

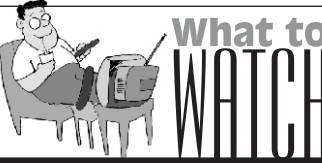


Did U Know?

"Citius, altius, fortius" is a Latin phrase meaning "swifter, higher, stronger", which Baron de Coubertin borrowed from Father Henri Martin Dideon, who used the phrase to describe the athletic achievements of his students.



Steve Bucknor
(Int'l cricket umpire)
"The criticism doesn't bother me. Mistakes are going to be made. I know that. Everyone makes mistakes including myself."



- ESPN**
- Pakistan vs New Zealand
Second Test, Day Four
Live at 3:57 am
 - South Africa vs West Indies
Second Test, Day Four
Live at 1:55 pm
 - Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 9:00 pm
 - English Premier Football League
Southampton vs Arsenal
Live at 2:00 am (Tuesday)
 - STAR Sports**
 - Australia vs India
Third Test, Day Four
Live at 6:00 am
 - Sportline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 203

Tick the correct answers, post to **The Daily Star**.
Win attractive prizes.
Competition closes at 8 pm Jan 2, 2004 and draw

- Who clinched the Intercontinental Cup?
Bolea Juniors AC Milan Inter Milan
- Who won the 2003 Asian footballer-of-the-year award?
Mahdavi Kia Inamoto Cha Kyung-bok
- Who is the Pakistan Cricket Board chairman?
Shaharyar Khan Tauqir Zia Intikhab Alam
- Who won the FIFA player-of-the-year award?
Zidane Ronaldo Henry

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

V-Day v'ball

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Navy overwhelmed defending champions Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) 25-23, 25-21 and 25-27 in the Victory Day Volleyball Championship at the Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

Bangladesh Army earned an easy 25-17, 25-13 and 25-20 win over Bangladesh Air Force in the last group match.

Bangladesh Army take on BDR, while Bangladesh Navy meet Bangladesh Air Force in the semifinals tomorrow.

No BU headway

SPORTS REPORTER

WESTERN UNION
Titans Mohammedan Sporting Club and Brothers Union on both left the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday feeling it was three points lost after their highly anticipated Western Union Premier Division football league clash ended in a 1-1 draw.

Brothers' mercurial Bangladesh international Afzal Ahmed headed in a 16th minute equaliser to cancel out Mohammedan's Farhad's goal a minute earlier to leave the teams level on six points from four games. Abahani and surprise package Sheikh Russel Krira Chakra jointly lead the table with seven points but each have played a game less.

On the chilliest afternoon of the winter season, a healthy crowd had gathered at the stadium hoping for another goal-feast following Mohammedan's 5-0 drubbing of Victoria Sporting Club and

Brothers' thrilling 3-3 tie with Abahani in the teams' previous games.

Surprisingly, a boisterous, drum-beating bunch of supporters of Brothers Union outnumbered the black and whites faithful.

But it was largely a scrappy, physical affair on a slippery surface that only came to life in the first and last quarters. Still there were clear-cut opportunities which if taken, could have turned the game either way.

Mohammedan drew first blood with 15 minutes on the clock. Cameroon recruit Itigo floated a chip inside the Brothers' D-box from the left which deflected off compatriot Afala's head near the far post and invitingly came to an unmarked Farhad whose header flew into the net brushing the fingertips of custodian Biplob.

Mohammedan were still in celebratory hanger when Brothers struck back. The expensively assembled side's master midfielder Arman Mia, who had a very ordinary outing, made his one

and only contribution in the match by providing an inch perfect cross from the right touchline which Alfaz met with deadly force to leave goalkeeper Nadim Khan with no chance. Surprisingly, Arman was given all the time and room in the world when he made the minus as the Mohammedan defence went to sleep.

All of Brothers' attacks were coming from the right flank and Mohammedan soon plugged the area by putting an extra marker on Arman. With Ugandan Okolo and Brazilian import Gomez unable to create any impact, it was left to Alfaz, the standout player of the match, to orchestrate the proceedings for the men in orange.

But Mohammedan missed a great chance to go up seconds before the half-time whistle. Left-back Basala, one of the four Cameroonians in the starting lineup, delivered a cleverly waited cross inside the box from the left which somehow eluded Brothers' goalkeeper.



An Afala (R) attempt at the Brothers Union post during the Western Union Premier Division Football League encounter between Mohammedan and the Gopibaghi side at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

AFC U-17 meet BFF select 25 for camp

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) called up 25 players for a residential camp to prepare for the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Under-17 final round that will be held in Japan September next.

The Bangladesh under-17 team, under supervision of coach Shahidur Rahman Shantoo, confirmed their Japan ticket by beating Kyrgyzstan both in home and away matches which were held at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur last October.

The players have been instructed to report to Sayed Hasan Kanan, member secretary of the BFF team management committee, on January 1 at 3pm at the BFF office.

The selected players are, Mazharul Islam Himel, Rahatul Kabir Nipu, Imdadul Haq Monu, Sarwar Hossain, Atiqur Rahman Mishu, Rubel Ahmed, Mamun Hossain, Arafat Ali Rony, Rony Islam, Bappi Hasan Murad, Abul Kashem, Sheikh Abid Hossain Akash, Nasirul Islam, Ali Hossain, Zahid Hossain, Hirok Joardar, Rabindra Chandra Barman, Tawfiq Hasan, Hasan Mahmud, Uttam Barua, Rajan Miah, Mithun Chowdhury, SM Rajib, Nanndu Chandra Das and Sumon Day.

'It's all rubbish'

Cricket

REUTERS, Melbourne

India team manager Shivlal Yadav said on Sunday a report that the side's tour of Pakistan in February was in doubt because of a player revolt over security issues was completely untrue.

"It's all rubbish," Yadav told Reuters at Melbourne Cricket Ground during the third day's play of the third Test against Australia.

"There is no truth in it."

The Chairman of the Pakistan cricket board (PCB) expressed optimism on Saturday that the Indian team's tour to Pakistan would not be derailed following security concerns after the suicide bomb attempt on President Pervez Musharraf in Rawalpindi.

"What happened on Thursday is of grave concern to everyone and bad for the country. But I remain optimistic that if the SAARC conference goes ahead on schedule then the Indian tour will also be held as planned," Shaharyar Khan told a news conference in Karachi.

Reports in the Indian newspaper Mid-day said on Saturday the Indian players currently touring Australia had taken a unanimous

A team's first one-day loss

SPORTS REPORTER

AFP, Melbourne

Rajin Saleh and Shahriar Hossain both scored half-centuries but that was not enough as Bangladesh A team suffered their first defeat in the Patron's Cup in Pakistan yesterday.

The visitors went down to Pakistan WAPDA by seven wickets at the UBL ground in Karachi after winning their first two matches in the one-day competition.

Rajin hit 61 and opener Shahriar scored 55 runs as the second string Bangladesh team made 221 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs after deciding to bat.

Wicketkeeper Mohammad Selim also chipped in with 30 and acting skipper Hannan Sarkar contributed 25 runs.

In reply Adil Naser with 94 and an unbeaten 63 by Mohammad Jamal helped the home team to cross the A team's total with 4.5 overs to spare.

Ehsanul Haq captured one for 21 while leg-spinner Mosaddeq Hossain took one wicket giving away 43 runs.

Two teams will play in the four-day Patron's Trophy match starting today at the same venue.

The tourists earlier defeated Defence Housing Authority (DHA) and Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL).

'The' Ricky ravages India

Cricket

AFP, Melbourne

Ricky Ponting joined Don Bradman in the record books after scoring his third double-century of the year as Australia piled the misery on India in the third cricket Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Sunday.

Ponting hit a Test-best 257 the fourth highest Test score at the ground as Australia amassed a first innings 558 and a 192-run innings lead in their bid to level the series at 1-1 with two days left.

The captain-in-waiting bettered his previous highest Test score of 242 in last week's second Adelaide Test with another epic innings of discipline and concentration over almost 10 hours at the crease.

At the close, India were shuddering at 27 for two with vice-captain Rahul Dravid and his skipper Saurav Ganguly, coming in ahead of out-of-form Sachin Tendulkar, both on six.

Both openers Akash Chopra (4) and Virender Sehwag (11) were removed in the first five overs, exposing Dravid and Ganguly to Australia's fired-up new-ball attack of Brett Lee and Nathan Bracken.

"We knew it was important to get as many runs in the first innings as we could and to get a near 200-run lead was pretty good so we're in a good situation now to win the game," Ponting said.

Ponting joined the immortal Bradman as the only player in Test cricket to score three double-centuries in a calendar year.

Bradman scored 254, 334 and 232 for Australia against England in 1930. Ponting added his two double-centuries in the India series to the 206 he amassed against the West Indies in Trinidad in April.

In the process Ponting, who takes over as team leader following Steve Waugh's retirement after the fourth Sydney Test starting Friday, broke teammate Matthew Hayden's Australian record of 1,391 runs accumulated in 2001 and was leading Brian Lara in the

closing days of 2003 with 1,472 runs at 98.1.

"The last couple of weeks have been pretty good for me and in fact the last 12 months have been great, the consistency is the biggest thing for me this year," Ponting said.

Only West Indian Viv Richards (1,710 runs in 1976) and Englishman Michael Vaughan

(1,481 in 2002) have scored more runs than 29-year-old Ponting in a calendar year.

Ponting has scored six centuries this year, more than any other batsman in Test cricket.

Ponting, who occupied the crease for 590 minutes with 26



Australia's captain-in-waiting Ricky Ponting celebrates his double century against India on the third day of the Melbourne Test yesterday.

Kiwis corner Pakistan

Cricket

AFP, Wellington

A devastating six wicket bag by young speedster Ian Butler destroyed the Pakistan first innings and put New Zealand firmly in control of the second cricket Test at the Basin Reserve here Sunday.

Butler, 22, took his last five wickets for just 12 runs as Pakistan folded to be all out at tea for 196 on the third day, in reply to New Zealand's first innings 366.

At stumps New Zealand in their second innings were 75 for three for an overall lead of 245 with two days remaining.

Playing in only his seventh Test, Butler produced a withering spell

with the second new ball as Pakistan lost their last six wickets for 28 runs, and their last four wickets for only two runs.

Pakistan had started the day with intentions of batting their way to safety and from a slow start had reached the comparatively comfortable total of 134 for four at lunch.

Yousuf Youhana, who struggled early in his innings, gained in confidence in the after lunch session and moved to 60 in 246 minutes at the crease before popping a simple catch to Stephen Fleming off Daniel Vettori and Pakistan were 168 for five.

Enter Butler. Charging into the northerly wind, he bowled Abdur Razaq for 26 in his first over back to make it 171 for six.

He then had Mohammad Sami

caught behind off his glove, and followed up by taking Shoaib Akhtar bowled and Moin Khan brilliantly caught at extra cover by Vettori in successive balls.

Danish Kaneria survived the hat-trick and lasted four more balls before Butler had him leg before wicket without scoring.

It beat Butler's previous best of four for 60 against England on this ground last year and took the limelight away from Jacob Oram who had starred in the early part of the innings.

"It was a fiery spell," noted New Zealand coach John Bracewell.

"But within the context of the match our bowling spell was excellent. Our bowlers stuck to their plans which allowed Ian to bowl at



Ian Butler (C), who destroyed Pakistan first innings by taking 6 wickets, is being congratulated by teammates after he bowled Abdur Razaq yesterday.

AHF jr hockey BD finish 3rd

Cricket

AFP, Dhaka

Title aspirant Bangladesh finished third in the first junior AHF Cup hockey tournament beating hosts Singapore by 3-1 in a place-deciding match yesterday.

After a barren first half, Russel Mahmud put Bangladesh ahead in the 45th minute, Ashrafur Islam doubled the margin in the 55th minute and Maksud Alam netted the third goal in 58th minute. Singapore struck their lone goal in the last minute.

Earlier in Group A matches, Bangladesh beat Hong Kong 5-0, Iran 8-0 and hosts Singapore 1-0.

But Bangladesh miserably quit from the race after their frustrating 4-5 defeat in the semifinal against Sri Lanka.

Only the champions and runners-up of the eight-team fray will be entitled to play in the Asia Cup Hockey.

Bangladesh team returns home today.



Western Union Premier Div Football League
Abahani vs Badda Jagarani (5:00 pm)
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla Nat'l Stadium, Mirpur
Nat'l Cricket League (Day-4)
Dhaka vs Sylhet
Venue: Sylhet Stadium
Khulna vs Chittagong
Venue: Comilla Stadium

Kallis, Kirsten rewrite record

Cricket

AFP, Durban

Five balls later Drakes was again at fault, dropping Kirsten at a square gully position off Dillon when the batsman was on 41.

After the tourists made their first breakthrough of the day, when Kirsten swept part-time leg-spin bowler Ramnaresh Sarwan to deep midwicket, Sarwan dropped a difficult return chance when new batsman Neil McKenzie was on three.

McKenzie moved briskly to 30 not out at tea, hitting sixes off Sarwan and Edwards.

Kallis (177) and Kirsten (137) put on 249 for the fourth wicket, breaking a record set in 1929 when Herby Taylor and Nummy Deane put on 214 against England at the Oval.

It was a heart-breaking day for the West Indies, who bowled without inspiration and dropped four catches on a hot, cloudless day three in the first hour when the Kallis-Kirsten stand was still in its early stages.

Kirsten was dropped by West Indian captain Brian Lara at first slip off Mervyn Dillon when he had 22. The chance, which flew above Lara's head as Kirsten played a cut shot, came at a crucial time, nine balls before the second new ball was due.

in an over from Adam Sanford to reach his 13th Test century and his second in successive matches.

He reached the mark off 205 balls with 12 fours. Kallis seemed set to make his first Test double century until he square-cut a ball from bowler Sarwan at backward point shortly before tea. He batted for eight hours, faced 344 balls and hit 20 fours.

The left-handed Kirsten was more aggressive, at one stage hitting four consecutive boundaries off Drakes.

Kirsten added 93 runs in a morning session extended by half an hour to make up for time lost on the first two days. He reached his 20th Test century off 158 balls with his 17th four when he cut Sarwan and Edwards allowed the ball to go through his hands at point for four.

After their early escapes, neither batsman looked in any trouble until Kirsten was dismissed two balls after the mid-afternoon drinks break.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard at tea on the third day of the second cricket Test between South Africa and the West Indies at Kingsmead on Sunday:

WEST INDIES: First innings 264 (Lara 72, Drakes 67, Jacobs 58; Ntini 5-66, Nel 3-43)

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings (overnight 303-3)

Kallis played a solid anchor innings, punctuated by occasional powerful strokes. He hit three fours

Kallis...177

Kallis played a solid anchor

Kallis played a solid anchor

Kallis played a solid anchor

Kallis played a solid anchor

Kallis played a solid anchor

Kallis played a solid anchor