



Did U Know?

George Foreman was so disgusted with his loss against Muhammad Ali in the "Rumble in the Jungle" in Zaire in 1974 that a few months later he took on five opponents in one day and knocked them all out!



What to Watch

ESPN
English Premier League
Arsenal vs Fulham
Repeat at 3:30 pm
Chelsea vs Man United
Repeat at 5:30 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
STAR Sports
Primera Liga
Deportivo vs Villareal
Repeat at 10:30 am
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm



Talk Turkey



Steve Waugh
(Australian Test captain)
"I want to leave the game on a high and I feel the time is right now."

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)			

Reid will coach Indian pacers

REUTERS, New Delhi
Former Australian fast bowler Bruce Reid will coach India's bowlers during their four-Test series in Australia starting on Thursday.
The Indian cricket board on Sunday approved a request by the team management in Australia to hire Reid after their raw pace attack was pounded in both their warm-up games.
"Three of our fast bowlers are left-armers so we felt Reid can help them out," Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) president Jagmohan Dalmiya told reporters.
The 40-year-old Reid was a left-arter, as are India's Ashish Nehra, Zaheer Khan and the uncapped Irfan Pathan. Only Ajit Agarkar among their five pacers has played Tests in Australia.

U-20s set for Pak test

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Hosts Bangladesh take on Pakistan in the inaugural match of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Under-20 Championship Group 5 qualifying round at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur today evening.

The match will start at 5pm. Nepal, the other country in the three-nation group, will start their campaign also against Pakistan on December 3 before they meet Bangladesh in the last match of the robin-league meet on December 5.

The winners of this round will secure a berth in the 16-nation final round that will be held in Malaysia in September next year. Bangladesh team management yesterday expressed their positive hopes for the qualifying round prior to their first match.

Speaking at a media briefing at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the afternoon, Bangladesh under-20 coach Abu Yousuf said that his team had been preparing for the tournament for nearly four months only to win it and play in the final round in Malaysia next year.

"You see, every team prepares for winning and we also did the same. We had some problem up front. Our strikers were not clicking and that's why we included two new forwards in the squad about a month ago. At the moment they look impressive," said Yousuf.

The former national defender said that his team's 2-1 loss to Bangladesh World Cup squad last week in a practice match was very encouraging.

"Initially we took part in the Tata Cup in India in September. But our performance there was not good because we were in the conditioning stage at the time. But then we reached the final of the Zia

Smriti Football Tournament in October and lost to Badda Jagaran through the breaker and that too is encouraging," said Yousuf adding that his team's performance in the recently concluded Federation Cup was also satisfactory.

Team manager Abdus Salam Murshedi informed that the team was provided with best possible facilities during their camp at the BKSP and believed the boys would do well in the qualifiers.

However, like Bangladesh the boys from Pakistan also expected to win today.

Coach Mohammad Siddique Sheikh said that he could not prepare his team according to his plan because of Ramadan. But he said that his team would fight against Bangladesh for full points today.

On the other hand, Nepal coach Ashoke Babu said his players were suffering from altitude sickness because the difference of sea level

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Bangladesh under-20 football team coach Abu Yousuf (R) speaks to reporters at a press conference at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. To his right is team manager Abdus Salam Murshedi.

Omar going on Bangkok medical trip

SPORTS REPORTER

Opening batsman Javed Omar Belim will fly to Bangkok within a week to undergo treatment on a troublesome shoulder.

Member-secretary of the cricket committee of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Asif Ali Khan yesterday said that the player, who had been complaining a long time of pain in the right shoulder, was advised by Bangladesh team physio John Gloster to go to the Thai capital.

"Everything has almost been finalized for Omar's medical trip to Bangkok," said the BCB official.

He also disclosed it was no longer necessary to send middle-order batsman Alok Kapali aboard.

"Two MRI tests were done and it was found that Kapali's shoulder injury wasn't as serious as earlier feared. Gloster suggested that he

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Javed wants second win

Cricket

AFP, Lahore

Pakistan coach Javed Miandad said his side will play for a second straight win against New Zealand in their one-day match on Monday to put them in the same group as arch-rival India in a major tournament next year.

A win in the second match will lift Pakistan to number three in the world rankings ahead of the naming of groups for the biennial International Cricket Council (ICC) event to be held in England in September 2004.

The ICC is due to announce the seedings for the 12-team event after the second match of the five match series against New Zealand. Pakistan leads 1-0 following their thrilling three-wicket win in Lahore on Saturday.

"I am proud the way my team played, what else can a coach ask from his boys other than a win and my team is not wary of India or Australia," said Miandad.

"If my players play to their potential they can beat any side in the world," said Miandad.

If Pakistan loses to New Zealand on Monday, it will fall to fourth and will play England and Zimbabwe (9th) in group matches in the ICC event.

"I have never felt so proud of my team than after chasing 292 in the first match against New Zealand and I feel the team is gelling well," he said.

Captain Chris Cairns hit an unbeaten 84 for the novice New Zealand side, in which six players were making their debuts. They scored an impressive 291-5 and were sensing a win until Abdul Razaq's 47 blasted off just 22 balls dashed the tourists' hopes.

Cairns, named captain for the Pakistan series after regular skipper Stephen Fleming was ruled out of the tour due to an abdominal injury, said he was happy the way his young side played.

"I'm still extremely proud of the way the guys played. While we can be disappointed with the loss, it has to be put in perspective," said the 33-year-old all-rounder.

"I don't think I've ever played first-class cricket with six debutants and for four-fifths of the game, we were pretty much on top and we got it whipped away from

us at the end."

New Zealand had caught Pakistan on the back foot and at 227-7 in the 44th over the home team needed 65 off 39 balls.

But Razaq and Mohammad Sami hit the required runs off just 27 balls to expose the Black Caps' inexperience.

The tourists threw all the youngsters into the first match and for Monday's game can pick its strongest team. Dary Tuffey and all-rounder Chris Harris, who rested on Saturday, are expected back on the team for Monday's encounter.

TEAMS

NEW ZEALAND (from): Chris Cairns (captain), Tama Canning, Craig Cumming, Chris Harris, Paul Hitchcock, Richard Jones, Hamish Marshall, Brendon McCullum, Jacob Oram, Mathew Sinclair, Daryl Tuffey, Daniel Vettori, Matthew Walker, Kerry Walmsley, Michael Mason.

PAKISTAN (from): Inzamamul Haq (captain), Imran Farhat, Saleem Elahi, Yasir Hameed, Yousuf Youhana, Shoaib Malik, Abdul Razaq, Azhar Mahmood, Moin Khan, Danish Kaneria, Shabbir Ahmed, Mohammad Sami, Shoaib Akhtar, Misbahul Haq, Umer Gul.

Again 2-0 loss to Tajikistan

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh went down to an identical 2-0 loss against Tajikistan in their away match of the World Cup 2006 pre-qualifying round engagement in Dushanbe yesterday.

According to a telephone message received here in the evening, Bangladesh conceded one goal in each half.

With that defeat, Bangladesh, who lost their home match on November 26, bowed out of the World Cup.

On the other hand, Tajikistan will now play in the main draw of the Asian qualifying round for the World Cup 2006 to be held in Germany.

Australia, India & Pakistan to play tri-series in Europe

REUTERS, New Delhi

World champions Australia, India and Pakistan will play a one-day tri-series in a European venue before next year's ICC Champions Trophy in England, the Indian board said on Sunday. Possible choices include Scotland or the Netherlands.

Board of Control for Cricket in India president Jagmohan Dalmiya said the dates and venue would be announced later.

However, after the tournament, India would then play three one-dayers against hosts England before entering the 15-match Champions Trophy, to be held from September 10 to 25.

India have played Pakistan only in the World Cup in the last three years due to a government ban in 2000 on bilateral cricket owing to political tensions between the two countries.

The ban was lifted recently following a thaw in relations. The Indian team is scheduled to travel to Pakistan next March for its first full tour in 14 years.

The Champions Trophy will be contested by the 10 Test-playing nations plus Kenya and the winner of the ICC Six Nations Challenge in the United Arab Emirates next March when two of the six teams will be Scotland and the Netherlands.

NZ-Pak tie black-out Minister steps in to end row

AFP, Lahore

Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Sunday summoned top cricket and television officials to end a major row which deprived millions of fans of live coverage of the one-day match between Pakistan and New Zealand, officials said.

The meeting is being attended by President Pervez Musharraf's close aide Lieutenant General Hamid Javed, Pakistan Cricket Board chairman Tauqir Zia, state-run Pakistan Television (PTV) and the Dubai based private Pakistani channel GEO, and senior information ministry officials.

A row between PTV and GEO caused a blackout of Saturday's nailbiter, which the home team won by three wickets.

This was the first time since 1967 that a home match was not aired.

The minister called the meeting after both GEO and PTV blamed each other for the failure to broadcast the match.

The second match is to be played in Lahore on Monday.

A team's opener Dec 14

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh A team will take on DHA in their opening encounter of the inter-departmental cricket championship (Patron's Trophy and Patron's Cup) at the National Stadium in Karachi from December 14 to 18.

According to the revised schedule both teams will play a one-day match on the opening day before turning their attention to the 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.

Originally pencilled as a nine-team competition, the organisers bowed to pressure from leading Pakistani teams, who complained that the qualification process was unfair, and added four more sides.

As per new decision 13 teams have been divided into two groups where Bangladesh A have been drafted in Group A along with Pakistan International Airlines, Customs, DHA, WAPDA, Khan

Research Laboratories (KRL), Pakistan Tele Communication Limited (PTCL) while the other group includes ZTBL, KPT, NBP, Sui Gas, ABL and HBL.

The group winners will play in the final over January 26-30.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh A skipper Mushfiqur Rahman expressed his disappointment over the new fixtures. "The new fixtures see us playing six matches instead of eight."

The all-rounder was however delighted for their delayed departure. "We wanted to play more matches there, but now the delay has helped us to prepare better which is good."

The A team was due to fly to Karachi on November 29 but will

leave on December 10 instead. The fixing of the fixtures has caused the delay.

Seven members of the team Mushfiq, Hannan Sarker, Moniruzzaman, Rajin Saleh, Manjarul Islam, Jamaluddin and Anwar Hossain Munir are expected to return home after playing three matches to join the national team camp for the tour of Zimbabwe.

In another development Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) selector Athar Ali will accompany the team in the first phase as a manager instead of Golam Nawshar Prince. Later chief selector Faruque Ahmed will take over in the second leg.

It was learnt that Prince

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REVISED FIXTURES

Date	Match	Venue
Dec 14-18	Bangladesh Av DHA	National Stadium Karachi
Dec 21-25	Bangladesh Av PTCL	National Stadium Karachi
Dec 28-Jan 1	Bangladesh Av WAPDA	UBL Ground No.1 Karachi
Jan 4-8	Bangladesh Av PIA	Quaid-e-Azam Park Karachi
Jan 11-15	Bangladesh Av Customs	National Stadium Karachi
Jan 18-22	Bangladesh Av KRL	UBL Ground No.1 Karachi

Gayle gives WI the series

Cricket

REUTERS, Harare

A brilliant all-round performance by Chris Gayle guided the West Indies to a series-clinching eight-wicket win over Zimbabwe in the fifth one-day international on Sunday.

Off-spinner Gayle claimed four for 24 and then scored 112 not out, his second century of the series, to play the major role in a win that earned the West Indies a 3-2 victory in the five-match series.

Zimbabwe, who won the toss and chose to bat, squandered a solid platform to be dismissed for 196 in 47.5 overs.

The West Indies replied with

197 for two in 25.4 overs to win with 24.2 overs to spare.

The series had stood at 2-2 after West Indies levelled matters with a 72-run victory on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the fifth one-day international between Zimbabwe and the West Indies in Harare on Sunday:

ZIMBABWE
Sibanda run out (Powell) 8
Rogers c Jacobs b Dillon 34
Vermeulen c Powell b Gayle 36
Wishart c Jacobs b Gayle 16
Maregwede c Powell b Gayle 0
Streak c Lara b Edwards 30
Taibu c Sarwan b Powell 14
Ervine c Powell b Gayle 10
Blignaut st Jacobs b Powell 10
Brent not out 10
Price lbw b Edwards 3
Extras: (b-1b-5, w-19) 25
Total: (All out in 47.5 overs) 196
Fall of wickets: 1-39, 2-57, 3-107, 4-109, 5-111, 6-141, 7-157, 8-179, 9-179

Bowler O M R W
Dillon 8 1 35 1
Edwards 8.5 0 60 2
Rampaul 6 2 17 0
Collimore 8 1 22 0
Gayle 10 1 24 4
Powell 7 0 32 2

WEST INDIES
Hinds c Price b Blignaut 13
Gayle not out 112
Lara b Ervine 41
Powell not out 12
Extras: (b-4, lb-3, w-12) 19
Total: (For 2 wickets in 25.4 overs) 197
Fall of wickets: 1-43, 2-180.
Did not bat: Sarwan, Chanderpaul,

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West Indies opener Chris Gayle, who was adjudged both man-of-the-match and man-of-the-series, is in flow while batting against Zimbabwe at Harare yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

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Murali not the only worry

Cricket

AFP, Galle

England have more than just spin wizard Muralitharan to contend with in the Test cricket series against Sri Lanka which starts here on Tuesday.

Off-spinner Muralitharan may be the biggest stumbling block in England's quest for a third straight Test series win over the former one-day world champions, but they have also to settle down as a combination.

England have not had sufficient match practice and go into the opening Test of the three-match series here with a depleted bowling attack.

"It's a pity we could not get a full match (due to rain), but we still managed some valuable practice," said England all-rounder Andrew Flintoff.

"We've been training hard and

hope to make up for the lost time with more sessions at the nets."

Michael Vaughan's Englishmen have been in the sub-continent for over six weeks, but have yet to find



MUTTIAH MURALITHARAN

their rhythm.

England had blanked

Bangladesh in two Tests and three one-dayers before arriving in Sri Lanka.

In Sri Lanka, the tourists were shot out for 88 before losing the first one-dayer at Dambulla and then rain washed out the remaining two matches at Colombo to ruin their chances of bouncing back into the series.

Worse, England were also plagued with injuries to their key bowlers.

Fast bowler Stephen Harmison (back) was ruled out of the series, while James Anderson (ankle) remains doubtful for the first Test as England struggle to recreate the magic that helped them win the last series here in 2001.

The tourists had then found a hero in left-handed batsman Graham Thorpe, who scored 269 runs in the series to help Nasser Hussain's team beat Sri Lanka 2-1.

England won 2-0 at home last year in their only other Test series

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