BD A make solid start

SPORTS REPORTER

Centuries by Mehrab Hossain Jr and Alok Kapali put Bangladesh A in a strong position on the opening day of the second four-dayer against Zimbabwe A at the Mutare Sports Club ground yesterday.

The visiting side, who won the first four-dayer against the same opponents by seven wickets last week, rode on a 176-run fifth wicket partnership between Mehrab and Kapali to finish the day on 307-6.

Young left-handed opener Mehrab hit 120 off 241 balls while right-hander Kapali contributed 111 from 166 deliveries. Nazmus daradded 31 off 44 balls.

SCORESIN BRIEF

BANGLADESH A: First innings 307-6 in 90 overs (Nafees 4, Mehrab 120, Sadat 31, Tushar 5, Sakib 26, Kapali 111, Sahagir 3 not out, Sharif 2 not out; Garwe 4-59)

LEADING SCORERS

Al Kahtani (Saudi Arabia), Allback (Sweden), Aloisi (Australia), Appiah (Ghana), Bakhtiarizadeh (Iran), Barnetta (Switzerland), Cambiasso (Argentina), J Cole (England), Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal), Crouch (England), Cuevas (Paraguay), Deco (Portugal), Dempsey (USA), Dramani (Ghana), Drogba (Ivory Coast), Flavio (Angola), Fonseca (Mexico), Fred (Brazil), Frei (Switzerland), Frings (Germany), Gilardino (Italy), Gilberto (Brazil), Golmohammadi (Iran), R Gomez (Costa Rica), Gyan (Ghana), Henry (France), laquinta (Italy), Ilic (Serbia-Montenegro), F Inzaghi (Italy), Jaidi (Tunisia), Jaziri (Tunisia), Juanito (Spain), Juninho (Brazil), Kaka (Brazil), Kalou (Ivory Coast), Kalinichenko (Ukraine), Kaviedes (Ecuador), Kewell (Australia), Koller (Czech Republic), B Kone (Ivory Coast), N Kovac (Croatia), Lahm (Germany), Larsson (Sweden), Lee Chun-soo (South Korea), Ljungberg (Sweden), Maniche (Portugal) Materazzi (Italy), Messi (Argentina), Mnari (Tunisia), Mohamed Kader (Togo), CA Moore

(Australia), Muntari (Ghana), Nakamura

(Japan), Neuville (Germany), Park Ji-sung

(South Korea), Pauleta (Portugal), Pirlo

(Italy), Podolski (Germany), Raul (Spain),

Rebrov (Ukraine), Robben (Netherlands),

Rusol (Ukraine), Saviola (Argentina), Simao

Sabrosa (Portugal), Sma (Croatia), Tamada

(Japan), Tevez (Argentina), Van Nistelrooy

(Netherlands), Van Persie (Netherlands)

Xabr Alonso (Spain), Zigic (Serbia-

Montenegro), Zinha (Mexico) Japan have

FROM PAGE 17 from opponents," said Zico, whose career as head coach started with

Japan's national side. "I may move to Europe and I wish to serve a football club as head coach," he confirmed, "Even a great coach makes a small start at a



Russia's Oleg Salenko set a new record for the number of goals scored in a single match when he put five of the best past Cameroon in his country's 6-1 victory in the 1994 World Cup. His goal feast helped make him equal top scorer in the tournament with Bulgaria's Hristo Stoichkov.





Justin Gatlin

(American sprint star) "I'm supporting World Cup. Without World Cup, a lot of people look past soccer - like they do track and field until the Olympics come around.



Live at 8:00 pm



Sammilito Krira Paribar, an organisation of sports organisers, formed a human-chain in the city yesterday to protest Bangladesh Football Federation and government's dubious stance on Bangladesh Television's FIFA World Cup

Dramani and captain Appiah, who

converted a controversial penalty

The Americans were never in

after Clint Dempsey had equalised.

contention after being mauled 3-0

east Europeans, after that magnifi-

cent start, lost their way in identical

2-0 defeats to Ghana and Italy. Karel

Bruckner's side were a shadow of

the exciting Euro 2004 semifinalists

and missed a quality forward.

Towering striker Jan Koller limped

off the ground during their first

ner Milan Baros, who had scored

five European championship goals,

had only one shot at Gianiuigi

Buffon - impervious at the Italian

goal -- during his 64-minute World

blessing in disguise as mercurial

minute replacement Marco

Materazzi nodded home a corner to

give them the lead before substitute

Fhilipo Inzaghi sealed the victory to

put balm on the battle scars of a 1-1

draw against nine players of USA,

Well, FIFA rankings are deceptive

Pavel Nedved, who came out of

Cup appearance in Hamburg.

Poborsky and Rosicky.

ranked fifth in the world.

THIRD EYE

anewfairy-tale.

FROM PAGE 17

Juninho and Gilberto and the master striker himself, who was twice earlier denied by the brave Kawaguchi's excellent saves. Now in a clash of style and power, Brazil have an exotic date with Ghana in the knockout stage.

Do we hear more noises in Africa or Down Under, after Socceroos' qualification -- they showed glimpses of their cricketing colleagues' fighting spirit -- following a 2-2 draw against Croatia? Surprise! surprise! Ghana advance from their group at the expense of world's second-ranked Czech Republic. But alas! The Black Stars will be without their star Chelsea midfielder Michael Essien, already booked twice. However, the World Cup firsttimers' presence in the Round of 16 match while his injury-prone partconfirms that at least two non-European teams, if not more, will reach the quarterfinals at Germany 2006 as South and Central American sides Argentina and Mexico are pitted against each other for a berth in the last eight.

Ghana's 2-1 win over USA sparked wild celebrations not only back home but also throughout the continent after their west African neighbours Ivory Coast and Togo and Angola bowed out.

After Cameroon's successful run to the quarterfinals in 1990, no African side have made it to the last eight. They have been on a decline in recent times with only one team -Senegal making it to the knockout stage four years ago. It seemed that the centre-back Alessandro Nesta's 17-World Cup in Germany would end as the worst for Africa, which stages the world's showpiece event in 2010 after their best two prospects Ivory Coast and Ghana were drawn in tough groups. Ivory Coast defeated Serbia to go out with their heads high after losses to Argentina and Holland but the Black Stars' success in a group involving three-time champions Italy and the potential Czechs have written

Saudis enjoyed a spell of putting the pressure on which led to jeers Before a 41,000-capacity crowd and whistling by the majority at Nuremberg, Ghana revealed their Spanish attendance. strength and speed to outgun their rivals with first-half goals from

FROM PAGE 17

The Saudis' first real chance came just after the hour mark, but after a good build-up in midfield Sulimani's off-target first-timer was easily parried by Canizares.

All-win Spain

Second half substitute Malek al-Hawsawi then got his head to a corby the Czechs in their opener but the nerbutthe ball was bundled out.

A freekick in the final 10 minutes then forced Canizares into action at his near post.

In the final five minutes of the match Spain attempted to appease their fans but despite several chances for Torres, including claims for a penalty after he appeared to be impeded, the second goal was not to

Indeed Spain were lucky not to have to share the points when Mohammed Noor beat Albelda at the byeline and cut back the ball for Saad al-Harthi, only for his first-time shot to curl high over the bar.

retirement to help the Czechs qual-TEAMS ify, fought alone in what would be Spain: Santiago Canizares; his last international but all the skills Michel Salgado, Juanito, Carlos of the classy Juventus midfielder Marchena, Antonio Lopez; Francesc and European Player of the Year was Fabregas (Xavi 66), David Albelda, not enough to spearhead the ten-Andres Iniesta; Raul (David Villa 46); man Czech Republic after little Joaquin, Jose Antonio Reyes support from veteran Karel (Fernando Torres 70).

Yellow card: Albelda (30), Reyes Italy, now facing Australia, had a (35), Marchena (75)

> ned Dokhi, Redha Tukar, Hamac Al Montashari, Hussein Sulimani (Mohammed Massad 81); Mohammed Noor, Saud Khariri, Abdulaziz Khathran, Khaled Aziz (Nawaf Al Temyat 13); Saad Al Harthi, Sami Al Jaber (Malek Mouath 68). Yellow card: Al Jaber (27), Al Temyat

barring for Brazil, don't we all know Attendance: 46,000

Bangladeshis protest for more coverage

AFP, Dhaka

Members of a Bangladesh sporting association formed a human chain Friday demanding that the stateowned television station show more World Cup matches.

"Most of the districts in Bangladesh do not have satellite cable connection. They cannot see all the matches of the World Cup, so we want all the matches shown on the national terrestrial television," said former national goalkeeper and protest organiser Kaiser Hamid.

The protest was staged by the Combined Sports Family, an association whose members include former sports professionals and officials such as referees, coaches.

About 100 members formed a human chain outside the government secretariat in the capital to urge the government to boost the number of matches being shown on the stateowned BTV.

"We also demand that the power officials do not cut the power during the matches so that everyone in the villages can live and breathe football," Hamid said.

The World Cup is attracting massive interest in sports-obsessed Bangladesh

Flags of the two most popular teams -- Brazil and Argentina -- can be seen flying everywhere from rickshaws to office buildings.

In the southeastern city of Chittagong big screens put up to show matches have been attracting so many people from outlying villages that the city is regularly brought to a standstill.

Aussies acclaim

FROM PAGE 24

so far in my career. If it wasn't going to be me, I'm sure it was going to be someone else," he said. Kewell, who was named FIFA's

official man of the match, said he was relishing the task of facing Italy for a last eight spot. "It's perfect for us," he said. "A

lot of people didn't think we were going to get through the group stage, we were very confident about qualifying from this group, obviously we left it a little bit late.

"But we got there and now we have to concentrate on Italy, it's going to be a great game.'

Gs give WI solid start

Cricket

Chris Gayle and Daren Ganga hit half-centuries to help West Indies make a confident start to the third Test against India on Thursday at Warner Park.

Gayle was dismissed for 83 and Ganga was unbeaten on 64, as West Indies, choosing to bat, reached 207 for one in their first innings when stumps were drawn on the rainmarred opening day.

Gayle was typically belligerent and Ganga batted doggedly to share 143 for the first wicket, after play commenced two-and-a-half hours later than scheduled.

After Gayle was dismissed about a half-hour after tea, Ganga and Ramnaresh Sarwan, who is not out on 44, continued to defy the Indian bowlers and added an unbroken 64.

Not a ball was bowled before lunch which was taken 10 minutes earlier than scheduled, after overnight and early morning showers drenched the outfield and left several areas close to the boundaries sod-

After a series of inspection during the morning, umpires Rudi Koertzen and Brian Jerling indicated that play would commence immediately after lunch, and a minimum of 70 overs

were to be bowled in the day. The number of overs was further reduced to 64 when there was a 25minute stoppage for rain about a half-hour after play started, but this could not stop the West Indies

Gayle raced to a half-century before tea to help West Indies reach 108 without loss at the break.

The left-handed Gayle drove offspin bowler Harbhaian Singh through extra cover for the fourth of his eight fours to reach 50.

When on five, Gayle lofted Shantha Sreesanth over long-on for the first of his five sixes onto the roof of the Media Centre to reach 4,000 runsinhis60thTest.

Ganga, who was fortunate to have retained his place in the side following a string of insignificant scores in the series, was a passenger for most of the way, although a straight drive for four off Munaf Patel was memo-

After tea, Gayle continued on his merry way and was eyeing his eighth

Test hundred when he miscalculated the length and line of a delivery from Munaf Patel, and was bowled offeringnostroketohis 128th ball.

Ganga was then 47 and spent what seemed an eternity on that score before reaching his halfcentury when he turned a delivery from Anil Kumble into the fine leg region for a single.

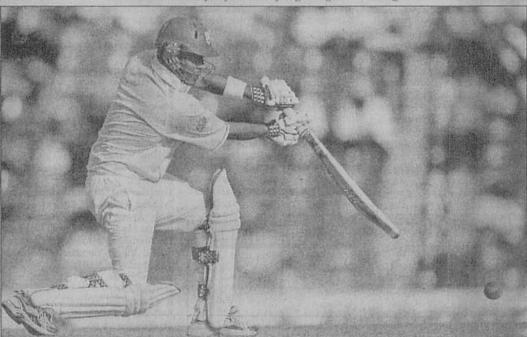
SCOREROARD

Scoreboard at stumps on the rainaffected opening day of the third Test between West Indies and India at Warner Park on Thursday: WESTINDIES: First innings Gayleb Patel

Ganganotout Sarwannotout Extras(lb-7, nb-9) Total: (For 1 wkt in 64 overs) To bat: Lara, Chanderpaul, Bravo, Samuels, Ramdin, Collins, Taylor,

Collymore. Fall of wicket: 1-143

owler	0	M	R	W
atel	14	2	53	1
reesanth	14	5	30	0
umble	21	5	54	0
larbhajan	12	1	57	0
ehwag	3	0	6	0



West Indies batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan drives one on the first day of the third Test against India at St Kitts on Thursday, Sarwan raced to 113 not out as Windles reached 362 for three at lunch on the second day Friday.

Kofi Annan to attend WC final

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan will attend the World Cup final in Berlin on July 9, a spokesman for German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Friday.

Annan will hold talks with Merkel while he is Germany and visit the new UN campus in the western city of Bonn, the spokesman said.

The UN chief will also pay a visit to the headquarters of the Germanled European Union force that will police the July 30 elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The command centre is based in

on Thursday qualified for the last 16 of the World Cup by beating the United States 2-1.

Togo to face sanctions

AFP, Berlin

Togo face disciplinary action for disrupting the World Cup with squabbles over bonuses and a appearance at the finals, FIFA

tion will, I am quite sure, be hearing from the disciplinary committee, Blatter said at a press conference. "We cannot tolerate a situation

in a World Cup causes the kind of kerfuffle that they have." Togo's German coach Otto

Pfister stormed out of the team camp on the eve of their first match against South Korea, only to return. The players then threatened not to play against Switzerland in their

second match until they received unpaid bonuses. They eventually got their money after FIFA intervened. Togo were eliminated after losing both matches and were

game on Friday **Kezman banned for Euro** 2008 qualifier

AFP, Berlin

Serbia and Montenegro striker

mittee after he was sent off for a lunging, two-footed challenge on Javier Mascherano in Argentina's

BITS AND BOBS

6-0 Group Cromp on June 21. The Atletico Madrid player, who failed to make the grade at Chelsea, sat out the match against Ivory Coast and so will only now be suspended for his country's first Euro 2008 qualification match on September 2 against Azerbaijan.

Nedved scores against me in training: Buffon

INTERNET, undated

The Italian national keeper was one of the big Azzurri heroes on Thursday afternoon against the Czech Republic

Gianluigi Buffon hailed his performance against the Czechs, which allowed the Italians to keep a clean sheet and reach the second round of the competition.

"Up till now I did not have the possibility to show off, finally it was my day. Nedved tried many times

because in training he always scores against me. But he doesn't know that the match is something else and I transform myself."

Buffon has so far conceded just one goal in three matches, which came from an unlucky own goal by Zaccardo during the match against

Totti to quit after WC

INTERNET, undated

The Roma captain admitted that if the Azzurri had been eliminated on Thursday, then he would have retired from international football. This will most likely be the last

world cup where we shall see Francesco Totti wearing the Italian national team shirt. The Giallorosso forward con-

firmed that the rumours he would have quit the Azzurri if eliminated from the tournament were true. "At 90% it's true, but now I'll

think about the World Cup and I hope to go as far as possible. We shall talk about it again at the end of the tournament. Let's hope after

Barnetta: "Our first goal is not to lose"

INTERNET, undated

Switzerland midfielder Tranquilo Barnetta has hailed Korean football but is determined that the Red Devils wil not be celebrating victory after the Swiss meet Korea in a Group decider in Hannover today. Barnetta told Goal.com: "Our

first goal is not to lose against Korea. But If we win 2-0, It'll be best "I want to score like [I did in] the

make us struggle throughout whole match, so every player must

against Frace, their pressing was great. But Switzerland is good enough to beat Korea. We have a great defence, and are quick at pressing [the game] into a small area. And we'll make efficient use

"But I don't think we'll play Our goal is to overcome the limit of ourselves. So we'll play our own

ing. Switzerland is stronger than France is physical, so I think we can beat Korea. I'm confident." Barnetta scored a goal in the last

minute against Togo. Thanks to that goal, Switzerland are now top of Group G. He will lead the Swiss attack with Gigax in today's 21:00 (local) kick-off against Korea.

Barnetta plays his club football for Bayer Leverkusen, and made his name at the 2005 World Youth

I may drop Ruud: Van

INTERNET, undated

Holland coach Marco van Basten says he is tempted to drop Ruud van Nistelrooy for the second

performed below expectations at the World Cup, and has scored just one goal against Ivory Coast. Dirk Kuyt started the match

"I expect more from a player of his (van Nistelrooy) standard," said

Van Basten. Ruud is training well but I just feel he needs to show a little bit

The central position up front is a point of discussion and the chance that Dirk will start on Sunday has increased.

'Red Devils are great supporters, but...'

INTERNET, undated

Switzerland's 21-year-old defender Philippe Senderos of Arsenal is confident of his country's chances ahead of their clash today against South Korea in Hannover, though he knows the AWD-Arena will be a said. sea of red and a cauldron of noise when the fanatical Korean support gets into full swing.

Minji Seo: "I'll think all the red fans

The captain of Switzerland's U-17 team showed impressive form in the Euro U-17 tournament before moving to the Gunners in the English Premiership, where since 2004/05 he has played first team

in the stadium as all Switzerland's

football regularly. He said: "Korea are a good team, of aerial attacks. But if we can't so we can't score 2-0 like the match against Togo. But I'm sure we can

> If Switzerland go into the 2nd round as runners-up in Group G, they will have to face Spain. So Senderos will try his best against Korea. "Frankly speaking, we don't want to face Spain in last 16. Anyway we have to win first [against Korea], then we can go into

But he added: "If we draw with Korea, or a worse situation occurs, then we must face Spain. That'll be

agreat experience too, anyway." Regarding the Red Devils, Korea's famed supporters. Senderos said: "I haven't seen them on the street, but I've seen them a lot on TV. They're well organized and superb supporters,"

Dindane forfeits hattrick for friendship

INTERNET, undated

Many observers of the ongoing World Cup would continue to wonder why Aruna Dindane passed up the chance to get the first hat trick at this year's Mundial, but the attacker puts it down to friendship. The 26-year-old, who bagged

the man-of-the-match award in a pulsating encounter against Serbia and Montenegro, opened up that he would have taken the penalty if he had insisted. But Dindane, who was the

tormentor-in-chief against the Serbians, added that the Ivorian team is not about individual achievements, but group Though he knew that if he had

stepped to take the spot kick and scored he would have taken away the match ball as well as the silver tankard awarded to the FIFA player of the match. "I think my friend wanted to

score. We are a team and we are all friends and that's the way it is The group of players is much more important than individuals

and he wanted to take it so it was right to let him have a go," he In the end it was Ivory Coast

who registered their first ever win at a World Cup in what is their Senderos, though, told reporter maiden appearance in the

TEN Sports West Indies v India

MB HHAY FROM PAGE 24 Germany's number one forward is," Bild wrote.

Callofnature The Fan-Mile in Berlin is proving a little too popular with more than 700,000 fans watching action on giant screens and then streaming

to post-match parties. There are only around 300 mobile toilets in the area stretching away behind the Brandenburg Gate and with the Tiergarten Park handily nearby some fans are answering calls of nature there. Says urologist Frank Christoph: The body produces between 1.5 and three litres of urine daily. Beer

boosts production. That means the Tiergarten is

intervention in the affair by observ-

ing pithily: "Just as he says I'm fat,

everybody knows he drinks too

But amid speculation the star

might be dropped, Parreira insisted

that the man the German media

nas nicknamed Pummelnaldo

(roly poly) needed matches under

"He needs to get his rhythm --

he's not ready for 90 minutes,"

Parreira insisted as he retained his

man and left Adriano, set up by

Ronaldo for a goal against

Australia, on the bench against the

critics with a blazing performance,

which harked back to the glory

days of 2002, had begun with the

resolving of a great Brazilian mys-

tery long shrouded in secret, as the

The day Ronaldo answered his

much.

his belt.

from wardens that plant growth may be affected. Every night, the area has to be washed down with some 3,000 cubic metres of water from the River Spree.

broken metatarsal, is being portrayed by a clothing firm with arms outstretched, in English red and white, his mouth open in a cry of triumph -- after all, he has won his battle to get fit. According to the advertisers, the red part of the

Phenomenon touches Bomber

Selecao's physical trainer Moraci

Sant'anna told Globo News TV

Sant'anna revealed the forward

weighs in at 90.5 kilos (198

that Ronaldo had hit 95 kilos but

"now he is close to his ideal

He insisted that Ronaldo had

"lost 3.2 kilos from the day he

arrived (in Germany) through to

the Australia match, then one

website, he is listed as a decidedly

middleweight 82 kilos.

was in 1994."

On the Real Madrid official

Parreira said last week that

That year, Parreira, whose

Ronaldo "is not the youngster he

coaching brought Brazil their

fourth world title in the United

teenage forward who came along

States, elected not to use the then

weight.

more.

There's been plenty of blood and thunder on the pitch in the opening phase but off it as well there has been controversy over a gory advert

Crucifixion!

litres a day, prompting warnings

starring England's Wayne Rooney. The striker, just back from a England sources have complained. German daily Bild asked: "Is this an allusion to a crucifixion scene or homage to the man on whom

rather like blood, Church of

English hopes rest?" TheWall Victoria Beckham and the England World Cup 'WAGS' (wives and girlfriends) have had a screen put up to stop paparazzi taking pic-

tures of them in the swimming pool of their hotel in Baden-Baden. The hoarding is 40 metres (130 feet) wide and 2.3 metres high. It was put after pictures

appeared in the local press of the women splashing in the pool of the Brenner's Parkhotel, their base absorbing an estimated 100,000 advert is meant to symbolise the camp for the World Cup. (AFP)

> Ronaldo had a similar questionmark against him going into the finals. His response was an eight-goal haul, capped by a brace in the final win over Germany -- though FIFA credited him with two goals against

Costa Rica after one strike initially

went down as an own goal.

In 2002, despite a catalogue of

knee problems with Inter Milan

which robbed him of two seasons

of his career while at his peak,

just for the ride.

At club level since those heady days things have not been plain sailing and Ronaldo admitted midseason he had never felt truly at home in Madrid, suggesting the fans have never taken him to their hearts. That tenuous love affair may yet

hit the rocks -- but with Brazil the

romance has been rekindled with a

vengeance.

AFP, Berlin

Saudi Arabia: Mabrouk Zaid;

Referee: CCodjia (Benin)

Potsdam, outside Berlin. Annan's home country, Ghana,

Saint George Cross, but it looks

threatened strike in their first President Sepp Blatter said on Friday. "The Togolese football federa-

where an association participating

facing France in their final Group G

Mateja Kezman will be suspended for the first match of the Euro 2008 qualifying campaign after his red card in the World Cup, FIFA said on Kezman was given a two-match ban by the FIFA disciplinary com-

match against Togo. But Korea will

be careful the whole time. "Korea didn't allow any space

score against Korea, I think we can reach the last 16. defensive football the whole time.

"The key to this match is press-

Championships.

Basten

round clash with Portugal. The Manchester United star has

against Argentina on Wednesday and Van Basten says he may get the nod again.

world's biggest tournament.