

**Bashar best of 2005**

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Sports Journalists Association (BSJA) on Sunday announced its award recipients for the years 2002 to 2005 recognising their performance during the period and contribution to their respective fields.

Although other sports dominated the list for the years 2002 and 2003, it was an all-cricketers affair for 2004 and 2005.

Habibul Bashar, captain of Bangladesh cricket team, was adjudged the best sportsman for the year 2005.

Young cricketer Aftab Ahmed was adjudged the most promising sportsman of the year.

Mohammad Ashrafui was selected as the best sportsman of the year in 2004.

The awards will be handed over at a formal ceremony in September this year.

The recipients are:

**2002:** Sportsman of the year Asif Khan (Shooter), Most promising player of the Year Alok Kapali (Cricketer), Football Nazrul Islam, Chess Enamul Hossain, Cricket Khaled Mashud, Hockey Rafiqun Nabi, Coach Abul Hossain (Football), Shafiqul Islam Manik (Football) and Amir Babu (Cricket), Organisers Salman F Rahman, Shafiqur Rahman and Shamsul Haque Chowdhury, Sponsors Partex, Coca Cola and Ispahani, Special contribution to the sports

Abdur Rahim and Sheikh Akmal Hossain, and Lifetime Achievement Dewan Shafiu Arefin.

**2003:** Sportsman of the year Rajani Kanta Barman (Football), Most promising players of the year Mehedi Hasan (Chess), Football Motiur Munna, Chess Nazrana Khan Eva, Cricket Mohammad Rafiqe, Athletics Shamsunnahar Chumki, Coach Wahed Gazi (Football), Osman Khan (Cricketer) and Qazi Selim (Shooting), Organisers Mosaddque Ali Fala, Afzalur Rahman Sinha, Sirajul Islam Bachchu, Qazi Rajibuddin Ahmed and Nurul Alam, Sponsors Square, Emirates and City Cell, Lifetime Achievement Enayetur Rahman Khan, Ahmed Sajjadul Alam and Badal Roy.

**2004:** Sportsman of the year Mohammad Ashrafui (Cricketer), Most promising player of the Year Enamul Haq (Cricketer), Football Aminul Haq, Cricket Javed Omar Belal, Shooting Sharmin Akhtar, Chess Shamima Akhtar Liza, Swimming Sabura Khatun and Rubel Rana, Organisers Anjan Chowdhury, AHM Mustafa Kamal, Gazi Golam Dastagir, Ishiaque Ahmed and Delwar Hossain (posthumous), Coach Mohammad Salahuddin (Cricketer) and Mir Mohammad Faruk (Football), Sponsors GrameenPhone, Nitel and Partex, Referee/Umpire AK Mousor Azad (Football) and Akhtar Uddin Shaheen (Cricketer), Special Award Khaled Mahmud (Cricketer) and Lifetime Achievement Sadek Hossain Khoka, MP and Monem Munna (posthumous).

**2005:** Sportsman of the year Habibul Bashar (Cricketer), Most promising player of the Year Aftab Ahmed (Cricketer), Football Mohammad Sujon and Arif Khan Joy, Cricket Enamul Haq and Mohammad Ashrafui, Swimming Jewel Ahmed, Athletics Fouzia Huda Jui, Organisers Syed Sujauddin Ahmed, Monir Ahmed, Reazuddin Al Mamun, Khondokar Jamiluddin, Shahed Reza, Zahidur Rahman Pushkin (posthumous) and Rafiqul Islam Tipu, Coach Wazed Gazi (Football), Wahidul Gani (Cricketer), Sponsors Transcom Group and Aktel, Referee/Umpire Tayeb Hasan (Football) and Nadir Shah (Cricketer), Special Award National Games for Disabilities Association, Special contribution to Sports Dulu Afendi and Mahmudul Haq Manu (posthumous), Lifetime Achievement Saber Hossain Chowdhury and Tanvir Haider (posthumous).

The award recipients have been requested to send their CV along with two copies of photographs to the BSJA office by June 10.



PHOTO: AFP

Man-of-the-match Ramnaresh Sarwan of West Indies flicks during the second ODI against India at Sabina Park on Saturday.

**WI clinch a thriller**

**FROM PAGE 17** Basseterre, St. Kitts, which will be hosting its first ODI, and the series concludes next Friday and Sunday at Port of Spain's Queen's Park Oval.

**SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard in the second one-day international between West Indies and India at Sabina Park on Saturday:

**WEST INDIES**

|   |          |          |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Gayle c Dhoni b Agarkar   | 0        |          |          |          |
| Morton lbw b Pathan   | 1        |          |          |          |
| Sarwan not out  | 98       |          |          |          |
| Lara c David b Pathan   | 14       |          |          |          |
| Chanderpaul c Kaif b Harbhajan  | 10       |          |          |          |
| Samuels c Dhoni b Yuvraj  | 19       |          |          |          |
| Patel   | 0        |          |          |          |
| Baugh c Pathan b Powar  | 21       |          |          |          |
| Bradshaw c Harbhajan b Pathan   | 12       |          |          |          |
| Taylor c Dhoni b Agarkar  | 9        |          |          |          |
| Edwards not out   | 1        |          |          |          |
| Extras: (lb-2, w-8, nb-3)   | 13       |          |          |          |
| Total: (For 9 wickets in 50 overs)  | 198      |          |          |          |
| Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-1, 3-24, 4-43, 5-103, 6-105, 7-143, 8-163, 9-197. |          |          |          |          |
| <b>Bowler</b>   | <b>O</b> | <b>M</b> | <b>R</b> | <b>W</b> |
| Pathan  | 9        | 2        | 45       | 3        |
| Agarkar   | 10       | 2        | 25       | 2        |
| Harbhajan   | 10       | 0        | 32       | 1        |
| Patel   | 7        | 1        | 39       | 0        |
| Powar   | 10       | 0        | 38       | 2        |
| Yuvraj  | 4        | 0        | 17       | 1        |

**INDIA**

|   |          |          |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Shewag c (sub) Smith b Bradshaw   | 12       |          |          |          |
| Dravid c Baugh b Bradshaw   | 11       |          |          |          |
| Pathan c Samuels b Edwards  | 14       |          |          |          |
| Yuvraj b Bravo  | 93       |          |          |          |
| Kaif c (sub) Smith b Taylor   | 4        |          |          |          |
| Raina c Chanderpaul b Samuels   | 27       |          |          |          |
| Dhoni b Taylor  | 2        |          |          |          |
| Agarkar c and b Bradshaw  | 2        |          |          |          |
| Powar c Taylor b Samuels  | 12       |          |          |          |
| Harbhajan c and b Gayle   | 1        |          |          |          |
| Patel not out   | 2        |          |          |          |
| Extras: (lb-4, w-8, nb-5)   | 17       |          |          |          |
| Total: (All out in 49.4 overs)  | 197      |          |          |          |
| Fall of wickets: 1-25, 2-37, 3-51, 4-60, 5-124, 6-130, 7-134, 8-177, 9-197. |          |          |          |          |
| <b>Bowler</b>   | <b>O</b> | <b>M</b> | <b>R</b> | <b>W</b> |

|          |     |   |    |   |
|----------|-----|---|----|---|
| Edwards  | 7   | 2 | 19 | 1 |
| Bradshaw | 10  | 0 | 33 | 3 |
| Taylor   | 9   | 0 | 49 | 2 |
| Bravo    | 3.4 | 0 | 29 | 1 |
| Gayle    | 10  | 0 | 33 | 1 |
| Samuels  | 10  | 0 | 30 | 2 |

**Result: West Indies won by one-run.**  
**Man-of-the-match:** Ramnaresh Sarwan.  
**Umpires:** B. Doctrove, A. Rauf.

**Debutant hits ton against SL**

BBC ONLINE, undated

A 20-year-old all-rounder making his first-class debut hit 101 for Sussex on Day Three against Sri Lanka at Hove. Ollie Rayner, an off-spinner who took 0-115 in Sri Lanka's 521-5 declared, needed just 132 balls and a shade over three hours to pass three figures.

The county side were 98-6 when he came to the crease, but his ton, the first by a Sussex debutant since 1920, allowed them to rally to 262 all out.

Lasith Malinga took 5-79 to make a case for inclusion in Sri Lanka's Test side.

Starting the day on 40-1, Sussex - resting most of their first-team players - only managed to add 48 runs in 25 overs during the morning and lost three wickets in the process.

Peaceman Malinga then dismissed three batsmen for ducks after lunch before Rayner joined Neil Turk at the crease for the first rear-guard stand - 45 added for the seventh wicket.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka coach Tom Moody suggested a definite change for his Test team after their problems in restricting England's batsmen in the first Test.

**Last chance**

**FROM PAGE 17** Czechs may be heading for a repeat of the 1982 debacle in Spain, when the team was bundled out in the first round.

"I hope that the current team will do better than us in 1982. Many unfavourable circumstances came together at that time, including injuries to many players," Nehoda, capped 90 times for his country from 1971-1987, added.

This year as well, injuries have been a continued source of concern for Czech manager Karel Bruckner.

The list of current and recent injuries has included attackers Jan Koller, Vratislav Lovcenc and Milan Baros, midfield players Tomas Galasek and Vladimir Smicer and defenders Zdenek Grygera and Marek Jankulovski.

In Germany, the Czech's have been drawn in what is judged to be a difficult group, comprising Italy, the United States and Ghana.

According to another participant in the brief, but painful, 1982 campaign, striker Ladislav Vizek, the squad only consisted of players selected on form just before the finals.

"And that logically turned out badly," Vizek, the father in law of current international, ex-Liverpool and now Bordeaux midfielder, Smicer.

"A major setback was then experienced by the national team which had largely to be reconstituted. It appears that a similar gap risks appearing with the departure of key members of the current team," he said, adding that there is one big difference almost a quarter of a century later.

"At that time, the mainstays of the national team were replaced by players who only evolved through the local championship, without any notable international experience. Today, the baton will be taken by players who already are experienced with well known European clubs such as Rosicky, Cech, Jovanovic Plasil or David Rozehnal," he underlined.

**West Germany 1974: Rusted**

**FROM PAGE 20** football", thrilling millions of spectators and television viewers watching the first ever live coverage of the competition. The Dutch team was built around the famous Ajax Amsterdam squad that had won the European Cup three times in a row between 1971 and 1973.

Ajax had achieved their success of the back of a move to "total football", a concept which had evolved from one in which defenders could become attackers, to one which consisted of all players being capable of playing every position, just making sure that each and every position was occupied at one time.

Holland dominated the first of their groups comfortably enough with easy wins against Uruguay (2-0), Bulgaria (4-1), before drawing 0-0 with Sweden.

In the second group phase, however, they were inspirational, destroying Argentina (4-0), easily beating Brazil (2-0) and imperiously shrugging off East Germany (2-0).

West Germany, on the other hand, were making much heavier weather of things, losing their "needle" match against East Germany in the first group phase by a goal to nil before shading the second group phase with a narrow victory over Poland.

Of the American teams in contention, only Brazil and Argentina made it into the second group phase where they were confronted by the Dutch juggernaut.

Holland had made many friends in two weeks after destroying the greatest teams in the world with inspired, breathtaking football and their meeting with the hosts, Germany, in the final was eagerly awaited.

It was not just a football match. It was a clash of two footballing cultures. The Dutch with their exciting, attacking brand of football and the Germans with their solid and dependable style of playing revolving around some exceptionally talented players.

No World Cup final has had a more sensational opening or a quicker goal. Held up for several minutes because Taler noticed the corner flags were missing, it began with a series of passes among the Dutch, simply keeping possession until Cruyff took the ball in the centre circle and ran at Vogts, beating him on the left and being brought down in the area by Hoeness. Penalty, the first in any World Cup Final. Neeskens thrashed it almost straight as Maier dived to his right. At that point the Germans had not even touched the ball.

If you believe Van Hanegem, Holland lost the match there and then. Half the team wanted to push on and look for a second goal, the rest to play keep-ball and humiliate the Germans.

More to the point perhaps, Vogts' marking of Cruyff began to bite. Virtually all of Holland's fifteen goals in the tournament started or finished with their captain, who protested about Vogts' treatment at half-time and was booked. By then Taylor had made a bigger den in Holland's chances.

As against Poland, Holzenbein ran into the penalty area from the left and went over an outstretched foot, this time Jansen's. There was something oddly inevitable about it, as if Taylor was always likely to give a second penalty the other way.

But this one was far more controversial. On the screen, Holzenbein dives after the event -

but Jansen does seem to catch him, so a penalty wasn't unjustified. After Hoeness' miss against Poland, Breither took the Kick and beat a stationary Jongbloed.

The turning point, if there was one, came when Cruyff broke away, drew Beckenbauer, and gave the ball to Rep on his left. Maier saved the rather unimaginative shot. Almost on half-time, Bonhof's running made its biggest impact, taking him past Haan to the right-hand goal line. When he pulled the ball back, Muller stopped it with an exaggerated action that looked like a miskick, then shot low across Jongbloed (immobile again) as Krol made a desperate attempt to block. It was Muller's 68th goal in 62 matches for West Germany, an astounding average in such a defensive era. Like Schiavo in 1934, he retired from international football after scoring the winner in the final for the host country.

Maier, vastly improved since 1970, made another of his marvelous saves from Neeskens' close-range volley, and Holland pressed throughout the second half - but Beckenbauer and Overath kept the play away from them and Cruyff couldn't escape Vogts, who had his most famous match. General disappointment at Holland's defeat, especially as West Germany had no Netzer to compensate - but the hosts had shown there was more than one way to win a football match, and it was only right that Beckenbauer, Overath, Grabowski and Muller should have World Cup winners' medals, hard though it was on Krol, Neeskens. Van Hanegem and the inimitable Cruyff, who was cut down on the one day Holland, and the football world, wanted to see him blossom.

**Gayle's plot!**

CRICINFO, undated

Brian Lara has revealed that it was Chris Gayle who suggested that Dwayne Bravo bowl a slower ball right at the death, the delivery that sealed the match and sent the carnival crowd at Sabina Park into an absolute frenzy. Lara termed the win a "very, very important one" and wanted West Indies to carry on the winning habit for the rest of the series.

"Bravo has a lot of variety in his bowling and I decided to give him the last over," said an excitedly elated Lara at the end of the day. Until the final over, Bravo had bowled three overs for 20, and hardly looked like making much of an impact.

Lara, however, thought otherwise: "Fidel Edwards is also capable of bowling some good yorkers at the death but I went with Bravo because he has just a bit more options. He bowled very well on Thursday as well and that's also what tilted it in his favour. He's an amazing player to have in the side."

Why didn't he bring the field in after the equation was reduced to two off three, after Yuvraj Singh had clattered two fours?

"I was looking for a tie," he continued, "I thought we would give Yuvraj a single, getting (Munaf) Patel, the No.11 on strike. But Bravo's delivered a perfect yorker off a slower ball."

It was a slower ball that resulted in an eruption, with some irrepressible celebrations following the victory.

**Steve given more rest**

AFP, London

England chose not to recall Stephen Harmison when they named a 12-man squad here Sunday for next week's second Test against Sri Lanka.

The Durham quick has been sidelined from international action since sustaining a shin injury before the second Test in Mumbai two months ago.

Following his recent return to county cricket there has been speculation that the 27-year-old would be included in the squad for the second of a three-match series with Sri Lanka which starts at Edgbaston on Thursday.

The selectors have omitted spare batsman Ian Bell who failed to make it into the final eleven in the first Test.

"Stephen Harmison was considered for this Test match, but ultimately we have decided that his and England's interests would be best served by allowing him more time to regain full match fitness," said England's chairman of selectors, David Graveney.

"He is making good progress and we will continue to closely monitor his performances for Durham."

Bell's omission was hardly a surprise given that, in their only innings at Lord's, England made 551 for six declared including hundreds from South Africa-born Kevin Pietersen and Marcus Trescothick and then dismissed Sri Lanka for 192. But, following-on, the tourists batted for 199 overs to save the game.

The second and concluding third Test are back-to-back, the series finale due to start at Trent Bridge on Friday, June 2.

**SQUAD**

Marcus Trescothick, Andrew Strauss, Alastair Cook, Kevin Pietersen, Paul Collingwood, Andrew Flintoff (captain), Geraint Jones, Liam Plunkett, Sajid Mahmood, Matthew Hoggard, Monty Panesar, Jon Lewis.

**Donovan has**

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led San Jose to a pair of MLS crowns before making the jump back to Bayer in early 2005, hopeful of fulfilling the promise seen years earlier.

Instead, there was only frustration. A homesick Donovan managed two starts in nine games and returned home to MLS, this time allocated to the Galaxy.

"I had games where I was poor. It just didn't work out," Donovan said. "Sometimes things don't happen the way you want."

Donovan has scored 25 goals in 78 caps for the American squad, third on the all-time US list and nine shy of Eric Wynalda's record.

He is also the leading goal creator in American history, his passes finding the heads and feet of teammates 23 times to set a US record for "assist".

Despite often being the smallest player on the field at 1.73m and 67kg, Donovan is often the most dangerous, whether it is finishing with a flourish, finding a teammate with a pinpoint pass or reacting quickly after being fouled.

"Too often we let teams off the hook," Donovan said. "When you get fouled there are a lot of times you can put the ball down and play and teams of kind of walking out there. At this level it can make a difference."

That's the thinking that has turned the US squad from a defence-minded side into an aggressive one confident of World Cup success.

"Player for player we're good enough to succeed," Donovan said. "Spirit-wise we're better than most teams in the world. How can you count us out?"

**Lara asks mates to learn from it**



AFP, Kingston

West Indies captain Brian Lara wants his side to learn from their sensational one-run victory in the second one-day international against India on Saturday at Sabina Park for future use in tight matches.

Dwayne Bravo bowled Indian left-hander Yuvraj Singh with the third-last ball of the match to hand West Indies a heart-stopping victory that levels the five-match series at 1-1, after India had clinched Thursday's first ODI by five wickets with one ball to spare.

"What is the good thing about West Indies -- and we have seen it even in these two ODIs -- is that we do get into positions to win matches," Lara told reporters after the match.

"Unfortunately, we have either tended to relax, or throw the oppor-

tunity away. In this match, we did not, and I think it was a true show of character from the guys, even in Thursday's game when in the last stride India got up to win."

Lara also lauded Bravo for the temerity to bowl the lethal delivery -- on the advice of Chris Gayle -- that befuddled Yuvraj and clinched the result for West Indies, which sparked massive celebrations around the ground.

"It was Chris' idea and Bravo has it in his armoury, and has the confidence to do it at that stage," Lara said.

"You would like to know that you have six or seven guys in your side that can bowl in an ODI, and three or four that can bowl at the death."

"Hopefully, you will have a bunch of players and you will use them. I had the option of using Edwards or Bravo, but the fact that Bravo did a very good job on Thursday was the deciding factor in this match."

**Bold and Bravo!**



AFP, Kingston

Dwayne Bravo admits that being entrusted with the final over of Saturday's second One-Day International between West Indies and India at Sabina Park was daunting.

Chasing a modest 199 to win, India needed 11 runs off the last over with the last pair of Yuvraj Singh and Munaf Patel at the crease.

The two batsmen scrambled a single off the first delivery, and Yuvraj collected successive boundaries to give India a foot in the door.

Bravo however, slammed the door shut, when he bowled Yuvraj Singh with the third-last ball of the match -- a slower delivery -- to

hand West Indies a heart-stopping one-run victory that levelled the five-match series at 1-1.

"When the captain handed me the ball for the final over, I believed I could do it, and still I had confidence after Yuvraj hit me for two fours," remarked Bravo.

"When two runs were needed, the captain asked me what plan I had, and I told him I was missing the length with a yorker, and I thought a slower ball would be appropriate."

"Yuvraj was using the pace well to score and I felt a slower ball would have been the best choice at that time, and Chris Gayle came over and confirmed that a slower ball was the right choice. I took his advice, and I bowled a slower ball, and the rest is history."

**Ferdinand wants**

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first hurdle, appeared to lack conviction.

The critics were quick to strike and when he was dropped for a crucial qualifying match against Austria at Old Trafford the barbs really hit home.

Ferdinand said: "The manager spoke to me and said 'I am not going to play you'. Being told something like that is devastating and you don't want to be dropped by anyone, let alone the England manager."

"That definitely hit home. I knew what I had to do to get back into the team and that was to play well and get my form on track at United and I managed to do that."

"Unfortunately Sol got injured in the next international and that was my opportunity to get back into the team. It was a wake-up call."

Ferdinand has recovered well since then, finishing the season strongly with United and winning back his England place with some far more assured performances. But he still feels that not everyone appreciates his playing style, which is more skilful and languid than the typical English centre-half.

**Harper wants more for Kenya**

AFP, Nairobi

Roger Harper has said more needed to be done for Kenya cricket to return to international level and even achieve Test status.

The former West Indies Test star took over the job of the national coach in January with the hope of turning Kenyan cricket around after two years of internal upheaval and the intention of establishing a framework for the future.

But he said it was not enough for Kenya to play in limited-overs cricket only but there was need for the introduction of two-to-three day matches for the players to get used to the longer version of the game.

"There is no doubt that there is a lot of talent in Kenya," said Harper at an awards ceremony to honour the Nairobi provincial cricket league winners Saturday night.

He acknowledged the tough challenge he faces in motivating his players for the 2007 World Cup in his native West Indies, only four years after reaching the semi-finals of the last event in South Africa.

Ian Bradshaw who took three wickets for 33 runs rated the victory even bigger than the win in the Final of the 2004 ICC Champions Trophy in England.

"This is truly one of the best games I have every played in," he said.

"This probably tops the 2004 ICC Champions Trophy Final because of the importance of this game."

Ramnaresh Sarwan hit the top score of an undefeated 98 that befooled up the West Indies' total and earned him the Man-of-the-Match award.

"My final score did not matter as regards what happened in the end, except that it gave us a score with which to work," said Sarwan, who spent most of the Indian chase off the field with cramps.

**Bangladesh to tour**

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A 19 member preliminary squad is expected to be announced for the camp where two or three new faces are not unlikely.

Coach Dav Whatmore will return on May 28 after enjoying a holiday at home while captain Habibul Bashar, on a personal trip to Singapore, was expected to return last night.

**Mexico seek**

**FROM PAGE 20** tournament four years ago in the second round, losing 2-0 to arch rivals the United States.

Mexico, led by Barcelona central defender Rafael Marquez, are tipped to progress from Group D, which also includes Portugal, Iran and Angola, but could face Argentina or the Netherlands in the second round.

**BCB calls up**

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ends on May 25. The selected players from Dhaka Metro Green, Dhaka Metro Blue, Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Barisal, Rajshahi, Khulna and Bogra are requested to report at the Bangladesh National Stadium on May 20 at 5pm to Shahidul Islam.



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when England reconvene at their base in Hertfordshire on Monday.

But, apart from Wayne Rooney, Eriksson otherwise