



Did U Know?

In 1971 the England Test side, fresh from securing the Ashes in Australia in 1970-71, celebrated the win by recording "The Ashes Song". It turned out to be flop, unlike "Here Come the Aussies" by the '72 Australians, which made it into the Australian Top 20.

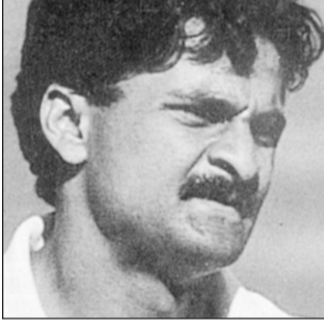


What to WATCH

ESPN
ATP Tennis Show
8:30 am
Super Sunday Football Preview
Live at 6:00 pm
English Premier Football League
Tottenham Hotspur vs Newcastle
Live at 6:50 pm
&
Chelsea vs Leeds United
Live at 9:00 pm
UEFA Champions League
Weekly Highlights at 11:30 pm
STAR Sports
World Cup Soccer Mix
9:30 am
Tennis Masters Series, Stuttgart
Men's Semifinal
9:00 pm
Primera Liga
Ceta de Vigo vs Real Madrid
Live at 11:00 pm



TALK TURKEY



Javagal Srinath
(Indian fast bowler)
"I was never in the class of the likes of Glenn McGrath. I am just a mediocre fast bowler."

Before the South Africa tri-series.



Tick the Correct Answers Post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Oct 26, 2001 and draw shortly afterwards

1. How many runs did Herschelle Gibbs score in the first ODI against Zimbabwe?	115	125
2. Who clinched the Princess Cup tennis title?	Hings	Dokic
3. Who became the new Australian Cricket Board chief?	Denis Rogers	Bob Merrimam
4. What was the result of the South Africa and Zimbabwe Test series?	2-0	1-0
5. Who became Shanghai Open champion?	Chang	Schuttler
Class.....	Roll No.....	
School Address.....		
Phone: (If any).....		

JPC sports ends

UNB, Dhaka
The eight-day sports meet of the Jatiya Press Club concluded yesterday at the club premises with mini-marathon.
Jatiya Press Club arranged the sports festival in five disciplines - spades trump, chess, table tennis, ludo and mini-marathon - to celebrate its 47th founding anniversary. Bata Shoe Company (BD) Ltd sponsored the meet.
Bata managing director Stephen J Davies was the chief guest at the presentation ceremony and distributed the prizes.

Mainul opts for changes



SPORTS REPORTER

National selectors have drawn the battelines for Bangladesh's maiden home series against Zimbabwe, who will be arriving in Dhaka on November 5 to play two Tests and three one-day internationals.

In an effort to attain better performance on home soil, the selectors might go for a few new faces especially after Bangladesh's disappointing showing in the recent Asian Test Championship.

Besides, chief selector Mainul Haq disclosed they would field two strikingly different selections for both the one-dayers and Test matches.

"We will consider fielding all-round ability in selecting the one-day side. And for Tests, we will obviously give emphasis to experience," he told The Daily Star Sport on Saturday.

The former national cricketer also added they would pick the final

eleven to ease the pressure on the team management.

"We will select the final eleven a day before every game. But this will apply only to the home series."

Regarding the composition of the national team Mainul did not rule out the possibility of a few changes in the side that toured Zimbabwe in April.

"The new players, if there are any, will definitely come from the A team which is now visiting India," Mainul said.

The chief selector revealed that they would call back five unnamed players from India to join the national camp. There are as many as four Test cricketers in Khaled Mahmud's A team.

"Being a Test cap doesn't necessarily mean that a player would earn automatic selection in next month's Test series. The three-day match starting tomorrow (Sunday) in India could prove to be vital for a couple of players."

"I'm disappointed with the performance of Mehrab so far. But on the other hand Sujon (Mahmud) is performing consistently. In addition,

he is a good motivator and fighting cricketer," said Mainul, who however, refrained from making any comment on exciting young pacer Man Masrafee-Bin Mortuza Kowshik.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will be sending five replacements on October 27 to join the Indian party. They are Rajin Saleh, Hannan Sarker, Neeyamur Rashid, Sabbir Khan and Alamgir.

The quintet is playing a series of practice matches with the national team. Among them off-spinner Sabbir fell sick during the four-day match at Chittagong's MA Aziz Stadium, which will host the second Test as well as the first one-dayer.

If Sabbir doesn't recover in time, leg-spinner Mosaddek Hossain will take his place.

Meanwhile, the one-day practice match of Naimur's Test side was washed out without a single ball being bowled on Saturday.

The match was abandoned due to heavy overnight rain in the port city. The national cricketers return to Dhaka today.

CAB colts struggling

SPORTS REPORTER

The home side continued to dominate the visiting CAB Under-16 team from Kolkata, who were struggling on the second day of the three-day practice match at BSKP in Savar on Saturday.

The colts from West Bengal, who are yet to record a victory against their Bangladesh counterparts, were struggling on 139 for five in 56 overs after the home team made 271 runs.

SCORES IN BRIEF
BCB U-16: 271 all out in 99.5 overs (Golam Rahman 52, Naem 32, Arafat 38, Iftekher 38; Anirban Gupta 5/94)

CAB U-16: 139 for five in 56 overs (DB Chowdhury 49, Partho 25 not out; Asif 2/34)

Laxman to join squad before tri-series final

AFP, Bombay

Top Indian middle-order batsman Venkatesh Laxman will join the national team in South Africa before the triangular one-day cricket series final, a top official said on Friday.

The final of the ongoing one-day tournament, also involving Kenya, will be held at Durban on October 26.

"The Indian team management has asked for Laxman to reinforce the batting, especially after the shock defeat against Kenya on Wednesday," Indian cricket board secretary Niranjan Shah said.

"As he (Laxman) is sure to make it to the Test team, we decided to send him on October 22 so that he is available for a couple of one-dayers."

India, playing South Africa at East London on Friday, will complete their league engagements with a match against Kenya on October 24 at Paarl.

Laxman, who missed three Tests in Sri Lanka in August, initially pulled out of the tri-series in South Africa as he had not completely recovered from knee surgery.

He, however, showed Wednesday he had regained fitness when he slammed a solid 148 to steer Rest of India to a six-wicket victory over national champions Baroda in the Irani Cup in the domestic tournament.

Shah said left-arm pacemen Zaheer Khan and Ashish Nehra, opener Sadagoppan Ramesh and middle-order batsman Hemang Badani would undergo a fitness test next week before being considered for a three-Test series in South Africa.

He said the national selectors would name the Test squad on October 23.

Rousseau warns WI of WC woe

REUTERS, Kingston

Former West Indies cricket chief Pat Rousseau has warned that his country could prove an embarrassment at the 2003 World Cup.

Rousseau said the team was in danger of being under-prepared for the tournament -- to be co-hosted by South Africa, Zimbabwe and Kenya -- because of inaction by the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB).

The former president, who resigned in June after a power struggle within the WICB, said: "We are 15 months from the World Cup in February 2003."

Quoted by Caribbean news agency CANA, he added: "We are opening the tournament with a match against South Africa. At the present rate, we will be under-prepared and will embarrass ourselves."

"We urgently have to appoint a committee to work with the coach and the selectors to deliver a proposal on how to get the team ready."

Rousseau had suggested before his resignation that the WICB should appoint a committee of former players -- including Clive Lloyd, Gordon Greenidge, Richie Richardson and either Desmond Haynes or Michael Holding -- to plan a strategy for the 2003 World Cup.

"(But) nothing has been done... The names suggested include 20 years of World Cup experience," he said.

Rousseau, a Jamaican lawyer and businessman, and former vice-president Clarvis Joseph resigned when the WICB chose to overturn a decision to sack team manager Ricky Skerritt.

Rousseau appealed to current board president Wes Hall, saying: "We may be a bit late, but we can still be effective."



Bangladesh Cricket Board president Akmal Hossain (R) enters the Board's Bangabandhu National Stadium office to chair yesterday's emergency meeting on preparations for next month's home series against Zimbabwe.

Rahman chief patron



SPORTS REPORTER

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman has been made chief patron of the organising committee for the forthcoming Zimbabwe tour of Bangladesh.

This was decided at an emergency meeting of directors at the Bangladesh Cricket Board's Bangabandhu National Stadium office on Saturday.

The meeting, chaired by interim president Akmal Hossain, has passed the responsibility of announcing a full committee on to Fazlur Rahman. The sport minister will decide it after an inter-ministerial meeting tomorrow.

Zimbabwe will arrive Dhaka on November 5 to play two Tests and three one-day internationals.

The impromptu meeting was convened by Akmal, who wanted to be apprised of the preparation about Bangladesh's maiden home series.

The Board meeting also called the nerves of the 29 directors, who

were uncertain about their future following the controversial October 1 general elections.

The meeting also made a few changes in various committees. Monju, a former BCB member and secretary of the ticket committee, has been replaced by GS Hasan Tamim. It was alleged that Monju misappropriated ticket sales during the first ICC Knockout World Cup in 1999.

Besides, Mobasser Hossain, also a director of Brothers Union, has given the responsibility of Reception Committee after Gazi Golam Dastagir expressed his non-availability in November.

Regarding the local TV rights, which currently belongs to the ETV, the Board president said that in case the private channel fails to fulfil the commitment then alternative arrangements would be made by the government.

ETV is currently involved in a legal wrangle.

The next meeting will commence on next Thursday.

Chanderpaul fit for SL tour

BBC, London

West Indies batsman Shivnarine Chanderpaul has been passed fit for next month's tour to Sri Lanka following a scan on his back.

But Brian Lara, who has been troubled by a hamstring problem for more than a year, has still to receive the all-clear from doctors.

Both players took part in Friday's squad training session at Sabina Park in Jamaica.

"Chanderpaul has been cleared of any serious muscular damage to his bothersome back and has been responding to treatment," said team manager Ricky Skerritt.

A final decision on Lara is expected soon, and the West Indies are hopeful that he will also make the trip, although Wavell Hinds is staying with the squad as cover.

Lara first suffered the injury in England last year, but went on to play in subsequent series against Australia and South Africa.

It continued to trouble him, however, and he withdrew from the tour to Zimbabwe and Kenya earlier this year.

Pak stars reject 'fix' claims



BBC, London

Leading members of Pakistan's 1999 World Cup team have categorically denied allegations of match-fixing during the tournament in England.

Current captain Waqar Younis, Saeed Anwar, Inzamamul Haq and Moïn Khan all appeared before Justice Karamat Bhandari on Saturday.

Lahore High Court had been buzzing since early morning and more than 120 people packed into court number 18 to hear the players give evidence on oath.

They were ordered to appear after former players Majid Khan and Sarfraz Nawaz told the commission that Pakistan's defeats by Bangladesh and India were a result of match-fixing.

A transformed Anwar was the first to be called. Now bearded, he recently joined an Islamic preaching group following the death of his daughter.

Pakistan took the game against Bangladesh lightly and their 62-run

defeat proved they were "bad chasers", he said.

"Whenever Pakistan chase runs, either Haq or myself score and we win. If we fail, then Pakistan lose the game."

"I recall Haq was very upset after getting out and he banged his helmet on the dressing room window because he had run me out and then got out himself."

Anwar denied having any links with bookmakers.

Inzamam told the judge that no-one in the squad had contemplated losing to Bangladesh, and the allegations had "added injury to the wounds".

Waqar dismissed suggestions that Pakistan had deliberately lost the match to enhance Bangladesh's campaign for Test-playing status, which they were duly granted last year.

"It's rubbish. How can one win elevate Bangladesh to Test status," he replied.

"I played only one game and it was against Bangladesh. Unfortunately we took Bangladesh very lightly and lost the game, but it was nothing to do with match-fixing."

Moin said the decision to bat

second had been taken in the dressing room before the game, and it was a decision which backfired.

"We, as a team policy, decided before the match to bowl first, so that we could experience chasing - it was a mutual decision."

Despite losing the two games, Pakistan reached the final of the tournament in England.

But they were unable to repeat their 1992 triumph when they were dismissed by Australia by just 132 and were beaten by eight wickets.

"Either former players or coaches who are dumped hurl all sorts of allegations," added Moïn, in a reference to ex-coach Javed Miandad.

He alleged that Pakistan threw games in New Zealand earlier this year, only to subsequently retract his statement.

There was insufficient time for Wasim Akram, the captain two years ago, to give evidence, and he will do so when the team returns from the forthcoming one-day tournament in Sharjah.

Spinners Saqlain Mushtaq and Mushtaq Ahmed, both currently in England, are also expected to be called.

England divided



REUTERS/AFP, London

Former international cricketer Allan Lamb has entered the debate over England's on-off tour of India by arguing that it should be left to the players to decide whether the trip goes ahead.

Lamb said: "Lord's must let the players decide whether to go or stay."

The ex-England batsman told The Mirror newspaper on Saturday: "If you drag reluctant tourists all the way to India, they are not going to enjoy it and England risk losing the series 3-0 anyway."

England are due to play three Tests in India in December, followed by a five-match one-day series during January and February.

England captain Nasser Hussain has already expressed concerns about the team's security in India because of the tensions in the

situation in India is not quite as serious as certain people have been led to believe," ECB chief executive Tim Lamb told the BBC.

"We do understand that players are apprehensive as this is a difficult and delicate situation, but that's why we've called a meeting."

"We can't force people to get on the plane but the meeting will hopefully make them more confident about going to India."

The ECB sought reassurances on safety from their Indian counterparts at the International Cricket Council conference in Kuala Lumpur.

And they met Foreign Office officials in London before confirming the tour would go ahead, though neutral venues were also discussed by the ICC as an option should the situation escalate.

"There is no reason why the tour should not be on," said Lamb. "But it's our job to convince them it's safe."

READERS' ZONE

Appoint Khoka BCB boss

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.

The post of the BCB (Bangladesh Cricket Board) president is the most sought after job of late. It is therefore not surprising that several MPs of the 8th Parliament have suddenly become very keen to be appointed as the boss of Bangladesh cricket.

Almost all the aspirants seem to have attracted only by the glamour of the job. Most have little or no knowledge of the game and its rather complicated administrative system, given its high profile international flavour. Even, they do not have any experience of running a sports body and managing its politics, finances and workforce.

Bangladesh today is known world wide for its cricket. It is the tenth Test-playing nation. BCB cannot be run by novices or by moneyed politicians. It will affect our status and prestige at the ICC and ACC circles. Cricket in Bangladesh needs persons with experience, devotion and professionalism in them.

It is important to appoint someone as BCB president who has vast experience in sports management and has the reputation of being an honest man. BCB earns a lot of money, and its supervision cannot

be left to just anyone.

In view of the recent change of government, it is inevitable that someone from BNP will eventually take over the helm of cricket. The choice has to be judicious if we want to carry on with the good work of past presidents like late ASM Mostafizur Rahman (former foreign minister) and Saber Hossain Chowdhury (former deputy minister of Awami League).

Although he has been characteristically quiet and modest about it, most people concerned at the welfare of cricket in Bangladesh believe that BNP minister Sadek Hossain Khoka is the only ideal choice for the new government to appoint him as president of BCB.

Sadek Hossain Khoka has a sound background. He has been directly associated in organising sports from grassroots level for Brothers Union, a premier-club of the country. He has held various important club level positions along the way. As BNP's previous sports minister and chairman of the National Sports Council, he had achieved remarkable success and popularity during his tenure (1991 to 1996).

Sadek Hossain Khoka knows the

ins and outs of sports management and organisations. Being a well-known organiser, he has a good network all over the country. He enjoys good relationship and trust of people with whom he has to work at club, district and national level. Above all, he is an honest person and a man of integrity. There is no one in BNP who can match Khoka's proven experience and leadership, something that BCB requires badly.

Question, may arise why appointing a 'minister' for the job? The answer is pretty simple. A cabinet minister, who is committed, dedicated, having sports background and accepted to all circles, will be the ideal person to head BCB. Particularly when Bangladesh has obtained Test status, we find Sadek is an obvious choice.

If there is anyone who can carry president's baton that seems to be slipping out of interim president Akmal Hossain's hand, it is undoubtedly Sadek Hossain Khoka. Let us hope, for the sake of cricket, the BNP government will take the right and judicious decision.

M Rahman and others (sports organisers), Gulshan

Ganguly blitz goes awry



REUTERS, East London

South Africa gained revenge for their defeat by India last week with an emphatic 46-run win in their one-day match at Buffalo Park on Friday.

After South Africa won the toss and posted 282 for four from their 50 overs, India could manage only 236 all out despite a superb start by their reply by Saurav Ganguly and Sachin Tendulkar.

The result confirmed South Africa's place in the final of the triangular tournament, while India have to beat Kenya in Paarl on Wednesday to ensure their participation.

India's run chase was led by Ganguly, who struck a sparkling 85 and shared 101 for the first wicket with Sachin Tendulkar.

The India captain hit four sixes in total, twice marching down the wicket to drive fast bowler Shaun Pollock over the boundary.

The partnership was broken in the 16th over when Tendulkar (37) was bowled by Jacques Kallis and Shiv Sunder Das (two) was run out shortly afterwards.

When Ganguly was the third to depart, superbly caught by Kallis just inside the ropes at long-on, it signalled the start of Indian collapse.

Only Rahul Dravid stood firm, finishing unbeaten on 71 as Andre Nel ran through the tail with three wickets.

Earlier, a one-day international career-best 81 from opening batsman Boeta Dippenaar helped South Africa set an imposing target.

Dippenaar shared a partnership of 103 for the third wicket with Kallis (49) as South Africa capitalised on

an explosive display by Herschelle Gibbs.

In the sixth over Gibbs struck Ajit Agarkar for two consecutive fours and then pulled the next delivery high over mid-wicket for six.

Gibbs made 47 from 41 balls and hit seven fours and the six before he clipped Agarkar straight to square leg.

Left-hander Boje, promoted to number three after the loss of a wicket with the fielding restrictions still in place, made 18 before he was run out.

Dippenaar and Kallis maintained the momentum with before Kallis was caught at mid-wicket off Javagal Srinath.

Srinath struck again in his next over when he trapped Dippenaar lbw with a delivery that jagged back sharply.

The innings was given a big



GANGULY.. m-o-m

flourish at the end as Jonty Rhodes (40 not out) and Lance Klusener (38 not out) shared an unbroken partnership of 79 for the fifth wicket. The pair added 52 runs from the final five overs.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard of the India innings in a triangular limited-overs match against South Africa at the Buffalo

India: 236

INDIA	O	M	R	W
Pollock	8	1	38	0
Nel	7.4	0	45	3
Ntini	8	0	39	0
Kallis	8	0	44	1
Klusener	8	0	44	2
Boje	5	0	26	1
Result: South Africa won by 36 runs				

Man-of-match: Saurav Ganguly
Umpires: Ian Howell, Rudi Koertzen (both Rsa). TV umpire: L Matroos (Rsa)

Match referee: Ahmed Ebrahim (Zim)

STANDINGS (played, won, lost, bonus points, total points)
SA 5 4 1 1 17
India 5 2 3 1 9
Kenya 4 1 3 1 5

Note: A bonus point is awarded if a team wins by a margin of 20 per cent or more than the total of its opponents, or reaches a target with 20 per cent or more of the available overs to spare.

NEXT TESTS
Oct 22: South Africa v Kenya, Cape Town.
Oct 24: India v Kenya, Paarl.
Oct 26: Final, Durban.