



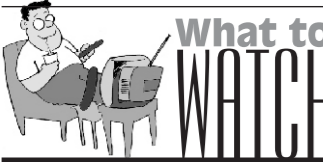
Did U Know?

The word 'Checkmate' in chess comes from the Persian phrase 'Shah mat', which means 'the king is dead.'



Brian Lara

(West Indies cricket captain)
"My main goal is to see this young team develop into a competitive one against the best in the world."
After becoming the highest run-getter in Test cricket for the West Indies.



- ### TEN Sports
- Sri Lanka vs England First Test, Day One Live at 10:00 am
 - ESPN
 - Western Union World Football Repeat at 3:00 pm
 - Football Focus Live at 6:30 pm
 - Sportscentre Hindi Sport News Live at 8:30 pm
 - STAR Sports Sportsline Tonight Sport News Live at 8:30 pm
 - UEFA Champions League Galatasaray vs Juventus Live at 1:30 am (Wednesday)

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.

- How many runs did Bangladesh score against England in the last ODI?
143 190 182
- Who is the International Cricket Council (ICC) president?
Malcolm Speed Ali Asghar Ehsan Mani
- Who became Asian Under-19 cricket champions?
Pakistan Bangladesh India
- Who clinched the women's title in the Asian Zonal Chess?
Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)

James staying back in Lanka

REUTERS/AFP, Galle
England fast bowler James Anderson will remain in Sri Lanka after his injured ankle showed signs of improvement during a workout on Monday.
Anderson had been given until Tuesday, the first day of the first Test, to convince the team management that he was on the road to recovery.
Coach Duncan Fletcher was confident that the bowler would be ready for the third and final Test.
"Jimmy made a big improvement today," said Fletcher, adding he even had a "60-40 chance" of making the second test, starting on December 10.

Ridon sets the rhythm

Bangladesh beat Pakistan 1-0

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

A second half goal by Akbar Hossain Ridon gave Bangladesh an uncomfortable 1-0 victory over Pakistan in the inaugural match of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Under-20 Championship Group Five qualifying round at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

The 19-year-old striker from Noakhali saved the blushes of the home side when he let loose a fierce grounder past Pakistan custodian Zulfiqar in the 62nd minute of the entertaining encounter.

Picked in the side only a month ago Ridon justified coach Abu Yusuf's faith in him with a dream run down the right flank. After receiving a pass from midfielder Maruf just outside the box Ridon dodged past two Pakistani defenders before finding the target with a sublime shot.

His one-off brilliance in an otherwise tense affair gave the hosts a winning start in the three-

nation qualifiers that also involves Nepal, who will play Pakistan at the same venue tomorrow.

Although Bangladesh won the match by the barest margin, the first fifteen minutes gave an indication of how tough Pakistan would prove to be as an opponent.

Instead of being pushovers the visitors assumed the role of raiders against a panic-stricken home side. More known for their defensive qualities the Pakistanis pinned the home side against the wall with waves of attack winning as many as five corners.

But the home boys drew inspiration from their coach, who himself was a great defender, to survive the early onslaught.

Pakistan should have taken the lead in the fourth minute when Waqas sent a teasing cross to an unmarked Saleem, but the tall midfielder wasted the opportunity sending his header over the cross-piece.

After surviving the initial storm Bangladesh gradually took control of the game and set up their only scoring chance of the first half with Ridon in the thick of things.

A good striker in the making

Ridon drove the ball in the direction of the far post but only to be denied by Zulfiqar, who made a full-stretch fingertip save for a corner.

Bangladesh came out all guns blazing after the break but could not find a way through a dogged Pakistan defense until Ridon served the decisive blow.

It could have been a double delight for Ridon had he not rushed his shot, which went straight into the safe hands of Zulfiqar in 70th minute. Besides, a minute later substitute Sujon fired a right-footer from a vantage position that sailed over the cross bar.

In the dying minutes of the game Pakistan could have earned a share of the points if striker Rafique had not been thwarted by Bangladesh goalkeeper Piru in a one-on-one situation.

"Pakistan played a defensive game. That's why we could not create many scoring chances. Moreover my team looked totally lost in the first 15 minutes. Considering that, I think 1-0 margin was fair enough," a happy Yusuf said after the match.

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Bangladesh's Parvez Chowdhary (R) and Muhammad Saleem of Pakistan are in pursuit of the ball during their AFC Under-20 Championship Group 5 qualifier at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Barmy Army invade Galle

AFP, Galle

The southern Sri Lankan town of Galle is seeing a flood of tourists like never before as English fans converge here for the first Test starting on Tuesday.

An estimated 6,000 fans from the England team, many belonging to the famous Barmy Army group of travelling supporters, have come calling on this town which boasts a 200-year-old Dutch fort but not many hotel rooms.

"It has never been like this. As it is there has been a surge in tourism and now comes this Test series," said a local tour operator who was clearly struggling to cope with the situation.

"Hotels are requesting operators not to take any more bookings. In fact, many of the hotels are overbooked and so are the smaller guesthouses in and around town.

"We're diverting non-English tourists to other places," said the travel operator, who has been forced to change travel plans of many groups.

English fans, who could not get a room in Galle, are checking in at hotels in other nearby towns like Kalutra and Hikkaduwa from where they plan to commute daily to watch the cricket.

The Barmy Army is synonymous with English cricket fans travelling overseas to support their team.

ICC Champions Trophy Bangladesh in Group 4

AFP, London

Pakistan and India were drawn in the same group alongside Kenya on Monday for the International Cricket Council's 12-team Champions Trophy to be held in England in September 2004.

Pakistan avoided a match-up with the hosts thanks to their victory over New Zealand on Monday which meant they retained third spot in the official ICC One-Day International (ODI) table. Defeat against New Zealand would have seen Pakistan drop to fourth place.

For the first time in the tournament's history, the seedings for the competition are based on the official ODI ratings with the cut-off date set for Monday.

The new rule means that fifth-placed England will have an opportunity to avenge the recent ODI defeat to Sri Lanka, who are fourth, and will also meet ninth-placed Zimbabwe for the second time in succession in the tournament.

Also facing a rematch will be top seeds Australia, drawn with New Zealand as they were in the 2002 tournament. The third team in their group will be the winners of the forthcoming ICC Six Nations Challenge in the United Arab Emirates in February and March next year.

The fourth group will pit second seeds South Africa against West Indies and Bangladesh.

Matches in the ICC Champions Trophy 2004 will be played at The Oval, Edgbaston and Hampshire's Rose Bowl in England from 10 to 25 September.

The winners of each group will progress to straight knock-out semifinals and a final. All matches in the tournament will have a reserve day to allow the games to be completed in the event of bad weather.

GROUPINGS

- Pool 1: Australia, New Zealand, Qualifier
- Pool 2: South Africa, West Indies, Bangladesh
- Pool 3: Pakistan, India, Kenya
- Pool 4: England, Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka

Div I chess from Dec 7

SPORTS REPORTER

The First Division Chess League will begin at the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) auditorium on December 7.

A total of 16 teams including defending champions Bangladesh Biman will compete in the league.

The other teams are Bangladesh Ansars, Titas Club, Kamalapur SKKS, Leonine Chess Club, Mohakhali Prodig Sangha, Sonali Bank, Destiny 2000 Limited, Narayanganj City Club, Amushilon Daba Kira Chakra, Monipur Chess Club, Dhaka University, Nakhlapara Jubo Kanlyan Sangha, Farashganj SC, Rajshahi Daba Unnayan Sangstha and Fighter Kriya Chakra.

The teams have been asked to complete entry formalities by December 3.



PHOTO: STAR

GET FREE IF YOU CAN: Bangladesh A cricket team members having some physical training at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

A team camp restarts

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The camp for Pakistan-bound Bangladesh A team resumed at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday after a week-long break for Eid.

While the cricketers are back in business the ground staff were still in a holiday mood, leaving the wicket not ready for practice. The players without any net session could only focus on stretching, running and fielding during a two-hour session conducted by national coach Dav Whatmore.

All the Pakistan-bound first batch players except leg-spinner Mosaddeq Hossain joined the camp. Besides, country's top batsman Habibul Bashar, wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud, Alok Kapali, right-arm pacesman Tapas Baishya and left-arm spinner Mohammed Rafique also took part

in training though the senior payers were given rest by the selectors after a hectic six months of international commitments.

Bangladesh played non-stop cricket since the tour to Australia in June that ended with the home sides against England last month.

The Tigers' next assignment is the tour to Zimbabwe in February next year.

Although the second visit to the southern African nation is two months away the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is using the A team's visit to Pakistan as part of the senior team's tour of Zimbabwe.

All-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman, who was the only consistent performer against England, will lead the second string national side to the first-class competition in Pakistan.

The team will leave for Karachi on December 10 to play in the inter-departmental cricket cham-

ionship (Patron's trophy and cup).

During their nearly two-month tour, the A made up of mainly Test and one-day under performers against England will play six matches against various Pakistan sides.

Mushfiq apart another six national cricketers Hannan Sarker, Rajin Saleh, Moniruzzaman, Manjarul Islam, Jamaluddin and Anwar Hossain Munir will feature in the first three games before returning home to join the national camp.

Whatmore was supposed to accompany the team to Pakistan. But the Sri Lankan-born Australian has decided to skip the task and spend the Christmas in Colombo with his family. He will return to Dhaka on January 3.

There was also a last minute change in the officials going with t h e

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First Test from today

Cricket

BBC ONLINE/REUTERS, Galle

England play the first Test against Sri Lanka on Tuesday with monsoons still dogging their preparations.

With heavy afternoon showers falling almost every day, the outfield is muddy and needs to dry out. When play does start, the tourists are expected to encounter a surface entirely unsuited to their squad.

Galle is a spinner's delight and the world's best slow bowler, Muttiah Muralitharan, is on the other side. The wicket has been kept dry.

Sri Lanka will have up to four other spinning options to complement Murali while England will have two specialist spinners plus captain Michael Vaughan.

England coach Duncan Fletcher said: "It's a normal Galle wicket. It's really made for the spinners and it's pretty similar to what we had last time."

"The first day it was pretty flat and it started to go on the second, third and fourth days."



HASHAN TILLAKARATNE

Vaughan added: "The weather and the rain has just kept coming and the outfield is just that little bit



MICHAEL VAUGHAN

PCB boss steps down

Cricket

AFP, Lahore

The chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) resigned Monday, two days after a television fiasco deprived millions of fans of live coverage of the Pakistan-New Zealand one-day match.

"Yes, I have resigned from my post because four years is a long period for which I was in charge. I have other things to do in my life," Zia told reporters at Gaddafi Stadium here.

"The resignation has been accepted by President Pervez Musharraf," Zia said.

Musharraf, who is patron of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has yet to announce Zia's replacement.

Zia awarded television coverage rights to Dubai-based private channel GEO and ignored the state-owned Pakistan Television (PTV). The move triggered a row between the two channels which resulted in the first one-day match on Saturday not being broadcast live.

President Musharraf intervened in the stand-off and it was resolved on Sunday.

Zia stressed he was not forced to resign but many believe that the television fiasco was a factor, as

well as the controversial inclusion of his son Junaid Zia in the national team earlier.

He took over on December 12, 1999, two months after his close friend Musharraf overthrew former prime minister Nawaz Sharif in a bloodless military coup.

Zia, who claims credit for setting up a multi-purpose national cricket academy on the pattern of the famous academy in Australia, is also known for making heavy investments on the infrastructure

Junaid was later appointed captain of the team for Emerging Nations Cup in Sri Lanka the same month, but the decision was reversed amid severe media criticism.

Junaid was also picked in the 15-man squad for the current series against New Zealand but the selection once again sparked media criticism which forced the selectors to withdraw him on the pretext he was due to sit an examination.

General Zia first tendered his resignation after Pakistan was shot out for their lowest totals of 59 and 53 in their series against Australia in Sharjah in October last year.

However, President Musharraf rejected the resignation and directed Zia to continue.

Local media also lashed out at Zia.

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Sami blows Kiwis away

Cricket

AFP, Lahore

New Zealand lost their last six wickets for just two runs as they

were skittled out for 157 in 38.5 overs to lose the second day-night limited-overs match against Pakistan here on Monday.

Pakistani spearhead bowler Mohammad Sami took five wickets in just 11 deliveries to record a career-best 5-10 as New Zealand

collapsed at the Gaddafi Stadium, leaving the home side 2-0 up in the five-match series.

Chasing Pakistan's 281-6, Richard Jones' 63 was the only batting highlight for the tourists, for whom the 36th over was one to forget.

The 22-year-old Sami bowled Jacob Oram with the first delivery of the over for 14 and then had debutant Tama Canning with the second ball to leave the visitors at 155-7.

Daniel Vettori averted a hat-trick but edged the fifth ball to gully, where Imran Farhat took a brilliant catch, before Sami bowled Paul Hitchcock with the sixth ball.

Sami bowled Brendon McCullum for nought to seal the win after New Zealand had lost their last seven wickets for 38 runs.

As a result of the victory, Pakistan jumped to third in the International Cricket Council seedings for next September's Champions Trophy in England and will face India and Kenya in the first round.

The defeat put New Zealand with world champions Australia and a qualifier in the Trophy's final groupings, which will be announced later Monday.

Needing to score at 5.64 runs per over, the tourists were shaken by an early double-strike by fast bowler Shabbir Ahmed, who had Craig Cumming caught in the covers for six and then bowled Mathew Sinclair for five.

Razzaq then claimed Hamish Marshall for 14 to leave New Zealand at 51-3.

Jones partnered captain Chris Cairns and Oram in stands of 68 and 36 before Sami came into his own.

Pakistan owed their total to an efficient 70 from Salim Elahi and a whizzing 42 off 16 balls by Abdul Razzaq after the home side won the toss and batted.

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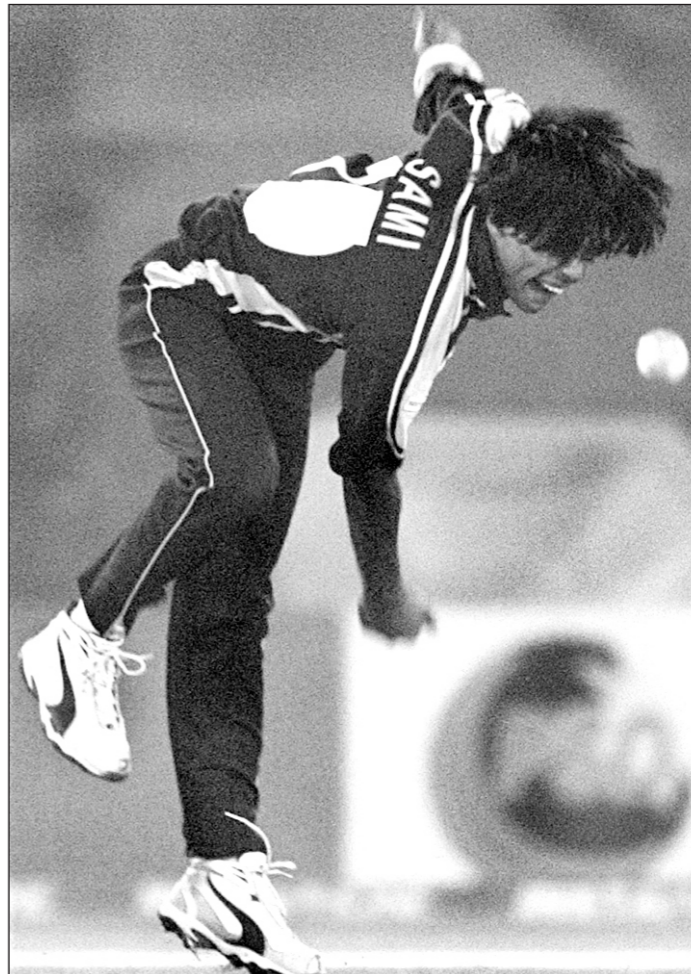


PHOTO: AFP

Pakistan fast bowler Mohammad Sami hurls down yet another delivery during the second one-day international against New Zealand at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore yesterday.