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Did U Know?

In 1991, India played Australia at the MCG and were defeated by the mighty Aussies under Alan Border. After watching Sachin Tendulkar for four innings in two matches, Border said that Sachin should consider himself to be lucky that he is playing for India. If he would have been an Australian he might not have made his Test debut yet. The Indian wonder-kid replied with a quick century at the SCG in the next Test and a great 148 at the WACA in the fifth and the final Test, which he still rates as his best Test innings. Border was gracious in changing his observations after that!



What to Watch

ESPN
New Zealand vs Pakistan
Second one-day international
Live at 6:55 am
New Zealand vs Pakistan
Second one-day international
Repeat at 7:00 pm
Serie A Highlights
3:30 pm
UEFA Champions League
1 hour highlights
5:30 pm
Football Focus
Live at 1:00 am (Wednesday)
UEFA Champions League
Live at 1:00 am (Wednesday)

Star Sports
Harsha Online
Crickit Talk Show
8:30 am and 1:00 pm
New Zealand vs Pakistan
First one-day international
11:00 pm (1hr highlights)
Primera Liga
8:30 pm

Sports WHIZZ KID

Competition 145
✓ Tick the Correct Answers
Post to: *Star Sports*
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
March 2, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Bangladesh beat Mongolia in the 2002 World Cup qualifier
2-0 3-2 3-0
2. Who clinched the Paris Indoor Open title?
Huber Hingis Mauresmo
3. Sri Lanka won the one-day series against New Zealand
3-2 5-0 4-1
4. How many Tests will Bangladesh play in five years?
34 35 36
5. Who lifted the national under-19 cricket crown?
Chittagong Rajshahi BKSP

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

Talk Turkey



Diego Maradona
(Soccer legend)
"I would be the happiest man in the world if I could play a farewell match in the Argentine shirt with the number 10."
While celebrating his 40th birthday at a Buenos Aires nightclub recently.

Ravi enjoying his role

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Former Indian captain Ravi Shastri, who is now in the capital as an ICC ambassador for the ongoing GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup, feels nothing can be better than spending time with youngsters and imparting lesson on cricket, the game he loves most.

The tall all-rounder expressed his feelings to the Daily Star Sport yesterday at the Dharmodhi Cricket Stadium after spending two hours with the under-15 cricketers. He taught about 20 club cricketers from Dhaka the ropes of spin bowling.

"You have a lot of talented cricketers and I really love being with them," said Shastri, who is better known as TV commentator to the Bangladeshi youth.

"I have served this game in many capacity as a cricketer,



RAVI SHASTRI

commentator and now as an ambassador. I feel honoured being an ICC ambassador because I had been dreaming for this job," he said.

Shastri also had a similar session with the under-13 cricketers at the same venue two days back.

He will also go down to the BKSP to see the bowling of left-

arm spinner Mohammad Rafique and, if necessary, give some tips to change his action.

The bowling of Rafique and off-spinner Naimur Rahman had been questioned by the ICC following a report from umpires David Shepherd and Steve Bucknor, who officiated in Bangladesh's maiden Test match against India at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in November last year.

Bangladesh Cricket Board is reported to have invited Shastri to see the improvement of Rafique as coach Nazmul Abedin Fahim has already worked on his action for quite sometime now.

Bangladesh skipper Naimur had also gone through a similar ordeal at the BKSP. His bowling was also filmed during the recently concluded National League, and local experts found nothing wrong with his action. The Board is trying to bring former Indian off-spinner Trappaly Prassanna to have a look at the bowling of Naimur.

Harun retains his post

SPORTS REPORTER

Harun-ur Rashid has been elected unopposed as general secretary of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).

The election of the seasoned Abahani Krira Chakra organiser for a second successive term was confirmed yesterday, on the day for filling of nomination papers for 30 posts in the BFF.

His assistant general secretaries Sirajul Islam and Badal Roy also held on to their posts.

Although the Harun-led committee has been considered as a failure in terms of reviving the image of country's football, he almost retained the same persons except for a few minor changes.

Mohammedan Sporting Club's Monirul Haq Chowdhury is the only name missing in the panel of five vice-presidents.

Shamin Zaman Basunia, who served as treasurer of the previous committee, has been elected vice-president along with Bir Bahadur, MP, Anjan Chowdhury, Nazrul Islam Khan and Abdur Rahim. Shah Abul Kasem is the new treasurer of the BFF.

A contest for the post of 21 members appeared to be on the cards as 30 candidates have submitted their nomination papers yesterday.

It was however learnt the date for withdrawing nominations might be shifted after discussion.

B'DESH-KUWAIT SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup match (45-over) between Bangladesh and Kuwait at the number two ground in BKSP on Monday:

BANGLADESH	
Ashraful c Harmeeet b Asad	103
Nafees lbw b Taleb	34
Shafiq c Adil b Dewan	7
Jahurul c Hamza b Asad	22
Zunayed run out	36
Hasibul run out	25
Sharif c Arnab b Harmeeet	14
Kovshik not out	60
Extras: (b-5, lb-1, nb-4, w-15)	25
Total: (for 6 wickets in 45 overs)	327
Fall of wickets: 1/71, 2/84, 3/152, 4/198, 5/229, 6/257.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Harmeeet	6	0	53	1
Ajesh	3	0	29	0
Taleb	7	0	48	1
Dewan	9	1	39	1
Rohman	9	0	57	0
Adil	9	0	78	2
Vigith	2	0	17	0

KUWAIT	
Arnab b Talha	2
Hamza c Nafees b Kovshik	7
Wadiah run out	18
Shibli c Nafees b Shafiq	19
Adil b Sharif	6
Taleb c Shariful b Shafiq	0
Ajesh b Shafiq	4
Nishant lbw b Sharif	14
Harmeeet not out	18
Behman c Shafiq b Arif	8
Vigith b Shafiq	0
Extras: (b-1, lb-2, nb-3, w-9)	15
Total: (all out in 37.2 overs)	111
Fall of wickets: 1/15, 2/20, 3/41, 4/46, 5/60, 6/61, 7/76, 8/85, 9/110.	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Kovshik	6	1	23	1
Talha	4	2	22	0
Sharif	8	3	28	2
Shariful	2	1	13	0
Shafiq	8.2	1	12	4
Arif	4	2	5	1
Ashraful	5	1	5	0

Result: Bangladesh won by 216 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Mohammad Ashraful (Bangladesh).

STANDINGS

GROUP A	Team	M	W	L	Tie	Points
Sri Lanka	3	3	0	0	0	6
India	3	3	0	0	0	6
UAE	4	2	2	0	0	4
Oman	3	0	3	0	0	0
Malaysia	3	0	3	0	0	0

GROUP B	Team	M	W	L	Tie	Points
Bangladesh	3	3	0	0	0	6
Pakistan	3	3	0	0	0	6
Nepal	4	2	2	0	0	4
Singapore	3	0	3	0	0	0
Kuwait	3	0	3	0	0	0



DAY'S EVENT
Under-17 Asia Cup
Bangladesh vs Pakistan
Venue: BNS
India vs Sri Lanka
Venue: BKSP-2
Malaysia vs Oman
Venue: JU
Singapore vs Kuwait
Venue: BKSP-1



Uzbek Grand Master Alexei Barasov makes a move against his Bangladesh counterpart Niaz Murshed in the United Insurance Grand Masters' Chess Tournament yesterday.

Zia begins in style

Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

International Master Ziaur Rahman got off to a perfect start in his chase for a decisive Grand Masters norm when he defeated Fide Master Enamul Hossain Rajib in the opening round of the United Insurance Grand Masters Chess tournament at the NSC Conference Room yesterday.

The 27-year-old, who earned his second GM norm in the just concluded Goodricke Opene Chess International Tournament in Calcutta, needs nine and a half points from the Dhaka meet to become the second GM of the country of Niaz Murshed.

Playing with white, Zia adopted the familiar English Opening and

won strangled his fellow countryman after 32 moves on the board.

GM Jhan Elhvast of Estonia, the top seed in the biennial event featuring seven GM's, five IM's and a Fide Master, enjoyed an unofficial rest day. His game against Latvian GM Igor Rausis was suspended for unavoidable circumstances.

Niaz Murshed, the country's lone GM, was disappointing in his opening outing. He lost to Uzbek GM Alexei Barasov in a game where he played with black and adopted the Kings Indian Defence.

IM Reefat Bin Sattar, also a firm contender to win a GM norm, defeated compatriot IM Abdullah Al Rakib.

In the other matches of the day, Russian GM Alexander Vlozhin, second seed in the meet, beat

his English counterpart Nigel Davies. Indian IM GM Prakash earned a creditable draw against Latvian GM Normunds.

But another Indian IM Sandipan Chanda suffered a loss against his Uzbek counterpart Vakhidov Tahir, who successfully employed the Patrick Defence and won after 59 moves.

UAE win at a canter

SPORTS REPORTER

United Arab Emirates (UAE) handed Malaysia a nine-wicket defeat in their last Group A match of the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup at the Jagannath Hall ground yesterday.

Chasing Malaysia's poor total of 76 in 45 overs, opener Amir Hossain scored an unbeaten 49 as UAE reached home in only 8.3 overs.

Amir faced only 27 balls for his undefeated knock which included two sixes and eight boundaries. Earlier, electing to bat first, Malaysia were shot out for 76 in 32.1 overs.

UAE's new ball bowler Leon Carlo captured four wickets for 26 while Imran Butt took three wickets for 17.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup match (45-over) between Malaysia and UAE at the Jagannath Hall ground on Monday:

MALAYSIA	
Rosman lbw b Leon	11
Saiful c Imran b Leon	0
Ariz c b Imran	1
Vickneswaren c Amir b Leon	0
Izazman c Rahman b Leon	2
Tanilarasan c Abdullah b Imran	12
Ramly c Abdullah b Imran	4
Yoganraj not out	8
Shukri lbw b Riaz	8
Mahadevan c Imran b Feroz	1
Aravinda b Feroz	1
Extras: (b-5, lb-1, nb-1, w-21)	28
Total: (all out in 32.1 overs)	76
Fall of wickets: 1/7, 2/26, 3/26, 4/28, 5/32, 6/52, 7/55, 8/73, 9/74	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Leon	2	0	26	4
Abdullah	2	0	10	0
Imran	9	1	17	3

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THE ENTERTAINER: Kowshik becomes the toast of a few hundred home supporters who were present at the BKSP ground in Savar yesterday after he plundered 60 runs off only 17 balls against Kuwait.

A morning's stroll for India

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Fancied India paved their way into the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup semifinals with a facile 10-wicket win over Oman in their penultimate Group A match at the number one ground of the Bangladesh Krira Shikha Protisthan (BKSP) yesterday.

Chasing a paltry Oman total of 46 in 45 overs, the Indians reached home without any loss with more than 39 overs to spare.

Opener Patel scored an unbeaten 25 followed by Shikar Dhawan who was not out on 18.

Earlier, batting first, Oman were shot out for 46 in 18.4 overs in the face of some hostile bowling from medium pacer K Rawat who finished with seven for 11 from his nine-over spell which included three maidens.

Rawat was later adjudged man-of-the-match.

The outcome of yesterday's match left India atop the Group A table along with defending champions Sri Lanka with each having six points from three matches. The teams will face each other at the BKSP ground number two today to decide the group championship.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup match (45-over) between India and Oman at the ground number one in BKSP on Monday:

OMAN	
Thompson b B Mohanty	2
Omar b Rawat	3

Munik stars in Nepal party

JU CORRESPONDENT

Opener Munik Shrestha scored an unbeaten century to help Nepal finish their GrameenPhone Under-17 Asia Cup campaign on a winning note with a flustering 224-run win over minnows Singapore in their last Group B match at the Jahangirnagar University ground in Savar yesterday.

Munik was not out on 113 as the Nepalese scored a mammoth 295 for six in the stipulated 45 overs.

Munik hammered 14 boundaries.

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ON SONG ASHRAFUL: The talented Bangladesh opener, who scored a superb 103 against Kuwait, takes off for a run at the BKSP ground in Savar yesterday.



Major Gen Jiban Kanai Das, chairman organising committee of the Dutch-Bangla Bank Bangladesh Open golf tournament, addresses a press conference at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.