

DHAKA FRIDAY JANUARY 10, 2003, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com



Jose Batista of Uruguay was sent off after just 56 seconds against Scotland in 1986! That is the fastest dismissal in World Cup history. His foul on Gordon Strachan gave French referee Joel Quiniou no choice. Uruguay kept the score at 0-0 and progressed to the next round at the expense of Scotland.



BTV SAFF Championship India vs Pakistan Live at 4:45 pm Sri Lanka vs Afghanistan Live at 6:45 pm **ESPN** New Zealand vs India Fifth ODI Repeat at 1:00 pm Sportscentre Hindi Sport News Live at 8:30 pm

Cricket Programming Super Selector Repeat at 9:00 pm STAR Sports

Futbol Mundial Repeat at 2:30 pm **Sportsline Tonight** Sport News Live at 8:00 pm Football Asia Taped Version at 10:00 pm





SAFF CHAMPIONSHIP Bangladesh 2003

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh coach George Kottan wants to face India in the final too. The Austro-Hungarian

responded to a statement made by his Indian counterpart Stephen Constantine who said on Wednesday that he expected an Indo-Bangla final in the third South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship that begins at the Bangabandhu National Stadium today.

Speaking at a crowded press briefing yesterday on Bangladesh's preparation for the eight-nation meet, Kottan said that he had the squad together for two months and that had helped in bringing the team to a better shape. Captain Rajani Kanta Barman,

team leader Shawkat Ali Khan Jahangir and manager Sayeed Hasan Kanon were also present during the media conference. "My team is in a good condition

now and they have a better fitness level. The morale of the team is also very high since they are going to represent the nation on home soil after a long time. Everybody is determined to win the championship," said Kottan.

Kottan emphasised on the teamwork that has developed over the last couple of months. "Except for the two weeks in

Bhutan which I would term as waste of time, the rest six weeks have benefited the boys as they could groom as a team. We played two good matches in Myanmar and few

practice matches at home that really advantage for his side provided the helped us to assess the ability of the teams met in the final but warned that India still had lot of talented Answering to another question, players.

Kottan said that his initial goal was Kottan revealed that he had almost decided on his starting XI to reach the final. "We also want India in the final," declared Kottan excepting the forward line. The fitness of veteran striker Alfaz when it was brought to his attention Ahmed continued to pose worries that Constantine expected Bangladesh as final opponents. for the coach. The gray-haired coach thought

" The only problem I have at the SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

from sporting sponsor's logo. rants.

the Bangladesh chief of the famous American lubricant manufacturer. The members of the Bangladesh

occasion.

PHOTO: STAR

organised many training courses

and seminar here," he said, assur-

ing that he would now try to hold

some programmes of AFC at the

About the democratisation of

national football associations in

Asia, Bin Hammam said that they

are going to categorise and make a

list of national associations without

development programmes in

Bangladesh government has

future," said the AFC head.

"They will get less priority in our

He also mentioned that

Bangladesh football coach George Kottan addresses a press conference at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday organised in connection with the SAFF Championship that starts today.

BKSP.

elected body.

SAFF becomes bigger

Hosts aware of expectations

that the absence of Indian superstar

Baichung Bhutia could prove as an

team." Kottan said.

SAFF CHAMPIONSHIP Bangladesh 2003 Asian football boss. "You see, it's not only in South Asia. We had been funding 26 countries in Asia from 1996. We SPORTS REPORTER

appointed one executive secretary After the inclusion of Afghanistan, and a foreign coach to each of those nations, and none of the countries four Central Asian nations -have shown any improvement. Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kirgistan That's why we have stopped funding and Turkmenistan are in the prothose countries from last month. cess of joining the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF), and "We are now going to deal with

each of those countries with separate plans and programmes from January 2004." Hammam, however, spoke

highly of Bangladesh Krira Shikkha



WC sponsor SPORTS REPORTER

Mobil BD's

Mobil has become the new official sponsor of the Bangladesh cricket team in the World Cup, starting in Southern Africa from February 8.

Riazuddin Al Mamun, chairman of the BCB's (Bangladesh Cricket Board's) media committee, officially disclosed it at a local hotel yesterday. Azam Chowdhury, managing director of the Mobil Bangladesh Limited, was also present there. The Board struck an impromptu

cricket by example, caught everydeal with Mobil after its regular sponsor Coca-Cola decided to end the three-year contract prematurely. Many believe that the Coca-Cola pulled out of the deal because of the Cup ICC's controversial ambush marketing policy that would bar players

Mobil clinched the sponsorship deal for Taka 20 lakh, which, as claimed by the chairman of marketing committee Aziz Al Kaisar, was the highest offer among a few aspi-

Cup. Because, I want to give more Azam Chowdhury, in his brief time to my family and stay beside speech, said that it was an honour my ailing mother," said the grimfor his company to be associated faced 26-year-old wicketkeeper. with the national cricket team.

"In Bangladesh, cricket is not seat quite commendably and also only a game. It has also become an performing at the same time since inseparable part of the nation," said he took over from Naimur Rahman in November 2000, refused to

squad including skipper Khaled Mashud were also present on the

Youth cricket

UNB, Dhaka

Nilphamari and Rajshahi won their respective matches in the final round of the CityCell Digital National Youth Cricket Championship that Cricket League between holders Dhaka and leaders Chittagong began at different venues across the country yesterday. Nilphamari beat Chittagong by ended as a draw at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium vesterday.

finalists.

But the holders ran away with nine runs at Comilla Stadium. two points from the game by virtue Sent in to bat, Nilphamari scored of first innings lead and that raised 169 for nine in 46 overs with Rajib their tally to 10 points while making highest 46 and

Asaduzzaman 30. Rashed Khan picked up three wickets conceding 19 runs while Arafat took three for 31 for

Chittagong. In reply, Chittagong were shot out for 160 in 45.4 overs with Reazuddin Ahmed scoring 62 and Azam 28. Rajib captured three wickets for 28.

At Mymensingh Stadium, Rajshahi earned a comfortable 93run victory over Jessore Education Board (JEB)

foggy weather on the final day with Dhaka, resuming at overnight score Sent in to bat, Rajshahi scored of 66 for one, declared their second 172 for seven in 40 overs with Raquibul making 65 and Rajib 36.

Mashud mystery

comment when reporters pressed ICC Cricket World Cup him to know whether there were other reasons.

Struggling hard to control his emotions. Mashud however down played the fear that his unexpected decision ahead of the World Cup might affect the morale of the team.



KHALED MASHUD

"It has nothing to do with my total commitment to the World Cup. And, believe all the players will rally behind me for a better performance," said Mashud.

But the always optimistic and Bangladesh captain, sitting next to jovial man from Rajshahi certainly him, was trying hard to hold back his left behind hundred of questions to tears.

innings on 189 for three to set a 276-

run winning target for the port city

Rashedul Haq (60 off 84),

Mazharul Haq (44 off 82) and

Aminul Islam (54 not out off 75) were

Chittagong were 27 without loss

the notable scorers for Dhaka.

side.

innings for his 56 runs that came off 180 balls and in 229 minutes while his opening partner Shishir added

be answered when he hurried off the

lavish 'Dilkusha' ball room with tears

for someone who knows Mashud as

on part of the Board might have led

Mashud to take such a surprising

A thinking cricketer, Mashud has

long been pressing the Board for

improved practice facilities and a

concerted planning so that the

players can avail adequate training

before facing the top class oppo-

But the Board has remained as

indifferent as ever. The Board

bigwigs are yet to address those in

its different standing committees

Riazuddin Al Mamun, the chair-

man of the media committee, rightly

said Mashud, who is nicknamed as

Pilot, will be our hope-bearer in the

respectable show in the World Cup,'

said Riazuddin in his brief speech

But little did he notice that the

"Pilot will pilot our team to a

It is indeed a puzzling situation

Many felt that miscommunication

trickling down his cheeks.

a 150% fighter.

decision.

nents

even

World Cup.

23 off 34. Ali Arman Rajan captured two wickets conceding 31 runs while Pijush took two for 16 runs.

Dhaka v Chittagong

DHAKA: First innings 376 for 8 in

100 overs (Fahim 60, Neeyamur 57

n.o, Naimur 39, Jahangir 38,

Mosaddek 37 n.o; Ahsanullah 4-97)

CHITTAGONG: First innings 290 all

out in 77.3 overs (Aftab 129, Akram

DHAKA: Second innings (overnight

60

2

54

13

16

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

45, Nazimuddin 36, Anwar 6-58)

Rashedul c Nafees b Ashiq

66 for 1 in 19 overs)

SCOREBOARDS

day:

in 3.5 overs when the match was Scorecards on the final day of the called off two Ispahani Mirzapore National Pacer Anwar Hossain Monir of League four-day matches yester-Chittagong was adjudged man-of-

the-match for his six-wicket haul. At the Fatullah Stadium, the match between Barisal and Sylhet also ended in a draw. However, it

Chittagong completed their league was a good outing for Barisal as they finally posted their first points (2) of the league on account of first innings lead in their last round have eight points to their name, and match.

Barisal set a 314-run winning target for Sylhet as they scored 179 in their second innings after resuming the on 169 for nine

Jahangir c Nafees b Ashiq Chasing the improbable target Mazharul c Tareq b Ahsanullah 44 Sylhet were never in contention as Aminul not out they batted out almost the whole of Saiiad not out Extras: (b-2, lb-5, nb-6, w-3) the fourth and final day, reaching 148 for six when the game was Total: (For 3 wkts in 19 overs dec) 189 called off.

Parvez Ahmed played a patient

Draw order of the day Cricket



campaign securing 14 points.

second place with Khulna.

Dhaka are now sharing the

Dhaka take on Rajshahi, who

Khulna face point-less Sylhet in the

finishing round matches, which start

on January 13, that will decide the

is over three-and-a-half hours later

than the scheduled time, due to

Play started at 12:40 pm, which

SPORTS REPORTER

skipper Khaled Mashud?

team for the World Cup.

"Yes, I have decided to step

Mashud, who is handling the hot

down as captain after the World

What's actually eating Bangladesh

Parthiv Patel

(Indian cricketer) "I have tried to model my batting on Rahul Dravid. The way he plays. He is so tight."



of 2002 award?



decision is to lift the standard of the game in South Asian region, level of which is far behind the other three regions.

"We have failed to develop the . Who lifted Div I chess title? Titas Club Biman Ansars 2. Who won Reuters' sportswoman tite of South Asian countries to

Hingis Serena Jones 3. Who won the man-of-the-match award in the second and final Test between Bangladesh and West Indies? Jacobs Kapali Mashud 4. Who won 2002 FIFA World Player of the Year award? Owen Ronaldo Carlos 5. Who clinched World Squash Open title? Class. Roll No. School Address

Ctg soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Kallol Sangha and Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra won their respective matches of the CJKS Elite Paint Senior Division Football League at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong on Wednesday.

Kallol beat Madarbari Udayon Sangha 1-0. Shahadat Hossain Babu netted

the match-winner.

17 points from England on 12 and In the other match of the day, Muktijoddha defeated Kwality Sri Lanka on seven. The next match Sports 5-3 in the tiebreak after the is normal time ended 0-0.

also attended by BFF president SA Sultan, former general secretary Harunur Rashid and other high sports officials.

they will be competing in the next

AFC (Asian Football

Confederation) president Mohamed

Bin Hammam, who arrived in the

city yesterday, revealed this at a

press conference at the National

State Minister for Youth and Sports

Chaired by NSC chairman and

azlur Rahman, the briefing was

Sports Council (NSC) last evening.

SAFF Championship.

Bin Hammam said the AFC has divided the Asia into four regions and as part of that plan four Central Asian countries will be drafted in

East, nine in Far East and Eleven countries in ASEAN region. We had only eight in South Asia. So we have put another four to make it a 12team event," said Bin Hammam. The main objective behind this

game in this region for the last six years when we provided them with lot of project-based funds. But all have gone in vein. Hopefully, the inclusion of good team like Uzbekistan will increase the appe-

> develop the game and play better football," said the Qatar-based

PHOTO: STAR

AFC president and chairman of the FIFA Development Committee Mohamed Bin Hammam exchanges his views with reporters at the National Sports Council yesterday. Sitting right to him is Bangladesh Football Federation president SA Sultan.

Protisthan (BKSP) which he visited assured him that it would have an elected president in the BFF by

"I never thought Bangladesh amending the NSC Act shortly. The have such a big sports institution. It AFC deadline to elect a president was beyond my imagination. Had I SEE PAGE 15 COL 5 known about it earlier, I would have

Russel claimed four wickets for 36. In reply, JEB were bundled out for 79 runs in 31 overs as Russel made 25. Mukta captured three

for 10 and Sabbir two for 13.

wickets for 16 while Rezaul took two

Sub-Jr chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Minhazuddin Sagar maintained his solo lead with seventh points at the end of seventh round of the 23rd National Sub-Junior Chess Championship at the Bangladesh Chess Federation auditorium yesterday.

Saima Almas, Obaidul Islam and Shuvro Ghosh followed the leader with 6 points each. Hasib Redwan Khan and Saimon Siddigur Rahman are in the 3rd position with 5.5 points each

In the day's games, Sagar beat Shamsuddoha Shakin, Saima beat Shajedul Karim Shibly, Obaid beat Shamima Akter Liza. Shuvro beat Mahfuzur Rahman, Hasib beat Jasimuddin and Saimon beat Nazir Arifeen

Eighth round will start from 3:00 pm today at the same venue.

ECB may go against govt

It will be up to them to decide where It will be up to them to decide where ICC Cricket World Cupe go from here." South AFRICA 2003

AFP, London

English cricket officials appeared set Thursday to defy the British government and go ahead with their World Cup game in Zimbabwe.

England and Wales Cricket Board chief executive Tim Lamb said as the government refused to

pay compensation if England boycotted their World Cup match in Zimbabwe then they had little option but to go ahead with their match in Harare on February 13.

However, he told reporters they could reverse the decision if there were more riots in Zimbabwe.

"If there is a deterioration in the security situation the decision to play in Zimbabwe could be reviewed," he said after meeting government officials.

"We need to have a fairly urgent meeting of the management board.

country. British Premier Tony Blair has called on England to pull out of their they did not go ahead with their match but Sports Secretary Tessa

game

England).

situation," he said.



Jowell told the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Thursday the government would pay no cash compensation if England boycotted

Lamb said England would face a multi-million pound legal claim if

their match in the southern African

"We've been put in a very difficult

"We find this a very inequitable

situation. Cricket is being asked to

make a stand in the national inter-

est. We have signed legal contracts

that could have a severe detrimental

effect to the fabric of the game (in

ests of cricket. We could render

ourselves liable to unlimited dam-

this initial meeting that no compen-

"My job is to look after the inter-

"We are disappointed certainly at

.. and if we breach those contracts



TIM LAMB

sation will be paid," he said. "We may ask for another meeting." Jowell called on the English cricket board to change its mind but added: "If they decide to go, the SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

PHOTO: STAR

Sanath smashes Aussies

Cricket

Jayasuriya's slow left-arm spin-

ners did the damage with the ball,

the 33-year-old taking four for 39 to

earn the man-of-the-match award

and keep alive his side's chances of

from four matches in the tourna-

ment, which also involves England,

and it was Australia's first defeat

Australia lead the standings with

Australia against England in

after three victories last month.

The win was Sri Lanka's first

reaching the series finals.

on Thursday

Muttiah Muralitharan, who took his REUTERS, Sydney 299th one-day international wicket on the way to figures of two for 44. World champions Australia have The tourists showed some fighting conceded their highest ever total in spirit after crumbling to 65 all out a one-day international as they against Australia A two days earlier. slumped to defeat by 79 runs Vice-captain Atapattu made 101 against Sri Lanka. Sanath Jayasuriya and Marvan and his captain clubbed four sixes in Atapattu smashed centuries in a

his 122 as the pair plundered an record opening stand of 237 to help Australian attack missing injured trio the Sri Lankans pile up 343 for five Glenn McGrath, Shane Warne and before dismissing the hosts for 264 Jason Gillespie.

Hobart on Saturday.

Sri Lanka were buoyed by the

return from injury of off spinner

in the afternoon

The partnership was the highest by a Sri Lanka pair for any wicket in one-day internationals, beating the 226 for the third wicket by Atapattu and Mahela Javawardene against India in Shariah in 2001-02.

Sri Lanka's total, after Australia captain Ricky Ponting won the toss, was the highest by any team one-day international at Sy Cricket Ground.

It beat Australia's 337 for se against Pakistan in 1999-2000. previous highest total aga Australia in a one-day international was 326 for three by South Africa in

Port Elizabeth last March

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the VB Series trination day-night one-day match between Australia and Sri Lanka at Sydney Cricket Ground on Thursday

SRILANKA

•····	•					
Atapattu rur	pattu run out					
Jayasuriyal	Iyasuriya b Watson			122		
De Silva b V	De Silva b Watson					
Jayawarder	ne not	out		37		
Arnold st Gi	chris	t b Sym	onds	0		
Sangakkara	асМа	her b B	ichel	25		
Vaas not ou	t			5		
Extras: (lb-12, w-20, nb-8) 40						
Total: (For 5 wkts in 50 overs) 343						
Fall of wickets: 1-237, 2-267, 3-						
283, 4-284, 5-329						
Did not	bat:	H Tilla	karatı	ne, D		
Fernando,	Μ	Murali	thara	n, P		
Gunaratne						
Bowler	0	Μ	R	w		
Lee	7	0	41	0		
Bichel	10	0	70	1		
Watson	10	0	72	2		
Symonds	9	0	50	1		

in a	Lee	7	0	41
dney	Bichel	10	0	70
	Watson	10	0	72
even	Symonds	9	0	50
. The	Hogg	9	0	75
ainst	Martyn	5	0	23
tional	AUSTRALI	Α		

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

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Bangladesh cricket team members pose for photographers with BCB and Mobil, who became national team's sponsors, officials during a press conference at the Purbani Hotel yesterday.