

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 136
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to Star Sports
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Oct 13 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who is India's new cricket coach?
Amarnath Gaekwad Simpson
- Who lifted the Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League title?
Mohammedan Abahani Usha
- Who is the fastest man in the world?
Greene Bailey Johnson
- Who is the 400m Olympic champion?
Johnson Boldon Campbell
- Who won the women's singles tennis title at the Sydney Games?
Hings Williams Davenport

Name.....
Class..... Roll No.....
School Address.....
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SPORTS TALK



Susanthika Jayasinghe
(Sri Lanka's first female Olympic medal winner)
"I am glad that even those who opposed and obstructed me are pleased with the medal I won."
After returning from Sydney.

New records for Sobers

MELBOURNE, Sept 5 (Reuters): West Indies cricket great Sir Garfield Sobers smashed his way back into the record books when two bats he used in the 1950s and 1960s sold for record prices, auction house Christie's said on Thursday.
The bat Sobers used to hit his then record Test score of 365 not out for the West Indies against Pakistan in Jamaica in 1958 sold for 129,500 Australian dollars (\$88,881 pounds) at an auction on Wednesday - the highest price ever paid for a piece of cricket memorabilia.
But minutes after that sale was knocked down to a private British buyer, another Sobers bat broke the mark.
The bat he used to club a record six consecutive sixes in a single over in an English county match in 1968 was sold for 146,875 Australian dollars to a private buyer in the United States.
Christie's said the previous record for a cricket bat sale was 55,200 Australian dollars, set in 1999 for willow wielded by another of the world's great cricketers, Australia's Sir Donald Bradman.
Sobers' record Test score of 365 was bettered by fellow West Indian Brian Lara, who hit 375 against England in the 1993-94 season.

Magura cricket

From Our Correspondent
MAGURA, Oct 5: Tahid Smriti Sangha defeated Shaheed Solaiman Smriti Sangsad by 13 runs in the late Abdus Sattar Laskar Cricket tournament organised by Shajara Jeon Club at the local playground today.
Tahid Smriti batting first and made 111 all out in 24.2 overs.
In reply, Shaheed Solaiman Smriti collected 98 runs in 10.2 overs.

BRIEF SCORES
TAHID SMRITI SANGHA: 111 all out in 24.2 overs (Shakunur 19, Nahid 19; Humayon 3/21, Shimul 12/2).
SHAHEED SOLAIMAN SMRITI SANGSAD: 98 all out in 10.2 overs (Bablu 16, Zia 12; Mamun 3/12, Masud 2/2).
Result: Tahid Smriti Sangha won the match by 13 runs.



Players and officials of Mohammedan Sporting Club, who lifted the Premier Division hockey league title, pose for photographs at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday. - Star photo

Some solace for Abahani



The title celebration for a record fourth consecutive occasion of Mohammedan Sporting Club

soured a little yesterday when their arch-rivals Abahani handed them a 2-1 defeat in the last match of the Green Delta Insurance Premier Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium.
With Mohammedan already retaining the title two matches before, yesterday's final match had no bearing on the race. But like always the prestige battle of the two most crowd-pulling outfits is spectators' attraction. And Abahani earned some solace by ending Mohammedan's 15-match unbeaten streak.

The black and whites without their inspirational Pakistan stalwarts Tahir Zaman and Shahbaz Ahmed, who flew home after confirming the championship, looked vulnerable against their bitter neighbours.
After a barren first half flamboyant central defender Mahfuzul Alam Nixon, opened the account for Abahani, converting a penalty corner in the 37th minute. Naved Iqbal, one of the three Pakistani recruits of Abahani, doubled the margin in the 50th minute with a nice field goal.
For Mohammedan Rana pulled one goal back six minutes away from the final whistle.

With this win Abahani finished at par with Usha Krira Chakra, both having collected 35 points each. But Usha finished runners-up behind Mo-

Rakib wins Rating chess

Sports Reporter
International Master Abdul-lah-al Rakib won the Shaheed Major Nazmul Huq International Rating Chess Championship title by virtue of having a better progressive score than his challenger IM Reefat-bin Sattar.
Both Rakib and his more illustrious Biman teammate Reefat finished with seven points each on completion of the nine round Swiss League meet on Wednesday. In the final round, Rakib drew with Ejaz. Reefat also suffered the same fate against an unheralded Ahmedul.
But in the tie-breaker Rakib scored 39.5 points against Reefat's 35. Both Rakib and Reefat won a cash award of Taka 12,500 each.



Ramiz of Mohammedan Sporting Club looks on as the ball rolls into the net past Abahani custodian Asif during their Green Delta Premier Division hockey league engagement at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday. - Star photo

SQUADS

Abahani: Rahmatullah Asir, Roni, Nakib, Amir, Miraj, Moksed, Ashiqur, Alamgir
Mohammedan: Alim, Rubel, Bappi, Navid Iqbal and Mahfuzul Alam.
Mohammedan: Amul, Shipu, Faruque, Sharafat, Zahurul, Ashique, Mahbub, Shahidullah, Shamim, Shamsuddin and Kennedy.

STANDINGS

Teams	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Mohammedan SC	16	14	1	1	88	14	43
Usha KC	16	11	2	3	79	28	35
Abahani KC	16	11	2	3	43	19	35
Mariner YC	16	9	4	3	41	26	31
Bangladesh SC	16	5	2	9	15	45	17
Ajax SC	16	4	2	10	31	65	14
Farashganj SC	16	4	1	11	23	57	13
Sonali Bank	16	3	3	10	17	51	12
Azad SC	16	2	1	13	26	58	7

Hattricks: Shamim Reza (Mohammedan SC) against Usha KC, Farashganj SC and Ajax SC, Kamal (Usha KC) against Ajax SC and Bangladesh SC, Prince (Usha KC) against Azad SC, Alem Raja (Ajax) against Usha, Alamgir (Abahani) against Farashganj.

Leading goalscorers: 25 goals - Shamim Reza (MSC), 21 goals - Kamal (Usha), 15 goals - Ramij (MSC), Shuvo (Usha), 13 goals - Rana (MSC), 12 goals - Tahir (MSC), 11 goals - Musa (Mariner), Rubel (AKC).

Hair cut off



NAIROBI, Oct 5 (Internet report): Australian cricket umpire Darrel Hair will not officiate in any of Sri Lanka's ICC Trophy matches following a protest from the island's cricket board.
The International Cricket Council (ICC) has decided to keep controversial Hair out of matches involving Sri Lanka during this tournament in Kenya.

Hair was scheduled to officiate in the quarterfinal match against Pakistan on Sunday, for which Sri Lanka qualified by virtue of a thumping 108-run defeat of West Indies on Wednesday, but following a strong protest made by the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka (BCCSL), the ICC (International Cricket Council) decided to reassign the umpires from the second round of the competition.

"The ICC has informed us that they have re-assigned umpires for Sri Lanka's matches, because we had a problem with Hair," Chandrisian Perera, media manager of BCCSL, Perera said the new umpires' roster would take effect from the second round of the tournament.

"I am happy about the decision taken by the ICC. The national team can now concentrate on planning out their strategy for the rest of the tournament and go ahead and win it," said a delighted BCCSL president Thilanga Sumanthipala.

Hair is a hate figure in Sri Lanka after calling off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan for throwing in a Test match in Melbourne five years ago.



DARREL HAIR

Muralitharan was subsequently cleared by the ICC while Hair was found guilty of misconduct last year for comments on the incident in his autobiography "Decision Maker".

He described Muralitharan's bowling action as "diabolical" in his autobiography and has publicly said that he would not hesitate to call him again whenever he got the opportunity.

MSC, Abahani face to face

Sports Reporter

Holders Mohammedan Sporting Club will take on their arch-rivals Abahani in a crucial national Bank Premier Football League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

The blood and thunder clash of the two popular clubs in the domestic circuit will kick off at 5 pm.

The match will be infinitely important for both Abahani and Mohammedan to stay in the title race along with current League leaders Muktiyoddha, whose wins against both the giants by an identical 1-0 margin suddenly changed the whole complexion of the tournament.

Mohammedan will be looking forward to avenging their defeat in the Federation Cup final against Abahani to go level with Muktiyoddha on completion of the first round. Meanwhile, Abahani will have to summon all of their courage and skill against their bitter foes today following their surprise loss against Dhamondi in their previous league match.

Abahani have already brought in Indian forward Sabir Pasha to strengthen their attack. Sabir is the third foreign recruit of Abahani after the Ghanaian duo of Ghansha and Kennedy.

On the other hand, Mohammedan, without any foreign players in their ranks, would be looking forward to their inspirational captain Alfaz Ahmad to turn a turnaround.

BD-England scoreboard

Scoreboard of the match between Bangladesh and England on the third day of the ICC Knockout Trophy in Nairobi on Thursday:

BANGLADESH

Javed Omar not out 63
Al Shaukat Aliene b Caddick 13
Habibul Bashir run out (Stewart) 18
Aminul Islam c Caddick b Ealham 30
Akram Khan b Ealham 6
Naimur Rahman c Hussain b Caddick 46
Khaled Masud c Hick b Ealham 17
Mohammad Rafique c Trescottick b White 5
Enamul Hoque c Hussain b White 2
Hasibul Bashir not out 16
Extras (lb-5, nb-4, w-7) 16
Total: (For eight wickets in 50 overs) 232
Fall of wickets: 1-33; 2-70; 3-83; 4-96; 5-160; 6-184; 7-203; 8-206

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
Caddick	10	1	35	2
Gough	10	1	38	0
White	10	2	45	2
Ealham	10	0	48	3
Hick	7	0	35	0
Alleyne	3	0	26	0

ENGLAND

Trescottick c K Masud b H Hossain 15
Stewart not out 87
Hossain c&b Rafique 95
Hick not out 23
Extras (lb-1, lb-4, nb-8, w-3) 16
Total: (For 2 wickets in 43.5 overs) 236
Fall of wickets: 1-33; 2-207.
Did not bat: G Thorpe, A Flintoff, C White, M Ealham, M Alleyne, D Gough, A Caddick.

Bowler

	O	M	R	W
H Hossain	10	0	59	1
M Rahman	7.5	0	43	0
M Rafique	10	1	43	1
Enamul Haq	10	0	46	0
Naimur Rahman	6	0	40	0

Result: England won by 8 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Alec Stewart.

SA's Top 5 named

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 5 (Internet report): The inclusion of young fast bowler Nantie Hayward proved the only surprise when the five South African cricketers-of-the-year were announced in Johannesburg on Wednesday night.

The announcement took place at a banquet launching the 2000 edition of the Mutual and Federal South African Cricket Annual, which is country's version of Wisden and equally well respected.

There were no surprises among the other four named alongside the fiery Hayward: world class all-rounder Jacques Kallis and vice-captain Mark Boucher received the award for the second time, while former New Zealand and Gauteng captain Ken Rutherford and West Indian stalwart Vabert Drakes completed the line-up.

Hayward, the heir apparent to Allan Donalds throne, has improved his consistency after a dismal tour of England in 1998, culminating in taking five wickets in his debut Test last year.

Kallis and Boucher have proved their worth in the South Africa Test arena. Kallis shouldering both the crucial roles of number 3 batsman and first change bowler, while Boucher had a spectacular season last year, becoming the first night-watchman to score two centuries, as well as becoming the youngest wicketkeeper to 100 dismissals.



Aminul Islam waits for the ball to pitch during the ICC Knockout tournament match against England at Nairobi yesterday. - AFP photo

Bacher handing over reins



JOHANNESBURG, Oct 5 (Internet report): The United Cricket Board of South Africa has appointed Gerald Majola as its first black managing director.

The 41-year-old will take over next January to allow his predecessor Dr Ali Bacher to concentrate on organising the 2003 World Cup, which will take place in the Republic.

Bacher, who will remain with the UCB in an advisory capacity, has been in charge of the UCB since its formation in 1991, when the South African Cricket Union merged with the South African Cricket Board, the latter having been responsible for the running of non-white games.

He was chiefly responsible for the country's re-admission to Test match cricket the following year.

Meanwhile, the South Africa's Department of Sport has refused to reject the return of the springbok emblem for the national cricket side, but warned that there is still sensitivity surrounding its past.

Sports minister Ngconde Balfour's spokesman, Graham Abrahams, said the depart-

ment's view was that it would not reject out of hand efforts to return the springbok to cricket, should efforts be made.

Instead, he said, the issue would be "put out there for debate in the normal democratic way".

With speculation rife about a new name for the SA national

cricket side - following an announcement by the UCB that they were in the process of looking for one - Abrahams said the department felt there is still "a great deal of sensitivity surrounding the springbok, given the legacy of the past, and the department would not want to impose it on anyone."

"However, while the Protea is the national symbol of SA sport, lots of codes have sought to break away and find different names for themselves, like Bafana Bafana or even the Easy Ntombis," Abrahams said.

"If cricket wants to find itself a new identity, we will be relaxed about it."

"If the issue of the Springbok comes up, I believe we will not oppose it out of hand."

Bacher however could not be reached - he was involved in interviews for the appointment of full-time professional umpires - but he was quoted as having said cricket would never go back to the springbok emblem.

UCB communications officer Bronwyn Wilkinson said she had no reason to believe those reports were inaccurate because Bacher had seen them and had not objected to what they contained.

ALI BACHER



THIS IS HOW YOU DO IT: Abahani's prolific Ghanaian striker Kennedy (L) about to kick the ball while teammates look on during a practice session at the club ground yesterday. All eyes will be on Kennedy when his team takes on arch rivals Mohammedan in a crucial Premier Division Fixture today. - Star photo by Amran Hossain

Step for sparkling cricket



MELBOURNE, Oct 5 (Internet report): Teams that play attacking cricket in the Mercantile Mutual Cup this season will be rewarded with bonus points, the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) has announced.

In an attempt to encourage positive and entertaining cricket, one bonus point will be awarded to teams that achieve a run rate 1.25 times that of the opposition.

To accurately reflect the worth of the bonus point, a win in the competition now earns four points (compared to last year's two points), making the maximum points available in a game five.

ACB Chief Executive Malcolm Speed said bonus points were an ideal way to promote an attacking and entertaining style of cricket.

"The Mercantile Mutual Cup bonus points reward positive cricket played by teams when batting and bowling," he said.

"The team batting second can gain an extra point if it

chases the target score quickly, and the team bowling second can gain the same advantage if it restricts the batting sides scoring and/or dismisses it cheaply.

"Bonus points earned throughout the season could come in handy at the business end of the season, when teams are vying for positions in the Mercantile Mutual Cup Final."

The bonus points initiative was one of many changes detailed at the launch of the 2000-01 Mercantile Mutual Cup, held at Taronga Zoo in Sydney.

For the first time, slow over rates will be penalised with runs, ensuring the team batting second is not disadvantaged. Each over short of the required minimum overs at the scheduled cessation time will see the bowling side incur a six-run-per-over penalty.

"Another significant change to the competition sees the introduction of a full home and away schedule. Thirty-one matches, including the final, will be played. This move is intended to give players more opportunities to prepare for the

step up to one-day international level and allows spectators to see more quality domestic one-day cricket.

In addition to the bonus points, penalty runs and programme changes, other popular Mercantile Mutual Cup innovations will continue this year.

About the season ahead, Speed said: "With the bonus points system joining the other popular initiatives this year, the Mercantile Mutual Cup will continue to be regarded the best domestic one-day competition in the world."

Since its inception in 1992-93, the Mercantile Mutual Cup has been the perfect nursery for Australian one-day international cricket. Australia's 1999 World Cup triumph and last year's record for consecutive one-day games without defeat can be attributed partly to the strength of the competition and the style of cricket played in the Mercantile Mutual Cup.

The first match of the Mercantile Mutual Cup takes place in Brisbane this weekend, with the Queensland Bulls taking on the Southern Redbacks.