

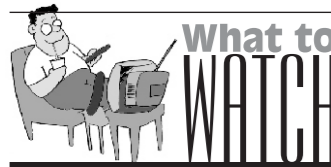


## Did U Know?

The earliest evidence of organized running dates back to 3800 B.C. in Memphis, Egypt. Ritual races around the town walls may have even pre-dated 4100 B.C. At this time races were also run between 2 pillars, normally 4 lengths.



**Javagal Srinath**  
(Former Indian paceman)  
"The need of the hour is to replace ignorant curators with knowledgeable ones. Otherwise, it could prove catastrophic for Test cricket." On groundsman in India.



**ESPN**  
Premier League highlights  
Taped at 7.30 pm  
**Sportscentre**  
Live at 8.30 pm  
Champions League Magazine show  
Repeat at 9 pm  
**STAR Sports**  
Sportsline  
Live 8 pm  
**English Premier League**  
Fulham v Portsmouth  
Live at 1.55 am (Wednesday)  
**TEN Sports**  
History of football  
At 3pm  
Wrestling  
Raw  
At 5.30 pm

**Star Whizz Kid COMPETITION 201**  
Tick the correct answers, post to  
**The Daily Star**  
Win attractive prizes  
Competition closes at 8 pm  
Dec 5, 2003 and draw

1. How many runs did Bangladesh score against England in the last ODI?  
143    190    182

2. Who is the International Cricket Council (ICC) president?  
Malcolm Speed    Ali Asghar    Ehsan Mani

3. Who became Asian Under-19 cricket champions?  
Pakistan    Bangladesh    India

4. Who clinched the women's title in the Asian Zonal Chess?

Name .....  
Class ..... Roll No. ....  
School Address .....  
Phone: (If any) .....

## BD A play PIA in opener



SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh A will take on Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) in their opening match of the Inter departmental cricket championship of Pakistan at the National Stadium in Karachi on December 1.

According to the fixture revealed by Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) yesterday, both teams will play a one-day match before a four-day first-class

affair.

The winners of the first-class competition will be awarded the Patron's Trophy while the one-day winners will receive the Patron's Cup.

The second string national team, which is scheduled to play eight first-class matches and well as one-dayers in the robin league format during its eight-week tour of Pakistan, will leave for Karachi on November 29.

Bangladesh face Allied Bank Limited in their next encounter at the same venue from December 7-11.

The PCB invited their Bangla-desh

counterparts to send the Bangladesh A to participate in the first-class meet. On the other hand, the other teams booked their places through a 27-team qualifying round that ended on Saturday.

A total of nine teams -- Bangladesh A, PIA, Pakistan Customs, Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA), Khan Research Labs (KRL), Agriculture Development Bank of Pakistan, Karachi Port Trust (KPT), Sui Gas Corporation of Pakistan and Allied Bank (ABL) -- will take part in the competition.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh A camp was closed after nets yesterday for Eid.

**BANGLADESH A TEAM:** Mushfiqur Rahman (captain), Hannan Sarkar, Moniruzzaman, Mazharul Haque, Rajin Saleh, Manjarul Islam, Jamaluddin, Anwar Hossain Munir, Mohammad Ashraf, Ehsanul Haque, Shahriar Hossain, Alamgir Kabir, Tareq Aziz Khan, Mohammad Salim (wicketkeeper) and Mosaddek Hossain.

Date	Match	Venue
01-05 Dec	Bangladesh A vs PIA	National Stadium Karachi
07-11 Dec	Bangladesh A vs ABL	National Stadium Karachi
14-18 Dec	Bangladesh A vs Customs	UBL Ground No.1 Karachi
21-25 Dec	Bangladesh A vs Wapda	UBL Ground No.1 Karachi
28 Dec-01 Jan	Bangladesh A vs Sui Gas	Quaid-e-Azam Park Karachi
04-08 Jan	Bangladesh A vs KPT	Quaid-e-Azam Park Karachi
11-15 Jan	Bangladesh A vs KRL	National Stadium Karachi
18-22 Jan	Bangladesh A vs ZTBL	National Stadium Karachi

## Windies defend ticket prices

BBC ONLINE, undated

The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) has defended ticket price increases for England supporters travelling to the Caribbean next March.

Prices have risen from 175 pounds per Test to 330 pounds for fans buying tickets in England and the WICB has also imposed a 160-pound levy on ticket sales.

"This arrangement is in keeping with standard commercial practice," said chief executive Roger Braithwaite.

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has criticised the decision.

Braithwaite's counterpart, Tim Lamb, described the levy as "inequitable, disproportionate and unjustifiable".

He said: "We are extremely unhappy about the situation, about

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## Yousuf full of hope



SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Under-20 football team coach vowed that his boys would qualify for the final round of the AFC Under-20 Tournament to be held in Malaysia next year.

Coach Abu Yousuf made the bold assertion because he believed his boys were more than ready to emerge as Group-5 champions beating Nepal and Pakistan early next month at home.

The matches will take place at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

Bangladesh open their campaign against Pakistan on December 1 and then end with a fixture against the Himalayan kingdom on December 5. Pakistan and Nepal will meet in another clash on December 3.

"We have taken adequate preparations for the last three months. My boys played as many as eight practice matches at home and abroad. So, now I think there exists a good bonding," said former national defender.

Although the under-20s went down by the odd goal in three, the youths were impressive against the national side in a practice match on Saturday.

Yousuf informed that he had worked very hard to raise the fitness and stamina levels of the players.

"For the last two months improving the fitness was my main concern. And I think I'm satisfied."

Reflecting on the strength of the opposition in the juvenile qualifying round, Yousuf was optimistic of doing well.

"We have always enjoyed good results against age-group opponents from South Asia. I expect the trend to continue here."

## Zimbabwe level in style



AFP, Bulawayo

Zimbabwe batsman Mark Vermeulen steered his shaky colleagues to victory in a runs-starved match at Queens Sports Club here Sunday to level the five-match one-day series against West Indies at 1-1.

Vermeulen stood firm against Vaseb Drakes, Ravi Rampaul and Corey Collymore while team-mates crumbled.

He scored a match-winning 66 not out, including 18 fours, which enabled a home team lacking in confidence to scrape past the West Indies total of only 125 after winning the toss.

Only Marlon Samuels contributed to that meagre total with an innings of any substance and he was undefeated on 36.

The remainder of a much-vaunted long batting lineup collapsed, much as they did in their second innings of the second Test here last week.

Wavell Hinds, Shivnarine Chanderpaul, Ramnaresh Sarwan and Ricky Powell all failed to get going. And the tail was left to its own devices.

Zimbabwe bowlers had a wonderful day. Andy Blignaut and Heath Streak made early breakthroughs. Ray Price took 2-16 in his 10 overs and Trevor Gripper took two maiden wickets in internationals.

It was a day of reversals. On Saturday, during the first one-day international, Vermeulen was out first ball. Chris Gayle struck a personal best 157 not out and Brian Lara went to 113 with his 18th ODI century. West Indies took 347-6 off a ragged Zimbabwe attack at almost seven an over.

In the second match Sunday, Vermeulen steered his side to victory with his stubborn though sometimes streaky half century. Gayle made only eight and Lara just two. And West Indies were struck out for only 125.

Zimbabwe lost Gripper in a bizarre run-out and Vusi Sibanda got a duck, causing West Indies to sense an unlikely win.

With the home side 8-2, later 31-3 when Craig Wishart fell to Collymore, another rout, not to mention a West Indies victory seemed just possible, especially when Stuart Matsikenyeri managed only three runs.

Vermeulen watched all this happening from the other end.

But the arrival of Streak gave direction to Zimbabwe. These two

Sarwan run out (Blignaut)	13
Chanderpaul c Streak b Brent Samuels not out	20
Powell c Taibu b Price	36
Baugh b Gripper	6
Drakes c and b Gripper	2
Rampaul c Wishart b Price	2
Collymore b Streak	1
Extras: (lb-5, w-11)	16
Total: (All out in 42.3 overs)	125
Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-26, 3-41, 4-71, 5-71, 6-85, 7-91, 8-97, 9-110	
<b>Bowler</b>	<b>O</b> <b>M</b> <b>R</b> <b>W</b>
Streak	6.3 1 18 1
Blignaut	7 0 27 2
Brent	8 1 18 1
Ervine	5 0 13 1
Price	10 2 16 2

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HERO YESTERDAY, VILLAIN TODAY: West Indies opener Chris Gayle walks back to the dressing room after being dismissed cheaply against Zimbabwe in the second one-day international in Bulawayo yesterday.



RUGBY PREVAILS: England all-rounder Andrew Flintoff plays rugby after the third and final one-day international against Sri Lanka was rained off in Colombo yesterday.

## Washout again as Sri Lanka win series

AFP, Colombo

The third and final one-day cricket international between England and Sri Lanka was washed out without a ball being bowled at the Premadasa Stadium here on Sunday.

Sri Lanka clinched the three-match series 1-0 following their 10-wicket victory in the opening match at Dambulla. The second match at the same venue here was also rained off on Friday.

Groundsmen at the stadium worked hard for two days and when things looked bright for a timely start on Sunday, rains came down just 10 minutes before the scheduled start.

The tourists, who were bowled out for 88 in the first one-dayer, will now play a three-Test series starting at Galle from December 2.

England play a three-day practice game against a Sri Lanka-A team here on Wednesday before the Test series.

## Tajiks come here today

SPORTS REPORTER

Tajikistan will arrive in Bangladesh today to play their World Cup qualifying away match against hosts on November 26 at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur.

But the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) was yet to know the official list of players and officials.

"We have sent several messages to ascertain the names of the contingent but still there is no response," said BFF general secretary Anwarul Haq Helal last night adding that he only knew the team would be coming from Bangkok.

Bangladesh play the return leg on November 30 in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan.

## Beckham hails rugby heroes

AFP, London

England captain David Beckham on Saturday paid tribute to the World Cup-winning England rugby team, and in particular Jonny Wilkinson for his game-winning drop goal that handed England a 20-17 victory.

The Real Madrid star did not see the game because he was at training but heard the crowd cheer - thanks to a little technological help from a friend who was at the Olympic Stadium in Sydney.

Beckham said: "Congratulations go to the whole team on behalf of the England football team."

"It was a very proud day for England. I said during the week that I felt that England would win and Jonny really deserves what happened today."

"I did not get to see the game because I was in training this morning but I had a friend at the game who called and so I heard the crowd cheer when they lifted the cup."

## Marvan feels confident Michael slams tour schedule



REUTERS/AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka captain Marvan Atapattu believes his team's rain-ruined one-day series victory over England will boost their confidence for next month's Test series.

Sri Lanka won the series 1-0 after a crushing 10-wicket victory in the first game followed by washouts in Colombo on Friday and Sunday.

The prospects of play had looked good on Sunday morning after a largely dry weekend but a torrential tropical storm minutes before the scheduled toss left large swathes of a muddy outfield under water.

"It was obviously disappointing as we were here to play cricket and there is nothing worse for a cricketer than staying in the dressing room," Atapattu told reporters.

"Whether we like it or not, however, we will just have to be satisfied with our victory in Dambulla we played really well there and deserve the trophy for that."

"The 1-0 win will be a good morale

booster before the forthcoming Test series."

Atapattu hoped his team would continue the good work in the Tests.

"We had done our homework and were really looking forward to the one-dayers. We will now have to wait for the Tests," said Atapattu.

England's one-day defeat was their first since Michael Vaughan took over the captaincy from Nasser Hussain after the World Cup.

"We didn't play well in the opening match and we were looking forward to testing our young players in tough conditions here in Colombo," Vaughan told reporters.

"It was very disappointing that we didn't get a chance to come back in the series and that the players didn't get useful exposure against a very good team," he added.

"It has been really disappointing but the rain was too heavy and the conditions were not up to international standards," said Vaughan.

England are due to play a three-day match against a Sri Lanka Board President's XI starting on Wednesday before the first Test in Galle begins on

December 2.

"We now have to hope that the weather is good for the next week and that we get in a good week's preparation before the first Test," said Vaughan.

BBC Online adds, Vaughan has criticised the scheduling of the Sri Lanka tour after Friday's day-night match was abandoned because of rain.

Vaughan said: "The two boards and the international schedule brought us out to Sri Lanka in monsoon season."

"Maybe you shouldn't be sent to places where it is due to rain at certain times of the day."

A number of depressions have swung in from the Indian Ocean, ruining England's first week on the island.

On a rare dry day, they were thrashed by Sri Lanka on Tuesday in Dambulla.

Vaughan added: "You are always going to struggle with the amount of rain we have had here."

"Sri Lanka is a great tour, it is just disappointing the weather is spoiling it. The locals keep telling me it will improve and I hope it does so pretty quickly."

Previous England tours have taken place post-Christmas when conditions can be insufferably hot but are generally rain-free.

## Watch out for Latvia

AFP, Riga

Latvia coach Aleksandrs Starkovs described his team's shock win over Turkey in the Euro 2004 play-offs as a sensation, and warned that Latvia would again make their presence felt in the finals next year.

"This was a tremendous achievement for Latvia soccer. It was a sensation not only in Europe. In particular, it was a celebratory moment for our country," Starkovs told AFP Friday.

Latvia came from behind to draw 2-2 with favourites Turkey on Wednesday in Istanbul in the second leg play-off.

"That was enough to ensure their place in Portugal after they had taken the first leg 1-0, going through 3-2 on aggregate, with Starkovs enthusiastic about the task facing them."

"We aspire for new achievements. We have nothing to lose. All teams in Portugal will be favourites. But we recently faced this situation in matches against Sweden and Turkey and we were able to win them."

"The Euro championships will offer another chance to make little known Latvians name heard around the world."

Reflecting on his side's heroics against the Turks he said: "It was a sensation, and a celebratory moment for our country."

"I am so happy that my team were able to beat Turkey in their own stadium. Our tactical plan with fast

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