



Did U Know?

Youngest player to have appeared in a World Cup match was Norman Whiteside of Northern Ireland in 1982. He was 17 years and 42 days old when he played against Yugoslavia. The oldest player was Roger Milla of Cameroon, who was 42 years and 39 days when he played against Russia in 1994. He in fact scored in that game, making him the oldest goal scorer as well!



What to WATCH

- ESPN**
England vs India
Second Test, Day One
Highlights
Same Day Delay 2:00 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
Pakistan vs West Indies
First ODI, Highlights
Repeat at 10:00 pm
- STAR Sports**
England vs India
Second Test, Day One
Highlights
Same Day Delay at 7:00 am
England vs India
Second Test, Day Two
Live at 4:00 pm



TALK TURKEY



Alex Corretja
(Spanish tennis star)
"I have had four weeks rest since the French Open and that has helped me here."
After winning the Swiss Open title.

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.

- Who won Bangladesh's first gold medal in the Commonwealth Games shooting competition?
Asif Hossain Anir Hossain Avid Hossain
- Who won the men's Commonwealth Games 100m sprint title?
K Collins F Fredericks M Greene
- Who clinched StanChart FIDE Rating chess title?
Rakib Reefat
- Who won the man-of-the-match award in the first Test between England and India?
Naseer Sourav Agarkar
- Bangladesh lost the second Test against Sri Lanka by 288 runs 9-wkts 233 runs.

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)



DAY'S EVENT

Nat'l Bank Premier Division League
Ramatanj v Arambagh (5pm)
Venue: BNS

'Trouble kid' turns gold

AL-AMIN

The confinement theory of the mother of Asif Hossain Khan brought an elusive gold for Bangladesh at the 17th Commonwealth Games.

The 16-year-old shooter from Pabna hit the bull's eye in the men's 10m Air Rifle in Manchester on July 31 to become a national celebrity overnight. But this sudden celebrity status of her son was not surely on Rehana Khan's mind when she sent her 'trouble kid' to be 'detained' in the Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protisshthan (BKSP) two years ago.

"He was constantly worrying me in Pabna. His one-week stay over there was enough to exhaust my one month's energy," joked the beaming mother at the Gulshan Shooting Range while posing for photographs with Asif, who returned home early in the morning yesterday along with the Bangladesh contingent.

"I wanted him to be put in such a place where he would be properly disciplined. And that opportunity came when the BKSP took him in."

But that apparent detention opened up a delightful avenue for Asif. Surrounded by a host of family members and officials of Bangladesh Shooting Federation, the wonder kid said that he only learned to appreciate the inner meaning of the beautiful life after getting admitted to the BKSP.

"I was involved in a lot of silly activities in Pabna. Life there was restless and lacked proper direction. So, when I started my days at the BKSP everything fell into place. I came to know about the purpose and direction of my life," said Asif while talking to the Daily Star Sport.

Asif was also very fortunate to get admitted in the lone sports institute of the country.

Judging his outstanding performance in Pabna, the BKSP decided to bend its rules to admit him directly in class nine, though the stipulation stated that students must be enrolled in class seven.

The teenager has a rich sports heritage in his family. His mother is a former shooter herself and late maternal grandfather was a well-known shooter. Interestingly, his father Belayet Hossain is more of a football lover.

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A GOLDEN SMILE: Shooter Asif Hossain Khan shows the precious medal he won at the Commonwealth Games on his arrival at the Gulshan Shooting Club yesterday. On the right is a former Commonwealth Games golden marksman Abdus Sattar.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

India 210-4

SPORTS REPORTER

India were 210 for four after 66 overs when poor light stopped play halfway through the final session on the opening day of the second Test against England at Trent Bridge yesterday.

Skipper Sourav Ganguly was batting with 29 while with 22, VVS Laxman was at the other end. Last batsman to get out was Virender Sehwag, who scored a scintillating 106.

Imran accepts Aussie fears

AFP, Karachi

Former Pakistan captain turned politician Imran Khan said Thursday Australian fears about touring Pakistan were genuine, but that cricket authorities in both countries should work towards resolving the issue for the sake of the game.

"Australian fears about touring Pakistan are genuine as the international media has sensationalised events in Pakistan, which can occur anywhere."

"But I think both (cricket) boards should resolve the matter amicably... for the sake of cricket," Khan, who now heads the Movement for Justice political party, told AFP.

The fate of Australia's Test tour to Pakistan in October hangs in the balance amid security fears, with leading Australian players refusing to play in a three-match series between October 1 and 24 which marks the 50th anniversary of Pakistan's entry into international Test cricket.

Ian wants the changes to continue

AFP, London

Ian MacLaurin, departing chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said Thursday the English game had to continue with the programme of change he had initiated.

"There has been radical change but we cannot stop that," he told BBC Radio Five Live.

"We are not a rich sport. A number of counties are reporting losses and we have got a two-year window to get our house in order before we need to re-negotiate broadcasting contracts."

MacLaurin, who is not standing for re-election as chairman because of business commitments, has overseen the introduction of central contracts and the creation of a two-division county championship during his time in office.

He added: "We have to look at the structure of the game and make it more efficient."

"You only have to look at other sports. Revenue is down, broadcasting revenue is down and sponsorship is hard to get. You need to be firm and ready for any eventualities."

"We have got to have a functional committee structure and a more streamlined management."

With international matches providing the vast majority of English cricket's income from both gate receipts and as a result of the 150 million pounds television contracts with Channel 4 and Sky to cover those fixtures, MacLaurin said the form of the national side remained of paramount importance.

Sehwag shines



AFP, Nottingham

Virender Sehwag's unbeaten 85 was the centrepiece of India's resistance against England here at Trent Bridge on Thursday.

When bad light forced an early tea on the first day of the second Test of four India were 141 for three after winning the toss with captain Sourav Ganguly five not out.

Opener Sehwag had faced 155 balls including 14 fours.

It was a particularly valuable innings after Sachin Tendulkar departed for 34 - his third low score of the series.

Tendulkar, 10 not out at lunch, seemed to be finding his form when he flicked Craig White through midwicket for a trademark four.

But just when it seemed as if he was about to atone for scores of 16 and 12 in the 170-run series opening defeat at Lord's, Tendulkar again went cheaply.

Trying to pull a short delivery well outside off-stump from recalled medium-pace Dominic Cork, Tendulkar only succeeded in getting a bottom edge on to his stumps.

Tendulkar's first 10 runs had come from 38 balls, his next 24 from 30 which made the manner of his dismissal all the more wasteful as he chased a seventh boundary.

Together with Sehwag he had put on 74 in 131 balls, the pair starting to make England's policy of opting for an all right-arm seam attack look highly risky.

Tendulkar had gone past West Indies great Garry Sobers' mark of 8,032 runs and into sole possession of ninth place in the all-time list of leading Test run-scorers but at 108 for three the match had tilted back in England's favour.

Earlier Ganguly won the toss and, despite a green-tinged pitch, took the bold decision to bat first.

But his side were soon in trouble. India lost their first wicket for just

batsmen play and dismissed Rahul Dravid (13) when the batsman



India opener Virender Sehwag lets a rising delivery from Dominic Cork go on the first day of the second Test against England at Trent Bridge yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

six when, with his eighth delivery, Hoggard bowled Wasim Jaffer for a duck, an inside edge going through a huge gap between bat and pad.

England debutant quick Steve Harmison began with four successive maidens after coming in for fellow fast bowler Simon Jones, who won his first Test cap at Lord's but subsequently suffered a side strain.

However, the statistics belied Harmison's lack of accuracy. Hoggard though was making the

drove at an outswinger without moving his feet.

England's other debutant, Kent batsman Robert Key, did the rest with a diving first slip catch.

Key was playing in place of Graham Thorpe, who announced after the first Test that he was taking an indefinite break from all cricket due to personal reasons.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard at tea on the first day of

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Dynasty h'ball final today

CU CORRESPONDENT

The final of the Dynasty Group Mahanagari Handball League 2002 will be held at the Dampara Police lines ground in the port city at 2.30 pm today.

In the men's final match Agrabad Pioneers will face the Shaheed Sahjahan Sangha while the Blue Star Club compete with the Agrabad Nowzoan Green in the women's match.

Food Minister Abdullah Al-Noman will distribute prizes among at a simple ceremony after the match.

The league was organised by the Chittagong Mahanagari Kria Sangstha in association with the Dynasty Group of Companies.

Cute h'ball

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Rifles defeated Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club 26-13 in the Cute Premier Division Handball League at the court next to the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The winners dominated the first half 14-4.

Waliur scored six, Sajal five and Shahidul four goals for Rifles while Coco Wai Marma and Heltho Wai Pro netted three goals each for Mariner.

Lt General (ret'd) Mahbubur Rahman, MP inaugurated the eight-team meet at 4pm.

MSC march on



SPORTS REPORTER

Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib may not have scored but Mohammedan Sporting Club still could manage to run away with a 2-0 win against Brothers Union in the National Bank Premier League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The prolific marksman ran out of luck after scoring six goals in the first three games but Mohammedan's unstoppable march continued with Titu and Kanchan scoring one goal apiece in the first half.

Right wing back Titu, who is the most effective recruit from Abahani this year, gave the popular Motijheel outfit a 10th minute lead with an intelligent shot over an out of position Brothers custodian Mohammad Ali.

An energetic Kanchan, who also joined Mohammedan from Abahani, struck the second goal for the League leaders five minutes away from the short whistle.

The nimble attacker with a lethal left-foot raced into the opponent's box after winning a ball in the midfield and then released a thunderous shot that ruffled the far corner of Ali's net.

The two goals were good enough for the hot favorites to see off a spirited Gopibagh outfit.

The only team to lose a point yet, Mohammedan maintained their solo lead with 12 points, two points

clear of defending champions Abahani.

Apert from the two goals, the black and whites created a good number of openings in the enterprising first half.

Nakib tested the Brothers keeper with his trademark header in the 18th minute. The experienced attacker helplessly watched his second header in the 35th minute came off the post.

Kanchan blasted the ball straight to Ail from close before he made amends for his blunder three minutes later.

Brothers also had their share of chances in the match. But Mohammedan custodian Nizam, who looked confident under the bar after a disappointing last season, thwarted all their efforts.

Nizam was unbeatable in the air. The agile keeper tipped off a piledriver from Brother's Nepalese forward Hari Khadka for a corner in the sixth minute. He also grabbed wicket back heel from striker Uzzal in the 35th minute.

The defeat now left Brothers with three points from four games.

Yellow card: Joy (Mohammedan).

TEAMS

Mohammedan SC: Nizam, Jewel, Masud Rana, Titu, Hasan, Joy, Monwar (Pappu), Faisal (Tushar), Kanchan, Salieu Osalio and Nakib. Brothers Union: Mohammad Ali, Rezaul, Ashraf, Jahangir, Saker, Chanchal, Rikta, Bal Gopal, Hari Khadka (Raju), Rajan Majhi (Jahid) and Saurav Raju. Referee: Tayeb Hasan.



Mohammedan midfielder Monwar (L) tries to dodge past Brothers Union's Nepalese recruit Bal Gopal during their National Bank Premier Division Football League clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Zimbabwe, a WC concern



REUTERS/AFP, Harare

Organisers of next year's cricket World Cup will have contingency plans in place should the political situation in Zimbabwe deteriorate, tournament director Ali Bacher has said.

The bulk of cricket's showpiece tournament will be played in South Africa, with Zimbabwe scheduled to host six matches and a further two in Kenya.

Political strife has raised doubts whether the matches would proceed as planned.

Asked if plans to move the fixtures from Zimbabwe already existed, Bacher said: "Not yet, but we will have to assume that responsibility."

"However, our prime intention is to play six World Cup matches in Zimbabwe," Bacher added.

"The best way to spread cricket through Africa is to play World Cup games in Zimbabwe and Kenya," Bacher said the Zimbabwean situation was part of broader planning for the World Cup.

"It is beholden on us to plan contingencies on many issues," Bacher added. "When you organise a world event you need contingencies."

"In the event of a strike by the airline pilots, you need a plan. If the lights go out in Durban, what do you do?"

But organisers have also realised that Zimbabwe's political problems pose unusual obstacles to the smooth running of the World Cup.

"There will be issues arising from Zimbabwe -- we would be naive to think otherwise," Bacher said.

"Hopefully they will not be too serious, but we must have plan B."

Bacher and International Cricket Council (ICC) chief executive Malcolm Speed were in Harare on Wednesday to launch the Zimbabwean leg of the World Cup.

"We are aware that Britain, Australia and Canada are attempting to persuade other countries not to play here in Zimbabwe," said Aeneas Chigwedere, Education, Sports and Culture Minister.

Chigwedere spoke at a function to launch the World Cup in Harare.

But the executive director of the World Cup, Ali Bacher, pointed out that all the countries due to play in the World Cup are under contract.

Malcolm Speed, chief executive of the International Cricket Council (ICC), would not be drawn to comment on Chigwedere's outburst.

He commented that the only criteria for participation was the safety of players, officials and supporters.

Security would be evaluated by the ICC and the United Cricket Board of South Africa from time to time.

"We have to keep politics and sport apart," Speed said. "Sport does have a habit, though, of healing political differences."

Chigwedere was standing in for state president Robert Mugabe, who had been scheduled to launch the eighth World Cup since its inception, at a colourful ceremony that included African tribal dancers and singers.

But Mugabe was delayed in Singapore where he is visiting en route from Malaysia.

His speech came immediately after the Zimbabwe fast bowler Henry Olonga sang his own composition "Zimbabwe, land of peace and harmony."

The Zimbabwe Cricket Union

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'A big blow to Pakistan'



REUTERS, Melbourne

Australia Test cricketer Mark Waugh has said the latest violence in Pakistan places further doubt over Australia's tour of that country in October.

Six Pakistanis were shot dead in an attack on a school for children of foreign missionaries near Islamabad on Monday.

"Obviously what happened two days ago with the shooting at the international school puts a few more question marks over the tour," Waugh said in an interview on Australian radio station Sport 927 on Thursday.

"There's no doubt about that. I think the ACB (Australian Cricket Board) would be first to admit that."

Several other senior players have also expressed reservations about the tour.

ACB spokesman Pat O'Beirne said the latest attack "adds some currency" to advice the board is receiving from Australian Government officials and the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

"The tragic recent incident has increased concern about the tour," O'Beirne told this Reuters on Thursday.

"We will continue to monitor our information over the next short

while."

Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf contacted Australian Prime Minister John Howard and told him that the safety of the Australian cricket team could be guaranteed, Howard revealed last week.



MARK WAUGH

Howard said he had passed the information on to the ACB and told Musharraf that the decision would be made by the ACB, not the government.

PCB director Chishty Mujahid has made a veiled threat of retaliation if Australia refuses to tour.

"In those circumstances Pakistan will have to rely on the support it has in the Asian cricket

bloc to find a permanent solution to this problem of teams refusing to tour Pakistan on security grounds," Mujahid said.

Pakistan's fixture list is in disarray after the September 11 hijacked plane attacks on the United States and the subsequent U.S.-led "war on terrorism".

The triangular one-day series has already been moved to Kenya, New Zealand pulled out of its tour after a bomb attack killed 11 French people in May and a tour by West Indies was played on neutral territory in Sharjah.

Australia's selectors have again excluded Steve and Mark Waugh for the triangular series.

The team, to be captained by Ricky Ponting, is due to fly to Kenya in late August.

An editorial in Melbourne's Herald Sun newspaper on Thursday called on the ACB to abandon the tour of Pakistan.

"The players and their families deserve an immediate decision from the board," the newspaper said.

"Canberra (the home of Australia's Federal Government) has advised all Australians there to leave."

"It will be sad for both countries when the tour is abandoned."

"But as the ACB has noted, our team's safety comes first."