



Did U Know?

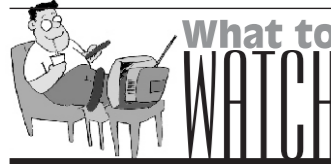
India is the only Test team to be dismissed twice in a day. At Old Trafford, Manchester on July 19, 1952 they were bowled out by England for 58 and 82.



Martina Hingis

(Former world No 1 tennis star)
"My dreams are over. It's sad to have to end everything at 22, but sometimes you have to open your eyes."

While announcing her retirement.



TEN Sports

- New Zealand vs Pakistan Tri Series Live at 10:00 am
- ESPN Football Focus Taped Version at 6:30 pm
- Sportscentre Hindi Sport News Live at 8:30 pm
- STAR Sports Sportsline Tonight Sport News Live at 8:00 pm
- Crick Talk Show Harsha Online Taped Version at 8:30 pm

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 Atapattu
- Who won the man-of-the-series award in the TVS Cup triangular tournament?
Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)

Anna plans to back on track

Struggling glamour girl Anna Kournikova is doubling her effort in a bid to get her career back on track at this year's Wimbledon. The Russian starlet, a former semifinalist at the All England club, confirmed Monday that she would be playing in the DFS Classic tournament in Birmingham from June 9-15 as part of her preparation for Wimbledon. Kournikova had already announced that she will be playing in the traditional warm-up event at Eastbourne the following week.

Where are we going?

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

For the last couple of weeks the question everybody is asking in our cricket fraternity is where are we headed?

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is not only set to revert to its previous name (Bangladesh Cricket Control Board) but also determined to backpedal to its old executive format.

The cricket officials are trying to justify the change from the more modern set up consisting of a Board of Directors to an outdated one because it was not formulated in a lawful manner during the tenure of former cricket Board chief Saber Hossain Chowdhury.

But what they are not saying is whether there will be any benefit if Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) becomes Bangladesh Cricket Control Board again and the directors turn old-fashioned Executive Committee members.

This step is contrary to the preaching of present Board president Ali Ashgar, who has spoken on a number of occasions about reorganising the Board's structure in line with the Australian Cricket Board, which is hailed as a role model for any member nation that is looking into the future.

It is also not understandable why the Board is returning to the executive committee format which all other Test playing nations excepting India, have already parted with.

This also doesn't strike a tune with what ICC's development manager Andrew Eade said during his brief visit to Dhaka last week.

Eade stressed on the need for a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) but his idea can never be implemented properly as long as there is a post of the general secretary as their job description is similar.

In India there is no CEO since the general secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) runs the whole show. But other countries have CEOs. Only

Bangladesh never appointed one.

If the BCB is considering appointing a CEO then what would be the role of the general secretary? This question is creating a lot of confusion.

Neutral observers feel that the present BCB set-up is determined to change everything that was introduced by the previous leadership of Saber.

"If the Board has a general secretary and a CEO at the same time, then I'm not very sure how they will work together because a general secretary is also the chief executive of the executive committee," said a source close to the Board.

But BCB advisor and chairman of cricket committee Mahbul Anam thinks otherwise.

"Look at Sri Lanka Board, they have both a general secretary and a CEO," said Anam.

But here what Anam missed was the fact that the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka is still locked in a

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ICC fines Mahmud

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh cricket captain Khaled Mahmud has been fined for making critical comments against the umpires during the Second Test between Bangladesh and South Africa in Dhaka last month.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) fined 50 percent of his match fee following a complaint by match referee Clive Lloyd.

The former West Indies captain ruled Mahmud responsible for breaching the player's code of conduct (2.4). Mahmud is the first Bangladeshi player to be fined by the game's governing body in a Test match.

The Bangladesh captain was quoted in different newspapers during the match that some umpiring decisions were unfortunate.

Mahmud however denied making any comments during a hearing after the match, but Lloyd obviously wasn't convinced.

Although the Bangladesh cap

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Khulna's upset ouster

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

The ball continued to dominate the bat in the preliminary round matches of the 26th National Cricket Championship at different venues across the country yesterday.

Only one game saw more than 200 runs being scored. Home team Jhenidah made 205 for eight to win an absorbing contest against Khulna, who made 204 before being all out in the final over. Jhenidah's surprise victory with more than two overs to spare was fashioned by a superb 56 from Sumon.

The early exit of Khulna from the competition was a blow after their fantastic performance in the National League, which they lifted earlier this year.

While Khulna faltered, neighbours Barisal progressed into the

final round with a three-wicket win against Pirojpur at Patuakhali.

Batting first, Pirojpur were bundled out for 117 in 43.1 overs with Shaifiq making highest 33. Jilani captured four wickets and Monir claimed 3-8 for Barisal.

Barisal struggled in their chase for a modest target before they laboured to 118-7 in 39.4 overs with Jishan and Ranim contributing 25 and 24 runs respectively.

At Faridpur, Manikganj ran away with a 95-run victory over Gazipur.

Defending a fighting 167 Manikganj shot Gazipur out for 72 in 27.3 overs. Khokon led the Manikganj demolition with four wickets for only nine runs. Sumon took three wickets for 19 runs and Obaidur finished with 2-8.

At Pabna, Rajshahi ambled past Dinajpur by seven wickets.

Chasing Dinajpur's paltry 118 all out in 32.2 overs, Rajshahi rattled u

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Nat'l youth hockey DEB drub Comilla

UNB, Dhaka

Dhaka Education Board made a good start with a 4-1 victory over Comilla in the final round of the National Youth Hockey Championship at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half by 1-0.

Imran netted three goals and Firoz Reza made the other for the winners while Rakib scored the lone goal for the losers.

In the day's other match, Sylhet earned a 4-2 goal win in tiebreaker against Chittagong at the same venue. The regulation time was locked 1-1.

Target 20

AFP, Kingston

Hunger and desire to keep on improving is driving Australia to new heights, captain Ricky Ponting said here on Monday.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

Lawson held by back pain

AFP, Kingston

West Indies fast bowler Jermaine Lawson will miss the remainder of the one-day international series against Australia because of a back injury.

He might also miss the one-day international series against Sri Lanka in June because of bulging discs in the lower back, West Indies Cricket Board chief executive Roger Brathwaite said Monday.

Lawson's bowling action is under review by the International Cricket Council after he was reported by umpires David Shepherd and Srinivasa Venkataraghavan during the fourth Test against Australia.

He will fly to Antigua to work with bowling advisor Andy Roberts once he is free of pain and ready to resume bowling.

The sessions in Antigua form part of the ICC's prescribed six-week review process for bowlers whose actions are reported.

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'Pride of Pakistan'

Cricket
AFP, Karachi

Famed Pakistani pacer Wasim Akram was showered with praise by former colleagues Monday following his decision to retire from a 19-year international cricket career.

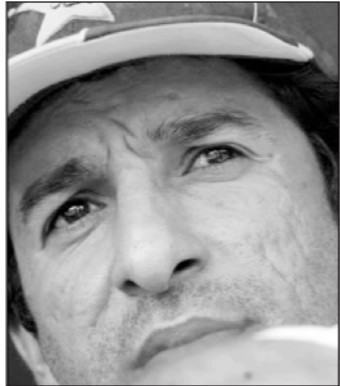
Former captain and revered all-rounder Imran Khan, who mentored Akram as an 18-year-old, hailed him as one of last century's greatest fast bowlers.

"I reckon Wasim and West Indian Michael Holding are two of the best and most natural fast bowlers of the century," Imran told this news agency.

Taking Akram under his wing in 1984, Imran nurtured him until he became one of international cricket's most productive fast bowlers.

"Grooming Wasim was the easiest thing because he was naturally gifted. All I ingrained in him was the ability to take wickets," said Imran, who now sits in

Pakistan's parliament as head of his own political party after an illustrious cricket career in which he took 362 wickets.



WASIM AKRAM

Imran backed Akram's retirement decision as "the right thing."

Akram, who turns 37 next month, announced his retirement in London on Sunday saying he wanted to make way for younger

players.

In 104 Tests Akram took 414 wickets, and a world record 502 wickets in 356 one-day matches.

He is the only bowler to have taken over 400 wickets in both forms of the game.

Akram and seven other senior players were axed for the Sharjah Cup in April following Pakistan's first round exit from the World Cup in February and March in southern Africa.

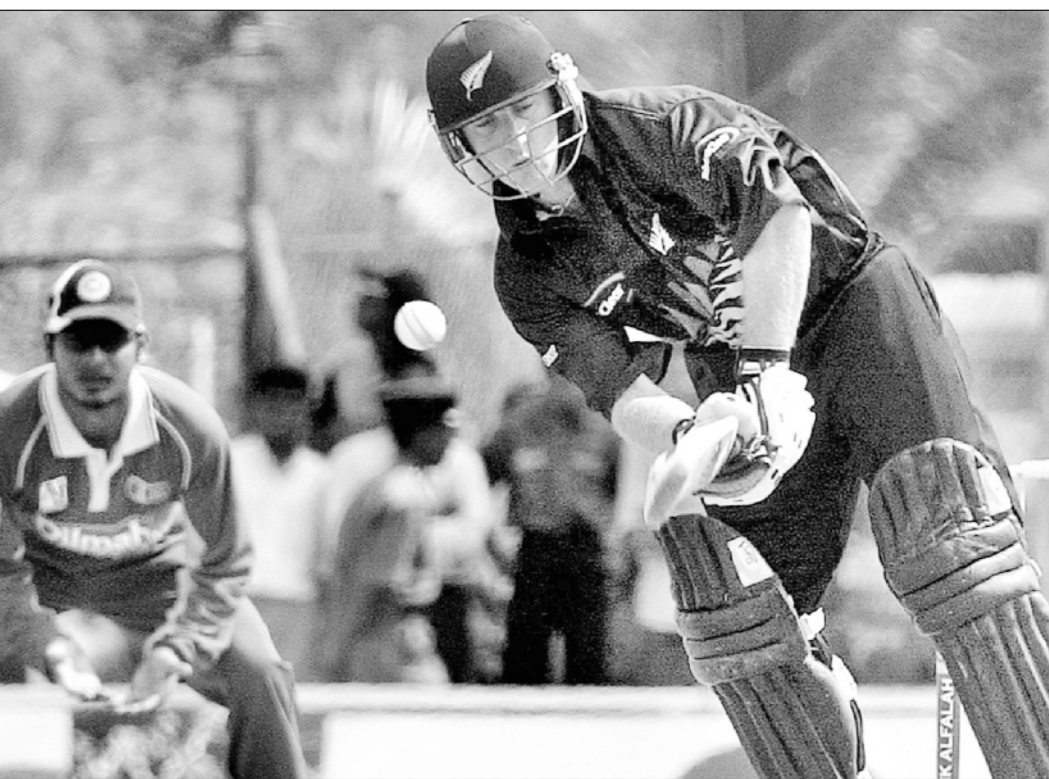
He was also omitted from the current one-day triangular series against Sri Lanka and New Zealand.

Imran, who led Pakistan to its only World Cup victory in Australia in 1992, accused the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) of dumping Akram in an undignified manner.

"I do think the PCB...should not have dumped him in such an unceremonious manner," said Imran.

Another former captain, Zaheer Abbas, described Wasim as the "pride of Pakistani cricket."

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New Zealand's Chris Nevin plays the ball awkwardly as Sri Lanka wicketkeeper Kumar Sangakkara looks on during their triangular series clash at Dambulla yesterday.

Easy win for Australia

Cricket
REUTERS, Kingston

Skipper Ricky Ponting scored an unbeaten 57 as Australia coasted to an eight wicket win over West Indies on Sunday to take a 2-0 lead in the seven-match one-day series.

The win was set up by a flawless bowling performance, spearheaded by paceman Glenn McGrath who took 4-31 to help skittle West Indies out for just 163 in 49 overs on a good batting wicket.

Australia replied with 166 for two, openers Adam Gilchrist and Matthew Hayden barely breaking sweat in a half-century stand at Sabina Park.

West Indies' hopes were briefly revived when Gilchrist (22) was caught at deep square leg from a Corey Collymore delivery.

Ponting took the crease and initially checked the hard-hitting instincts of Hayden until the target was within closer range.

With victory in sight Ponting began using his wristy strokes to full effect, including one mighty six over the covers off the luckless Mervyn Dillon.

Hayden (51) continued to clock up runs, but was caught at the long-on boundary just one ball after reaching his half-century.

Man-of-the-match McGrath and fellow pace bowler Brett Lee had given the West Indies a lesson in tight bowling, including a stream of highly accurate yorkers.

McGrath was relieved to put in a good performance after his on-field row with West Indies' batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan on Monday, which was described by Australian cricket chief James Sutherland as an "ugly incident."

"This has been a tough week, and one I'd rather forget," McGrath said. "It was a learning experience, but I am glad to be back in the news for something good."

Lee took 2-22 off seven overs, while Andy Bichel collected the scalps of West Indies skipper Brian Lara and dangerous opener Chris

Gayle.

Ricardo Powell top-scored for the hosts with 32.

Australia have won 19 consecutive one-day internationals and their last nine one-day meetings with the West Indies.

"This is something I imagine (our opponents) think about more than us, but obviously we would like to continue the winning streak a bit longer," said Ponting.

West Indies skipper Brian Lara said his side had been let down by poor batting.

"We will keep searching for the right opening combination...I can promise that there will be an improvement in the next game in St Lucia," he said.

The third match in the series is in St Lucia on Wednesday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the second one-day international between West Indies and Australia played at Sabina Park on Sunday.

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First Div basketball Dhumketu, Eaglets sail

SPORTS REPORTER

Eaglets Club and Dhumketu Club won their respective matches of the First Division Basketball League at the Dhanmondi Basketball Gymnasium yesterday.

Eaglets thumped down a 110-44 points defeat on Hornets Club. The winners enjoyed an unassailable 52-19 lead in the first half.

Shakil, Nawab and Azad led the Eaglets charge scoring 26, 24 and 20 points respectively.

In the other match of the day, Dhumketu registered a 129-73 win against Flame Boys Club.

Dhumketu led 58-38 at the breather.

Second WorldTel boss killed in road mishap

AFP, Bangalore

The head of one of India's leading sports marketing companies was killed in a road accident over the weekend, reports said on Monday, 16 months after his predecessor suffered a similar tragic end.

Samir Singh, the chief operating officer of WorldTel, the company which markets India's cricket superstar Sachin Tendulkar, died when his car crashed into a bus in Bangalore on Saturday night.

Singh, 31, took over the company after WorldTel founder Mark Mascarenhas was killed in a road accident in the central Indian city of Nagpur on January 27 last year.

WorldTel shot to fame when the US-based Mascarenhas bought the television rights for the cricket World Cup played in the Indian sub-continent in 1996.

The same year the company signed up Tendulkar for a marketing contract reportedly worth a million dollars a year, making the star batsman the richest cricketer in the world.

WorldTel issued a one-line statement on Monday saying it "regretted to announce the untimely demise of Singh."

There was no immediate reaction from Tendulkar, who was still believed to be in the United States following surgery on his left hand.

Vettori outspins Murali

Cricket
AFP, Dambulla

Daniel Vettori gave Sri Lanka a dose of their own medicine as he led New Zealand to the final of a triangular one-day series with an exciting nine-run victory here on Monday.

The left-arm spinner grabbed 4-14 off 10 economical overs in a career-best performance to help New Zealand defend a modest total of 156-8 with five balls to spare on a turning track at the Rangiri Stadium.

Sri Lanka crashed to 147 after spinners Sanath Jayasuriya and Muttiah Muralitharan had shared four wickets to restrict New Zealand in the fifth successive low-scoring match of the tournament.

The hosts needed 10 to win off the last over with one wicket in hand, but Mahela Jayawardene (38) attempted an ambitious reverse-sweep off Scott Styris and was caught by Chris Harris at backward point.

New Zealand now lead the league standings with two wins from three matches. Sri Lanka finished their engagements with two victories from four games.

Pakistan, with one win from three matches, will have to beat New Zealand in the last league match on Tuesday to make it to the final.

New Zealand have 12 points, including two bonus points, followed by Sri Lanka with 11 and Pakistan with seven.

New Zealand skipper Stephen Fleming criticised the pitch, saying it was very difficult to bat on.

"It (the pitch) was rubbish," said Fleming after his 200th one-day.

"One should be looking at scores of better than 150 or 160. We didn't get too many runs, but Vettori bowled very well," he said.

Vettori was not the only star in New Zealand's victory as wicketkeeper Brendon McCullum and Styris also gave excellent all-round performances.

McCullum top-scored with an unbeaten 47 on a pitch where the

ball hardly came on to the bat, making stroke-play difficult. He then accounted for four dismissals.

He helped his team cross the 150-mark with some lusty hitting in the closing overs, smashing three sixes in his 63-ball knock and adding 50 vital runs for the seventh wicket with Kyle Mills (17).

Styris was the second-highest scorer with 29 and then grabbed two crucial wickets.

"We conceded too many runs in the closing overs. I think that was the turning point of the match. It was anybody's game till the last over," said Sri Lankan skipper Marvan Atapattu.

Vettori held the centre-stage as he troubled the Sri Lankan batsmen with his turn and shrewd variations to win the match for his team from a difficult situation.

The spinner bowled Kumar Sangakkara and had Atapattu caught by substitute Matthew Horne before dismissing Tillakaratne Dilshan in his first five

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2

Glenn in the news for right reasons

Cricket
AFP, Kingston

A three-wicket burst in Australia's second one-day international victory over the West Indies here on Sunday gave Glenn McGrath something positive to end a harrowing week.

McGrath ripped through three lower-order batsmen desperate for runs in the 49th over to finish with 4-31 and earn the man-of-the-match award in Australia's 19th consecutive one-day international win.

Australia's premier paceman has been on the rack over the last week for his much-criticised on-field rage at Windies batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan in the fourth Antigua Test last Monday.

The sight of McGrath haranguing the much smaller Sarwan had letter-writers and talk-back callers



GLENN McGRATH

back home calling for his head, while the Australian Cricket Board chief executive James Sutherland criticised his behaviour.

"It's been a tough week, one I'd rather forget and hopefully put

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

India, Pakistan to play in Champs Trophy

AFP, New Delhi

Arch-rivals India and Pakistan will take part in the Champions Trophy field hockey tournament to be held in Amsterdam in August, officials said on Monday.

Defending champions and hosts the Netherlands, Germany, Australia and Argentina are the other teams in the elite six-nation event from August 16 to 24.

According to the itinerary released here, both India and Pakistan will feature on the opening day. India take on the Dutch after Pakistan clash with Australia in the first match.

The annual tournament, featuring the top six teams in the world, will be the last major event before next year's Athens Olympics.

Each team plays the other once in the preliminary league with the top two teams contesting the final.

The high-profile game between India and Pakistan is slated for August 22.



Australia captain Ricky Ponting square-cuts one for four during the second one-day international against West Indies at Sabina Park in Kingston, Jamaica on May 18.