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Star Sport

DHAKA, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2000 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

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Notice
Due to Eid holidays draw of WHIZZ KID Competition-141 could not be held on December 29. It will now be held on January 5, 2001.
—Sports Editor

SPOREBALL



Vishwanathan Anand
(Indian Grand Master)
"It's something that I have been chasing for a long time."
After winning the world chess crown.

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 141
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Jan 5, 2001 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-Falke
 - Who became First Division Chess League champions?
Titas Club Binan Leonine
 - Who was man-of-the-match in the Karachi Test?
Altherton Youhana Saglan
- Name:
Class: Roll No.:
School Address:
Phone: (If any)

Redgrave knighted

LONDON, Dec 30: Britain's Queen Elizabeth II today bestowed royal honours on Olympic hero Steve Redgrave and Danish goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, reports AFP.

They were among hundreds of people who were granted knighthoods and lesser honours in the Queen's New Year's Honour list.

Three months after Britain's most successful Olympic Games in decades, sportsmen picked up the lion's share of the accolades.

Oarsman Redgrave, who is the only athlete in an endurance event to have won gold in five different Olympic Games, becomes a Knight of the British Empire and will be addressed as Sir Steve Redgrave.

Dennis Lewis, the British competitor who won gold in the women's heptathlon at this year's Sydney games, is honoured with the next highest accolade, Order of the British Empire (OBE).

Jonathan Edwards, the Olympic triple jump champion, was made a commander of the British Empire (CBE).

Italian jockey Frankie Dettori and Schmeichel, former United were among several non-British people to be recognised in the list.

They were granted the title Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE). Their awards, though, are honorary, because they are not British citizens.

German thug faces trial in May

SAINT-OMER, France, Dec 30: A German football fan accused of an attack which left a French policeman with brain damage will go on trial in this northern French town in May, a judiciary office said on Thursday, reports AFP.

Booters face Balkan test Millennium Cup groupings done

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh will get a rare opportunity to rub shoulders against pre-tournament favourite and European football powerhouse Yugoslavia in the Millennium Cup to be held in India from January 10 to 25. The All-Indian Football Federation (AIFF) confirmed the first-ever meeting against the full-strength Balkan side on Friday.

Initially not considered in the 16-team meet, the biggest football carnival India has ever staged, Bangladesh following a goodwill gesture of AIFF president Priyaranjan Das Munshi, however, have been pencilled in probably the toughest group along with Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Iraq.

The Indian football chief is expected in Dhaka within the next few days to formally invite Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to attend the opening ceremony as the chief guest.

Besides, Group A will serve as a backdrop for an emotional rivalry between two Balkan nations when Yugoslavia take on Bosnia in a preliminary match.

India are comfortably placed in Group B along with Uruguay, Iceland and Indonesia.

Group C is headed by Romania and includes Cameroon, Jordan and Hong Kong. While Chile feature in Group D with Uzbekistan, Japan and Bahrain.

Except for Japan, which will



MURALI MILESTONE: Sri Lanka off-spinner Muralitharan (3rd from L) is the toast of his teammates after he captured his 300th Test wicket yesterday. —AFP photo

Lankans defy Proteas

DURBAN, South Africa, Dec 30: Sri Lanka held on for a draw in the first Test against South Africa at Kingsmead on Saturday despite being put under pressure in the rain-shortened match, reports AFP.

Sri Lanka were 149 for six when bad light stopped play eight overs early. They had been set to make 345 to win in 82 overs.

Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan reached 300 wickets in Tests on the way to a draw in the first Test against South Africa at Kingsmead on Saturday despite being put under pressure in the rain-shortened match, reports AFP.

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Kiwis, Zim settle for draw

WELLINGTON, Dec 30: The one-off cricket Test between New Zealand and Zimbabwe dwindled to an inevitable draw on the final day Saturday with the tourists shutting up shop when faced with a winning target of 301, reports AFP.

Zimbabwe never entertained the task of scoring seven runs an over and ended their second innings on 60 for two when stumps were drawn 13 overs ahead of schedule.

The tourists lost Guy Whittall for six and Gavin Rennie for 37, leaving Stuart Carlisle at the crease on 16 and Alistair Campbell yet to open his account when the match ground to a halt.

New Zealand declared their second innings closed on 153 for four an hour before the tea breaking giving the tourists a minimum of 43 overs to score

Invincible Australia

MELBOURNE, Dec 30: Australia completed one of their biggest victories over the West Indies Friday, winning the fourth Test by 352 runs at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, reports AFP.

The Australians swept to an unprecedented 14th straight Test win when they dismissed the hapless tourists for 109 some 45 minutes after lunch on the fourth day.

Australia will now push for a 5-0 series clean sweep in the fifth Test at the Sydney Cricket Ground, which begins next Tuesday.

The tourists lost the opening two Tests in Brisbane and Perth inside three days and last week's third Adelaide Test by five wickets early on the fifth day.

Impressive 19-year-old Marlon Samuels followed up his unbeaten 60 in the first innings with another top-scoring 46 before he was the last wicket to fall caught in the outfield going for his half-century off the bowling of Colin Miller.

He was the shining beacon as his senior teammates again showed a lack of application and fortitude against the remorseless Australian attack, spearheaded by paceman Jason Gillespie.

Gillespie took the first six wickets to fall and finished with 6-40 off 17 overs.

BRIEF SCORES

Brief scores of the fourth cricket Test between Australia and West Indies:
AUSTRALIA: First innings 364 (S Waugh 121 not out, A Gilchrist 37, M Dillon 4-76)
WEST INDIES: First innings 165 (M Samuels 60 not out, R Jacobs 42, A Bichel 5-60, J Gillespie 3-48)
AUSTRALIA: Second innings 262/5 declared (J Langer 80, M Waugh 78 not out, J Adams 2-43)
WEST INDIES: Second innings 109 all out (M Samuels 46, R Jacobs 23, M Dillon 15, J Gillespie 6/40, C Miller 3/40)
Result: Australia won by 352 runs and lead series 4-0.
Man-of-the-match: Steve Waugh.
Fifth Test: January 2-6, Sydney.

Inter recruit Romario

ROME, Dec 30: Struggling Inter Milan will opt for experience and are to sign Brazilian veteran Romario, Corriere dello Sport reported on Saturday, says AFP.

Despite being just a month shy of his 35th birthday Romario, nicknamed "Baxinho" (little one), has been in effervescent form this season with Vasco de Gama, where his contract runs out Sunday.

He and Inter have agreed a deal worth around 1.8 million dollars through to June with a 3.7 million-dollar inducement on offer should he stay around for the 2001-2002 season, according to Corriere dello Sport.

Always Lothar!

BERLIN, Dec 30: Lothar Matthaeus is Germany's top soccer player-of-the-past-decade, according to a poll released on Friday, reports Reuters.

The 39-year-old libero, who ended his international career after extending his world record to 150 caps at Euro 2000, won 21 per cent of the votes in the poll conducted by sports market researchers Sport+Markt AG institute.

Former Germany striker and current national team coach Rudi Vollerer came second on seven per cent ahead of fellow striker Jurgen Klinsmann, now retired, who took third place with six per cent of the 1,001 votes.

All top three players were members of Germany's 1990 World Cup-winning squad captained by Matthaeus.

WARNE'S WISH

Recovering champion spin bowler Shane Warne wants to play for at least another few years after he was officially recognised Tuesday as Australia's most successful Test wicket-taker.

Before the start of the Boxing Day Test at the MCG on Tuesday, Warne was presented with the ball he used to take his 356th wicket against New Zealand in Auckland last March which pushed him past Dennis Lillee's Australian record.

Warne has missed the summer five-Test series against the West Indies after fracturing his bowling finger in a domestic Sheffield Shield game but the 31-year-old said he was determined to prolong a career which has already spanned 84 Tests.

Warne sparked speculation about his future following last year's World Cup triumph in England when he said he would not rule out quitting interna-

Platini above else

PARIS, Dec 30: Michel Platini was named the greatest French player of the century in a poll published in Tuesday's edition of France Football magazine, reports Reuters.

A panel of former players assembled by the influential magazine gave former French captain Platini 143 points to 121 for current World Player of the Year Zinedine Zidane and 88 for 1950s star Raymond Kopa.

Midfielder Platini scored 41 goals in 72 internationals, more than any other player, was skipper on 50 occasions and led France to the 1984 European title. He also won two Italian titles and a European Cup winners medal with Juventus.

Alme Jacquet, who guided France to their 1998 World Cup triumph, was named coach of the century by the magazine's panel of former coaches.

Board picks three teams Marsh's men arrive on Jan 5

Sports Reporter

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday announced three different selections that would play against Australia's Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy at home.

Their second match, also a three-day, commences in Rajshahi against the BCB President's Eleven on January 12. National vice-captain and local hero Khaled Masood will lead the team both in the three-day fixture and the ensuing one-day match at the southern headquarters of the country. However, few new faces with better credentials in the instant version of cricket will come in for the one-day match.

The Board has decided to delay picking of the team for the four-day and three-day night matches at the Bangladesh National Stadium.

SQUADS
BCB Under-21: Sabbir Khan (captain), Nafis Iqbal, Nahidul Haq, Mohammad Ashraf, Hanuman Sarkar, Rajin Saleh, Mazharul Haq, Mohammad Salim (wicketkeeper), Sharif, Manjurul Islam, Bikash Ranjan Das, Tariqul Islam, Taposh Kumar and Tushar Imran. Coach: Nazmul Abedin Fahim.
BCB President's Eleven (for three-day match in Rajshahi): Khaled Masood (captain), Shahrin Hossain, Rafiqul Islam, Nasirul Alam, Rajin Saleh, Murtasir, Fahim Muntasir, Masadek Hossain, Ahsanullah Hassan, Hasibul Hossain, Animul Islam jr. and Anisur Rahman. Coach: Dipu Rai Chowdhury.
BCB President's Eleven (for one-day match in Rajshahi): Khaled Masood (captain), Shahrin Hossain, Rashidul Haq, Nasirul Alam, Murtasir, Anisur Rahman, Sauchay, Alok Kapali, Fahim Muntasir, Saiful Islam, Taposh Kumar and Rashedur Rahman. Coach: Dipu Rai Chowdhury.

WORLD CRICKET

UNDATED, Dec 30 (AFP/Reuters/AP): Former Indian cricket captain Mohiuddin Azharuddin, banned for life after being accused of match-fixing, will challenge the decision in court, his lawyer said on Thursday.

Former federal law minister Hans Raj Bhargava, who is representing Azharuddin, said his client wanted him to contest the life ban imposed by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

The case is almost ready and will be filed soon," Bhargava said, adding it will be put before the Andhra Pradesh High Court in Azharuddin's home city of Hyderabad.

HAWKE DEAD

Former Australian Test fast bowler Neil Hawke has died here after fighting a prolonged illness.

Hawke passed away at Mary Potter Hospice on Christmas Day after battling a series of health problems arising from an infection he suffered in 1980. He was 61.

In a statement his wife, Beverly, said her husband had showed courage in his fight for life.

Hawke suffered a staphylococcus infection after undergoing bowel surgery in July 1980, which left him with a raft of health problems.

He spent nearly a year in hospital with kidney failure and liver damage, suffered 12 cardiac arrests and underwent 30 operations.

CAIRNS, SINCLAIR BACK IN FOLD

Chris Cairns and Mathew Sinclair returned to the New Zealand one-day side Saturday when officials announced the team to play Zimbabwe in a three-match series starting at Taupo on Tuesday.

A knee injury forced Cairns out of recent Test series in South Africa while Sinclair gets another chance in the shortened version of the game after a bad introduction against Australia at the start of the year.

SQUAD: Nathan Astle, Mathew Sinclair, Stephen Fleming (captain), Roger Twose, Chris Cairns, Craig McMillan, Adam Parore, Chris Harris, Brooke Walker, Scott Styris, Chris Martin, James Franklin.

Rumble in Tehran

TEHRAN, Dec 30: Six players, three each from Iran's two top football teams, were arrested after a battle on the pitch sparked rioting by fans, an official of the Iranian football association said Saturday, reports AFP.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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CRYPTOQUIP
D X Y J O I S R H S A
X S V O M D V S D I Y V J
R F O V H R E L D J I M I O R D R
H I D L R F Q S E B F X M A D V B O Q H
Saturday's Cryptquip: THE FORGETFUL
FARMER KEEPS OMITTING TO PLANT HIS CORN.
SHUCKS!
Today's Cryptquip Clue: S equals O

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.