

## Boost sports WHIZZ KID

**Competition 137**  
Tick the Correct Answers  
Post to The Daily Star  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
Oct 27 2000 and draw  
shortly afterwards

- Who will be the match referee in the Bangladesh's inaugural Test against India next month?  
Shepherd / Subbiah / Bowker
- Who lifted the Princess Cup tennis title?  
Serena / Hings / Dokic
- Who is the new managing director of United Cricket Board of South Africa?  
Peter Pollock / Gerald Majola / Duncan Fletcher
- Who won the Shaheed Major Nazimul Haq International rating chess title?  
Refaat / Rakab / Rajeb
- Who is new cricket coach of Zimbabwe?  
Houghton / Rackemann / Fyrot

Name.....  
Class..... Roll No.....  
School Address.....  
Phone: (if any).....

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## SPORTS TALK



**Chris Cairns**  
(New Zealand all-rounder)  
*This one is my greatest ever. I have been playing for a few years now, am growing old as well. New Zealand was in the final of such a big event for the first time and the feeling can't be described. There is nothing to top this one. Certainly this is my greatest ever.*

About his unbeaten century in the ICC Knockout Trophy final against India.

### Div I soccer

Shantinagar Club recorded their first outright win in the First Division Football League beating PWD FC by a solitary goal yesterday, reports UNB.

Shakil netted the all-important goal just one minute before the interval at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

With this win, Shantinagar collected 10 points while PWD were glued to 10 points from 12 matches.

Today's match: Agrani Bank vs BRTC SC (5pm).

### Cronje could challenge ban

BLOEMFONTEIN, South Africa, Oct 17 (AFP/DPA). Lawyers for Hansie Cronje, South Africa's disgraced former cricket captain, said Monday they may sue the country's United Cricket Board (UCB) following his life ban.

The lawyers have given the UCB till 4:00 pm (1400 GMT) on Tuesday to withdraw its resolution to ban the sportsman from cricket for life or face possible legal action.

Lawyer Leslie Sackstein said a letter to this effect was forwarded to the board Monday morning.

"We believe that the resolution was unlawfully taken, and our letter also invites the UCB to inform the International Cricket Council (ICC) of our view," Sackstein said.

He declined to say on what basis the resolution was viewed to be unlawful, claiming this was privileged information.

Should the UCB refuse, legal action would be contemplated, Sackstein said.

The board last week passed a resolution to ban Cronje for life from all UCB-related activities, as well as those of its affiliates. It was expected that the ICC would follow suit and extend the ban to all countries playing cricket under its control.

Cronje has admitted accepting money from bookmakers to under-perform in one-day international matches.



Performers practice carrying the official flag around the Olympic Stadium using a blank cloth sheet on the eve of the opening ceremony for the Sydney Paralympic Games. - AFP photo

## Now Paralympics time

SYDNEY, Oct 17: Athletes from seven countries registered to compete in the Sydney Paralympic Games have failed to turn up, organisers said Tuesday, reports AFP.

Officials were expecting all 128 delegations to arrive by midnight last Saturday but by Tuesday only 120 were in town.

Burkina Faso was due on Wednesday but Guatemala, Niger, Sudan, Guinea, Uganda, Sierra Leone and Cameroon, who all registered for the Games by the July 14 deadline, had pulled out.

Despite the absence, the 121 countries to be represented at Wednesday's opening ceremony, in front of 100,000 people in Stadium Australia and a potential television audience of two billion, will make the Sydney Games the biggest in history, outstripping the 103 countries who competed in Atlanta four years ago.

Demand for tickets has gone through the roof, leaving organisers fearing major transport headaches.

More than 600,000 day-pass tickets, which allow free transport and entry into any event

on any given day, have been snapped up for the 11-day spectacle.

"We know the number of day passes, but people have discretion in relation to their travel," said Olympic Roads and Transport Authority spokesman Paul Willoughby.

"It's really only as that travel begins to unfold that we see what people actually do."

"At the Olympics people had tickets to ticketed sessions; we knew when they were coming, we essentially knew when they were leaving."

"We don't entirely know that in relation to the Paralympic Games."

Willoughby said the Olympics showed transport organisers could move vast numbers of people to Homebush Bay but how it would work during the Paralympics was yet to be tested.

"The total number of people across the day won't look big in conjunction with the Olympics, but there are challenges because of the way and the time they are travelling," he said.

Group travel was set to cause one of the biggest problems, in particular the 320,000 schoolchildren who will attend the Paralympics, mostly on midweek mornings.

They will put a major strain on transport with most travelling by train between the peak hours of 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Another logistical problem will be the up to 1,000 coaches and buses expected to park on the Paralympic site daily.

Despite the transport worries, New South Wales state Premier Bob Carr said Sydney was ready for another marathon party.

"I believe we can be confident as a community and nation that we have laid the base for a great Paralympic Games that will get the world's stamp of approval," he said.

Meanwhile, International Olympic Committee president Juan Antonio Samaranch was expected in Sydney late Wednesday and on Thursday will present the people of the city with the Olympic Cup, honouring their outstanding contribution to the Games.

The Olympic Cup is a non-competitive award presented by the IOC, instituted by founder Pierre de Coubertin in 1906.

The Paralympics, which started in Rome in 1960, have run parallel to the Olympics since the 1988 Seoul Games.

In Sydney, 4,000 athletes will compete in 18 sports - 10 fewer than the Olympics.

## Japan massacre Uzbekistan

SAIDA, Lebanon, Oct 17: Japan confirmed their role as favourites to win a second Asian Cup here on Tuesday annihilating the 1994 Asian Games champions Uzbekistan in the Group C match with a record 8-1 win over their opponents, reports AFP.

Hat-tricks from Akinori Nishizawa - who also missed a penalty - and young strike

Iran v Iraq (8 pm BST)  
Lebanon v Thailand (9.50 pm BST)  
The matches will be shown live on Channel 1

Five minutes later the shell-shocked Uzbek keeper Pavel Bugalo - who had been fortunate to stay on the pitch when he was only booked for bringing down Takahara for the earlier penalty - was picking the ball out of the net again as Morishima's cross was headed home by 24-year-old Nishizawa.

The 21-year-old Takahara, who has virtually got a ratio of a goal a match for Japan, should have scored twice more before the break, but instead it was the Uzbeks who finally broke their duck as Sergei Lushan headed in from a corner.

Both Nishizawa and Takahara quickly sealed their hat-tricks in the second-half the former producing a spectacular diving header for number six and then an unmarked Takahara turned and shot past Bugalo into the far corner.

Kitajima, who came on for Takahara just after the latter had completed his hat-trick, wrapped it up after waltzing through the Uzbek defence to round the keeper and score.

The Uzbeks rarely threatened to disturb this regal procession and ended up with the scant consolation of four bookings from over-zealous Singaporean referee Shamsul Maidin.

partner Naohiro Takahara plus one apiece from Hiroaki Morishima and Hideaki Kitajima gave the 1992 Asian Cup champions their second successive romp following the 4-1 defeat of Saudi Arabia - also a record win - on Saturday.

Their French coach Philippe 'the white witch doctor' Troussier talked about trying to find a magic potion for motivating his players on Monday and it appears that somebody delivered it to him early on Tuesday morning.

The Japanese, whose squad is largely made up of the team who played so creditably at the Olympics going out on penalties to the USA in the quarter-finals, turned in an almost flawless performance outclassing a hugely disappointing Uzbek side who were regarded as one of the dark horses for the trophy.

Hiroaki Morishima, at 28 one of the more experienced players in the squad with over 40 caps, started the rout off just three minutes after Nishizawa had missed his penalty when he shot into an unguarded net over Shunsuke Nakamura and his shot blocked.

From that on it was the Nishizawa and Takahara show as the latter's low cross set up his partner for the second goal. Takahara got off the mark with a header in the 18th minute and added his second - Japan's fourth - speeding onto Toshihiro Hattori's perceptive long ball and lashing it into the far cor-



Hiroaki Morishima of Japan (L) loses balance after being tackled from behind by Uzbekistan's Sergey Lushan during their Asian Cup match at Sidon yesterday. -AFP photo

## BD Games postponed

Sports Reporter

The biggest sports extravaganza of the country - the Seventh Bangladesh Games - which was to be held in the capital on November 18-25, has been deferred for the time being because of the prevailing flood situation.

Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) took the decision in an emergency meeting last night.

The two-and-a-half hour meeting was presided over by BOA President and Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Muhammad Mustafizur Rahman.

The meeting announced the formation of a four-member committee headed by the BOA chief, to fix a fresh date for the Games within the two weeks.

Whip of Jatiya Sangsad Mizanur Rahman MP, BOA vice-president Faruk Khan MP and secretary general Zafar Imam are the other members on the committee.

All the sub-committee heads and other members of BOA were present.

## 1st one-dayer today

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh take on South Africa President's Eleven in the first of three-match limited-overs matches at Bloemfontein today.

South African Test player Dale Benkenstein is the skipper of the President's Eleven.

All games are day-night affairs.

The tourists, led by all-rounder Naimur Rahman, had earlier lost their lone four-day match against Griqualand West by 82 runs.

The second 50-over match will be held at Pietermaritzburg on October 21. The series concludes two days later in Durban.

## Mahmud, Mehrab off to Karachi

Sports Reporter

Former national vice-captain Khaled Mahmud and opener Mehrab Hossain left for Karachi yesterday to play for the Rest of the Asia Eleven against Pakistan.

The limited-overs match, organised to celebrate the anniversary of Pakistani cricket magazine Akbar-e-Watan, will be held at the Karachi National Stadium today.

## DMFLC makes Tk 20 lakh profit

Sports Reporter

Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee (DMFLC) has earned Taka 19,97,350 (Nineteen lakh, ninety-seven thousand, three hundred and fifty) so far from the National Bank Premier Division Football League.

Out of the amount, highest Taka three lakh, 11 thousand, two hundred and ten (Tk 3,11,210) came from the last match of the first leg between arch-rivals Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani on October 6, while the lowest amount came from Brothers Union-Victoria Sporting Club match held on September 19.

## German hockey coach comes

Sports Reporter

A qualified German hockey coach, York Schumacher, arrived in the capital yesterday morning to take charge of the Bangladesh hockey team, reports UNB.

The 36-year-old coach, who obtained his university certificate as a hockey trainer from the Trainer Academy in Cologne in 1988, came on a two-year contract under the German-Bangladesh Cultural Pact.

German government will bear the entire expenses of the coach, including his air fare and salary. Bangladesh will provide local hospitality and transport for him.

During his tenure, Schumacher is likely to act as director of coaching. His main job will be to groom the national hockey players for the 2002 Asian Games in Pusan.

Earlier, he trained the Bangladesh team for one and a half months in 1998 and saw them finish runners-up in a four-nation tourney in Bangkok.

He will also groom the Bangladesh team for the qualifying round of the World Cup to be held in Scotland in 2001 and prepare the side for the proposed six-nation tournament next January in Dhaka.

Schumacher will also conduct different coaching programmes for the Bangladesh junior teams - Under-12, Under-16, Under-18, and Under-21. He will conduct training programme for the local coaches as well.

## Wasim bouncer at MacLaurin



WASIM AKRAM

KARACHI, Oct 17 (AFP): Former Pakistani cricket captain Wasim Akram on Tuesday said calls for his ban over match-fixing allegations were underhanded attempts to distract the home side ahead of a high-stakes series against England.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman General Taqir Zia also blasted comments from England and Wales Cricket Board Chairman Lord MacLaurin that six Pakistani players should be banned from the upcoming Test series.

Wasim, Waqar Younis, Saeed Anwar, Mushtaq Ahmed, Inzamamul Haq and Akram Raza were fined between 100,000 and 500,000 rupees (1,725 and 8,625 dollars) by Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum after a Pakistani match-fixing probe in May.

But MacLaurin on Sunday said the players should be banned until after the third Test against England on December 11, saying the penalties imposed against them were the "tip of the iceberg."

"I strongly condemn that and all such calls are unnecessary and negative tactics before the all-important Test series against England," Akram told the news agency.

## Condon cabinet endorsed



NAIROBI, Oct 17 (AFP/Reuters):

The newly established international Cricket Council's (ICC) anti-corruption unit will not interfere with the match-fixing and bribery inquiries set up by its affiliates against cricket players and officials, its head, Sir Paul Condon said here Monday.

"We will be supporting the criminal, judicial and conduct inquiries," said Condon, a former commissioner of the London Metropolitan Police, after his unit, appointed in June, was endorsed at the start of a two-day ICC board meeting in the Kenyan capital.

"I'm not judge and jury on these issues. What I can be is a totally honest broker when allegations are made."

Condon told reporters that he had accepted to lead the fight against corruption in cricket after the board gave its total support to the unit, which will receive four million dollars in funding over the next three years.

His terms include making the unit totally independent and answerable to the ICC Code of Conduct Commission, headed by former British judge, Lord Griffiths.

Condon ruled out an amnesty for match-fixers who came forward and confessed

## 'Apologise Atherton'



MICHAEL ATHERTON

ISLAMABAD, Oct 17: Another ghost from the past returned to haunt the England cricket tour of Pakistan Tuesday when a local sports journalist threatened legal action against Michael Atherton over a 1996 insult, reports AFP.

Journalist Asghar Ali said he wanted to give former England captain Atherton a "last chance" to write a public apology for the insult made at a press conference at Rawalpindi during the World Cup in 1996.

Already angry after England's defeat by South Africa, Atherton tried to understand Ali's question in broken English before saying: "Can someone get this buffoon out of here?"

That unless Atherton, who is in the Test side for the current tour, wrote an apology within 10 days he would take the matter to court.

He said the insult had ruined his life and tainted his reputation as a journalist.

"My personal life, my professional life and my financial life has been affected," he said.

## Gulshan Club's billiards, snooker

Sports Reporter

The annual billiards and snooker tournament of Gulshan Club got underway last Sunday.

Showkat Aziz, member-in-charge, inaugurated the tournament while chairman of the tournament committee, Ali Ahmed and other senior members were also present.

Two matches - Delwar Hossain v C.J. Haider and H Kabir v Hassan Sayeed - were held on the inaugural day.

"These people are trying to distract us. It's totally unnecessary and an attempt to distract us from the series against England."

"I will not comment on recommendations made by Justice Qayyum and whether I approve of them or not but after a comprehensive inquiry such calls (for a ban against the players) are baseless."

An International Cricket Council (ICC) meeting in Kenya on Monday and Tuesday is to

analyse progress on match-fixing issues in Pakistan, India and South Africa.

The ICC code of conduct commission under the chairmanship of Lord Hugh Griffiths may call for harsher measures against Pakistani and South African players, press reports have suggested.

Britain's Sunday Telegraph said Griffiths had apparently concluded more severe punishments were necessary.

PCB Chairman Zia also hit out at suggestions that the Qayyum inquiry did not go far enough.

"We conducted an inquiry but what did they (England's cricket authorities) do to allegations levelled by (fast bowler) Chris Lewis who named three English players?" General Zia asked.

"We have cleared our image and there is no need for such a statement by MacLaurin."

"Let our players focus on the coming series and not distract them by such statements."

Zia last week asked Pakistani President Mohammad Rafiq Tarar to order a judicial inquiry into allegations of match-fixing in two of Pakistan's World Cup matches last year, against India and Bangladesh.

A decision is expected this week.

Operating out of London with a five-member committee, which officially began its work last month, consisting of three experienced former British police officers, the unit will monitor activities in all cricket nations through networking.

World cricket has been rocked to the core over match-fixing allegations this year. Besides, ICC has also been accused of lacking commitment in dealing with the scourge of match-fixing and Condon said he agreed to take on the job only if cricket's governing authority was committed to the new body and gave it full independence.

Condon confirmed the Nairobi meeting had discussed the leniency of bans imposed on South Africans Herschelle Gibbs and Henry Williams, but refused to comment on whether a decision had been made to lengthen the bans.

He, however, said he was sure more allegations would be made in the future.

"No doubt there will be other embarrassments," he said. "You are never going to eradicate malpractice. The challenge is to keep it to a minimum."

But he also said the new body would be careful with all new allegations and not pass judgement on possibly innocent players.

"This mustn't become a witch-hunt," he said.

adding that his fiancée at the time had called off the marriage because she "did not want to be the wife of a 'buffoon'."

Ali, a university graduate and vice-president of the Pakistan Sports Journalists' Association, said he was writing a book about the incident, entitled "Buffoon: me or you?"

"I have talked to many international cricket captains including Hansie Cronje and (Arjuna) Ranatunga about Atherton and their comments are in

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## Ijaz, Arshad get the axe

KARACHI, Oct 17 (Internet report): Official sources have revealed that Ijaz Ahmed and off-spinner Arshad Khan will miss Pakistan's forthcoming home series against England.

Dawn quoted official sources who said that the hard-hitting Ijaz and Arshad - whose nine overs cost 56 runs in the semi-final loss against New Zealand in the ICC trophy would not be considered for either Test or one-day internationals.

Included in the one-day squad are wrist-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed and uncapped Danish Kaneria and the big hitting Shahid Afridi.

"Shahid Afridi will come in place of Ijaz Ahmad while Mushtaq Ahmed will replace Arshad Khan."

**SQUAD**

Moin Khan (captain), Inzamamul Haq (vice-captain), Saeed Anwar, Salim Elahi, Imran Nazir, Shahid Afridi, Younis Youhana, Faisal Iqbal, Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, Azhar Mahmood, Abdur Razaq, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mushtaq Ahmad and Danish Kaneria