



## Did U Know?

Margaret Court of Australia won a record 13 French Open titles from 1962-1973: five singles, four doubles, and four mixed doubles.



## What to Watch

**ESPN**  
Football Focus  
Repeat at 3:00 pm  
Repeat at 1:30 pm  
Sportscentre Hindi  
Sport News  
Live at 8:30 pm

**STAR Sports**  
West Indies vs Sri Lanka  
Third ODI  
Repeat at 12:30 pm  
Sportsline Tonight  
Sport News  
Live at 8:00 pm  
Futbol Mundial



## Talk Turkey



**Anna Kournikova**  
(Russian tennis star)  
"I'm very disappointed, actually devastated, not to be able to play in Birmingham."

**Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 19**

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	1	4
Name .....			
Class .....	Roll No. ....		
School Address .....			
Phone: (if any) .....			

## Pakistan 298/7

**BBC ONLINE, London**

Pakistan's fortunes in England took an upturn as their batsmen reached 298 for 7 against Northants.

The tourists, who begin a three-match one-day international series next week, suffered a 50-run defeat to Essex on Monday.

But their fortunes improved at Wantage Road thanks to half-centuries from opener Imran Nazir, Yousof Youhana and Yasir Hameed.

Nazir and Mohammad Hafeez laid the foundations with an opening partnership of 116, keeping the tempo at five runs per over throughout.

Ricky Anderson was the pick of the bowlers with 2-43 but no other pace bowler could exert any sort of control.

Opening bowler Mike Cawdron also took two wickets but conceded 70 runs from his 10 overs.

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE:** M Hussey, M Powell, P Jaques, D Sales, J Cook, G Swann, T Bailey, R Anderson, D Wright, M Cawdron, C Greenidge.

# Pace-strong Tigers

## Changes in one-dayers?



SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will announce a 15-member national squad for the maiden tour of Australia today.

Although the selectors have finalised the list after a meeting with national coach Dav Whatmore yesterday evening, the names would be made public after Whatmore had personally informed the players who have not made it.

According to sources, the selectors took into consideration some changes in the squad for the three-match one day international series which will take place after the two Test matches have ended.

Talking to the Daily Star Sport, chief selector Aliul Islam hinted yesterday that there is a possibility that some players might return home after the Tests to be

replaced by one-day specialists from the six cricketers who failed to make it to the final 15.

"There would be at least two or more changes in the team after the Test matches," said Aliul.

Although Aliul didn't disclose the names, he however confirmed that Bangladesh would take five quick bowlers to pace-friendly Australia.

"We have decided to carry five pacers and that too excluding the captain who is also a medium pacer," said Aliul.

The team had its longest batting practice at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday morning.

On a rare day without the rain, the players spent three hours in the nets.

Later, Whatmore told reporters that fitness was the main criteria in his selection process.

He also said that he was in favour of taking five pacers as there will be a lot of matches

played and he wanted to give his bowlers rest time to time to avoid injuries.

There are as many as six pacers in the camp now and it is almost certain that either youngster Anwar Hossain Munir or veteran Hasibul Hossain would join Monjurul Islam, Tapas Baishya, Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza and Tareq Aziz Khan.

Left arm spinner Mohammad Rafique will be the lone spinner in the team which will have only one all-rounder in captain Mahmud.

Bangladesh will fly to Australia on June 22 to have a two-week camp in Brisbane.

The tour starts with the first Test in Darwin from July 18 while the second Test will be played at the Bundaberg Rum Stadium in Cairns from July 25.

The first two ODIs will also be played in Cairns on August 2 and 3 while the last one-day match will be in Darwin on August 6.



THE THINK-TANK: Manager Lt. Col. (Retd.) MA Latif (L) makes a point while talking with coach Dav Whatmore (R) and captain Khaled Mahmud during practice yesterday.

## Sri Lanka 92 for 4

SPORTS REPORTER

Sri Lanka were 97 for four in 32 overs in the third and final one day international against the West Indies at St. Vincent yesterday.

West Indies captain Brian Lara won the toss and put Sri Lanka in. Mahela Jayawardene was batting on 19. Hero of the second match Upul Chandana was giving him company with 15.

Sri Lanka have already taken an unassailable 2-0 lead in the series.

## StanChart school chess from July 2

UNB, Dhaka

The Standard Chartered School Chess tournament will begin on July 2.

The tournament, to be held on Swiss League system, will be open to all school students. Interested players have been asked to enroll their names by June 26 at the Bangladesh Chess Federation office.

## Div I b'ball Europa to meet Dhumketu in final

UNB, Dhaka

Title aspirant Europa Youth Club recorded their 10th consecutive victory in the Metropolitan First Division Basketball League beating last time runners-up Josephites Club 78-57 in a key match at Dhanmondi Wooden Floor gymnasium yesterday.

Europa will play the title deciding match on Saturday at 5 pm with defending champions Dhumketu Club, who also topped the points table jointly winning all the 10 matches.

In the day's match, Arfan, a BKSP student, caged highest 19, former Indian skipper Gautam scored 17 and Shishir 14 for the winners while Fazle made 15, Bony 14 and Yasir 13 for the losers.

In the day's other match, Wraith Club beat Greg Club 42-38 after leading the first half 20-16 at the same venue.

Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman is expected to be the chief guest in the last league match and distribute prizes.

## BKSP Green in last four

UNB, Dhaka

Hosts BKSP Green registered another comfortable victory in the first-ever BKSP Cup Under-16 Football tournament to assure their semifinal berth from Group B out-playing Sylhet Division 6-1 at the BKSP ground yesterday.

Rubel and Zahid scored twice each while Abid and Papel netted one each for the winners.

In the second match, Barisal Division tasted their first win in their second appearance beating Rajshahi Division 2-0.

Rana and Barkat scored one each.

In the third match, hosts BKSP Red made a frustrating start playing one-all draw with Chittagong Division.

Towhidul Islam put Chittagong ahead in the 40th minute while Asit Dewan restored the parity for BKSP Red in the 62nd minute from a penalty.

In the day's remaining match, Dhaka Division drew 2-2 with Khulna Division with Rony and Mithu scoring for Dhaka while Mano and Sabuj for the Khulna.

**Gaibandha soccer final tomorrow**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT**

Azad Sporting Club will take on Jhanker Sporting Club in the final of the Senior Division Soccer League at Islamia High School ground on Friday.

In yesterday's semifinal, Azad Sporting beat Bridge Road Sporting Club 4-2 in tie breaker.

# Asghar off to London

## U-19 deal to be finalised



SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Ali Asghar left for London yesterday to sign an agreement with International Cricket Council (ICC) president Malcolm Grey for hosting the ICC Under-19 World Cup.

Bangladesh will hold the fifth World Youth (under-19) cricket championship next year. This will be the biggest cricket tournament the country is going to host. Sixteen teams, including youth squads of all the ten Test playing nations will compete in the tournament which will be spread around in eight venues across the country from February 9 to March 6.

The agreement will be signed sometime between June 15 to 19 during the annual meeting of the ICC at its Lord's headquarters.

BCB's cricket committee chairman Mahbul Anam accompanied Asghar, who is also the president of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC).

The youth championship is one of the three major events in ICC's calendar after the World Cup and the Champions Trophy.

While the other two are money-spinning events, the ICC considers the youth tournament as a development project. This is for the first time the ruling body of cricket will bear all the expenses of the month-long meet. The ICC is expected to spend USD two million for the jamboree of youths. Apart from the ten Test

playing nations the other six will be qualifiers from the five Continents.

Meanwhile, preparations of the eight venues were going on in full swing across the country.

"We have made good progress to prepare all the venues including the practice grounds. We are keeping constant communications with all the venues and the progress of the works are satisfactory except in Chittagong where rain has hampered our work," said grounds committee chairman and BCB advisor Shafiqur Rahman yesterday.

Hosts Bangladesh will play the tournament opener against New Zealand at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on February 14.

There was a last minute change in the groupings of the tournament as Kenya, who were initially put in Group C along with Bangladesh, India and New Zealand in the assumption that they will be considered as an automatic qualifier, have to qualify for the meet from African zone.

Asia, Asia-Pacific, Europe and America are the other four zones.

The second qualifier in Europe zone will now play in Bangladesh's group instead of Kenya.

All the zones will get one berth each except Europe which have been awarded with two berths.

The Group A matches will be held in Rajshahi and Bogra while Group B matches will be played at the MA Aziz Stadium and the Divisional



YOU HAVE BROAD SHOULDERS FOR A SMALL GUY! Fast bowler Mashrafe bin-Mortuza (R) feels the shoulders of Alok Kapali as the middle-order batsman walks back with opener Hannan Sarkar following a net session yesterday.

## Legends can mend it

AFP, Karachi

Former Pakistan captain Asif Iqbal Wednesday proposed tours by legendary cricketers as sporting ambassadors between Pakistan and India, saying they could serve as a bridge to break the political stalemate between the nuclear rivals.

"I think there should be tours of sporting ambassadors to Pakistan and India which can pave the way with Bishen Bedi and Kapil Dev should come to Pakistan...."

Iqbal made his first class debut in 1959 in the Indian city of Hyderabad before migrating to Pakistan in 1962.

Restarting his cricketing career in Pakistan in 1964-65, he played 58 Tests and 10 one-day matches for Pakistan before retiring in 1979-80.

The South Asian nuclear rivals are moving cautiously towards normalisation since Indian Premier Atal Behari Vajpayee offered a "hand of friendship" to Pakistan in April.

The two countries have appointed high commissioners and announced plans to resume a cross-border bus service next month, raising hopes that a three-year cricket hiatus may also end in the near future.

Indian Sports Minister Vikram Verma last week said a decision was likely soon on whether both countries could play two one-day games on a home and away basis in September.

"I am surprised that no meaningful dialogue has yet to take place amidst efforts to restore peace between Pakistan and India. There is a need to revive late General Ziaul Haq's slogan 'cricket for peace,'" said Iqbal, who captained Pakistan during India's tour in 1979-80.

"Cricket has the capacity to form a bridge between Pakistan and India and other things can move forward on that bridge."

No Indian team has toured Pakistan for a full Test tour since 1989-90, while Pakistan visited India three years ago before India decided to boycott bilateral cricket amid tension over Kashmir.

# Bend it like Barca!



AFP, London

Manchester United have made it clear they are ready to sell but David Beckham does not seem sold on a move to Barcelona.

Less than two hours after United's announcement on Tuesday that they had agreed a price for the England captain with Barca's would-be president, Joan Laporta, Beckham's management company moved to pour cold water all over the proposed deal.

In comments that must raise a substantial doubt over whether Beckham could ever play for a Laporta-led Barcelona, the management company SFX claimed their client was dismayed at being "used as a political pawn in the Barcelona presidential elections."

More to the point, SFX said they had no plans to meet Laporta or his representatives.

Things may change if Laporta manages to be elected Barcelona president on Sunday.

But Beckham could not have been any less blunt in expressing a preference for a move to Real Madrid or one of the two Milan teams, all of whom can, unlike Barcelona, offer Champions League football next season.

The only thing that was clear after Tuesday's dramatic developments is that Beckham - arguably the most famous player on the planet - looks certain to be leaving Old Trafford this summer in a deal expected to generate around 30 million pounds (50 million dollars) for the English champions.

United's statement, apparently released without any consultation with the player who is currently on holiday in the United States, said the club had reached agreement with Laporta on the terms of a transfer.

"This offer is subject to a number of conditions and critically to both Mr Laporta being elected President on Sunday 15 June and Barcelona subsequently reaching agreement with David Beckham on his personal contract," United acknowledged.

"Manchester United confirms that in the event that all of the conditions are fulfilled then the offer would be acceptable."

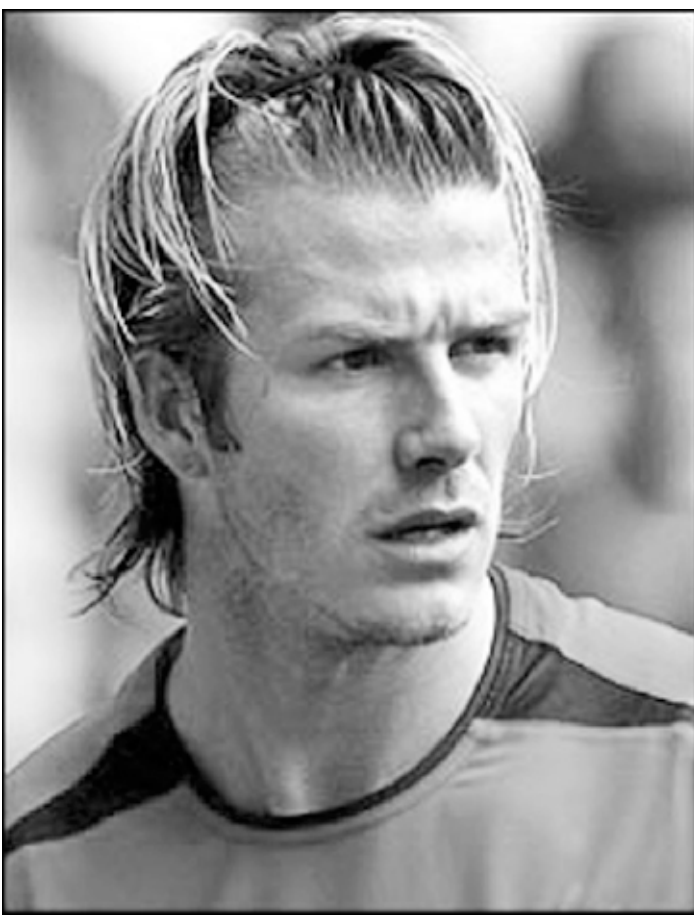
SFX's counter statement replied: "David is very disappointed and surprised to learn of this statement and feels that he has been used as a political pawn in the Barcelona presidential elections."

"David's advisors have no plans to meet Mr Laporta or his representatives."

Laporta himself insisted that Beckham's transfer "was on the right track."

"We first have to respect FIFA rules which say an agreement must first be sought with the club, which we now have, before negotiating with the player."

And Laporta's campaign manager Sandro Rosell said the deal



DAVID BECKHAM

# Henry, Smith's return salvo



CRICINFO, Johannesburg

Omar Henry, head of the South African selection committee, has hit back at Bob Woolmer's comments that South African cricket is in a mess, while Graeme Smith insisted that he didn't receive any sort of contact from Woolmer regarding his acceptance of the captaincy.

Henry said: "I don't know in which country Bob Woolmer finds himself right now. Perhaps he must have his eyes tested." Henry's comments were in reaction to Woolmer, the former national coach, who speaking at a benefit dinner for Dale Benkenstein in Pietermaritzburg, said he was deeply hurt by the present state of affairs in South African cricket, before going on to point a finger at Smith, who had questioned Klusener's team ethic in a breakfast interview.

"I can't really believe that Lance has not been selected to tour England," said Woolmer. "It was because of him that we got to the semi-finals of the 1999 World Cup in the first place. That man wins games for South Africa and then someone had the temerity to attack him at a breakfast."

Smith is the youngest man ever to lead the national side, and Woolmer was incensed by his lack of respect for a man who has been a mainstay of the team for over half a decade.

"Graeme Smith has not been playing long enough and after five Tests has no right to criticise someone whose track record for

he was 26, more experienced and more settled in the side so he could handle all the pressures."

However, Smith has since insisted that he in fact never received a call from Woolmer to that effect: "Bob's entitled to his opinion on whether I should be the captain or not," he said. "I don't begrudge

him that. But I just don't remember him phoning me and suggesting that I should wait until I was 26 before taking over as captain." He added, "I know I'm only 22, but my



OMAR HENRY



GRAEME SMITH

## McKenzie out of England tour

REUTERS, Johannesburg

Neil McKenzie has been forced out of South Africa's one-day squad to tour England after failing to recover fully from a back injury.

The middle order batsman has not recovered after tearing a disc in his lower back in the second test against Bangladesh six weeks ago, a United Cricket Board statement said on Tuesday.

McKenzie hopes to regain fitness in time to be considered for the Test series, which starts on July 24.

"I have made good progress, but I am probably two weeks short of full fitness," the statement quoted McKenzie as saying.

"If I pushed myself to be ready for the one-dayers I might risk missing out on the whole tour and I'd rather make sure I'm 100 percent for the test series."

McKenzie will undergo a rehabilitation programme and his progress will be monitored by the South African team's physiotherapist, Shane Jabaar. He aims to be fit by mid-July.

South Africa's squad are due to arrive in England on June 16 and a decision on replacing McKenzie could be made this week, the statement said.