

Div I cricket

UNB, Dhaka
Orient Sporting Club and Dhaka Wanderers Club won their respective matches in the First Division Cricket League yesterday.

Orient defeated Eskaton Sabuj Sangha by five wickets at the Jagannath Hall cricket ground of Dhaka University.

Deciding to bat first, Eskaton scored 179 runs for all in 49.1 overs with Nadim making 34 runs. Joko and Masum took two wickets each.

In reply, Orient reached the target making 182 runs for five wickets in 43 overs with Babul scoring unbeaten 36 runs off 71 balls. Nadim bagged four wickets conceding 49 runs.

At the City Club ground, Dhaka Wanderers Club beat Lalmitia Club by four wickets.

Sent into bat first, Lalmitia made 150 runs for all in 44 overs. Quraishi picked up four wickets for 25 runs.

In reply, Dhaka Wanderers reached the target making 153 runs for six wickets in 42 overs with Asif making unbeaten 58 runs.

Thumbs the word for Nathan

INTERNET REPORT, Christchurch

New Zealand star Nathan Astle has lifted the lid on a bizarre deformity: the talented striker was born with three thumbs.

Speaking to the Christchurch Press Astle on Friday said that he was born with an extra thumb on his right hand, but that it had been removed when he was a youngster.

"The surviving thumb is permanently bent at the top joint. Astle says he was given the option having the thumb broken and reset, but that he was not willing to risk losing movement in it.

"If the operation had not worked, I might have lost the use of it, and I didn't want to take that chance," he said.

DRC

FROM PAGE 13
bore sport rifle with 576 points and silver medal in the .177 air rifle with 483.3 points.

Toufiqur Rahman of DRC got the gold in the standard rifle securing 506 points followed by M. Ali Chohan of Naryanganj Rifle Club (NRC) with silver. He scored 503. Abdus Sattar Nini of Gulshan Shooting Club got bronze with 499 points.

At least 200 shooters including a good number of women and junior shooters from 34 clubs across the country took part in 12 events of the competitions, that began on March 20.

The events were 10m air pistol, 50m free rifle prone 60 shot, .22 free pistol, .177 air rifle, standard pistol, skeet, rapid fire pistol, air rifle (junior) for men; while air rifle, air pistol, sport-rifle prone and sport rifle three position for women.

State Minister for Youth, and Sports Obaidul Quader witnessed the final day events and gave away prizes among the winners.

Pepsi Div I cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mynensingh

Station Quarters Club defeated Mukul Fouj Lal by four wickets in the Pepsi First Division Cricket League at the Circuit House ground yesterday.

Batting first, Mukul Fouj were all out for 126 in 26.1 overs. In reply, Station Quarters reached the target in 34.4 overs for the loss of six wickets.



The winners of the Emirates Cup Golf Tournament pose at the Kurmitola Golf Club on Friday.

Laxman makes the grade

Cricket

REUTERS, New Delhi

Soon after making his debut against Australia five years ago, Vangipurappu Laxman was being seen as just another also-ran.

The doubts have lingered ever since. Until, that is, the second test against Australia earlier this month, when the quietly spoken player from the southern city of Hyderabad finally silenced his critics.

The 26-year-old Laxman's Indian record of 281 saw the team recover from following on to eventually win the series, in the process ending Australia's world-record run of 16 consecutive wins and sparking celebrations reminiscent of those following India's historic 1983 World Cup win.

Laxman made his team mates believe they could fight back against Australia. Suddenly they thought they could be positive and win, national selector Madan Lal said on Friday.

After being shuffled around the batting order after one failure after another, the wheel of fortune has really spun around for Vangipurappu Venkata Sai Laxman.

He began at number seven but was soon forced to move to the specialist opening position because the Indian middle-order already boasted such established players as Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, Rahul Dravid and Mohammad Azharuddin.

But while he scored heavily as a middle-order batsman in domestic cricket -- he made centuries in

10 consecutive matches before the Australian series -- Laxman never found his feet as an opener.

Before Calcutta, he had managed a single hundred from 36 international innings.

Styling himself on his Hyderabad team mate Azharuddin, Laxman bats with the same wristy elegance, favouring the on-side.

His critics said he was unable to deal with quality fast bowling but his first test century -- a fine

chance. He took it in style. Batting mostly at his favourite number three position, he hit a double hundred and three fifties in the last two tests.

The series win helped lift an Indian side struggling to erase the scars of last year's match-fixing controversy.

The team was also looking for a turnaround after a string of defeats and close games with Zimbabwe and Bangladesh.

Laxman's innings, more importantly, changed the entire mood.

"Go back to that abject (first test) surrender in Bombay. Regard the epitaphs that were being written. Recall what you thought and said at that time. Now erase those epitaphs, banish those thoughts and eat your words," The Hindustan Times said on Friday.

"You owe that to cricket and the country," the newspaper said in a front-page report from Madras.

Australian captain Steve Waugh, who had dreamt of a first Australian series win in India since 1969, put it down to Laxman.

"The Indians really picked themselves up and played competently after Laxman's knock. It helped inspire the entire team," Waugh said.

Former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar, who had held the previous highest Indian test score, lauded Laxman and spinner Harbhajan Singh, who picked up 32 wickets in the series, in his newspaper column.

"The moral of the story is, that if you prod pussycats enough, they turn into tigers," he wrote.

Cricket Ground -- scenes of some of Bradman's many triumphs as he built a world record Test average of 99.94 runs -- to watch the ceremony broadcast live on giant television screens.

Mclelements said the ceremony had been organised according to the wishes of Bradman's family for "a dignified farewell."

As many as 700 official guests have been invited, ranging from Australian Prime Minister John

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Match referee Hanumant Singh sanctioned the off-spinning man of the match after taking four for 29 in the five-wicket victory, after disagreeing with a decision during England's innings.

The three-match suspended sentence will last for six months.

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Nothing final on Walsh yet

AP, Kingston

Record-breaking West Indies fast bowler Courtney Walsh said he might consider retiring from Test cricket after the current series against South Africa.

Arriving in his native Jamaica, Walsh said his first goal was to help the West Indies level the five-match series they trail 0-1, following the West Indies' 69-run defeat in the second Test in Trinidad on Wednesday.

The first Test ended in a draw. Responding to reporters' questions over whether rumours of his imminent retirement were true, Walsh said: "I haven't made any definite plans yet. I am looking to play, if selected, the remainder of the series and see what happens from there."

NZ recall

Franklin, Walker

INTERNET REPORT, Unltd

New Zealand have recalled left-arm seamer James Franklin and leg-spinner Brooke Walker in a 12-man squad for the third and final Test against Pakistan in Hamilton.

The two replace the injured Chris Drum and off-spinner Grant Bradburn after the drawn second Test in Christchurch.

Drum, a right-arm swing bowler, dislocated his right shoulder while fielding during Pakistan's first innings and is expected to be out of the game for at least 10 weeks.

Franklin played in the series opener, which New Zealand lost to the tourists by 299 runs, but was then subsequently overlooked for the second Test.

Having regained his ability to swing the ball, he bowled impressively for Wellington in a tour match against Pakistan and has got a vote of confidence from the selectors ahead of teammate Andrew Penn.

SQUAD
Stephen Fleming (captain), Matthew Bell, Mark Richardson, Matthew Sinclair, Nathan Astle, Craig McMillan, Adam Parore, Brooke Walker, Jacob Oram, Daryl Tuffey, James Franklin and Chris Martin.

Thorpe expects better from middle order

REUTERS, Dambulla

England's acting captain Graham Thorpe wants his middle order batsmen to give more thought to their game during the last two one-day matches against Sri Lanka.

The second limited-overs match is in Colombo on Sunday. Thorpe, leading the side because the injured Nasser Hussain has returned home early, expressed his concern about the batting after England were beaten by five wickets in the first limited overs match on Friday.

"We didn't show enough thought in the middle order. To post a score of 144 was not enough on a pitch on which it was difficult to chase on," Thorpe said.

Independence Day Active Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

The Independence Day Active Chess Tournament under the aegis of Bangladesh Chess Federation will start at Bangladesh Chess Federation Auditorium today.

The tournament will be held in a Swiss league system.

Young guns save Pakistan

Cricket

AGENCIES, Wellington

Pakistan young stars guided the tourists to 340-7 in their second innings in a three-day match against Wellington that ended in a draw here Saturday.

Trailing the home side by 168 runs after their first innings, Pakistan safely saw out the final day thanks to knocks of 82 from Faisal Iqbal, 74 from Humayun Farhat and 51 from Misbah-ul-Haq. With no prospect of a result, stumps were drawn one hour early.

After folding for 175 on the first day, Pakistan had looked in danger of suffering a repeat of the humiliating 54-run loss to New Zealand A earlier in the tour.

But 19-year-old Iqbal's three-hour knock on the final day led them to safety.

It was his fourth score of more than 40 in five innings on tour, and with help from wicketkeeper Humayun Farhat and Misbah-ul-Haq, he ensured Wellington were kept in the field for the day.

Pakistan resumed on 49 for one, still 119 behind. But Humayun, playing only his second match of the tour, almost single-handedly wiped out the deficit by lunch.

He smashed 74 off 61 balls, in-

cluding 10 fours and two sixes, and with younger brother Imran he added 68 off 75 balls for the second wicket.

Recalled New Zealand Test bowler James Franklin was not spared, going for 24 runs off his first four overs, while Andrew Penn and Iain O'Brien also suffered.

Pakistan led by just eight runs at lunch with seven wickets in hand, but Iqbal and Misbah put the outcome beyond doubt.

Iqbal, whose batting bears a striking resemblance to his uncle and coach Javed Miandad, stroked 11 fours and a six all around the ground in his 144-ball stay.

He and Misbah added 93 before Misbah was caught in close for 51.

Pakistan had a minor scare when Younis Khan and Mushtaq Ahmed quickly followed Iqbal, who waited at Franklin and was caught behind, back to the pavilion. That led the tourists on 307-7 but stand-in captain Jaz Ahmed and Arshad Khan saw out the day.

The third and final Test against New Zealand starts on Tuesday in Hamilton. Pakistan lead the series 1-0.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard after the final day of the tour match between Pakistan

Wellington in Wellington on Saturday. (Younis Khan 73)

PAKISTAN: First innings 175 (Younis Khan 73)

WELLINGTON: First innings 343-8 declared (Selwyn Blackmore 74, Chris Nevin 67, Grant Donaldson 60, Richard Jones 40, Rhys Morgan 35; Fazl-e-Akbar 3-75)

PAKISTAN: Second innings (overnight 37-1)

Imran Farhat c sub (Brookes) b Jefferson 34
Ilahi c Nevin b Franklin 24
Humayun c Jones b Jefferson 74
Faisal c Nevin b Franklin 82
Misbah-ul-c Donaldson b Patel 51
Younis Khan c Walker b Jefferson 19
Jaz not out 22
Mushtaq c Donaldson b Jefferson 2
Arshad Khan not out 19

Extras: (lb-3, w-2, b-4, nb-4) 13
Total: (For seven wickets) 340

Fall of wicket: 1-37, 2-105, 3-147, 4-239, 5-290, 6-297, 7-307.

Did not bat: Mohammad Akram, Fazl-e-Akbar

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Penn	12	0	56	0
Franklin	12	0	62	2
O'Brien	10	1	48	0
Jefferson	25	4	84	4
Walker	13	7	24	0
Patel	20	6	57	1

Result: Match drawn.

Sampras sails, Safin fails

Tennis

AFP, Florida

Pete Sampras launched his defence of the Tennis Masters Series title here Friday with a three-set victory over Germany's Nicolas Pietrangeli.

Russian Marat Safin, the man who beat Sampras in the US Open final last year, struggled again with his aching back in his opening encounter to unheralded Spaniard Juan Balcells.

Safin, the second seed, was followed out of the tournament by ninth-seeded Briton Tim Henman,

a three-set loser to French veteran Fabrice Santoro. Balcells, 68th in the world, up-ended Safin 4-6, 6-4, 6-3.

It was another disappointment for Safin, who has been plagued by back problems since the semifinals in Dubai last month. He also lost his first-round match at the Indian Wells Masters Series last week.

"To be honest, I played because of the rules the ATP makes," Safin said. "You have to play all the Masters Series otherwise you have no points. So that's why I am playing. That's why I tried in Indian Wells and here."

Safin added: "Now I will go back to Europe and try to get some treatment because it can't go on

like this. You cannot play against these guys without serve. It's ridiculous what I made today."

"To get rid of the problem it will take up to one month, even more," Safin predicted. "They made me play Indian Wells and Key Biscayne and now I don't know when I am going to be ready. I don't know if I'll be OK for Monte Carlo."

Varsity Games end today

DU CORRESPONDENT

Abdullah Hil Kafi of Islamic University became the fastest man and Alimunnesa of Rajshahi University became the woman in the first-ever Bangladesh University Games on Saturday.

Rajshahi University dominated the athletics event grabbing total six gold while Islamic University finished runners-up with four gold medals respectively.

Dhaka University and Islamic University will fight it out in the football final at 3:00 pm. DU defeated Rajshahi University 5-2 on penalties in the first semifinal. The match was locked goalless after 120 minutes.

Later, Islamic University defeated Chittagong University in the other semi also in penalties (5-4).

The hockey final sees Dhaka University taking on Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology at BUET Playground at 9:30 am.

In handball, Dhaka University beat Rajshahi University 26-20 points and Chittagong University beat Jahangirnagar 23-12.

The hosts also took gold in both badminton categories.

The five-day Games will conclude today at the Dhaka University campus.

Water Resources Minister Abdur Razzaq will be present at the closing ceremony as the chief guest while DU Vice Chancellor Prof. AK Azad Chowdhury, Pro-VC Prof. Md. Shahadat Ali and treasurer Prof. Abdul Hashem will be the special guests.

The closing ceremony will be presided over by Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Prof. Abdul Bayes.



PHOTO: AFP

American Pete Sampras follows through on his serve against Nicolas Pietrangeli of Germany at the Ericsson Masters event in Key Biscayne on March 23.

Appointment of Local Consultant for TSMU Phase-IV

The Bangladeshi Nationals with requisite qualifications and experiences may express their interest for the following position of local Consultant in the Textile Strategic Management Unit Phase-IV -- a TA Project of the Ministry of Textiles, to be financed by IDA/World Bank.

Sl. No.	Name & number of position with pay	Educational qualifications & experiences	Duration of employment
1.	Trade Policy Specialist-1, Consolidated pay of Tk. 60,000/- per month (Taxable)	A post-graduate degree preferably Ph.D. in Economics with at least 10 years experience in policy analysis and planning micro & macro aspects of textile sector. Experience in assistance policies such as tariff, duty structure, cash incentives, subsidy, etc. affecting textile products, as well as familiarity with the linkages (both backward and forward) between export oriented RMG and other textile sub-sectors will be essential. Knowledge about the different sub-sectors of textile industry and the interlinkages between them, planning and development of textile sector will be essential.	18 months from June 2001 to Dec 2002.

The Government and Semi-government employees are not eligible to apply for the above position. The applications with two copies of passport size photographs along with other relevant documents should reach the following address within 15 days of publication of the advertisement.

M. I. Talukder, Project Director, TSMU & Joint Secretary (Admn)
Ministry of Textiles, Building No. 6, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

DFF-7293-20/3 G-548

Headquarters Bangladesh Rifles

Administrative Directorate, Cue & Ord Section Peelkhana, Dhaka

Tender Notice

Number-401/17/X/(Cue) Date: 5 Chaitra, 1407/20 March, 2001
1) Sealed tenders are invited from the contractors enlisted with this section for purchasing 5,100 pieces of operation Naf medals by the organisation. Rules and regulations of the tender will be mentioned in the schedule. Schedule of tender can be purchased from the RP on duty at the gates number 3 & 4 at BDR headquarters at Peelkhana on payment of Taka 400.00 (four hundred) for each till 29-3-2001 Thursday from the date of publishing the advertisement. The undersigned can be contacted for any information during office hours that is within 0800 hours to 1400 hours except government holiday. Tenderers can submit tender in the box kept at the gate no 4 of BDR, Peelkhana on 01-4-2001 till 1100 hours and tender box will be opened the same day at 1130 hours before the tenderers (if anyone remains present).
2) The authority reserves the power to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DAQMG on behalf of the Director General
DFF-7406-21/3 G-555

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
41 Begs
43 Cowboy's aid
44 Tummy muscles, for short
46 Pugilist
50 Stupefaction
53 Pair of hockey sticks
55 Pianist
56 Brainstorm
57 Three-act play
58 Chew link
59 Frog's mecca
60 Taurodont
61 Donkey
62 On one's way up
1 Type of course
17 Stalag
28 Sound
32 Jack, in cards
33 Prawn
34 Go off course
36 Singer Campbell
37 Tropical fruit
39 Singer Frank

DOWN
2 Sunburn
3 This direction
4 Boxing legend
5 Enthusiast
6 Seek super-huge profits
7 On good terms
8 Firefighter's tool
9 Daily of "Fugitive"
10 Motor oil
11 Additive
12 On one's way up
13 Taper's sound
21 Clumsy craft
23 Shell out
25 Tar
26 Finished '99
27 Luftballons
28 Flaccid
29 Exam format
30 Vanished
31 Vegas
35 False hood? -- to
38 Arrest
40 Arrest
42 Dresden denizen
45 Daughter of 39-
47 Lawless role
48 Elizabethan and Erdwartian
49 Parly bowlful
51 Excitement
52 Buddhist sect
54 People mover

SOLUTION TIME: 24 MINS.
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CRYPTOQUIP

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A N C Y V A A W X V X S F X Y .
K ' L C N F K A K T X W X L O F A
W Y T X O F X S Y F X Y F Y U .
Saturday's Cryptoquip: I GUESS KIND AND BENEVOLENT BANKERS ARE GENEROUS TO A VAULT.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals S