



SPORTS TALK



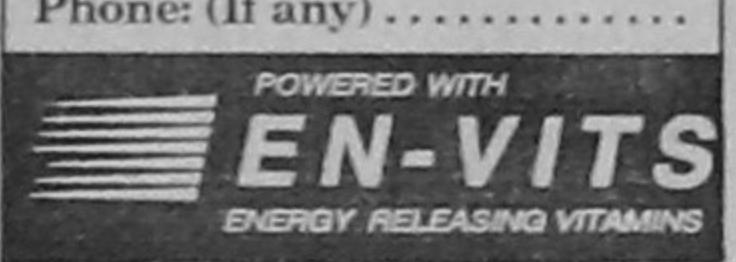
Shamila Batohi
(Chief prosecutor of the King Commission of Inquiry)
I think he was a good captain and a wonderful player for South Africa over the years.
On Hansie Cronje.



Competition 137
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Nov 3 2000 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who will be the match referee in the Bangladesh's inaugural Test against India next month?
2. Who lifted the Princess Cup tennis title?
3. Who is the new managing director of United Cricket Board of South Africa?
4. Who won the Shaeed Major Nazmul Huq International rating chess title?
5. Who is new cricket coach of Zimbabwe?

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



Due to some technicalities, draw of the Boost WHIZZ KID Competition-137 could not be held last night. It will now be held on November 3. —Sports Editor

Ks settle for quick draw

LONDON, Oct 27: The Brain Games World Chess Championship's eleventh game ended in a draw after 41 moves and three and a half hours of play, reported AFP.

Vladimir Kramnik is leading by 6.5 to 4.5 out of the scheduled 16 games, which means Gary Kasparov is in a real danger.

Kramnik won the second one that was the first Kasparov defeat since January 1999, and the tenth one as well, after a poor play of his opponent. The other nine were drawn. The prize fund is two million dollars (two-thirds of which goes to the winner).

Kramnik will play with the white pieces the next game, on Saturday.

In 1993, Kasparov left the International Chess Federation (FIDE) which has its own World Championship.

Kramnik won by starting out with the first 14 moves had been already played by Kasparov against the Spanish (former Latvian player Alexei Shirov in Linares 1998. But then Kramnik introduced a new idea, which he had thoroughly prepared at home with his assistants and computers.

Kasparov, who looked quite disappointed again, got an advantage, but too small to win the game.

In the press conference following the game, Kasparov answered a journalist wanting to know if Kramnik was the next world champion by saying "not yet".

Kasparov's one hope now is to equalise with Kramnik, ending with eight games each. If that happens, he will keep his title as the world's number one chess player.

Not this time, Minhaz



The chances for Minhazul Abedin making a comeback into the national fold for the inaugural Test next month appears slim. At least that's how chief selector Tanvir Haider foresees it.

"It is too late for us to consider him (Minhaz) for this particular Test which is only 13 days away. We have to name the 14-member squad on October 30 and it's not possible for us to make him go through the selection procedure within this short time," said Tanvir while talking to The Daily Star Sport at the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday.

The 35-year-old former captain, who retired from international cricket after the World Cup last year, formally applied to the BCB a few days ago to consider the experienced all-rounder for the historic match against India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on November 10.

"There is a procedure for selection. A player must attend a camp for a certain period of

Sports Reporter

time to prove the required level of fitness.

"Moreover, this is going to be Bangladesh's maiden five-day match. So I can't take a chance on his fitness (both physical and mental)," he said adding, it would have been wiser had Minhaz applied two months beforehand when the national camp for ICC Knockout and South Africa tour got underway at the Bangladesh Krira Shikha Protisthan (BKSP).

"Look at Mohammad Rafiq. He applied much earlier and therefore had the opportunity to attend the conditioning camp. That's why he is now in the team.

"If Minhaz was selected it would have been indeed unfair and unethical, in a sense that a player who had been attending the camp for the last two months would have been deprived," said Tanvir, who is also vice-president of the Board.

"However, I would like to point out that he will be considered for future Test matches provided he meets certain fitness levels after attending such camps," stated the head of the

three-member selection committee.

Minhaz's application reached him yesterday (Thursday).

Terminating Minhaz's decision to call it a day after the World Cup as too premature, Tanvir believed had he continued playing for the national team then may be he would have been involved in the country's first-ever Test match.

He should have appeared in all of the three- and four-day matches against different touring teams last season to keep in shape for selection.

Besides, abstaining from international scene for 17 months, I think it's not fair for a player to stake a claim for a recall. Test matches are very demanding on both body and mind," commented Tanvir.

Finally, when asked whether he had received any specific instructions from the BCB president to consider Minhaz back on the squad, Tanvir said: "The president has given me the right to select the best eleven and I shall do that to the best of my ability."

BCB plans festival

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will organise a painting competition for different age-groups and a photo exhibition on November 7 ahead of Bangladesh's maiden Test against India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on November 10, reports UNB.

The painting competition — Group A: Under 10, Group B: U-15, Group C: Open — will start at 9 am while the photo exhibition at 3.30pm at the National Sports Council gymnasium.

Collectors of cricket photographs have been requested to contact the BCB by November 5. BCB is also willing to buy important and rare photographs.

Div I soccer

Youngmen's Fakirpool Club finished top in the 'Super-Four' of the NBL First Division football league, beating Agrani Bank 2-1 at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

Three teams — Youngmen's Fakirpool, Agrani Bank and BRTC SC — will play in the single round 'super-three' beginning Monday.

With the day's outcome, Fakirpool took two points lead against their nearest rival Agrani Bank securing 32 points from 15 matches.

BRTC lost of the Muslim Institute 3-1 in tiebreaker in the day's other match but they reached the 'super-three' bagging 25 points while Muslim Institute finished with 20 points.

Trailing 0-1 in the first half, Fakirpool beat bankers 2-1.

The match between BRTC and the Muslim Institute rolled into tiebreaker after 1-1 draw in the stipulated time at the same venue.

Purabi b'ball

Sports Reporter

Mariner Young's Club and the Gregs Club won their respective Purabi General Insurance First Division Basketball League matches held at the Dhaka Model Basketball Gymnasium yesterday.

In the first match, Mariner trounced Shaheen Club by 149-31.

The winners led the first session 78-17.

The Gregs had to erase a 32-28 first period deficit before recording a 77-52 win over Surid Sangha.

In company with Saeed Anwar, Afridi put Pakistan in the driving seat, posting 76 by the 13th over.

Afridi hit left-arm spinner Ashley Giles for 14 with two fours and a six but Giles returned in the next over to claim Anwar for 41.

Anwar hit four boundaries in his 59 ball innings and was caught by leaping Graham Thorpe at square-leg.

"It's always fantastic to figure in Pakistan's win and I had that in mind before the match to have my contribution," said Afridi, who two months back was fined and suspended in a girl-in-hotel-room scandal.

Afridi partnered Salim Elahi in a second wicket stand of 46 off 53 balls before falling to Giles, mistiming a cover drive to be caught by Thorpe.

"I am delighted the way the boys have performed and it's nice to stage a comeback," Pakistan's captain Moin Khan said.

Elahi's 58 not out and an unbroken stand of 91 with Younus Youhana for the third wicket was overshadowed by Afridi's stuns.

Youhana made 39 not out.

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