

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 139

✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Dec 1 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. Who clinched the world chess crown?
Kasparov Korpor Kramnik
2. Who lifted the Purabi Div I basketball title?
Dharmaketu Josephites Titus
3. Who became Leipzig tennis champ?
Hings Davenport Clifters
4. Which club lifted NBL Div I soccer title?
Fakirerpool Agrani Bank Wari
5. Who was declared man-of-the-match in the Bangladesh-India inaugural Test?
Saurav Amindul Joshi

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

SPORTS TALK



Saqlain Mushtaq
(Pakistan star spinner)
"I think what I have achieved is Almighty's blessings on me and thanks to the prayers of my parents."

After taking all eight wickets in the first innings of the first Test against England.

Curtly can't go wrong

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados. Nov 18: Retired West Indies fast bowler Curtly Ambrose of Antigua has qualified as a cricket coach, the West Indies Cricket Board said in a statement Friday, reports AP.

Ambrose, along with 20 other participants, including Barbadian Test cricketers Philo Wallace and Adrian Griffith, completed a senior coaching course organised by the board earlier this month in Trinidad.

The West Indies are now on an Australian tour. It was not clear if or when Ambrose would sign on as a coach for the team.

"Without wishing to exclude anyone, it is good to see Curtly following in the footsteps of the likes of (former West Indies players) Ian Bishop and Jeff Dujon in qualifying as a coach," director of coaching Reg Scrallet said in the statement.

Bishop is a TV cricket commentator, while Dujon, who is the most successful wicket-keeper in West Indies Test history, is the assistant coach of the present West Indies team.

Rajshahi cricket

From Our Correspondent
RAJSHAHI, Nov 18: Bir Sreshtha Captain Mohiuddin Jahangir Smriti Sangha and Firoj Smriti Sangha won their respective matches of the first Shaheed AHM Qamruzzaman Smriti cricket tournament at the Katakhal Adarsha Degree College playground today.

In the first match of the day, Jahangir Smriti Sangha defeated Bijoy Ekadash by seven wickets.

Winning the toss, Bijoy Ekadash batted first and collected 110 runs for nine wickets in the stipulated 23 overs.

Alin made the highest 37 followed by 18 from Babu.

Tota and Tuhin took two wickets each.

In reply, Jahangir Smriti reached the target of 111 runs losing three wickets in 22.4 overs.

Arif and Tuhin scored the highest 23 runs each.

In the other match of the day, Firoj Smriti Sangha defeated Katakhal Cricket Training Academy by 88 runs.

Winning the toss, Firoj Sangha batted first and made 176 runs for all in the stipulated 23 overs.

Sohel scored the highest 33 followed by 22 from Abul and 20 from Rashid.

Tutul took three wickets.

In reply, Katakhal Academy was shot out for 88 in 19.2 overs.

Brothers' great escape

Sports Reporter



Brothers Union defied a second half onslaught from Badda Jagorani Sangsad to run away with a lone goal win in an important National Bank Premier Football Relegation League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The victory for Brothers in the crunch match, where the fate of the Gopibagh outfit's stay in the elite Premier League hinged in the balance, ensured that the once prosperous team ducked the dubious prospect for a second successive season.

Basanta Thapa, one of Brothers' three Nepalese recruits, bailed his side out of the dreaded zone by volleying home the all-important goal thirteen minutes into the first half.

Brother raised their tally to 17 points from 13 games, five more than Badda who now face demotion to the First Division along with Victoria Sporting Club.

Although both clubs have still one match in hand in the six-team Relegation League, but yesterday's outcome ensured that Badda and Victoria, who have earned only two points from 13 games, will line up in the three-team Relegation play-off from where two teams will be sent down.

Badda's defeat was a stunning reversal of fortune for a team that entertained the Dhaka crowd last season as the Premier League's newcomers. The boys of Kanan, who enjoyed an impressive 3-1 record against giants Abahani last season, never looked the same enterprising unit despite retaining almost the same faces.

Badda made a desperate attempt for a turnaround, but were denied by a stubborn Brothers defensive wall.

Brothers however took a deserved lead early in the first half when Dalim, after winning a ball in the Badda box, set up an unmarked Basanta to fire home past custodian Titumir. Clad in their traditional orange and backed by a few hundred vociferous supporters, Brothers also had a chance to double the margin ten minutes into the second session after substitute Mouri came up with a spectacular header. But the ball bounced off the cross-bar.

Badda almost had their opponents' back against the wall. However Papel and Indian for-

ward Dipankar missed the mark. Badda's last minute effort to force a draw was wasted when Bulbul drove against a defender from about seven yards.

TEAMS

BROTHERS UNION: Tony, Nazrul, Chanchal, Polash, Bal Gopal, Liton, Parvez, Dalim



Arambagh custodian Himu thwarts a Dhanmondi attempt during their National Bank Relegation League match at the Bangabandhu Stadium yesterday.

— Star photo

(Mouri) (Proshanta), Rikta, Hari Khadka and Basanta Thapa

BADDA JAGORANI: Titumir, Riad, Jilur, Mahmudul Hasan, Papel, Dipankar, Tanvir, Monwar, Walid Nurul Islam and Sadek.

Referee: Virat Khanthachai (Thailand)

ARAMBAGH EARN FULL POINTS

Meanwhile, in the first match of the day, Arambagh Kira Chakra recorded a 3-2 tie-break win against Dhanmondi Club. The match rolled into shoot-out after the regulation 90 minutes ended in a 2-2

draw. Interestingly, all four goals were scored in the second half.

Khokon gave Arambagh a 53rd minute lead before Hanif and Tapu turn the tables on the Motijheel outfit with strikes in the 73rd and 80th minute. But Akumu grabbed an equalizer for Arambagh five minutes away from the final whistle.

Cricketers' transfers

Jan 7-10

The National Sports Council (NSC) has allotted Bangabandhu National Stadium for cricket from December 1 to April 30 next year, reports UNB.

The Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) meanwhile decided yesterday that the Premier Division and First Division Cricket Leagues would begin on January 28.

The four-day players' transfers (Premier and First Division) will begin on January 7. The Second and Third Division Leagues will start from January 20.

Besides, the CCDM has formed a five-member committee to guide Dhaka Metropolitan for the National Cricket League, schedule to begin on Wednesday. They named Abid Hossain as manager and Walid Mahmud his deputy for the team.

Ctg soccer

Port XI stun MSC Blues

From Our Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Nov 18: Port Ekadash shocked Mohammediar Sporting Club Blues 1-0 in the Chittagong Senior Division Football League at the M A Aziz Stadium today.

Tareq netted the all-important goal in the seventh minute of the second half.

Meanwhile, in the First Division League, Regency recorded a 2-0 victory over Bakolia Ekadash at the same venue.

The first half of the match ended goalless.

Aguan netted the first goal cashing in on a Tipu pass in the 59th minute and Morshed doubled the margin five minutes later.

Div I Chess draw today

The First Division Chess League, organised by Bangladesh Chess Federation, will begin tomorrow at the federation sports room, reports UNB.

The teams' number draw will be held today at 6:30 pm at the federation office.

The participating teams are: Bangladesh Biman, Titus Club, Bangladesh Ansars, Leonine Chess Club, Kamalapur SKS, Farashganj SC, Narayanangir CPA, Uttara Central Chess Club, Dhaka University, Sonali Bank Club, Nakhlaipara JKS, Mohakhali Prodigy Saugha, Amshilon Chess KC, Uttara Chess Sangha, Anu Memorial Chess Club and Rajshahi CDS.

TEAMS

ARAMBAGH: Himu, Go-binda, Choton, Biplob, Aminur, Kamal, Khokon, Nayan, Tajul, Ritu and Titu.

DHANMONDI: Rafiqul, Shaiful, Porimol, Narayan, Hanif, Ikram, Monjur, Parvez, Ponos Sicim, Moltaieb and Tapu.

Referee: Harun-Ur Rashid.

India warned of sanctions



LAHORE, Nov 18 (AFP/Internet report): International Cricket Council (ICC) chief, Malcolm Gray, said on Friday that India could be slapped with financial sanctions for snubbing a tour of Pakistan.

"We cannot override governments, if a government instructs not to play any team there is nothing we can do apart from putting pressure on that board," said Gray, referring to India's decision to cancel a tour of Pakistan later this year.

Gray, an Australian who assumed office last June, is visiting Pakistan for a two-day ICC finance committee meeting starting Saturday.

"The sanctions can only be either financial or ultimately I suppose, the only power would be to suspend their membership from playing anybody else and ICC do not have that power at the moment," he said.

"But by that you put pressure back on the government to review the decision," he said.

India on Wednesday refused permission for its team to tour Pakistan due to hostile relations between the two countries.

Pakistan has threatened to review its cricketing ties with India saying they may not play India in any offshore one-day events.

"It would be sad if India and Pakistan do not play each other but it should not happen," Gray said.

"It's a pity that politics appears with sports but it's a matter between two governments and they act as per their foreign policy."

Pakistan Cricket Board has demanded financial compensation from the ICC, claiming the cancelled tour has cost it 10 million dollars.

ECB lets Alec off the hook

LONDON, Nov 18: Alec Stewart has no case to answer over match-fixing allegations, according to England and Wales Cricket Board chairman Lord Ian MacLaurin, reports AFP.

The English game's most powerful administrator on Friday told BBC Radio 5 Live he was convinced Stewart was "absolutely clear" of involvement in the world-wide scandal that had rocked cricket in recent months.



MALCOLM GRAY

"ICC and its member countries are extraordinarily united but there should be no misconception about ICC's powers," Gray said.

"We neither have the powers to compensate the PCB nor we can force the Indians to do so."

All the ICC could do was the request the Indian government to realise the importance of the tour and international commitments. We

did it by conveying the message through Indian representatives besides writing them personally.

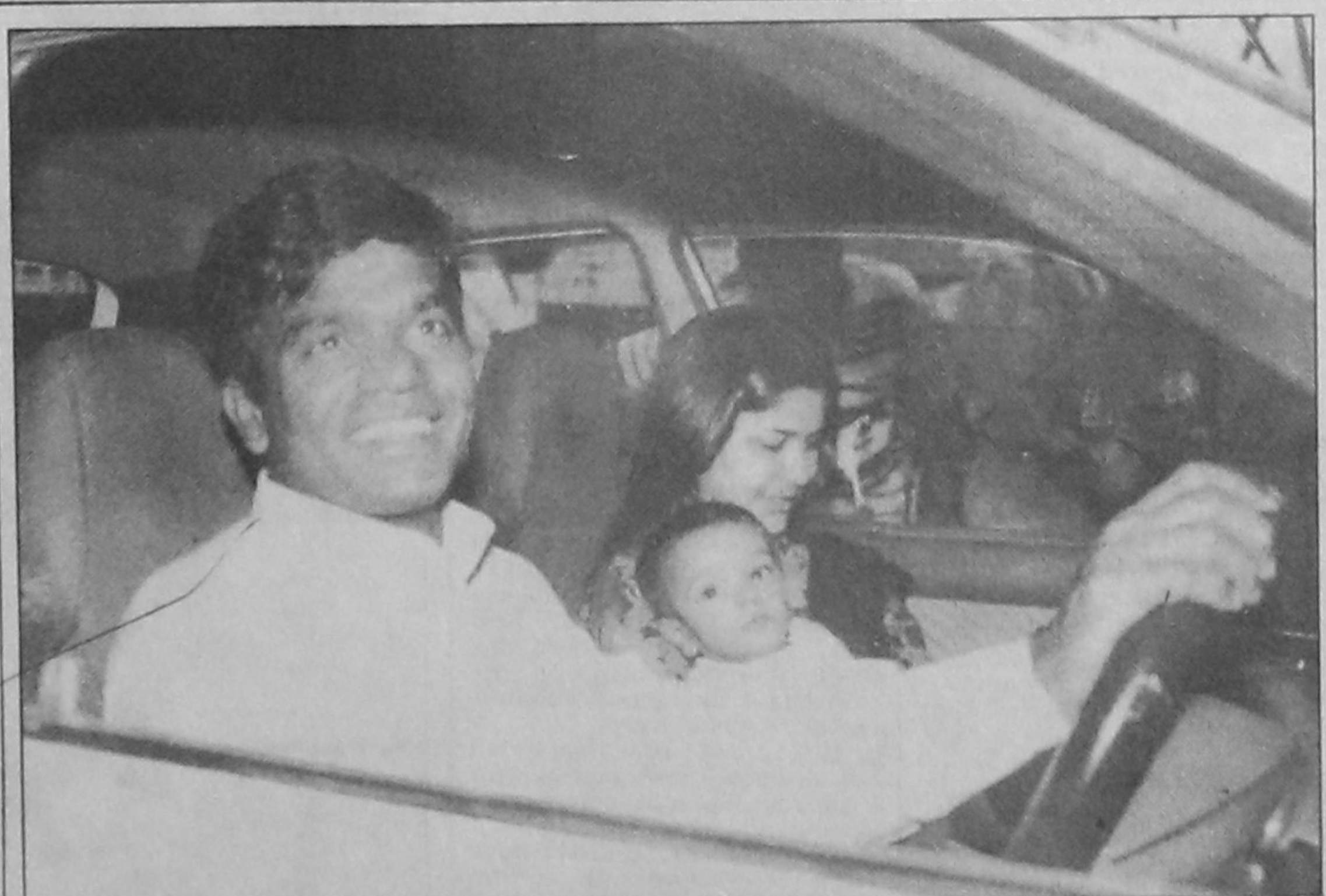
"But frankly speaking we don't have a solution to India-Pakistan problems. I am not sure if the cricket boards would delegate those powers to us."

"The ICC has to be a central body with powers to control the sport effectively like other sports federations. Unfortunately, the boards don't give their authorities so easily."

Gray said sanctions needed to be discussed and finalised since the ICC was planning to impose a 10-year tour plan so that each team can play the other. "Obviously, it puts us in an uncomfortable position. We need to look at the effect of the threat of India pulling out (against playing Pakistan in Pakistan) and whether we can adopt any sanctions."

Meanwhile, Board of Control for Cricket in India Cricket Board (BCCI) secretary Jaywant Lele said they would consider the ICC threat at their special general meeting in Calcutta on November 29.

The meeting is also expected to deliberate on the fallout of the cancellation of the Pakistan tour following the government's veto.



THE FAMILY MAN: Bangladesh Test star Aminul Islam, who was busy serving the national team home and abroad, found time to go for a drive with his family yesterday.

— Star photo by Anisur Rahman

A slow but sure Bucknor

Lenin Gani



When Stephen Anthony Bucknor was a child he thought of life as an umpire. Definitely wasn't the one he felt tempted about. Like many growing youngsters he might have dreamt of a more rewarding career. Today, the 54-year-old owes everything to being one of the most recognised faces on television. His trademark slow motion raising of the finger as he pronounces sentence on a batsman has even earned him the title of 'Slow Death Bucknor' by his admirers.

Despite having an experience of only four Tests and a handful of one-dayers, he was nominated to officiate in the 1992 World Cup final between England and champions Pakistan at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Later, he went on to emulate celebrated Englishman Dickie Bird's record of standing in three successive finals. After making his debut in 1988-89 during the West Indies-India Test match in Kingston, the popular Jamaican has already completed a half-century (52) and is still going strong. Currently third behind his long-time companion David Shepherd who stood with him during Bangladesh's inaugural Test on November 10, he hopes to break Bird's record of 66 Tests before hanging up the white coat.

Bucknor, whose one-day record reads 80 matches, will leave for Pakistan to officiate in the last two Test between England and the home side.

The multi-talented six-foot, three-inch gentleman was also a great football referee and stood in a World Cup qualifier. Steve Bucknor (SB) spoke to *The Daily Star Sport* (DSS) in between the umpires' clinic that was held at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium ground yesterday.

DSS: How did you get to be chosen for Bangladesh's inaugural Test match? Give us your impression of the match and the performance of the home side in particular.

SB: I'm not certain how I was chosen but it is believed that David (Shepherd) and I are two of the leading umpires and may be for that reason we were selected. Venkat is also a good umpire but since India was playing so he couldn't be selected.

The game, I thought, was a

good one. Unfortunately, the Bangladesh players got tired after a while because they are not used to playing for long periods. They failed since their concentration level went down and as a result they lost the game.

DSS: Describe the course you are currently conducting. And, based upon it assess the standard of Bangladeshi umpires. How long do you think it will take before we see a Bangladeshi Test umpire?

SB: It has been that way ever since I started umpiring. I have never been hasty to make decisions. And, by nature, I like to take my time to do things. Patience is a virtue for me. Whenever I take decisions, I spend as much time as possible to make them. I don't know how many other umpires believe it's a good way to do it. But I'm happy with the method and hopefully others will also take their time to make important decisions.

DSS: The LBW rule is very difficult to interpret. Do you think that more technology should be employed to help umpires?

SB: Frankly, I don't mind the use of more technology. Still, I don't think it can solve all the problems. In today's cricket there are those who believe that technology is the answer. However, in most cases even with the help of technology mistakes have been made. I was told that recently, in South Africa, officials were asked to make decisions on catches from the television replays. And as a result many times they were wrong. Because not everything is clear enough on television.

As I said technology is good for example in deciding catches especially when there is an edge. But if we rely too much on it then the game might be ruined. Why? Because, occasionally there are catches behind the wicket that the umpire hears no distinct deflection. When the deflection is not seen on television then the third umpire will give not out. The umpire on the ground relies on what he hears and sees.

DSS: Do you think umpires can ever be replaced?

SB: Umpires will never be replaced because if technology is used the way people say then the top umpires will sit in front of a television screen while those on the ground will only count the number of deliveries. So, I honestly don't think cricket will go that far.

DSS: Does your preparation for a Test match differ from a one-day international? Which

my duty to tell him 'your breaking the law and if you continue to do so you'll be punished.'

DSS: You have been nicknamed 'Slow Death Bucknor' because of the unique style of giving a batsman out. When did you start and why?

SB: It has been that way ever since I started umpiring. I have never been hasty to make decisions. And, by nature, I like to take my time to do things. Patience is a virtue for me. Whenever I take decisions, I spend as much time as possible to make them. I don't know how many other umpires believe it's a good way to do it. But I'm happy with the method and hopefully others will also take their time to make important decisions.

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Youhana bails hosts out



LAHORE, Nov 18: A lightning knock of 77 by Yousuf Youhana saved Pakistan from a follow-on on the fourth day of the first cricket Test at Gaddafi Stadium here on Saturday, reports AFP.

When bad light forced another premature close with four overs to go, Pakistan were on 333 for eight, still 147 runs behind England's first innings total of 480-8 declared.

Youhana influenced Saqlain Mushtaq into an unbroken stand of 60 for ninth wicket and nearly put to rest chances of result in the match that surfaced when Pakistan were facing the prospects of follow-on.

The 26-year-old hit five fours and a six in his pugnacious innings lasting 244 minutes.

Youhana hit Craig White for a towering six towards long leg to complete his half century in 185 minutes off 128 balls.

His 11th Test 50 also included two boundaries.

"I am happy that I have saved the Test for Pakistan. It was a tough fight in the middle but I applied myself and it paid off," Youhana said.

English bowlers unleashed a tight line and length and exposed a fragile Pakistan batting line-up on a flat strip in a Test which the hosts entered as favourites.

Saqlain, who took a career best 8-164 in England's first innings, provided Youhana staunch support. He remained not out on 14.

Resuming at 119-2, Pakistan seemed to be cruising along nicely with Inzamam-ul-Haq and Salim Elahi in fine fettle and looked inseparable.

They posted Pakistan's 150 in 189 minutes off 51 overs but with just 15 minutes to go before lunch, Pakistan lost three quick wickets in the space of 11 runs.

Elahi, playing his fifth Test but first since 1997, was bowled neck and crop by Craig White for 44 after he added a combative 98 runs for the third wicket with Inzamam.

Inzamam, who completed his 28th Test half century in 115 minutes facing 84 balls and with eight hits to the ropes, failed to read a delivery from left-arm spinner Ashley Giles and was bowled for 63.

White with 3-48 and Giles with 3-97 were the pick of England's bowlers.

Eighteen-year-old debutant

Qaiser Abbas failed to keep a drive down in White's last over before lunch and was caught in the gully by Graeme Hick for 2.

Pakistan reached 210-5 at lunch, still needing 71 more runs to avert the follow-on.

Captain Moin Khan and Youhana strived hard for runs and added 26 invaluable runs for the sixth wicket until Moin was adjudged leg before wicket by Pakistani umpire Riazuddin off Andrew Caddick for 17.

Moin stood his crease for few seconds before walking off dejectedly. TV replays showed the wicketkeeper-batsman lunged forward and was hit on the front pad.

Giles-White duo removed Abdur Razzak and Wasim Akram to put Pakistan in danger of following-on.

Razzak was trapped in front

of the wickets by a disguised slower one by White for 10 while Akram was caught at short leg off Giles for 1.

Pakistan needed another five to make England bat again as they reached 276-8 at tea with hopes pinned on Youhana who was playing his first Test against England.

England are on a Pakistan tour after 13 years to play three Tests. They lost the three-match one-day series 2-1.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecard at close on Day Four of the first cricket Test between Pakistan and England at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore on Saturday.

ENGLAND: First innings 480-8 decl (Graham Thorpe 118, Craig White 93, Michael

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Pakistan's Yousuf Youhana is all set to have a go at an Ashley Giles delivery on the fourth day of the first Test against England in Lahore yesterday.

— AFP photo