



Did U Know?

Xuereb of France (first name Daniel) came on as a substitute for Bruno Bellone in the semifinal against West Germany in 1986 that meant that every letter in the alphabet had been used for players' surnames since the start of the championships in 1930.



What to WATCH

BTV
Bangladesh vs Sri Lanka
Third ODI
Live at 10:00 am

ESPN
England vs India
First Test, Day Five
Taped Version at 8:30 am
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
Pakistan vs West Indies
Second Test, Day One
Highlights
Taped Version at 10:30 pm

STAR Sports
England vs India
First Test, Day Four
Highlights
Gillette World Sports Special
Int'l Sports News
Repeat at 8:30 am
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
Same Day Delay at 11:00 pm



Talk TURKEY



Moin Khan
(Former Pakistan cricket captain)
"It is a motivation for me to keep going. I am thankful to the PCB chairman, who kept faith in my abilities."
After being named in the 2003 World Cup preliminary squad.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 177

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

Competition closes at 8 pm Aug 16, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won Bangladesh's first gold medal in the Commonwealth Games shooting competition?	Asif Hossain/Arif Hossain/Avid Hossain
2. Who won the men's Commonwealth Games 100m sprint title?	K Collins F Greene
3. Who clinched StanChart FIDE Rating chess title?	Rakib Reefat
4. Who won the man-of-the-match award in the first Test between England and India?	Nasser Sourav Agarkar
Name	
Class. Roll No.	
School Address	
Phone: (If any)	



Nat'l Bank Premier Football League
Abahani v Dhanmondi (5:00 pm)



Action from yesterday's National Bank Premier Division Football League fixture between Badda Jagarani and Victoria Sporting Club.

Badda blank Victoria



SPORTS REPORTER

Badda Jagarani Sangsad recorded their first win in the National Bank Premier League when they blanked Victoria Sporting Club 3-0 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Maksudul Amin Rana set up the opening goal for Mintu and then scored the third after his former BKSP mate Bakhtiar netted Badda's second goal in a clash of two newcomers.

Badda, who are making their return to the top flight after a year's absence, are certainly enjoying their new found status with a spirited display.

The comprehensive victory now

placed them in the third position, six points behind defending champions Abahani Krira Chakra and Muktiyoddha Sangsad, who have seven points each from three games.

Mohammed Sporting Club are leading the 10-team table with maximum nine points.

One of the four unbeaten teams, Badda had earlier defeated Abahani 4-2 in the tiebreaker and lost to Arambagh by the same margin after leading by a lone goal for 87 minutes.

It was a refreshing return to form for Amin Rana after a knee injury left him crippled for nearly two year.

Considered as a finest striker of his generation, Rana showed his prowess with an imaginative back pass to Mintu, who made no mistake to send home a left-foot volley

in the 43rd minute.

Bakhtiar doubled the margin with a neat placing shot twelve minutes after the break.

But the best goal on the day was reserved for the 20-year-old Rana, who pounced on a loose ball from the edge of the box giving no chance to Victoria custodian Tariq.

It Victoria's third successive defeat to remain at the bottom of the table with no points.

TEAMS
BADDA JAGARANI: Munna, Shamim (Askar Babu/Jashim/Jamal), Kingshuk, Anupom, Prince, Shamsheer, Bakhtiar, Mintu, Wasim, Uzzal and Amin Rana.
VICTORIA SC: Tariq, Gobinda, Jet, Shipon, Arman, Al-Amin, Kaisar, Abul (Polo), Rahel, Sharif (Utpal) and Sohagh (Khokon).
Referee: Tayeb Hasan.

READERS' ZONE

Strength is in bowling

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

At the end of Bangladesh innings in the second limited-overs match against Sri Lanka, the Bangladeshi commentator reluctantly informed the viewers that this was only the third occasion in the history of one-day cricket that the extras column read the highest score of an innings. Did our batsmen take notice of it?

Almost all of Bangladesh's previous captains, including Khaled Mashud have gone on record saying that the team's strength lies in batting and that the bowlers are their main worry. Time and again this theory was proved wrong.

Bangladesh have won three one-day matches so far and on all the occasions bowlers either gave the team a good start or defended a modest total. Fielding had never been a high point but this time around, barring from a few mistakes, it was decent.

My point is that the captain must acknowledge the bowlers for their effort. Your batsmen can only muster 150-plus and the bowlers are left

to be blamed and are eventually dropped even after taking wickets. In this second one-dayer, the batters only got 76 on the board, proving their inconsistency to the core. The shots young Ashraf played in both the one-dayers easily proved that he does not have the temperament yet to play in that level. He is probably the only player in the team who looks like a batting talent and he must get scores to lead the next generation. The captain must come in at number four for the last match because Alok Kapali is not that good in that position. Nonetheless, the two rookies simply dismissed the issue of bringing in more 'senior' players into the team. Taposh Baishya looks like a good all-rounder in the making as both Naimur Rahman and Khaled Mahmud looks to have gone over the hill.

Can we expect something better from the team this time around? Wishful thinking you might say!

-- Isam, e-mail

Div I soccer

UNB, Dhaka

Prantik KC and Dhaka Wanderers Club won their respective matches in the National Bank First Division Football League at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

Prantik blanked East End Club 5-0. Nigerian Sunday made a hat-trick for Wanderers in the second half.

Wanderers beat Sheikh Russel KC 2-1 in another match.

England even worse



REUTERS, London

England did not appear a good bet to win the first Test against India and, by the same criteria, look even less likely to win the second.

Missing their top two fast bowlers and their leading batsman at Lord's, the patched-up home team contrived to win that initial contest by a thumping 170 runs.

If India have not yet recovered from the disappointment, England have probably not got over their surprise either. Captain Nasser Hussain, a man with both feet always planted firmly on the ground, had to concede: "I think that's about as well as this side can play."

His opposite number Sourav Ganguly might have been tempted to suggest his team could not have

played much worse.

A second English success at Trent Bridge in the four-match series, though, would be more impressive still.

Darren Gough, Andrew Caddick and Marcus Trescothick remain on the sidelines, waving sick notes. Graham Thorpe, the mainstay of the middle order, joins them after opting to take time out to sort out his personal life while pace bowler Simon Jones, so refreshing on his Lord's debut, is also crocked.

Things have got so bad that the England selectors have broken their own rules in rushing back paceman Alex Tudor and his suspect shins into the squad for Nottingham, even though he has not proved his fitness in a first-class match.

Kent opener Robert Key, meanwhile, a powerful man once known more for his appetite at lunch rather than at the crease, will make his

debut on Thursday, while pace bowler Steve Harmison, like Jones renowned for pace rather than direction, could also play his first game.

The new faces are undoubtedly exciting but cannot hide the fact that, as England chairman of selectors David Graveney pointed out: "Our resources have been stretched."

Ganguly will be more worried about his own problems than those of his opponents.

India toured West Indies earlier this year confident of recording their first Test series success outside the sub-continent since 1986 only to return home defeated.

England seemed to offer as good an opportunity, particularly on a friendly Lord's track playing so true.

Yet England, displaying real

Shoaib to be back for Pak in Kenya

AFP, Nairobi

Pakistan's fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar will be available to play in the triangular one-day tournament starting in Kenya later this month, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) general manager in charge of cricket operations, Zakir Khan, confirmed here Tuesday.

The injury-prone star had been left out of the squad for another tri-nation series starting on August 12 in Tangier, Morocco, due to injury concerns.

The Nairobi tournament, which involves Pakistan, Australia and hosts Kenya, will be played at the Nairobi Gymkhana between August 29 to September 7.

"Shoaib will definitely be in Kenya and it's my hope that Kenyan youngsters will be motivated and see the way he bowls," Khan told a press conference here.

The former Test fast bowler arrived in Nairobi on Monday to hold discussions with the Kenyan cricket officials on the arrangements and to inspect the facilities for the tournament.

Khan thanked Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi for his support to hold the troubled series, originally scheduled to be played in Pakistan, to be staged in Kenya.

Moi revoked an earlier order by his Sports Minister Francis Niyenze to block the tournament being held in Kenya, claiming that the Kenya Cricket Association had been dissolved, and advised the PCB to deal with the Kenya National Sports Council.

"This tournament will enhance your chances of being promoted to Test cricket," Khan told the KCA officials attending the press conference.

He said the Pakistan team would arrive in Nairobi on August 24, five days before playing Kenya in the opening match of the series.

AB Bank TT

UNB, Dhaka

Biman earned a comfortable 3-0 victory over Engineers Club in the AB Bank Senior Division Table Tennis League at the NSC Wooden Floor Gymnasium yesterday.

Biman's Hamlet defeated Babu 21-16, 21-13, Mahabub beat Tuhin 21-9, 21-13 and Rochi beat Zia 21-9, 22-20.

Armanitola Juniors overpowered Swamibagh Boys 3-0 with Asit beating Aminur 15-21, 21-11, 21-17, Mahabub beating Jewel 21-17, 21-12 and Abid defeating Babu 21-17, 21-11.

In the day's other Senior Division matches, Wari Club defeated Inter Sports 3-1 and Brothers Union beat Armanitola JS 3-2.

FIRST DIVISION
Ajax SC, Mohammadpur Boys, Combined SC, Khelaghar SKS and Mariner Youngs won their respective matches in the First Division League at the same venue.

Ajax SC beat Reazul Smriti Sangsad, Mohammadpur Boys defeated Jagarani Club, Combined SC overpowered Management Net, Khelaghar smashed Young Friends and Mariner defeated Reazul Smriti Sangsad by straight sets.

In the other matches, Purbachal Parisdad beat Ghorp KC 3-1, Dhaka TT Club beat Banna Club 3-1, Khajia Printing defeated Pegasus 3-1, Cynthia Club beat Madhumita KC 3-2, Mariner beat Angles 3-2 and Swamibagh TTS beat Uttara Club 3-2.

BDR clinch

Orient h'ball title

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Rifles became champions in the Orient Bread Cup Handball Tournament beating Bangladesh Police 42-36 in the final at the Outer Stadium handball court yesterday.

The champions led the first half by 21-18.

Jahangir and Sajal scored nine goals each while Mozammel and Waliur eight goals each for Bangladesh Rifles. Saad Ahmed Mithu and Nurul Islam netted 10 goals each for the losers.

State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources AKM Mosharrar Hossain distributed prizes. Managing Director of Orient Food Company Limited Mahbub-uzzaman was also present.

Saad Ahmed Mithu of Bangladesh Police was adjudged best player in the tournament while Narinda Progoti Boys Club won the most disciplined team award.

Div III cricket

UNB, Dhaka

The Third Division qualifying cricket competition will begin from September 10.

Interested clubs and teams have been requested to entry their name paying Tk 10,000 fee at the Bangabandhu National Stadium BCB office by August 31.

Aussies still negative

Waugh plans to play in county c'ship



AFP, Sydney

Australian cricketers continue to have reservations about playing in Pakistan, Test skipper Steve Waugh said here on Tuesday after the latest upsurge in violence there.

Australia are due to tour Pakistan in October but there are renewed jitters after gunmen stormed a Christian school and killed six Pakistanis on Monday in the sixth strike on foreign targets this year.

Australia are down to play three Tests in Pakistan between October 1-24 but are reluctant to visit due to security fears in the wake of the on-going war in Afghanistan, attacks on foreigners and tension on the India-Pakistan border.

Waugh said his team had to assume the scheduled series would proceed, but that didn't prevent the players from being apprehensive about going there.

Leading Australian players Shane Warne, Mark Waugh and Glenn McGrath have said they do not want to tour Pakistan, but Steve Waugh said he would be happy to go if it was deemed safe.

He stressed though that the players would rely on information from other sources.

"I think every one (of the players) would have some slight reserva-

tions after what's happened in the past, it's only natural," Waugh said.

"You've really got to be guided by High Commissions and those places tell you what the feeling is, whether it's safe for tourists to go there."

"In conjunction with the Australian Cricket Board you've got to make a decision whether you're



STEVE WAUGH

going to go or not.

"At this stage we've got to assume we're going to be playing in Pakistan."

Chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board Lieutenant General Tauqir Zia last week threatened to lead an Asian boycott of Australia if the Aussies refuse to tour Pakistan, but has since played down his com-

ments.

Waugh said he was considering offers to play English county cricket in a bid to get some match practice for the proposed Test series against Pakistan.

Waugh, who was dropped from the national one-day team earlier this year making way for Ricky Ponting to become captain, said being out of the one-day side was not an ideal preparation for the Pakistan Test series.

"It's particularly hard if you're not in the one-day side at the moment because you'd like to know how you are going to prepare for the Test match series and when it's going to be or where you are going to play it at," Waugh said.

"It's not an easy time to prepare because you'd like to know what type of wicket you're going to be playing on."

He said he had talked to a couple of English counties this week.

"There's an opportunity there to go and play county cricket, so that would be a possibility because there's nothing back here and it's not a good preparation going into a three-Test series against Pakistan not playing a game of cricket."

Waugh said he would never give up on getting back into the Australian one-day team, but said realistically it would be a difficult task ahead of the World Cup in South Africa early next year.

Nasser Brearley!



REUTERS, London

There can be few higher accolades for an England cricket captain than to be compared to Mike Brearley -- although being mistaken for an Australian might go close.

So it has been a good time for Nasser Hussain recently.

Australian batsman Mark Waugh, in his new biography, refers to him as having "a bit of an Aussie attitude". The English press, meanwhile, are increasingly bracketing his name with that of England's most successful Test captain.

In time, his reputation -- and this would have seemed impossible just three years ago -- may even surpass that of Brearley.

It was in 1999 that England, with Hussain as the new incumbent, lost their home series against New Zealand to slump to the bottom of Wisden's world Test rankings.

Shortly afterwards Matthew Engel, Wisden's editor, retired hurt, opting for a sabbatical. "It's become very wearing," he complained, blaming in part the burden of "having to explain the continuing failures of English cricket."

By 2000, however, the upturn had begun.

Hussain had been a hot-blooded firebrand as a young player -- simply "cocky", according to Waugh -- but as a leader he gradually tempered the wild side while retaining the straight talk. Very quickly, he earned his team's respect.

Zimbabwe were beaten before England recorded their first series win over the West Indies since 1969. An improbable victory followed in Pakistan -- the first there for 38 years -- before England triumphed in Sri Lanka, memorably coming back

from 1-0 down in the three-match series.

The results may have dipped since but there has only been one real cold bath, a 4-1 home hammering by Australia.

For the rest of the time, Hussain, backed by coach Duncan Fletcher and a central contracts system already being hailed a significant success, has managed to extract the very best out of a team whose limitations he has always acknowledged but whose spirit and professionalism he has resolutely defended.

Some of Hussain's cricket has



NASSER HUSSAIN

not been pretty, for which he makes absolutely no apology. The England captain's ruthless aim was not to win friends but to staunch the flow of defeats, then gradually build up confidence with the odd win. Style and panache could go hang.

True to form, England's snail-paced cricket in Pakistan probably proved successful because it sent the opposition to sleep. In Sri Lanka, Muttiah Muralitharan was nullified with the kicking pad.

This year in India Hussain countered Sachin Tendulkar's superior

skills by ordering left-arm spinner Ashley Giles to bowl a negative line well outside the leg stump.

Even Brearley went into print to criticise the tactic. Sunil Gavaskar branded the touring side desperately boring. And a depleted, raw England outfit left India having dominated the last two Tests to almost snatch a series-leveling draw.

Gavaskar was less vocal last month when England, having seen off the Sri Lankans, snatched the first Test from under Indian noses at Lord's.

Again England, missing their top players through injury, had been cajoled by Hussain to play above themselves. Again Tendulkar was outwitted as the English pace bowlers bowled wide to him, inviting an injudicious off-side slash and a lazy drive.

Significantly, though, England are beginning to show signs of moving to 'stage two' of their revival.

Increasingly they are going on the offensive, seeking to score more quickly in Australian mode and targeting the likes of Muttiah Muralitharan and Anil Kumble, spinners who for years have feasted on English timidity. At Lord's, Hussain repeatedly charged Kumble and hit him over the top on his way to his man-of-the-match century.

In the final analysis, Hussain's success rate will never get close to Brearley's. The latter lost just four of his 31 Tests in charge.

But the pair are hardly doing the same job to be immediately comparable.

The 34-year-old Hussain is trying to rebuild a team from the most unpromising of beginnings after years of English decline. The avuncular, erudite Brearley had the good

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A POLICE-BDR BRAWL: Scene from the Orient Bread Cup Handball Tournament final between Bangladesh Police and Bangladesh Rifles at the court adjacent to Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR