

Players and officials of the Bangladesh national team that left Dhaka yesterday to take part in four nation Pepsi Asia Cup cricket tournament scheduled to begin tomorrow at Sharjah. — Star photo

Inter-club booters' transfers Predictable Day 2

Sports Reporter
Ninety-two footballers changed their allegiance on the second day of the inter-club soccer transfers yesterday.

The Dhaka Metropolitan Football Association (DMFA) office at the Dhaka Stadium was abuzz last night with almost all the leading clubs trooping in their prize collections for the forthcoming Premier and First Division leagues, due to kick-off sometime in May.

Defending Premier Division champions Abahani Krira Chakra who took out eight transfers on Sunday, yesterday completed the registration formalities of those players. They are Biplob (from Brothers Union), Jamal, Iqbal, Jahangir (from Agrani Bank), Hassan Al-Mamun (Fakirerpool), Chanchal and Ali Mansur from Wari Club.

Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra, who despite spending loads of cash on some stars had to settle for the second spot behind Abahani last year, registered four Abahani players last night.

They are Zakir Hossain, Golum Gaus, Emdadul and Masudur Rahman Rana. Shahzada and Babu Das came over from Brothers and Arambagh respectively.

Mohammedan Sporting Club, who as usual will be chasing after the coveted title, signed on Arman (from Muktijoddha), Milon from Rahmatganj, Munna of East End and Ruhul Amin from Brothers Union. However, Mohammedans lost the services of two players on the day. Their goalkeeper Sheikh Abdullah Lahul, who has done national duty, and Biplob Marma, the young defender from the Hill Tracts, crossed over to Rahmatganj who earned promotion to the senior bracket after having topped the First Division league last year.

Soccer buffs and club officials will be spending a busy day today because the Bangladesh national squad, which lost in the semifinals of the Bristol Cup SAARC tournament, returns from Colombo this afternoon.

If the zeal of our club officials is any guide, trading in players may have already started and it won't be the least bit surprising if the eager beavers who manipulate the footballing fortunes of the local clubs were to shanghai some of the so-called stars straight from the Zia Airport to the DMFA office to sign for their teams.

But if reports or rumours are to be given any credence, most of the players in the national squad more or less made their commitments for the coming season well before boarding the plane for Colombo. Yet, in this cloak-and-dagger world of soccer signings, a few last-minute changes of mind influenced by tempting monetary considerations, cannot of course be ruled out. The transfers conclude on April 7.

FIFA may bar Nigeria from youth tourney

DOHA, Apr 3: The world soccer federation Monday threatened to disqualify Nigeria from the youth championships if the team failed to confirm its participation by the end of the day, reports AP.

Nigeria is angered that the governing body moved the World Youth Championships here after health and security concerns related to the country's ability to stage the April 13-28 tournament for players under 20.

Over the weekend Nigeria tried but failed to organize an African boycott.

Bangladesh off to Sharjah

Sports Reporter

Roquibul, a former national captain, added that his boys are keen to improve upon their previous results against India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

With the tall Athar Ali Khan set to open the Bangladesh innings, Sajjad Ahmed Mansur Shipon and Habibur Bashar Sumon, the two young right-handers, are expected to make their Bangladesh debut while skipper Akram Khan, vice-captain Aminul Islam Bulbul and the experienced Minhazul Abedin Nannu will form the middle order.

This is Akram's first overseas visit as Bangladesh captain since the attacking middle-order batsman took charge from an out-of-form Faruque Ahmed, who led Bangladesh in the disastrous Kenyan tour for the ICC trophy last year.

"We may not have the necessary fire-power but we will not give up without a fight," said Akram Khan, who led Bangladesh to a thrilling win against the second string Indian selection in the SAARC cricket tournament in Dhaka last year.

Following is the squad: Akram Khan (captain); Aminul Islam Bulbul (vice-captain); Minhazul Abedin Nannu, Athar Ali Khan, Enamul Huq Moni, Saiful Islam, Mohammad Rafique, Anisur Rahman, Khaled Masud Pilot, Habibur Hassan Shanto, Naimur Rahman Durjoy, Habibur Bashar Sumon, Sajjad Ahmed Shipon and Javed Omar Belim Golla.

Saber Hossain Chowdhury, a BCCB member, will accompany the team as chief-de-mission while former national skipper Roquibul Hassan will act as the team manager.

Asia Cup begins tomorrow

Pakistan's pride at stake

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates, Apr 3: Pakistani cricket, dogged by betting scandals, player revolts and poor form, gets a chance to redeem itself at the least against Pakistan is akin to a national disaster, have lost 12 of the 15 matches they have played against their arch-rivals at Sharjah.

But they see the Asia Cup as their best chance to break the jinx.

"It could be different this year," predicted Indian manager Ajit Wadekar. "We are bursting with confidence not only because our batting is in tremendous form, but also because Pakistan are going through a bit of turmoil."

"Moreover, we've always done well in the Asia Cup... I would say this is our best chance in a long time," Wadekar said.

As always, India's hopes rest on 21-year-old vice-captain Sachin Tendulkar, rated by many as a better batsman than West Indian record holder Brian Lara.

Tendulkar's explosive starts fired India to three important one-day titles this season — the Signer Cup in Sri Lanka against Pakistan and Australia, a triangular series at home against the West Indians.

The master batsman was in terrific form last month, slamming five centuries in six innings while leading Bombay to victory in the domestic Ranji Trophy championships.

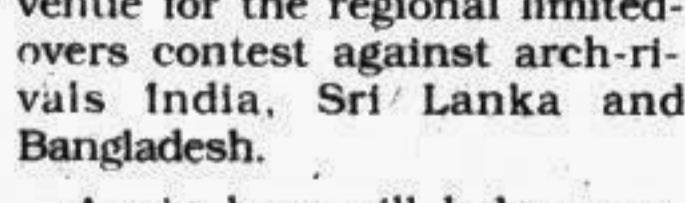
But India faltered in the centenary series in New Zealand in February, confirming doubts of their ability to win on foreign soil — especially in Sharjah.

"The tension of playing in Sharjah always exists," Wadekar admitted. "It's not that we lose faith in our ability but somehow our game invariably goes awry against Pakistan."

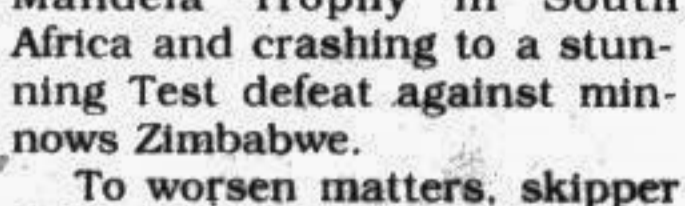
Besides fighting their own battles, India and Pakistan will also have to contend with a resurgent Sri Lanka, boosted by their first ever Test win abroad at New Zealand's expense.



MOIN KHAN
four-nation Asia Cup which opens here Wednesday, reports AFP.



SACHIN TENDULKAR
recently overcame second-string teams from their three senior neighbours during the SAARC tournament at home.



SHAMSUR RAHMAN MASHUK
of Dhaka Club (Blue) makes a backhand return against Delwar Hossain Montu of Patuakhali Club during the Biman inter-club tennis championships at the Dhaka Club court yesterday. Mashuk won 6-1, 6-2.

Cute handball

Bangladesh Police came from behind to beat Bangladesh Ansars 23-21 in the Cute Premier handball league at the Outer Stadium's handball court yesterday, reports UNB.

Police were trailing 12-13 in the first half.

Saad Ahmed netted seven goals, Nazrul four, and Nurul Islam and Salam stored three each for the winners.

Akram Hossain of Ansars scored six goals.

Abahani's five foreign booters in city

Sports Reporter

Five foreign booters and a coach have arrived in the capital yesterday to play for the defending Star Premier Division football league champions Abahani Krira Chakra.

Abahani, who are scheduled to leave for Calcutta on April 7 to take part in the Airlines Gold Cup tournament in India, will accompany the five foreign players — three from Nigeria and two from Russia — in the meet.

The three Nigerian booters are — Gregory Ikhenoba, Henry Amakuri and Roy Odiwanar — while Alexandre Menachkire and Serguei Moisser were the other Abahani recruits from Russia, who accompanied Boghdabov Voleri, the new coach of the defending champions.

Abahani will, however, decide the fate of the five foreign booters following their performance in the meet.

McDermott gives up hope

SYDNEY, Apr 3: Injured fast bowler Craig McDermott said on Monday he had abandoned hope of rejoining Australia's tour of West Indies after medical tests ruled out a quick recovery, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) reported, says Reuter.

McDermott, who returned home two weeks ago after injuring his left ankle in a training jog, was now concentrating on being ready for the next Australian season starting later this year.

He missed the first Test, which Australia won by 10 wickets in Bridgetown on Sunday, but had expressed hope he would be cleared to rejoin the tour.

Biman inter-club tennis results

Sports Reporter

Hosts Dhaka Club (Blue) enjoyed a good day at the Club courts when they won both the men's singles and doubles matches on the fourth day of the Biman inter-club tennis championships yesterday.

Shamsur Rahman Mashuk of Dhaka Club (Blue) trounced Patuakhali Club's Delwar Hossain Montu 6-1, 6-2.

In the doubles, the Dhaka Club (Blue) duo of Bakhter Khalid and Habibur Rahman beat Iqbal Hossain and Ahsan Kabir pair of Patuakhali.

While the other billing of the day between UN Club and Jessore Club could not be held as the later failed to turn up.

McGrath mauls West Indies

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Apr 3: Finding something wrong in a 10-wicket Test victory over the West Indies with two days to spare is difficult.

It was very difficult for Australian skipper Mark Taylor.

"It's the best Test match I've played," Taylor said Sunday after Australia won the opening Test of their four-match series, reports AP.

"The only thing I can say we did wrong was that no one made a hundred."

"All the things we talked about — bowling the right line, buzzing in the field, lifting our game, being tough, playing the game the right way — we did all that."

A career-best five-wicket haul by fast bowler Glenn McGrath helped bowl out the West Indies for 189 in their second innings, leaving Australian openers Taylor and Michael Slater to reach their victory target of 39 in just 6.5 overs.

McGrath, the tall 25-year-old from New South Wales, removed Stuart Williams and star batsman Brian Lara in his opening spell, then returned just before tea to scatter the tail with three wickets in 15 balls.

McGrath, in his 10th Test, led the way with five wickets for 68 runs off 22 overs, and he was well supported by leg-spinner Shane Warne, who took three wickets for 64 runs off 26.3 overs.

"McGrath jumped on the opportunity," Taylor said. "Sometimes when you bowl in the shadow of other people, you don't bowl your best. The fast bowlers really enjoyed the fact that they had to be the men, and they really lifted it."

No 6 Jimmy Adams was the only West Indian batsman to suggest any permanency, batting 167 minutes and 121 balls for his unbeaten top score of 39.

It was only the third loss for the West Indies in 31 Tests at Kensington Oval but their second on the trot after England's win last year broke a succession of 12 straight home-victories.

Taylor, however, cautioned about overconfidence.

"I know the West Indies. That's the way they play," Taylor said. "They can come and get beaten by 10 wickets here and they could bounce back very tough in Antigua."

The West Indies will get their chance at evening the series starting April 8, when the second Test begins in St John's, Antigua.

"We don't like losing and we're disappointed we've lost this Test match," West Indian captain Richie Richardson said.

But only one round has gone. There are still three Test matches left and we're going to look to bounce back."

Australia made early inroads into the West Indies batting when they resumed from their overnight 13 without loss, facing a first innings deficit of 151.

In the day's third over, Shervin Campbell, the diminutive 24-year-old Barbadian in only his third Test, pulled a long hop from Warne straight to short mid-wicket, where Steve Waugh held the catch on the second attempt, falling back.

In the next over, Campbell's opening partner, Stuart Williams (10) edged an ambitious Waugh square cut to wicketkeeper Ian Healy off McGrath.

McGrath struck the key blow just six runs later, when he induced an edge from left-hander Lara, and Healy again jubilantly accepted the catch. The first innings leading scorer and world record-holder made just nine.

In crisis at 31 for three, Carl Hooper responded boldly, hitting Warne for an overhead four and six in the same over.



McGrath ... m-o-m

But his adventurous nature proved his downfall. Bothered by the over-the-wicket left-arm pace of Australia's first innings hero Brendon Julian, he finally drove at a wide delivery and provided mid-off Paul Reiffel with a simple two-handed chance to his left.

Richardson also chose to counter-attack. He was particularly strong on the drive and cut square of the wicket, where he hit most of his seven boundaries. But, first ball of the final over before lunch, Richardson was bowled by pacer Reiffel for 36.

"I don't want to take any-

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the third day of the first cricket Test between West Indies and Australia at Bridgetown, Barbados on Sunday.

WEST INDIES: 1st innings 195 (B Lara 65, C Hooper 60; B Julian 4-36; G McGrath 3-46).

AUSTRALIA: 1st innings 346 (I Healy 74 not out, S Waugh 65, M Taylor 55; W Benjamin 3-75).

WEST INDIES: 2nd innings (oversnight 13 without loss) S Williams c Healy b McGrath 10; S Campbell c S Waugh b Warne 6; B Lara c Healy b McGrath 9; C Hooper c Reiffel b Julian 16; R Richardson b Reiffel 36; J Adams not out 39; J Murray c S-Waugh b Warne 23; W Benjamin lbw b McGrath 26; C Ambrose c Blewett b McGrath 6; C Walsh b McGrath 4; K Benjamin b Warne 5; Extras: (lb-1, nb-8) 9; Total (all out) 189; Fall of wickets: 1-19; 2-25; 3-31; 4-57; 5-91; 6-136; 7-170; 8-176; 9-180.

Bowling

| | O | M | R | W |
|---------|------|---|----|---|
| Reiffel | 11 | 6 | 15 | 1 |
| Julian | 12 | 2 | 41 | 1 |
| Warne | 26.3 | 5 | 64 | 3 |
| McGrath | 22 | 6 | 68 | 5 |

AUSTRALIA: 2nd Innings

| | |
|------------------|----|
| M Taylor not out | 16 |
| M Slater not out | 20 |
| Extras: (nb-3) | 8 |
| Total: | 39 |

Bowling

| | O | M | R | W |
|------------|-----|---|----|---|
| Walsh | 3 | 0 | 19 | 0 |
| K Benjamin | 2.5 | 1 | 14 | 0 |
| Hooper | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 |

Result: Australia win by 10 wickets

Man-of-the-match: Glenn McGrath

Second Test: April 8-13 in Antigua.

Familiar four in last four

PARIS, Apr 3: The 'big four' made it safely through to the semifinals of the Davis Cup for the second year running this weekend — Germany and Russia recovering from first day doubts to slam the door on the Netherlands and South Africa, and the United States and Sweden completing overwhelming 5-0 victories over Austria and Italy, reports AFP.

The United States, who had already taken an unbeatable 3-0 lead after winning Saturday's doubles in Palermo, did not let up on Sunday although Andre Agassi, who has been suffering from mild lumbago, opted out of his dead rubber.

Jared Palmer was drafted in as a replacement and the doubles player completed an efficient 6-4, 6-3 win over Renzo Furlan with an ace.

Earlier world number-one Pete Sampras scored a 6-3, 1-6, 6-3 victory over Andrea Gaudenzi.

But with nothing to play for, the final day's matches were inevitably an anti-climax and the American players and their captain Tom Gullikson later called for a change in the rules to end the playing of 'dead rubbers.'

Champions Sweden, who will travel to the United States for the September 22-24 showdown for a place in the final, also chalked up a 5-0 win against frustrated Austria in Vaxjo — winning both of the final singles without dropping a set.

Former world number-one Stefan Edberg beat Thomas Muster 6-4, 6-2 while Magnus Larsson scored a 7-6, (7-4), 6-4 win over Gilbert Schaller.

It was the 47th-ranked Schaller's first match in the tie. He was unable to play on Friday after being taken ill with flu.

Boris Becker, who crashed to a shock defeat against Paul Haarhuis in Utrecht on Friday, made no mistakes Sunday against Dutch number-one Richard Krajcek. The three times Wimbledon champion scored a 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-1 win — his 35th win in 38 Davis Cup singles.

Compatriot Michael Stich completed the tie by defeating Haarhuis 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 in the final reduced singles for an overall 4-1 match score.

Germany, the 1993 champions, now play Russia away in the second semifinal.

Last year's finalists, who had been level pegging 1-1 after the first day's play against South Africa in Moscow and who won Saturday's doubles, also went through by a 4-1 scoreline.

Big serving Yevgeny Kafelnikov delighted the Russian crowd by beating Wayne Ferreira 6-4, 7-5, 6-1. His win made the final singles a formality and Alexander Volkov romped to a 6-1, 6-1 win over Marcos Ondruska.

The United States and Germany will be looking to avenge their shock 1994 defeats in the next round.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Facilities Department
Patuakhali Zone

Quotation Notice

Notice No. 22/PZ/FD Dated: 23-3-95

Sealed tenders are invited from bonafide suppliers of stationery goods for executing the following works.

Description of work, detailed list of goods to be supplied and other terms & conditions will be available on cash payment of Tk 100/- (one hundred) per set (non-refundable) at the office of the undersigned on all working days except the date of submitting the quotation. Quotations will be received in the tender box kept at this office up to 12:00 Noon on 10-4-95 and opened on the same day at 12:30 PM in presence (if any) of the quotations. Supply of goods will be taken subject to fund allocation on different occasions.

The authority reserves the right to accept any quotation or cancel all quotations without assigning any reason.

Md Israil
Executive Engineer

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