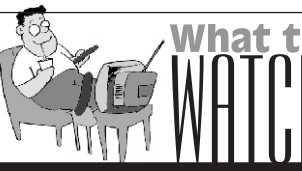




Did U Know?

The World Cup match between Scotland and the West Indies at Leicester on May 27, 1999 was the shortest completed match in limited-overs international cricket. The match lasted just three hours.



ESPN

Western Union World Football
Repeat at 10:00 am

Sportscentre Hindi

Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm

STAR Sports

Soccer Soap
Dream Team

Repeat at 8:30 am
West Indies vs Sri Lanka

First Test, Day Four
Taped Version at 3:00 pm

Sportsline Tonight

Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm

Soccer Soap
Dream Team

Taped Version at 10:00 pm



Roger Federer

(New Wimbledon champion)

"Martina Hingis is still very well liked...but of course there was a lot of jealousies because she was so young, so famous, so rich, so good...it's tough for Swiss people to accept that."



1. Who will lead the Australia bound Bangladesh cricket team?
Mashud Aminul Mahmud

2. How many ODI centuries has Brian Lara scored?
21 31 17

3. Who clinched the French Open men's title?
Hewitt Agassi Ferrero

4. Who became Dev Cup hockey champions?
Name
Class. Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)

Pepsi handball Jessore finish champions

SPORTS REPORTER

Jessore DSA emerged as champions in the Pepsi 16th National Women's Handball Championship beating Madaripur DSA 10-6 at the Narail Zilla Stadium yesterday.

The winners dominated the first half 5-2.

Both finalists qualified to play in the final round of the championship.

Tigers roar on Day 1

Cricket

CHIPS MACKINOLTY from Darwin

In a solid day of cricket on a very difficult wicket for bowlers and batsmen alike, Bangladesh yesterday dismissed the Northern Territory Chief Minister's XI for 189 on the second last ball of the day.

From a controversial start in which the first attempt at tossing the coin resulted in it landing on its side, Bangladesh played a tight game, showing the overwhelming importance of sharp fielding and good teamwork. It was a slow "two pace" pitch which will continue to worry batsmen as the game progresses, but which may not help bowlers either.

In the words of coach Dav Whatmore, the whole team played to its agreed strategy of keeping pressure on their opponents from the start, witnessed by an impressive start by the lunch break.

"You had to respect that first session with 3-42 off 31 overs. The intention was everyone had to work for the 10 wickets we had to get," he said. "Everyone kept the pressure on."

Bangladesh's fastest bowler Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza shone in his strong 15 over work out, capturing 3-28, including the key wicket of Northern Territory captain Michael Clarke who top scored at 79. Whatmore said he was "pleased with his work".

"He puts in the effort, and was running into the wind a good deal of the time, that's what he's there for, to give us the burst when we need it," he said.

Captain Khaled Mahmud bowled like a true captain, capturing 3-43 off 17.5 overs. He kept a tight line the score rate against him was low.

But the hero of the Bangladesh side was wicket keeper Khaled Mashud.

Mashud made an early impact in the game, catching local hero Nick Berry for six off Tapas Baisya. Berry, just off a double century in district cricket last week, was regarded as a real danger for Bangladesh.

He also went on to have Ken Skewes caught behind from Mahmud but his real triumph was his stumping of Darren Treumer off Ashraf. Treumer, Mashud's right handed counterpart as keeper, did not know what happened to him. It was late in the day, and Treumer had already hit the historic first six at Marrara Oval and threatened a big score with Clarke at the other end. But Mashud's concentration was paramount, taking the day's only stumping chance of the day as

casually as if it occurred in the first hour. According to Whatmore, Mashud is "at the top of his game at the moment".

The Bangladesh team won praise from Northern Territory Chief Minister's XI captain Michael Clarke, saying they "were very nice guys, and very competitive in the field".

"They bowled very well with a very consistent attack and they bowled to their strengths. The captain Mahmud was very hard to face."

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the first day of the four-day tour match between Northern Territory Chief Minister's (NTCM) XI and Bangladesh in Darwin on Thursday:

NTCM's XI	
Redpath lbw b Mahmud	24
Berry c Mashud b Baisya	6
Williams b Rafique	11
Clarke c Ashraf b Mashrafe	79
Vowles lbw b Monjurul	20
Skewes c Mashud b Mahmud	3
Treumer st Mashud b Ashraf	20
Hauritz not out	17
Dent c Omar b Mashrafe	1
Hatton lbw Mashrafe	1

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PHOTO: STEPHEN CHERRY

HOME AWAY FROM HOME: The Bangladesh flag flutters proudly at the Marrara Oval yesterday.

Rain spoils U-23 team's final game

SPORTS REPORTER

The last tour match of the visiting Bangladesh Under-23 team against the Sri Lankan Under-23 selection was washed out at the Rangiri Stadium in Dambulla yesterday.

The limited-overs match was called off without a ball being bowled. Although it was originally scheduled to be a two-day affair it was reduced to a one-day contest for the comfort of the tourist.

The Under-23 team had earlier confirmed a flight back home on Friday so the local organisers revised the schedule to arrange a limited-overs match.

The virtual second-string team went to the island nation on last June 18 to play a series of matches against different local selections. They are expected to return on Saturday.

The promising cricketers, led by Nafees Iqbal, had an unhappy start losing four of their five one-day matches. But they showed their mettle in the two-day matches.

BFF selects 18 for Qatar meet

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has called up 18 players to form a team to take part in an international five-a-side tournament in Qatar over August 1-8.

The players are Julfiqar Mahmud Mintoo, Mustafizur Rahman Munna, Amin Rana, Shamsher Alam and Bakhtiar Uddin Khan (Badda Jagarani), Tanveer (Arambagh), Titumir Chowdhury (Abahani), Mujibur Rahman Ritu and Mohammad Selim (Rahmatganj), Sourav Raju, Hanif Pradhan, Nurul Islam, Dulal Shah and Ashraf Kader Manju (Dhanmondi Club), Atiqul Islam and Khokon Das (Victoria), Jahangir Patuuri and Hasan Imam Rikta (Brothers Union).

The selected players have been requested to report to the Bangladesh Football Federation at 7:00 pm tomorrow.

StanChart chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Six players were sharing the lead in the Class Six to Ten Group with maximum 4 points each after the fourth round of the Standard Chartered Bank school chess tournament at the Bangladesh Chess Federation Auditorium yesterday.

Those who were on the top were Rahul Sangma (Bihar), Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar, Mahfuzur Rahman Shahin, Sandipan Chatterjee (Kolkata), Debanjan Das (Kolkata) and Uzzal Das Poddar.

Shamima Akter Liza, Anu Gupta (Kolkata) and Sharmin Sultana Shirin followed the leaders with 3.5 points each.

Meanwhile, Indronil of Kolkata and Sifat Hossain were dominating the points table with maximum 4 points each in the Classes One to Five group.

In the round, Rahul beat Shakib, Shahin beat Hasib, Sagar beat Raju, Sandipan beat Sabber, Uzzal beat Arifeen, Indronil beat Marjan and Sifat beat Sayed. Liza drew with Anu and Shirin drew with Payel.

The fifth round games will be held today at the same venue from 3:00 pm.

Juvenile soccer launched

BISHWAJIT KUMAR ROY

To inject some new life into the country's football, the Dhaka Metropolitan Inter-school Football Tournament was inaugurated yesterday at the Bangabandhu National Stadium with a huge enthusiasm.

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has belatedly launched the juvenile tournament to discover new talents at the tender age and popularise the game, which is in the doldrums.

The idea is very much like cricket's Nirman Schools Championship that ran successfully for over a decade.

But even made for the future footballers failed unfortunately to attract a sponsor though there was spontaneous response from over 60 Dhaka-based schools.

"We tried our best to arrange a sponsor for the tournament but couldn't because different companies offered very nominal sums," secretary of the school tournament committee Ashrafuddin Ahmed Chunnud told The Daily Star Sport.

The celebrated winger of the 80s, however, said that this time there is only one target to hold the tournament successfully so that sponsors come forward in future.

"The National Sports Council (NSC) generously paid us Tk 10 lakh to hold the tournament."

Though the BFF officials lamented the lack of response but some feel that the football authorities showed their reluctance to chase a sponsor after getting assurance from the NSC.

It was learnt that an insurance company offered more than Taka ten lakh to get the sponsorship but BFF was reportedly not willing to

accept anything less than the double the offered figure.

Disaster Management and Relief Minister Chowdhury Kamal

Yousuf inaugurated the 60-school meet where State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman has announced that the champions would be given Tk one lakh, Tk

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PHOTO: STAR

Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yousuf (c) releases balloons during the opening ceremony of the first-ever School Football Tournament at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Zulu won't be let off

Cricket

NEWS24, Pietermaritzburg

The United Cricket Board (UCB) of South Africa said on Wednesday it would "vigorously oppose" any legal action brought against it by discarded Natal all-rounder Lance Klusener.

Klusener, who has had a national contract since 1996, was not among the 19 players whose contracts were renewed in May and has not been part of the South African post-World Cup touring squads to Bangladesh nor England.

Although the 31-year-old says he is still committed to South African cricket, he regards the non-

renewal of his contract as an unfair blow to his career.

He is claiming the UCB dismissed him unfairly by giving him expectation of a new contract and then doing away with his services, and is demanding compensation.

Klusener will be represented at the Council for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) by the Pietermaritzburg firm of Shepstone and Wylie.

But the head of the UCB's legal and disciplinary committee, Brandon Foot, said on Wednesday that Klusener's "referral to the CCMA will be vigorously opposed, with particular reference to section 189 of the Labour Relations Act".

"The matter is very important and may set a precedent for not only

cricket, but for all sport in South Africa with reference to the application of our labour legislation, and particularly section 189," Foot



LANCE KLUSENER

added.

A leading labour lawyer who has been involved in sports contracts disputes before, said that on face value he felt Klusener was totally warranted in expecting compensation.

"Section 189 of the Labour Relations Act is totally irrelevant to Klusener's case because it has to do with the retrenchment of permanent employees.

"Klusener's complaint is that his contract was dropped after he was given almost certain expectation that it would be renewed.

"Given that he had been under contract for a long time, with several renewals, did well in the World Cup and, most importantly, was apparently told he was being rested which therefore means he was going to continue being employed, I believe the UCB's case is dead in the water."

NFL kicks off today

Football

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Mohammedan Sporting Club will launch their title defence of the Nitol-Tata National League at MA Aziz Stadium here today.

The black and whites will also be hoping for a repeat act of last season where they won all three major domestic titles.

Their first match is against Jamalpur Jagarani Club, who are making their first appearance in the ten-team final round of the prestigious competition.

The match will kick off at 4 pm with Bangladesh Television providing live coverage.

Mohammedan's arch-rivals and last year's runners-up Abahani Krira Chakra also reached the port city. They will play in the Group B opener against Bangladesh Army on Saturday.

Meanwhile, football fans in Chittagong though divided in loyalty towards the two popular

teams, are very focused on how their own boys perform under the banner Chittagong Mohammedan Sporting Club.

They will be hoping their team spirit will carry them into the super-six stage of the third National Football League.

"We want to emulate what Chittagong Abahani did last year and even try to go further," said a confident Syed Shahabuddin Shamim, general secretary of Chittagong MSC.

But to even achieve third place, the popular Chittagong club will have to overcome a tough draw.

"The draw held last week in Dhaka appears to be a tough one. We will have to battle against Dhaka giants Abahani, Muktiyoddha and Arambagh. Besides, there is Bangladesh Army," commented Ali Abbas, another team official.

Even though the general feeling is that Group B will be the competition's "death of group" yet Shamim was not overawed by the prospect.

"It doesn't matter how strong your opponents are. Rather, I

think, it will give an advantage to a team like ours which contains no foreign players."

"Our advantage is that we formed a team well before our rivals. And so we could prepare in advance."

On the other hand, long-serving coach Nazrul Islam was unhappy with the draw.

"We have to face three big Dhaka clubs and also take on the Army."

The burley coach believed his side's midfield and frontline were very strong.

"In midfield, we have promising players like Askar Babu and two national youth players Kaiser and Arman. They can provide depth."

"But we will be banking on former national striker Shahajuddin Tipu to get the goals."

Last month Mohammedan supporters rejoiced when they became zonal champions at the Noakhali stadium.

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PHOTO: STEPHEN CHERRY

TEAM SPIRIT: Bangladesh players huddle before the start of their four-day match in Darwin yesterday.

Ntini rocks Zimbabwe

Cricket

REUTERS, Southampton

South Africa strike bowler Makhaya Ntini took four wickets, including three with his first 10 balls, as Zimbabwe limped to 173 for eight in their NatWest one-day triangular series match on Thursday.

Ntini, moving the ball appreciably off the seam at a lively pace, removed Grant Flower (one), Travis Friend (four) and Tatenda Taibu for a golden duck to all but kill off the contest in the fourth over with Zimbabwe on 18 for three.

Their skipper Heath Streak, who opted to bat in blazing sunshine at the Rose Bowl, saved some face with 50 not out as he helped add 54 for the eighth wicket and 44 in an unbroken ninth-wicket stand.

But Zimbabwe, playing for pride after England and South Africa qualified for Saturday's final

at Lord's, looked second rate throughout.

The first wicket took the full story as Flower attempted to leave a wide delivery but failed. The ball nipped back and took an edge on the way into Mark Boucher's gloves.

Taibu's one-ball stay was as hapless. He also decided to offer no stroke and saw Ntini's delivery bite back into his unprotected stumps.

There was barely a shot to savour, although left-hander Sean Ervine did whip Shaun Pollock off his stumps through mid-wicket before driving Ntini off the back foot for four.

He was to be Ntini's fourth victim, prodding at a ball angled across him and walking when Pollock claimed a superb one-handed catch low to his right at third slip. Ntini finished with figures of four for 45.

The combative Andre Nel then dismissed the last two specialist batsmen, Steve Matsikenyeri and

Dion Ebrahim, to make it 74 for six after 21 overs.

Streak and Richard Sims, who made 24 before giving Pollock his one success, were left to limp along at two runs an over in search of respectability.

All-rounder Andy Blignaut, who arrived in England after the World Cup with much expected, put the seal on another wretched Zimbabwe performance by swinging wildly at Paul Adams's spin and being bowled for one.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Zimbabwe innings against South Africa in the NatWest one-day triangular series on Thursday:

ZIMBABWE	
Flower c Boucher b Ntini	1
Ebrahim c Boucher b Nel	27
Friend c van Jaarsveld b Ntini	4
Taibu b Ntini	0

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