

2002 FIFA WORLD CUP KOREA JAPAN

1

6

days to go

Did U Know?

Under over a month of scorching heat, the FIFA World Cup in 1994 was played in front of a record number of spectators (3,587,538).

What to WATCH

ESPN

Soccer World Cup Heroes

Cruyff

Repeat at 3:00 pm

&

Carlos Alberto

Repeat at 3:30 pm

Sportsline Tonight

Sport News

Live at 10:30 pm

STAR Sports

English Premier Football League

Sunderland vs Derby County

Repeat at 2:00 pm

&

Man United vs Charlton Athletic

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TALK TURKEY



Robert Prosinecki
(Croatia's veteran soccer star)
"I hope Croatia will make a memorable result there, with which I would retire my old international shirt."

After announcing his retirement after the World Cup finals.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 171

Tick the correct answers, post to

The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

May 24, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- West Indies won the third Test against India by
8 wickets 10 wickets 19 runs
- Who will lead Bangladesh A team in the Malaysia Cricket Challenge?
Akram Mashud Amirul K
- Who won the man-of-the-match award in the first Test between Pakistan and New Zealand?
Milton Inzamam Afridi
- Who are the English Premiership champions?
Man United Arsenal Liverpool
- Who clinched the Hamburg

Name

Class. Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

Tikolo in thick of things

MSC hooligans taints a thrilling contest

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammedan Sporting Club grabbed a lifeline after upsetting Victoria Sporting Club's applecart with an exciting two-wicket win in a GrameenPhone Premier Super Six match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Victoria went into their penultimate League match for a win to celebrate their first major domestic title after a long time. But the 'centenary team' of the once reputed outfit could only garner 179 on the board before being all out in 49.4 overs.

They however fought gallantly in defense of their unimpressive total to make the affair a high-voltage drama, where fortune fluctuated from one end to another. Mohammedan could overhaul the target after losing eight wickets and in 49.2 overs.

Mohammedan are now trailing Victoria by two points, and if they can in their final match against Kalabagan they have a realistic chance to go level with Victoria.

Victoria on the other hand will now have to win against Bangladesh Biman in their last match on Friday to clinch the title.

The contest of the two title contenders also had its share of controversy and drama both on and off the field. The match was stopped for about fifteen minutes after angry Mohammedan supporters pelted stones on the field during the second innings.

The trouble started when Mohammedan left-hand batsman Mohammad Rafique was adjudged leg-before while playing and missing a full length delivery from Victoria off-spinner Masudur Rahman Mukul in the 42nd over.

But the worst was to follow when some Mohammedan fans attacked the dejected Victoria team on their way back to the dressing room after the match. Some of them showed the audacity to push and shove national and Victoria captain Khaled Masood in front of police.

The situation took an ugly turn when Mohammedan officials

launched a post-match verbal abuse against what they termed 'biased' umpiring. But a confrontation could be avoided as the rest took the bullies of 'big brothers' in the sports arena casually.

"This is a dreadful incident. We can live with the unruly fans verbally abusing us while we are on the field. But in no circumstance team hoodlums would be allowed to enter the ground and assault cricketers," said

Victoria captain Masood after the match. "I'm really scared about our next match against Biman at Fatullah where the security is not that tight."

While Masood vented his anger about the happenings at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, his counterpart Minhazul Abedin appeared to have engaged in a propaganda blitz regarding the

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PHOTO: STAR

Mohammedan's Kenyan recruit Stephen Tikolo follows through on a back-foot drive through covers during their crucial GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League Super Six clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Hooper, C'paul follow suit

Cricket

AFP, St John's

West Indies skipper Carl Hooper completed his third century in four matches against India as the fourth Test headed for a draw here on Monday.

The 35-year-old smashed 136 and Shivnarine Chanderpaul an unbeaten 80 as the West Indies avoided a follow-on to post 405-5 at stumps on the fourth day in reply to India's 513-9 declared at the Antigua Recreation Ground.

Wicketkeeper Ridley Jacobs was unbeaten on 18, including a six over long-on off part-time spinner Sachin Tendulkar.

The West Indies needed 118 to avoid a follow-on before the last pair of specialist batsmen, Hooper and Chanderpaul, put on 186 for the fifth wicket to ensure their team would not lose the match on a batting pitch.

This was the pair's third big partnership for the fifth wicket in four Tests, following a record 293 in the opening match at Georgetown and 215 in the third at Bridgetown.

Hooper also completed 500 runs in a Test series for the first time in his

96-match career during his 13th hundred, which came off 278 balls with the help of three sixes and 13 fours. He has so far scored 556 in five innings.

The 27-year-old Chanderpaul needed 11 more to complete 400 in the series, having struck 12 fours in his 268-ball knock.

The West Indies crossed the follow-on mark of 314 just after Hooper had raced to his hundred with a couple of lusty blows in the afternoon session.

He hoisted medium-pace Sourav Ganguly over long-on for his second six and then drove past the bowler for a four to reach the three-figure mark.

Left-handed Chanderpaul was also the batsman in form, having already scored 140 in the first Test and an unbeaten 101 in the third.

India struggled for wickets in the absence of leg-spinner Anil Kumble, who returned home for treatment after suffering a jaw-injury while batting on Saturday.

The 31-year-old spinner looked the most impressive bowler when he returned to bowl 14 tidy overs in the closing session on Sunday and removed Brian Lara for four, but took no further part in the match.

India skipper Ganguly had to resort to 19 overs of off-break and leg-spin from Tendulkar, but failed to keep pressure on Hooper and Chanderpaul.

India appeared to be going through the motions in the later part of the day as left-arm fast bowler Zaheer Khan bowled a couple of overs off spin from one end and Tendulkar from the other before tea.

Tendulkar broke the fifth-wicket partnership after the main bowlers had failed to deliver when he had Hooper caught by Ashish Nehra in the covers in the last session.

Hooper and Chanderpaul steadied the innings after the early dismissal of Ramnaresh Sarwan, who was trapped leg-before in Zaheer's second over of the morning.

Sarwan could add just one to his overnight score of 50, yet again failing to convert his half-century into a hundred. He hit six fours in his 155-ball 51, his third half-century in five innings.

There was no stopping Hooper, who attacked a depleted Indian attack to steer his team to safety as the hosts added 79 in the morning session and 74 in the afternoon after

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PHOTO: STAR

BAD SPORT! Mohammedan supporters dash towards Victoria captain Khaled Mashud (3rd from L) after the GrameenPhone Premier Division Cricket League Super Six encounter between the two sides at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Green Delta hockey Mariners blank BD Sporting

UNB, Dhaka

A brilliant hatrick by Kutubuddin enabled Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club to earn a massive 10-0 victory over lowly Bangladesh Sporting Club in the Green Delta Metropolis Premier Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

This was the sixth win for the Arambagh-based outfit in seven engagements after losing the only match to holders Dhaka Mohammedan 0-2.

In the day's match, Kutubuddin scored six goals, five in a row while Razzak netted twice, Yousuf and Yamin one each for the winners.

Mariners, who finished fourth in the last league, will play Usha KC on May 17 and Abahani on May 20 in their remaining first-leg matches.

In the first division league, Police AC beat Victoria Sporting Club 2-1 after dominating the first half by a solitary goal at the same venue.

The policemen took lead in the 32nd minute by a nice field goal from Lipton while Rahad of Victoria neutralised the margin in the 55th minute also by a field goal.

Finally, Obaidur scored the match-winning goal for police in the 67th minute.

Relegation cricket Dhanmondi demoted

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhanmondi Club could not stop their relegation despite allegedly having played some fixed matches.

They were finally demoted to the First Division after they lost their penultimate relegation league match of the GrameenPhone Premier League by five wickets to Uttara Sporting Club at the Khan Shaheb Osman Ali Cricket Stadium, in Fatullah.

Put into bat, Dhanmondi, who sacked their Pakistani recruit Tareq Mehmdud for throwing matches but eventually tainted their image by apparently involving the whole team in rigging matches once the relegation league began last month, scored 219 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs.

Captain Anisul Hakim scored highest 42 followed by two openers Shafiqul Alam (30) and Nasimul Islam (36).

Moin and Faisal took two wickets each for Uttara.

In reply, Uttara reached 224 in 48.3 overs with middle order Sumon Barua hammering 55.

In the other match of the day, Surjo Tarun beat Brothers Union Club by six wickets at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Mohammad Ashrafuul shamed 66 off 71 balls with four sixes and seven boundaries as Surjo Tarun, chasing 203 in 50 overs, reached home in only 39 overs with six wickets in hand.

RELEGATION TABLE				
City Club	15	8	7	16
Brothers Union	16	7	9	14
Surjo Tarun	16	7	9	14
Uttara SC	15	6	9	12
Dhanmondi Club	15	4	11	8
Young Cricketers	15	-	15	0

BCB names age-gr squads

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday announced two squads Dhaka Metro Green and Dhaka Metro Blues for an under-13 competition under its development programme.

Dhaka Metro (Green): Gazi Tasfiqul Huda (captain), Abdullah Sunny (vice-captain), Abul Bashar, Ali Hossain, Shams Arefin, Mossen Munna, Ashraf Aziz Sujon, Sumon Hossain, Ehsan Ali Tipu, Shuvon, Nazmul Haq Rubel, Saidur Rahman, Wahidul Haq Tanu and Ali Noman.

Dhaka Metro (Blues): Iftekhar Nayeem Ahmed (captain), Nadim Uddin Mintoo, Rafi, Lingkon, Mohammed Rubel, Saimun

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West Indies keep going

AFP, St John's

Ridley Jacobs overshadowed Shivnarine Chanderpaul's third century in four matches against India with a rapid-fire 77 not out in the fourth Test here on Tuesday.

The 31-year-old wicketkeeper smashed three sixes and nine fours in his 134-ball knock as the West Indies reached 494-5 at lunch in reply to India's 513-9 declared on the fifth and final day at the Antigua Recreation Ground.

Chanderpaul was batting on 106, having so far struck 16 fours in his 349-ball innings.

BLAST FROM THE PAST



PHOTO: STAR FILE

Roberto Baggio (L) and Franco Baresi cannot believe their eyes after Brazil had won the 1994 FIFA World Cup final. The latter, AC Milan legendary defender, was a member of the 1982 FIFA World Cup winning squad but remained on the bench. Although Baresi would not win a second FIFA World Cup winner's medal, his 81 appearances for the Azzurri (31 as captain) ensure his place in Italian footballing folklore. Baggio, the 'divine ponytail' had scored five goals in the tournament but missed a crucial penalty in the tie-breaker in the final that handed Brazil the Cup.

Gerrard bad news



REUTERS, London

England midfielder Steven Gerrard will miss the World Cup starting this month because of a recurring groin injury.

Gerrard, 21, limped off the field in Liverpool's premier league victory over Ipswich on Saturday.

A statement on the Liverpool official website on Tuesday said a specialist had told Gerrard on Monday that he would need an operation.

"The rehabilitation period for this sort of operation is six weeks so obviously I'm going to miss the World Cup," Gerrard said.

"However I need to get myself right as I wouldn't have been able to do myself or the team justice in Japan."

"In the short term it's a big blow but I'm only 21 and confident this surgery means I'll be involved in other major tournaments for the national side in the future."

England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson's plans for the World Cup in South Korea and Japan, which kick off on May 31, have been thrown into disarray with a spate of injuries to his midfield.



STEVEN GERRARD

Another United player, defender Gary Neville, has been ruled out of the tournament with a broken bone in his foot.

Dyer said he was still hopeful of travelling with England, while Beckham said he would be kicking a ball again in 10 days.

"The foot is all right," he told The

Sun. "I ran for the first time on Saturday and it was a bit sore afterwards."

"But it's a good sign I'm running already, five weeks on. I'm looking at a week and a half before I kick a ball."

England, who are currently in Dubai for a pre-Cup camp, meet Sweden, Argentina and Nigeria in group F.

Kumble to be operated on

REUTERS, St John's

Indian leg-spinner Anil Kumble will undergo surgery to his broken jaw on Wednesday in his hometown of Bangalore.

"The surgery has been scheduled for Wednesday morning, soon after he returns home," Indian team physiotherapist Andrew Leipus told this news agency.

"We did not want him to wait for much longer."

Kumble been ruled out for the rest of the series after being hit by a rising delivery from pace bowler Mervyn Dillon on Saturday but came on to bowl wreathed in bandages on Sunday, sending down 14 overs and picking up the prize wicket of Brian Lara.

"What he did yesterday was really brave," Leipus said. "We would have liked him to bowl today if he felt up to it but the flight schedule was such that he had to leave this afternoon."

Leipus said Kumble would take about two weeks to get back on the cricket field after the injury and said the bowler would be available for selection for India's Test and one-day tour of England starting at the end of June.

"They are going to put in a plate to hold the jaw together but he is definitely going to be fit for the England tour," Leipus said.

"We could have brought him back to West Indies for the one-dayers at the end of May but thought that would be cutting it a bit fine."

Kumble said he bowled on Sunday because he wanted to try his best for India.

The 31-year-old, India's most successful current bowler with 319 wickets in 70 Tests, was left out of the next two matches for off-spinner Harbhajan Singh.

Pabna cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

Nimtala Cricket Club and Ranasa Cricket Club won their respective matches in the Pepsi First Division Cricket League yesterday.

In the first match, Nimtala defeated Ishwardi Cricket Club by 123 runs at the Pabna Stadium.

Batting first, Nimtala scored 192 runs all out in 49.1 overs.

In reply, Ishwardi were all out for 69 runs in 31.1 overs.

In other match at the Pabna Edward College ground, Ranasa beat Durdom Club by eight wickets.

Durdom elected to bat first and made 85 runs all out in 28.4 overs.

In reply, Ranasa scored 89 runs for two in 15.2 overs.