



Did U Know?

West Indies great Vivian Richards was the first batsman to score 1,000 runs in a World Cup. He achieved this feat in the 1987 tournament.



TEN Sports

French Open
Live at 4:00 pm

ESPN

Football Focus
Repeat at 8:30 am
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
Primera Liga
Real Sociedad vs Valencia
Repeat at 9:30 pm

STAR Sports

Primera Liga
Deportivo vs Atletico Madrids
Repeat at 9:30 am
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
Taped Version at 8:30 pm



Venus Williams
(American tennis star)
"It's very disappointing but there is nothing I can do about it. I just have to move on to the next tournament."
After losing at the French Open.



Tick the correct answers, post
The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm
June 13, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who clinched the national youth hockey title?	Dhaka	BKSP	Dinajpur
2. How many Test matches has Wasim Akram played?	112	104	205
3. Who became UEFA Cup champions?	Celtic	Porto	Dortmund
4. How many Grand Slam titles does Pete Sampras have?	13	14	15
Name		
Class Roll No.		
School Address		
Phone: (If any)		

Gaibandha soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Gaibandha

Bridge Road Sporting Club defeated Nabarun Krira Chakkr by 2 goals to one in the Senior Division Soccer League at the Gaibandha Islamia High School ground yesterday.
On Monday, Azad Sporting Club defeated Abahani Krira Chakkr 5-2 at the same venue.

NFL deadline today



SPORTS REPORTER

Not all the districts in the country are going to take part in the forthcoming third National Football League (NFL).

And with the deadline for receiving entries ending this evening, the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) is expected the total number of participating teams to be around 47.

The BFF believes it does not have legal right to force all the 64 districts of the country to play in the biggest club-level football competition.

"Participation in the National Football League is not mandatory for any district. To avoid this problem happening in the future we have to consider making it compulsory for every district," said BFF general secretary Anwarul Haque yesterday.

Talking to a group of reporters, Haque asserted that the deadline for entries would not be extended as they wanted to start the qualifying round as early as possible.

"Time is running out. We need to kick-start domestic football at the earliest," Haque said.

He also revealed that the qualifying round, where districts would be divided into five zones, would start between June 15 to 20. Besides, the service teams (Army, Navy, Air Force, BDR and Police) would have their own qualifying round.

Defending NFL champions Mohammedan Sporting Club, runners-up Abahani Krira Chakra, Muktiyoddha Sangsad and Arambagh Krira Sangha are the automatic qualifiers in the 10-team final round.

All the ten teams would receive Taka one lakh each as appearance money. The winners of the final round will walk away with five lakh taka while the runners-up will collect three lakh taka. The third-placed team gets Taka two lakh.

Each man-of-the-match in the final round will get five thousand taka while Taka 50,000 will be awarded to the man-of-the-tournament.

Meanwhile, the officials of Leisure Sports Management arrived in the capital on Tuesday

night to finalise marketing matters with the BFF officials.

The BFF has formed a 37-member National Football League Committee with Shah Alam Chowdhury as chairman and Manjur Hossain Malu as secretary respectively.

Div I b'ball Europa Youth post 7th win

UNB, Dhaka

Europa Youth Club registered their seventh consecutive win in the Metropolitan First Division Basketball League beating Old DOHS (Saturn) 98-60 at the Dhanmondi Wooden Floor Gymnasium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 49-22.

Gowtam caged 27, Austin 22, Shishir 14 and Uma Shankar 13 points for Europa while Tansir scored 16 and Rajib 12 for the Old DOHS.

In the day's other match, holders Dhumketu Club got a walkover against The Greg's Club.

Nat'l Cricket final today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Defending champions Bangladesh Biman and Rajshahi will battle it out in the final of 26th National Cricket Championship at the MA Aziz Stadium today.

The national airliner stormed into the final after thrashing Narayanganj by 103 runs. Rajshahi, playing in their first national final, defeated Comilla by five runs in their semifinal.

Biman skipper Faruque Ahmed and his Rajshahi counterpart Mushfiqur Rahman were both confident ahead of the big match.

Faruque said, "We are a better side in all departments. Hopefully, there will be no problem against Rajshahi."

Mushfiq, the all-rounder, was also happy with his side's ability.

"Most of my players are good fielders. We are not overawed facing Biman. Rather, I am confident my team will cause an upset."

Athletics camp

UNB, Dhaka

Eighteen national athletes, including six women, will take part in a training camp that begins today at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

Kitab Ali of Bangladesh Army and Nazrul Islam Rumi will supervise the camp.

The selected athletes are: Shamsuddin, Majid Mollah, Mahfuzur Rahman and Afzal Hossain Suryo (BJMC), Mahbub Alam, Manjur Murshed and Abu Taiyab (Navy), Abu Abdullah, Shahidul Islam, Anwarul Islam, Masudul Karim and Ilias Hossain (Army), Shamsunahar Chumki, Nazmunahar Beauty, Sumita Rani Das, Sathi Parveen and Noor Zahana (BJMC) and Fouzia Huda Jui (BKSP).

Waugh wants to carry on

INTERNET, undated

Australian Test captain Steve Waugh has hit back at claims he should retire.

The 38-year-old said he still felt like a 20-year-old when it came to playing cricket.

Former Australian Test stars Jeff Thomson and David Hookes urged Waugh to call it a day to give younger players time to settle in the squad.

But Waugh said he still had a lot of cricket in him.

He said: "I know I'm 38 now but cricket-wise I feel like I'm 20."

"I can learn. I think I can improve. I don't dwell on what I have done... it's what I haven't done."

Waugh has been concentrating on his Test career since being dropped from the one-day side.

He has beaten Don Bradman's record for the most Test centuries and has played in more Test matches than any other Australian.

Waugh, fresh from Australia's 3-1 victory over West Indies, said: "I don't think age should be a factor in anything."

"If you're doing the job and you're good at it and you've acquired all that experience over the years, it seems strange to say: 'let's get rid of this bloke and then start the process all over again'."

"As long as you're competitive and fit, age has nothing to do with it." Australia will host Test newcomers Bangladesh in a two-Test series in July and Zimbabwe for three Tests in November.

Waugh is still 909 runs off Allan Border's 11,174 runs record and will be aiming to close in on that total against the Test cricket minnows.

India don't know the time as yet

REUTERS, Calcutta

The Indian cricket board is making no promises over resumption of bilateral cricket with Pakistan despite a recent thaw in political relations.

"It appeared (bilateral) cricket would be played in the near future," board president Jagmohan Dalmiya said on Monday. "But now what the near future means, I don't know."

"How many months or weeks it will take, my guess is as good as yours," he told reporters.

The Indian government banned bilateral matches with Pakistan three years ago due to political tensions, but the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had been hopeful last month following an upswing in diplomatic relations.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has said it was ready to host India, who have twice cancelled test tours to Pakistan after being denied permission by the government.

The federal sports minister has said bilateral cricket ties could resume only when there was a visible improvement in goodwill on both sides.

Nasser looks to new stars



REUTERS, London

Nasser Hussain will be seeking a new cast of match-winners in the second test against Zimbabwe this week, with strike bowler Steve Harmison topping his wish list.

England's innings win at Lord's may have been the right result but the England captain will hope for more style this time as Durham makes its debut as a test venue on Thursday.

Two batsmen who bowl a bit of part-time military medium Mark Butcher (who also top-scored with 137 runs) and Anthony McGrath shared seven second-innings wickets to wrap up the first match.

Their performance would have taught Hussain nothing he did not already know, namely that England is full of players capable of swinging the ball in helpful conditions while the current Zimbabwe side is one of the weakest to visit in decades.

There is still plenty to learn about

the 6ft 4ins Harmison, however, who will be on his home ground at Chester-le-Street.

Hussain has often complained that England are failing to produce really special bowlers wrist-spinners or out-and-out quicks but the towering Harmison is one of the



NASSER HUSSAIN exceptions, generating pace and disconcerting bounce. The 24-year-old will never be a
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Test spot his final goal



REUTERS, New Delhi

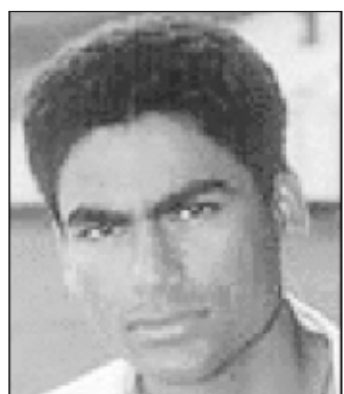
India's Mohammad Kaif wants to use his stint with English county Derbyshire as a stepping stone for a return to the Test team.

The 22-year-old, firmly established in the Indian one-day side with a series of match-winning performances over the last year, is now gunning for a permanent place in the Test squad.

"I plan to take my job at Derbyshire very seriously," Kaif told Reuters before leaving at the weekend for England.

"As the overseas pro, I'd like to not only help my team but also use the opportunity to develop my own game, learn to play long innings and

get into the Test side." Kaif has already had a baptism by fire in the Indian Test team during his debut as a 19-year-old against South Africa in 2000. He scored 12



MOHAMMAD KAIF

and 23 in a losing cause in Bangalore and failed again in three Tests in Sri Lanka the following year.

A major reason for that was the inability early in his career to handle quick bowlers targeting his rib-cage.

But on the one-day front, he has not looked back since making his debut against England early last year. Kaif has scored 1,072 runs in 53 matches at 30.62 batting usually at number six.

His most celebrated knock was an unbeaten 87 against England in the final of a triangular tournament at Lord's to enable India chase an unlikely 326 for victory.

He said: "I've learnt a lot over the last year as a member of the one-day team."

"I can handle short bowling a lot better now. I'm sure the county

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Javed, Imran were rivals



INTERNET, undated

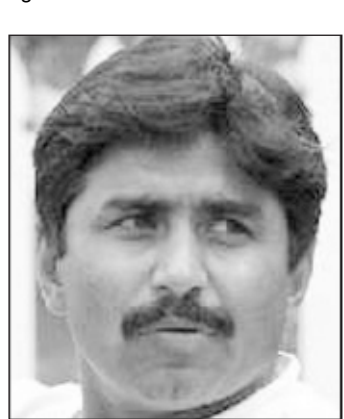
On the face of it, former Pakistan Test stars Imran Khan and Javed Miandad were like chalk and cheese.

Imran, from Lahore, was proud and aggressive - his detractors might even add arrogant. Javed, from Pakistan's other great cricket city Karachi, was by contrast, crafty, instinctive and willing to get under the skin of an opponent to try and gain an advantage.

Both had spells with English county side Sussex and both were named as Cricketers of the Year by Wisden - Javed earning the accolade a year before Imran in 1982.

But there was little else in common, apart from a mutual respect for their ability as cricketers, between two men who between them captained Pakistan in 82 Tests and 200

one-day internationals. Since retiring as players, Imran has pursued a career in politics, while Javed has coached the national side on a number of occasions and is currently in charge again.



JAVED MIANDAD

They could soon be brought together again, however, following Imran's decision to offer his services to the Pakistan Cricket Board after the team's disappointing World Cup showing.

How that will sit with Javed



IMRAN KHAN

remains to be seen.

He has lifted the lid on their relationship in a new book, although some of his views appear contradictory.

On the one hand, Javed asserted he and Imran had "always got along fine" apart from a keen professional rivalry.

Yet he also claimed Imran played a leading role behind the scenes in bringing about his downfall as team captain in 1992.

"I don't know what Imran's motives were, I can only guess at them. Perhaps he felt an undisturbed Miandad captaincy would overshadow his legacy," he says.

Javed claimed during a tour to England, Imran threw a party for the team to which he and two other

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THE PAST AND PRESENT OF LANKA: Sri Lanka's one-day captain Marvan Atapattu (R) and previous captain Sanath Jayasuriya are on way to the team hotel in St. George's in Grenada on June 2. The Lankans arrived in the West Indies to play two Tests and three one-day internationals.

Life is beautiful now



INTERNET, Colombo

After four years in the limelight, facing the media, and attending to a myriad off-field responsibilities, Sanath Jayasuriya is enjoying his new life as a simple senior pro.

During the recent series against New Zealand, whether lolling by the hotel poolside or limbering up on the training ground, Jayasuriya cut a relaxed figure, a man obviously relieved to be free of the endless decision-making.

Captaincy is the ultimate honour for any cricketer, but it is a job that carries a heavy burden, especially in a country like Sri Lanka, where the populace is so cricket mad.

"There are so many extra responsibilities when you are captain," says Jayasuriya. "There are endless meetings before, after and during matches, all the organisation and procedures at practice, and then afterwards work with the cricket board."

Sri Lanka's first of the West Indies will be his last since standing

down. He has no regrets about handing over the reins. "I enjoyed taking on the responsibility but I am relieved to be free of it now," he said. "I am happy with the decision that I made and I am enjoying my cricket at the moment."

But being such a crucial cog in a Sri Lankan batting line-up which is struggling to find form and confidence means that he cannot just slip into cruise control and enjoy the twilight of his career. "I still have a lot of cricket responsibilities on my shoulders," he adds. "The team does not expect me to score nice 20s or 30s they need big scores."

During the recent Test series New Zealand he showed excellent form, helping himself to two entertaining fifties, but the Bank Alfalah Cup brought more meagre returns: 48 runs in four matches with a highest score of 33.

"I was very happy with my form during the Test series, although annoyed that I didn't convert those two fifties into hundreds," he says. "I was, though, disappointed with the one-dayers."

Approaching his 34th birthday, Jayasuriya is setting no date for his

eventual retirement, although there are some milestones that he wants to achieve: "At the moment, my objective is to pass 10,000 runs and 300 wickets in the one-day game and pass 5000 runs in the Test arena."

But like the rest of the Sri Lankan players, who have been playing virtually non-stop for the last 14 months, he is relishing the prospect of a much-needed break after the Caribbean. The three-month layoff (less if Sri Lanka play in the Morocco Cup in August) will provide an opportunity to address a recurring tonsillitis problem.

"At the moment I am fit and healthy but the tonsillitis is a big problem at the moment," he says. "I think I will have an operation straight after this tour. My consultant wants to see me as soon as I return he thinks I will be out for about a month."

For the moment, though, it is all eyes on a series against the resurgent West Indies, a tour that fans hope will bring out the uninhibited best in Sri Lanka's new laid-back senior pro.

Serena speeds into semis



REUTERS, Paris

Top seed Serena Williams maulled home favourite Amelie Mauresmo 6-1, 6-2 to reach the French Open semifinals on Tuesday.

The brutality of the defending champion's tennis stunned the world number five and silenced the expectant Roland Garros crowd. "I am on a mission," said Williams,

winner of the last four grand slam titles.

"She gave 100 per cent but it is hard to play your best game when I am playing well."

The slight Justine Henin-Hardenne is next to step into the firing line after she beat American Chanda Rubin 6-3, 6-2. It will not be a prospect the Belgian will relish if she watches a recording of Williams's performance.

Second seed Kim Clijsters and Russian surprise package Nadia Petrova will meet in the other semifinal on Thursday.

Serena was awesome. She leapt into a 4-0 lead on a damp and overcast centre court as Mauresmo wondered what had hit her.

Broad-shouldered and standing 1.75 metres tall, the French player is one of only a handful who can stand up to the formidable Williams sisters, matching them for strength.

On Tuesday, however, Serena was irresistible. She motored through the set in 22 minutes, Mauresmo and her compatriots blinking as the winners flew past.



Serena Williams waves to the crowd after defeating France's Amelie Mauresmo yesterday to reach the French Open semifinals.

THE SEMIFINALISTS

AFP, Paris

French Open women's semifinal line-up for Thursday (x denotes seed):

Serena Williams (USA X1) V Justine Henin-Hardenne (BEL X4)

Kim Clijsters (BEL X2) V Nadia Petrova (RUS)

While the top seed drove her shots with immense power, Mauresmo seemed to shrink, her first victory over Serena in Rome this month seeming nothing more than a bizarre aberration.

Shoulders drooping, Mauresmo swiftly fell 4-0 behind in the second set on a day of promise which had quickly turned sour.

She managed token resistance towards the end of the ordeal -- winning two more games -- but left her home grand slam once again unfulfilled.

While not in the same league as Serena in the power stakes, Clijsters strode confidently through with a 6-2, 6-1 thumping of Spain's Conchita Martinez.

Belgium's Clijsters -- a losing finalist here in 2001 -- took one step nearer her maiden grand slam crown by dominating the former Wimbledon champion throughout the 69-minute match.

"I played a good match. I first needed to get used to the kind of game she plays. I was trying to find
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