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DID U' KNOW?

(The Professor does)

THAT 'Darts' is an indoor I game of accuracy, in which players toss small, arrow-like, weighted missiles, called darts, at a round board hanging on a wall. The darts are usually about six inches long and have long steeled fips. Players alternate, each tossing three darts per turn from a specified distance, which can vary from 7 feet, 9.25 inches to 9 feet, depending on the rules of the competition. The dartboard, which is made of cork or a similar material, has concentric rings and is usually divided radically into sectors, which have different point values. The centre of the dartboard should rest 5 feet, 8 inches from the floor. A dart placed in the centremost ring, or bull's-eye, yields the highest score. The game is one of the most popular in taverns and clubs in Great Britain, almost always with a foaming larger of beer.

And, all these years Mainka knew that darts meant two guys showing off.



Competition-103

Tick the Correct Answers Post to The Baily Star Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm. Sept 25 '98, and draw shortly afterwards

How many nations are taking part in the 16th C'wealth Games cricket?

Who is skippering Barbados in C'wealth Games cricket?

Campbell Gibson Where were the previous C'wealth Games held?

England Canada Australia 4 How many countries are taking part in the 16th Commonwealth Games?

In how many disciplines, is Bangladesh participating in the 16th Commonwealth Games?

Seven

Name

Class Roll No. School Address

····· Phone: (If any)

POWERED WITH



Jagmohan Dalmiya

(ICC president) "You should concentrate more on three or four-day cricket instead of one-day matches because that is the only way you know about a fiveday match."

While advising Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) officials on how to get ready for playing Test matches.

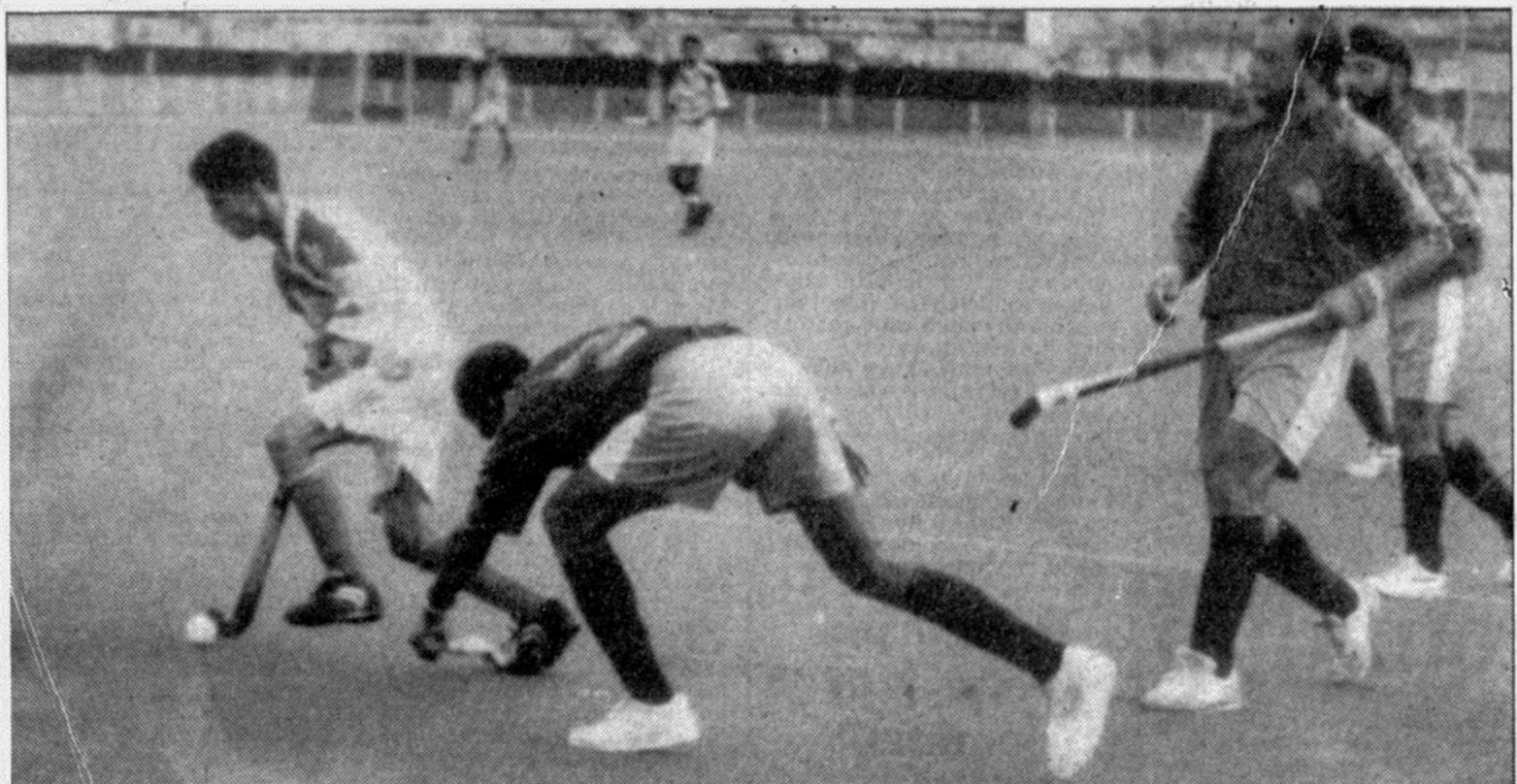
Dahlin in demand

STOCKHOLM, Sept 19: Three leading German clubs have joined Scottish champions Celtic in the race to sign Swedish international striker Martin Dahlin from English Premiership side Blackburn Rovers, reports AFP.

Swedish television network TV 4 reported Friday that Hertha Berlin. Schalke 04 and Hamburg are all interested in signing Dahlin.

Celtic were Friday reported in the English media to be the favourites to sign the 30-yearold, who now ranks behind Chris Sutton, Kevin Davies and Kevin Gallacher in the Black-

burn pecking order. TV 4 reported Dahlin had already had talks with Everton. who apparently were unwilling to match Blackburn manager Roy Hodgsons valuation of the player.



Action from yesterday's Green Delta First Division hockey league clash between Wari Club and Bangladesh Railway which ended in a 2-2 draw at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium. - Star photo

Not yet in b/w

Sports Reporter

Gazi Ashraf Hossain, Bangladesh's manager-turnedcoach who last week announced his resignation after his team failed to win a single match in Kuala Lumpur's Commonwealth Games, has not yet tendered it in writing to the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB).

The former national skipper, who was surprisingly named as coach of the team last month instead of his regulation job as manager, informed this to the Daily Star yesterday.

He said he would submit his resignation very soon.

When asked why had he accepted the job (of coach) for which he was not ready, Mr. Hossain said, "Cricket was going through a crisis at that time when they (BCB) named me as coach. As a cricketer I thought not to let them down."

"If we could only look in-

stead of gawking, we will see

horror in the heart of farce."

No. Lautrec is being too harsh.

Let's try Henry Kissinger, who

our expectations of it, frustra-

tion is the only natural out-

come." Indeed, the harsh reali-

ties of the big bad world of in-

ternational cricket, have hit us

fairly and squarely in our

cricketing solar plexus. Frus-

tration, is an understatement.

We are now in all earnest-

ness, poised on the moment of

truth. It is time now to take a

collective deep breath and ask

ourselves, do we belong here? It

is time also to look at ourselves,

cricketwise, for the inside is

looking increasingly insidious

and the outside distinctly

grotesque. However, in keeping

with our well earned national

reputation of missing the most

obvious of reasons attributable

to any catastrophe, we are

pointing a myriad of fingers at

every conceivable and imagi-

nary gremlin. This is of course

due to one of our other well-

known virtues, we do not know

where the buck starts from and

come to face facts. Does

Bangladesh have it in itself to

survive at the top level? Are we

misleading ourselves, the

cricketers and the nation?

Should someone be held ac-

countable? If so, who should

they be? The all too familiar

and regular debacles of our

cricket team should be diag-

nosed as manifestation of a de-

But, the time has indeed

where it stops.

disgust the order of the day.

said. "When reality clashes with

Green Delta hockey

Wari miss the bus Sports Reporter

against two victories in five

matches which raised their ac-

day, Bachelors' Club posted a 3-

1 win over Dhaka Ansars.

In the other match of the

Aqil. Latif and Shah Alam

It was Bachelors' first win in

scored for the winners while

Nurul Islam pulled one back for

five outings against two draws

and two defeats which upped

their tally to five points while

for Ansars, it was their fifth

No matches will be played

On Tuesday, Victoria Sport-

ing Club will take on Bachelors'

Club at 2:30 pm while

Bangladesh Railway will meet

Bangladesh Sporting Club at

players of international class.

capable of rising to the occasion

with bat and ball, in adverse

to terms with its strengths, if

any. It is averaging below three

runs an over when batting and

is regularly seen to give away

more than double those runs

when bowling. This ratio is re-

ally not good enough to do busi-

ness in the international mar-

ket. Whether we like it or not,

our cricketers are woefully

short of the class required to

make an impact on the inter-

national circuit that they have

gatecrashed into. At least, cer-

tainly not at the moment. Mo-

tivations must of necessity al-

ways stem from self assess-

much, too soon? I think so.

ments. Are we pushing for too

The powers that be of

Bangladesh cricket, should now

step back a few steps and look at

the overall canvas of the coun-

try's cricket and decide where to

go from here. Or, more perti-

nently whether or not we need

to be in such a rush to get

nowhere. Our cricket is ailing.

Without the right treatment it

might end up being crippled and

handicapped. The writing is

again up in neon lights and the

authorities and players would

do well to take their blinkers

off and read it carefully this

time. It is time now to get back

to the drawing boards for there

is really no other choice. We

had failed to seize the moment.

(The author is an ex-crick-

Sad, really.

The team has still not come

count to nine points.

Ansars.

4:15 pm.

conditions.

defeat in a row.

today and tomorrow.

Wari Club tasted its first draw in the Green Delta Insurance First Division hockey league after four successive wins when Bangladesh Railway held them 2-2 in one of the two matches played at the Moulana Bhasani Stadium yesterday.

In a see-saw encounter which saw Wari leading the first half 1-0. Shahid Ahmed and Khurshid Hossain struck one goal each for the joint-leaders while Kirpal Singh, one of the four Indian recruits of Railway scored two goals.

With the stalemate. Wari maintained their joint occupation of the top spot along with Bangladesh Sporting Club, both having tallied 13 points from five matches

On the other hand, it was the third draw for the Railwaymen

Time out for Bangladesh cricket

Shakil Kasem

bilitating malaise that is eating

at the vitals of our cricket. Let

us not miss the point that this

includes the non-performance

of management and players

in Malaysia, the performances

of the national team have been

showing all the telltale signs of

a meltdown. The writing was on

the wall for all to see, except

that we chose to look the other

way. Confucius had put it aptly.

in a different context, "When

the finger points at the moon,

the idiot looks at the finger." We

chose to ignore the signs, and

cricketers have been sent to all

corners of the cricketing globe.

Exactly what was sought to

have been achieved from these

trips has remained a mystery.

No reports on the tours in ques-

tion have been made publicly

available. Or worse yet, acted

upon. What was made obvious,

was yet another disastrous tour

following on the heels of the

previous one. Ad nauseam, ad

infinitum. What the opponents

in those countries faced, was es-

sentially a team from

Bangladesh that was basically

tired and fatigued from over ex-

ertion, stale from too much

cricket and certainly lacking in

confidence because of the fail-

ures of the immediate past. One

should not expect any degree of

commitment from players who

are therefore not mentally or

physically strong by any

stretch of imagination. Add to

this, the rather inescapable fact

that Bangladesh does not have

Over the last 18 months, the

now we are having to pay for it.

Every since the ICC Trophy

Wow! A new skip!

Sports Reporter

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is actively considering the appointment of a new captain for the national team to the forthcoming Pepsi ACC trophy to be held at Kathmandu, Nepal, from October 3. This was disclosed by a source close to the BCB.

The source, who opted to remain anonymous, said that the board is looking for a new captain because it has lost faith on Akram after the team's recurring poor performance in international matches including the recent 16th Commonwealth

He also revealed to the Daily Star that to establish discipline in the team, there is consensus for a change in the leadership. Akram's deputy Aminul Is-

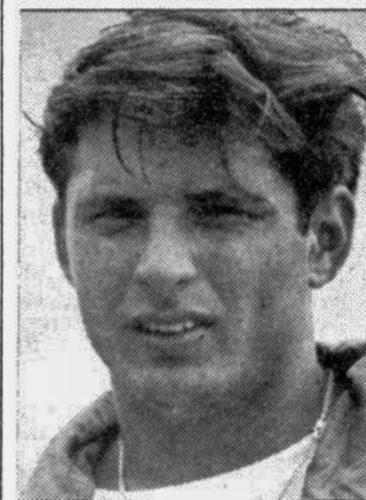
lam and former skipper Faruque Ahmed are strong bets for Akram's shoes provided the Chittagonian actually loses his

Pakistan amass 316 for six

Sports Reporter

Pakistan, aided by an electrifying century from opener Shahid Khan Afridi, amassed a mammoth total of 316 for six in the penultimate game of the five-match Sahara Cup series against India at Toronto, according to ESPN monitored here late last night.

Afridi, scored a magnificent 109 off 94 balls, his second ton after the record-breaking hundred off only 37 balls against Sri Lanka in Nairobi last year. The gangling right-hander, known for his exploits in the first fifteen overs, set the pace of the Pakistan innings after



AFRIDI ... 109

Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin sent his opponents into bat.

In his typically aggressive yet sensible knock. Afridi hammered seven savage hits across the rope and half a dozen sixes. The gangling right-han-der was particularly harsh against medium-pacer Saurav Ganguly, who conceded 62 runs in his five prodigal overs.

Pakistan, who are leading the series 2-1, never looked behind after Afridi laid the foundation in company with captain Aamir Sohail, who played the perfect foil at the other end in the second-wicket century partnership. Aamir made 46.

Inzamaul Haq scored a rapid-fire 78 off only 75 balls which included seven fours and a couple of sixes. Salim Malik chipped in with 39 off 36 deliv-

For the Indians nothing went right on the day. The bowling was sub-standard. Only leftarm spinner Sunil Joshi, who finished with two for 36 in his ten overs, earned some respect from the Pakistani batsmen.

Brazil blank Mexico

ROCHESTER, New York. Sept 19: Roseli scored six goals and Pretinha added four more as Brazil routed Mexico 11-0 Friday night in the Nike US Women's Cup, reports AP.

SA stun Aussies to snatch gold spinner and brought back KUALA LUMPUR.

Sept 19 (Reuters/ Internet): South Africa, who barely scraped into the final af ter a series of poor perfor-

mances, overpowered red-hot favourites Australia on Saturday to win the first cricket gold medal in Commonwealth Games history.

Their four-wicket margin of victory, after bowling the Australians out for just 183 in 49.3 overs with only captain Steve Waugh's 90 not out preventing an Australian collapse, was

easier that it appeared on paper.
Three South African wickets went down in the last few overs when it was only a question of who would strike the winning run thanks to a lightning start to their innings by Andrew Hudson (36) and Mike Rindel, who went on to make 67

Steve Waugh, whose side had crushed everything before them in a rampant march to the final, was bitterly disappointed by their performance on Satur-

"The batting was poor. A lot of soft dismissals. We shouldn't have gifted away wickets," he

"It doesn't mean anything

when you come second," he said. The South Africans did everything the Australians were expected to do -- they bowled well, fielded superbly and their batting came good for the first time in a tournament which marked cricket's debut in the 68-year-old Games.

They were helped by what looked like some overconfident batting by the Australians as Adam Gilchrist and Ricky Ponting went to ambitious pulls of Shaun Pollock to go early and cheap. Only Steve Waugh looked

confident on a Kuala Lumpur pitch which did not take spin quite as viciously as on earlier days and helped the fast bowlers a little less. Pollock ended with figures of

four for 19, and topped it with the gold medal as the head of a team without South Africa's regular captain Hanse Cronje and other stars.

"Captain, you take it back. These responsibilities are a bit too much," Pollock said in a message intended for Cronje.

The South African batsmen, who had struggled against Bangladesh and Northern Ireland, took apart a vaunted Australian pace attack which other sides had found near to unplayable in the heat and humidity of Malaysia.

"It became a bit uncomfortable and you had a prayer on your mind," said Rindel, who plays for English club Leek in Staffordshire. Hudson cracked 36 off 39

balls with five boundaries after being dropped at slip by a diving Mark Waugh off paceman Mike Kasprowicz's second over -- the first chance the Australians had dropped in the tournament. Even worse, the over cost 15

runs and after three more boundaries in the next four overs Waugh pulled Damien Fleming and Kasprowicz out of the attack. The first 50 came in 48 balls.

South Africa, who got into the final thanks only to a 35run ninth wicket semifinal stand after Sri Lanka reduced them to 96 for nine, suddenly looked formidable.

Off-spinner Gavin Robertson got Hudson to lob a catch to Michael Bevan at deep square leg and had Derek Crookes out to a brilliant diving catch by Tom Moody for only three. But with a relatively low tar-

get to aim for, the South Africans did not need to take any chances after such a quick start and the left-handed Rindel mixed aggression and caution as Jacques Kallis played quietly at the other end. Kallis survived a chance

soon after he came in as substitute Andy Bichel dropped a difficult catch behind square leg. but the pair moved South Africa steadily towards the gold medal Roberston and left-arm spinner Brad Young, who took a

hat-trick in the semifinal against New Zealand, beat the bat but failed to catch an edge. Waugh tried Bevan's unorthodox left-arm spin, introduced seamer Moody as an offFleming.

But it was only when he brought on very occasional leftarm spinner Darren Lehmann (3-13) that he made the breamthrough, as Rindel was caught by brother Mark Waugh. But by then, the South

Africans were 158 for three and cruising home.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard in the Commonwealth Games cricket final between Australia and South Africa on Saturday:

AUSTRALIA M Waugh b Boucher b Pollock Gilchrist c Rindel b Pollock Ponting c Dawson b Pollock Bevan run out S Waugh not out Lehmann c Boucher b Pollock Moody st Boucher b Adams Young c Benkenstein b Adams

Robertson Ibw b Boje Kasprowicz run out Fleming run out Extras: (b-1, lb-2, w-11, nb-1) Total: (all out in 49.3 overs) Fall of wkts 1-10; 2-16; 3-28;

4-58; 5-121; 6-124; 7-142; 8-157; 9-177. Bowler: Pollock 19 4 9 2 Kallis 21 27 Dawson Crookes 43

36 Adams 33 0.2 Benkenstein SOUTH AFRICA Hudson c Bevan b Robertson 36 Rindel c M Waugh b Lehmann 67 Crookes c Moody b Robertson Kallis c Gilchrist b Lehmann 44 Gibbs b Fleming

Pollock c Young b Lehmann Boucher not out Extras: (b-6, lb-1, w-10, 11b-4) 21 Total: Six wickets in 46 overs) 18-Fall of wkts: 1-73; 2-86; 3-158; 4-172; 5-181; 6-183.

Benkenstein not out

Bowler: M R W Fleming 0 34 Kasprowicz 3 31 Young 2 28 Robertson Moody 0 15 0 11 Bevan 1 14 Lehmann Result: South Africa won by

four wickets. Silver: Australia. Bronze: New Zealand.

Haroon tells judge of suspicions placed by Javed Miandad last LAHORE. Pakis-



tan, Sept 19 (Reuters/ The Dawn/ Internet): Former Pakistan coach

Haroon Rasheed told a judge investigating charges of betting and matchfixing in Pakistan cricket on Saturday he was convinced that some matches had been deliberately lost.

"During my (July 1997-August 1998) tenure as coach there were some matches which I, as a cricketer, felt should have been won by Pakistan but were lost," Rasheed told Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum at a hearing.

Rasheed told a governmentappointed inquiry into allegations of foul play in the national sport that there were three one-day internationals which he felt Pakistan should have won but lost. An interim report by the

Pakistan Cricket Board recommended that Salim Malik, Wasim Akram and Ijaz Ahmad should not be selected in the team until the investigations were over. Malik and Ahmad are

presently in Canada for the Sahara Cup against India while Wasim Akram has announced his retirement. "During an Asia Cup match

in Colombo in 1997, Pakistan were chasing 239 and the target looked well within reach when Inzamam-ul-Haq and Salim Malik were batting. But first Inzamam was run

out while taking a risky single and then Salim Malik threw away his wicket," Rasheed said.

"In the dressing room, Inzamam told me that he and Malik had decided not to take risky singles but he (Salim Malik) made a call to which he had to respond," Rasheed, who was remonth, said.

"In one of the 1997 Sahara Cup matches, Pakistan were chasing 208 for victory and Salim Malik and Saglain Mushtaq were at the crease. Once again there was a mix-up which resulted in Saglain's run-out. Shortly, Salim Malik again threw away his wicket as Pakistan lost by 20 runs."

Rasheed said in the second one-day international against India at Karachi the visitors needed 16 or 17 runs in the last over which was bowled by Saqlain Mushtaq.

"He gave away those runs. Such kind of bowling could not have been expected of a bowler of Saglain Mushtag's calibre."



HAROON RASHEED

Rasheed said. Rasheed said that during last year's Asia Cup. Rashid Latif gave an interview in which he accused both Pakistani and Indian cricketers of match-fixing.

"The interviewer stated that Rashid Latif was in possession of the material to substantiate these allegations, which he was not bringing out as his childhood friends were also involved.

Latif, who was in England at

that time, who contradicted

Rasheed said he contacted

some portions of the interview and denied naming Saeed An-"However, there was no denial as regards Wasim Akram

and Salim Malik," he said. The next hearing is set for September 26. Meanwhile, The Dawn re-

ports from Karachi that the executive council of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) will meet at the cricket headquarters in Lahore on Sept 26. The appointment of captain for the home series against Aus-

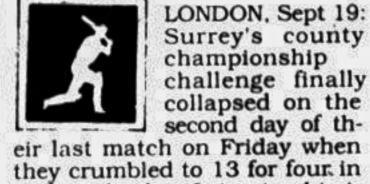
tralia will be discussed besides other issues, chief executive Majid Khan said. Sohail has initially been appointed captain for the Sahara Cup and his extension depends on his and team's performance in Canada. Majid said the agenda of the meeting did not carry a separate clause on whether the players

under investigations for betting and match-fixing would be allowed for selection in the team. He, however, clarified that the debate on the players could take place under the clause 'any other item for discussion'.

He maintained that he has received no instructions from the judicial commission to suspend the players under investigations. 'It is to be seen what the executive council decides on the players (under probe)," Majid added.

On the selection of teams for respective Tests, Majid said the selectors will be picking and announcing the teams themselves. They don't need the approval of the council, he said.

Surrey out of the race



LONDON, Sept 19: Surrey's county championship challenge finally collapsed on the second day of their last match on Friday when

reply to leaders Leicestershire's mammoth first innings of 585 for six, reports Reuters. Third-placed Lancashire did their best to keep the pressure on by taking full control

against Hampshire at Old Traf-Having obtained a modest first innings lead of 13 runs, Lancashire dashed to 296 for one, thanks to a devastating

The England batsman hit seven sixes and 23 fours in a quickfire stand of 202 for the second wicket with Neil Fairbrother.

However, Leicester are in the driving seat and look set for their second championship in

three seasons.

Beginning the second day on 349 for four, they soon lost Aftab Habib for 114. But Ben Smith, who had batted with him throughout two full sessions on the first-day, went on to make the first double century of his career — 204.

Wicketkeeper Paul Nixon, with 101 not out, and former Surrey all-rounder Chris Lewis, with an unbeaten, 54, then pressed on to a total that assumed greater proportions almost as soon as the home team began their reply.

England batsman Mark Butcher and Graham Thorpe were both dismissed by left-arm seamer Alan Mullally without a run on the board.

unbeaten 211 from John Craw-When Nadeem Shahid and Alistair Brown quickly followed, the score was eight for four and only five more runs were added before bad light

stopped play for the day. Surrey, nine points behind at the start of the match, needed victory to claim their first title since 1971. A draw would now be good

enough for Leicestershire, unbeaten all season, as long as they claim three bowling points by taking a total of seven Surrey wickets in the first innings.
The match between the bot-

tom two teams at Chelmsford

suddenly swung towards visitors Northamptonshire, as Essex slid to 50 for five in their second innings, only 71 ahead. Paceman Paul Taylor changed the course of the match with four wickets for 14, to

leave Essex facing the prospect of finishing bottom for the first time in 48 years. V'ball leagues

put off

Dhaka Metropolis First Di-vision and Second Division volleyball leagues, organised by Bangladesh Volleyball Federation, were postponed due to flood, reports UNB.



HIP HIP HOORAY! Members of the South African team celebrate after defeating archrivals Australia in the final of Commonwealth cricket competition yesterday. — AFP photo