



Did U Know?

The IOC (International Olympic Committee) is for a city, not a country. When choosing locations for the Olympic Games, the IOC specifically gives the honour of holding the Games to a city rather than a country.



What to Watch

BTV
Sri Lanka and South Africa
Morocco Cup Final
Live at 3:30 pm

ESPN
Football Focus
Same Day Delay at 7:30 pm

India vs England
Second Test, Day Five
Repeat at 8:30 am

Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm

Pakistan vs West Indies
Second Test, Day Three
Highlights
Repeat at 9:30 pm

STAR Sports
Gillette World Sports Special
Int'l Sports News
Repeat at 10:30 am

English Premier Football League
Aston Villa vs Liverpool
Taped Version at 12:30 pm

Sportsline Tonight
Spot News
Live at 8:00 pm

Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
Same Day Delay at 11:00 pm



Talk Turkey



Boris Becker

(German tennis great)

"Formula One is a business about life and death. Nevertheless, half an hour before the start, drivers still do interviews. To play tennis for an hour at 2 pm and go home afterwards is not enough."

Commenting on what's wrong with pro tennis players and how they hinder tennis commercial success.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 178

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

Competition closes at 8 pm Aug 30, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- Name the Bangladesh A team captain for the Kenya tour:
Hannan Sanwar Ashraf
- Who became Asia's fastest woman?
Darsina Jayasinghe Jones
- Asif Hossain clinched gold in which Commonwealth Games event?
Athletics/Shooting/Swimming
- Who won the Orient handball title?
Wari BDR Young Pegasus
- Who was man-of-the-match in the second Test between England and India?
Tendulkar/Vaughan/Stewart

Name:
Class: Roll No.:
School Address:
Phone: (If any)

Old guards missing



SPORTS REPORTER

Three veteran cricketers Akram Khan, Aminul Islam and Enamul Hoque did not join the national camp that started at the BKSP in Savar yesterday.

Former national captain Akram said that he had only learned about the camp on Monday and was yet to decide whether to take part in the training.

"I've some pressing family affairs to take care of. And it will take about a week for me to decide whether to join the camp or not," said Akram over his cell phone from Chittagong.

Akram had earlier said that he would seriously consider about his international career after being dropped along with Enamul and Aminul from the one-day series against Sri Lanka early this month.

When the experienced middle-order batsman apparently showed his reluctance to join the camp, his long-time teammate Aminul was not available to make any comments for absence.

Slow left-armed Enamul had also failed to report to team manager ASM Faruque at the BCB's Bangabandhu National Stadium office yesterday.

But the absence of the three old guards was as surprising as the way the Board called up 27 cricketers. Initially the Board announced a 14-member Bangladesh squad for the

ICC Champions Trophy beginning in Sri Lanka on September 12.

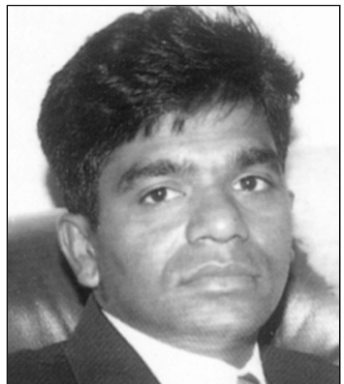
But reporters only discovered on Tuesday that the Board had decided to go for an extended training camp involving 27 players.

"The camp served two purposes. One for the ICC Champions Trophy and the other for the demanding tour of South Africa," said Faruque, who has been appointed manager till the

team.

Bangladesh A skipper Sanwar Hossain was a last minute inclusion in the list of 27. The middle-order batsman forced his way into the reckoning after a match-saving hundred in the three-day match against the Kenya Cricket Association (KCA) Eleven.

LIST OF 27: Khaled Mashud, Habibul Bashar, Aminul Islam,



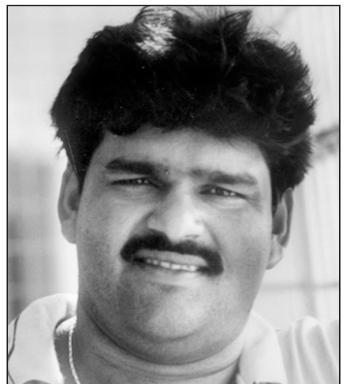
AMINUL ISLAM

2003 World Cup.

"Apart from the fourteen selected for the Sri Lanka competition, the rest will stay at the camp until the squad for South Africa is picked," said Faruque.

Bangladesh will leave for South Africa on September 27 to play two Tests and three one-day internationals.

Out of 27, eleven players are now touring Kenya with the Bangladesh



AKRAM KHAN

Akram Khan, Al-Shahriar, Ehsanul Haque, Hannan Sarker, Mohammad Ashraf, Tushar Imran, Fahim Muntasir, Enamul Hoque, Monjurul Islam, Alamgir Kabir, Talha Jubair, Naimur Rahman, Mohammad Rafique, Khaled Mahmud, Taposh Kumar Baishya, Alok Kapali, Anwar Hossain, Shafiq al Zahir, Mazharul Huq, Mehrab Hossain, Javed Omar and Mushfiqur Rahman

Asghar against payroll

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Ali Asghar hinted that the existing financial contract with the national players would come under review.

"I'm against the present payroll system. Now a Grade 1 cricketer is drawing a monthly salary of 60,000, which we can hardly afford," said Asghar to the Daily Star Sport last night. "We are planning to introduce performance bonus in place of this contract."

The Board president said under the plan a player who scores a hundred or takes five wickets in either Test one one-day international will receive Taka one lakh. On the other hand if a player scores fifty or captures three wickets in either form of cricket he will get Taka 30-50 thousand.

The new method of payment will also apply to the domestic cricket. But the bonuses would be considerably less.

"We are working on a formula and hopefully by next week it will be complete," said Asghar.

Asghar's plan is sure to serve a blow for the national cricketers, who are eagerly waiting for their contracts to be renewed. Last year the Board brought 16 players on its pay roll, which expired on July 31.



Cricketers called up for the national team's training camp for the upcoming ICC Champions Trophy and the tour of South Africa reported at the Bangladesh Cricket Board's Bangabandhu National Stadium office yesterday. Seen here are (L-R) Fahim Muntasir, skipper Khaled Mashud, Mohammed Rafique, Mehrab Hossain and Khaled Mahmud.

Suspension again



SPORTS REPORTER

The Dhaka Mahanagari Football League Committee (DMFLC) yesterday suspended the National Bank Premier Division Football League again for three days in a bid to let the muddy ground condition at the Bangabandhu National Stadium improve.

The DMFLC, organisers of the Dhaka League, took the decision after being advised by Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) president SASulatan.

The announcement came at 2 pm, just three hours before the start of Abahani-Arabbagh Krira Sangha match, much to the disappointment of a few thousand spectators already gathered there.

When contacted the BFF boss expressed his sheer frustration at the persistent inclement weather and the non-stop football at the

same venue. He blamed the organisers for holding all the matches of the league on the same ground without any break.

"This is not a good practice, we have to think about alternative venues to hold less important matches. That is how we can handle Bangabandhu National Stadium with care," said Sultan.

Organisers who do not want to play football in the Mirpur Stadium hope to resume the league on August 23 with Abahani facing Arabbagh.

But their suspension of league seems to be no solution as weather shows no sign of improvement.

This was for the sixth time that DMFLC forced to postpone the league because of the poor ground condition caused by the monsoon. 14 days have already been lost since the ten-team elite league began on July 15.

Meanwhile, the postponement of the two-tier league for another

three-days would cause further trouble to BFF, who are already late in starting the national camp for the Asian Games. The Games begin in South Korea from September 29.

As per the ever-changing schedule the first round of the league was planned to finish on September 3 and the BFF thought of starting the camp two days later. The latest suspension would not allow BFF now to run the camp even for one week as the Asian Games squad are scheduled to go to Bangkok on September 12 to play four practice matches before they fly to Busan, for the Games.

"It's become a big problem now because we need to start the camp as soon as possible," Sultan said, adding that national coach George Kottan wants to get his boys together by August 28 to conduct at least two-week's camp before heading for Thailand.

"I think we would settle the matter on Thursday in our executive committee meeting," he said.

BD A's one-day match today

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh A team will play their first of three limited overs matches against Kenya Cricket Association today.

The match will be held at the Ruraka Sports Club ground.

The visitors staged a remarkable fight-back on the final day of their three-day encounter against the KCA Eleven, thanks to a brilliant 105 not out by skipper Sanwar Hossain.

Amrito Lal Chess Zia's

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman clinched the third Amrito Lal Dey International Rating Chess Tournament with a round with a round to play after defeating Indian Chachal Kumar Ghosh in the eight round at the Public Library Auditorium in Barisal yesterday.

It was Zia's eighth straight win in the nine round Swiss League tournament which kept him atop the table with highest eight points, one and a half more than second placed Khandakar Aminul Islam who beat Puneet Jaswal of India and raised his tally to six-and-a-half points.

Sheikh Nasir Ahmed, Saifuddin Lovlu and Punnet are sharing third spot with six points each.

The final round begins today in the morning. The prize-giving ceremony will be held the afternoon.

Samedul in hot water

UNB, Dhaka

Country's premier swimmer Karar Samedul Islam face departmental action after trying to flee the Commonwealth Games Village.

He has been summoned by a Navy inquiry committee formed to investigate the incident that took place in the 17th Commonwealth Games in Manchester.

Samedul fled with four other athletes on August 26 but surprisingly returned alone three days.

Lara awaits his fate

BBC, undated

A report into allegations West Indian batsman Brian Lara took bribes is set to be released soon.

The West Indies Cricket Board has received a copy of the report, written by Elliott Motley.

Motley was asked to investigate claims made by an Indian bookmaker that Lara received 40,000 dollars to play badly in two one-day internationals in 1994.

Lara has strenuously denied the allegations, which were first made in a separate report into corruption by India's Central Bureau of Investigation.

WICB president Wes Hall said: "I'm currently reading the report, which is quite extensive, and then I shall be making a statement."

"Before then I don't wish to comment on the findings."

The BCCI investigation led to five cricketers including late Hansie Cronje, Mohammad Azharuddin and Salim Malik, being banned from cricket.

'Sign or be axed'



AFP, Bangalore

India's cricket board will insist that the country's international players sign a controversial sponsorship agreement with the International Cricket Council (ICC), a senior board official said Tuesday.

"The board will insist the players sign the contract," Purshottam Rungta told AFP ahead of a crucial Indian board meeting in this southern Indian city to resolve the sponsorship row.

He also warned the cricketers the board would send a second-string team for next month's Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka if they do not sign the contract.

"The ICC stands to gain sponsorship revenues of 720 million dollars until 2007 and India will be a major beneficiary with 120 million dollars," the former Indian cricket chief said.

"The choice is between ICC spending money on cricket and individual players amassing wealth through sponsorships. If you ask me I think cricket will benefit in the longer run."

The Working Committee, the decision-making body of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), has convened a session here a day after Indian players refused to sign the ICC contract.

India's selection committee, meanwhile, will meet later in the day to pick a team for the Champions Trophy, an official of the Karnataka State Cricket Association said.

A BCCI official said the Working Committee meeting was being held a day earlier than planned following the rigid stand adopted by the Indian cricketers.

is just incidental that I am here when this whole thing is happening."

He later told waiting reporters that he could not comment before the BCCI meeting had ended.

"Only after that I will be in a position to say something."

A source close to the ICC, meanwhile, told AFP the row would be resolved "in the next 48 hours."



SACHIN TENDULKAR

"The meeting was earlier slated for Wednesday," said Rungta. "After the announcement (by the Indian players) an early session was convened (Tuesday). It will focus just on the ICC contract."

ICC chief executive Malcom Speed landed in Bombay early Tuesday but said he was not in a position to comment.

"This is a personal visit planned three months back," he told AFP. "It



SOURAV GANGULY

Speed was also to hold talks with sponsors of Indian cricketers in Bombay, other sources said.

Star batsman Sachin Tendulkar, skipper Sourav Ganguly, Virender Sehwag and Rahul Dravid, are among leading India players facing the axe for the September 12-29 tournament.

Indian cricketers in a statement issued at Leeds slammed an ICC

Aussies won't go?



INTERNET, undated

Australia's top cricketers could end up boycotting next month's Champions Trophy series unless the contract dispute with the International Cricket Council (ICC) is resolved quickly.

But the Aussies are not standing alone - backed by their international union, players from India, South Africa and the West Indies have also delayed signing the ICC's

controversial tournament contract.

With the rumbles of protest spreading, The Australian newspaper reported on Tuesday that a multi-million pound World Cup deal might also be under threat as the row took a new twist down under.

The paper says the Australian squad were expected to sign the ICC agreement when they assembled in Brisbane tomorrow for a training camp.

But Australian Cricketers Association (ACA) chief executive Tim May said the players would not accept the ICC proposal.

"There must be significant progress before the ACA recommends signing anything," said May, who is also joint chief executive of the parent body, the Federation of International Cricketers' Associations (FICA).

The Australian says that May's ACA wants an urgent meeting with the Australian Cricket Board which in turn has been seeking clarification from the ICC.

The major stumbling block to signing the ICC contract is a clause meaning that ICC sponsorship deals for the tournaments take precedence over any pre-existing personal endorsement deals the players might have.

A significant hurdle is the use of player images in an agreement due to run for all ICC events until the end of the 2007 World Cup.

Under the proposal, players would be required to grant the use of their attributes to the ICC's major events sponsors for promotion not only for the period of the event, but also for another six months after the tournament.

"In some cases these companies are competitors of some players' personal sponsors," the Australian quotes May as saying.

"Under such contracts a player cannot authorise a competitor to use his image for promotion."

"At no stage have then players given the ICC authority to sell these rights to a third party."

The stand-off is seen as a serious threat to the multi-million dollar deal between the ICC and Global Cricket Corporation, who have bought the rights to all ICC events until 2007.



State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman looks at photographs after inaugurating an exhibition of sports photos organised by the Bangladesh Photo Journalists' Association in connection with the World Photography Day at the Jatiya Press Club yesterday.

Morocco Cup final today



AFP, Tangiers

In-form Sri Lanka are wary of a South African backlash when they clash in the Morocco Cup limited-overs final here on Wednesday.

The Sri Lankans start as overwhelming favourites after two impressive wins over the Proteas in

"I expect them to come out fighting," Jayasuriya said. "The South Africans will not be beaten easily again."

Sri Lanka know that tables can turn quickly in the unpredictable world of one-day cricket.

At the Sharjah Cup in April, the Sri Lankans breezed through the league stage only to find their batting flounder under lights against Pakistan in the final.

Five of the six league matches in Tangiers were won by teams batting first, but Sri Lanka's Australian coach Dave Whatmore said conditions were better here than at Sharjah.

"At Sharjah it is always difficult chasing under lights, not here where batsmen get an equal chance," he said.

"There is no reason why we should not win if we play as well as we have done in the tournament so far."

It has been a remarkable turnaround for the Sri Lankans after a disastrous tour of England earlier in the summer where they lost both the Test and one-day series.

Recalled veteran Aravinda De Silva has been the biggest thorn in South Africa's side, making 73 and 77 in the two matches without being dismissed.

With Jayasuriya himself leading from the front with scores of 36, 49, 97 and 47 in the tournament, the South African bowlers face a testing time in the final.

"Sri Lanka outplayed us in the two matches, but we know what we have to do to come back," Pollock said.

"If we play to our potential on Wednesday, a win is not far away."

Key all-rounder Jacques Kallis is expected to take the field after recovering from a niggle in the left leg which prevented him from bowling against Sri Lanka on Monday.

Kallis' 84 in the same match will come as a relief for coach Eric



SANATH JAYASURIYA

of the league - the first by a whopping 93 runs and the second by six wickets.

But captain Sanath Jayasuriya refused to take the 120,000-dollar winner's purse for granted, warning team-mates that Shaun Pollock's men will be a different proposition in the final.



SHAUN POLLOCK

Simons after the inconsistent display so far by the top order batsmen.

Herschelle Gibbs, who scored 114 against Pakistan in the opening match, managed just 12 runs in the

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Without Thorpe



BBC, London

England are facing a possible selection crisis following Graham Thorpe's decision to extend his break from the game.

It looks increasingly unlikely that the left-handed batsman will be available for the Ashes series this winter.

Thorpe, 33, has already retired from the one-day game and just a fortnight after that announcement, announced his intention to take a break from all cricket.

That decision came just minutes after England had completed a 170-run first Test win over India at Lords on 29 July.

Thorpe wanted to spend more time with his two young children and

sort out his personal life following his recent divorce from wife Nicky. England had hoped to see him



GRAHAM THORPE

back in action before the end of the summer in order to stake his claim on an Ashes place, but that now

seems unlikely. Thorpe had a meeting with Surrey chief executive Paul Sheldon on Monday and was then expected to inform England's management of his intentions.

A Surrey spokesman confirmed: "It's extremely unlikely that Graham will play for Surrey again this season."

"The club have been very supportive...and have no doubt he will return from this break reinvigorated and ready for next season."

The decision may be a relief for the Australians but could have dire financial implications for Thorpe, whose 12-month central contract must now be in doubt.

Thorpe is one of the top earners in the contract scheme. Australia captain Steve Waugh hopes to see Thorpe back on inter

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