



Did U Know?

In the National Hockey League in the 1960's, the organisers decided that home teams would wear white while visiting teams would wear their dark jerseys. The reasoning behind this was that it would be more difficult to keep white uniforms clean while on the road!



What to Watch

ESPN
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
Pakistan vs West Indies
Pepsi Cup Home Series
First Test, Day Two
Highlights
Repeat at 9:00 pm
South Africa vs India
Third ODI, Highlights
Repeat at 10:00 pm

STAR Sports
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
England vs India
First Test, Day Three
Highlights
Repeat at 11:00 pm



Talk Turkey



Debbie Ferguson
(Bahamas' sprint queen)
"I came here to win the title and set a new record and I have achieved it and I don't care if others didn't come because if you're not in you can't win."
After winning the women's 100m race in the Commonwealth Games.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 176

Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star. Win attractive prizes.

Competition closes at 8 pm Aug 2, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards.

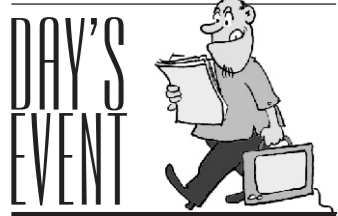
- Who scored the first hat-trick in the National Bank Premier Football League?
Alfaz Nakib Arif
- Who won the man-of-the-match award in the NatWest Series final?
Tendulkar Kaif Laxman
- How many ODI centuries has Sachin Tendulkar scored so far?
29 30 33
- Who clinched Swiss Open tennis title?
Sampras Corretja Agassi
- Who is No 1 in the WTA Tour rankings?
Venus Serena Hingis

Name

Class. Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)



National Bank Premier Football League
Abahani Krira Chakra v Farashganj SC (5:00 pm)
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium



Bangladesh Cricket Board president Ali Asghar speaks at a press conference at a city hotel yesterday organised by satellite television channel ESPN STAR Sports.

Asghar tired of BNS battle

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) President Ali Asghar desperately wants to put an end to the perennial tug of war between cricket and football over possession of the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Frustrated at the way the thorny issue has been handled over the years, the BCB boss sought a permanent solution for the sake of both games.

"We are sick and tired of fighting a lost cause in protecting the pitches at the BNS. It is frustrating to see that even Third Division football matches are being played on such hallowed turf," Asghar told reporters at a press briefing in connection with the ESPN Star Sports' exclusive acquisition of telecast rights for five countries at a city hotel yesterday.

"I have discussed the issue with the sports minister and requested him to grant us a permanent venue. We will not even mind to have the Mirpur National Stadium," said the BCB president.

But at the same time he categorically ruled out accepting anything less than the whole Mirpur Krira Palli that included the outer stadium.

Chess camp

A three-month long chess coaching programme, organised by Bangladesh Chess Federation, began at the Chess Federation auditorium yesterday.

Latvian Grand Master Igors Rausis, who arrived in the capital on Wednesday, is conducting the programme.

Twenty-four leading players, including national men and women teams, are taking part in the coaching.

Div II b'ball

Old DOHS Saturn and Flame Boys won their respective matches in the Second Division Basketball League at the Dhanmondi basketball gymnasium yesterday.

Old DOHS Saturn beat Death Eaters 82-66 after dominating the first half by 42-24 while Flame Boys crushed Rainbow Basketball Club 104-51 after leading the first half by 48-26 points.

Pak series a crucial one

Cricket
REUTERS, Sydney

Mark Waugh says failure in the Test series against Pakistan later this year could signal the end of his Australia career.

Waugh, speaking at the launch of his autobiography on Thursday, said he hoped to regain his place in the one-day side in time for next year's World Cup but added: "First of all I've got the Test series against Pakistan.

"If I don't perform there, I could be on my last legs for Australia. I'm confident I can do well."

Australia are due to play Pakistan away in October before hosting the Ashes at the turn of the year.

The 37-year-old, who has played 125 Tests and 244 one-day internationals, said he felt lucky to have been part of an Australian team which won the 1999 World Cup as well as a world record 16 consecutive Test wins.

"Just because I'm bringing out a book doesn't mean it's the end of my career," he told reporters at the launch of "Mark Waugh: The biography", adding: "I'd like to play for another couple of years."

Waugh and twin brother Steve, Australia's Test captain, have both been dropped for the one-day side

"We require the whole area so that a complete cricket stadium can be built with all necessary facilities. And I am confident that won't need any financial support from anybody," said Asghar, who was recently elected president of the Asian Cricket Council.

The BNP lawmaker from Khulna also said that the Board has undertaken a project to construct international standard venues in Rajshahi and Khulna.

Referring to the prospect of a three-match Test series between Pakistan and Australia being staged here in October, the bespectacled politician said that Bangladesh like the other Test-playing nations is prepared to playing host as a neutral venue in case Australia declines to tour Pakistan on security grounds.

"We are yet to get any official letter from the Pakistan Cricket Board. There might be a development when I will travel to Islamabad next week," said Asghar. The BCB president will leave on August 7 to take over the ACC presidency from PCB chairman Lt Gen Tahir Zia.

Asghar thanked ESPN STAR Sports for taking an active interest in the development of Bangladesh cricket.

In February, the premier sports broadcaster of Asia landed the

telecast rights of all international home matches of Bangladesh from WorldTel until 2006.

Now with the inclusion of Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, England and Zimbabwe, viewers in Bangladesh will get an excellent opportunity to see their team in action on tour.

ESPN STAR Sports extended their broadcast deal with the five Boards for another five years from 2003 to 2008.

Considered the home of cricket on the mini-screen, ESPN STAR Sports has so far confirmed live telecast of Bangladesh's away series against England and Zimbabwe.

"We will also cover Bangladesh's Test series against Australia once the tour schedule is finalised," said Manu Sawhney, managing director of ESPN India Pvt. Ltd.

Bangladesh will be going down under in July 2003 for their first official full series.

Sawhney in his introductory speech said that it was an extraordinary achievement to showcase eight out of the ten Test playing countries on ESPN STAR Sports.

"In keeping with our motto 'sports is life', we have brought top-class sporting action to 55 million households in Asia and 28 million in the sub-continent," said Sawhney.

Why not Minhaz?

READERS' ZONE

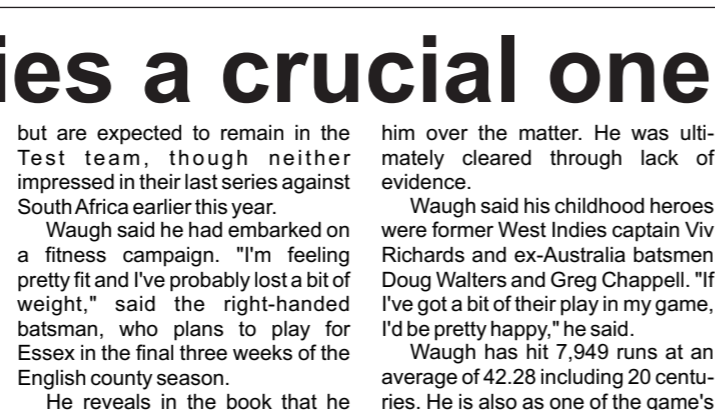
Do you have any observation regarding sports and its management in Bangladesh? Do you feel certain issues need to be addressed before time runs out? Then, hurry up and send us your burning questions, critical views and thoughtful suggestions not in excess of 400 words. Let your thought buzz at your corner, the Readers' Zone.

---Sports Editor

A few months ago I sent an e-mail to the BCB (Bangladesh Cricket Board) requesting it to give Minhazul Abedin (Nannu) a chance in Test cricket. The 37-year-old was ignored for selection once again and Bangladesh were tormented by Sri Lanka eventually.

How could Akram Khan get fitness certificate when he is at least 1.5 times over-weight than Minhaz? Is Minhaz much older than Enamul Hoque Moni? Why should age be a factor for Minhaz when Sri Lankan Aravinda De Silva (almost) was considered at the same (almost) age for a far better team.

Does Bangladesh have any better choice for which one can



leave a seasoned performer like Minhaz? I really wonder what is the yardstick of the selectors. Do they care to look at the record or they go by their sweet will? Were not more than 1000 runs good enough for Nannu to be drafted in the Test fold?

Do we need to rely again on the certificate of physio Gholer who almost jeopardised the career of Mashrafe with wrong treatment?

I'm just another patriot who at least much impartial and possess better sense than these selectors. Think about the answer of these questions and give Minhaz a chance in Test cricket. --- Ahmedur, e-mail from USA

him over the matter. He was ultimately cleared through lack of evidence.

Waugh said his childhood heroes were former West Indies captain Viv Richards and ex-Australia batsmen Doug Walters and Greg Chappell. "If I've got a bit of their play in my game, I'd be pretty happy," he said.

Waugh has hit 7,949 runs at an average of 42.28 including 20 centuries. He is also as one of the game's best fielders, boasting a world record of 173 catches, mainly at slip.

Waugh has also made 18 centuries in one-day internationals.

Born four minutes after his twin Steve in 1965, "Junior" has often been in the shadow of his brother, the third-highest Test run scorer in the game's history.

Criticised for getting out to "lazy" shots, Waugh defends himself in the book about accusations that he doesn't value his wicket highly enough.

"All I can say is that I have played my guts out for my club, my state, my country," he said.

Waugh also relates how, as a 21-year-old, he first started dating Sue Porter, who was 34 and married with three children.

They were workmates at a sports centre in Sydney.

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Murali back for ODIs

REUTERS, Colombo

Sri Lanka off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan was recalled for a one-day international series against Bangladesh after being left out of the second Test.

Several other leading players including Aravinda de Silva, Mahela Jayawardene and wicketkeeper Kumar Sangakkara also rejoined the squad.

Sri Lanka fielded an inexperienced team for the second Test after winning the first Test comfortably. They also won the second match, by 288 runs.

Left-arm seamer Chaminda Vaas, meanwhile, was recalled after being dropped from the Test side following a poor tour of England.

Right-arm fast-medium bowler Chamila Gamage, one of the young players tried out in the second Test and who took a wicket with his first ball in Test cricket, was rewarded with a place for the one-dayers. The three-match series starts on Sunday.

BCB names 34 for U-15 camp

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has selected 34 players for the first batch of a series of training programmes for under-15 cricketers.

BCB's Development Committee will organise the programmes, a Board press release said yesterday.

The workshops will be held at the indoor nets of Abahani Krira Chakra at Dhanmondi from August 5.

Selected players have been instructed to report to national age-group coaches Carlton Bernardus and Malcolm Perera at Bangabandhu National Stadium on August 4 at 4 pm.

The selected players are: Rizvi Reza, Muntasir Hossain, Mir Faisal Ali, Sharif Faisal, Sharan, Ferdous Ahmed and Mizanur (Rajshahi), Uttam Sarker, Rahi-bin-Muzaffar, Naimul Islam, Sabbir Newaz, Ziauddin Ahmed, Golam Ali and Subrata Sarker (Dhaka Colts), Humayun Kabir, Chayan Rajbangsi, Rezaul Rahman, Mofizur Rahman, Ali Fayaz, Habibur Rahman, Kajal (Dhaka Green), Mainuddin Mishu, Shirhan Sharif, Marshal Ayub, Ittehar Hossain, Abu Sayed, Ruhul Amin, Majharuddin, Martin Sufi Moazzem, Rezaul Islam, Ashiqul Islam, Jishan Abedin, Wasiur Rahman and Rafi Anwar (Dhaka Blues).

Sanath not satisfied

INTERNET, Colombo

Sri Lanka captain Sanath Jayasuriya professed himself happy at his second-string side's 228-run victory over Bangladesh on Wednesday.

But he admitted that a tenth consecutive victory at home was no consolation for the side's poor recent tour of England, where they lost a three-Test series 2-0.

"In Sri Lanka, in these conditions, we can do it, but we need to look at our performance internationally, going out of Sri Lanka," said Jayasuriya.

"We didn't perform up to our standard," he said of the England tour. "Slowly, slowly our confidence is coming back."

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Three out of three

AFP, Manchester

unprecedented seven Commonwealth Games gold medals on course while once again leaving teammate Grant Hackett in his wake.

The 19-year-old Australian had already set a world record in winning the 400m freestyle on Tuesday before picking up another gold in the



4x100m free relay. And he thrilled the crowd at the Manchester Aquatics Centre with splits that were under world record pace through 150m, but in the end he finished in 1min 44.71sec.

It was outside his own world record of 1:44.06, but comfortably in front of the 1:46.13 of Hackett – the world's dominant 1500m freestyler who was second. Canadian Rick Say was third in 1:49.40.

Despite the pace, the 200m seemed an almost languid affair compared to the bevy of 50m sprints that preceded it. This year marks the debut of the one-lap sprints in every stroke except freestyle.

Matt Welsh won the 50m backstroke, adding his first Commonwealth title to the 100m backstroke world title he earned last year, in a time of 25.65sec.

Only a powerful thrust at the finish gave Welsh the win over Malaysia's Alex Lim, swimming out of Welsh's sight in lane six. Lim took the silver in 25.67, and South Africa's Gerhard Zandberg won the bronze in 25.89.

"When I was coming down the length, I just wanted to touch out everyone else," Welsh said. "I didn't realize how close it was. But I did it, that was all I needed."

Lim, who trains at the University of California, said he wasn't surprised by his strong showing.

"I was expecting to get a medal," he said.

Thomas, who is swimming eight events in Manchester, clocked 26.66sec. Australia's Nicole Irving was second in 27.13, and Scotland's Alison Sheppard won the bronze in 27.30.

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Arambagh shoot Badda

Football
SPORTS REPORTER

Arambagh Krira Sangha snatched two crucial points from the jaws of a defeat against Badda Jagarani Sangsad in a National Bank Premier Football League match at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

In a stunning turnaround, Arambagh scored an injury-time equaliser and then won the tie-breaker 4-2 to claim second spot behind leaders Mohammedan Sporting Club in the 10-team elite league.

The spirited charges of Wazed Gazi came back to life when midfielder Bidyut headed home a Kollol flag-kick at the stroke of the final whistle to take the match into shoot-out.

The late equaliser sank the spirits of the Badda boys who led their more colourful opponents for nearly 87 minutes with a third minute goal by Uzal.

In the tie-breaker, Arambagh custodian Himu pulled off two spectacular saves against Shamim and Shamsher.

Arambagh on the other hand showed hundred per cent accuracy from the spot with Bidyut, Kamal, Oeinu and Tanvir converting from 10-yards.

The keenly-fought match entertained the sparse crowd at the big bowl with both sides exchanging salvos.

Uzall, a promising striker, put the promotees into the lead with a spectacular right-footer from inside the box after receiving a good pass from Maksudul Amin Rana.

It was his second League goal after he netted against holders

Abahani in the opening match on July 15. Badda stunned Abahani with a 4-2 tiebreak win.

The outcome now left Arambagh with five points from two games, one point behind Mohammedan. They won their first match against Brothers Union by a solitary goal.

Badda improved their tally to three points from two outings.

Yellow cards: Kollol, Biplob (Arambagh), Bakhtiar and Prince (Badda).

TEAMS
ARAMBAGH KS: Himu, Kollol, Arman, Shaheen, Biplob, Kamal, Bidyut, Saiful, Tanvir, Don (Apu) and Oeinu.
BADDA JAGARANI: Munna, Kingshuk, Apu, Shafiq (Prince), Shamsher, Shamim, Mintu, Bakhtier (Askar Babu), Wasim, Amin Rana (Johnny) and Uzal.
Referee: Ram Krishna Gosh.



Action from yesterday's National Bank Premier Division Football League fixture between Arambagh Krira Sangha and Badda Jagarani at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Hunt for missing athletes

2002 THE XVII COMMONWEALTH GAMES
AFP, Manchester

Manchester police were on Thursday looking for four Bangladesh athletes who vanished from the Commonwealth Games' Village earlier in the week, officials said.

Sprinters Maroof Raza, Humayun Kabir and Shafiqul Islam, and hurdler Dilawar Hussain, have not been seen at the Games' Village since Monday night, Bangladesh's chef de mission Abdus Salam said.

"We have no idea where they are. We have reported the matter to the Games officials and the police, and a search is on," Salam told AFP on Thursday.

A fifth Bangladeshi sportsman, swimmer Karar Samid-ul-Islam, who disappeared with the four athletes, returned to the village on Wednesday, but he had no idea where the others were, Salam added.

"The sprinters at least took part in the 100m heats and vanished, but the hurdler did not even compete in his event," the chef de mission said.

Bangladesh sports minister Fazlur Rahman, who returned to Dhaka after watching the first few days of competition at the Games, was livid at the disappearance of the athletes.

"The government is taking the matter very seriously," Salam said. "Pressure is being put on the families of the missing athletes to ensure they return."

"In future, it may be necessary to

make the athletes sign bonds before they are sent for international events like Pakistan has done."

Pakistan made nearly half of their contingent sign agreements that their families would pay fines up to 1 million rupees (18,000 dollars) if the athletes did not return home after the Commonwealth Games.

That, however, did not prevent swimmer Abid Ali from deserting the contingent as soon as it got off the plane at Manchester airport last week.

The Bangladesh sports ministry funded a six-week training programme for the athletes in Thailand prior to the Games and paid their fares to Manchester.

Another training camp was scheduled in Thailand in September to prepare for the Asian Games in

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Three out of three



SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1

SEE PAGE 15 COL 2