

DHAKA WEDNESDAY, MAY 26, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com



Sri Lanka or India? Here today, gone tomorrow.

Breaking Boundaries.



MORE THAN YOU THOUGHT POSSIBLE

Miles to go

LONDON, May 25 (Internet report): Gordon Greenidge celebrated Bangladesh's first World Cup victory - and then claimed the country are light years away from achieving full Test status.

Bangladesh defied a chronic start to record a 22-run triumph over Scotland in Edinburgh in the Group B clash of the minnows.

It was a result which deflated the home supporters who held such high hopes when their team had reduced the visitors to 26 for five after barely an hour's play.

But the competitive spirit shown by the Scots during the entire campaign should guarantee they will be awarded one-day international status even though they are now likely to finish the competition with five straight defeats.

Bangladesh are already part of that elite group and have applied to the International Cricket Council for full Test status.

But, while a cricket-mad country of 120 million would seem ideally suited to take the next stride forward, Greenidge - a West Indian World Cup-winner and now Bangladesh coach - has a different view.

"We are miles away," he said. "We do not even have a three-day league, so how can we play a five-day Test."

The most our guys are ever likely to bat is 50 overs, so how can they be expected to keep their concentration for six hours.

"If we don't have anyone capable of that how can we have a Test side?"

Greenidge also revealed that out of his 15-man squad, only

See page 14



A MOMENT TO CHERISH : Naimur Rahman (C), one of Bangladesh's heroes in the match against Scotland, being congratulated by ecstatic team-mate Shafiquddin Ahmed after the famous win on May 24. — AFP photo

Sri Lanka v India: One has to go

BITS & PIECES



Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Barisal, Jessor

DHAKA, May 25: Bangladesh Road Transportation Corporation (BRTC) today announced that it would award Tk 1000 for every single run if a Bangladeshi batsman is able to score at least a half-century in their next matches of the World Cup, reports BSS.

BRTC also announced, Min-hazul Abedin and Mehrab Hosain would receive Tk 68 thousand and 64 thousand respectively for hitting half centuries in their previous matches.

The 22-run victory of Bangladesh against Scotland sparked a rapturous mid-night celebration in Dhaka. People from all walks of life took to the street immediately after slow left-arm Enamul Hoque heralded the fall of the last Scottish batsman at the Grange Cricket Club ground in Hamilton on Monday.

The historic World Cup win of the Bangladeshi cricketers in their first-ever appearance at the biggest extravaganza was lauded by the British media, providing the details of the virtual final of the minnows.

"Bangladesh survive Hamilton's surge" - read the headline of The Times.

"It was as though Bangladesh had won the World Cup itself as their supporters celebrated in front of the Old Grange Cricket Club pavilion last night. As it was, they had taken an important step towards the Test status that they crave by overcoming adversity to re-affirm their supremacy over the cricketing world that exist beyond the nine Test-playing nations", said the English daily.

The Australians were one of the favourites to win the Cup be-

See page 14

Partying at Stakis

From Nizamuddin Ahmed

EDINBURGH, May 25: Bangladesh cricketers laid a party at the Stakis Grosvenor last night in celebration of their well-earned victory over Scotland in the World Cup. The impromptu 'do' was attended by BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury, other board members present in the city, some resident Bangladeshis and a few journalists covering the World Cup.

Speaking on the occasion the BCB president recalled the supreme sacrifice of thirty lakh shaheeds and added, "We are here today because of the martyrs." He also thanked profusely all the past players, BCB officials and club officials whose "contribution was vastly responsible for what Bangladesh has achieved today".

Skipper Aminul Islam was not short of words on the evening. He specially thanked the band of Bangladeshi supporters who were following the team to different venue.

Stakis got in the mood and hurriedly prepared some light that was as close as they got to Bangladeshi cuisine amid the Scottish delicacies spread on buffet.

Also present at the noisy merrymaking was former national cricketer Yousuf Rahim Babu who has been living in the States for over a decade. The

master blaster of the yesteryears, who scored Bangladesh's first century in the ICC Trophy, brought a special cap from the USA. Rahman had scored 115 against Papua New Guinea in 1982. At a simple ceremony at the party, Rahman was almost in tears as he proudly presented the cap to Mehrab Hossain. On the cap were written the words: "Historical 101, Bangladesh vs. Zimbabwe, March 25 1999."

The Bangladeshi team left for Durham this afternoon by coach. They play Australia on May 27.

DIVIDED LOYALTIES

Mrs. S. Habib is hosting about a dozen Bangladeshi guests at her house. They have all come to watch the match against Scotland. She has been to the game and was yelling her guts out to every success that Bangladesh had. In her salwar-kameez, she looked every bit a Bangladeshi, fanatic at that too. After the match she called her mother on the mobile and shouted, "We have won."

"What do you mean 'we have won'?" asked her literally shocked mother.

For Mrs. Habib is Amy and she is Scottish. Her husband is a Bangladeshi.

See page 14

British media view

Sports Reporter

The 22-run victory of Bangladesh against Scotland sparked a rapturous mid-night celebration in Dhaka. People from all walks of life took to the street immediately after slow left-arm Enamul Hoque heralded the fall of the last Scottish batsman at the Grange Cricket Club ground in Hamilton on Monday.

The historic World Cup win of the Bangladeshi cricketers in their first-ever appearance at the biggest extravaganza was lauded by the British media, providing the details of the virtual final of the minnows.

"Bangladesh survive Hamilton's surge" - read the headline of The Times.

"It was as though Bangladesh had won the World Cup itself as their supporters celebrated in front of the Old Grange Cricket Club pavilion last night. As it was, they had taken an important step towards the Test status that they crave by overcoming adversity to re-affirm their supremacy over the cricketing world that exist beyond the nine Test-playing nations", said the English daily.

"Hamilton runs out of luck in chasing Bangladeshi," says The Daily Telegraph headline.

Scotland run out of 'cup final' luck - read the two-line heading in The Independent.

The Independent, however, opted for a dramatic start to their lead story.

"The World Cup has already thrown up a few surprises, but none would have compared with Scotland being level on points in Group B with Australia after three matches. Sadly for those who value cricketing embarrassment down under it is not the case".

Instead it is Bangladesh, who have drawn level with the team who were second favorites for the tournament after a 22-run victory in the wooden-spoon match, and suddenly they are meeting with the Australians at Chester-le-Street on Thursday has taken on a significance: no one imagined when the schedule was drawn up.

"Bangladesh were hardly downplaying the event either as their captain, Aminul Islam, described it as "the most important match of my life" and, with 1500 fellow countrymen to support them, the delightful Grange Cricket Club sounded like a suburb of Dhaka rather than the Scottish capital.

"Unfortunately the weather

See page 14

ZIMBABWE-ENGLAND SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Zimbabwe innings against England at Trent Bridge yesterday:

ZIMBABWE	R	B	4	6
N Johnson b Gough	6	12	0	0
G Flower c Thorpe b Ealham	35	90	4	0
P Strang c Hick b Mullally	0	17	0	0
M Goodwin c Thorpe b Mullally	4	18	0	0
A Flower run out (Hussain)	10	24	0	0
A Campbell c Stewart b Fraser	24	35	2	0
G Whittall lbw b Ealham	28	51	3	0
S Carlisle c Fraser b Gough	14	38	2	0
H Streak not out	11	13	1	0
H Olonga not out	1	3	0	0
Extras: (lb-16, w-17, nb-1)	34			
Total: (For 8 wickets in 50 overs)	167			

Did not bat: M Mbangwa

Fall of wickets: 1-21 (Johnson, 6.1 ov); 2-29 (Strang, 11.5 ov); 3-47 (Goodwin, 17.3 ov); 4-79 (A Flower, 26.2 ov); 5-86 (G Flower, 28.1 ov); 6-124 (Campbell, 38.1 ov); 7-141 (G Whittall, 44.3 ov); 8-159 (Carlisle, 48.5 ov)

Bowler O M R W

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Gough	10	2	24	2 (3-w)
Fraser	10	0	27	1 (1-nb, 2w)
Mullally	10	4	16	2 (4-w)
Ealham	10	1	35	2 (1-w)
Flintoff	3	0	14	0 (5-w)
Hollis	7	0	35	0 (2-w)

Toss: England
Umpires: S A Bucknor (WI) and D B Hair (Aus)
TV Umpire: R E Koerten (SA)
Match Referee: Talat Ali (Pak)



Allan Mullally starts celebrating the wicket of Murray Goodwin yesterday. — AFP photo



Seize the
moment,
AKTEL it.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

India have won six out of their last seven one-day encounters. They won twice without reply in a triangular competition in February/March and twice in November, in the Champions Trophy in Sharjah. Sri Lanka's last win came nearly 12 months ago at home but they still lost two games to one at the Independence Cup.

Tendulkar, the world's best batsman, returned from his father's funeral in Bombay to crack 140 off 101 balls against Kenya on Sunday and give the side - and under-pressure skipper Mohammad Azharuddin - a timely lift.

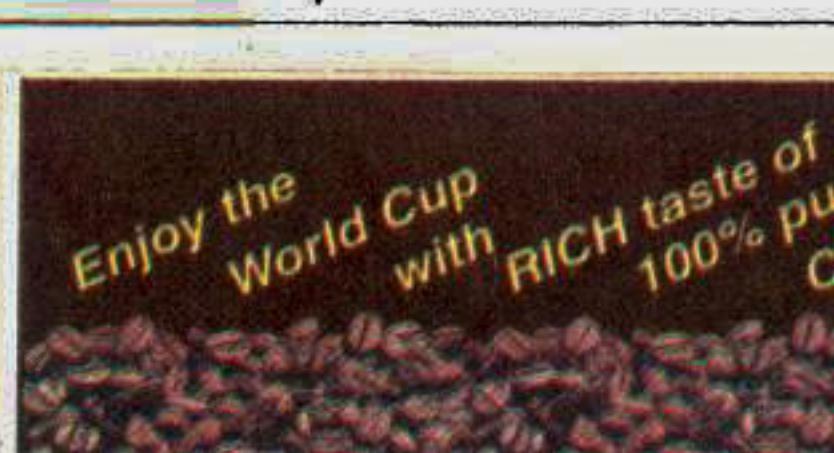
But, however, have just one victory from three games and will have to win their last two group A matches to be in the frame for the second round.

India, the 1983 champions, look the likeliest victors on Wednesday.

Tendulkar, the world's best batsman, returned from his father's funeral in Bombay to crack 140 off 101 balls against Kenya on Sunday and give the side - and under-pressure skipper Mohammad Azharuddin - a timely lift.

Azharuddin has other reasons for confidence, including six wins out of seven in the sides' recent one-day encounters. Coach Anshuman Gaekwad, however, is determined to avoid complacency.

"Our past record against Sri Lanka does not count," he said. "This is a new game, we start from zero, not with a bonus."



SOMETHING TO CHEER ABOUT AT LAST : Cricket fans brought out a procession around the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday hailing Bangladesh's World Cup victory over Scotland. — Star photo by Anisur Rahman