

Did U Know?

Former Sri Lankan batting maestro Aravinda de Silva played 75 innings before getting his first duck in Test cricket.



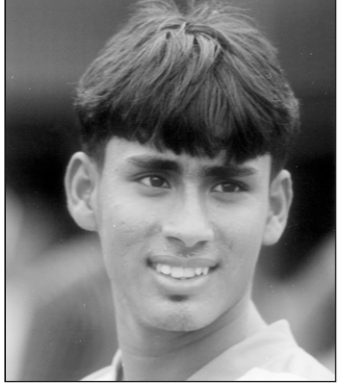
What to Watch

ESPN

Primera Liga
Highlights at 10:00 am
England v Zimbabwe
First ODI
Repeat at 1:30 pm
Sportscenter Hindi
Sports News
Live at 8:30 pm
STAR Sports
Dream Team
Football Serial
Repeat at 9:30 am
Wimbledon Championships
Day Five, Round Three
Live from 5:00 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sports News



Talk Turkey



Mohammad Ashrafal
(Star Bangladesh batsman)
"I will be proud to face Brett Lee. I've always dreamed of playing Test cricket and facing bowlers like that. I like playing my shots and I like short-pitched bowling. I'm sure I'll get a lot of that."



Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 19

Tick the correct answers, post
The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm
June 27, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

| | | |
|---|---------------|---------|
| 1. Who will lead the Australia bound Bangladesh cricket team? | Mashud Aminul | Mahmud |
| 2. How many ODI centuries has Brian Lara scored? | 21 | 31 |
| 3. Who clinched the French Open men's title? | Hewitt | Agassi |
| 4. Who became Dev Cup hockey champions? | Ranganjati | Comilla |
| Name | | |
| Class | Roll No. | |
| School Address | | |
| Phone: (If any) | | |

Zia, Rakib share Open Chess lead

SPORTS REPORTER
GM Ziaur Rahman and IM Abdullah Al Rakib were jointly leading the table with 6.5 points each at the end of the seventh round of the Open FIDE Rating Chess tournament at the chess room of National Sports Council yesterday.
IM Reefat Bin Sattar, Sawkat Hossain Pallab and Mohammad Javed were sharing the second position with 6 points each.
GM Niaz Murshed, IM Enamul Hossain Rajib, FM Abu Sufian Shakil and Mehdi Hasan Parag were in the third place with 5.5 points apiece.
In the round, Zia beat Niaz, Rakib beat Khandakar Aminul Islam.
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Players and officials of Mohammedan Sporting Club pose after lifting the Club Cup at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

Golden goal MSC

Final ends in fiasco

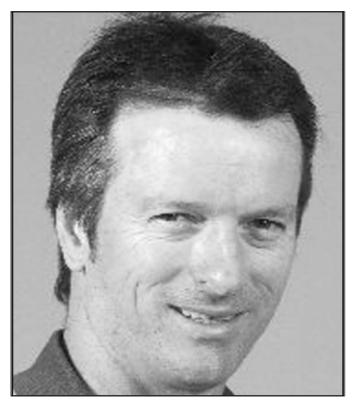
Hockey
SPORTS REPORTER
A golden goal from Ariful Haque Prince enabled Mohammedan Sporting Club to retain the Club Cup hockey title with a solitary goal win over arch rivals Abahani Krira Chakra in the final played at the Maulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.
But the joy of the popular Motijheel-based club turned sour as their traditional foes, immediately after conceding the goal, mercilessly beat up umpire Golam Kibria for awarding the short corner in the dying moments of the sudden death extra time.
Just before the long whistle of the extra time when Abahani captain Mahbul Ehsan Rana stopped a floater taking the stick above shoulder height in the D-box, and Kibria, one of the two umpires awarded the short corner asked that player to leave the ground after showing a yellow card.
And as soon as Prince deflected home a Rafiqul Islam Kamal hit following the short corner, the Abahani players, led by captain Rana and coach Jumman Lusai, rushed towards Kibria and started assaulting him with hockey sticks.
Fearing for his life Kibria, a Bangladesh Air Force umpire, was seen running away from the stadium like a 100-meter sprinter.
The whole audience including chief guest State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman witnessed how former national hockey player and Abahani coach Jumman Lusai went berserk beating the man-in-uniform with a stick.
Later Lusai also tried to attack another umpire Aslam Omar Belim. But thanks to the timely intervention from Abahani official and Bangladesh Hockey Federation joint-secretary Zahidur Rahman Pushkin who managed to restrain Lusai for few minutes in a bid to calm him down.
The whole Abahani team then left the ground without attending the prize giving ceremony much to the displeasure of Fazlur Rahman and BHF president Air Vice Marshall Fakhru Azam.
Rahman then handed over the champions trophy to Mohammedan captain Musa Miah.
This was the second successive year that Rahman could not hand over the Club Cup runners up trophy to any team. Last year's runners-up Usha Krira Chakra also boycotted the after-match ceremony in protest at an umpire's decision.
Earlier, Mariner Young's Club won third-place play-off with a 3-0 win over Usha Krira Chakra.
After a barren first half, Tutul Kumar Nag struck twice while Yamen Miah added the other goal.



UNHOLY HOCKEY: The unruly Abahani players chase umpire Golam Kibria after the Club Cup final against Mohammedan yesterday.

'Support Bangladesh'

Cricket
AGENCIES, Sydney
Captain Steve Waugh admits his Australian cricket team will be "scratchy" when they meet Bangladesh in the first Test in Darwin next month.
The Australians, resting after an arduous tour of the West Indies, will go into the Test without a practice match or a training camp.
Asked if it would be the most limited preparation he could recall, Waugh said: "I think it will be."
Bangladesh, on the other hand, will go into the Test with three lead-up matches under their belt.
Waugh wasn't too worried about his players jumping up off the couch, switching off the football matches on TV, and taking to the field with such little lead-in.
"I'm assuming the guys who played both the Tests and one-dayers in the West Indies won't be picking up a bat or a ball until next week at least," Waugh said.
"I think we'll be scratchy and not that well prepared ... but the guys are used to that now and they know how to get themselves prepared but it won't be an extensive build-up."
"It's a pretty low key preparation coming into a Test series there's no gated.
Former Australian great Dennis Lillee has also back the idea of splitting world cricket.
But it's an idea which appalls Waugh.
"I think that would be unfair.
"How are you going to get the bottom sides to improve if they keep playing other weak sides?
"I'd like to think cricket is in a better state than that ... I think that's being too elitist.
"They (Bangladesh) have got to learn and they've got to catch-up. Sri Lanka proved they could do it 10 years after being given Test status they won the World Cup.
"So I think you've got to put more resources into these countries and help them out rather than say 'you're not good enough, we'll see you in five years when you've improved'.
"There's got to be a concerted effort to bring these guys up to standard."
While the Australian cricketers claim they are over-worked, a full-strength side has been picked for the series against Bangladesh. Waugh denied the Test side was doing it just for money, with the Aussies picking up their standard match fee for Tests.
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STEVE WAUGH

BCB's home in Mirpur

SPORTS REPORTER
In a bid to ease the ground problem the NSC (National Sports Council) officially handed over the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium to the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday.
In a simple ceremony held at the NSC conference room, State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman, in his capacity as NSC chairman, handed over ownership papers to the BCB president Ali Asghar in the presence of Bangladesh Amateur Athletics Federation (BAAF) president Abdus Salam and Bangladesh Football Federation's SA Sultan.
Expressing his feelings, the BCB boss said that a dream came true to get a venue exclusively for cricket.
"I hope we can able to start the work within three months and initially we'll spend 260,000 dollars to prepare the stadium," Asghar said saying that BCB and NSC will jointly work to make the stadium up to international standard.
Fazlur Rahman told newsmen that the Kamalapur Stadium would be inaugurated exclusively for football by next month and assured that athletes could use the Army Stadium until they got the BNS.
The state minister said that the Bangabandhu National Stadium will be especially used for the different national programmes and he hoped that within the next nine or ten months the venue problem will be solved permanently.
Besides, BCB advisors Mahbub Anam, Arafat Rahman, Reazuddin Al Mamun, Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen, BFF general secretary Anwarul Haq Helal and secretary of the Youth and Sports Ministry Abu Solaiman Chowdhury were also present.

Bangladesh's 1st match today

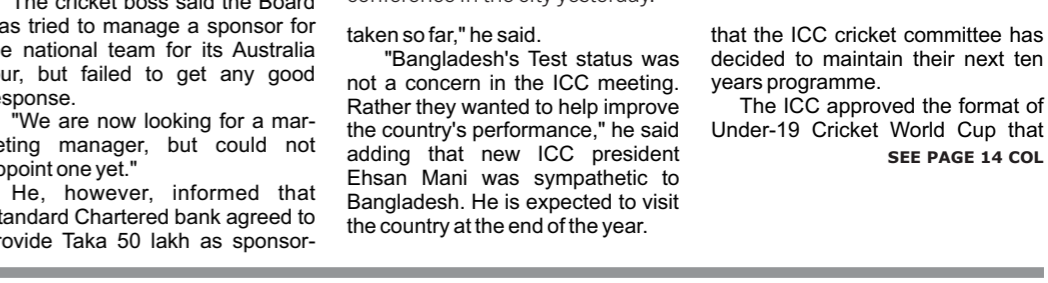
SPORTS REPORTER
Visiting Bangladesh will take on an invitational side of Queensland Academy of Sport in their first three-day practice match in Australia at the Allan Border Field in Brisbane today.
This is the first match for Bangladesh since they arrived in the country on June 23 for a two-week camp before moving to north to Darwin for their maiden Test series which formally starts on July 6.
They will play another three-day practice match against Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy of Australia at the same venue from July 3.
SQUADS
INVITATION SQUAD: Nathan Hauritz (captain), Daniel Payne, Brendan Nash, Lee Carseldine, Aaron Nye, James Hopes, Chris Hartley, Steve Farrell, Craig Philipson, Damien MacKenzie, Steve Magoffin, Matthew Petrie, Chris Simpson.
BANGLADESH (from): Khaled Mahmud (captain), Javed Omar, Hannan Sarkar, Habibul Bashar, Al-Shahriar, Mohammad Ashrafal, Alok Kapali, Khaled Mashud, Mohammad Rafique, Sanwar Hossain, Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza, Tapas Baishya, Monjurul Islam, Tareq Aziz Khan and Anwar Hossain.

Four-wkt loss for U-23 team

SPORTS REPORTER
Bangladesh under-23 team suffered a four-wicket defeat at the hands of Sri Lanka under-23 in a one-day match at the Rangiri Stadium in Dambulla, Sri Lanka, yesterday.
Electing to bat, the visitors scored 209 for six in the allotted 50 overs with opener Humayun Kabir hammering highest 61.
Kabir faced 104 balls during his innings that included a six and five boundaries.
Kabir's opening partner and captain Nafees Iqbal scored 46 off 83 balls with five fours while middle-order Rajin Saleh chipped in with a 48-ball 42.
In reply, the home side reached the winning target of 210 in 46.5 overs with four wickets in hand.
Middle-order Jayasundara topscored with 69. One-down Gunaratne followed him with a well-made 61.
Right hand seamer Alamgir Kabir was the most successful bowler for the tourists, taking four wickets for 20 runs from his quota of ten overs.
Although the match was originally a two-day affair and to be held in Colombo, the organisers shifted all the matches to Dambulla because it rains heavily in the capital during this time of the year. Organisers have also taken off a day from this game.
SCORES IN BRIEF
BANGLADESH UNDER-23: 209 for 6 in 50 overs (Humayun Kabir 61, Nafees 46, Rajin 41, Nazimuddin 19; Jayasundara 2-46, Dharmika 2-45)
SRI LANKA UNDER-23: 210 for 6 in 46.4 overs (Jayasundara 69, Gunaratne 61; Alamgir 4-20)
Result: Sri Lanka under-23 won by four wickets.

Asghar for early polls

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER
President of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Ali Asghar said he wanted to call elections as soon as possible to help its smooth running.
"We currently have a shortage of manpower to organise activities within the Board," he told a press conference yesterday.
Presently the BCB is functioning with only 11 advisors for an interim period after the High Court dismissed the elected board of directors.
Responding to another query, he said that International Cricket Council had nothing to do with Bangladesh's internal issues.
The press conference was arranged to appraise the outcome of the ruling body's meeting held in London on June 15-20.
The cricket boss said the Board was tried to manage a sponsor for the national team for its Australia tour, but failed to get any good response.
"We are now looking for a marketing manager, but could not appoint one yet."
He, however, informed that Standard Chartered bank agreed to provide Taka 50 lakh as sponsorship money for the home series against England next October.
Talking about the recent criticism about Bangladesh's Test status, the BCB president said that the ICC and Asian Cricket Council (ACC) came forward to help overcome the dismal performance.
"We'll be able to end the criticism if we can implement the initiatives
The BCB president said there was no fund crisis at the moment as they have Tk 28 crore.
Asked about the chief selector Aliul Islam's resignation Asghar said that the matter would be discussed in the next Board meeting on June 29.
About possibility to cut Bangladesh's away series, he said



Bangladesh Cricket Board president Ali Asghar (c) speaking at a press conference in the city yesterday.



State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman (C) handing over the documents of the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium to Bangladesh Cricket Board president Ali Asghar yesterday. Bangladesh Football Federation president SA Sultan (third from left) was also present on the occasion.

Cricket in for trouble

AFP, New Delhi
World cricket is again in the throes of a major crisis after players' representatives threatened the International Cricket Council (ICC) to stall future World Cup contracts.
The ICC in turn blasted the Federation of International Cricketers Associations (FICA) for its "clumsy attempts to threaten and undermine" the international game.
FICA joint chief executive Tim May, angry that the ICC had rejected a player representative on the world governing body's management committee, said future negotiations over World Cup contracts will be difficult.
"This shows a complete lack of respect for players around the world," May, a former Australian Test off-spinner, was quoted as saying by The Australian newspaper of the ICC's decision not to have a player's representative in the powerful committee.
ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed reacted angrily to May's comments.
"Rather than issuing threats against international cricket, FICA's leadership should be taking a step back and try to understand why so many of the Boards around the world are so vehemently opposed to it," Speed said in a statement.
"The reality is that despite repeated recommendations from ICC management, a majority of cricket boards around the world simply do not accept that FICA should be recognised."
The latest stand-off comes even as the ICC is grappling with a 50 million-dollar compensation claim from World Cup sponsors over England and New Zealand's refusal to play in Zimbabwe and Kenya and a dispute over Indian players over selling their commercial rights without permission.
FICA had initially opposed the players' contracts, almost causing the ICC's seven-year marketing deal worth 550 million dollars to collapse, before players from nine of the 10 Test-playing nations barring India made significant concessions to allow the recent World Cup in Africa to go ahead.
May told the Australian newspaper that FICA will oppose similar contracts for the next Champions Trophy event to be held in England in September next year.
"Another battle is looming," May was quoted as saying.
ICC's Speed laid the blame for the current crisis at FICA's doorstep.
"The leadership of FICA should be trying to understand why so many countries are so opposed to FICA rather than making threats against international cricket," Speed said.
"ICC Management has argued on many occasions during the past two years in favour of recognising FICA but, if anything, support for it has been dropping."
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Tim the only Brit standing

WIMBLEDON
AFP, London
Tim Henman said he would not make the mistake of obsessing about winning the Wimbledon title after Britain's sole survivor reached the third round on Thursday.
A 6-4, 6-4, 6-3 win over French qualifier Michael Llodra on a sun-bathed Centre Court sent the only Briton left in the men's or women's singles into a clash with another qualifier, Swedish teenager Robin Soderling.
US second seed Andre Agassi and Germany's Lars Burgsmuller 6-3, 7-6, 6-3 in 1hr 50min to reach the third round.
The 1992 champion next meets 27th seed Younes El Aynaoui of Morocco.
Off court, tenth seed Henman and Llodra are good friends and regularly kill time at tournaments by playing each other at pool.
But with the Briton keen to grab his chance of finally making the final after four semi-final losses at the All England club in the past five years, there was to be no pals act as
Henman put Llodra to the sword.
The gulf in experience told as the British number one established a stranglehold on the match by clinching the first two sets with near identical breaks in the tenth games before sweeping through the third.
Henman is determined to make the most of his chances this year after so many near misses as he chases a first men's crown for the host nation since Fred Perry won here in 1936.
Now he is down to the nitty gritty - and the pressure is on, although he is used to being the lone home survivor.
"I've never enjoyed the first round - I always found that one a difficult one to come through at any tournament - but the deeper you go into the event the tougher your opponents become," said the 29-year-old from Oxford, who says his approach to life as a whole has been changed by fatherhood.
"Perhaps becoming a dad kind of changes your perspective a little bit - but in no way changes my desire and determination to succeed," said Henman, whose wife Lucy gave birth to daughter Rose Elizabeth last autumn.
"When I'm out on the court I'll give everything I've got," said the Briton, who is still desperate to get out of his system his 2001 semifinal defeat by eventual champion Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia.
He lost that one after frittering away a host of chances as rain spread the match over three days.
"I look back at that match and reflect on it a lot. I ask myself should I have done anything differently. The answer is no.
"I felt I did deal with it as best I can but came off second best over the three days."
Henman, who said that would be on his guard against Soderling following the surprise defeat of top seed Lleyton Hewitt by another qualifier - Croatia's Ivo Karlovic - admitted he was saddened by Britain's continual failure to produce top players and hopes to have an impact by finally winning the title.
"We've got to break out of the rut we're in," he reflected, adding he may later play a role in fostering young talent.
Of more immediate interest is ending the eternal British trophy drought.
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