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dia threatened to match them

ball for ball, hit for hit. It was heady stuff but really too good

to be true. Two early wickets

had rocked them on their heels

nings together with a very clin-

ical 94. Jonty Rhodes then put the issue beyond doubt with

some sharp running between

the wickets and typically un-

conventional batting. The kind

were expected to lose, but they

did have the chance to throw

the form book out the window.

That they could not should not

worry them too much. They

have found reserves of fighting

qualities in some of the key

players and that should serve

well during the rest of the

morth. If Azharuddin can re-

India, as per the form book

that wins matches.

but Jacques Kallis held the in-

Attempt to impeach Yeltsin fails

MOSCOW, May 15: A Communist-led attempt to impeach Boris Yeltsin failed today as lawmakers backed away from a showdown with the president who has dominated modern Russia since its birth, reports

The lower chamber of parliament or State Duma failed to pass any of the five impeachment charges after three days of often acrimonious debate.

The closest vote came on a motion accusing Yeltsin of starting the Chechen War, which got 283 votes of the 300 votes needed to begin impeachment proceedings to remove Yeltsin, according to officials results. Communist and other hard-

line deputies had predicted certain triumph after working for almost a year to impeach Yeltsin. But centrist and nationalist deputies apparently decided to back Yeltsin because of their greater opposition to the Communists.

The results were read out to a hushed chamber after a day of arguing and wrangling over the voting procedure. It appeared that just 348 deputies took part in the voting, with dozens of others staying away or boy-

Zimbabwe

From Page 1 on 62 by the 13th over.

But Zimbabwe then hit back as four wickets fell for 25 runs. making it 87 for four.

The innings was , however, shored up by Alpesh Vadher. Coming in at number six, he cracked 54, putting on 84 in 22 overs with Maurice Odumbe.

Vadher delighted the vocal Kenyan supporters, coming down the pitch to the spinners and taking on pace bowler Heath Streak by dispatching him for six over mid-wicket.

He fell in the 45th over, skying a drive to long-on off Johnson, who played for Le-

icestershire two years ago, gave Zimbabwe the ideal start in reply, taking the leading role in an 81-run opening stand with Grant Flower. The pair smashed Martin

Suji out of the attack as his first two overs went for 19 runs.

Paul Strang replaced Flower, coming in as an early pinchhitter, and blasted 29 rusn off 21 balls before he falling with the StoXe0on!119. Johnson went four runs later, holing out to mid-wicket in the 21st over and Murray Goodwin soon followed to make it 147 for four.

But skipper Alastair Campbell and Andy Flower put on 66 to ensure victory.

Scoreboard Zimbabwe:

N Johnson c Modi b Odoyo G Flower c Shah b Karim P Strang c A.Suji b Odoyo M Goodwin c Karim b Odumbe 17 A Flower c Tikalo b Odumbe 34 A Campbell not out G Whittall not out Extras: (lb5, w16, nb7)

Total (for five wickets, 41 overs) 231 Fall of wickets: 1-81, 2-119, 3-123, 4-147, 5-213

Did not bat: S Carlisle, H Streak, A Whittall, M Mbangwa R Bowling: M Suji T Odovo 40 0 38 Kamande A Karim 30 Odumbe 39

From Page 1

tain by demolishing the top and

cotting the session.

"The most difficult political crisis which could have developed has been overcome. Reason has prevailed," premierdesignate Sergei Stepashin said after the vote, according to the Interfax news agency. A few liberal deputies grinned widely as it became apparent that the impeachment attempt had failed. Communist deputies were silent, their heads bowed as they wrote down the results on each of the five impeachment

Reuter adds: Opponents charged Yeltsin with illegally dissolving the Soviet Union in 1991, violently crushing a rebellion by hardline supporters of the Soviet-era parliament in 1993, starting an ill-fated war against the rebel region of Chechnya in 1994, ruining the armed forces and launching what foes describe as "genocide against the Russian people."

Impeachment, under Russia's 1993 constitution, is a vaguely shaped multi-stage process also involving the two top courts and the Federation Council upper house.

Until Yeltsin's decision to sack compromise Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov on Wednesday, most parliamentary experts believed that the Duma had little chance to secure the needed 300 votes for any of the charges.

Minutes before deputies began voting, the Kremlin announced Yeltsin had undergone routine medical checks earlier today and had then returned to his Rus country residence outside Moscow.

Another report says, Yeltsin watched the parliamentary debate on impeachment charges against him from his country residence today and did not intend to turn up in Moscow at the weekend, the Kremlin said.

"The president is fully aware of all developments," a Kremlin spokeswoman said by telephone, quoting Yeltsin's press secretary, Dmitry Yakushkin.

Police, extortionists trade fire at Maniknagar: 1 held

By Staff Correspondent A gang of extortionists traded gunshots with police at Maniknagar under Shabujbagh thana in the city yesterday

morning. Police arrested one extortionist — identified as Titu from the spot.

According to police, a gang of about six extortionists, went to a house in Maniknagar area and demanded toll at about 9

Acting on a tip-off, a team of Shabujbagh police rushed to the spot. Sensing the presence of police, the extortionists exploded a number of crackers and at one stage fired a number

of gunshots. Police replied with five rounds of shots in which Titu. one of the extortionists, sustained minor injuries. Titu was arrested while his accomplices managed to escape the scene. Shabujbagh police took Titu into their custody.

A case was filed with Shabujbagh thana in connection with the incident yester-

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina addressing the concluding session of Hague Peace Conference yesterday.

PM: Peace fundamental right

From Page 1

called for cutbacks in war budget, saying that if a fraction of the amounts spent on war and war preparations had been saved to fund human welfare, a dramatic change would have taken place in quality of human Referring to current ethnic

conflicts in many parts of the world, she said sectarian and ethnic clashes must, like all other conflicts, be halted. Amidst cheers from thou-

sands of peace activists at the assembly, the prime minister said: "We in Bangladesh are committed to peace fully and unconditionally. This is a constitutional requirement.' Making a flashback on a

horrific experience of genocide, rape, women, arson and exodus of people during Bangladesh's Liberation War in 1971. Hasina said that human tragedy of unprecedented severity made the Bengalis abhor war and cherish peace.

We are a party to CTBT, NPT and anti-personnel land mine Convention and are, so far, the only nation in our Subcontinent to do so."

Hasina told the meet that her government believes in poverty alleviation, economic and social development, eradieation of hunger and ignorance, empowerment of women and securing child rights.

Explaining the landmark peace accord signed on December 2, 1997 to end bush war in the tribal insurgency-torn Chittagong Hill Tracts, she said the peace deal was broached without any mediation or intervention from outside.

"This makes it unique. We do not know of any other instance, at least in recent times, where a conflict has been resolved without any external interven-

Over sixty-three thousand

refugees from across the border have all returned, she said. adding: "Peace holds firmly in

Chittagong Hill Tracts." Allaying any skepticism that may come from critics at home, the Prime Minister said the accord was signed "without compromising sovereignty and territorial integrity of the coun-

Programme are under way for developing the hill tracts, now open to everyone after many, many years, she told the peace conference.

Stressing democratic polity for attaining peace, Hasina said a military ruler or a dictator would care a little for peace. A dictator has little concern for people for he does not have to depend on their support for staying in power.

The Prime Minister said if peace is to be the expectation of the next century, democracy must be practised and demo-

SA squeeze

From Page 1
"I often write 10-dulkar so it was quite nice to wear the 10 shirt," the master batsman

Tendulkar, who has lost 13 pounds (six kilos) since suffering back spasms during the home series against Pakistan, curbed his normal aggressive style against the new ball He hit a lone boundary when

he edged an intended glide off Klusener to wicket-keeper Mark Dravid and Ganguly took advantage of the easy wicket

and the lightning outfield on the small ground to score steadily against the muchvaunted South African attack. The pair took the score to 197 for one by the 42nd over when Klusener broke through

again by bowling Dravid as the batsman attempted a flick to

cratic values and norms devel oped all over the world.

She extended Bangladesh's unflinching support to the Hague Agenda for peace and justice in the 21st century. "We would do our very best for the implementation of the Hague action plan.

To deal with internal problems in a state, the Prime Minister thought of developing some mechanisms, without, of course, interfering in the state sovereignty.

She observed that civil society organisations with a state could take a lead in this regard. Perhaps international censure could help. There must be some way out and one must find it rather sooner than later.

There is a concrete measure. or two, which we think, should be taken immediately," the premier said offering several concrete peace measures.

First comes implementation of plans and decisions in this respect. The institutions that have been set up and the laws that have been codified for the prevention of conflicts and violence must be put to good use.

"Secondly, equality. Inequality breeds violence. Unless and until inequality between men and women, the rich and the poor, and the prosperous and the not-so-prosperous nations is got rid of, peace is to be elusive.

Sheikh Hasina further suggested that international rela tions and decision making must be democratised. Human rights must be honoured and respected.

Thirdly comes partnership. Each and everyone — whether representing government, civil society, the media or any other sector — must contribute to the making of a peaceful world, individually and collectively. "We must forge a worldwide grand alliance for peace.'

Dhaka to host peace confce of Asian MPs

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said the Jatiya Sangsad would convene a conference of parliamentari-ans from across Asia in a bid to promote peace and cooperation. reports BSS.

She made the disclosure in her speech to the concluding session of the Hague Peace Conference that was held at the Netherlands capital yesterday. She said the conference, to

tarians' Conference for Peace and Cooperation, would be organised later this year. "As far as we know, no such conference has been organised

be dubbed as, Asian Parliamen-

ever before," she said. The conference, she said. would try to identify the crucial role of parliamentarians in

creating and promoting an atmosphere of peace in Asia. Another report adds: Hasina also declared that she would write to all world leaders seeking their support for the 'Hague

Agenda' for peace and justice for the 21st century.'

BNP shows black flag to Hasina in the Hague

BNP staged a demonstration against the government in the Hague, the Netherlands, where Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina attended the peace conference. according to a message received here last night, reports UNB. Several hundred BNP ac-

tivists living there staged demonstration and chanted slogans against the government.

Alamgir Kabir, president of the Netherlands BNP unit, Dr Abdul Malek, president of France unit, Mohidur Rahman of USA unit and Mahbub Alam Chowdhury of Belgium unit who led the demonstration showed black flags to the Prime Minister when she entered the conference hall and left it.

They staged demonstration to protest police action on BNP MPs, journalists and stripping off a woman leader in Dhaka during May 11 hartal.

They also handed over a memorandum to the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan,

JCD-Shibir clash at RU: 8 injured

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY May 15: A clash between Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) left eight injured on the campus on Friday, reports APB. Two JCD workers were ar

rested following the clash which ensured at the university's Mother Bakhs Hall over a trifle matter at about 3 pm, campus sources said. Of the injured, four were

admitted to the University medical centre and Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH).

Pakistan slam

From Page 1 with 100,000 for this type of

"We are keeping potential supporters away from the game," he said. "These are tiny grounds.

Apart from test grounds, many of the matches are being played in stadiums with a capacity of less than 10,000. Extra seating providing a few hundred extra seats has been erected at many of the grounds. India's game today against

South Africa is being played at Hove which holds just 6,000 spectators. Thousands of Indian fans wanting tickets have been disappointed. Gazing at the cloudy skies as

Pakistani players bundled themselves up in thick jumpers, Zafar said it was unwise to have staged the tournament so early in the English summer. Pakistan's three warm-up

matches have been severely affected by rain and Zafar said the players had been deprived of crucial practice. A net today was their first serious chance to practice outdoors, he said.

From Page 1 as per contracts, the source pointed out.

· "Unfortunately, the relevant provisions of the PSCs are hardly being followed here, said a local official of an oil company.

have a work permit gave an explanation why there was lesser number of local employees. "We would love to take Bangladeshis if we found enough qualified people. Unfortunately, there are not many. A lot of qualified Bangladeshis are working in the Middle Eastern oil companies and they are not interested in coming back. So when we need a qualified person, we bring him from abroad for a short term," he said.

Most of these foreigners have 'business visa' which is valid for three months. They usually make a short visit to a nearby country and come back with new business visa, he men-

"I think the government should take up the issue seriously and change the work permit procedures so that foreigners can obtain permit easily and work here in a proper way," an official said.

Mind over matter

From Page 1 surance and panache and the Indian total looked to be good enough to test the considerable batting strengths of South Africa. The brilliance of Jonty Rhodes deprived Ganguly from reaching his hundred and some valuable runs thereafter. Some loose shots and very tight outcricket by the South Africans did not allow the Indians to run away with the match. The difference between the two teams was starkly obvious in the last ten overs. Whereas the Indians curled up and died, the South

Africans prospered at the death. South Africa is a very mechanical side, at times bordering on the robotic. They are programmed to perform, each player in his own special way. Their programmed software ran the risk of a collapse as In-

DU hall

From Page backed by Gopalganj group, a Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) faction, was ruling the hall for a long time and captured a number of rooms of the dormitory.

The hall authorities yesterday sealed some rooms including 203, 216 and 219 where the outsiders used to stay at night. Meanwhile, a section of stu-

dents of the hall welcomed the Vice Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury with bouquet following a procession, when he went on a visit at the Arts Building and Lecture Theatre vesterday morning. The students hailed the VC

out the terrorists and outsiders from the campus. Pro-VC and proctor of the university were also present here. Ramna police said that the arrested were produced before

for his recent initiative to drive

the court yesterday. No case as been lodged till filling of this report last night.

cover from the trauma by the time the next match comes around, the Indians could still have their say on the outcome of this competition. The Kenyans in the meanwhile succumbed tamely to no one's surprise. Zimbabwe can take heart from the fact that they have two easy points in the bag. They are a team that could be lying in ambush for some of the big boys in this group. After

Pakistan for N-talks

two days this group is wide open

and waiting for any kind of

script to be written about it.

SINGAPORE, May 15: Pakistan hopes soon to resume talks with India to reach an agreement on preventing a nuclear arms race, Pakistani Foreign Minister Sartaj Aziz said today, reports AFP.

He said the dialogue on a 'strategic restraint regime' following the signing of the Lahore agreement in February was suspended last month when the Indian government fell. Elections will be held in September-Octo-

Khaleda: Dialogue

From Page 1 through dialogue and discussion", she said.

The former prime minister was addressing a press conference at her official residence in the city yesterday.

Begum Zia said: It is the duty of the party in power to take steps to bring the opposition to the dialogue table to find out a solution. The responsibility of the government is much more than the opposition. It is also a matter with the government how they will start the dia-

Replying to a question on creation of a favourable atmosphere, the BNP chief said her party will sit for a dialogue if the government agrees to discuss the opposition's five -point demand and wants to resolve the problems.

She said the government had earlier signed a four -point agreement with the opposition but did not implement it. "Later we placed the five -point demand. Now it is the duty of the government to take initiative to meet those."

On her party's demand for early parliamentary elections, she said it is possible to resolve all problems through discus-

Begum Zia thanked the government for withdrawing the ban on crossing the Jamuna Bridge during BNP's Dhaka-Panchagarh road march, beginning today. "I thank them as good sense prevailed upon them," she said

She said the opposition announced the road march programme after the success of all

previous programmes and people's response to those. But this time, the road march is not like the previous CHT long march. she said

About the withdrawal of ban, the Opposition Leader said, "They (govt) will not admit publicly, but they understood that they did a mistake and was doing something unjust by trying to obstruct a democratic programme," Begum Zia added.

"We announced various programmes as alternatives to hartal. Programmes like mass procession, mass hunger strike road march and procession of MPs were never implemented by any other party in the country. All these programmes were aimed at avoiding hartal," she

But, she said, her party will have no alternative but to go for hartal if peaceful programmes are obstructed by the government. " And this time there will be no half-day or one-day hartal. The duration will be increased and government will have to bear responsibility for the consequences. So we hope it will not hinder our constitutional and democratic pro-

grammes. Referring to Jamuna Bridge, she said the whole credit for its construction goes to BNP because it had mobilised funds and completed 80 per cent of the work while it was in power.

Awami League never wanted to construct Jamuna Bridge and therefore as they had enforced a hartal on the day its foundation was laid "So BNP's love for the bridge is much more than any

A new beginning

From Page 1 moved away from their original

position for greater public good.

This is extremely important given our recent political culture. No political party gives away an inch when it comes to the otherside. The government must be thanked for taking a decision which normally may have been looked upon as a loss of face - withdrawing something after imposing it only 24 hours earlier. As we have said many times before, there is no loss of face when a decision is taken in the greater interest of the country. On the contrary there is greater dignity and public trust in the wisdom of our politicians. We also thank the opposition for accepting the conditions of not holding rallies within 10 km on either side of the bridge and crossing the bridge in batches of 20 vehicles at a time. Here again we must point out that the normal culture of opposition parties in such a situation would have been to refuse to talk to the government and deciding to march on the bridge just because a ban was imposed. There would have been threats galore about teaching the government a lesson and breaking the ban at any cost. To its great credit BNP in dulged in dialogue and convinced the government about holding a peaceful march. However we would like to point out that opposition has to deliver now on their promise and actually make the whole programme peaceful. The more disciplined and orderly the march will be, the more the opposition, especially the BNP. will gain in stature as a matured, organised and serious

party. The fact that Khaleda Zia

thanked the government for

changing its decision is already something new and gives us a good start.

We sincerely hope that this compromise, this capacity to see each others views and this ability to accommodate each others position without thinking that it makes either one look weak marks a new beginning in our politics. We desperately need this new beginning. Without reading too much into yesterday's compromise we want to reiterate that if our country is to move forward, if we are to attract DFI, if we are to be taken seriously as a partner in the globalised world of the 21st century, we must change our political culture and give something new to our tired and impoverished people. And this we need to do for both the AL and the BNP, for neither side can continue to govern in the manner that we are going about. Mastaans of both sides will get the upper hand in the party. The liberals, the democrats and those to believe in mutual accommodation will lose out to the hard-liners to the tremendous detriment to our democracy.

We end by repeating something we said yesterday. If we want the opposition to move away from hartals we must not only allow but in fact welcome alternative programmes like rallies, demonstrations, processions, motorcades, long marches, hunger strike, sit-in demonstrations etc. Recently we have noticed a tendency on the part of the opposition to move away from hartals, a tendency we greatly welcome and one that should emerge strengthened by yesterday's compromise.

middle order of the Lankans with his lefty-seamers. He might not be as lethal as Wasim Akram but was as brilliant and

effective. Stewart's decision to field on a hard and bouncy wicket on a cloudy day was probably prompted by the fact that he had five seamers who could make best use of the wicket first and also be in an advantageous position ha.1 their be rain interruptions and refixing of targets letter on. In

either case he was proven justi-The opening pair of Sri Lanka said it all. They were not going for pinch hitting instead

they would approach the bowl-

CU clash From Page 1 Syndicate sources said the authorities might close the var-

sity for five days from tomor-Meanwhile, Chhatra Shibir called a strike on the campus tomorrow (Sunday). In a memorandum to VC Abdul Mannan tonight, it also demanded arrest of Jubair's killers within 24 hours. Otherwise, they warned, tougher action would

be taken. Gunshots were heard from BCL captured Shah Jalal, Shah Amanat, Suhrawardy and Abdur Rob Halls and Shibir captured, FR and Alaol Halls. sources said.

ing on its merit. Jayasuriya was groping for the ball as he looked like a shadow of his past. He was tormented by a luckless Darren Gough who should have accounted for the out of form Jayasuriya. Mahanama ended his misery by an 'agricultural' shot and Atapattu and De Silva left after catch practice. Jayasuriya's painstaking 29 in 52 deliveries clearly indicated that he was no longer the same

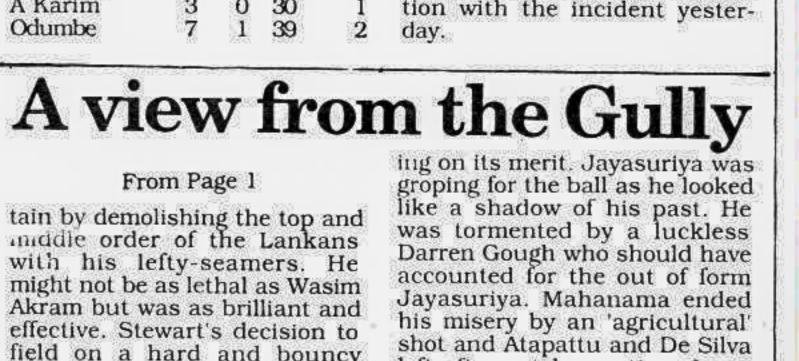
knock, which could be called 'Kalu-Ki-Tarana' (Song of Kalu) ended abruptly as he grew impa-

no problem for the Englishmen who went about the whole business with professional dexterity. Their approach to the problems were circumspect. Once again the weakness of the Lankan attack was brought to the fore by Stewart and inform

batman Grame Hick. their victory.

Editor: Mahfuz Anam

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The repair work was left to little Kaluwitharana and skipper Ranatunga. The dimunitive wicket-keeper took the English attack by the sword and his copybook strokeplay was a real treat for the weary eyes after a long lapse of time. His brilliant

The modest Lanka total was

The English captain who was on a run-drought this year produced a patient innings brilliantly supported by the tall Hick. Inexperienced Upashanta behaved like a 'ashanta '(restless) boy and Jayasuriya came for a bit of a stick. England were a superior team on Friday and the champions should give them all credit for

negotiation. 1000. Editorial, News & Commercial Offices: House No: 11, Road No: 3, Dhanmandi R/A, Dhaka-1205. PABX: 866772-4, Commercial: 866771, Fax No: 88-02-863035, GPO Box No: 3257, Cable: DAILYSTAR, DHAKA. Internet edition address: http://www.dailystarnews.com and Email Dhaka. Khaleda Zia will lead the



Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ) brought out a procession in the city yesterday protesting repression on journalists. - Star photo

Ban on march thru' JMB goes BNP march, starting from the are likely to be in the caravan." cern over the developments and

position leaders against confrontational agenda. Commerce and Industry Minister Tofail Ahmed, Education Minister A S H K Sadeq, Home Minister Mohammad Nasim, Rahmat Ali MP represented the government in the

warned the government and op-

Mannan Bhuiyan MP and M Morshed Khan MP. Later, the leaders of both sides gave a press conference to announce the deal after the 75minute meeting at the Secretariat office of the home minis-

ground-breaking talks with the

BNP secretary general Abdul

"Good senses have prevailed upon them," BNP chief Khaleda Zia said, thanking the government for withdrawing the ban. "Though it will not confess in public, the government has realised its mistake and the injustice done to us, and therefore has lifted the illegal ban...," she

told a news conference at her

Minto Road residence after the BNP is now set to start at 9am today its three-day "road march" to Panchagarh from

Paltan Maidan in the city. She will address the marchers before they begin their nearly-500-km journey from the capital to the north-western frontier district. Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Is-

lami and Islami Oikya Jote are also due to begin their separate road marches from the city today. JP's march to Mymensingh will start from its Kalabagan office at 9am, Jamaat march to Satkhira from the Engineers' Institution at 8am and IOJ's to Sylhet from Purana Paltan at around the same time. Reports from Tangail said

the government is deploying four platoons of paramilitary BDR and a 1000-strong police contingent in and around the The BNP announced today's the march on May 3 to campaign against the government

for its "failures" to solve power-

water-gas crisis, arrest deterio-

ration of law and order and

price hike of essentials. The opposition parties are also pressing for a four-point demand including resignation of the chief election commissioner. "At least 500 motor vehicles

said Fazlur Rahman Patal MP. a coordinator of the BNP road march. Another coordinator, Mirza Abbas however said the number of transports including cars,

jeeps, buses and micro-buses to

start from the Paltan Maidan would not be less than 1,000. Abbas estimated some 4,000 participants in the march and said more would join at different places on the way. Both the coordinators alleged the government was "requisitioning" vehicles, making it difficult for the BNP to hire buses and cars for the

journey. They also accused the

government of not allowing

them to procure fuel.

The party has made it mandatory for more than 300 top leaders to take part in the march, while participation of others is voluntary, subject to arrangement of cars by themselves. During the three-day cam-

paign, covering nine districts, the BNP chief is scheduled to speak at as many as 25 points. She will stop at Bogra and Dinajpur towns and again in Panchagarh town before her return to the capital on May 19.

The oil company executive who admitted that he did not

tioned.