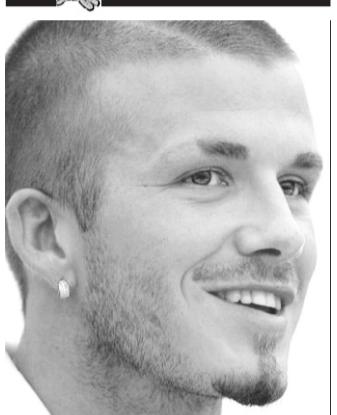




Did U Know?

David Gower is probably the greatest ambidextrous cricketer that the game has ever seen. The former star England player bats left-handed, bowls right-arm, deals cards with his left hands, hammers a nail with the right and brushes his teeth with either.



David Beckham
(England soccer captain)
"I want to stay captain for the rest of my career."



What to WATCH
ESPN
Series A
Weekly Highlights at 10:30 am
Pakistan Tour of New Zealand
Fifth ODI
Highlights at 11:30 am
UEFA Champions League
Barcelona vs Bayer Leverkusen
12:30 pm
India Tour of South Africa
Third Test
Highlights at 3:00 pm
UEFA Champions League
Man United vs Deportivo La Coruna
4:00 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
UEFA Champions League
Dynamo Kiev vs Liverpool
Live at 12:30 am (Thursday)

STAR Sports
Sportsline Today
Sport News
7:30 am
English Premier Football League
Derby County vs Leeds United
1:00 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
World Cup Soccer Mix
8:30 pm
Boycott's Best
Cricket Classics
England vs India
Second ODI, 1990
11:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION 158
Tick the Correct Answers Post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 28, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who became National Bank Premier League football champions?
Abahani | Mohammedan | Arambagh

2. Who won the US Open men's singles title?
Hewitt | Safin | Sampras

3. What was Ashraful's score in his century innings against Sri Lanka in the Asian Test Championship?
114 | 140

4. What was the result of the Test series between India and Sri Lanka?
2-1 | 2-0

5. Former West Indies fast bowler Andy Roberts comes
Name

Class

School Address

Phone: (If any)

Bangladesh Games from Nov 7

BOA to seek fresh funds

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) has decided to make up for sudden postponement of the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games by holding the Bangladesh Games from November 7-13.

The decision came after an emergency meeting of the BOA last night.

The makeshift arrangement came after the Ninth SAF Games in Pakistan was cancelled 13 days before they were to kick off in Islamabad.

The Olympic body decided to continue all camps where 111 athletes in 13 disciplines were training for the regional Games.

"We have decided to hold the Seventh Bangladesh Games in November to at least give them a chance to compete," said BOA deputy secretary general Ashraful Ahmed Chunnu.

The biggest sporting carnival of the country was originally scheduled to be held in October last year.

"So, we will require more money both for training and organising the Bangladesh Games," Chunnu said.

He however was unable to provide details of the required amount.

The BOA has already received Taka 1.5 crore from the government for the SAF Games training and participation purpose.

Having overspent Taka 30 lakh on training of the SAF athletes, the BOA is planning to ask more funds to continue with a venture where our stake could amount to nothing.

Observers however feel that it is a ploy to prevent the government from asking the BOA to pay back the

taka one crore, given as participation expense. Taka 50 lakh was actually okayed for training of athletes for the SAF tour.

Before the meeting BOA secretary general Zafar Imam could not speculate how much would it cost to arrange the Bangladesh Games, which was not part of their calendar this year.

However, another BOA official suggested that it would require an additional taka two crore for holding the Games.

"We have already exhausted the allotted Taka one and a half crore. So, if we have to hold the Bangladesh Games we have to ask for fresh funds," he said. He however did not say how could BOA exhaust the amount allocated for participation expense.

Div III cricket qualifiers

SPORTS REPORTER

Narayanganj Cricket Academy and Nakhalpara Cricket Club won their respective Thirteenth Division qualifying matches played at different city venues on Tuesday.

At the Dhanmondi Club ground, Narayanganj defeated Kalabagan Cricket Academy by 59 runs while Nakhalpara posted a huge 144-run win over Razar Dewry Cricket Club at the Mirpur Outer Stadium.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Narayanganj CA: 180 all out in 30 overs (Soheil 53, Johnny 39, Masum 30, Sharif 2/16).

Kalabagan CA: 121 all out in 29.4 overs (Sabuj 42, Sayeed 22, Gopal 3/2, Jahanir 2/14).

Result: Narayanganj CA won by 59 runs.

Nakhalpara CC: 205 for 8 in 35 overs (Mahfuz 98 n.o., Alam 21, Shaheen 2/34).

Razar Dewry CC: 61 all out in 26.4 overs (Rajib 10, Shah Alam 3/4, Sumon 3/13, Patwary 2/14).

Result: Nakhalpara CC won by 144 runs.

SAAF hosts stay hopeful

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

The South Asian Football Federation (SAAF) still hopes to hold the draw of the forthcoming Third SAFF Championship in Dhaka at the end of next month. The seven-nation tournament is scheduled to begin on January 26.

Due to the tragic events of September 11 in the United States, the draw for the ten-day competition, which is to take place on October 23 in the capital, however might be brought forward by eleven days when the executive committee of the Asian Football Confederation meets in Kuala Lumpur.

Bu Sirajul Islam Bachchu, the general secretary of SAFF and assistant general secretary of Bangladesh Football Federation, is still hopeful that the draw will be conducted here.

Speaking after returning from Kathmandu where he had talks with SAFF president Ganesh Thapa last

Saturday, Bachchu said that Bangladesh could expect support for the draw.

"I have gained the support of Nepal and Bhutan and hopefully other SAFF members will also agree to come to Dhaka," said Bachchu, adding that he would immediately get in touch with the AFC Marketing Limited, sponsors of the meet.

The tournament was originally scheduled to be staged in Dhaka last April but the sponsors were reluctant because they were busy with the Asian Football Championship.

Bachchu also revealed that the second National League would start after the October 1 election.

He was confident that the BFF would complete the qualifying round in six divisions by the end of October and hold the final round in November.

Six divisional qualifiers will join Premier Division champions and runners-up Abahani and Mohammedan Sporting Club Federation Cup champions Muktijoddha Sangsad and Bangladesh Army in the final round.

Saurav sounds positive

India touch down in South Africa

Cricket

REUTER/AFP, Johannesburg

India skipper Saurav Ganguly predicted on Tuesday that the upcoming tour of South Africa could be much closer than the last time his team played here four years ago, when they were heavily defeated.

Ganguly hoped his team would be at full strength for the start of the Test series against the home side in November despite current injury concerns in the camp.

With relatively little fanfare the Indian team jetted into Johannesburg on Monday, 10 days before the start of a two-month tour which will include a three-match Test series and a triangular one-day series with the host country and Kenya. India also left behind Ashish Nehra, Vangipurappu Laxman and Zaheer Khan, who are still recovering from injury.

India will play their first official match against South Africa on

October 5 in the one-day triangular series.

Ganguly said despite the ruling out of top players like frontline batsman Laxman, left-arm seamers



SAURAV GANGULY

guys are young but they are pretty good. It's going to be good cricket," he said in an interview with South African Broadcasting Corporation public radio.

Ganguly said he believed India's chances would also be improved by their early arrival in South Africa.

At a press conference at their luxury Sandton Hotel, Ganguly, bravely perhaps, suggested that this should be enough time for the tourists to find their feet. And by then, he added, the tour party should have been reinforced by Laxman, Zaheer and Nehra.

"I think it's good that we came over here so early to give us time to prepare. The fact that we are playing the one-day internationals before the Tests is also good because it gives us time to get used to the playing conditions," he said.

"As far as the injuries go, all our players will be fit for the Test series."

"It's good to get used to the conditions. It takes any country who is

SEE PAGE 15

Campbell aims WI return

Cricket

REUTERS, Port of Spain

Opener Sherwin Campbell launches his attempt to get back in the West Indies team when he leads Barbados in the Caribbean's one-day cricket competition starting next week.

Campbell, named at the weekend to captain Barbados, has been out of action since returning last February from the West Indies tour of Australia where they lost the Test series 5-0.

Up to that, Campbell was the Test team's vice-captain, but since then injury has prevented him playing at the highest regional or international level.

He missed all of South Africa's tour of the Caribbean earlier this year, along with the West Indies tour to Zimbabwe and Kenya during June and July.

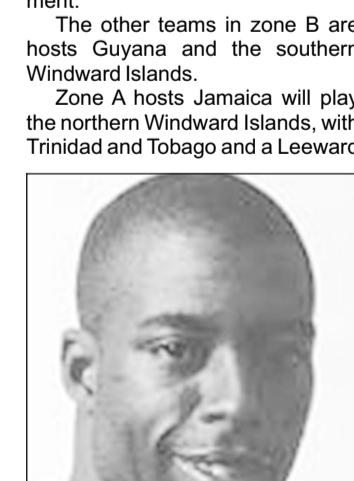
Campbell suffered from a very painful upper right arm and shoulder but has now been passed fit to play and will be seeking to regain his place with West Indies, for whom he has played 51 Tests, scoring 2,856 runs at 32.82.

Campbell's first assignment as Barbados skipper will be next Tuesday against Antigua in Guyana.

the venue for zone B in the Red Stripe Bowl limited overs tournament.

The other teams in zone B are hosts Guyana and the southern Windward Islands.

Zone A hosts Jamaica will play the northern Windward Islands, with Trinidad and Tobago and a Leeward



SHERWIN CAMPBELL

Islands XI completing the group. The winners and runner-ups of the two zones will meet in the semi-finals, with those matches and the final being played in Jamaica in mid-October.

Trinidad and Tobago will be captained by leg-spinner Dhananjan Ramnarine, who also had to return from Zimbabwe early because of a strained side muscle.

banned from his side's second and final Test on their tour of Zimbabwe.

Jacobs was suspended after being found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute. He had made a stamping in an earlier triangular series one-day match against India without the ball in his gloves.

West Indies captain Carl Hooper is expected to arrive in Guyana on Wednesday from his home Australia to complete preparations for the competition.

Former Test skipper Brian Lara returned to the Caribbean only last week after being delayed in the United States in the aftermath of the attacks on New York and Washington.

Lara had gone to Florida to have a medical examination and check-up on his eyes and his chronic upper thigh injury, which had been worrying him for more than two years, and also cut short his tour of Zimbabwe.

Lara has suggested, on return, that he does not want to be any "figure of authority" in the Trinidad and Tobago team but will be "giving his all" to make sure they do well in the competition.

Trinidad and Tobago will be captained by leg-spinner Dhananjan Ramnarine, who also had to return from Zimbabwe early because of a strained side muscle.

Muktis to meet New Radiant in Maldives

SPORTS REPORTER

Last year's Premier Division champions Muktijoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra will take on New Radiant FC of Maldives in their first round away match of the 2001 Asian Club Championship on October 24.

The all-reds, now taking part in the 107th IFA Shield in Kolkata, will then face the same opponents at home on November 7.

The winners will then face An Yang FC of South Korea on November 28 and December 11.

Anyang have earned a first round bye.

New Radiant lost to Dhaka giants Mohammmedan Sporting Club 8-1 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in the same championship in 1994.

Mohammedan, however, did not travel to Maldives for the away match and were disqualified.

U-19 cricketers get ready for Aussie tour

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Under-19 team gathered at the BCB's Stadium office on Tuesday to fill up the visa forms for their tour of Australia.

A 15-member team will train at the Commonwealth Bank Academy in Adelaide and also play a few limited-overs matches during their nearly six-week stay.

They will leave on October 11.

The team, preparing for the next January's World Youth Cup in New Zealand, is now training at the BKSP.

They are scheduled to play two limited-overs matches, the first one against the A team and then next with the national team on September 27 and 28, before they fly off to Australia.

SQUAD

Gazi Salahuddin, Shariful Islam, Kazi Hasibul Huq, Shafiq Al Zabir, Kamrul Islam, Ali Arman Rajon, Ashiqur Rahman, Nafis Iqbal, Aftab Ahmed, Shafiqul Islam, Murad Khan, Arif Hossain and Talha Jubair.

Standby: SK Russel, Tariqul Islam, Kafi Khan, Zafar Hossain, Shahriar Nafis and Sadek Hossain.

SAF Games date SASF meets on Oct 6

BSS, Islamabad

Pakistan has moved swiftly to convene an executive committee meeting of the South Asian Sports Federation (SASF) here on October 6 to decide the new date for the SAF Games.

The games were postponed on September 23 after the technical officials appointed to supervise the events refused to travel to Islamabad due to increasing tension in the region following the events of September 11 in the United States.

The meeting, which will be attended by delegates of all the participating countries, has been pencilled in for a day on which the games were originally due to open, according to a news item published today in Pakistan's leading daily The Dawn.

The Games are now likely to be staged in February or March next year, but there are several considerations that have to be taken into account.

Major Yahya Ghaznavi, In-charge of Media for the Games, said that there would be no slackness on part of the SAF Games Organising Committee (SGOC) following the postponement. "Preparations will continue," he said.

Former Test skipper Brian Lara returned to the Caribbean only last week after being delayed in the United States in the aftermath of the attacks on New York and Washington.