

Sport

Ashrafu Huq quits ICC post

Sports Reporter
Former Secretary of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB) Syed Ashrafu Huq has resigned from the post of Deputy Chairman of the Associate Members of the International Cricket Council (ICC).

Cricketers call on BCCB chief

Members of the Bangladesh Cricket team yesterday called on Foreign Minister A S M Mostafizur Rahman at the Foreign Office, reports BSS.

Mr Rahman, who is also the president of the Bangladesh Cricket Control Board, congratulated the players on their becoming unbeaten champions in the recently-concluded South East Asian cricket tournament in Singapore and thereby qualifying for the Asia Cup cricket championship scheduled to be held in Pakistan in October.

The minister assured them of more training facilities at home and abroad before the Asia Cup.

Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Singapore took part in the championship.

Vice-president of BCCB Raisuddin Ahmed, manager of the team Reza-e-Karim and other BCCB officials were present.

India's SA tour in jeopardy

NEW DELHI, June 28: India may reconsider plans to send a cricket team to South Africa following the upsurge in township violence there, a government official said on Saturday, reports Reuter.

"We deplore the recent spate of violence in South Africa (and) hope that conditions will be created for resuming the negotiations for the achievement of full democracy in South Africa," a spokesman for the Ministry of External Affairs said.

The African National Congress (ANC), which halted constitutional talks with Pretoria following the massacre of 41 men, women and children in Boipatong township, has urged South African sports bodies to pull out of all international events, including next month's Barcelona Olympics.

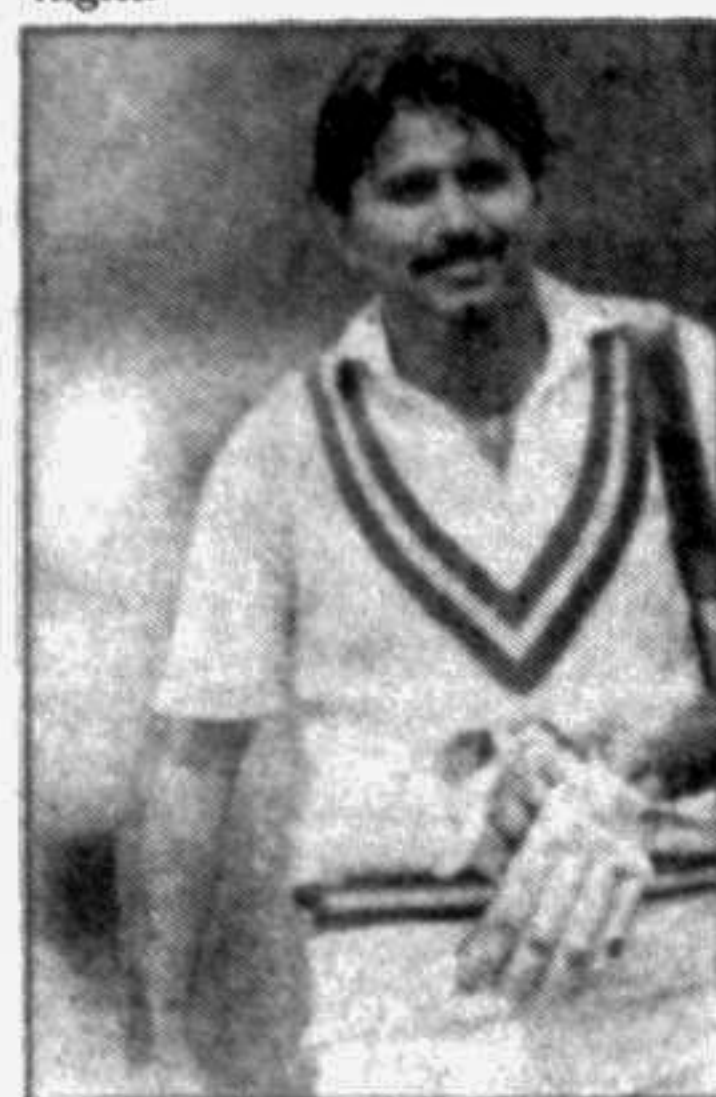
The Indian spokesman said New Delhi could reconsider plans to send the cricket team to South Africa in October "Unless all the grievances of the ANC are addressed."

South Africa ended 20 years of isolation from world cricket last year with a short tour of India.

India are scheduled to be the first team to play a Test series in South Africa since the lifting of sporting boycotts.

Hampshire 93 for two in second knock Miandad, Mujtaba make merry

Sports Reporter
Hampshire, following 244 runs behind on the first innings, were 93 for two at close on the second day of their three-day match against Pakistan at Southampton yesterday, according to BBC monitored in Dhaka last night.



JAVED MIANDAD...142

Resuming at their overnight score of 19 without loss in reply to Pakistan's mammoth first innings total of 406 for one declared, the county league leaders were shot out for a paltry 162 with leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed completing another five-wicket haul.

Former England skipper David Gower, recalled by the selectors for the third Test against the Pakistanis starting at Old Trafford, Manchester next Thursday topscored for Hampshire with 74.

Miandad hit 142, the 79th first-class century of his cricket career, before retiring at tea with a headache and Mujtaba made an unbeaten

154, his second tour hundred. The pair put on 223 in 48 overs as the Pakistanis condemned Gower and his teammates to toil in the field as they piled up 406 for one declared.

Hampshire were 19 for no wicket at the close of the first day of the three-day match.

Gower, recalled by England for next week's third Test at Old Trafford, was given an early taste of the Pakistan batting power as Hampshire were restricted to a solitary success.

Rameez Raja, who made 31, was caught by wicket-keeper Bobby Parks off Kevan James after Rajhesh Maru had juggled the ball up at first slip.

Rameez's opening partner, Aamir Sohail, had earlier retired hurt on six. He needed ice treatment on a bruised knee.

Miandad and Mujtaba shrugged off these setbacks with superb strokes all round the wicket, the Pakistan captain racing to his half century in 56 balls and reaching three figures from 120 deliveries, with 14 boundaries.

Miandad then scored with even greater freedom, hitting Shaun Udal's off-spin straight for six and taking a heavy toll of a Hampshire attack missing their rested West Indies paceman Malcolm Marshall.

Mujtaba, whose hundred occupied 197 balls and contained a six and 16 fours, sustained the punishment by adding 111 with Salim Malik, who contributed 50 not out off 54 deliveries.

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Table with 4 columns: Player, Runs, Wickets, Extras. Includes Rameez Raja, Asif Mujtaba, Javed Miandad, Salim Malik, Udal, Maru, Nicholas.

Fall of wicket: 1=72 Did not bat: Inzamam-ul



ASIF MUJTABA...154 not out

Haq, Wasim Akram, Moin Khan, Waqar Younis, Mushtaq Ahmed, Aaqib Javed.

BOWLING table with columns: Player, O, M, R, W. Includes Shine, Bakkar, James, Udal, Maru, Nicholas.

HAMPSHIRE: First innings K. James not out 14 T. Middleton not out 4 Extras (nb-1) 1 Total (for no wicket) 19

To bat: David Gower, Mark Nicholas (captain), Robin Smith, Julian Wood, Robert Parks, Rajhesh Maru, Shaun Udal, Kevin Shine, Paul-Jan Bakker.

PAKISTAN: First innings Aamir Sohail retired hurt 6

Atletico Madrid lift Spanish Cup

MADRID, June 28: Atletico Madrid lifted the Spanish Cup for the second year running here on Saturday night after a hard-fought 2-0 victory over luckless city rivals Real Madrid, reports AFP.

German midfielder Bernd Schuster got Atletico off to a flying start, scoring in the sixth minute, and Portugal's Paulo Futre added the second after 28 minutes.

The defeat rounded off a bitterly disappointing season for Real, who had led the championship up right until the end - when a 3-2 defeat against Tenerife cost them the title on the final day.

Rose Bowl to stage '94 Cup final

WASHINGTON, June 28: The Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, will host the 1994 World Cup final, a well-informed source said here on Friday, reports AFP.

It will mark the first time in the history of the tournament that the final has not taken place in the capital city of the host country.

The outdoor stadium, which is best known for hosting one of American college football's premier end-of-season matches as well as four Super

Bowls, will also be the site for the third-place play-off and one of the semi-finals. Over 100,000 spectators watched the final of the Olympics football tournament between France and Brazil in the stadium in 1984.

The other semi-final will be held in the Meadowlands Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, eight miles from New York city, the source said, while the opening match will be held in Soldier's Field, Chicago, on June 17, home of American football's Chicago Bears.

The US Soccer Federation also has its headquarters in Chicago. Among the factors which swayed organisers to opt for the Rose Bowl is its large capacity, experience in organising top events, and its proximity to the large Hispanic population which lives in southern California.

Four first round matches will also be played each of eight cities - Washington, Boston, Orlando, Dallas, San Francisco and Detroit, as well as the Rose Bowl, Soldier's Field and the Meadowlands, while the second-round ties will be held in all but Detroit's covered Metrodome Stadium.

Morocco, France in keen race for '98 Cup

ZURICH, June 28: Morocco hopes to become the first country outside Europe and Latin America to stage soccer's World Cup finals when FIFA, the sports governing body, chooses the 1998 championship site this week, reports AP.

France, which staged the 1994 European Championship, seems favoured to get the nod from FIFA's 22-member executive committee but the secret vote Thursday is expected to be close.

Sites for the 1994 championship in the United States, the next one, are due to be approved by its World Cup committee Monday as FIFA starts a week of meetings.

FIFA's Congress, held every two years, is expected to admit or re-admit 22 national associations, including South Africa, those resulting from the Soviet Union's breakup, two from ex-Yugoslavia and the three Baltic States. The Baltics

got provisional membership in December.

A proposal to increase Third World voting power would give Africa, Asia and the North and Central America-Caribbean area one additional executive committee post each. The change, if approved, would take effect only after the 1998 World Cup ballot.

The Congress is Thursday and Friday.

Switzerland, the third candidate, is widely expected to withdraw from the 1998 bidding, leaving France and Morocco to face off.

The Swiss wanted to boost stadium capacity with temporary grandstands, but FIFA banned them after a French stadium disaster last May.

France plans to improve existing stadiums - with normal seating - and offers to build several new ones, including an 80,000-seat oval south of Paris for the final. It can point to its organising experience.

But Morocco, which bid unsuccessfully for the 1994 event, has lobbied Third World associations and got backing from Arab countries, including oil-rich Saudi Arabia.

Morocco already captured seven votes in the three-way competition for the 1994 Cup with the United States and Brazil.

King Hassan received FIFA president Joao Havelange of Brazil in the North African country two weeks ago for a final pitch. Havelange, who is always seeking new markets for soccer, called the talks "fruitful."

France, hoping to stage the World Cup for the second time after 1938, would be assured of a majority if all eight European and four Latin American votes on the executive committee go its way.

FIFA's 25-member World Cup committee meets Monday to allocate the various phases of the 1994 World Cup final round among nine US cities.

Schedule and kickoff times of the monthlong 24-nation tournament will be set later.

The Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., is expected to get approval as the title match site and Soldier Field in Chicago as the opening game stadium for the 52-game tournament starting June 17, 1994.

US organisers have recommended the Rose Bowl and Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ as semifinal sites. Soccer, while never a major US professional sport, drew the biggest attendance at the 1984 Olympics. More than 100,000 people filled the Rose Bowl for the final between France and Brazil and the Yugoslavia-Italy bronze medal game.

The other cities picked as World Cup sites are the Cotton Bowl in Dallas, Citrus Bowl in Orlando, Fla., Foxboro Stadium in Foxboro, Mass., the Silverdome in Pontiac, Mich., Stanford Stadium in Stanford, Calif., and RPK Stadium in Washington DC.

Olhovskiy shatters Courier's invincibility

LONDON, June 28: The biggest surprise of all was kept until last. As the final curtain came down on the first week of Wimbledon, the men's top seed became latest casualty, reports AFP.

Jim Courier's Grand Slam dream was shattered when he was bundled unceremoniously out of the world's most famous tennis tournament by Russian qualifier Andrei Olhovskiy.

The 21-year-old world number-one, who had dominated the Australian and French Opens and who had been unbeaten in 26 consecutive matches, went down 4-6, 6-4, 4-6, 4-6.

He joined six other men's seeds and eight women's seeds who failed to survive the first week.

Courier had been unhappy at not being scheduled to play on the Centre-Court since the start of the championships.

But when his chance finally came, it turned out to be a nightmare.

"It was outplayed - it's as simple as that," admitted the disappointed American after his defeat.

He had not been beaten since March when lost in the semi-finals at Key Biscayne to fellow-American Michael Chang.

"Sometimes you win ... sometimes you lose ... sometimes it rains. There was no rain today," he smiled.

Courier was always under pressure from an opponent ranked a lowly 193rd in the world.

Olhovskiy, 26-year-old and battle-hardened from playing through the tough qualifying tournament at nearby Southampton the week before the tournament opened, showed he was no respecter of reputations and gave as good as he got from the word go.

Excellent serves, a sure volley and plenty of patience when he needed it most, enabled Olhovskiy to sew the seeds of doubt in Courier's mind.

Courier, wearing his trademark "lucky" white baseball cap, could hardly believe his eyes as the winners streamed off the Russian's racket.

And when he dropped the first set - the first time he had lost a set since his semifinal victory over German Carl-Uwe Steeb at the Italian Open - it was clear he was going to have to lift his game.

Perhaps he should have taken off his cap instead. Olhovskiy, wearing an enormous smile, admitted "It's the best win in my career, you know. What can I say?"

"The difference between top guys and the guys ranked around 200 - is in the head. Confidence makes the difference."

Monsoon handball Sports Reporter

The monsoon handball tournament under the aegis of the Bangladesh Handball Federation with begin from mid-July in Dhaka.

The tourney will remain open to all and the federation expects a record number of teams in this year's meet.

ence. If you feel confident you can play very well."

ONLY JUST BEGUN

The 26-year-old Moscow player, who is married and who has a two-year-old son, said: "You know - my career just started one year ago because then I started to play for myself."

"Before that I played for our Sports Committee and I can't play because I can't make my plans for where I want to go."

Agassi's glittering tennis did the rest.

He completely outpowered and outshone compatriot Derrick Rostagno in straight-sets - his only worrying moment coming when a sudden roar of delight made him drop service.

BATES BATTLES ON

The roar was caused as news filtered through that local hero Jeremy Bates had just won his match on the adjoin-

ing number-one show court.

Bates, the first British player to reach the fourth round in a decade (the last was Buster Mottram), survived an exhausting five setter to beat Thierry Champion of France.

The 30-year-old English-

man now plays another Frenchman - ninth-seeded Guy Forget for a place in the last eight.

Forget beat popular compatriot Henri Leconte in four sets.

Twelve months ago Forget and Leconte had also been drawn to play each other and on that occasion Leconte was forced to retire with a back injury.

BECKER STRUGGLES

Three-times champion Boris Becker, currently without a coach after his split with Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia, had another tough struggle but came through in four sets, two of them tie-breaks, against American Bryan Shelton.

The big German now plays the talented South African 14th seed Wayne Ferreira who eliminated Luis Herrera of Mexico.

Agassi's opponent will be Romanian-born Christian Saccau of Germany. Saccau snatched a thrilling five-set win over Swiss Davis Cup player Jakob Hlasek.

Courier and Wheaton were not the only seeds to crash out.

WOMEN'S SCENE

In the women's singles ninth-seeded Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere of Switzerland was beaten in three sets by Austria's 141st-ranked 19-year-old Kristen Godridge.

Eleventh seeded Jana Novtna of Czechoslovakia became the latest victim of the notorious Number-Two court, disliked by top players because of the proximity of spectators and nicknamed "The graveyard of champions."

She was soundly beaten in straight-sets by Paity Fendick of the United States.

And Naoko Sawamatsu became the first Japanese player ever to reach the fourth round when she put out Austria's 16th seed Judith Wiesner in straight-sets.

GRAF SURVIVES

Steffi Graf nearly became another shock first week victim when she was made to struggle for nearly two hours by powerful South African Mariaan de Swardt. It was a relieved three-times champion who left the court after a 5-6, 6-0, 7-5 win.

Gabriela Sabatini, last year's runner-up to Graf, was always in charge against Japanese qualifier Rika Hiraki and won in straight-sets.

But she paid a warm tribute to her 20-year-old opponent saying she had much promise.

Sabatini is two years older.

US beat Brazil

PORTLAND, Ore., June 28: Katrina McClain scored 19 points to lead six double-figure scorers as the United States beat Brazil 103-75 Saturday in an exhibition matchup of women's teams which have already qualified for the Barcelona Games, reports AP.

The win came in what had been described as a grudge match for the United States.

The US team took control again in the second half by taking advantage of its speed with pressure defence that forced turnover after turnover.

Bishop wrecks Warwick's

LONDON, June 28: West Indian fast bowler Ian Bishop completed a seven-wicket match haul to help thrust Derbyshire to a two-day victory over Warwickshire on Saturday in the county cricket championship, reports Reuter.

"We deplore the recent spate of violence in South Africa (and) hope that conditions will be created for resuming the negotiations for the achievement of full democracy in South Africa," a spokesman for the Ministry of External Affairs said.

The African National Congress (ANC), which halted constitutional talks with Pretoria following the massacre of 41 men, women and children in Boipatong township, has urged South African sports bodies to pull out of all international events, including next month's Barcelona Olympics.

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South Africa ended 20 years of isolation from world cricket last year with a short tour of India.

India are scheduled to be the first team to play a Test series in South Africa since the lifting of sporting boycotts.

Seamer Simon Base, who combined hostility with control in capturing five for 35, and Bishop reduced Warwickshire to 11 for four at one stage and only top scorer Dermot Reeve (60) gave their total some respectability.

Curtley Ambrose was another West Indies fast bowler in form, taking his season's best four for 53 as Northamptonshire moved to the threshold of victory over Glamorgan at Luton.

Ambrose helped to dismiss the Welsh side for 176 and when they followed on 323 behind, medium-pace David Capel dispatched Matthew Maynard, Viv Richards and Robert Croft in 19 deliveries as they slumped to 98 for seven at the close.

Champions Essex became the second side in the current round of matches to complete victory with a day to spare, trouncing Lancashire by an innings and 37 runs at Ilford.

Ex-England left-arm spinner John Childs put Essex in charge with five for 50 as Lancashire were bowled out for 212 and followed on 298 behind.

Graham Lloyd, having made 61 in the first innings, again provided Lancashire's main resistance with the top score of 74 in their 261 all out. Pace bowlers Derek Pringle (three for 31) and Neil Foster (three for 46) did the damage this time.

England left-arm spinner Phil Tufnell, having his first bowl since returning from an emergency appendix operation in mid-May, took three for 63 for Middlesex against Somerset at Lord's.

round in 1990 and the fourth round last year.

With back-to-back victories this week over Pat Cash and Wheaton, two of the world's best grass-court players, McEnroe said he is playing as

well as he could have hoped.

"I've had two great wins on grass," he said. "I felt I was capable of beating these players. It's not a complete shock by any means. To have an opportunity to play in the second week is great."

Wheaton was the 16th seed and a semifinalist here last year. But he was no match for McEnroe on Saturday.

McEnroe kept up the pressure the whole match with his serve, sharp returns, volleys and touch shots.

NZ tour Lanka in Nov-Dec

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, June 28: New Zealand will play three tests and three one-day internationals on a cricket tour of Sri Lanka at the end of the year, the New Zealand Cricket Council announced Sunday, reports AP.

The full itinerary for the tour will be released in Colombo by the Sri Lanka Cricket Board.

NZC chief executive Graham Dowling said the New Zealand team would be in Sri Lanka from mid-November to until late December.

Dowling said New Zealand also hoped to tour Zimbabwe before visiting Sri Lanka.

He said financial details of the Zimbabwe tour still had to be finalised.

New Zealand also will host Pakistan for a Test and three one-day internationals in early 1993, before Australia makes a three-Test tour.

Schools kabaddi from July 4

Sports Reporter

The 1992 Schools kabaddi under the auspices of the Bangladesh Kabaddi Federation tournament will now begin from July 4 instead of the initially scheduled June 30.

Sixteen institutions - split into four groups - will take part in the competition with the group champions moving into the semifinals.

The teams are, Ideal High School, Ahmed Bawani Academy, Dwipshikha School, Maniknagar Primary School (Group A), Segun Bagicha High School, K L Jubilee High School, Notre Dame College, Gandaria High School (Group B), Rifles Govt School and College, Kamlapur High School, Dholaipara High School, Hyder Ali High School (Group C), Ansars Academy School, Bangladesh Rifles High School, Khilgaon Govt High School and Rajdhani High School (Group D).

The two semifinals will be held on July 25 and 26 while the final is scheduled for July 27.

Two matches will be played on the opening day with Ideal High School taking on Maniknagar School at 5 pm and Ahmed Bawani Academy facing Dwipshikha School at 5:30 pm at the Outer Stadium kabaddi court.

Ukraine booters hold US 0-0

PISCATAWAY, New Jersey, June 28: The US and Ukrainian soccer teams played to a scoreless tie in an international friendly on Saturday, reports Reuter.

The United States were credited with 23 shots to Ukraine's nine, but the Ukrainians had the more dangerous opportunities, including a chance with two minutes remaining in the match.

The United States played without several key players.

McEnroe conjures old magic

WIMBLEDON, England, June 28: Jim Courier's loss could be John McEnroe's gain.

As the top-seeded Courier faltered against Russian qualifier Andrei Olhovskiy, McEnroe reached the round of 16 Saturday with a masterful 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 victory over David Wheaton, reports AP.

On paper, McEnroe now has a good chance of reaching the semifinals in what is perhaps his last Wimbledon.

Rather than facing Courier in the next round, he'll play Olhovskiy, a relative unknown ranked No. 193 in the world. The quarterfinals would bring either Guy Forget or Jeremy Bates.

"My quarter (of the draw) is probably the most unclear one," McEnroe said. "It's a great opportunity for all of us. It's still going to be extremely difficult for me to win the whole event, but the fact I'm still in gives me a fighting chance."

With Courier out of the picture, McEnroe knows he will be the favourite against Olhovskiy.

"But I'm not going to take him (Olhovskiy) lightly," he said. "If he's capable of beating Jim Courier, he's capable of beating me. So I'll have to be ready."

The 33-year-old New Yorker, who won Wimbledon three times in the 1980s, last reached the semifinals in 1989. He lost in the first

round in 1990 and the fourth round last year.

With back-to-back victories this week over Pat Cash and Wheaton, two of the world's best grass-court players, McEnroe said he is playing as

well as he could have hoped.

"I've had two great wins on grass," he said. "I felt I was capable of beating these players. It's not a complete shock by any means. To have an opportunity to play in the second week is great."

Wheaton was the 16th seed and a semifinalist here last year. But he was no match for McEnroe on Saturday.

McEnroe kept up the pressure the whole match with his serve, sharp returns, volleys and touch shots.

"Right from the beginning," he said, "I took control and had a little bit more variety in my game and a little bit more

speed around the court.

The first set was decided by just one service break, with Wheaton double faulting on the third break point in the second game. McEnroe never lost more than two points in his service games in the first set.

Wheaton took a 3-0 lead in the second set as McEnroe went through what he described as "a bit of a lull." But McEnroe regrouped, running off five straight games and six out of seven to win the set.

McEnroe pumped himself up after winners, while Wheaton grimaced and tossed his racket in frustration on one changeover.

"Mentally I needed to get a second wind," McEnroe said. "Once I got that break to get back, I really felt like I played well after that."

In the third set, McEnroe got the decisive service break for a 4-3 lead and served out the match two games later - nullifying two double faults with an ace and several service winners.

Although the draw has opened up for him, McEnroe said he doesn't want to make the mistake of looking ahead too far.

"My attitude is going to be, if I play great tennis I'll be OK," he said. "But just because my name's John McEnroe, I can't expect that's going to be enough."

Reuter adds: It was a superlative performance by a player who is probably making his last appearance at this tournament.

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