

BCB or BCCB?

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) which plans to return to its old executive committee structure, now wishes to raise a trivial issue by reverting to its former name (Ban-gladesh Cricket Control Board) to comply with the National Sports Council Act.

"The NSC Act does not recog-nise the Board with the initials BCB. It must however have the word 'Control' inserted in its name," said BCB advisor and BNP lawmaker Shah Nurul Kabir yester-

"Only the Jatiya Sangsad has the power to amend the NSCAct." Kabir said, "I personally feel that

BCB is more modern than BCCB. But again for only this name we don't want to amend the NSC act."

Former BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury removed 'Control' from the Board's name in February 1997 through a Ministry of Sports notification.

The notification said that the change was made according to the power given in the amended Article No 19 of the 1976 amended NSCAct.

But after studying the Article 19, it was found that it did not give any power to the Ministry or the NSC to

make such changes. The article says, "The Government may from time to time issue a directive to the Council

(NSC) to take such measures as it yesterday. may consider for the efficient management of the Council and the Council shall comply with such

directives. The Ministry did not publish any gazette in this connection.

Observers think if everything has to go as per NSC Act that has been amended five times so far, four times through ordnance in 1976 (twice), 1978 and 1991 and once through the Jatiya Sangsad in March 2003, then a lot many changes have to be made in sports bodies

According to the NSC Act there are 23 sports federations and the BCCB is listed as the 20th. The question is how have the NSC managed to form over 30 sports federations? Should they now reduce that number to 23 again?

present BCB set up is determined to change everything that had been introduced by Saber.

Besides, some feel that the

"There is a meeting of the NSC SEE PAGE 14 COL 6

SPORTS REPORTER Kalabagan Krira Chakra resorted to trickery when they refused to play Orient Sporting Club in a relegation play-off match of the GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League at the BKSP ground

Unsporting

Kalabagan

The decision not to play after 41.4 overs in the second session by and large benefited the pioneers of youth cricket since the run rate of their match would not come into consideration.

Kalabagan scored 273 for six in the allotted 50 overs after winning the toss. In reply Orient were on 253 for five in 41.4 overs when Kalabagan fielders walked off the ground

But it will be interesting to see if Kalabagan play the same trick twice this time against Bangladesh Biman today.

If Kalabagan manage a win against Biman that will save them from the relegation. Then their better net run rate compared to Orient would not be counted.

"According to the by-laws we can not count the run rates of any match where one party has refused to play. Besides we also don't count the r u n SEE PAGE 14 COL 6

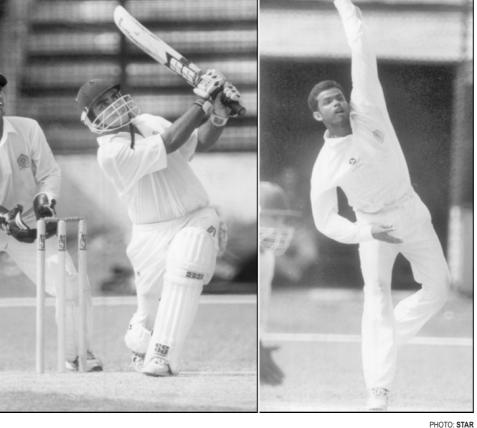
area has been neglected.

Independence Cup in 1998.

Middle-order batsmen Mahela

MARVAN ATAPATTU

into their heads.



Mohammedan's Indian recruit Rajat Bhatia (L) hoists one over long-on during his sparkling 129 against Victoria in the GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket Super League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. On the right is Victoria spinner Abdur Razzag who claimed four Mohammedan wickets on the day.

MSC revolve round Bhatia

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Indian recruit Rajat Bhatia made a rousing impact on his Dhaka debut as Mohammedan Sporting Club were off to a reasonable start against holders Victoria Sporting on opening day of their crucial GrameenPhone Premier Cricket Super League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Bhatia, who had only landed in Dhaka hours earlier, arrived at the crease with Mohammedan in a bit of bother at 20 for two. When he departed nearing the end of the day, the right-hander from Delhi had 129 written against his name. Mohammedan, who had opted to bat after winning the toss, closed on 272 for seven.

On a wicket that offered virtually no assistance to the bowlers, Victoria managed to keep the runscoring in check thanks to some accurate bowling from left-arm spinner Abdur Razzaq Raj and Pakistani offie Wasim Nayeem Some innovative field placing by Victoria skipper Azam Iqbal also frustrated the Mohammedan batsmen who apart from Bhatia and opener Javed Omar Belim, surprisingly failed to come to terms with the flat track. While Bhatia and Javed were

batting, Mohammedan looked destined for a big first innings score. The pair came together after opening batsman Nafis Iqbal (15) and one down Aftab Ahmed (0) were sent back to the pavilion within a space of two overs. Soon Bhatia was dictating terms and was particularly severe on off-spinner Sabbir Khan. He greeted the gangling slow-bowler with a mighty lofted drive over long on with the ball landing on the second tier of

the International Gallery. Javed at the other end was playing in his usual compact style but he paid the price of trying to cut Raj from too close to the body and his edge went to the safe hands of Azam at slips. Javed had made 67 off 183

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Jair Ventura Filho, better known as Jairzinho, was an exciting striker and playmaker. He harassed defences with his openings and passes, and was known for his tearing runs and cannonball shots. His moment under the sun came during in the 1970 World Cup staged in Mexico when he became first player to have scored in every round including the final itself. He finished second in the golden boot competition with 7 goals Gerd Muller had scored 10



Flexible Atapattu

Cricket

REUTERS, Dambulla

Marvan Atapattu has promised an innovative approach during his tenure as Sri Lanka's one-day captain, starting against Pakistan on Saturday

The triangular series also involving New Zealand will be Atapattu's first tournament in charge since the selectors decision to split the one-day and test captaincy

"My feeling is that we have become somewhat predictable and one-dimensional," said the 32vear-old Atapattu. "Our opponents have become

wiser to our gameplans and we must become more flexible in our pattern of play. We should be able to react to new and unexpected situations," he added. Atapattu has demanded a big

"We have to focus 100 per cent

more on our fielding," he said. "We

improvement in fielding and wants the back-up bowlers to provide better support for Muttiah Muralitharan and Chaminda Vaas.

used to be renowned for it but this Javawardene and Russel Arnold and wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana have been recalled, "I think the bowlers need to with Javawardene set to lead the believe in themselves a bit more," side if Atapattu fails to recover from he said. "To be a good fast bowler his collision with New Zealand's you must be positive and strong Daniel Vettori in the last test. we have to get the right thoughts

Pakistan are the form team having won the recent Shariah Cup Sri Lanka start as favourites because of their excellent home convincingly, but their captain Rashid Latif is expecting a more one-day record they have not lost a series or tournament since the difficult test.

"The tour to Sri Lanka is going to be much tougher and I have already told my players what they can expect there," he said.

"On current form, I would rate New Zealand and Sri Lanka as better teams than our present outfit. This Pakistan side is still in the process of rebuilding and finding its feet.

New Zealand have been bolstered by the arrivals of all rounder Chris Cairns and one-day specialists Chris Harris, Andre Adams, Kyle Mills and Chris Nevin.

"We have a couple of experienced heavyweights coming back

into the side and are looking for-

ward to the series a lot," said New

Zealand captain Stephen Fleming.

Nat'l Youth hockey

UNB, Dhaka

Mymensingh crushed Munshiganj 12-0 on the opening day of the National Youth Hockey Championship at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yester-

Mymensingh led the first half 4-

Sajedul Haq Himel, Humayan Kabir Sujan, Nurullah Riad Tanjeed Ahsan Babu and Fahimu Haq scored two goals each while Tukun Ahmed and Rezaul Karim

winners. In the day's other match, Comilla beat Jessore Education Board 2-0 after dominating the first session by a solitary goal at the same venue in the afternoon.

UNB, Dhaka

andard

Mission Whitewash

in the last Bridgetown Test.

Cricket

AFP, St. John's

Indies, but skipper Steve Waugh wants no easing the foot off the pedal in the pursuit of an historic Caribbean series clean sweep in the fourth Test starting here on Friday

Tests on unforgiving flat pitches and the odds are they will make it four here.

Records tumble for this out-standing Australian team and there's another in the offing at the Recreation Ground.

Victory here, Australia's 10th in succession against the Windies, and they will become the first touring side in 73 years of cricket in the Caribbean to sweep a series 4-

But before they head out Waugh, who needs one more victory to be the most successful

effort really, and probably a bit undervalued and underesti-The Australians spent a total of mated.

almost 245 overs or around 18 hours in the field after Waugh The West Indies have named an unchanged squad as they try to avoid their first whitewash at home. Windies captain Brian Lara believes selectors have the right mix of players despite the relative

Both teams have had only three days to back up from the last Test, and physically the Australian bowlers will be the ones feeling the pinch, should they have to field youth and inexperience of the team. first in Antigua.

"The experienced players have been tried and tested and a lot of them have come up short," Lara said on Thursday. "I don't see any modth or backthere "We raised the bar a little bit (in Barbados)," Waugh said. "Every ball we kept going forward and we need to go back there. kept believing. "These guys are very good players and are on the verge of breaking through and making a name for themselves. I'm quite

"There's been other Test matches in the past where it's got hard and we've dropped off a little bit, but this is the first time that we've kept going every ball.

happy with the look of the team, I'm quite happy with the way we're performing up to a certain level. "We've raised the bar ourselves to another notch, and now we "We're playing against the best eam in the world and I just want know what we can do and what we should do, and I don't think we'll let ourselves down in this last Test the standard to keep at that level." Wicketkeeper Ridley Jacobs

man)

WEST INDIES (from): Chris Gayle, Devon Smith, Daren Ganga,

Ramnaresh Sarwan, Brian Lara

(captain), Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Carlton Baugh,

Ridley Jacobs, Omari Banks, Vasbert Drakes, Mervyn Dillon,

relationship with his brother had in

no way been damaged by any fall-

"We get on very well. We are

very competitive but we helped

Flower is the only player in the current squad with a Test hundred

to his name and at, 32, is one of

Zimbabwe's elder statesmen with

3,359 Test runs at 30.26 from 63

over fifty in Tests, was Zimbabwe's

one player of true world class and

Grant said it was important the rest of the team adjusted quickly to life

"We probably over-relied on him. We'd always thought he'd do it. Now it's up to the other guys to

Many pundits have already written off Zimbabwe's chances in

the two Test series, which starts at

Lord's on May 22, but Flower said

such talk could work in his team's

"If everyone is expecting you to

But his brother, who averaged

out from Andy's protest.

with each other's games.

matches.

without him.

step up to the plate.

Vice-captain Ricky Ponting has may come into the eleven if he recovers from a groin muscle injury to play on his home ground and been under the weather with a viral infection this week, but is expected oust the younger Carlton Baugh. to play

Rajan netted one each for the

School cricket

Defending champions Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisthan (BKSP) and Razzak High School of Comilla yesterday entered the Group A final

enforced the follow on after the West Indies trailed by 277 runs on Australia have dominated the West the first innings.

It's been a one-sided contest thus far with the Australians rack-ing up wins by nine wickets, 118 runs and nine wickets in three

match.



Stephen Fleming

 $(New \, Zeal and \, cricket \, captain)$ "I thought they would have been more aggressive with us in their own backyard.'

After the drawn the second Test against Sri Lanka.



ESPN

English Premier League Arsenal vs Southampton Repeat at 3:00 pm West Indies vs Australia Fourth Test, Day One Live at 8:00 pm Sportscentre Hindi Sport News Live at 10:05 pm STAR Sports **Sportsline Tonight** Sport News Live at 8:00 pm

Active Chess from May 14

SPORTS REPORTER

The Active Chess Tournament organised by Bangladesh Chess Federation will start on May 14 at the Bangladesh Chess Federation Auditorium

The nine round Swiss-League competition offers 10,000 taka as prize money. Interested players can enroll their names before May 12.



Cricket

Muttiah Muralitharan says "negative tactics" by batsmen has made taking wickets much more difficult for spinners

The Sri Lanka bowler took 13 wickets in the recent Test series against New Zealand, which ended with both matches drawn.

But afterwards he hit out at the practice of padding up rather than attacking the spin.

"It's amusing to see batsmen come to the middle to show their MUTTIAH MURALITHARAN ball-kicking ability," he said.

"One always starts with the concept of cricket being a contest between bat and ball, but somehow the pads use as a form of defense is increasing

Trophy history

Hosts Bombay clinched a record 35th Indian Ranji Trophy title on Thursday, beating Tamil Nadu by 141 runs despite a fighting century from former test player Hemang Badani.

chasing 377 for victory, Tamil Nadu were bowled out for 235 half an hour before tea on the fifth day of India's premier domestic competition final.

team since last year's one-day series against England, proved a point to the national selectors by hammering 10 fours in a resilient 220-ball knock of 109



batsmen, they can keep kicking the ball away and still stay at the wicket such negative tactics are making it tougher for spinners to claim wickets.'

Kiwi captain Stephen Fleming led the New Zealand defence against Muralitharan with unbeaten knocks of 274 and 69 in the first Test in Colombo, but the off-spinner insisted it did not frustrate him.

"Look at the way the New Zealand batsmen played. They managed to defend, but the approach was negative. They weren't positive against me, Muralitharan said.

National School Cricket Championship.

Both teams will meet tomorrow at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

BKSP outplayed Willes Little Flower School by 106 runs at the same venue.

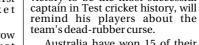
A century by Rabiul Karim (106) helped BKSP score 302-7 in the stipulated 50 overs. Sumon Shah added 66 and Nazmul 36 runs. Ronny took two wickets for 62 runs and Mehrab two for 42 for Willes.

In reply, Willes Little Flower finished on 196 runs for nine. Ronny added 39 and Rumel 33 runs. Nazmul and Khadem both took two wickets each.

Away at the Jagannath Hall ground, Razzak High School also posted big massive 164-run victory over Narail Zilla School.

Batting first, Razzak High scored 253 all out in 49.1 overs with Kaiser making 59 and Linkon 50. Ripon claimed four wickets for 37 runs and Johnny two for 58. In reply, Narail Zilla School were

bundled out for 89 in 28.2 overs. Kaiser grabbed four wickets for 11 runs and Rafique four for 21.



Australia have won 15 of their last 17 Tests, but the matches they have dropped were the final Tests against South Africa in Durban last year and England in Sydney in January after they had dominated the opening matches of those series

"I've just got a feeling it won't happen this time. I don't know why, it's just a gut feeling," Waugh said here on Thursday.

"I reckon we'll be full on for this Test match.

Another factor mitigating against an Australian victory is the exacting workload on the bowlers

Selectors are expected to retain TEAMS the same five-man bowling attack which played in Barbados unless they opt for wrist-spinner Brad AUSTRALIA (likely): Matthew Hayden, Justin Langer, Ricky Hogg instead of paceman Andrew Bichel. Ponting, Darren Lehmann, Steve Waugh (captain), Adam Gilchrist, Andrew Bichel, Brett Lee, Jason Gillespie, Stuart MacGill, Glenn McGrath, Brad Hogg (possible 12th

Waugh fears that if the West Indies bat first in Antigua on another lifeless strip they may aim to bat Australia out of the match.

"It makes it harder, because they can set themselves on that type of pitch," Waugh said.

"If there's something in the pitch and you say you're playing for the draw it's going to be a lot harder.

Jermaine Lawson, Tino Best. "All three Tests have been hard wins. To take 60 wickets on those **Umpires:** David Shepherd (Eng-l a n d) a n d S r i n i v a s Venkataraghavan (India) pitches has been a tremendous

Flower for Flower

county Essex while Olonga is also in England, playing for a club side having narrowly escaped arrest by the Zimbabwe security services in South Africa.

The Flowers' parents are also living in England, as are Andy's wife and children.



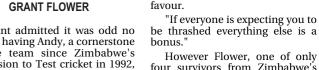
Grant admitted it was odd no longer having Andy, a cornerstone of the team since Zimbabwe's admission to Test cricket in 1992, in the side but denied feeling

"It's different but I wouldn't say feel isolated," the top order bat and left-arm spinner insisted.

And he maintained that his



GRANT FLOWER



four survivors from Zimbabwe's last visit to England in 2000, warned: "The guys have got to mature quickly. It's a hard tour, especially early in the season."

This trip has been given added spice by England's boycott of their World Cup match in Harare.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 7



lonely

Zimbabwe is still a great place to live in even though we're having tough times.



COME BACK QUICKLY: India batting maestro Sachin Tendulkar sits with his wife Anjali at the Sinai Hospital in Baltimore on May 7. Tendulkar recently had a surgery on his left hand which will keep him out of cricket for three months.

Bombay's Ranji

REUTERS, Bombay

After resuming on 102 for three

But Badani, out of the Indian

Wickets kept tumbling at the other end, however, as Badani raised his hundred with a reverse sweep for four off former India leg spinner Sairaj Bahutule.

"These tactics did not ruffle me. SEE PAGE 14 COL Cricket AFP, Worcester



match in February, against Namibia in Harare, Andy Flower and Henry Olonga wore black armbands and issued a statement mourning the 'death of democracy' in Zimbabwe under President Robert Mugabe.

And Grant Flower said the only reason he had not joined the duo was because he was worried about lessening the impact of the duo's protest.

"I agreed with what they did," Grant Flower said Wednesday. "To be honest I wanted to join them.

"But I thought it would be a better and a bigger statement if it was just the two of them, one white person and one black person.

"I think what they did was a good thing," added Grant ahead of Zimbabwe's tour match against Worcestershire starting here at New Road on Friday

"It wasn't a matter of colour, it was a question of right and wrong," explained Flower who added he had spoken to, but not yet seen, his brother

PHOTO: AFP

Andy Flower retired from international cricket after the World Cup and is now playing for English

