

Kenya tour on the cards

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh cricket team is likely to visit Kenya prior to their tour to Zimbabwe this July. Habibul Bashar's men are scheduled to play five one-day internationals and two four-day games in Zimbabwe.

BJMC in pole position

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

BJMC reached top of the list in the four-day long 30th National Cycling Championship in Patuakhali yesterday. On the second day, two events were held. In the 100km road time trial, Mominur Rahman and Biplob of BDR won gold and silver medals respectively.

Langer taken to hospital

AFP, Johannesburg

Justin Langer's 100th Test was such a special occasion that his parents flew across from Perth to watch him in action - but his innings on the second day of the third Test against South Africa lasted just one ball before he took a blow to the head and ended up in hospital.

Federer sets up Ljubicic final

REUTERS, Miami

World number one Roger Federer swept aside Spain's David Ferrer 6-1 6-4 in their Nasdaq-100 Open semifinal on Friday, setting up a final clash with Ivan Ljubicic. Croatian Ljubicic reached his third final in six ATP events this season by routing third seed David Nalbandian 6-1 6-2.

Sachin on the mend

CRICINFO, undated

Sachin Tendulkar could be declared fit to tour West Indies next month, having made a rapid recovery after undergoing shoulder surgery in London, according to Dr Andrew Wallace, his surgeon.

Brian Lara

(West Indies cricket legend) I think it's necessary that I do play some ODIs because the World Cup is in 12 months time and I'd look forward to playing in some.



Australia opener Justin Langer down on his knees after being struck by a bouncer from South Africa paceman Makhaya Ntini on the second day of the third and final Test at Johannesburg on Saturday.

Ntini hits Aussies hard

AFP, Johannesburg

South African fast bowler Makhaya Ntini wrecked Australia's top order batting on the second day of the third Test at the Wanderers Stadium Saturday, taking four wickets and putting opening batsman Justin Langer in hospital after a blow to the head. Australia were 141 for five at tea, still 162 behind South Africa's first innings total of 303.

NY celebrates 'el clasico'

INTERNET, undated

Even "Big Apple", the melting pot of nationalities, celebrates the Clasico between Barcelona and Real Madrid and several locations in New York showing the match between the two biggest rivals in Spain at 15:00 local time Saturday. The most famous location is probably "Nevada Smiths", a pub where the "Penya" (supporters club) Barcelona Nevada Smiths de Nueva York is situated since 2001.

Scoreboard table with columns: Bowler, O, M, R, W. Rows include Lee, Clark, Kaspruwicz, Warner, Symonds and match totals.

Zola sees future in football

INTERNET, undated

Former Chelsea star Gianfranco Zola has admitted his desire to work in football again in the future. Zola hung up his boots at the end of the 2003/04 season but has been linked with a sensational return ever since.

Ronaldo reveals Spanish dream

INTERNET, undated

Cristiano Ronaldo has revealed that his dream is to one day play in Spain after rumours that Real Madrid were weighing up a bid for his services this summer swept through the media.

Kahn blunder costs Bayern

AFP, Berlin

The joke was on Oliver Kahn for April fool's day as a howler from the Bayern Munich goalkeeper allowed bottom side FC Cologne to take a point in a 2-2 draw with the league leaders on Saturday.

Palestine toy

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the Philippines was redcarded in the 85th minute after he dangerously brought down Chinese Taipei's Meng-Chian Lee.

Sanath's Test finale

AFP, Kandy

The Sri Lankan team is hoping to give former skipper Sanath Jayasuriya a grand farewell by winning the second and final Test against Pakistan starting here on Monday. Left-handed Jayasuriya, 36, Sri Lanka's highest run-scorer in both Test cricket and one-day internationals, announced his retirement from Tests on Friday.



Chelsea striker Didier Drogba (R) is airborne while heading at the Birmingham goal during their Premiership match at St. Andrews on Saturday.

Chelsea stutter again

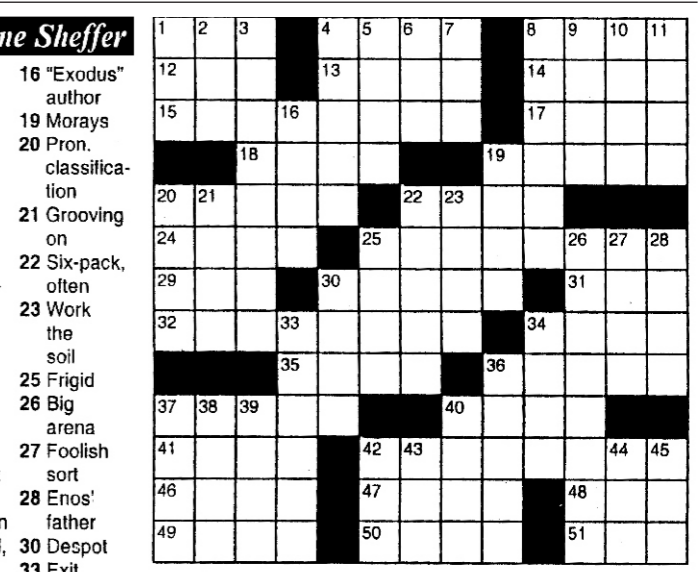
AFP, Birmingham

Birmingham City gave themselves a lifeline in their battle against relegation and revived the Premiership title race with a goalless home draw against leaders Chelsea here Saturday. The Blues might have stunned the St Andrews crowd even more had not England striker Emile Heskey missed three first-half opportunities.

Czech Republic goalkeeper Peter Cech. Birmingham needed Northern Ireland international Maik Taylor - much maligned after conceding ten goals in two games - to keep out Arjen Robben's toe poke from close range. But Heskey's misery in front of goal continued throughout the first-half as he hooked another good opportunity high over the crossbar as Chelsea's defence dithered.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer. ACROSS: 1 Pouch sound, 2 Annie... 16 'Exodus' author... DOWN: 1 Off-bracketed word, 11 Unit 'out' being... Solution time: 25 mins.



CRYPTOQUIP: P S E V Q D Z Z M O P R Z D N P Y M. H V E H E R D Z R B D U O M N X E W. P Z Z . P N J P U F X E W Q D X. Today's Cryptiquip Clue: S equals F. The Cryptiquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another...