

Star Sport

DHAKA WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1999 Email: dssports@bdonline.com

Column One

SPORTS TALK



Saeed Anwar
(Pakistani opening batsman)

"I saw the way Michael Slater and Mark Waugh bat. I took chances and they paid and I think I've learned from them how to play in Australia."

After scoring his ninth Test century.

Boost sports WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-122

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1	Which country won the SAF football gold?	Bangladesh	India	Nepal
2	Who is the captain of Brazil?	Cafu	Rivaldo	Ronaldo
3	How many teams will play in next year's Asia Cup cricket?	4	5	6
4	Who won the men's 100 m in the Summer Athletics?	Mahbub	Yasin	Ratan
5	Who lifted the Grand Slam Cup title?	Rusdski	Agassi	Kafelnikov

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Young leggie to face England

CAPE TOWN, Nov 9 (Internet report): With six of their players either on Test or SA A duty, the Free State/Griquas selectors had to dig deep into their resources to come up with a competitive unit for next weekend's four-day outing against the touring England side in Bloemfontein.

Even so, the selection of 18-year-old "unknown" leg-spinner Andre Abrahams is bound to raise a few eyebrows.

Abrahams, who actually hails from Johannesburg, has yet to play for Free State, but according to the Bloemfontein the youngster has already been singled out by Australia's guru of spin, Terry Jenner, for special attention.

Abrahams will, in fact, be flying out to Adelaide in two weeks' time to link up with Jenner at the Aussie Cricket Academy.

Rain bogs down SL

BULAWAYO, Nov 9 (Reuters): Rain seems likely to condemn the three-day tour match between a Zimbabwean President's XI and Sri Lanka to a stalemate.

At the close of the second day on Monday, brought forward by 29 overs because of rain, Sri Lanka had reached 194 for three in reply to the home side's 325 - a deficit of 131.

With the weather ending play soon after tea for the second time, prospects of a result being reached have waned.

The President's XI were dismissed 30 minutes before lunch, having resumed on 215 for four.

DRU sports on

Annual sports competitions of Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) began at the organisation's office, reports BSS.

Sports organiser Nurul Alam Chowdhury inaugurated the competitions in a simple ceremony.

DRU president Shahjahan Sardar, general secretary Mohidul Islam Raju, convenor of the sports committee Motahar Hossain Masum were present on the occasion.

No transfer, no cricket BCB has been warned

Sports Reporter

Cricketers have given the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) an ultimatum to arrange the inter-club cricketers' transfer for the Premier Division within November, short of which they would not take part in any domestic cricket competition.

A memorandum to this effect was handed over yesterday evening to the BCB and the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM), by the newly formed Cricketers Welfare Association of Bangladesh (CWAB).

President Minhzul Abedin and general secretary Faruque Ahmed, both former national skippers, handed over a copy of the memorandum to CCDM chairman Tanveer Haider. The copy addressed to the BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury was received by his office.

Earlier in the morning, a meeting of the cricketers, under the banner of CWAB, was held at the National Sports Council conference room.

Chaired by Minhzul Abedin, prominent among those present at the meeting of about fifty cricketers were skipper Aminul Islam, Faruque Ahmed, Athar Ali Khan, Naimul Rahman, Khaled Mahmud, Saidul Islam Efeef, Shahriar Hossain, Al-Shahriar, Jahangir Alam, Monjurul Islam, Neeyamur Rasheed, Mofizur Rahman, Habibul Bashar, Sanwar Hossain, Sajid Hasan, Zakir Hossain and

Anisur Rahman.

After the meeting, the CWAB general secretary Faruque Ahmed told a press conference that the premier league was the only means of their (cricketers) bread and butter, and unless the transfer was held they would not think of playing in any form of domestic cricket.

"Generally the transfer is held in September every year. This time the CCDM fixed November 6, 7 and 8 for the transfer, and then it deferred the transfer till January 15. This is a big blow to our earning because we don't know whether there will be any league at all," said Faruque.

"So we have decided not to play in the national league before our transfer," he added.

When asked to clarify further, Faruque said that they want the transfer first and then the national league.

"We are rigid in our demands this time. We want the transfer to be held in this month. We play the game, and the board and the CCDM is for us. If the clubs and the cricketers have to think of the transfer then there is no requirement of the board or the CCDM," said Faruque while replying to another question.

Minhzul Abedin said that the cricketers have gathered under one umbrella to press for their demands.

"This is our first step because this has come up now. We will also look into the irregularities

of the First, Second and Third Divisions subsequently and try to solve other problems too," Minhzul said.

CCDM chairman and BCB vice-president Tanveer Haider said that the transfer of Premier Division cricketers, which was scheduled to be held on the 6th, 7th and 8th of this month, had been shifted to January on the request of the clubs.

"The clubs are the main party in the transfer and if they are not interested, the CCDM can not order them," said Tanveer at the BCB office yesterday.

"The clubs want to start the league within 15 days of the transfer. The league will not start before the end of January. So we can not hold the transfer now," he added.

CCD joint-secretary and CCDM secretary Mahmud Ul Haq also thought in the same line, saying that the cricketers should not be worried about the transfer.

"The only problem is that the transfer will be held in January instead of September or November. But that does not mean there will be no league. It is only a matter of two months before or later."

"We also understand that the Premier league is their main source of income. We can assure them that under any circumstances, the league will start after the Eid ul Fitr," said Mahmud.

Crucial delivery for Steve!

BRISBANE, Nov 9: Steve Waugh, who rushed home to Sydney to be with wife after she went into labour, said Tuesday that Australia's 10-wicket thrashing of Pakistan at the Gabba was the best Test of his career.

"We played very aggressive cricket," said Waugh. "We were there to win the Test, not to waste time. The way we scored and bowled, it was outstanding."

Waugh rushed to catch a flight to be with his wife Lynette, who was in labour and expecting their second child in Sydney. "It's the most important delivery of the week for me," Waugh joked in a post-match television interview.

The Wauchs already have a girl, Rosalie.

It was Australia's second win in successive matches following their win in Zimbabwe.

"It was a match we never in control until this morning," Waugh said after his decision to put Pakistan into bat had backfired on the first day.

"We didn't bowl well to our potential until today. We did very well to come back on the first day when they were 265 for three."

Waugh, who took over from Mark Taylor as captain, felt the game turned in Australia's favor in the last hour on the first day.

"We showed a lot of patience and played tough Test-match cricket when things weren't going our way. We've talked about it before, but this is the first time we've shown it on the field."

Clouds over Ambrose's Test career

TRINIDAD, Nov 9 (Internet report): West Indies fast bowler Curtly Ambrose may have played his last Test match against Australia earlier this year, according to a report in Trinidad's Independent newspaper, picked up by the Caribbean News Agency today.

The Independent said it understands that Ambrose, who has been used interchangeably with the other veteran fast bowler Courtney Walsh in one-day cricket, has angered the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) because of his state of fitness in the recent Sharjah tournament, when the side failed to reach the final.

"Ambrose arrived for the Sharjah tour clearly underprepared and unfit and was in no condition to play up to his high standard. He was clearly inactive for a long time which caused him to be sore and unable to bowl properly," a source close to the West Indies Cricket Board was quoted as saying.

Azhar arrived for the Sharjah tour clearly underprepared and unfit and was in no condition to play up to his high standard. He was clearly inactive for a long time which caused him to be sore and unable to bowl properly," a source close to the West Indies Cricket Board was quoted as saying.

Azhar's bat does the talking

PANAJI, Goa, Nov 8 (Internet report): Discarded cricketer Mohamad Azhar udin slammed a magnificent double century in the domestic tournament today after selectors had left him out of India's tour down under.

The former India captain hit his maiden double century in Ranji Trophy to steer Hyderabad to an unassassable position against Goa at the Panaji Gymkhana Ground here on Monday.

At the close on day two Goa have scored 49 for no loss in reply to Hyderabad's first innings score of 592 for 6 declared.

But on the first ball after drinks Fleming got him with a splendid delivery which moved



Australian cricketers celebrate after winning the Brisbane Test.

—AFP photo

Australia trounce Pakistan



BRISBANE, Nov 9 (Reuters/AP): Australia scored a comprehensive 10-wicket victory in the first Test against Pakistan today after the tourists collapsed in their second innings.

In an extraordinary turn of events on the final day, Pakistan's second innings resistance crumbled with six wickets falling for the addition of just 58 runs to leave Australia just 74 to win with 66 overs left.

The Australians cruised to victory with in-form openers, Greg Blewett (40) and man-of-the-match Michael Slater (32) polishing off the runs in 56 minutes.

Australia have not lost a Test to Pakistan in four matches at the Gabba and it was their 16th victory in 44 Test meetings.

Pakistan resumed on the final day at 223 for four and needed to occupy the crease for long periods to stave off defeat.

But it all went wrong from the first ball when Abdur Razzaq spooned a loose Shane Warne full toss straight to Ricky Ponting at silly point.

It was downhill from there. Century-maker Saeed Anwar added one run to his overnight score before he was caught behind by Adam Gilchrist off Glenn McGrath for 119.

Gilchrist, making his Test debut as Ian Healy's replacement made a snappy leg-side stump of Azhar Mahmood off Warne for a duck.

Wasim Akram joined Moin Khan in Pakistan's last stand and hit out lustily for four fours and a six and got his team to the morning drinks break at 273 for seven.

But on the first ball after drinks Fleming got him with a splendid delivery which moved

off middle and leg to hit Akram's offstump.

Akram was out for 28 and with his departure Pakistan's fate was sealed.

Moin Khan, who blazed 61 in the first innings, was brilliantly caught by a diving Scott Muller at fine leg off Fleming for 17.

Fleming mopped up the in-

nings when he bowled Shoaib Akhtar for five to finish with 5-95 and nine wickets for the match.

But he was modest about his haul, saying the opening spells of McGrath and Warne had set off his wickets.

"We needed somebody to chip in at the end to get a few wickets, so I just aeroplaned in beautifully there," he said.

Australia have not lost a home series since being defeated by the West Indies 2-1 in 1992-93.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard on the final day of the first cricket Test between Australia and Pakistan at the

Gabba on Tuesday.

PAKISTAN: First innings 367 (Youshna 5, Inzamam 88; D Fleming 4-65).

AUSTRALIA: First innings 575 (M Slater 169, M Waugh 100; S Akhtar 4-153).

PAKISTAN: Second innings (overnight 223-4)

Anwar c Gilchrist b McGrath 119 M Wasim lbw b Fleming 0 Ijaz c Gilchrist b McGrath 5 Inzamam c Ponting b Fleming 12 Youhana c Ma Waugh b Muller 75 Razzaq c Ponting b Warne 2 Moin c Muller b Fleming 17 Azhar Gilchrist b Warne 0 Akram b Fleming 28 Mushtaq not out 1 Akhtar b Fleming 5 Extras: (b-6, lb-6, nb-5) 17 Total: (All out in 74.1 overs) 281 Fall of wkt: 1-3; 2-8; 3-37; 4-214; 5-223; 6-225; 7-227; 8-273; 9-276.

Bowler: O M R W

McGrath 21 9 63 2 Fleming 14.1 2 59 5 Muller 10 1 55 1 Warne 25 8 80 2 Ponting 4 0 12 0

AUSTRALIA: Second in-

nings

Slater not out 20 Blewett not out 40 Extras: (b-2) 2 Total: (For wkt in 14.2 overs) 74.2

Bowler: O M R W

Akram 4 0 14 2 Akhtar 5 0 25 0 Mamood 3.2 0 13 0 Mushtaq 2 0 20 0

Extras: (b-2) 2 Total: 74.2

Result: Australia won by 10 wkt

Man-of-the-match: Michael Slater

Umpires: Daryl Harper (Australia) and Eddie Nicholls (West Indies).

Television umpire: Peter Parker.

Match referee: John Reid (New Zealand)

Second Test: November 18-22 at Hobart.

Akram offers reasons

