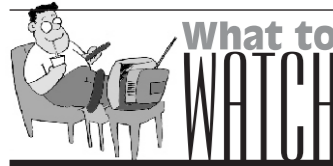




Did U Know?

United States finished third in the first World Cup in 1930 held in Uruguay. The Americans were defeated 6-1 by Argentina in the semifinals. There was no third place-game back then, so the US shared the trophy with Yugoslavia, who lost to eventual champions Uruguay in their semifinal match.



TEN Sports

- Sri Lanka vs New Zealand Tri Series Live at 10:00 am
- ESPN
- Western Union World Football Repeat at 6:00 pm
- English Premier Football League Chelsea vs Liverpool Repeat at 6:30 pm
- Sportscentre Hindi Sport News Live at 8:30 pm
- Primeria Liga Real Madrid vs Malaga Repeat at 9:30 pm
- STAR Sports
- Gillette World Sports Special Int'l Sports News Taped Version at 9:00 am
- Sportsline Tonight Sport News Live at 8:00 pm



Jennifer Capriati

(American tennis star)
"You know, I'd like to say that if I'm playing my best I'll be winning everything, but I can't say that nowadays."

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 193

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

Competition closes at 8 pm May 30, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the Professor Abdur Razzak 29th National chess title?
Niaz Zia Reefat
- Who became man-of-the-match in the Sharjah Cup final?
Youhana Sami Taufiq
- Who will lead Sri Lanka's one-day side?
Tillekeratne Vass
- Who won the man-of-the-series award in the TVS Cup triangular tournament?
Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)

Div I b'ball

UNB, Dhaka
Europa Youth recorded their third consecutive win with a comfortable 77-37 points margin against Cantonians in the Metropolis First Division Basketball League at Dhanmondi wooden-floor gymnasium yesterday.

Rahman on BNS

SPORTS REPORTER

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman said that Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) could use the Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS) until April next year for a series of international cricket events including the ICC Under-19 World Cup.

"In the coming months there are a number of events starting with England's tour of Bangladesh in October. Then there is the World Youth Cup in February and India's tour of Bangladesh in April. That's why BNS will remain with cricket," said Rahman while speaking at the 'Meet the Reporters' programme of Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday.

The BCB would later move all their cricket activities to the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur, which eventually will be turned into an international venue.

Rahman also disclosed that a new athletics track would be laid at

the Army Stadium in Banani after nine months. For the time being athletics and football events will continue in Mirpur.

The state minister also revealed another eight-lane running track would be at the Bangabandhu National Stadium once cricket quit the venue after April.

He said that six indoor training facilities for cricket would also be established across the country by next December.

"The Finance Minister has assured me that necessary funds would be provided for setting the indoor facilities."

The sports boss also informed that from now on sports goods would be purchased through a committee that would include the federation secretaries.

He agreed that Bangladesh hardly enjoyed any success in the sports arena in the last 12 months. However, he acknowledged the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman speaks during the 'Meet the Reporters' programme at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium yesterday.

DU canter

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka University stormed into the final round of 26th National Cricket Championship with a huge 134-run win over Bangladesh Railway at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium yesterday.

Electing to bat, Dhaka University piled up a mammoth 316 for six in the stipulated 50 overs with Debashish Kumar hammering a century (108). Mosharrarf (82) and Imtiaz (72) were the other notable scorers.

In reply, Railway were all out for 182 in 47.2 overs. Left-arm pacer Bikash Ranjan Das was the wrecker-in-chief taking five wickets for 31 runs.

Besides, Naogaon, Pirojpur, Tangail, Narayanganj and Sathkira also won their zonal qualifying round matches.

Naogaon defeated Pabna by four wickets at the Dinajpur Stadium, Pirojpur beat Barguna by 215 runs at the Patuakhali Stadium, Tangail recorded a five-wicket win over Jamalpur at the Mymensingh Stadium, Narayanganj posted a six-wicket win over Shariayatpur at the Faridpur Stadium while Sathkira handed Jessore a 39-run defeat at the Jhenidah Stadium.

Nat'l badminton from June 8

SPORTS REPORTER

The six-day Neway national junior and sub-junior badminton championships will be held at the wooden floor gymnasium on June 8.

The competition will be held in two age groups under 14 and 16. Interested organisations have been asked to send their entries to the Bangladesh Badminton Federation by June 5.

Narrow win for Aussies

Cricket

AFP, Kingston

World Cup champions Australia hung on to beat the West Indies by two runs under the Duckworth-Lewis method at Sabina Park here on Saturday, stretching their unbeaten run in one-day cricket internationals to 18.

Australia scored 270 for five off their 50 overs and the West Indies were 114 for two from 23.3 overs when rain stopped play for an hour.

When play resumed, the West Indies' revised target was 208 off 37 overs, or 94 runs off the last 84 balls, which appeared to be in the home side's favour.

But a combination of tight Australian bowling and fielding and indisposed West Indian batting got Ricky Ponting's men home in the first of a seven-match series.

Ponting was named man-of-the-match for his innings of 59, but he conceded that all-rounder Ian Harvey deserved the accolade after hitting an unbeaten 48 off 30 balls in a valuable partnership with Michael Bevan and taking 3-37 off seven overs.

It was Harvey who turned the match for Australia with the key wickets of Brian Lara (23), Devon Smith (26) and Marlon Samuels (two) in three overs to put the skids under the Windies, sending them

tumbling from 124 for two to 137 for five.

The West Indians fell behind in the required run-rate and were always up against it, although vice captain Ramnaresh Sarwan, one of the heroes of the home side's record win against Australia Tuesday in the final Antigua Test, fought until the end with an unbeaten 47 off 34 balls as wickets fell around him.

Australia's winning run in limited-over internationals now stretches back to last January and follows their commanding performance at the World Cup when they beat all comers in southern Africa last February-March, culminating in their 125-run demolition of India in the final in Johannesburg on March 23.

"It was a very good wicket and our 270 wasn't a bad total," Ponting said.

"There was a bit of bounce and pace with the new ball this morning but as the day went on it turned into a very good batting wicket and 270 was going to be a competitive total if we bowled and fielded well.

"We didn't field that well, but we managed to come away with the win.

"Ian Harvey batted and bowled beautifully and probably should have this medal (man-of-the-match) around his neck."

Lara admitted that his team had made mistakes in the field during Australia's innings.

"We have to work on our fielding, there were too many runs scored at the end of the innings, but I still think it was a good effort for the first one-day game of the season so we can improve from here," Lara said.

Lara lost his wicket after a rush of blood. After smashing Harvey for four, he advanced down the wicket to his next delivery only to play a risky shot and edge to wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist.

Australia's experience in pressure situations stood by them as the young West Indians panicked in the run chase.

Carlton Baugh and Vasbert Drakes were bowled going for big swings and Omari Banks was needlessly run out for 12 off 14 balls by smart ground-fielding from Matthew Hayden.

Harvey and Bevan put on a brisk 87-run partnership in 62 balls to lift Australia to 270 for five.

Up until then the World Cup champions were looking at a total of around 250 against controlled Windies' bowling and fielding.

But Harvey, into the side for injured World Cup batsman Damien Martyn, cracked an unbeaten 48 off 30 balls with seven boundaries and Bevan added 43 off 44 deliveries.

The pair knocked off 37 runs off the final three overs to lift the run-rate to 5.4.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 6

'Sultan of swing' stops

Cricket

AFP/REUTERS, London

One-day cricket's most successful bowler Wasim Akram announced on Sunday that he has retired from international cricket after a 19-year career and five World Cups.

The 36-year-old Pakistani all-rounder told Sky Sports it was time for younger players to get their chance to play for the national side, with whom he won the 1992 World Cup and was named man-of-the-match after scoring 33 and taking three England wickets in the final and captained the side that lost the 1999 final to Australia.

"My future is somewhere else after September (when he finishes his contract with Hampshire)," said Wasim, who has taken 502 one-day wickets and claimed 414 Test victims making him the only bowler to have taken over 400 wickets in both forms of the game.

"Maybe I will be working in television or coaching."

Wasim, regarded as one of the finest left-arm seamers of all-time, was a shadow of his former self when he played in this year's World Cup as Pakistan won just two matches and failed to make the SuperSix stage.

Like several of the other senior players, who underperformed in the World Cup, he was dropped for the Sharjah Cup in April and not selected for the current one-day triangular series against Sri Lanka and New Zealand.

However, judging by Pakistan's 12-run defeat by Sri Lanka earlier on Sunday his decision, even at his advanced age, may be a little premature.

Wasim confirmed he would not be in the Pakistan team for next month's one-day series in England.

"They're a new young side ... and they must get ready for the next World Cup," he said.

"There's an end to everything in life... I have enjoyed every bit of it," said the veteran of 104 Tests during a break in a match against his former team Lancashire at Old Trafford, Manchester.

"There are no regrets. There have been ups and downs but I would not have changed it for anything else."

Only 16 players have taken more than 200 wickets in the



WASIM AKRAM

AKRAM IN STATS

TESTS										
BATTING/FIELDING										
M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	Ct	St	
104	147	19	2898	257*	22.64	3	7	44	0	
BOWLING										
O	M	R	W	Ave	BBI	5	10	SR	Econ	
3771.1	871	9779	414	23.62	7-119	25	5	54.6	2.59	
ONE-DAY INTERNATIONALS										
BATTING/FIELDING										
M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	SR	100	50	Ct	
356	280	55	3717	86	16.52	88.28	0	6	88	
BOWLING										
O	M	R	W	Ave	BBI	4w	5w	SR	Econ	

FACTBOX

Factbox on Pakistan all-rounder Wasim Akram who announced his international retirement on Sunday:
Born: June 3, 1966. All rounder, left-arm fast bowler, left-hand bat.
Major Teams: Pakistan Automobiles Corporation, Lahore Cricket Association,

BFF fixes calendar

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has finalised its calendar of events for the next twelve months.

The football season will kick off with two competitions, the National Football League and the Second Division League in June and it will end in May 2004.

This was decided in the first meeting of BFF's newly elected executive committee at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday with BFF president SA Sultan in the chair.

The Federation Cup will be held in September while the Premier Division League will take place between October 2003 and March 2004. The Premier League would be held over two legs.

The BFF also decided to form a three-member committee headed by its general secretary Anwarul Haque Helal. The committee's responsibility would be to organise different sub-committees. There will be another five-member body under BFF vice-president Sirajul Islam Bachchu which will work towards reorganising the office set-up of the federation.

Windies in trouble

STAR SPORT MONITOR

West Indies were 85 for five in 24 overs after they decided to bat in the second one-day international against Australia at Sabina Park in Kingston yesterday.

Ricardo Powell was batting on 22 while Omari Banks was yet to open his account on the other end. Opener Chris Gayle made 28.

TEAMS

WEST INDIES: Chris Gayle, Devon Smith, Marlon Samuels, Ramnaresh Sarwan, Brian Lara, Ricardo Powell, Carlton Baugh, Omari Banks, Vasbert Drakes, Mervyn Dillon, Corey Collymore.

AUSTRALIA: Matthew Hayden, Adam Gilchrist, Ricky Ponting, Jimmy Maher, Andrew Symonds, Michael Bevan, Brad Hogg, Andrew Bichel, Brett Lee, Jason Gillespie, Glenn McGrath.

Umpires: Eddie Nicholls (West Indies) and David Shepherd (England)

Murali mazes Pakistan

Cricket

AFP, Dambulla

Spin wizard Muttiah Muralitharan grabbed five wickets as Sri Lanka overcame a horror start to stun Pakistan by 12 runs in a triangular one-day series match here on Sunday.

Sri Lanka were tottering at 53-5 before reaching a modest 172, thanks to a defiant 46 by middle-order batsman Tillakaratne Dilshan.

Muralitharan then rose to the occasion as he helped his team bundle Pakistan out for 160 in windy conditions, finishing with 5-23 off 9.4 overs for his seventh haul of five or more wickets in an innings in 219 matches.

Shoaib Malik (33), Younis Khan (26), skipper Rashid Latif (20) and opener Mohammad Hafeez (20) were the notable Pakistani scorers, but their efforts were not good enough to stop a Muralitharan-

inspired Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka have so far posted two wins in three matches, while New Zealand have registered one from two games and Pakistan one from three.

New Zealand will take on Sri Lanka on Monday and Pakistan the following day in the last two matches. The final between the top two teams will be held on May 23.

"I think a total of 180-190 can be defended on this pitch, but other bowlers also did well," said

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Pace bowling course from May 22

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has selected twenty-four cricketers for a short-term fast bowling course to be held in the city later this month.

TA Shekar, the head coach of MRF Pace Foundation in India, will conduct the eight-day training programme, which will start on May 22.

Sarwar Imran, who had enjoyed a mixed bag as makeshift coach of the national team during South Africa's tour of Bangladesh last month, will assist Shekar. Sarwar has recently been appointed as the fast bowling coach of the BCB.

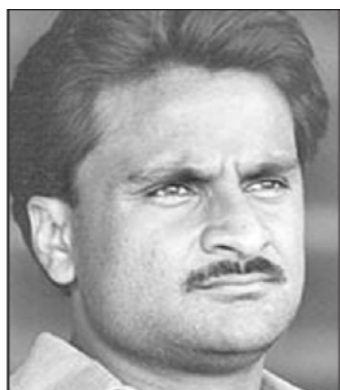
The selected players are: Shafaq al Jabir, Ziaur Rahman, Rubaiyat Haque, Asif Newaz, Golam Rabbani, Ifthekarul Islam, Nazmul Hossain, Tariqul Islam Raihan, Sumon Saha, Monirul Kabir, Sirazullah Kader, Shafi Moazzem, Sajid, Rony, Shanto, Shahjada, Harunur Rashid, Samrat Helal, Obaidul Beg, Nazmul Sadat Jamil, Debobratro, Shirhan Sharif, Deep Ujjal Dey and Mokbul Hossain.

Srinath retiring?

Cricket

INTERNET, undated

The formal announcement is pending, but indications are that Javagal Srinath might have played his last Test for India.



JAVAGAL SRINATH

Speaking to Wisden Cricinfo from England, Srinath refused to confirm an earlier news story announcing his retirement from first-class cricket, but said that he was "thinking about it."



THIS WAS THE BEGINNING: Sri Lanka players celebrate the dismissal of Pakistan opener Tauseef Umar (not in picture) during their tri-series match at Dambulla yesterday.