



## Did U Know?

The women's marathon made its first appearance in the Olympics in 1984.



**Jose Mourinho**  
(Chelsea manager)  
"I think that in football there are no supermen, only men who win more times than others."



**ESPN**  
Sportscenter India  
Sports News  
Live at 8:30 pm  
**STAR Sports**  
Mumbai Open Tennis  
Live at 5:30pm  
**TEN Sports**  
UEFA Champions League  
Liverpool v Galatasaray  
Live at 12:00am (Thursday)  
Levski Sofia v Chelsea  
Delayed at 02:45am (Thursday)

## Inzy returns to The Oval

BBC ONLINE, undated

Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq will face ball-tampering and disrepute charges at The Oval, the ground where the controversy first arose, today.

The International Cricket Council's (ICC) chief referee, Ranjan Madugalle, will preside over a two-day hearing.

But the Sri Lankan is not expected to reveal his findings until Friday.

The ICC has confirmed that all four umpires on duty for the game between England and Pakistan will attend the hearing.

Darrell Hair and Billy Doctrove were the officials out in the middle, with Peter Hartley and Trevor Jesty providing off the field back-up.

The fourth Test in August ended in an unprecedented forfeiture by the tourists following Hair and Doctrove's decision to penalise them for ball-tampering.

Madugalle will consider testimony and written statements from witnesses, many directly involved with events which culminated in the abandonment of the Test after Pakistan were deemed to have refused to play on after tea on the fourth day.

If Inzamam is found guilty of the ball-tampering he faces a fine of between 50 and 100 per cent of his match fee. He could also be banned for one Test or two one-day internationals.

On the second charge, deemed more serious by the ICC, a ban of between two and four Tests or four to eight ODIs is a possibility.

Also present at the hearing will

## Abahani beat Brothers SC

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rangamati

Abahani Krira Chakra had striker Manas to thank as his strike was enough to get them past Brothers Sporting Club 1-0 in the Boost First Division Football League at the Rajbari Stadium in Rangamati yesterday.

The all-important goal came just a minute after the barren opening half.

The league re-started with the Abahani-Brothers match after it was delayed due to inclement weather in the region.

# Record development expenditure



SPORTS REPORTER

When the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) holds its Annual General Meeting (AGM) next Tuesday endorsement of the financial matters will be the major issue for discussion. The meeting is likely to be the last under the tenure of BCB president Ali Asghar, who had already expressed his desire to step down once the caretaker government takes over.

With cricket not only a sport but also a thriving business, the BCB is now the richest sports body in the country. Which is the reason behind everybody being interested to know about the financial situation of the board. There is no exception this time as the board prepares for the coming AGM.

An audit firm has already prepared an auditor's report and audited financial statements for the year ended June 30 to present it on the highest forum of the board but interestingly there was not adequate disclosure regarding the

income and expenditure. A councillor will however be able to know the details if he desires and the board and its appointed audit firm is bound to provide all those things.

The most important fact in the report is that the board's income for the last fiscal year (2005-06) has decreased in comparison to the previous one (2004-2005).

In the last fiscal year the board recorded an income of Tk 416,740,492 whereas the figure was Tk 463,832,843 in the period of 2004-05.

General secretary Mahbul Anam admitted the fact but he also explained the reasons behind the fallout.

"It's true that this time the revenue has declined. But you should note that there was a projected income of US 2.5 million dollar expected from the Asia Cup (which did not take place) and I think that is the reason behind this negative fact," Mahbul explained.

Among expenditures, the highest Tk 128,832,909 is shown contributed towards cricket development expenses, which is much higher than the previous fiscal year (Tk 77,382,661).

Without elaborating Mahbul said that the area of development activities has been increased while chairman of the development committee Khondokar Jamiluddin said that he has to go through all the facts before commenting on the issue.

"It would not be wise to comment on the issue without checking everything. But definitely the huge figure is not only because of the development committee's activities. Historically it has been a trend to show a lot of other facets as development activities," said Jamil.

There was another issue in the report which will definitely be discussed on the forum as BCB once again showed the cricket complex in Khilgaon as a fixed asset although in October last year the AGM listed the property as development expenditure.

Mahbul was also surprised by its inclusion and said that they will definitely look into the issue.

"I don't know how it is included as fixed property because the last AGM already showed its as development expenditure of the board," he said.

# India want Hair-less meet



AFP, Mumbai

Hosts India have asked the International Cricket Council (ICC) not to consider controversial umpire Darrell Hair for next month's Champions Trophy, a senior official said on Tuesday.

Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Niranjan Shah told AFP that a letter had been sent to the ICC asking that Hair be kept out to avoid any trouble during the 10-nation tournament.

"We have nothing against the man, but since there is so much controversy surrounding him, it may be better that Hair is not appointed for the Champions Trophy," Shah said.

"We don't want any trouble during the tournament."

A senior BCCI official told CricInfo, "Yes, we have written to the ICC. There may be some unseemly incident as he is already in a controversy."

Hair was at the centre of a damaging row last month over the ball-tampering allegations against Pakistan that led to The Oval Test against England ending in a farce.

Pakistan, incensed that Hair accused them of ball-tampering by penalising the team five runs, refused to take the field after tea on the fourth day.

Hair and fellow-umpire Billy Doctrove of the West Indies awarded the match to England, resulting in the first forfeiture in the 129-year history of Test cricket.

ICC chief executive Malcolm Speed revealed later that Hair had sent the sport's governing body an e-mail saying he would stand down from their elite panel of officials in

exchange for 500,000 dollars -- an offer Hair later rescinded.

The ICC's chief match referee Ranjan Madugalle of Sri Lanka will conduct a hearing in London on Wednesday and Thursday where Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq will answer charges of ball-tampering and bringing cricket into disrepute.

If found guilty of the first charge, Inzamam faces a fine of between 50 and 100 per cent of his match fee and/or a ban of one Test or two one-day internationals.

If the second charge is proved, the Pakistan skipper faces a ban of between two and four Test matches or four to eight one-dayers.

Pakistan have already demanded that Hair be kept out of their matches in the Champions Trophy, but with the hosts going further and asking he

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Protesters carry portraits of Pakistani cricket team skipper Inzamamul Haq and an effigy of Australian cricket umpire Darrell Hair during a protest in Lahore recently.

# WI need money, loyalty



AFP, Kuala Lumpur

West Indies cricket has been in decline for a decade and even head coach Bennett King, the first foreigner entrusted with leading the side, doesn't know what the future holds.

One thing he does know is that more money and commitment from authorities in the Caribbean islands is essential if they ever want the team back at the zenith of a game they used to dominate.

Currently, there is very little incentive for youngsters in the West Indies to make cricket a career, while in other countries, academies nurture their talent.

"They are still very passionate about cricket in the West Indies but we just haven't had the money to

move forward with some of the other countries in terms of how they have developed," King, an Australian, said here.

"Academies have actually been disbanded because of lack of finances. Those academies elsewhere are mostly government-funded."

He was referring to the Shell Cricket Academy of St George's University in Grenada, which was recently closed due to lack of funds.

Aside from the current squad of 14 they took to Malaysia for the DLF Cup tri-series, there are only four or five others knocking on the door, which is indicative of the state of West Indian cricket.

"They are very well looked after in the school structures over there but once they get out to their independence, there is not that support or the finances or the facilities for them to keep working on their

game," said King.

"For cricket to become a career, you need to have a good set of resources behind them. At the moment, we would still be considered amateur in that phase."

In an impassioned speech earlier this month, Grenada's Prime Minister Keith Mitchell urged a more professional approach from everyone involved in the sport in the West Indies.

"Cricket is no longer a hobby -- it is a professional sport which requires a professional approach," he said.

"The West Indies Cricket Board, the Players Association, governments and the private sector throughout the region must work together to adopt a transparent, efficient and sustainable approach to the financing of cricket."

One ray of hope is the World Cup

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Prime Minister Khaleda Zia offers prayer after opening the new 20-storied National Sports Council Tower in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

# Zahoor to play for Acme

SPORTS REPORTER

Acme Laboratories confirmed the services of dashing Pakistani batsman Zahoor Elahi for the upcoming Corporate Cricket League (CCL), according to team officials.

The batsman who is a regular fixture in the Dhaka domestic scene, is expected to arrive in the capital on September 30, said Acme official Fahim Sinha.

Acme Laboratories had earlier roped in as many as eight top players on the second day of the players' transfer of the Corporate Cricket League.

Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar and veteran all-rounder Mohammad Rafique have already signed for the top corporate house while international paceman Hasibul Hossain, Manjurul Islam, Alamgir Kabir, batsmen Hannan Sarkar, Ehsanul Haque and all-rounder Manzarul Islam Rana were the other big names.

The veteran Pakistani batsman played for Premier League champions Old DOHS last season.

# Zia still on top

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman maintained solo lead in section A of the second University of Greenwich FIDE Rating Chess tournament at the Bangladesh Chess Federation hall room yesterday.

Zia stretched his collection to maximum five points after he defeated FIDE Master Sheikh Nasir.

Seven players -- International Master (IM) Abdullah Al Rakib, IM Enamul Hossain Rajib, FM Abu Sufian Shakil, FM Taibur Rahman, Debraj Chatterjee, Sohail Chowdhury and Monir Hossain -- are jointly at the second position with 3.5 points.

# Bachelors shock leaders Wari

UNB, Dhaka

Title aspirants Wari Club conceded a 1-4 defeat to Bachelors Sporting Club in the opening super-four match of the Green Delta Insurance Metropolis First Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

It was the second successive defeat for league leaders Wari after conceding a 0-1 loss to Dhaka Wanderers Club in the closing first phase match.

Despite the day's defeat, Wari dominated the table with a clear margin, having secured 24 points from 10 matches. Bachelors improved their position with 20 points from ten outings.

Imran struck twice while Zami and Razib added one each for Bachelors. Raju netted a consolation goal for Wari.

In the day's other match, two-goal Shahjahan helped Farashganj Sporting Club move to second place with a crushing 4-0 win against Dhaka Wanderers. Faisal and Arafat netted one each for the winners.

# PM opens NSC Tower

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday said the diplomatic importance of sports is enormous in the present-day world and the government has taken various development steps keeping that in mind.

"Bold steps into international playgrounds can make a country familiar in the outside world. Sports persons can keep meaningful contributions towards making friendship with one country to another," she said inaugurating the newly constructed NSC Tower at Purana Paltan.

On August 7, 2003, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the 20-storied building on a 2-bigha land on the north side of the Bangabandhu National Stadium, involving about Tk 41 crore funded by the National Sports Council (NSC).

Ten bottom floors of the Tower would be used as sports establishments, including gymnasium, library, auditorium, media room and NSC offices, while the rest 10 would be used for commercial purposes.

The function was told that the monthly income from the 10 commercial floors occupying some 1 lakh square feet could be between Tk 25-30 lakh. The building has two basements for only car parking.

Addressing the inaugural function, the Prime Minister said apart from development and expansion of infrastructure, her government has given emphasis on grooming skilled players through competitions at all levels in villages, unions, upazilas, districts and schools and colleges.

She called on the players, sport organisers and managers to work together to make the government

initiative of preparing skilled players across the country a success.

Khaleda Zia said her government in last five years gave top priority to two things of the sports sector -- constructing necessary infrastructure for sports and improving the standard of sports.

She said sports are not only the instruments for recreation but also enormously helpful practice for keeping the body and mind fit.

Chaired by State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman, the function was addressed, among others, by Housing Minister Mirza Abbas, Mayor Sadek Hossain Khoka and Joyanal Abedin Faruk, MP.

Ministers, sportsmen, sports organisers, leaders of different sports associations were present at the function.

Earlier, the Prime Minister inaugurated the NSC Tower by unveiling the opening plaque.

# BFF looks to Sylhet BNS inspection today



SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) will look to Sylhet to host the 2007 Asian Cup qualifier between Bangladesh and Uzbekistan after the Asian Football Confederation's (AFC) disapproval of the Army Stadium.

The BFF has been struggling to find a venue for the October 11 match as both the recognised venues, the Bangabandhu National Stadium in Dhaka and MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong, are under renovation.

Inspired by the fact that the AFC had staged an international during the AFC Challenge Cup in Dhaka at the Army Stadium in Banani, the

BFF proposed it as a possible venue. However, BFF general secretary Anwarul Hoque Helal told yesterday that the AFC has not given its green signal about the stadium, which does not have standard dressing rooms and media facilities.

"They are going to reject our proposal officially. An AFC official told me over phone that they won't approve the Army Stadium," Helal told.

"When I reminded him about the Challenge Cup match, the AFC official said that standard for Asian Cup is higher than that of the Challenge Cup. We have yet to receive the official letter and when we get it, we will propose the Sylhet Stadium because this is the only alternative we have," he said

adding that facilities at the Sylhet Stadium, which hosted the recently

concluded National Football Championship finals, are satisfactory.

"It might need a little renovation but we hope the AFC would realise our situation. If it does not agree, we will appeal to delay the match for at least three weeks. It has been done for other countries."

The BFF expects that the Bangabandhu Stadium would be ready for football in early November.

The real scene, however, would be clear after the BFF's ground inspection committee's visit to the national stadium today.

The BFF has formed an 11-member committee, which is due to submit its report on availability of the ground to the federation by today as well as giving its recommendation of tentative dates for

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Players of Bachelors Sporting Club and Wari Club in action during yesterday's Super Four match in the Green Delta First Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium.

PHOTO: STAR