

Sport

Ireland tour sees the back of rain

Big win against minnows

Sports Reporter



FARQUE AHMED

Bangladesh, as expected, posted a facile 107-run win over Ireland A in a limited-over match played at the Cork Cricket Club ground in Dublin, Ireland, on Monday.

According to faxed message received here yesterday, middle order batsman Farque Ahmed scored a workman-like 78 as Bangladesh, opening to bat first after Akram called the coin correctly, piled up a sizeable 257 for five in the stipulated 50 overs.

Coming to bat at number three in the very first over with Bangladesh on a duck at the expense of left-handed opener Mohammad Rafique (0), Faruque, the Bangladesh captain for the infamous Kenya tour in 1994, steadied the Kenya by putting on 76 for the second wicket with the other opener Azam Iqbal. The partnership was broken when Azam, who replaced Athar Ali in the top order, was out on 24 after providing patient support to Faruque.

Faruque then added another 61 runs with vice-captain Aminul Islam and took the

scoreboard to 137 before returning to the pavilion. After Faruque's departure, Bangladesh lost two quick wickets, that of Aminul Islam (25) and skipper Akram (19).

However, it was lower middle-order Naimur Rahman who, assisted by wicketkeeper Atiar Rahman, took Bangladesh to a fighting total of 257 at the end of 50 overs.

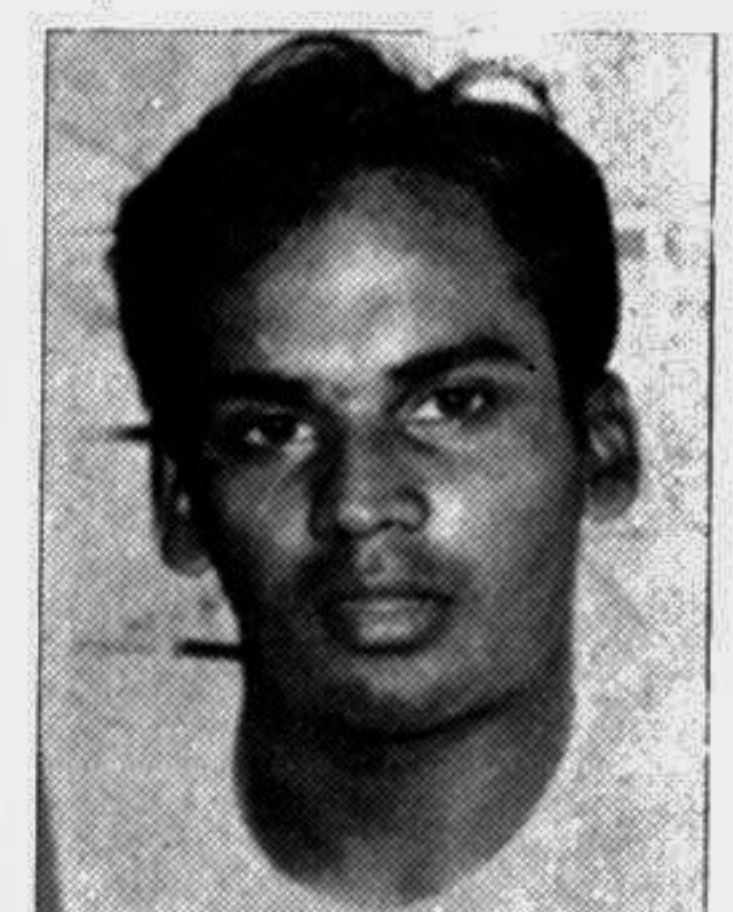
Naimur, the aggressive right hander, scored an unbeaten 56 off only 34 balls while Atiar was undefeated with a run-a-ball 17.

In reply, Ireland A were shot out for 150 in 39.5 overs in the face of some inspirational bowling from Khaled Mahmud. The right-arm medium-pace, who ripped through the lower order, finished with three for 24 from his 5.5 overs while his skipper Akram Khan and left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique evenly shared four wickets.

Akram, in his unusual role as slow medium bowler, took two wickets at the cost of 15 runs while Rafique captured two for 21 runs. Besides, leg spinner Tanveer and new ball bowler Zakir bagged one wicket apiece.

Bangladesh are on a six-week tour of Ireland, Northern Ireland, England and Scotland as part of their preparation for the 1999 World Cup in England.

Bowling	O	M	R	W
4-170; 5-216				
G Neelley	10	2	42	1
M Olphert	3	0	13	0
P Mooney	10	0	58	1
M Bariscale	7	2	42	0
G Molins	5	1	21	1
K Spelman	10	3	34	1



NAIMUR RAHMAN

IRELAND A				
K McCallan	5	0	36	0
M Williams	11	1	34	1
T Callan	11	1	36	1
E Joyce	11	1	36	1
M Olphert	11	1	36	1
P Mooney	11	1	36	1
B Dunlop	11	1	36	1
M Bariscale	11	1	36	1
G Molins	11	1	36	1
K Spelman	11	1	36	1
G Neelley	11	1	36	1
P Coleman	11	1	36	1
G Neelley	11	1	36	1
P Coleman	11	1	36	1
Extras: (b-4, lb-5, nb-2, w-10)			21	
Total: (all out in 39.5 overs)			150	
Fall of wickets: 1-14; 2-64; 3-90; 4-102; 5-122; 6-127; 7-149; 8-150; 9-150; 10-150.				
Bowling				
Hasibul	5	0	26	0
Zakir	8	1	20	1
K Mahmud	5.5	0	24	3
Akram Khan	6	1	15	2
Naimur	6	1	18	0
M Rafique	6	0	21	2
Tanveer	3	0	16	1
Result: Bangladesh won by 107 runs				

Roost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-97

Tick the correct answers Post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm on June 26, 1998

- Who is known as the Desert Maradona?
 - Al-Jaber
 - Al-Owairan
 - Said Chiba
- Who scored the first goal at France '98?
 - Sampaio
 - Collins
 - Boyd
- Who is the new FIFA president?
 - Blatter
 - Platini
 - Johansson
- Who is the soccer coach of Jamaica?
 - Acosta
 - Hiddink
 - Simoes
- Who was Brojen Das?
 - Footballer
 - Swimmer
 - Cricketer

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)



SPORTS TALK



Monem Munna

Former national football player

"I can bet my shirt for Brazil. They are going to win the World Cup for a record fifth time."

Martina, Pete top seeds

LONDON, June 16: Former world number one Steffi Graf was seeded fourth for Wimbledon on Monday despite an injury-plagued season that has seen her plunge down the rankings, reports Reuters.

Graf, back in action at Edgbaston last week after suffering a hamstring injury in March, has been given a special rating of number three in the world by the Women's Tennis Association to protect her seeding in tournaments.

Officially now ranked 91st, Graf will be bidding for her eighth Wimbledon singles title and 22nd Grand Slam victory when the championships start next Monday.

The German is seeded behind world number one Martina Hingis, Lindsay Davenport and Jana Novotna, but ahead of French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, seeded five, and her old rival Monica Seles, six.

Pete Sampras, winner of four Wimbledon titles in five years, heads the men's seedings, Chilean Marcelo Rios is second, French Open champion Carlos Moya is fifth while the resurgent Andre Agassi creeps in at number 13.

WOMEN

- Martina Hingis (Switzerland)
- Lindsay Davenport (US)
- Jana Novotna (Czech Rep)
- Steffi Graf (Germany)
- Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario (Spain)
- Monica Seles (US)
- Venus Williams (US)
- Conchita Martinez (Spain)
- Amanda Coetzer (S Africa)
- Irina Spirlea (Romania)
- Mary Pierce (France)
- Anna Kournikova (Russia)
- Patty Schnyder (Switzerland)
- Sandrine Testud (France)
- Dominique Van Roost (Belgium)
- Nathalie Tauziat (France)

MEN

- Pete Sampras (US)
- Marcelo Rios (Chile)
- Petr Korda (Czech Rep)
- Greg Rusedski (Britain)
- Carlos Moya (Spain)
- Patrick Rafter (Australia)
- Yevgeny Kafelnikov (Russia)
- Cedric Pioline (France)
- Richard Krajicek (Netherlands)
- Alex Corretja (Spain)
- Jonas Bjorkman (Sweden)
- Tim Henman (Britain)
- Andre Agassi (US)
- Goran Ivanisevic (Croatia)
- Karol Kucera (Slovakia)
- Flix Mantilla (Spain)

Double agent Dan

LYON, France, June 16 (AFP): Chelsea defender Dan Petrescu loves the English life but he is ready to turn double-agent on his adopted country to help Romania beat England in next Monday's decisive Group G match in Toulouse.

The clash will almost certainly decide who tops the first round group with the loser likely to face a daunting trip to Saint-Etienne to face Argentina in the second round.

Petrescu, 30, said he was looking forward to lining up against his partner in the Chelsea defence, Graeme Le Saux, one of the regulars in Glenn Hoddle's England side.

And he made it clear that he would not hesitate to fill the Romanian forwards in on any weaknesses he has spotted on the London club's training ground.

"We have not talked about England yet because we were focusing on Colombia. But from now on I will be telling the rest of the team everything I know," he said.

"I know all the England players very well and that could help us a lot."

Petrescu believes a repeat of Romania's performance against Colombia here on Wednesday night will be good enough to secure them the three points against England.

After a sparkling first-half display yielded a solitary — albeit outstanding — goal from Adrian Ilie, the talented Romanians survived some late scares to secure a win that, barring a major upset against Tunisia, effectively books their place in the second round.

But Petrescu insisted that the Romanians would not settle for second place.

"We want to win the group and after this performance we are very confident that we can beat England," he said.

"In the first half we played quite brilliantly and we should have scored many more goals."

"In the second half we just defended our advantage," Petrescu, who had a solid game on the right of the Romanian de-

fence, acknowledged that the mercurial Colombians had given his defence a few scares towards the end of the match.

"That is normal when you play against players like Asprilla and Valderrama," he said.

But he also highlighted Ilie's performance as a signal that he could be one of the stars of France '98. As well as scoring the stunning winner, the Vi-



DAN PETRESCU

lencia forward's strong running at defenders created at least three good chances that were squandered by Coventry City's Viorel Moldovan.

Petrescu said Ilie's emergence would help compensate for the declining potency of Gheorghe Hagi, the 32-year-old lynchpin of Romania's run to the quarterfinals in 1994.

"He has different qualities but he could be the new Hagi for the team," he said.

Hagi only showed occasional flashes of his old brilliance on Wednesday but he made it clear he will be psyched up for the high-profile clash with England.

"This is going to be my last

World Cup and I want to leave a good impression," he said.

Petrescu also revealed after the Colombia match that he wants to have his contract with Chelsea, which has two years left to run, extended for another two seasons. "I would like to finish my career at Chelsea," he said.

"My family is happy in London and I am very happy at the club."

Walsh ruins Lara's day

LONDON, June 15: Courtney Walsh dethroned Brian Lara, his successor as West Indies captain, a fresh blow as Warwickshire skipper on Monday, reports Reuters.

Walsh took six for 65 — a 12-wicket match haul — in a commanding 170 runs victory by Gloucestershire at Bristol.

It was the fourth defeat in the last five matches for Lara's county, once widely regarded as likely English champions.

Lara's run of wretched personal form continued when Mike Smith dismissed him leg before for a duck.

Smith took the first four wickets. Walsh ran through the other six and Warwickshire were dismissed for only 131.

Lancashire beat Somerset by nine runs at Old Trafford after a defiant eighth wicket stand between Marcus Trescothick (73 not out) and Graham Rose (56).

Leaders Surrey failed to claim victory over bottom county Essex, despite enforcing the follow-on at Chelmsford.

Hampshire, last but not one, held on for a draw with Yorkshire at Headingley, wicket-keeper Adrian Aymes making 73.

Worcestershire's Australian captain Tom Oody hit an unbeaten 104 to give reigning champions Glamorgan a 282 target at Cardiff.

The Welsh county made a spirited attempt, with opener Steve James cracking 152, but finished on 268 for eight.

Nat'l chess Emon takes solo lead

Syed Mahfuzur Rahman Emon of Magura took solo lead in the 24th national chess championship securing eight points after the 9th round matches at the NSC yesterday, reports UNB.

Emon beat FIDE Master Rezaul Haq of Bangladesh Biman in the day's round.

Abdullah Al Rakib of Leonine Chess Club followed the leader with seven-and-a-half points beating Aminul Islam Palash of Jhenidah in the round.

Four players — IM Reefat-bin-Sattar of Biman, Syed Ruhul Kabir Shiploo of Titas Club, Arman Monir and Aminul Islam Palash — were jointly in the third position collecting seven points each after round.

Khandakar Kayes Hasan, Rani Hamid, Rezaul Haq of Biman, Saifuddin Lavlu, Hasibul Hasan Hanif of Titas, Ashrafur Rahman Murad of Narayanganj bagged six-and-a-half points each.

On the day Reefat beat Pal-lab, Shiplo defeated Manjur, Arman beat Manash, Rani outplayed Muniruzzaman, Lavlu beat Anwar, Hanif overcame Firoj, Royal beat Taiyub, Kashem defeated Russel, Monir beat Sayeed, Ejaj defeated Fahim.

Kayes drew with Murad in their ninth round encounters.

3-nation cricket India arrive in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, June 16: The Indian cricket team arrived in the Sri Lankan capital Tuesday amid tight security to take part in the 3-nation independence Cup that features the hosts and New Zealand, reports AFP.

"We are surely going to give a good fight," Azharuddin told reporters after the team arrived from the southern Indian city of Madras, where it had been camped for the past week.

Police threw a security net around the team at the airport and in the hotel in downtown Colombo. Sri Lanka is fighting an often violent separatist war by militants among the island nation's minority Tamils.

The main Tamil separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, accuses India of not supporting its war of independence. India is home to 56 million Tamils who share linguistic, cultural and family ties with the Tamils of Sri Lanka.

The LTTE was found guilty of killing former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

The Indians will begin their campaign with a day-and-night match against Sri Lanka on Friday in Colombo. The final will take place on July 7.

Sepp unhappy with refs

PARIS, June 16: New FIFA president Sepp Blatter intends to tell World Cup referees to toughen up, reports AFP.

"They are not applying the ban on tackles from behind. It's not up to them to decide how fouls should be interpreted. There have been tackles from behind so far that deserved red cards," he said today.

It was also unhappy about time-wasting by goalkeepers who are supposed to clear the ball within six seconds of getting possession.

"The goalkeepers are keeping the ball longer than allowed and I have not seen on referee penalise them," Blatter said.

The worst offender so far has been Moroccan goalkeeper Chokri El Quaer who in the first half held the ball over 20 seconds before playing it out.

Blatter said he intended to approach the referees directly.

However the former FIFA general secretary is likely to run into opposition from the referees who have been told by the game's rule-makers, the International Board, that a perfectly-executed tackle from behind remains legal.

Under the new rule, introduced in March in Paris, the IB stated: "A tackle from behind which endangers the safety of an opponent must be sanctioned as serious foul play."

FIFA's own referees committee, headed by FIFA vice-president David Will, instructed referees on how to apply the rule, shortly before the tournament began.

They warned that all tackles from behind were not an automatic sending off offence.

The IB brought in the new rule in a bid to make defenders think twice before launching themselves into the kind of tackle that was responsible for ending the career of the Dutch great Marco Van Basten and Diego Maradona rarely played without drugs to kill the pain in his ankles.

Bulgaria's Anatoli Nakov was the first player sent off in these finals when Saudi referee Abdul Rahman Al-Zeid ordered him off on the match with Paraguay on June 12.

Nakov had already been shown a yellow card but the Saudi referee only showed him a red card to signify he thought it was an automatic sending off offence.

The next day Ha Seok-Ju was sent off just 80 seconds after he had put South Korea into a 1-0 lead against Mexico. He was the first player since Brazil's Garrincha in 1962 to be sent off in the World Cup finals after scoring a goal.

Holland's Patrick Kluitert was the third man sent off, for elbowing Belgian Lorenzo Staelens in the chest.

Paolo plans the next move

teams in this World Cup.

The left wing back also absolved the two defenders, World Cup debutants Alessandro Nesta and Fabio Cannavaro, who allowed Chile to score twice in their draw in Bordeaux.

"I think we allowed Chile fewer chances than other teams have been allowed so far in the tournament," Maldini said, "obviously, I'm not satisfied, because we conceded two goals

But his son Paolo brushed the whole issue aside here. The point is that after leading 1-0 against Chile and then drawing 2-2, Italy cannot afford to let another match slip from their grasp tomorrow, he said.

"There might be two strikers at the start, and then three, or we could start with three. They're all options," he said.

But he stressed: "I only like winning. I don't care how. The important thing is not who plays, but that Italy wins."

It would be stupid to have a relay between the two, with one playing the first half and the other playing the second, but obviously a tactical change during the match is a very different thing.

"I think the mistake we made with the match against Chile was that we didn't take advantage of the chances we had in the first half of finish the match. We lacked the mental commitment."

While Cesare Maldini is keeping his plans secret, apparently even from the players, his son was determined to take it in his stride.

"Everyone has their own idea, but I hope he has a clearer idea than the rest of us," he quipped.

As for Cameroon, Maldini said: "We've seen their match with Austria and they are strong physically, they are good in attack and they have quality players there aren't any easy

and we didn't win.

"But they (Nesta and Cannavaro) were making their debut and the impact with the World Cup finals is always hard. And they have the faith of

the coach and the team with them."

Maldini was also tackled over Niger referee Lucian Bouchard, who is in trouble for his handling of the Chile game, and in particular the hand-ball incident which saw Baggio equalise with an 85th minute penalty.

Maldini said: "There was too much extra-time in the first half and I don't know how he didn't see some of the retaliation that was going on by the Chileans."

"I don't think he was used to this kind of match. At the beginning, he seemed very nervous, more nervous than even the players."

"As for the penalty, it was the sort of decision that 50 per cent of referees would give and 50 per cent wouldn't. It's just one of those things."



PAOLO MALDINI

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Australia may bid for 2006 World Cup

SYDNEY, June 16: Australia will bid to host the 2006 World Cup finals if England's chances are undermined by hooliganism, reports Reuters.

Soccer Australia commissioner George Negus said today Australia was planning to bid for the 2010 World Cup but would consider bringing their campaign forward if English hooligans wrecked their country's hopes of hosting the tournament.

"If England has no chance we could bump up our bid by four years," Negus said.

"If FIFA said it had opened the door for 2006 why should we not put our hand up? We have nothing to lose."

The Daily Star

World Cup Quiz '98

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Competition Information, Prizes and Rules

- Information**
- The Daily Star World Cup Quiz '98 is a series of competitions on World Cup Soccer being held in France from June 10 to July 12, 1998.
 - There will be nine rounds of competition.
 - Each round will have a separate draw with attractive prizes from the house of Transcom Electronics Ltd. as per announcement.
 - Participants of all the nine rounds will automatically qualify for the Bumper Draw, which will have even bigger prizes.
 - For each round, sets of questions will be published in The Daily Star Sport Pages.
 - Names and addresses of all prize winners will be published in The Daily Star.
 - Winners will have to collect their prizes from The Daily Star office after satisfactory authentication of their identity.
 - Any taxes or levies, as per law, for all the above prizes will have to be borne by the prize winners.
- Prizes for Round Six**
- | Prize | Nos. | Item |
|-------|------|---------------------------------|
| 1st | One | Philips CD Mini System |
| 2nd | One | Philips 14" B/W TV |
| 3rd | One | Philips Blender with Mill |
| 4th | Five | Philips Bulbs 4 dozen (5 boxes) |
| 5th | 25 | T-shirt and cap |