

Sport

Akram & co get reception in Narayanganj

NARAYANGANJ, May 10: Narayanganj District Sports Association (NDSA) Friday accorded a reception to the Bangladesh cricket team which won the ICC Trophy, reports BSS.

The reception was attended by people of all walks of life.

The people greeted the team members by showering flower petals.

Presided over by A K Fazlul Ahad, Deputy Commissioner of Narayanganj and president of Narayanganj District Sports Association, the reception was addressed by LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman as the chief guest, State Minister for Youth and Sports, Obaidul Quader, as special guest.

Later the members of the victorious team received suit and blazer pieces presented by Asian Textile Mills Limited.

Mofazzal's new post

Sports Reporter

A S M Mofazzal Hossain, an international volleyball referee and joint-secretary of Bangladesh Volleyball Federation, has joined as the director of the Physical Education Department of Dhaka University recently.

Mofazzal, a Bluet of Dhaka University and a former national colour who was the manager of Bangladesh Volleyball team in the third SAF Games, was a deputy director (sports) at the Public Administration Training Academy in Savar before joining the current post.

BSWA officials to attend AIPS congress

Sports Reporter

The 60th congress of the International Sports Press Association (AIPS) will be held in Oviedo, Spain from May 13 to 18.

A S M Roquibul Hasan and Rezaur Rahman Sohag, the president and general secretary of Bangladesh Sports Writers Association (BSWA), an affiliated member of the AIPS, will participate in the congress from Bangladesh. The BSWA officials will leave today.

After the AIPS congress, Sohag is also likely to attend an international sports seminar scheduled to be held in Greece from May 20 to 21 under the auspices of Intentional Olympic Academy.

Sugar turns bitter

LONDON, May 10: Tottenham chairman Alan Sugar is threatening to quit the club if they do not win the Premiership title within the next two years, reports Reuter.

And Sugar, who has spent more the 10 million pounds (around 16 million dollars) since taking over at White Hart Lane in 1991, has rubbished reports that former Spurs ace Jürgen Klinsmann could on his ways back to north London to lead a title charge.

Two Brazilian soccer bosses banned

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 10: Two leading Brazilian soccer club presidents were suspended on Friday in the wake of a corruption scandal, the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said, reports Reuter.

Marco Cesar Petraglia, president of Atletico Paranaense, and Alberto Duarib, president of Corinthians, were banned from any soccer-related activity as a preventative measure, said CBF spokesman Nelson Borges.

Ivens Mendes, the present of the CBF's refereeing department who resigned on Wednesday was also suspended, the bans will last until an inquiry has been completed, Borges said.

The scandal erupted after Globo television played a recording of a telephone conversation which it said was between Mendes and Petraglia. The recording was sent in anonymously, Globo said.

The man identified as Mendes asked Petraglia for 23,600 dollars and offered to ask a referee to give Petraglia's club Atletico a helping hand in a Copa Brasil match they were to play at home to Vasco da Gama.

He also told Petraglia to instruct his players to mark Vasco striker Edmundo tightly, adding: "He gets angry easily."

The man identified as Petraglia told Mendes in reply that his secretary would look after the matter.

Globo also played a tape of a conversation which it said was between Mendes and Petraglia and which it claimed was evidence of an exchange of favours between the two.

CBF president Ricardo Teixeira said on Friday that the Copa Brasil, now at its semi-final stage, would carry on.

Atletico won the match in question, a second round, first leg game 3-1. Edmundo, who has a record of sendings-off, and Atletico defender Andrei were both dismissed in the first half for fighting. Edmundo said: "It was a huge injustice."

Atletico went on to win the on aggregate but were subsequently knocked out in the quarterfinals by Corinthians, who lost 2-1 at home to Gremio in the first leg of a semifinal on Thursday night.

Astle astounds Pakistan

MOHALI, India, May 10: Nathan Astle hit a century and took four wickets as New Zealand grabbed a 22-run victory over Pakistan in a high-scoring start to the four-nation Independence Cup one-day tournament on Friday, reports Reuter.

Man-of-the-match Astle cracked 117 runs off 132 balls in New Zealand's total of 285 for seven from 50 overs, before subduing Pakistan's reply with figures of four for 43.

Pakistan began their run-chase on a rousing note as Shahid Afridi hammered bellicent 59 off 46 balls, with four boundaries and two towering sixes off medium-fast bowler Andrew Penn.

Jaz Ahmed and Salim Malik bolstered the Pakistan score with an 81-run fourth-wicket stand off 103 balls, but Pakistan lost momentum after their departure against accurate bowling by Astle and Larsen, backed by some brilliant fielding.

Earlier, Astle and fellow opener Bryan Young put on 155 off 145 balls against a straying Pakistani attack to register New Zealand's highest first-wicket stand in 48 one-day matches.

Astle's chanceless knock came off 132 balls, with two sixes and eight fours on an excellent batting pitch.

Young's 59 came off 65 balls and contained five boundaries

before he was yorked by an inswinger from paceman Abdul Razzaq. Off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq, who took three for 38, was Pakistan's best bowler.

India and Sri Lanka are the other two teams in the tournament commemorating 50 years

of India's independence from Britain.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the Independence Cup one-day cricket tournament's opening match between Pakistan and New Zealand on Friday:

NEW ZEALAND

Young b Razzaq 59
Astle st Moin b Afridi 117
Horne b Saqlain 45

ASTLE ... m-o-m

of India's independence from Britain.

PAKISTAN

Anwar c Harris b Penn 17
Afridi b Larsen 59
Raja run out 11
Ijaz lbw b Astle 50
Malik c Harris b Astle 47
Inzamam c Harris b Patel 30
Moin c Fleming b Astle 16
Hussain c Davis b Larsen 1
Razzak st Parore b Astle 8
Mushtaq not out 6
Aqib not out 6
Extras: (lb-2, nb-3; w-7) 12
Total (for 9 wkts, 50 overs) 263

Fall of wickets: 1-45; 2-92; 3-106; 4-187; 5-220; 6-232; 7-242; 8-243; 9-256

Bowling

O M R W

Penn 6 0 50 1
Davis 6 0 39 0
Harris 10 2 34 0
Larsen 10 0 46 2
Patel 10 0 49 1
Astle 8 0 43 4

Result: New Zealand won by 22 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Nathan Astle.

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