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Star SPORT

DHAKA FRIDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2001, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

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Did U Know?

Florence Chadwick was the first woman to swim both ways across the English Channel. In 1950, she swam from France to England in 13 hours, 20 minutes. She swam the other way, from England to France, in 1951, '53 and '55, recording a personal best 13 hours, 55 minutes in 1955.



AC Muthiah

(BCCI president)

"Any absence for unsatisfactory reasons will be dealt with severely. We will also deal seriously with players hiding injuries."

Stating that the Board has decided to make it mandatory for the stars to participate in domestic cricket.



What to WATCH

ESPN
Crickit Talk Show
Boys & Sunny Masterclass
5:30 pm and 9:30 pm
New Zealand vs Pakistan
First one-day international
Live at 6:55 am (Saturday)
Arsenal vs Lyon
UEFA Champions League
10:30 am
Premiership Highlights
2:00 pm
Spartak Moscow vs Bayern Munich
UEFA Champions League
3:30 pm
Serie A
12:00 am (Sunday)

Star Sports
Carlton World Series
Finals' highlights
11:00 pm
Asian Football Show
8:30 pm

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 144
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to: **Star**
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Feb 16, 2001 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. Who became Green Delta Premier Division cricket league champs?
Chittagong Biman Khulna

2. Who lifted Milo-13 cricket title?
Rajshahi Barisal Maroons

3. Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy clinched the three-match one-day series
2-1 3-0 2-0

4. Who lifted the Australian open women's title?
Surpass Agassi Rafter

5. Who lifted the Australian open women's title?
Devenport Capriati Hings

Name: _____
Class: _____ Roll No.: _____
School Address: _____
Phone: (if any) _____

BCB going the ACB way

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has chosen the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) as its model for future development of the game in the country. In this regard, the two Boards have recently signed a five-year agreement.

This was disclosed by BCB president Saber Hossain Chowdhury during a press conference at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. Saber returned from Australia on February 14 after attending the ICC Executive Board meeting.

Speaking to the reporters, Saber informed that he signed the deal along with his ACB counterpart Denis Rogers on February 12 at the Australian Board's headquarters in Melbourne.

Terming it as a comprehensive agreement, Saber revealed that Bangladesh cricket would benefit in six sectors with the ACB's assistance.

The arrangements are as follows:

a) Two Bangladeshi cricket talents will receive scholarships every year for a month-long training stint at the famous Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy (CBCA) in Adelaide. This will be in addition to the existing two scholarships provided by the Australian Government.

b) The ACB will send its managers of administration, marketing, finance, development and operation one at a time each year over the next five years. The official will stay in Bangladesh for a month to help set up the above mentioned departments at the BCB in the highly professional ACB mould.

c) The ACB will assist the BCB in formulating its different strategic plans.

d) There will be four cricket series among the 'A' teams and the under-19s of both countries over

the next five years.

e) Umpires and coaches from Australia and Bangladesh will exchange roles.

f) The ACB will render all possible support to the BCB in building its own cricket academy in line with the CBCA. The BCB has already selected a land by the sea beaches of Cox's Bazaar for the



Bangladesh Cricket Board president Saber Hossain Chowdhury addressing the press at the conference room of Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

lian physiotherapists have been contacted for this job.

The BCB supreme revealed that Gavin Benfield, the South African physio currently working with the national cricketers, will continue as a trainer with the Board. Benfield's contract with the BCB expires next October.

Saber gave a detailed tour program of Bangladesh for the next five years which was finalised in the ICC meeting.

He informed that the 2003 World Cup will be held in South Africa from February 7 to March 19. The ICC has also decided that apart from the ten Test-playing nations and Kenya, three associate members will qualify through the ICC Trophy for the World Cup, making it a 14-nation meet.

Saber also said that the ICC has relaxed its previous decision to hold ICC Knockout tournaments in the developing countries.

Henceforth, the popular competition will be held in the Test-playing countries to ensure more revenues.

India coming to Dhaka

SPORTS REPORTER

The Indian cricket team is yet to arrive in the capital yesterday. It was learnt that they were waiting to catch the next flight from Calcutta.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) got permission from the government to send a team to take part in the second edition of the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup, but it came too late for them to reach Dhaka on time.

The organisers, however, shifted their yesterday's opening match against the UAE on February 18.

"The Indian squad is expected to fly into the city tonight. But if they fail then they will concede the match against Malaysia," said event manager Mahmud Ul Haq last night.

Bravo Iftekhar!

SPORTS REPORTER

For 17-year-old Iftekhar Haider it will be a dream come true. The Bangladeshi O'level student will be leading his newly-adopted country Singapore against his motherland today.

Haider, who has been living with his parents in Singapore for last four years, will be captaining the commercial city in their opening Group B match of the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup at the Jagannath Hall ground of Dhaka University.

A former student of Dhanmondi Tutorial, Haider has quickly made a name for himself after being picked for the Singapore national team last year.

He prefers to be known as a batsman who can also bowl medium pace.

"I'm happy to return to my country after four years. It is an honour to be captain of Singapore and playing against Bangladesh," he said while talking to The Daily Star Sport at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

He said father hails from Mymensingh and has settled in Singapore.

Zia a step away from GM

Chess
SPORTS REPORTER

International Master Ziaur Rahman earned his second Grand Master's (GM) norm in the most unlikely fashion when he toppled Indian GM Dibyendu Barua in the penultimate round of the Goodricke International Chess Tournament in Calcutta yesterday.

The talented chess master from Bangladesh overcame his trademark failure at the crucial stage to collect the most important point of his career against his superior opponent.

But to attain the elusive point that will make him only the second GM after Niaz Murshed, Zia had to battle for four hours.

The 27-year-old player adopted the Catalan Opening to upset Barua. Presently ranked the coun-



ZIAUR RAHMAN

try's number one, Zia had two Bishops against two Knights of Barua, which gave him a distinct advantage.

The Dhaka University graduate won on time when Barua's flag fell in a hopeless position.

The victory improved Zia's tally to seven points and a place in the crowded second slot. Kharlov is leading the table with 7.5 points with one round to go.

Abdullah Al-Rakib, another Bangladeshi IM taking part in the meet, won against Indian Abhijit Gupta.

It was a remarkable turnaround for Zia after two disappointing draws in the previous rounds.

Zia won his first GM norm in British Open Chess Tournament in 1998. He will however have to wait for another tournament to graduate as a GM.

And that may not be far away with the United Insurance Grand Masters tournament beginning in Dhaka on February 20.

He is expected to return home on tomorrow.

SL cruise to victory

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Holders Sri Lanka made a mockery of a contest when the islanders handed down a ten-wicket defeat on Oman in their opening Group A match of the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup at the BKSP ground Thursday.

The match finished in less than two hours after Sri Lanka shot out the tiny Gulf state for 58 runs in 21.2 overs and then rattled up 60 for no loss in 7.1 overs.

Perera and Dilshan fashioned the cakewalk victory for the Lankans claiming six wickets. Perera, who shared the new ball with Maharoor, took four for 23 in six overs. His four-wicket burst later earned him the man-of-the-match award. Dilshan captured two

wickets for 13 runs.

Lankan openers Tharanga, who hammered 26 off 25 balls and Gunawardene (16 not out) to ensure that Sri Lanka reached the target without any fuss.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Under-17 Asia Cup match (45-over) between Sri Lanka and Oman at the BKSP ground Thursday:

OMAN
Jackson c De Silva b Maharoor 7
Adnan b T Perera 16
Shameel c & b T Perera 6
Khorram b T Perera 5
Rustam lbw b T Perera 0
Yash st De Silva b Dilshan 8
Abbas b Dilshan 1
Pranay c Gongodavila b Rathnayaka 15
Riyami run out 0
Gaurav c Wijerathna b Indika 1
Hussain not out 10
Extras: (nb-1, w-9) 10
Total: (all out in 21.2 overs) 58

Fall of wickets: 1/11, 2/13, 3/20, 4/20, 5/26, 6/33, 7/50, 8/50, 9/58

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Maharoor	4	0	12	4
T Perera	6	1	23	4
Gangodavila	3	0	6	0
Dilshan	6	2	13	2
Rathnayaka	2	0	4	1
Indika	2	0	0	1

SRI LANKA
Tharanga not out 26
Gunawardana not out 16
Extras: (lb-2, w-18) 20
Total (for no loss in 7.1 overs) 62

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Adnan	3	0	34	0
Rustam	3	0	18	0
Yash	1	0	4	0
Shameel	1	0	4	0

Result: Sri Lanka won by ten wickets.
Man-of-the-match: T Perera (Sri Lanka).
Umpires: /Iqbal Islam, Masud and Adhikari

Tons propel Pakistan

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Pakistan thrived on twin tons from Salman Butt and Khalid Latif to score an emphatic 152-run win over a lowly Kuwait at the number two ground of BKSP in Savar yesterday.

Skipper Salman Butt hammered 122 off 126 balls and his opening partner Khalid hammered a blazing 112 off 108 balls as Pakistan, sent into bat, piled up a massive 293 for three in their stipulated 45 overs.

It was a bitter first match on turf for the boys of the desert kingdom as the opening stand of Butt and Latif produced exactly 199 runs in 33.3 overs.

But hammered 16 fours in his breezy knock while a more aggressive Latif hit 19 fours. Latif was later adjudged man-of-the-match.

Kuwait, playing their first major international tournament, batted unexpectedly well before being all out for 141 in 35 overs. Varghese scored highest 48 for the vanquished.

Azam Hussain with four for 34 was the leading wicket-taker among the Pakistani bowlers.

Pakistan, runners-up of the inaugural edition, will take on Nepal in their next Group B match at the same venue today.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the Under-17 Asia Cup match (45-over) between Pakistan and Kuwait at the BKSP ground Thursday:

PAKISTAN
Salman Butt b Singh 122
K Latif c A Rehman b Taleb 112
Kashif Ijaz st H Arif b George 29
Javed Hussain not out 5
M Alfat not out 10
Extras: (b-1, lb-1, w-11, nb-2) 15
Total: (for 3 wks in 45 overs) 293
Did not bat: Nadeem Javed, Najaf Shah, Adnan Akmal, Azam Hussain, Salman Qadir, Mohammad Azhar Ali.

Fall of wicket: 1-199; 2-270; 3-282

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Matthew	7	0	48	0

But he opted not to name the individual saving it would be announced sometime over the next seven to ten days.

Saber also disclosed that from now on the BCB will not appoint a permanent physiotherapist. Instead, the physio will be appointed for individual tours. Two Aus-



Irfan of Nepal despises himself as he sees a misfielding by him costing a boundary during their GrameenPhone Second Under-17 Asia Cup encounter against Bangladesh yesterday. The batsman is Bangladesh's highest scorer Shafiq who made 83 not out.

B'DESH-NEPAL SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Under-17 Asia Cup match (45-over) between Nepal and Bangladesh at the Bangabandhu National Stadium Thursday:

NEPAL
K Chaugai b Mortaza 0
Subedi b Mortaza 1
Kutawal b Talha 8
Khatir c Hasibul b Shariful 78
Gaughan b Mortaza 5
Basnet c & b Sharif 4
Chaudhary c Shafiq b Sharif 14
K Lama b Rana 0
Shrestha not out 10
Siddique not out 4
Extras: (b-1, lb-2, w-30, nb-7) 50
Total: (for 8 wks in 45 overs) 174
Did not bat: Manjeet Shrestha
Fall of wickets: 1-1; 2-13; 3-37; 4-59; 5-61; 6-79; 7-123; 8-131

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mortaza	9	2	24	2

SEE PAGE 15

ITF jr tennis

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Wui Check Wall and Yu Hiu Tung of Hong Kong clinched the boys' doubles crown beating Indian duo Sunil Kumar and Vinod Sewa 7-6, 4-6, 7-5 in the final match of the ITF

Junior (U-18) Tennis Championships at the Rajshahi Tennis Complex yesterday.

Moreover, eight semifinal matches two boys' singles, two girls' singles, two boys' doubles and two girls' doubles - were also decided at the same venue yesterday.

In the boys' singles Timu Stephen of Canada beat Hish Wang Chung of Taiwan 6-4, 6-1.

Young Eun Seo of Korea defeated Yu Hiu Tung of Hong Kong 7-5, 6-1.

In the girls' singles, Pichayal of Thailand moved into the final beating Sania Mirza of India 5-7, 7-5, 6-4. In-the-second semifinal, Korean Yoo Mi Tung defeated Indian Megha Vokaria 7-5, 6-2.

In the boys' doubles, Hui Check Wall and Yu Hiu Tung of Hong Kong defeated Korean Rastogi and Rishi Behl of India 6-1, 6-3 and Indian pair Sunil Kumar and Vinod Sewa beat Igust Putun of India and Mohammed Al Nabheh of Oman 6-1, 6-3.

In the girls' doubles, Kao Shao Tung and Chan Yi of Taiwan beat Rebecca Daveya of Great Britain and Boda Nichilla Roddy of India 7-6, 7-1 and So Jung Kim (Korea) and Maya Rosa (India) pair defeated Wang Ting Wen (Taipei) and Sania Mirza (India).



Scene from the colourful opening ceremony of the GrameenPhone Second Under-17 Asia Cup cricket tournament at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

READERS' ZONE

Silly selection

Do you have any observation regarding sports and its management in Bangladesh? Do you feel certain issues need to be addressed before time runs out? Then, hurry up and send us your burning questions, critical views and thoughtful suggestions not in excess of 400 words. Let your thought buzz at your corner, the READERS' ZONE.

--Sports Editor

The whole nation celebrated when our footballers won the Dana and the Gothia Cups playing against under-aged players of other countries and we started dreaming that within a very short time we would be playing football World Cup. Every body knows the outcome by now and no body knows what those 'super stars' are doing now.

The same thing is going to happen with our under-17 team in the Asia Cup that started from February 15. Two players namely Mohammad Ashraf and Mohammad Sharif who are vying for Test caps against Zimbabwe are also selected to play in the tournament. They were in under-17 squad last year in Pakistan and they would never cross that age barrier.

Now they are supposed to play with senior matured players instead of thinking playing against sons of Walsh, Ambrose, Waugh, Wasim Akram etc. There are also many players who had participated in the last years' tournament though they should be over 17 years. The reason for this is that some Bangladesh Cricket Board

Premier League from Feb 23

SPORTS REPORTER

The Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolitan (CCDM) has once again deferred by a week the Premier Division Cricket League. It was scheduled to start today.

The CCDM said yesterday that they had delayed the colourful domestic competition on security grounds.

The League would now begin on February 23.

(BCB) official want Bangladesh to become champion against the teenage boys of other countries. There are many players who did not even participated in the recently held under-17 tournament of Bangladesh. They are in the squad because they have the blessings of some 'big jack' in the Board.

To save cricket from the clutches of this quarter, I would request you to kindly publish this letter immediately otherwise our cricket will embrace the same fate of football and the conspirators will continue to muscle along - Shamsur Rahman, Elephant Road, Dhaka

Sirajganj cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sirajganj

Sirajganj Nabojagoroni Club defeated Dhopakhandi Young Star Club by three wickets in the TM Smriti cricket tournament at Haji Korop Ali Memorial College playground yesterday.

FOR THE DAY MENU

U-17 Asia Cup

India v Malaysia
Venue: BKSP-1
Sri Lanka v UAE
Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium

Bangladesh v Singapore
Venue: Jagannath Hall ground

Pakistan v Nepal
Venue: BKSP-2

Rajshahi cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Probhati Sangha recorded a six wicket victory over Friends Sporting Club in the Rajshahi Premier Division Cricket League at local district stadium yesterday.

Winning the toss, Friends scored 160 for all in 49.4 overs.

In reply, Probhati reached the target of 161 runs for four in 45 overs.

Satkhira cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Seba Sangha defeated United Club by 7-wicket in the Acme First Division Cricket League at the Satkhira Government College ground yesterday.

Winning the toss United decided to bat and scored 156 for all in 31.1 overs.

In reply, Seba made 159 for three in 32.2 overs.