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Star Sport

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Pakistan C'wealth hockey squad named

ISLAMABAD, Aug 7: Half-back Muhammad Usman will lead a new-look Pakistan hockey team to the 16th Commonwealth Games at Kuala Lumpur in September, reports PTI.

Pakistan, who finished a dismal fifth in the Utrecht World Cup in May this year failing to defend their title won in Sydney 1996, on Thursday announced a 16-member team sans stalwarts Tahir Zaman and Shahbaz Ahmed (Sr).

The 27-year-old Usman, who has been capped 130 times, replaced Tahir Zaman. Zaman was sacked by selectors with four other top players after the Utrecht debacle.

The team includes two new comers — right-winger Haider Hussain and former Pakistan junior centre-forward Muhammad Farooq, who was preferred over spearhead Ijaz Rasool, a prolific scorer in the preparatory camp for the Games.

Danish Kaleem, Irfan Mahmood, Muhammad Anis and Babar Abdullah have staged a comeback after they were dropped from the World squad earlier this year.

Ahmed Alam and Muhammad Qasim (goalkeepers) Danish Kaleem (vice-captain), Tariq Iran and Ali Raza (full-backs), Muhammad Usman (Captain), Imran Yousef, Irfan Mahmood and Waseem Ahmed (half-backs) Haider Hussain, Muhammad Sarwar, Atif Bashir, Muhammad Farooq, Anish Ahmed, Muhammad Khalid and Babar Abdullah Khawaja Zakudin (manager), Shahnaz Shaikh (coach), Nasir Iqbal Chaudhury (team doctor).

Howzzat!

LONDON, Aug 7: Legendary cricket umpire Harold "Dickie" Bird revealed Friday he has injured his right index finger — his trademark of authority on the pitch — signing copies of his self-titled autobiography, reports AP.

Bird, who has become one of the game's celebrities after presiding over cricket matches throughout the world, said he was in so much pain he could



DICKIE BIRD

hardly hold a pen as sales of the book reached record proportions.

"I'm in agony — I've never known owt [anything] like it. They say secretaries who type a lot get this injury," he said.

"Of course, I'm going to carry on, but I tell you, it's the most painful thing ever."

The Yorkshireman, who retires from umpiring in September, said he had never refused a signature on the book but he was struggling at the moment because his finger was sore and swollen.

The book has become the best-selling cricket autobiography of all time, with 355,000 hardback sales.

Incontrad v'ball

Tangali reached the men's group quarterfinal of the Incontrad Inter-district 7th men's and 5th women's volleyball championship at the Mirpur Shaheed Suhrawardy National Indoor Stadium yesterday, reports UNB.

In a well-contested match, Tangali beat Comilla 12-15, 6-15, 15-10, 16-14 and 15-6. In other men's group matches, Rajshahi beat Dinajpur 15-3, 15-0, 17-15 while Dhaka beat Kushtia 15-6, 15-8, 15-12.

In the women's group, Bhola defeated Nilphamari 13-15, 11-15, 15-6, 15-2, 15-12 in an exciting match.

In the day's other women's group matches, Tangali outplayed Kushtia 15-1, 15-0, 15-0, while Pabna beat Dinajpur 15-12, 15-6, 15-6.

Saturday's matches

Men's group: Rangpur vs Dinajpur, Khulna vs Tangali, and Dhaka vs Chittagong.
 Women's group: Rajshahi vs Pabna, Khulna vs Nilphamari, Rangpur vs Tangali, Dinajpur vs Chuadanga, and Kushtia vs Gazipur.



A goalmouth action during the 2nd Jiban Bima Club Cup match between Abahani and Dhaka Ansars at the National Hockey Stadium yesterday. — Star photo

Unlucky seven for Ansars

Sports Reporter



HOLDERS Abahani Krira Chakra got off to a flying start in the Jiban Bima Club Cup hockey tournament thrashing Dhaka Ansars by a comfortable margin of seven goals to nothing in their opening first round group C match played at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

In a match which saw Abahani facing no resistance from the lowly rated side, defender Rabiuddin struck twice while Khokon, Rubel, Mamun, Nakib and Alamgrit netted one goal apiece for the winners.

The winners led the first half 3-0.

After three abortive penalty corners, Abahani went ahead in the 21st minute when Rabiuddin successfully converted the fourth, thanks to Tapan for

dead-stopping the Ashique push to set the ball for Rabi. Khokon doubled the margin after six minutes with a brilliant field goal from an Alamgrit pass while Rubel sealed the first session though another penalty corner in the 29th minute.

Buoyed by the first half lead, the sky blues kept the pressure on and added four more to their credit beginning with Rabiuddin who made it 4-0 from a penalty corner in the 47th minute. Skipper Mamunur Rashid scored the fifth goal of the proceedings through another penalty corner three minutes later followed by Nakib who also converted a penalty corner in the 63rd minute.

Alamgrit Alam, who was instrumental in most of the Abahani offensives, blasted the board with a powerful hit from

a Khokon minus two minutes from the time.

The winners will play their next group match against Bangladesh Railway on August 11.

AJAX BLANK SONALI BANK 5-0

Earlier, in the day's first match, Ajax Sporting Club handed Sonali Bank a 5-0 drubbing in their inaugural group D match.

The winners led the first half 3-0. Moududur Rahman scored two goals while Mahub, Rubel and Abidul struck once each for the Elephant Road outfit.

TODAY'S MATCHES
 (Moulana Bhasani Stadium)
 Sadharan Bima KS v Bangladesh railway (2:45 pm)
 Mariner Youngs Club v Victoria SC (4:30 pm)

Unprecedented

LONDON, Aug 7: Kenyan steeplechaser Paul Kosgei and an unnamed Romanian woman athlete have had their prize money withheld from two World Championship events earlier this year because of a breach of anti-doping rules, reports Reuters.

Since athletics went professional in 1985, it is the first time financial sanctions, rather than suspensions, have been applied in such a case.

The decision was taken at an International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) meeting in Seville, Spain, last June. Details were given in a statement last weekend but the IAAF refused to identify the athletes.

However, Kosgei's new manager, Italian agent Gianni Demadonna, confirmed in a telephone interview with Reuters on Thursday that the Kenyan had been sanctioned.

Kosgei was bronze medalist in the 4-km World Cross Country race at Marrakech last March.

IAAF secretary Istvan Gyulai said in a statement: "The prize money of two athletes, due to them after the World Cross Country Championships in Marrakech and the World Road Relay Championship in Manaus, Brazil, will not be paid."

"The two athletes had undergone one only out-of-competition test instead of the two required during the 12 months prior to the competitions, a condition to be eligible to win competition awards."

The total amount of cash withheld amounted to more than 40,000 dollars.

The IAAF stressed the punishment was not because of any suggestion of a failed drug test or any refusal to test.

Gyulai added: "The two athletes could not be tested because the IAAF did not know where they were."

Demadonna said: "They have stopped 35,000 dollars from Paul which is a lot of money for a young athlete. The IAAF acted quickly but they never wrote to me or contacted the athlete."

BCB selects Selection Committee

Gordon gets interim axe

Sports Reporter



Bangladesh Cricket Board has given its Director of Coaching West Indian Gordon Greenidge the cold shoulder by dropping the former Caribbean Test opener from the Malaysia-bound Commonwealth Games squad. He will be replaced by manager Gazi Ashraf Hossain while former national cricketer and BCB vice-president Tanveer Haider will be the manager. The team will also include a physiotherapist.

BCB's second googly of the day was the announcement of the selection committee at long last. Former national cricketer Enayet Hossain Siraj will chair the committee, replacing Lutfur Rahman Makhan who held the post for two decades. Dr. Asaduzzaman Misha, a member of the preceding five-member committee, and former national cricketer Ziaul Islam Masud are the other two members.

The announcements were made by the board president, Saber Hossain Chowdhury, following an emergency meeting of the executive committee held at the Dhaka Stadium last night. Twenty-three members

of the 31-man board were present at the meeting.

Talking to a group of reporters, the BCB boss said that the appointment of manager and coach has been made on a



GORDON GREENIDGE

temporary basis only for the Malaysia tour.

When asked about Gordon who had been coaching Bangladesh for the past one

year and nine months, Saber tactfully avoided the question saying that it was the decision of the board. Replying to another question whether Gordon's axing had any connection with his interview published in The Daily Star last month, Saber said, "Well, we have developed a communication gap among ourselves and this was also discussed in the meeting. We have decided to talk to both Gordon Greenidge and Gazi Ashraf Hossain when we (the board) meet again on August 21. We will then decide the future."

"I think, things will be all right when we talk to each other face to face. Until then no one from the board, other than the general secretary and myself, will talk to the media," added Saber.

When asked why the board decided to make Gazi Ashraf Hossain the coach when he did not have any hands-on club-level experience, Saber said that Ashraf had been the cricket manager of the national team which was more or less similar to the job of a coach.

He also informed that the full squad for the forthcoming 16th Commonwealth Games will be announced on August 11.

Butcher's first ton goes awry



LEEDS, England, Aug 7: Mark Butcher struck an aggressive maiden Test Century but it was wasted by yet another spectacular England collapse as they crashed from 196 for four to 230 all out in the deciding fifth Test against South Africa on Thursday, reports Reuters.

South African opener Gary Kirsten and Gerhardus Liebenberg survived the final four overs to reach nine without loss at the close of a compelling first day at Headingley.

Left-handed opener Butcher dominated the England innings with 116 but the next highest score from the top order was Mark Ramprakash's 21 as South Africa's pace attack remained patient before seizing the last six wickets for 34 runs in 59 deliveries.

With the series level 1-1 and England seeking to win their first major rubber since beating Australia 2-1 in 1986-87 Alec Stewart won the toss and opted to bat on a blustery and overcast morning.

Makhaya Ntini, recalled to the South African side after injury, claimed the crucial wicket of opener Michael Atherton in the morning session with a delivery that bounced unexpectedly to find a thick edge on it as way to second slip. The former England captain made 16 from 50 balls.

Butcher, though, never allowed himself to be inhibited despite losing Nasser Hussain (9) and Stewart (15) in the afternoon session, and passed his scores of 77 and 75 made in the first and fourth Tests after missing the second and third matches with an injured finger.

Hussain received an unplayable, fast away swinger from Shaun Pollock which brushed his glove on the way to wicketkeeper Mark Boucher. Stewart fell to a second slip catch by Jacques Kallis off Allan Donald.

Even so, England were well placed at 147 for three at tea.

Ramprakash's resistance ended when a bottom edge was superbly caught by Boucher to give Donald his second wicket but it was Pollock, snatching two wickets in three balls, who instigated the collapse.

Butcher's outstanding innings ended when an inswinger from Pollock deflected off the inside edge onto the middle stump, then Andrew Fraser for four.

LATEST

Sports reporter

Magnificent seam bowling by Angus Fraser and superb support from fellow pacemen Darren Gough and Dominic Cork restricted South Africa to 252—a first innings lead of 22—on the second day of the fifth Test at Headingley yesterday.

Fraser grabbed his third consecutive five-wicket haul (5/42) in successive Tests while Gough took three for 58. Cork finished with two for 72. Skipper Hansie Cronje with 57 was the highest scorer for the tourists.

Butcher was great value for his 116 which came from 252 balls in five hours and 12 minutes and contained 18 fours.

The carnage continued when Graeme Hick (2) carelessly cut a

long hop from Ntini to Jonty Rhodes at point.

The Shosa fast bowler, South Africa's first black international, completed Test career-best figures of four for 72 soon after that.

Ian Salisbury played a short ball onto his stumps to depart for a duck and Darren Gough was brilliantly held at slip by Brian McMillan, leaping to take the catch.

Dominic Cork helped push the England total beyond 200 with a bullish 24 not out from 34 balls but Donald wrapped the innings up with the help of a low slip catch by Daryll Cullinan to dismiss Angus Fraser for four.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the first day of the fifth and final Test between England and South Africa at Headingley on Thursday:

ENGLAND: First innings
 Butcher b Pollock 116
 Atherton c Kallis b Ntini 16
 Hussain c Boucher b Pollock 9
 Stewart c Kallis b Donald 15
 Ramprakash c Boucher b Donald 21
 Hick c Rhodes b Ntini 2
 Flintoff c Liebenberg b Pollock 0
 Cork not out 24
 Salisbury b Ntini 0
 Gough c McMillan b Ntini 0
 Fraser c Cullinan b Donald 4
 Extras: (b-4, lb-5, w-2, nb-10) 21
 Total: 230

Fall of wickets: 1-45; 2-83; 3-110; 4-181; 5-196; 6-196; 7-198; 8-200; 9-213

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Donald	20.3	6	44	3
Pollock	24	8	51	3
Ntini	21	5	72	4
Kallis	9	0	30	0
McMillan	9	0	24	0

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings
 Kirsten not out 4
 Liebenberg not out 4
 Extras: (lb-1) 9
 Total: (for no wicket) 9

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Gough	2	1	4	0
Fraser	2	1	4	0

Accolade for Thugwane

CAPE TOWN, Aug 7: Josia Thugwane, gold medalist in the marathon at the Atlanta Olympics, on Thursday was named 1997-world-athlete-of-the-year by the Association of International Marathons and Road Races, reports AP.

The 1993 and 1995 national marathon champion is the first South African to win the field's top award.

Sports Minister Steve Tshwete handed Thugwane the Golden Shoe award at a ceremony here.

"You don't need money, facilities and an established infrastructure to participate in road running," Tshwete said. "All you need are guts and courage to take to the roads in the area you live and to try to emulate what Thugwane has achieved."

The 27-year-old ran his first marathon in 1990 and made a breakthrough when he won the Honolulu Marathon in 1995.

He ran few races in 1997 and did not take part in the World Championships, but clocked 2:08:06 in the London Marathon to finish third and captured first place at the Fukuoka Marathon, which he won with a new South African record of 2:07:28.

Previous winners of the AIMS award are Kenya's Paul Tergat, Vincent Rousseau (Belgium), Dionicio Ceron (Mexico) and Benson Masaya (Kenya).

Leics shut out Somerset



LONDON, Aug 7: Leicestershire strengthened their county championship claim with a crushing victory inside two days against Somerset on Thursday, reports Reuters.

Leicestershire won by an innings and 25 runs after dismissing Somerset for 112 in their second innings, leaving two days and a session to spare.

Fast bowler Alan Ormond took three for 29 to finish with match figures of nine for 62, while Vic Wells' three-wicket haul in the second innings gave him match statistics of six for 42.

Leicestershire, who are now only 20 points behind Surrey at the top of the table with a match in hand, made 271 in their first innings with Darren Maddys scoring 107 off 232 balls.

Allstair Brown hit 132 off only 179 balls with a six and 16 fours to guide Surrey to 333 on the first day of their match against Derbyshire at the Oval.

Alan Butcher, 44, and the father of England opener Mark, was called into the side after Jason Ratcliffe was dropped for disciplinary reasons and made

20 batting at No 8. Gloucestershire, joint third with two games in hand, were forced to follow-on by Lancashire who are also mounting a strong challenge for the title.

They were bowled out in their first innings for 158 and were 11 for two in their second at the end of day two. Lancashire made 386 in their first innings.

Nineteen-year-old Legspinner Chris Schofield had his first major county success, claiming four for 56, while off-spinner Gary Yates finished with four for 64.

Brian Lara's massive innings came to an early end when he was dismissed for 226 at Lord's as Warwickshire made 466 against Middlesex.

Middlesex, 194 for four, still need 123 to avoid the follow-on. Durham, consistently near the top this season, are 116 for five and still need another 195 runs to avoid the follow-on against Sussex.

Nottinghamshire, bowled out for 164 in their first innings, were 100 for two in their second innings against Worcestershire.

Worcestershire, led by cap-

tain Tom Moody's 112 with 17 fours, made 289. Notts' 18-year-old fast bowler Paul Franks took six for 63.

Northants 227/5

NORTHAMPTON, England, Aug 7: Northamptonshire scored 227-5 off their 50 overs against Sri Lanka in a one-day match today, reports Reuters.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
 Loye c Kaluwitharana b Muralitharan 29
 Bailey c Jayasuriya b Pushpakumara 0
 Curran b Muralitharan 14
 Sales not out 91
 Penberthy b Dharmasena 5
 Walton lbw b Dharmasena 0
 Snape not out 78
 Extras: b-1, lb-2, w-7 10
 Total (for five wickets in 50 overs) 227

Did not bat: David Ripley, Devon Malcolm, David Follett, Paul Taylor

Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-41; 3-49; 4-60; 5-60

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Jayasuriya	6	0	46	0
De Silva	3.5	1	26	0
Chandana	6	0	28	0
Dharmasena	10	1	27	2
Wickramasinghe	9	0	51	0
Pushpakumara	5.1	1	9	1
Muralitharan	10	1	37	2

(incomplete)

Gianfranco still bitter



MILAN, Aug 7 (AFP/Internet): Chelsea's Gianfranco Zola admitted on Friday that he is still

deeply hurt by his World Cup snub and has little appetite for the national squad now in the hands of Dino Zoff.

After a disappointing league season with the Blues, Zola lost out to Roberto Baggio in the race to be an under-study to Alessandro Del Piero in Cesare Maldini's attack at France '98.

However, Zola's winner against England in qualifying had set Italy on course for the finals, and his late strike won the European Cup Winners' Cup for Chelsea shortly before Italy left for France.

And he admitted on Friday that being passed over by Maldini has not been easy to handle.

"It still hurts a lot. The pain is intense," Zola said. "Maldini called me for the last time after the (Cup Winners' Cup) final and told me 'We haven't decided yet'. But I didn't hear from him again after that. It was my big chance, and one that won't come again," said the 32-year-old. "USA '94 was a bit awkward for me, having been sent off against Nigeria, and I wanted to try again."

there are good times and bad times. They go in cycles, and you have to accept them."

But he agreed that at the time, Maldini's decision was not an easy one to accept.



GIANFRANCO ZOLA

"In times like that, you want to say everything that you feel inside," he said. "Then you think about it, and you decide to keep quiet."

"It was the same thing for

(Diego) Fuser, (Christian) Panucci and (Pierluigi) Casiraghi — all people who thought they would be going to France, who had been working to get to the World Cup finals.

The disappointment has clearly marked the Sardinian forward, who is putting thoughts of the new national squad under Zoff to one side and concentrating on his future in west London.

"Me in the national team? I've no idea what the new coach will be looking for," Zola said. "I've become fairly embittered by the national side recently, so for the moment I am going to dedicate myself to Chelsea."

"It's not by chance that Roberto Di Matteo and I have renewed our contracts. My one ends in 2002 and I hope that I will have the strength to play at this level for another four years."

As for Casiraghi, who is joining the Blues from Lazio, Zola had no doubts that he would quickly to adapt to his new life.

"He too will soon be won over by living in England," he told the Gazzetta dello Sport. Zola was meanwhile due to meet his former teammates when Chelsea took on Parma in a friendly in Palermo on Friday evening.



England's Darren Gough (L) is exultant after getting rid of Daryll Cullinan (R) during the second day's play of the final Test against South Africa at Headingley yesterday. — AFP photo