

SPORTS TALK



Michael Slater
(Australian cricketer)

"It becomes a bit of an obsession."

About his eagerness to play in the one-day internationals.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 136

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Oct 13 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

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

Name:

Class: Roll No:

School Address:

Phone: (If any)



Amateur Cup Golf

Sports Reporter

Y. B. Kim and Farzana Islam lifted the men's and ladies' titles of the ISL Second Amateur Cup Golf Tournament respectively that ended at the Savar Golf Club yesterday.

As many as 156 golfers, including a good number of women drawn from the country's leading clubs, took part in the nine-hole competition.

Besides the hosts the other clubs included Kurmitola Golf Club, Bhariary Golf and Country Club, Jessore Golf Club and Mainamati Club.

After the competition concluded a prize distribution ceremony was held in the afternoon.

Savar Area Commander of Bangladesh Army Maj Gen Muhammed Masud Rahman was the chief guest in the absence of Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen M Mustafizur Rahman.

An attractive lottery draw was held afterwards.

OTHER RESULTS

Ladies' Runner-up: Saleha Akter Banu; **Men's First Runner-up:** Zulfiqur Rahman; **Men's Second Runner-up:** Masud Jinnah; **Best Gross:** Sadeque Quddus; **Senior Winner:** Maj Gen Ameer Ali; **Nearest to Pin:** Chan Lee; **Longest Drive:** Faisal Khan.

Magura cricket

From Our Correspondent

MAGURA, Oct 7: Raotara Cricket Club defeated Haripur Cricket Club by 99 runs in the Abdul Sattar-Laskar Smriti Cricket tournament at the Mithun-Kazal-Musa playground today.

Raotara batted first and made 181 losing all wickets in 20.3 overs.

In reply, Haripur collected only 82 runs for all out in 15.3 overs.

BRIEFScores

RAOTARA CRICKET CLUB: 181 all out in 20.3 overs (Milon 42, Asad 34, Rajib 29, Kanchon 8, Poltu 8, Shoukhan 7, Milon (Senior) 5/23, Sumon 2/32, Munna 1/15, Uzzal 1/22).

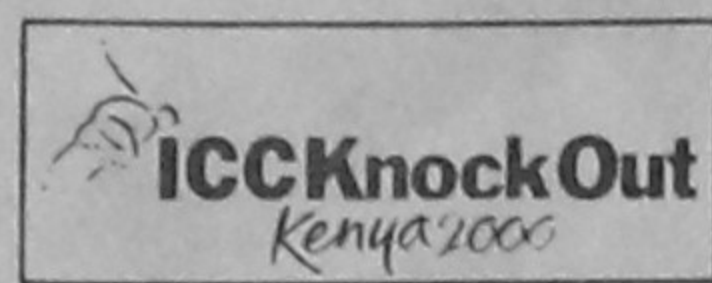
HAZIPUR CRICKET CLUB: 82 all out in 15.3 overs (Dukluh-30, Zillu 7, Munna 7, Sumon 6, Shahajul 6, Asad 4/11, Nimal 2/2, Poltu 2/24, Rajib 1/21).

Result: Raotara Cricket Club won the match by 99 runs.

Man-of-the match: Asad.

Why Bikash is there?

Sports Reporter



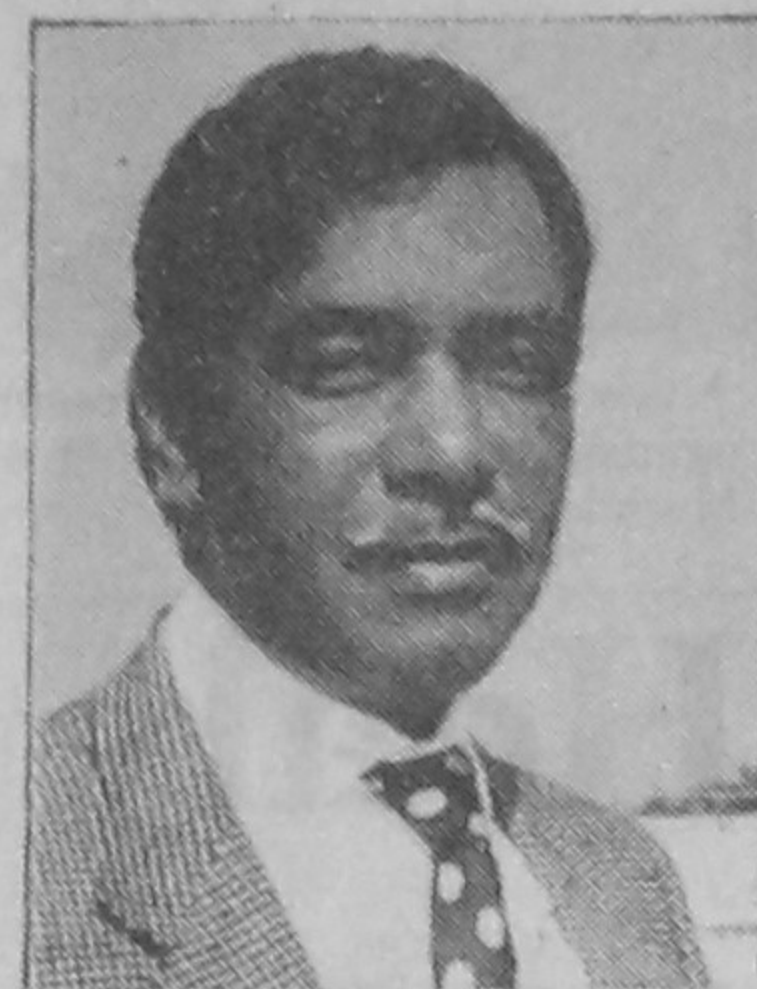
As the Bangladesh cricketers head off for a maiden tour of South Africa on Monday, the Test rookies travel with an injury to key left-arm seamer Monjurul Islam.

Monjurul bruised his bowling arm during a practice match against Sri Lanka and subsequently was sidelined from the ICC KnockOut encounter against England in Nairobi on October 5.

His absence exposed Bangladesh's bowling deficiencies in that game which they suffered a comprehensive eight-wicket defeat.

While England deployed a four-pronged pace attack, Bangladesh surprisingly opted for one specialist seamer in Habibul Hossain and three spinners along with usual first-change pacer - Mushfiq Babu.

As a precaution assistant manager Mahmud-ul Haq has sought a couple of replace-



TANVIR HAIDER

ments, including a batsman. However chief selector Tanvir Haider, who was not at all satisfied with the team management's performance against England, has sought a detailed report about their request.

"I'm really surprised with the team's decision of not trying young fast bowler Bikash Ran-

jan Das. We have selected him for not carrying the water bottle. If Monjurul was injured they should have tried Bikash since he is the best available bowler at the moment," said Tanvir to the Daily Star Sport over telephone yesterday.

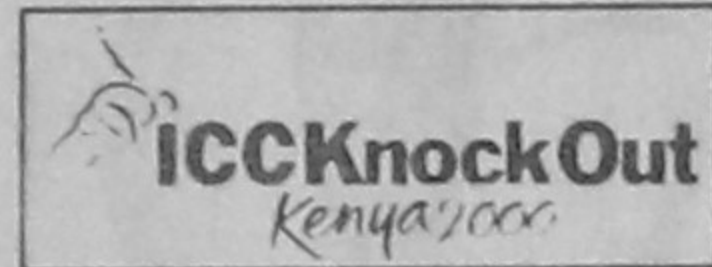
"We don't have anybody better than Bikash back home," he remarked.

In South Africa, Bangladesh will play a four-day match against a provincial team from October 12-15. Besides they will feature in three limited-over matches against the hosts second string side.

Against Nasser Hussain's Englishmen, the decision of Mushfiqur Rahman to open the bowling with Hasibul, who had a nightmarish first over that included six no balls and a wide, not only overshadowed an exciting batting display of Naimur's team, but also allowed critics to even question Bangladesh's induction into the Test echelon.

This was Bangladesh's first one-day appearance since they earned the Test status in June this year.

Kenya gala prices out fans



NAIROBI, Oct 7 (AFP) - A dearth of spectators has marred the ongoing ICC KnockOut Trophy tournament in the Kenyan capital.

Only 2,000 fans, most of them school children, were on hand when Kenya's President Daniel arap Moi tossed the coin for the opening match between the hosts and India in the 7,000-capacity Nairobi Gymkhana grounds on Tuesday.

The turn-out was even worse when the West Indies, making their first tournament appearance in Kenya, were thrashed all over the ground by Sri Lanka on Wednesday.

Empty stands could it is either lack of cricketing knowledge, exorbitant gate charges or outright apathy. Save for foot-

ball, Kenyans are not known for their enthusiasm of other sports.

The Kenya Cricket Association (KCA), with financial support from the International Cricket Council (ICC), spent about 40 million shillings (about 500,000 dollars) on a major rehabilitation of the tournament venue to bring it up to scratch.

But this huge expenditure has forced the organisers to raise gate charges.

The price of tickets range from 5,000 shillings (63 dollars) for the whole tournament to 300 shillings (eight dollars) per match which is still too high in a country where many people earn as little as 50 dollars a month.

"This is too expensive for me. That's enough money to keep me going for several weeks," said John Kimani, one of several cricket enthusiasts who turned back at the gate to the venue after being told how

much a ticket would cost.

"I would rather spend that money to buy food for my family than throw it away at Nairobi Gymkhana," said Kimani's friend, Joseph Kioko.

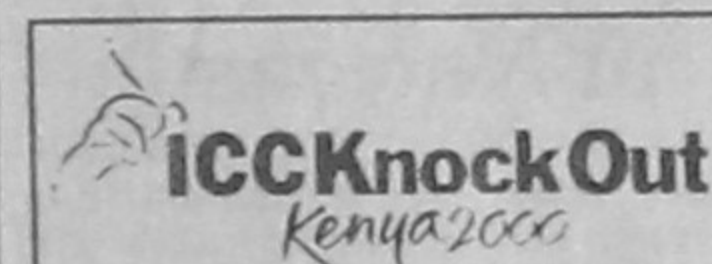
Money aside, many indigenous Kenyans have little knowledge of cricket, a sport they associate with members of the largely affluent Asian and European communities.

"Cricket is a very difficult sport to understand," former national athletics hurdles champion, Charles Osofi told the news agency.

"Many Kenyans find it hard to comprehend wickets, runs, stumps," he added.

But photo-journalist David Odhiambo differs. "It's a very interesting sport. People still go and watch basketball which is not interesting any more. They should switch to cricket." Organisers are hoping that attendance will improve during the weekend when quarterfinal matches get underway.

Fletcher sings Hussain song



NAIROBI, Oct 7 (Internet report) - Nasser Hussain has proved himself once and for all the best man to attempt the "mission impossible" task that befalls the modern English cricket captain.

That endorsement came from England coach Duncan Fletcher, who believes the way Hussain has dealt with the tribulations of the past year mark him out as someone special.

Hussain, currently leading England in the ICC KnockOut trophy in which his team face a daunting quarter-final tie against South Africa on Tuesday, had a bizarre summer in which he could not make any runs and England could do nothing but win.

Finally the two strands of his professional life came together this week when he made 95 in England's eight-wicket qualifying tie victory over Bangladesh at the Gymkhana

Club.

But it was during the dark days of Hussain's injury-blighted and near runless English season that Fletcher detected the right stuff in the Essex batsman.



NASSER HUSSAIN

He said: "Nasser was concerned mostly with not letting the side down - that was a good sign."

He always felt he could do a job and he just did not want to let us down.

"We repaid that. We kept

showing confidence in him because we knew he would come back."

Fletcher added he is now thankful that things have deservedly turned round for Hussain.

"I think the pressure to beat West Indies and Zimbabwe was playing on his mind," he conceded.

"But now he is probably a little bit more relaxed. At least he now has something under the belt."

Anyone, Fletcher believes, would struggle on occasion as England captain these days.

"I would say nowadays it is three jobs. You have to captain people on the field, play your own game and deal with the media and other people off the field."

But the coach was impressed throughout with the way Hussain stuck to his task.

"I didn't really see a big change in Nasser. It was obvious at times that he was a bit on edge - but I was surprised that when he was not getting runs he was not more moody than he was."

"I think he handled the situation very well."

INDIA-AUSTRALIA SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the ICC KnockOut Trophy quarterfinal match between India and Australia on Saturday:

INDIA:

Ganguly c Gilchrist b Gillespie	24
Tendulkar c Martyn b B Lee	38
Dravid c S Lee b Gillespie	9
Kambli c Gilchrist b S Waugh	29
Y Singh c b S Lee	84
R Singh b Harvey	19
Dahiya c M Waugh b B Lee	5
Agarkar c McGrath b S Lee	3
Kumble run out (Ponting)	12
Z Khan not out	13
Prasad not out	6
Extras: (b-1, lb-12, w-8, nb-2)	23
Total: (For nine wickets in 50 overs)	265
Fall of wickets: 1-66; 2-76; 3-90; 4-130; 5-194; 6-215; 7-222; 8-239; 9-258	

Bowler

G McGrath	9	0	61	0
B Lee	10	0	39	2
Gillespie	8	0	39	2
Harvey	9	1	54	1
S Lee	10	0	31	2
S Waugh	4	0	28	1

AUSTRALIA:

M Waugh c Kumble b Agarkar	7
Gilchrist c Ganguly b Z Khan	33
Harvey c Yuvraj b Prasad	25
Ponting c Singh b Tendulkar	46
Bryan run out (Yuvraj)	42
S Waugh b Z Khan	23
D Martyn b Singh	1
S Lee run out (Ganguly)	4
B Lee c Ganguly b Agarkar	31
Gillespie c Singh b Prasad	14
McGrath not out	6
Extras: (lb-4, w-7, nb-2)	13
Total (all out, 46.4 overs)	245
Fall of wicket: 1-43; 2-51; 3-86; 4-159; 5-163; 6-169; 7-189; 8-224; 9-226	

Bowler

Z Khan	10	0	40	2
Agarkar	8	1	59	2
Prasad	7.4	0	43	2
Kumble	8	0	42	0
Tendulkar	7	0	31	1
R Singh	3	0	26	1

Result: India won by 20 runs to advance to the semi-finals

Man-of-the-match: Yuvraj Singh

Umpires: SA Bucknor (WI) and DR Shepherd (Eng)

TV Umpire: P Willey (Eng)

Match Referee: RS Madugale (SL)

Star steals the show

Sports Reporter

The Daily Star hogged the spotlight in the six-a-side football tournament of the Dhaka Reporters Unity yesterday.

The reputed English daily scored a 3-1 victory against Ajker Kagor at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The Daily Star's effortless victory was never in doubt once their opportunist captain Al Amin netted in each half.

Handicapped with only five men in the first half, still the Daily Star looked far superior than their opponents.

While Syed Ashfaq Haque and Al-Musabbir looked always menacing on the counter attack, a muscular Morshed manned the defence with aplomb.

In fact, Ashfaq almost made a sensational debut hitting the metalwork with thunderous volley and then minutes later forcing the Ajker keeper to pull off an acrobatic save.

The Bangla daily scored one goal through their bearded captain Fuad.

But Fuad men celebrations received a jolt when hard-working Daily Star midfielder Mithun made 3-1, shooting from close.

Daily Star leads Group C with full three points.

In the other matches of the day, Mujib scored the all-important goal in Matribhumi's 1-0 win over Banglar Bani and high-flying Manobjabin had to settle for a 1-1 draw with Andaputra Sangbad Sangstha.

Shahabuddin scored for Andaputra while Mahfuz equalised for the Bangla tabloid.

Partex tennis begins Oct 10

The Partex international inter-club tennis tournament, organised by Gulshan Club Limited (GCL), begins at the club courts on October 10, reports BSS.

Speaking at a news conference at the club yesterday, GCL president Chowdhury Monwar Ahmed Siddiqui said, "This is the beginning of our attempt to organise international sporting events and we will try to keep it up in the days to come."

Twenty-one clubs including lone foreign club Colombo Swimming Club of Sri Lanka will take part in the knock-out tournament.

The other clubs are: Dhaka Club, Uthara Club, British High Commission Club, Customs Club, Officers Club, Dhaka University Club, Narayanganj Club, American Club-A, American Club-B, Chittagong Club, Balesira Valley Club, Khulna Club, Dutch Club, Agargaon Club, Rajbari Tennis Complex, Jamalpur Club, Agrabad Tennis Complex, Gulshan Club (White), Gulshan Club (Green) and International Club.



PREPARING THIS WEMBLEY FOR THE LAST TIME: Groundsman Robert McCullagh getting the Wembley pitch ready for Saturday's World Cup European Group 9 qualifier between England and Germany on October 5. The match will be the last international to take place at Wembley under the famous twin towers. —Internet photo

Remembering Wembley



MILAN, Oct 7: The glitterati of Italian football queued up Saturday to pay tribute to England's Paolo Maldini, who this evening will eclipse Zoff's record

Wembley Stadium on the last day it will be used for a major football match before it is demolished and redeveloped.

Kevin Keegan's England and Rudi Voller's Germany were due to give the famous London stadium a fitting send-off in a 2002 World Cup qualifier Saturday, reports AFP.

And while most Italian eyes were focused squarely on Saturday evening's qualifier with Romania in Milan many of the biggest names in Italian football took time out to share their memories with Corriere dello Sport newspaper about the demise of the so-called "Venue of Legends".

Dino Zoff, the former national team coach who skippered Italy to World Cup victory in 1982, said: "Wembley is something that belongs to the emotions, to myth."

Zoff was a member of the

first Italian team to win at Wembley in 1973.

He said: "That night 27 years ago when we won in that stadium we thought we were at the centre of the world."

Current Italian coach Giovanni Trapattoni added: "It's an unforgettable, fascinating stadium. I would never have expected to see it one day razed to the ground."

Luigi "Gigi" Riva, also a member of the 1973 side, said: "Wembley is the symbol of football. Especially for those people of my generation. The biggest, the best."

Another fabled member of that team Giacinto Facchetti was the most overwhelmed by the decision to knock down the historic stadium.

"For four years they have been saying 'we are going to knock Wembley down,'" said Facchetti. "For four years I have been hoping I misunderstood that it was not true. Now that it is happening it is breaking my heart."



DINO ZOFF

'Cronje can be role model'



CAPETOWN, Oct 7 (Internet report) - In a bizarre twist to the Hansie Cronje scandal, international icon Nelson Mandela has told the disgraced former South African captain that he could still be a role model.

"I am saying to him, without excusing in any way what he has done if the allegations are proven to be right, that he can be a role model and turn this tragedy into triumph," Mandela told reporters after a meeting with Cronje on Friday in George.

The 82-year-old former president and his wife Graca Machel spent an hour with Cronje and his wife Bertha at their home at a luxury golf resort near George on the south coast.

The elder statesman also chastised Cronje for failing to tell the truth when the allegations of match-fixing surfaced in April. He observed that Cronje should be punished if he was found guilty of wrongdoing by the commission probing the



NELSON MANDELA

tions of match-fixing surfaced in April. He observed that Cronje should be punished if he was found guilty of wrongdoing by the commission probing the

Mandela meanwhile said he expected to be criticised by some people for meeting Cronje.

"I don't expect any reasonable person to criticise me because I have seen a young man who has fallen from grace," he said. "I am not going to treat him as a leper simply because of the allegations against him."

"If those allegations are supported then I am sure he is prepared to take what is going to come," he added.

Cronje has been offered immunity from prosecution if King is satisfied he has revealed everything he knows.

Two of Cronje's former teammates - opener Herschelle Gibbs and bowler Henry Williams - have been banned from international cricket until January after admitting to agreeing to under-perform in India this year in return for 15,000 USD each.

However, both said they did not stick to their deal and therefore never received any money.



Indian maestro Sachin Tendulkar swings and misses a Brett Lee delivery during the ICC Knockout encounter against Australia in Nairobi yesterday. —AFP photo

Majola new UCB MD

JOHANNESBURG, Oct 6: South African cricket has appointed its first black managing director with Gerald Majola being chosen to take over from Ali Bacher, the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) has announced, reports AFP.

Majola, a member of the UCBSA's general council and a national selector, will assume responsibility for the managing of South African cricket from January, the board announced.