

Bangladesh colts do well

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh registered an overwhelming victory in their opening match in an international youth cricket tournament in Malaysia when the colts inflicted a 123-run defeat on their counterparts from Papua New Guinea at Penang yesterday.

According to a faxed message received here last night, Bangladesh batted first to pile up an impressive total of 204 and then skittled Papua New Guinea out for a paltry score of 81.

Allrounder Litu was adjudged man-of-the-match for his haul of three wickets and a brief but useful innings of 24 earlier in the Bangladesh innings.

Zakaria Imtiaz, the compact right handed middle order batsman who plays for Bangladesh Biman in the domestic league cricket, was the top scorer of the innings with a polished 50 off 67 balls.

The tempo was, however, set by Sohel, who threw his bat around in gay abandon to collect a hefty 34 off 35 balls.

There were two-bit contributions from Biplab and skipper Naimur Rahman Durjoy who chipped in with 16 and 15 respectively.

Four Papua New Guinea bowlers claimed two wickets apiece with Morea having the best analysis — two for 26 — of the quartet.

Next to him was Ovia who captured two for 27 and Maha who picked two for 30.

Opening bowler Dikana, who rocked the Bangladeshi innings with an early strike removing opener Biddiut for a duck, finished with two for 35.

Bangladeshi innings lasted 49.2 overs, four ball short of the stipulated quota of 50 overs for each side.

Papua New Guinea, who share camaraderie with Bangladesh in the ICC associate members' level, were given a poor account of relative

strength by its colts as the whole shoot was sent packing for 81 runs only in 32.4 overs.

Against a varied Bangladesh attack that contained a handy mixture of pace and spin, the Melanesian cricketers were all at sea.

Litu reaped rich after the new ball bowlers had done a fairly good job of containing. He picked up three wickets for ten runs from six overs of tidy spin that included two maidens as well.

Durjoy's off-spin accounted for two for ten runs too.

Sohel's two wickets were dirt cheap — two for seven runs while Biplab bagged another two for 11.

In a general pattern unchallenged sway of the Bangladeshi bowlers there were small pockets of resistance in the Papua New Guinea innings in the form of Maha's unbeaten 27 and Rema's 18.

Bangladesh play their second match against Hong Kong today.

Senior Division soccer leagues resume today

Sports Reporter

The Star Premier and First Division football leagues resume today after an unscheduled one-day break owing to countrywide down-to-dust har-tal yesterday.

The first of the two Premier leagues matches, between Mukitjodha Sangsad and Public Works Department (PWD), will kick off at the Dhaka Stadium at 4.30 pm and will be followed by the Brothers Union-Wari Club clash, scheduled for a 6.30 pm start at the same venue.

The day's only First Division encounter will involve Farashganj SC and Dhanmondi Club. The match begins at the Mirpur Stadium at 6 in the evening.

Timman beats Salov

HYDERABAD, July 30: Grandmaster Jan Timman of the Netherlands Saturday won his first game against Russian Grandmaster Valery Salov in 67 moves in the 150,000 FIDE World Chess Championship quarter-finals, reports AP.

Timman's victory put him two games ahead of Salov.

The two Grandmasters also agreed to draw their third game which was adjourned after 63 moves on Friday.

Six Grandmasters are taking part in the 17-day tournament sponsored by the World Chess Federation, known by its French acronym FIDE. Three will qualify for the semifinal round. The prize money will be shared equally among the three qualifiers.

Rutherford to continue

WELLINGTON, July 30: Ken Rutherford will retain the captaincy of the New Zealand team to tour India and South Africa later this year, the national cricket authorities said today, reports Reuters.

Television New Zealand said, however, that no decision had been taken on whether to confirm Geoff Howarth as coach.

Howarth drew criticism in the media over New Zealand's poor showing on their recent tour of England, where they lost the three-match Test series 1-0 and crashed to ignominious defeats against county sides.

Miura signs for Genoa

GENOA, Italy, July 30: Kazuyoshi Miura, Japan's soccer player of the year last season, has signed for Italian club Genoa to become the first Asian to play in the First Division, the club said on Friday, reports Reuters.

Miura, whose popularity in Japan rivals rock stars, arrived in the northern Italian port city on Thursday on a one-season loan from Yomiuri of the J-League.

Italian press have said the deal involved several corporate sponsors and was worth some 12 billion lire (7.5 million dollars), with 3.5 billion lire (2.2 million dollar) going to Miura.

Moreno joins Middlesbrough

LONDON, July 30: English First Division club Middlesbrough have signed Bolivian World Cup striker Jaime Moreno for £250,000 (325,000 dollars), reports Reuters.

Moreno, 20, will become the first Bolivian to play in England. Middlesbrough will pay an additional 125,000 pounds (188,000 dollars) to his former side after he has made 50 appearances.



Brazilian World Cup winning captain Dunga holds the coveted trophy aloft during a reception accorded to the world champions at Sao Paulo on July 29. Flanking him from left to right are Mauro Silva, Cafu and Branco. — AFP photo

Hunt for undesirables on

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 30: The treasure hunt is on.

Federal agents are out looking for the 17.4 tons of personal items bought by Brazil's national soccer team during the World Cup that was waived through Rio de Janeiro's international airport last week to the charging of customs officials, reports AP.

Lafredo Vieira Lopes, a federal judge, gave police the green light Thursday to search the homes of the 93 players, staff and guests of the team delegation that failed to pay \$1 million in customs duties on excess luggage.

The order was to take no excuses.

Agents started at the home of Ricardo Teixeira, head of the Brazilian Soccer Confederation, who went over the \$500 limit on personal items that can be brought in duty free by Brazilian nationals.

After celebrations in Recife and Brasilia, the team arrived near midnight in Rio for a ticker-tape parade. Teixeira sniffed when customs officials asked to see his luggage. He told the players to boycott the parade.

Moments later, airport officials said a call came from the presidential palace in Brasilia to let the baggage go un-

spected.

When the feds came, however, Teixeira was apologetic.

"We never thought there would be a problem," he said, after giving the federal police and tax inspectors a list of his luggage.

"We stopped in Recife and Brasilia and the customs officials there said nothing to us," he said. "At no time did we ask that our baggage not be inspected."

Next came head coach Carlos Alberto Parreira, who told police he brought in \$3,700 worth of items, including a 45-inch (114-cm) colour TV, a personal computer and a laser printer.

"It wasn't that we didn't want to pay duties, we just didn't want to leave our baggage impounded at the airport," he said. "Well, I declared everything, and I consider this whole affair over."

One by one, the agents knocked on the front doors of the stars: Romario, Bebeto, Mazinho, Jorginho, Branco, Leonardo, and assistant coach Mario Zagallo. What did they find?

A doll house, and a baby stroller.

"My baggage looked big because I bought a doll house for my daughter," said Mazinho. "But I swear, I didn't go over the \$500 limit."

Luiz Veloso, president of

the Flamengo soccer club who accompanied the team, laughed when a reporter asked him if he was worried that the tax men were coming.

"This is a joke. These tax agents want to make a name for themselves by going after the world champions," he said.

On Friday, the soccer confederation sent the internal revenue service a list of passengers on the team plane and the luggage they brought home the day after the World Cup final.

It included only 45 passengers and said they entered Brazil with \$26,800 in luggage. Only 15 people exceeded the \$500 limit, the statement said.

In the meantime, the Rio state attorney general's office has asked Varig airlines to identify the passengers and crew on the team plane, and the weight of each passenger's luggage.

But in a country that is a refuge for US financial outlaws, British train robbers, Nazi criminals and Italian mafiosi, few believed authorities would ever track down all of the merchandise.

"Anyone who thinks that this smuggled stuff will miraculously turn up is kidding himself," said Boris Casoy, a TV news anchor for the SBT network. "Now that it's in Brazil, logic tells you it will only disappear."

Shaw, Symcox send Notts on a spin

NOTTINGHAM, England, July 30: Pat Symcox and Tim Shaw spun South Africa to their first win over a county side on their tour of England on Friday by taking nine wickets between them as the home side collapsed for 139, reports Reuters.

Nottinghamshire decline to go on a run chase after being set target of 274 for victory and looked to have reached safety when they had scored 131 for three with only an hour to play.

But off-spinner Symcox started an extraordinary collapse that saw seven wickets fall in the space of just eight overs and for the addition of only eight runs.

Enterprising batting in the morning session after South Africa resumed their second innings at 25 for one enabled the visitors to declare at lunch on 164 for three. Darryll Cullinan, out of touch for much of the tour so far, was the main contributor with a bright 61 not out.

Nottingham looked in no danger of defeat as captain and former England opener Tim Robinson (42) and Wayne Dessaur (34) put on 66 for the first wicket.

Even though they and number three Graeme Archer were dismissed with only 80 runs on the board, Paul Johnson and Mathew Downman staged a recovery with a fourth wicket partnership of 51.

Berasategui bows to Fromberg

HILVERSUM, Netherlands, July 30: Unseeded Australian Richard Fromberg upset top-seeded Spaniard Alberto Berasategui 7-6 (7-2), 3-6, 6-0 in the \$300,000 Dutch Open clay court tennis championships, reports AP.

In Sunday's final, Fromberg will meet Czech Karel Novacek, also unseeded, who earlier in the day out-gunned 18-year old Chilean ATP-tour rookie Marcelo Rios in the other semifinal 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Sanchez-Vicario in semis

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vt., July 30: Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, playing two singles matches in a day for the first time within memory, won Friday to reach the semifinals of the US women's hard-court tournament, reports AP.

The top-seeded Spaniard, the No. 2 player in the world, survived a scare in the morning to beat Sandra Cacic 6-4, 3-6, 6-1. In the afternoon, she wore down Tami Whitlinger-Jones 6-3, 6-0.

No. 3 seed Mary Joe Fernandez of Miami did not fare as well. She beat Sonja Jeyaseelan of Canada 6-1, 6-0, but lost to No. 5 Iva Majoli of Croatia 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 (7-3).

Defending champion Conchita Martinez of Spain, second-seeded and No. 3 in the world, gained the semis by beating Marianne Werdel of San Diego 6-0, 6-4. Martinez had only one match to play after winning the only match completed Thursday.

Fourth-seeded Amanda Coetzer of South Africa completed a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Adriana Serra-Zanetti of Italy after rain stopped play Thursday with Coetzer ahead 6-4, 2-1. Then Coetzer eliminated No. 7 Ginger Hultberg 6-3, 6-4.

Sanchez-Vicario and Majoli play in one semifinal Saturday and Martinez and Coetzer meet in the other

Pak-SL Board match drawn



KURUNEGALA, Sri Lanka, July 30: Pakistan's Salim Malik and Saad Anwar scored their second successive half centuries in the final day of the second three-day game against the Board President's XI which ended in a draw on Saturday, reports Reuters.

But Sri Lanka took some comfort from the perseverance of medium pacer Kumar Dharmasena who ended with seven for 111 from 38.2 overs and may have earned himself a Test place.

Malik stroked a fluent 62 of 99 balls with one six and eight fours. Left-handed Anwar hit a rapid 66 off 69 balls including four sixes and six fours.

The pair helped lift Pakistan to a total of 492 in reply to the local team's first innings of 326. The Board President's XI had made 64 for two in the second innings at the close.

Pakistan, resuming from the overnight total of 276 for four, were dismissed 45 minutes before the tea break.

Apart from Basit Ali, all the

frontline batsmen showed good form, following Aamir Sohail's 146 on Friday.

Wasim Akram, with a six wicket haul in the match and Ashfaq Ahmed with four wickets, have been the most effective bowlers.

Pakistan play the President's XI in a one-day match in Colombo Monday.

Scoreboard on the final day of the second three-day cricket match between the Sri Lanka Board President's XI and Pakistan on Saturday:

SRI LANKA: First innings 326 (S. Ranatunga 97, H. Wickremaratne 69, Akram 57-6, Ashfaq 4-7-4)

PAKISTAN: First innings Sohail c Tillemaratne 146

b Dharmasena 146
Mujtaba c Hathurusinghe b Dharmasena 30
Inzamamul Haq c Hathurusinghe b Dharmasena 47

Malik st Kaluwirathana b Ekanayake 62
Basit Ali c Munasinghe b Dharmasena 16
Anwar c Munasinghe b Ekanayake 66

Latif c Munasinghe b Dharmasena 40

Wasim Akram c Kaluwirathana b Dharmasena 29
Mustaq Ahmed run out
Waqar Younis c Kaluwirathana b Dharmasena 31

Ashfaq Ahmed not out 0
Extras: (nb-18) 18
Total: 492

Fall of wickets: 1-120; 2-231; 3-238; 4-262; 5-359; 6-388; 7-428; 8-440; 9-474

Bowling

	O	M	R	W
Munasinghe	12	0	85	0
Upashantha	16	1	65	0
Dharmasena	38.2	2	7	11
Ekanayake	31	1	156	2
De Silva	13	1	75	0

SRI LANKA BOARD PRESIDENT'S XI: Second innings
Hathurusinghe c Mushtaq b Akram 1
Samaraweera st Latif b Mushtaq 10
Ranatunga not out 24
Tillekeratne not out 20
Extras: (b-2; nb-8; w-1) 9
Total: (for two wickets) 64

Fall of wickets: 1-3; 2-22

Bowling

	O	M	R	W
Akram	4	0	8	1
Waqar	8	4	18	0
Mushtaq	9	3	26	1
Ashfaq	4	2	10	0

Result: Match drawn.

Battle of 'dirt' continues



MANCHESTER, England, July 30: Mike Atherton, who considered quitting as England cricket captain following the dirt-in-the-pocket controversy, said on Friday he would continue to lead his country, reports Reuters.

Atherton announced his decision after calls by the British press for his resignation in the wake of an incident while he was fielding on the third day of the first Test against South Africa at Lord's last Saturday.

The England skipper was shown on television rubbing his hand in his trouser pocket and then rubbing the ball before handing it to fast bowler Darren Gough.

Atherton originally denied any wrongdoing but later admitted having dirt in his pocket, taken from a bare patch on the field, to dry the ball.

Atherton, just returned from a short break, said at a news conference at his county Lancashire's Old Trafford headquarters: "I had considered resigning. But the reason I have not done so is because in my own mind I'm clear that my intentions and actions were trustworthy."

"If I did resign the only reason for doing so would be due to the press and media clamour and I do not think that is the right reason."

"Think I have got the support of the players and I hope I am strong enough in my own mind to come through what is going to be a difficult game next week."

"I repeat that at no time during my career have I cheated or attempted to cheat and nor did I do so on this occasion."

When the incident was captured by TV cameras on Saturday and an investigation followed that evening, International Cricket Council (ICC) match referee Peter Burge ruled Atherton had done "nothing untoward."

However, Atherton's difficulties were compounded by the fact that he did not initially tell Burge, the former Australian Test batsman, about the dirt in his pocket.

When he revealed this aspect of the affair immediately after England's 356-run defeat on Sunday, chairman of selectors Ray Illingworth fined Atherton 2,000 pounds sterling (3,050 dollars) for using the dirt and for not giving a full explanation at the first opportunity to Burge.

Illingworth and senior Test and County Cricket Board (CCCB) officials subsequently

supported Atherton during the rumpus that followed.

Atherton, in a prepared statement at the news conference, spoke of his "foolishness" in not telling Burge of the dirt in his pocket when the match referee was making his investigation at the close of play on Saturday.

"Thinking back to that meeting, I gave my response without considering the consequences and believing that I had done nothing improper, but not wishing to raise any suspicions about my actions," said England's captain.

"I cannot turn the clock back, but I fully accept that on this occasion I was thoughtless and should have given him the full picture. I have apologised to Peter Burge and that apology has been fully accepted."

The dirt-in-the-pocket affair marks the first tarnishing of a previously impeccable image for Atherton, appointed England captain last August following the resignation of Graham Gough after the fourth Ashes Test.

Atherton meets with the selectors today to pick the squad for the second Test starting at Headingley next Thursday, and is "now anxious to turn my full attention and efforts towards my responsibilities as England captain."

IMRAN APPRECIATES

Former Pakistan captain Imran Khan was one of a number of leading cricket figures who said on Friday Atherton was right to stay on as captain.

"We finished talking about this incident on Monday, when Peter gave his report," said Richards.



IT'S DEAL: Tottenham Hotspurs chairman Alan Sugar (R) shakes hands with German World Cup star Juergen Klinsmann after the player signed a two-million pound contract to move from French club Monaco to Spurs on July 29. — AFP photo

Agassi blows Bruguera away



TORONTO, July 30: Andre Agassi pulled off one of his biggest victories in months Friday night, beating two-time French Open champion Sergi Bruguera of Spain 4-6, 7-6 (7-2), 6-1 in a quarterfinal match of the \$1.7 million Canadian Open tennis tournament, reports AP.

Agassi, seeded eighth, used a powerful forehand to chase the top-seeded 23-year-old Spaniard around Centre Court at the National Tennis Centre and relied on his return of service to keep Bruguera off balance.

"It was real important for me to be aggressive out there," Agassi said. "I played a real

solid game."

Agassi advanced to a semifinal match against sixth-seeded Wayne Ferreira of South Africa, who beat No. 14 Malival Washington 4-6, 7-5, 7-5.

On the other side of the draw, Jim Courier, a former No. 1 player, beat Sweden's Thomas Enqvist 6-2, 6-2 to earn a semifinal spot opposite unseeded Jason Stoltenberg of Australia, who eliminated 15th-seeded Richey Reneberg 6-4, 6-2.

Despite his quarter-final loss, Bruguera will move to a career-high ranking of number three on Monday.

In all three sets Agassi took an early lead.

He led Bruguera 4-2 in the first set before the Spaniard broke even to 4-4. At 30-40 in the tenth game, Bruguera captured the first set when he smacked a vicious forehand right down the line.

Agassi had a 5-3 lead in the second set but Bruguera pulled even to force a tie-breaker. At 2-2 in the tie-breaker, Agassi won the final five points to move the match into a final set. Bruguera double faulted on the last point of the tie-breaker.

Agassi now leads Bruguera 2-1 in career meetings.

At 12th-ranked Courier, who will move back into the top 10 on Monday, played a tight tennis Friday. He now has a 2-0 winning record over the 49th-ranked Enqvist.