

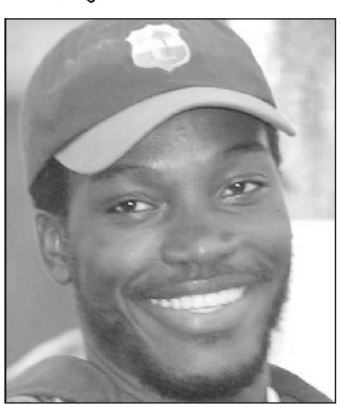


Did U Know?

When Real Madrid lost 5-1 to Mallorca in the Spanish Premier League on Saturday, it was the European champions' first defeat at their Santiago Bernabeu stadium since November 2000. Incidentally, it was Mallorca who inflicted the last defeat on the Spanish giants 49 games ago at the same venue.



TALK TURKEY



Chris Gayle
(West Indies opening batsman)
"I'm not out to prove anything, all I want is to play cricket for the West Indies and represent the team."




What to WATCH

- #### TEN Sports

New Zealand v Sri Lanka
Day Four, Second Test
Live from 10:30 am
ESPN

Australia v West Indies
Day Five, Third Test
Highlights at 8:30 am
English Premiership
Highlights at 10:30 am
Football Focus
Football Magazine
Live at 6:30 pm
Sportscenter Hindi
Sports News
Live at 8:30 pm
Juventus v Real Madrid
UEFA Champions League
1st Semifinal, 1st Leg
Live at 12:30 am (Wednesday)
STAR Sports

Charlton Ath v Man United
English Premiership
Taped version at 12:30 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sports News
Live at 8:00 pm
Dream Team
Football Magazine
Taped version at 10:00 pm



Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 193

Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm May 9, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who clinched the Professor Abdur Razzak 29th National chess title?
Niaz Zia Reefat

2. Who became man-of-the-match in the Sharjah Cup final?
Youhana Sami Taufiq

3. Who will lead Sri Lanka's one-day side?
Tillekeratne Vass

4. Who won the man-of-the-series award in the TVS Cup triangular tournament?
Atapattu

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

Back to the old way

 **Cricket**

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is all set to return to its executive committee form.

The Board has already put forward its amended constitution to the National Sports Council (NSC) for approval. "If everything goes according to plan, the election for the new executive committee will be held in July this year," said BCB advisor Shah Nurul Kabir MP yesterday.

"We have already submitted the draft of the amended constitution to the NSC. Hopefully we will get their approval by May 10. We will then call an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) to pass the constitution on June 10," said Kabir adding that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) preceding the election would be held a month after the EGM.

"If the constitution is passed during the EGM, and if decision is taken to go for a fresh election, it is expected to be held 30 days after the EGM. Member organisations would be asked to send the names of their new councilors within that period," said Kabir.

Kabir also informed that all the 120 present councilors of the BCB would attend the EGM.

The BCB has been run by its president Ali Asghar and an eleven-member advisory committee ever since the High Court suspended the activities of the Board of Directors last August following a writ petition from a BCB councilor Rafiqul Islam Babu. The High Court also directed the BCB to return to its past executive committee form since the concept of Board of Directors was contrary to the NSC's model constitution for all sports federations.

BCB chief Asghar then formed a three-member constitution amendment committee headed by

former BCB general secretary Aminul Haque Moni. The committee submitted their recommendations on May 1 to the BCB.

"We had to recommend going back to the old constitution since the High Court directive didn't leave us with any other option," revealed a member of the committee yesterday opting anonymity.

Meanwhile, a top NSC official said yesterday that they did receive the amended constitution from the BCB on Sunday but returned it a day later.

"We got the amended constitution on May 4 but I have sent it back for some corrections. There are certain mistakes in some sentences which need minor adjustments," said Nazmul Huda, Director Sports of NSC.

The revised version is expected to be submitted again today by the BCB. Nazmul said the NSC could take two more days to approve the amendment.

Ramesh replies with half-ton

REUTERS, Bombay

Sadagopan Ramesh struck a chancy 85 as Tamil Nadu reached 223 for four in reply to Bombay's modest first innings 260 on the second day of the Ranji trophy final on Monday.

The normally fluent Ramesh laboured for more than five hours and 202 balls. He fell within sight of a century, edging former India spinner Sairaj Bahutule to Amol Muzumdar in the slips.

The left-hander had led a charmed life at the crease early on. He was dropped on 15 by Bombay skipper Paras Mhambrey off his own medium-pace and put down on 28 in the covers by Ramesh Powar.

The 27-year-old Ramesh, who last played for the national team against Sri Lanka almost two years ago, was the fastest Indian opener after Sunil Gavaskar to reach 1,000 Test runs but has been fighting a back injury.

His effort was enough to give

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PHOTOS: AFP

OH, MY HEAD: Both Marvan Atapattu (L) and Daniel Vettori are being stretchered off to a waiting ambulance after a collision during the third day's play of the Kandy Test yesterday.

Daniel, Marvan hurt in on-field collision

 **Cricket**

REUTERS/AFP, Kandy

Daniel Vettori and Marvan Atapattu both escaped serious injury after a fielding collision in the second Test between Sri Lanka and New Zealand on Monday.

Both players were stretchered from the field and taken to hospital after colliding when Atapattu ran out Vettori to end the New Zealand first innings.

X-rays revealed no serious damage to Vettori's ankle or to Atapattu's neck, which was fitted with a precautionary neck brace, although the Sri Lanka vice-captain was concussed.

The players were discharged from hospital and advised to rest by doctors. Both teams will decide on Tuesday whether they are fit enough to take part in the fourth day's play.

"The good news is that Dan does not have a fracture," said New Zealand manager Jeff Crowe.

"His left ankle is heavily swollen and is in a splint. We can make an assessment of it only after 24 hours. We would err on the side of caution

rather than rush him back into action."

Sri Lanka team manager Ajit Jayasekera said: "Marvan had two injuries, a spiked ankle and mild concussion after being hit behind the ear by Vettori's helmet. He should be okay in a day or two."

Atapattu's face hit Vettori's helmet and both players were sprawled on the field for several minutes before an ambulance came on to the field and rushed them to hospital.

Initial reports had suggested the injuries might keep both players out of the limited-overs tri-series between New Zealand, Pakistan and the hosts starting on May 10.

This is the third incident of its kind at the Asgiriya Stadium in the last four years and the second involving Atapattu.

In 1999, Australian captain Steve Waugh suffered a broken nose and fast bowler Jason Gillespie dislocated a shoulder after colliding in the outfield during a Test match here.

Two years later, Atapattu banged into West Indian Brian Lara attempting a similar run-out to Monday's. While Atapattu bruised his arm, Lara dislocated his shoulder.

MSC stay afloat

 **Cricket**

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammedan Sporting Club kept their slim title hopes alive with a 160-run victory over Brothers Union in a crucial GrameenPhone Premier Super League match at the Fatullah Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Set to score 290 runs on the final day of the four-day game, no-hoppers Brothers were bundled out for 130 in 44.3 overs.

Experienced paceman Hasibul Hossain struck for Mohammedan with a five-wicket burst. Past his prime the former national right-arm seamer ripped through the Brothers middle and lower order to finish with 5-40 after young leg-spinner Arif did the early damage

claiming two wickets for 22 runs.

Former national opener Shahriar Hossain was the only Brothers batsman who offered some resistance with a 50-ball 44.

Although Hasibul dazzled on the final day, off-spinner Naimur Rahman was adjudged man-of-the-match for his superb first innings effort of 7-64.

It was Mohammedan's fifth straight win in the Super League that took them four points behind runaway leaders and holders Victoria Sporting Club.

Mohammedan will take on Victoria on May 8. The venue of the match however was yet to be decided. Victoria, still leading the table with 72 points and one more game in hand against City, just needed one more point to lift the title for a second successive year.

At the Dhanmondi Cricket

Stadium, the inconsequential match between Abahani and Uttara ended in a tame draw.

The only success for Abahani in the match was that they won four points by virtue of first-innings lead.

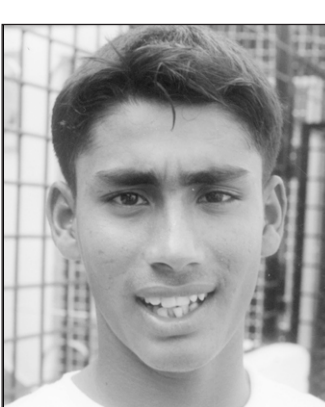
Resuming the day on 161, Uttara could manage to score 258 in reply to Abahani's impressive first-innings total of 361.

Abahani enjoyed a run feast in the second innings. They plundered 259 runs 39.5 over before both captains agreed for a draw.

Sajjad Ahmed scored 54 off 65 balls, Neeayamur Rashid struck a run-a-ball 54 and Asadullah Khan hammered a blazing unbeaten 53 off 36 deliveries.

Left-arm spinner Suja Erfan of Abahani won the man-of-the-match award for his virtuoso show.

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Ashraful's bat for 'Priya'

SPORTS REPORTER

The next time Mohammad Ashraful comes out to play for Bangladesh his bat will carry a sponsor's name. Test cricket's youngest centurion yesterday signed up with Priya Food Products, a Kolkata-based company, to promote the 'Priya' brand.

Pankaj Thakur, a representative of the company, worked out the contract details. But he refused to elaborate before the official ceremony in Calcutta.

Ashraful is expected to fly there on May 8.

It was however learnt that the talented right-hander in a one-year deal would receive 350 dollars per international match.

Hussain quits selector's job

INTERNET, London

Nasser Hussain has stepped down as a national selector, to allow someone who watches more county cricket to take his place.

Hussain, who retired from one-day cricket after the World Cup in March this year, is likely to be succeeded by Michael Vaughan next week. It was felt by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) that having two different captains sitting in on selection meetings would lead to complications.

Hussain has also argued that the England team would benefit from extra scouting experience on the selection panel.

"[We] have grown increasingly worried about how little county cricket and how few young cricketers we are able to watch because of the hectic international schedule," wrote Hussain in his Sunday Telegraph column.

"At the moment half the selection panel can have very little input when we are trying to work out whether a young player has what it takes to make it at the highest level. This cannot be right."

Hussain played a single county championship match for Essex last season because of his international commitments.

Among the favourites to take the vacant fourth spot on the panel is the director of the ECB Academy, Rod Marsh, who is a regular on the county circuit as he decides on his yearly intake for the academy.

Hussain added that he would still like to retain an influence before Test selection, and called for the selectors to keep the policy of consistent selection from the last three years.

Former England cricketers, Mike Atherton, Angus Fraser and Vic Marks all of whom have since turned to journalism have also been shortlisted to join David Graveney, the chairman, Duncan Fletcher and Geoff Miller on the panel.

LATEST

STAR SPORT MONITOR

Hosts West Indies were 256 for five shortly before lunch on the fifth and final day of the third Test against Australia in Bridgetown yesterday.

Both Brian Lara and Ramnaresh

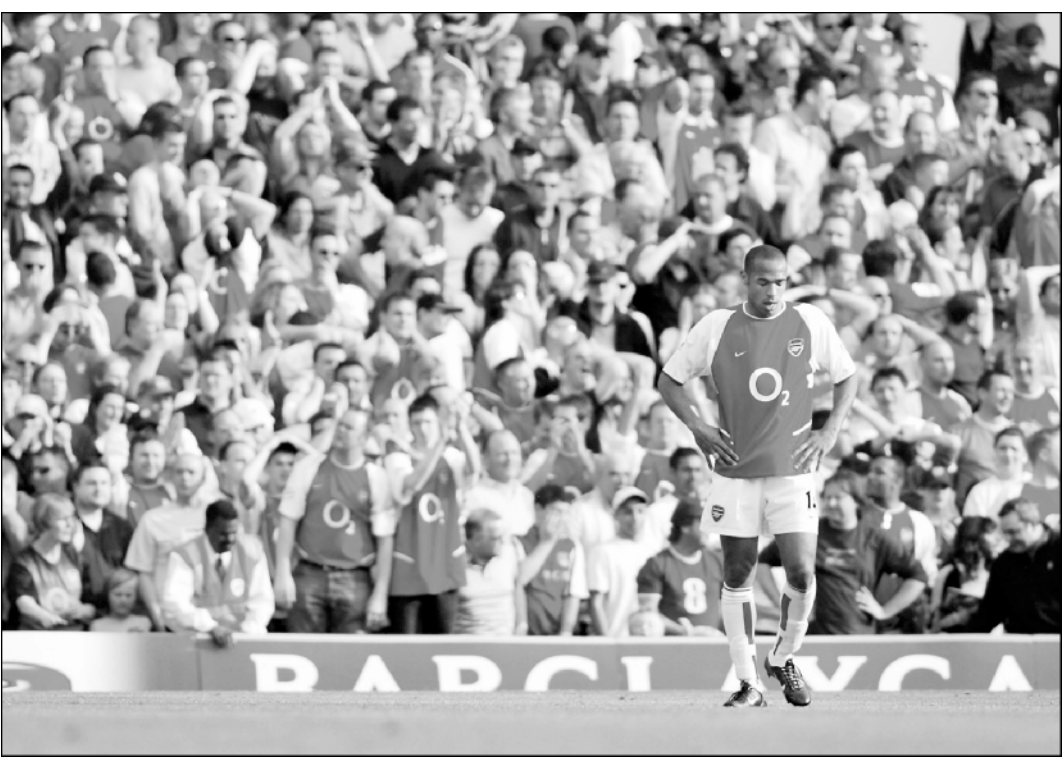


PHOTO: AFP

GONE WITH THE WIND: Arsenal supporters (in the background) are in shock as a dejected Thierry Henry (R) contemplates a missed opportunity against Leeds United at Highbury on May 4.

Premiership Reds celebrate early

 **Football**

AFP, London

Two superb goals by Australian stars Harry Kewell and Mark Viduka inspired Leeds to a 3-2 victory over Arsenal here Sunday and handed the Premiership title to their bitter rivals Manchester United at the expense of their opponents.

United lead Arsenal by eight points with the dethroned champions having two games to play while Leeds are certain of escaping relegation after a traumatic season as caretaker manager Peter Reid enjoyed his first victory at Highbury.

With the sides locked at 1-1 at half-time, Ian Harte struck for Leeds early in the second-half just as Kewell had in the first-half as his curling freekick took two slight headed deflections off Ashley Cole and Brazilian Gilberto Silva to beat David Seaman in the far corner in the 49th minute for his third goal in his last three trips to Highbury.

Leeds still looked hesitant in defence but England fullback Danny Mills showed his teammates the way to deal with Arsenal by putting in a great block on a Thierry Henry shot as Arsenal looked to hit back.

However, Sylvain Wiltord should have done better when he was left unmarked at the far post but with the goal at his mercy his miserable downward header went the wrong side of the post.

The Gunners, though, were

KINGS OF ENGLAND

English league champions since the launch of the FA Premier League in the 1992-93 season.

1992-93: Manchester United
1993-94: Manchester United
1994-95: Blackburn Rovers
1995-96: Manchester United
1996-97: Manchester United
1997-98: Arsenal
1998-99: Manchester United
1999-00: Manchester United
2000-01: Manchester United
2001-02: Arsenal
2002-03: Manchester United

back on terms for the second time just after the hour mark as Mills left Robert Pires unmarked and the Frenchman advanced into the box before sidefooting it to Dennis Bergkamp who shot into the net.

The Dutchman was booked

Lara, Sarwan stop Aussies

 **Cricket**

AFP, Bridgetown

Stricken skipper Brian Lara and his deputy Ramnaresh Sarwan defied the Australian bowlers to give the West Indies renewed hope of avoiding defeat in the third Test here on Sunday.

Against medical advice, Lara climbed out of his sick bed to share in a fighting 93-run unbroken stand with Sarwan after the West Indies had been forced to follow on after the Australians held a substantial 277-run innings lead.

At the close of the fourth day's play, the West Indies were 90 runs behind on 187 for three with Sarwan unbeaten on 58 and Lara

on 41.

Up until Lara's arrival, the Australians were steadily marching towards victory after claiming the wickets of Devon Smith (5), Daren Ganga (6) and Chris Gayle (56).

Lara has been suffering from a mystery illness and was confined to his hotel bed until he came to the ground to bat in the first innings at an unaccustomed number eight late on Saturday.

He looked out of sorts and was out for 14, but a day later and he was playing a determined backs-to-the-wall innings with Sarwan giving the West Indies an outside hope of salvaging the match and avoid going behind three-nil in the four-Test series.

Rising to the challenge of facing world cricket's formidable bowling

attack and on a flat, abrasive pitch, Lara saw off the initial Australian threat in 122 balls, while Sarwan faced 134 deliveries, but there is Monday's final day still to come.

The Kensington Oval pitch was in such poor shape that the seam of the ball was shredded away and there was little bounce and carry off the crater-like surface.

Lara has scored centuries in the opening two Tests of the Caribbean series and stands between Australia and victory on Monday's fifth and final day.

Steve Waugh sent the Windies back in after they were dismissed for 328 in their first innings off 128.5 overs of attritional cricket.

The home side faced the prospect of having to see off a minimum 163 overs during Sunday and Monday to prevent the Australians from winning the Test.

Waugh got early rewards when speedster Brett Lee, unsuited for the flat, unforgiving pitch, claimed the wickets of Smith and Ganga to leave the Windies struggling at 31 for two.

Chris Gayle, with his second half-century of the Test, and Sarwan, kept the Australian bowlers at bay up to tea.

But Gayle was out on the first ball after the interval when he advanced down the wicket to leg-spinner Stuart MacGill and was stumped by Adam Gilchrist, making way for Lara.

Dropped catches didn't help the Australian cause with Andy Bichel putting down two chances in the middle session. He fumbled Smith at point in a straight-forward chance but Smith went in the same Lee over.

Bichel, who injured his left index finger in missing the Smith catch, then dropped a return catch when Sarwan was 14 off his own bowling. Both teams have now dropped seven catches in the match.

The West Indies were dismissed earlier on Sunday to trail the Australians' mammoth first innings of 605 for nine declared by 277 runs.

Australia were frustrated for an hour in their attempt to finish off the West Indies first innings with debutant Tino Best defying the bowlers, particularly firebrand Lee, who had him ducking bouncers aimed at his head.

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PHOTO: INTERNET

Australia fast bowler Brett Lee (M) is being congratulated by teammates after he took the wicket of Daren Ganga of West Indies on the fourth day of the third Test at the Kensington Oval on May 4.