

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 141
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Dec 29, 2000 and draw
shortly afterwards

- Who was named world footballer-of-the-year?
Rivaldo Ronaldo Zidane
- Who won the Davis Cup?
Spain Australia USA
- Which club clinched J-League title?
Kashima Yokohama S. Pulse
- Who became First Division Chess League champions?
Tas Club Biman Leonine
- Who was man-of-the-match in the Karachi Test?
Amir Youhana Sajjan

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

SPORTS TALK



John McEnroe
(American tennis great)
"I was disappointed that I was unable to have a greater impact as captain of the team."
After his resignation as US Davis Cup team captain.

Kalabagan's U-13 cricket

Sports Reporter
An under-13 cricket tournament will be held next month under the auspices of Kalabagan Kira Chakra, says a press release.
Interested clubs, schools and other organisations have been asked to contact Kalabagan Kira Chakra by January 5, 2001 for their entries. The entry fee is Taka 1,000 for each side.

Nat'l chess Chanchal leads the pack

Sports Reporter
Chanchal Kumar Ghosh earned a solo lead in the Dhaka Metropolitan qualifying round of the national chess championship after winning his fifth successive match at the NSC chess room yesterday.
Chanchal now have full five points, half a point more than Minhazuddin, Mahbubur Rahman, Obayedul Islam, Nazir Salehin and Towfique.
The sixth round will start at the same venue today at 2:30 pm.

ABC basketball

From A Correspondent
NEW DELHI, Dec 20: Holders China defeated Japan 79-74 in a Group A match of the 15th ABC Basketball Championship for junior women at the Talkatora Gymnasium here today.
With this win China collected eight points from four matches.

BRIEF RESULTS

DPR KOREA 132 - Sri Lanka 36
Chinese Taipei 111 - Hong Kong 31
China 79 - Japan 74
Malaysia 66 - India 40
Thailand 60 - Uzbekistan 60

B'baria cricket

From Our Correspondent
BRAHMABARIA, Dec 20: Udayan Cricket Club defeated Protigi Cricket Club by 30 runs in the Freedom Fighter Shaheed Rango Mia Cup-2000 at the Shahjadpur Junior High School playground today.
Winning the toss, Udayan made 130 for eight in the stipulated 40 overs.
In reply, Protigi collected 100 runs losing all wickets.
Rajon was declared man-of-the-match.



Eddie Barlow, the outgoing Director of Development of Bangladesh Cricket Board, speaking at a press conference at the BCB office yesterday. BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury is on the left. —Star photo

Goodbye to Barlow

Sports Reporter

With tears rolling down his cheeks, Eddie Barlow bade goodbye to cricket at a melancholic press briefing yesterday.

The former South Africa all-rounder, who engineered Bangladesh's elevation to Test family early this year, finally gathered enough emotional strength to quit as the Director of Development of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB).

It was officially announced by Board president Saber Hossain Chowdhury with a grimaced Barlow sitting beside him.
Although the declaration was abrupt, speculations were ripe that Barlow, who suffered a stroke in April this year, might call it a day any time, as his present state of health reportedly does not permit the rigours of the job demands.

"The Board had through discussion with Barlow and arrived at a mutual and amicable understanding that effectively serves to end the two-year contract eight months before it was due to expire," said a BCB release.
Barlow will be heading home today along with his wife Cally, heralding an abrupt end to what promised to be a challenging and fulfilling job for one of the cricket's most respected brains.

He was selected and sent to Dhaka by the United Cricket Board of South Africa following a request made by the BCB in September 1999. His first assignment was against Brian Lara's West Indies and England A.

His farewell ceremony however turned into a very emotional one when the 61-year-old broke down while talking to the media.

A man of strong will, Barlow looked as aggressive as his playing days while replying about his present state of health. "I'm well, better than what people here think about my condition."

But a pall of gloom fell upon the inference once water started to form in his big eyes. His emotion however never overtook his wisdom. He was critical about the restive attitude of both organisers and players.

"Here the administrators, players and the supporters are just not patient enough that is needed to grow as a very good cricketing nation," said Barlow bitterly.

He however reserved his best wishes for the cricket-mad country, with which he seemed to have fallen in love.

"Bangladesh has an exciting future as a cricketing nation and the possibilities and potential here and there for all to see. Bangladesh will always have a

special place in our hearts and both Cally and I would wish to thank the president and his board as well as all others who have over the past year extended all out support and co-operation to me. We are particularly grateful for all the help, kindness and assistance extended to us during my illness," he said in a written statement.

Saber Hossain, who too was in a delicate situation to deal with the Barlow issue, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the South African.

Barlow made the most significant contribution to the cause of our cricket. It is his ten-year development plan that we have accepted. He has been a wonderful source of inspiration for Bangladesh cricket in the relatively short time he has been with us. We are deeply appreciative of his contributions and we salute his dedication to the cause of cricket development in Bangladesh," said Saber.

Saber also considered Barlow as the best among the three foreign coaches the national team had so far.
"We have had some rather unpleasant experiences with past foreign coaches. But Barlow was a refreshing exception. It's heartening that we are being able to bid him bye amidst a cordial atmosphere," said Saber.

How fix world fallen apart

LONDON, Dec 20: A telephone call in the middle of the night to Ali Bacher last April set off a chain reaction that is still reverberating through world cricket, reports Reuters.

The caller was South Africa's captain Hansie Cronje, who told the manager-director of his country's cricket board that he had not been "entirely honest" in his previous denials of match-fixing.

It was the defining moment in the simmering saga of cricket corruption that had been thrust into the open in such a way that it would bring down some of the sport's best known names before the end of the year.

Cronje has been banned for life by the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCBSA) — a punishment handed out to Pakistan's former captain Salim Malik and India's ex-captain Mohanlal Azharuddin by their respective boards.

Other Test cricketers have also been banned for up to five years, or fined and censured, as the game's authorities finally began taking significant steps to root out the menace of match-fixing.

Accusations, denials and rumours of bribery and corruption in cricket had surfaced sporadically during the 1990s but it was the New Delhi police who, quite by accident, finally unearthed a case to answer.

While investigating illegal bookmakers through phone-tapping they stumbled upon a conversation between one of their suspects and Cronje.

Subsequently, Indian police on April 7 charged Cronje and teammates Herschelle Gibbs, Pieter Strydom and Nicky Boje with "cheating, fraud and criminal conspiracy" relating to a one-day international series South Africa played in India during the previous month.

Cronje initially denied any involvement, but on April 11

came his 3 am phone call to Bacher, who said later the same day that Cronje had accepted 10-15,000 dollars from book-makers for information and forecasting during a triangular limited-overs series with Zimbabwe and England in January.

The revelations sent shockwaves through the game, and match-fixing was suddenly all over the front pages as well as the back pages of the world's newspapers.

The game's ruling body, the International Cricket Council (ICC), responded with an emergency meeting at Lord's in early May when it announced life bans for anyone found guilty of match-fixing and set up an Anti-Corruption Investigation Unit headed by London's former Metropolitan Police chief Paul Condon.

Pakistan's position in the match-fixing issue had been

Rouful, Mujtaba retain offices

Rouful Hasan of Bangladesh Observer and Mujtaba Danish of Muktakantha have been re-elected president and general secretary of the Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA) respectively for next two years, reports UNB.

Arif Rahman Shiblee of Janakantha and Dilu Khondakar of Ittefaq have been elected vice-presidents while M Mustaf Kamal of UNB has been re-elected the treasurer.

Five executive committee members — Kamal Ahmed (Arthomiti), Mosharraf Hossain (Muktakantha), Pabitra Kumar Kundu (Protham Alo), Saifur Rahman Khokon (Bhoror Kagaj) and Mujibur Rahman of (Janakantha) — were also elected unopposed.

Veteran journalist and former president of BSJA Fazle Rashid conducted the election which was held yesterday at the BSJA office.

under the microscope, since a judicial inquiry under Judge Malik Qayyum started in October 1998, and 20 months later Pakistan's cricket chiefs published his long-awaited report.

As a result of Qayyum's recommendations, ex-Pakistan captain Salim Malik and pace bowler Ataur Rehman were banned for life, and Wasim Akram, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis and Inzamam ul Haq were among other players fined and censured either for bringing the game into disrepute or failing to co-operate with the inquiry.

By this time, India's government had ordered the country's highest police authority, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), to investigate match-fixing.

The Indian cricket board subsequently banned the country's former captain Azharuddin and Ajay Sharma for life, and suspended Ajay Jadeja and former all-rounder Manoj Prabhakar for five years.

The corruption issue overshadowed much of what happened on the field in 2000.

West Indies fast bowler Courtney Walsh became the highest wicket-taker in Test history when, at the age of 37, he passed Kapil Dev's mark of 434 — a fitting reward for the Jamaican's stamina, skill and durability.

Steve Waugh's Australians completed a world record of 12 consecutive Test victories, poignantly doing so against West Indies, whose all-conquering team of the 1980s had set the previous mark of 11.

As the year came to a close, England won a Test series in Pakistan for the first time for 38 years, having a few months earlier beaten West Indies in a Test series for the first time in 31 years.

All the signs pointed to a real scrap when Australia, who have held the Ashes since 1989, come of England next year for the sport's ultimate contest.

Chittagong in control

Sports Reporter

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Rajshahi v Chittagong

Holders Chittagong got off to a flying start in their sixth round Green Delta National Cricket League Group A clash against Rajshahi at the Noakhali Stadium yesterday.

On the first of the three day match, Chittagong leg spinner Shahed Mehmud captured five wickets as the visitors were bundled out for a paltry 148 in 66.1 overs.

Mehmud, the Pakistani recruit, conceded 62 runs in 22 overs. He was ably supported by left arm spinner Enamul Hogue who finished with three for 29.

Middle order Anisur Rahman scored highest 38 off 68 balls with five boundaries followed by opener Rafiqul Alam who added a patient 33 off 108 balls.

Rafiqul, the highest run getter in the National League among the local batsmen, has scored 446 so far in 11 innings with a century and three fifties.

In reply, Chittagong were comfortably placed on 66 for one at stumps.

Opener Nafis Iqbal was batting on 46 while his captain Minhazul Abedin was not out on 8.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Chittagong and Rajshahi at the Noakhali Stadium yesterday:

RAJSHAHI: First innings	
Rafiqul c Suja b S Mehmud	33
Tareque lbw b Anis	0
Tutul lbw b S Mehmud	26
Anisur lbw b S Mehmud	38
Mustadir c Azam b Suja	4
Kalim lbw b S Mehmud	15
Rezwana b Enamul	1
Tareque c Azam b Enamul	1
Amir c Nafis b S Mehmud	3
Imran c Azam b Enamul	0
Alamgir not out	4
Extras (lb-11, lb-8, nb-4, w-1)	24
Total (All out in 66.1 overs)	148
Fall of wickets: 1/1, 2/74, 3/76, 4/80, 5/92, 6/129, 7/130, 8/144, 9/144	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Arifis	8	2	10	1
Ehsanul	3	0	7	0
Suja	17	7	20	1
Enamul	15.1	5	25	3
S Mehmud	22	2	62	5

CHITTAGONG: First innings	
Azam c Kalim b Aminul jr	4
Nafis not out	46
Ehsanul retired hurt	5
Minhazul not out	8
Extras: (lb-1, w-2)	3
Total (For 1 wkt in 26.1 overs)	66
Fall of wicket: 1/35	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Aminul jr	11	2	28	1
Alamgir	5	0	18	0
Tareque	2	1	4	0
Imran	6	1	18	0
Mustadir	2.1	0	2	0

Barisal struggle

Sports Reporter

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Barisal v Sylhet

A patient fifty by Imran Ahmed helped hosts Barisal reach a moderate total against Sylhet in their Green Delta National Cricket League match at the Abdur Rab Serniabad Stadium in Barisal yesterday.

On the first day of the three-day match, Imran scored 60 as Barisal made 199 in the stipulated 100 overs with two wickets in hand.

Imran batted for more than four and a half hours and faced 224 balls which included only two fours.

Imran apart, Middle order Ahsanullah Hasan added a valuable 34 while Ishtiaq scored 21.

Alok Kapali was the most successful bowler for Sylhet taking three wickets for 34.

In reply, Sylhet were 14 for no loss at stumps.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Barisal and Sylhet at the Abdur Rab Stadium yesterday:

BARISAL: First innings	
Moin c Taposh b Imran	19
Hannan c Imon b Naveem	6
Imran c Parvez b Obayed	60
Ishtiaq lbw b Alok	21
Safayet c Nasrul b Alok	0
Hasan c Alok b Obayed	34
Shahnewaz b Alok	10
Al-Anin c Iqbal b Taposh	11
Ashfaq not out	6
Shahadat not out	2
Extras: (lb-13, lb-2, nb-6)	21
Total: (For 8 wts in 100 overs)	199
Fall of wickets: 1/23, 2/46, 3/94, 4/94, 5/148, 6/160, 7/189, 8/191	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Naveem	14	6	16	1
Iqbal	11	6	10	0
Taposh	16	2	27	1
Imran	30	9	58	1
Alok	14	2	34	3
Obayed	14	4	39	2

SYLHET: First innings	
Parvez not out	5
Naveem not out	6
Extras: (lb-3)	3
Total: (For no loss in 6 overs)	14

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Al-Anin	3	1	4	0
Ashfaq	3	0	7	0

Sharif shuts Dhaka out

Sports Reporter

GREEN DELTA NAT'L CRICKET LEAGUE

Dhaka v Biman

lower order Saiful Islam (18) were the other notable batsmen.

Saiful, the former national team seamer, also shone with the cherry taking all the four Biman wickets. He conceded 48 runs in his 19 overs.

Left handed Pakistani opener Imran Farhat made 52 followed by Test star and skipper Aminul Islam who chipped in with 28.

Biman are currently leading the group along with holders Chittagong, each having 24 points. On the other hand, Dhaka are bottom with six.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the three-day Green Delta National Cricket League match between Dhaka and Biman at the Faridpur Stadium yesterday:

DHAKA: First innings	
Harun lbw b Saifulah	66
Rashedul c Habibul b Sharif	6
Sohel b Rafiqul	3
Mahbub b Sharif	24
Mazharul c Atiar b Sharif	3
Biplay c b Saifulah	10

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Jahangir	8	2	14	0
Sharif	18	4	43	6
Rafiqul	4	2	14	1
Farhat	9.1	0	48	1
Ziaur	5	3	7	0
Saifulah	10	0	30	2

BIMAN: First innings
Ziaur c Lovelu b Saiful 9
Farhat b Saiful 52
Habibul c Harun b Saiful 0
Aminul b Saiful 28
Hasanuzzaman not out 10
Rafiqul not out 2
Extras: (lb-4, lb-2, nb-3) 9
Total: (For 4 wts in 38 overs) 110
Fall of wickets: 1/19, 2/19, 3/90, 4/104

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Zakir	13	3	52	0
Saiful	19	6	48	4
Jewel	2	1	2	0
Mosaddeq	4	3	2	0

PCB planning for future

KARACHI, Dec 20 (AFP/Internet): Pakistan's cricket chiefs are still scratching their heads working out how England stole victory from the jaws of a draw to clinch the Test series here earlier this month.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chief Lieutenant General Tauqir Zia on Wednesday said he had a two-hour, one-on-one meeting with captain Moin Khan in Lahore to "unearth what went wrong".

"I had a detailed meeting with the captain and we tried to unearth what went wrong against England and in future we want the players to lift their performance," Zia told AFP.

Players and administrators — with Moin in particular, under pressure — have come in for stinging criticism following the 1-0 series loss to an England team which had been expected to crumble in the face of Pakistan's spin attack.

Members of the team were placed under guard in the immediate aftermath of the series. Moin's detractors say he

played negative cricket and relied too much on favourable pitches, which in the end failed him, rather than scoring runs and taking wickets.

"The captain must control the team properly and we want to achieve good results. Even if we lose it should be after a spirited fight," Zia said.

Moin shocked some commentators when he told journalists midway through the last Test that the match was heading for a draw, when clearly a Pakistani victory was not out of the question.

England went on to snatch a win in the dying minutes of the match, giving them their first Test triumph here since 1961-62 and ending Pakistan's unbeaten Test record in Karachi.

Moin tried to play down Tuesday's meeting, saying it was "nothing special".

"There was nothing special but we discussed in detail the team's performance against England and of course the loss was disappointing," he said.

The PCB advisory council starts two days of deliberations Wednesday to analyse the causes of the team's defeat and plan for the future.

The board has also not escaped the barbs of cricket lovers here, with the three-member selection committee headed by former wicketkeeper Wasim Bari facing the axe for choosing unbalanced combinations.

Former captains Imran Khan and Intikhab Alam slammed the PCB for its timid approach to the game, pointing out that Pakistan has lost four home series since 1998.

Moin was recently confirmed as skipper until June next year, but Zia has left him in no doubt that results must improve.

Five of the last six sides to visit Pakistan — England, Sri Lanka, Australia, Zimbabwe and South Africa — have come out on top in the Test series.

Moin was only appointed captain in March after batsman Saad Anwar was sacked following the Sri Lanka series.

However, Pakistan will have a chance of revenge when they play two Tests in England next May.

Pakistan have won on their last three visits to England and Moin will be expected to keep the run going — or lose his job.

Waugh on comeback trail

MELBOURNE, Dec 20 (AFP/Internet): Australian skipper Steve Waugh is confident of returning for the fourth Test starting on Boxing Day, with Damien Martyn likely to stand aside once again.

Waugh missed out on the series-clinching win over the West Indies in the Adelaide Test with a strained buttock, sustained during the second Test in Perth.

However, Waugh said Wednesday the injury was improving rapidly.

"I've done a fair bit of work over the last ten days and the buttock is feeling good," he said.

When asked if he would play in Melbourne, Waugh replied: "I hope so. I will have a fitness test in four days' time and if it's good then I'll play, but I'm confident at the moment."</