games.

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ESPN goes to Nairobi

MUMBAI, Sept 2 (PTI/Internet): The ESPN will telecast live the ICC knock-out cricket tournament to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from October 3 to 15.

Former Test stars Sunil Gavaskar of India and Geoffrey Boycott of England would provide exclusive analysis of the matches and answer questions from the viewers on live phone-ins about the game situations, players' performances, team strategies or forecasts, an ESPN release said here today.

The tournament which has eleven teams vying for top honours will kick-off with hosts Kenya taking on India on October three, the release added.

SCHEDULE
Oct 3: India v Kenya
Oct 4: SL v West Indies
Oct 5: England v Bangladesh
Oct 7: Australia v WM1
Oct 8: Pakistan v WM2
Oct 9: New Zealand v Zimbabwe
Oct 10: South Africa v WM3
Oct 11: 1st semifinal (WM5 v WM6)
Oct 13: 2nd semifinal (WM4 v WM7)
Oct 15: Final
Oct 6, 12, 14 & 16 -- reserve days

Women's Basketball Wins for Mariner, Sunbeams

Sunbeams and Mariner Youngs Club won their respective Rabban Sports Women's Basketball tournament matches at the Dhannoddi basketball gymnasium yesterday.

Sunbeams recorded a 24-14 win over Panthers Club.

The winners led the first half 14-7.

Tahn and Kashfi scored highest 11 points each for the winners.

In the day's other match, Mariner handed Green Herald a 35-22 defeat.

The winners led the first session 19-13.

Shilpi caged in highest 20 points for Mariner followed by Diana who added six points.

Scholastica will take on Mariner in today's first match while Panthers are scheduled to meet Green Herald in the next.

Rain halts Surrey

LONDON, Sept 2: Surrey's march towards a second successive county championship was held up by rain at Scarborough on Friday, reports Reuters.

Only 11 overs were possible on the third day of their game against Yorkshire.

Resuming at 53 for two, leaders Surrey advanced to 89 for three before play was called off. They lead by 287 with one day left.

Before the match resumed Yorkshire were deducted eight points for a "poor" playing surface by the England Cricket Board's pitch panel.

The panel met on Thursday and 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.

Abahani amble past Victoria

Sports Reporter

Federation Cup champions Abahani posted an easy 4-1 victory over babes Victoria Sporting Club in their opening National Bank Premier Division Football League

encounter at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. Strikers Rokunuzzaman Kanchan, Kennedy, Mizanur Rahman Don and midfielder Zakir Hossain scored once each for the Diamond-based club. Manik grabbed a late goal for

Victoria.

Abahani led the first half 3-0.

The sky blues took 17 minutes to establish the lead when Tito's free-kick from the right came off the wall and nimble Kanchan pounced on the loose ball unleashing a powerful left-footer.

Zakir's left foot increased the margin five minutes before the breather. The former national midfielder, after latching on to a Sentu through ball, ran down the left flank and sent advancing Victoria custodian Shimul the wrong way with a fierce grounder.

Ghanian forward Kennedy sealed the half with a thunderbolt that seemed to rip through the net, much to the surprise of referee Ramkrishna Ghosh who took some time before signaling the third goal in injury time.

During the first 45 minutes reliable Don missed two easy sitters and defender Tito spoiled a golden opportunity to boost their tally.

In the 13th Don flicked the ball straight into the hands of Victoria keeper from three yards and he was guilty of repeating the offence after a Sentu pass in the injury time. Tito failed to maintain his cool blasting a shot over bar from a rebounder in the danger area.

Besides, luck also denied them when Kennedy's free kick from the top of the box in the 9th minute beat the keeper but not the post.

In the opening 10 minutes of the second half Abahani was happy to absorb whatever the Victorians could throw at them. Eventually they launched a counter-attack but Don's weak effort hardly tested Shimul.

Don made up for the gaffe in the 71st minute. He dodged past the Victoria goalkeeper after hard-working Kennedy fed him a neat melle.

The goal acted as a tranquiliser for Abahani. And, sensing the tiredness of their superior counterparts, Victoria's Manik reduced the margin the 85th minute after a goal-mouth melle.

Yellow cards: Kabir and Fayed Babu (Victoria SC).

TEAMS
ABAHANI: Bipal, Partho, Nazrul, Ghansha, Tito (Pavel), Zakir, Iqbal (Dulal), Kanchan, Don, Kennedy and Galib (Sentu).

VICTORIA SC: Shimul, Lipu, Shipu, Jet, Kabir, Lovelu (Sumon), Sohel, Rahel, Fayed Babu, Manik and Abul.

Referee: Ramkrishna Ghosh.

TODAY'S MATCHES
Premier Division
Armanagh KS v Brothers Union (4 pm)
Muktiyoddha v Rahmatganj (6 pm)
(Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium)

First Division
Prantik KC v Wari Club (4 pm)
BRTC v Muslim Victoria (6 pm)
(Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium)

Div I soccer
Mirpur Chalanika SC managed a solitary goal victory over PWD SC in the opening match of the Metropolitan First Division Football League at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday, reports UNB.

Didar scored the all important goal for Chalanika in the 28th minute.

In the day's other match, Youngmen's Club Fakirpool beat Sadharan Bima KS also by 1-0 goal at the same venue.

Quader Mollah scored the matchwinner for Fakirpool in the 73rd minute.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
1 John L. Sullivan's weapon
5 Dan Rather's employer
8 Nick and Nora's pet
12 Corn territory
13 Color
14 Hail
15 Par
17 Story
18 Airport building
19 African antelope
21 "Miss Brooks"
22 Incursion
23 Call for help
26 Entreat
28 Sorrow
31 Busy with
33 Badmouth (slang)
35 "Orinoco Flow" singer
36 Scans bar codes, e.g.
38 Beak
40 Obtain
41 U.N. refusal
- DOWN**
43 1773
45 It had a big part in the Bible
47 Musical duet
51 Writer
52 Exceptional one
54 Stratagem
55 First X?
56 Drunk
57 Wan
58 Run up
59 Sufficient, in verse
61 "Barney Miller"
62 Spinoza
63 Behind
64 Elton John or Paul McCartney
65 Ugly duckling, really
66 Valentino specialty
67 Burned some seedcase
68 "Royal Wedding"
69 Journey
70 Snatched
71 Boule's planet
72 Rowan Atkinson persona
73 Scrumptious
74 "My Dinner With..."
75 Avis
76 Down Under
77 Comic
78 Comic
79 Anise
80 Lettovers
81 Sister's sister

CRYPTOQUIP
J B U N F L W J N B Q V X J B X
X J N C D S Y F Y L P X B K
C L Q R N Q I L W K V M X
N U N M K D I R B P X B S Y ?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I'M ENRAGED THAT TOP MODELS WHO ARE OUT OF FASHION WOULD GET DEPOTED.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals A

The Cryptoquip 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.