

# Damal Summer from today



Reigning champions Abahani Limited take on promoters Sadharan Bima Krira Sangstha in the inaugural match of the 15th Damal Summer cricket tournament, the traditional curtain-raiser of the domestic cricket season.

The forty-five-overs-a-side contest is scheduled for a 9:30 am start at the Dharmodji Cricket Stadium.

Former national captain Gazi Ashraf Hossain will stretch his now irregular relationship with the game into another year when he will lead a strong Abahani comprising vice captain Akram Khan, Minhazul Abedin Nannu, Saiful Islam, Zakir, Naimur Rahaman, Raman Lamba, Mona, Titu and Bappi on the national podium.

Abahani, who would not quite begin a title defence today in the literal sense since the fifteenth version of the memorial tourney after late Dr Damal was not held due to packed international schedule, won the 14th Damal Summer in a violence-marred final against Brothers Union.

They jointly won the Navana Premier league title along with Bangladesh Biman. Having succeeded in retaining all their key players, Abahani this year won back Indian Test discard Raman Lamba from greater Mymensingh Cricket Club as the Delhi opener decided to return to his parent team in Dhaka after almost two years.

## De Silva hits a ton, SL win one-day series

### Hosts humiliated at Harare



HARARE, Nov 6: Sri Lanka crushed Zimbabwe by 191 runs in the third and final one-day international today to clinch the three-match series 2-1, reports Reuter.

Sri Lanka compiled an impressive 296 for four in their 50 overs, with Aravinda de Silva top-scoring with a career-best 107 not out and captain Arjuna Ranatunga scoring 85 at a run-a-ball.

In reply, Zimbabwe slumped to a disastrous nine for three in the second over and then 22 for five in the 12th before totalling 105 for nine in 48.1 overs. It was comfortably their lowest score in one-day

### ICC keeps it on hold

CALCUTTA, Nov 6: The International Cricket Council (ICC) has decided to keep in abeyance the two points deducted from India during the just-concluded Wills triangular World Series, according to the ICC chief executive, David Richards, reports PTI.

Richards, who was here to attend the PILCOM (Pak-India-Lanka Committee) meeting for the 1996 World Cup cricket, told newsmen that a final decision on the matter would be taken in the next ICC meeting in July.

The ICC match referee, Raman Subba Row, had deducted two points from the Indian tally for their slow batting in the Wills World Series league match against West Indies at Kanpur.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) secretary, Jagmohan Dalmiya, had formally appealed to the ICC to reconsider the decision.

### Stewart fighting to be fit

ADELAIDE, Nov 6: England vice-captain Alec Stewart is struggling to be fit for the touring team's next four-day match against New South Wales starting on Nov 12, reports Reuter.

Stewart, who fractured his right index finger during a practice match on October 24, had originally targeted the one-day game against the Prime Minister's XI in Canberra on Nov 9 as his comeback date.

But although he has batted in the nets during the team's current game against South Australia in Adelaide, team manager Keith Fletcher said: "Alec is still some way from being fit."

"The injury is pretty sore and it's taking its time to heal so he must be doubt for the four-day game."

### Touch thrash Manju Sangha

From Staff Correspondent BARISAL, Nov 6: Goal rush continued for the second successive day in the Emma Overseas senior division football league when Touch Vedio Club recorded a thrashing 8-0 victory over Manju Smriti Sangha at the local stadium here today.

Manil scored four goals for the winners, who led the breather 4-0.

Kamal netted two goals while Swapan and Milon (r) scored once each in an one-sided affair.

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