

Col One
SPS TALK



Sachin Tendulkar
(Indian cricket captain)
"I have no hang-ups with any player. For me the country comes first, not individuals and individual needs."

Boost sports
WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

Competition-126

✓ Tick the Correct Answers

Post to The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Feb 15, 2000 and draw

shortly afterwards

1 How many centuries did Tendulkar score in the Tests series against Australia recently?

One Two Three

2 Who won the last ever European Cup Winners' Cup soccer?

Lazio Barcelona Man United

3 Who was named player of the cricket World Cup?

Klusener S Waugh David

4 Where did Maurice Greene break the 100m world record?

Athens Seville Tokyo

5 Who lifted the National Cricket League title?

Chittagong Sylhet Khome

Name _____

Class _____ Roll No. _____

School Address _____

Phone: (If any) _____

POWERED BY

EN-VITS

ENERGY-RELEASING VITAMINS

Charity match for Munna deferred

Sports Reporter

The charity football match between Premier Division champions Mohammedan Sporting Club and Federation Cup winners Abahani Krira Chakra on Wednesday has been deferred for three days because of the hartal called by opposition political parties.

The match, being organised to raise funds for the ailing former national captain Monem Munna, will now be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on February 19 at 4:30 pm. This was decided after a meeting of the match committee at the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) office yesterday.

Chaired by Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) treasurer Shammuzzaman Basu, the meeting was attended by BFF Joint Secretary Badal Roy, Abahani Secretary Ashrafuddin Ahmed Chunu, Mohammedan Sporting Club manager Imtiaz Sultan Johny and Bangladesh Cricket Board joint-secretary Dewan Shafiqul Tutul.

The meeting also suspended the February 19 charity match in Chittagong for the time being.

A fresh date for the match between Dhaka Abahani and Chittagong Mohammedan will be announced shortly, they observed.

Munna, arguably the finest defender the country has ever produced, is now receiving treatment for his damaged kidneys at a hospital in Bangalore, India.

M'singh cricket

MYMENSINGH, Feb 14: Gulkibari KC beat County Nabin Club by 14 runs in the Beg Rim Premier Division Cricket League here today, reports UNB.

Batting first, Gulkibari scored 121 for all in 40.3 overs with Salam making 22 and Iqbal 21 runs.

Joyanta claimed three wickets conceding nine runs while Ashiq and Swapnil took two wickets each for 14 and 16 runs respectively.

In reply County Nabin Club were all out for 107 runs in 30.5 overs with Sagar adding 31 runs.

League to be delayed again

Sports Reporter

The Premier Division Cricket League stumbled again even before a ball was bowled.

The limited-overs contest between the twelve teams was scheduled to kick-off on February 17. But the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) who runs the show, appeared reluctant to start the League on schedule for no good reason. The League was supposed to get going on February 8. It was deferred citing reasons that the clubs needed more time to get prepared. But yesterday, Mahmud Ul Haq, the CCDM secretary, said they were expecting that most colourful domestic League would commence from February 22.

The CCDM secretary did not attribute any reason for the delay. But in the words of CCDM supremo Tanyir Haider: "It is the desire of the clubs. They needed more time to limber up."

But Tanyir's statement goes against the spirit of the deal struck with the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB). The CCDM had earlier made it clear that they would not allow any inter-

ruption once the league was in progress. And the BCB obliged by arranging its international calendar.

This arrangement was done in a bid to save some money of the cash-strapped clubs as well as for the smooth running of the League.

The change of the schedule meanwhile sparked off dissatisfaction among different clubs

Khulna cricket

KHULNA, Feb 14: Saviour Club recorded a massive 114-run victory over Abul Kasem Smriti Sangsad in the Basundhara DSA cup Metropolis Senior division Cricket League here today, reports UNB.

Batting first, Saviour scored 237 in the stipulated 45 overs at the local Circuit House ground.

Prince made highest 58 while Sharif added 55 and Altaf 43 runs.

Imran took two wickets giving away 42 runs.

In reply, Abul Kasem Smriti were all out for 123 in 38.1 overs with Sajib making 30 runs.

who believe stormy days lie ahead. Many feel that if the CCDM had started the League on time they could have saved at least a few priceless days in a country caught in political unrest.

Still to complete the first phase of the First Division Cricket League, the tardy CCDM, which is not sure of how to distribute the limited grounds available for cricket, is yet to complete the fixture of the Premier League and prepare the most important by-laws prescribed by ICC.

It was learnt that the ICC rules and the playing condition would be introduced for the first time in the Dhaka Premier League this year. And if the CCDM goes by the rules that would mean the introduction of match-referee for every game.

The introduction of match-referee will certainly provide a real shot in the CCDM arm to curb the in-field trouble as well as raise the existing standard. Besides, the return to one-day mould after introducing an 80-over contest last year would be a financial bonanza for the organisers.

Div I cricket
Late turner Orient beat Wanderers
Sports Reporter

Brief Scores

Dhaka Wanderers: 146 in 44.5 overs (Chayan 35, Tapan 22; Rubel 3/31, Uzzal 2/28, Kamal 2/27)

Orient SC: 147 for 3 in 43 overs (Aslam 48 no., Masum 28 no., Jewel 28)

Result: Orient SC won by 7 wickets.

Orient Sporting Club turned up late but handed Dhaka Wanderers Club a seven-wicket defeat at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The defaulting Orient outfit came to the field half an hour after the scheduled time, leaving the organisers of the First Division League with no choice but to reduce the match to a 47-over-a-side.

Chasing a paltry Wanderers total of 146, one-down Aslam struck an unbeaten 48 as Orient took only 43 overs to reach 147 with seven wickets in hand.

Aslam apart, opener Jewel and middle-order Masum chipped in with 28 runs each.

Earlier, electing to bat first, Wanderers were bundled out for 146 with middle order Chayan scoring highest 35.

Rubel of Orient returned with three wickets for 31 runs from his 10 overs while Uzzal and Kamal captured two wickets each.

No matches will be held today, tomorrow and the day after due to the hartal called by the opposition political parties.

Bad day for Zia, Reefat

Sports Reporter

International Masters Ziaur Rahman and Reefat-bin-Sattar lost their respective eighth round matches of the Goodricket International Open Chess Tournament at the Gorki Sadan in Calcutta on Sunday.

Zia lost to Indian S Satyapragan while Reefat went down to International Master GB Prakash.

With the defeat, both Zia and Reefat remained glued to their previous collection of 4 points each on completion of eight matches.

Grand Master Gregory Kaidanov of USA is leading the table with 7 points. In the 8th round, Kaidanov beat Grand Master Vladimirov of Kazakhstan.

Kenya to host WC matches

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 14 (Reuters): Kenya could host their group games at the 2003 World Cup in South Africa following a decision to fast-track the East African country and Bangladesh into the premier limited overs cricket tournament.

Both Kenya and Bangladesh were among a trio of qualifiers for last year's World Cup in England but they will automatically join the nine test teams in three years time.

Three sides will qualify from a competition in Toronto next year, expanding the World Cup from 12 to 14 sides.

Bacher said the three teams who qualify from the ICC Trophy in Toronto would subsequently get "two years of assistance from the ICC and its members inside 10 overs."

The pitch, prepared in torrential rain which saw the match postponed on Saturday, did the batsmen no favours.

Andy Caddick and Darren Gough beat the bat regularly. Caddick finished with four for 19 and Gough took three for 18.

Their efforts began to pay dividends in the sixth over, when Gough induced Herschelle Gibbs to slash at a wide delivery which was caught by Nick Knight at first slip.

Zimbabwe have already been awarded the right to host their games during the 2003 tournament and Bacher now says the same offer may be made to Kenya.

"We are looking at exercising that option for Kenya as well," he said. "If they can show that they can organise the mini-World Cup in Nairobi in October well and their facilities are up to standard, then we would like to give them that chance."

The increase was unanimously approved at an International Cricket Council (ICC) meeting in Singapore last week but still requires ratification from the full council at its traditional June meeting at Lord's.

"We are delighted at this decision," tournament director All Bacher of the United Cricket Board of South Africa (UCB) said on Monday.

"It's a unanimous recommendation and we believe it's an important decision for the globalisation of the game," McGivern added.

Office hockey league from Feb 18

The third Office Hockey League will begin on February 18 at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium, reports UNB.

Defending champions Sonali Bank Club will take on Bangladesh Railway in the opening encounter at 3:30 pm.

Seven teams — Sonali Bank, Bangladesh Army, Sadharan Bima, Blue Berry Club, Bangladesh Navy, Bangladesh Air Force and Bangladesh Railway — will participate in the league.

Four top teams will qualify in the super league while two top finishers of the super league will play in the final.



England fast bowler Darren Gough appeals unsuccessfully for a leg before decision against South African opener Neil McKenzie in the tri-series final at the Wanderers on Sunday.

— AFP photo

Pollock's lethal spell

JOHANNESBURG, Feb 14: Superb fast bowling by Shaun Pollock enabled South Africa to turn potential defeat into a stunning 38-run victory over England in the triangular series final yesterday, reports Reuters.

Pollock took five for 20 as England fell for 111.

South Africa, deep in trouble at 21 for five, had totalled 149.

The red-haired paceman removed the England top five — all via catches in the arc behind the stumps — with a lethal combination of steeping bounce and movement off the seam.

South African wicketkeeper Mark Boucher made a one-day record-equalling five dismissals.

England's hopes were dashed in the 15th over when Graeme Hick, on 12, edged a ball from Pollock to second slip, where Jacques Kallis dived forward and to his right to take a stunning one-handed catch.

That reduced England to 45 for five, and any thoughts they had of mounting a recovery ended 11 overs later when Craig White was out for 16 and the total 72 for seven.

South Africa reached three figures in their innings largely due to a stand of 74 between Hansie Cronje and Boucher, a record for the South African six-wicket final against England.

Captain Cronje, batting at number four, held the innings together with 56. Boucher scored 36.

England captain Nasser Hussain's decision to field was emphatically vindicated as South Africa lost their first five wickets inside 10 overs.

The pitch, prepared in torrential rain which saw the match postponed on Saturday, did the batsmen no favours.

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Waugh not eying whitewash

WELLINGTON, Feb 14 (Reuters): Australian captain Steve Waugh said on Monday his side was confident leading into a six-match series of one-day internationals against New Zealand, but he said a whitewash of the home side was not in his sights.

"We respect New Zealand. We've been on enough tours here to know that it is tough cricket," Waugh told a news conference.

"I'm confident of playing well over here, the wickets are going to be a little bit slower, but we will just adjust our games a little bit to cope with those changes in conditions," he said.

"I haven't been on a really successful tour of New Zealand, so we are well aware of what lies ahead and we expect tough competition."

The Australians were impressed on the last tour about missiles being thrown at them during the day-night games, and Waugh said: "You wouldn't expect or fancy things being thrown at the players."

"But it's happened in Australia and all around the world, it would be nice for the players to have a peaceful game without things being thrown at them, but I guess they fancy they have to get their money's worth and if they want to throw things, they shouldn't be there, it might happen."

New Zealand found form over the summer, beating a touring West Indies side in both Tests and sweeping all five one-

overs meetings.

The highest point-notcher among the players of the Commonwealth Games was with the Commonwealth Chess

team.