



Did U Know?

Anyone who follows baseball knows the Cincinnati Reds are the oldest professional baseball team and the only team to continuously play in the same city. The first game played was June 1, 1869, played by a totally professional baseball team (all paid players, no amateurs). Because they were the first team in baseball, until recently, they always played the first (and only) game on baseball season's opening day. The rest of the teams opened the season the day after.



What to WATCH

ESPN
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Repeat at 6:30 am
England vs India
Third Test, Day One
Live at 4:00 pm

STAR Sports
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
Repeat at 8:30 am
English Premier Football League
Arsenal vs Birmingham City
Taped Version at 12:30 pm

Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
Zimbabwe vs West Indies
Sixth ODI, Highlights
Repeat at 9:30 pm



John Wright
(India cricket coach)
"A captain's job is to lead the side. My job is to give him information and also make the players aware of things."

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 | Dars | Jones
- Who became Asia's fastest woman?
Athletics | Shooting | Swimming
- Asif Hossain clinched gold in which Commonwealth Games event?
Wari | BDR | Young Pegasus
- Who won the Orient handball title?
Tendulkar | Vaughan | Stewart
- Who was man-of-the-match in the second Test between England and India?
Name
Class Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (if any)

Plane wreck memorial for Cronje

AFP, George (South Africa)
The wreck of the plane in which disgraced former South African cricket skipper Hansie Cronje died is being salvaged and will form part of a memorial, a friend of Cronje's says.

Rahman for athletics

Tk 1.36 crore to be spent for Bushan Games

SPORTS REPORTER

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman on Wednesday went against the present sentiment of the whole country by deciding to send an athletics team in the forthcoming Asian Games, starting in Bushan, Korea, from September 29.

Rahman's decision to include three athletes in a 74-member contingent came 21 days after four Bangladeshi athletes defected from the Commonwealth Games in Manchester, England.

While the Athletics Federation (BAAF) was apparently rewarded for brining shame for the country, the sports boss came down hard on hockey by excluding it from the list of nine disciplines.

Rahman approved the big contingent that includes 49 athletes and 25 officials in a coordination meeting at National Sports Council Conference in the afternoon.

It was decided that Bangladesh would take part in eight disciplines. They are shooting, kabadi, football, athletics, swimming, boxing, weightlifting and wrestling.

President of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) Lt Gen Hasan Mashud Chowdhury, BOA secretary general Zafar Imam, secretary for Youth and Sports Nurul Huda, former advisor Mueyed Chowdhury and president and general secretaries of most of the

nine sports federations attended the meeting.

"Hockey was omitted after everybody was convinced that it was not a mandatory event. Besides, hockey has not been included in the next SAF Games", Zafar Imam reasoned after the meeting.

But the BOA secretary general was also reluctant to comment on why they have included events like boxing, wrestling and weightlifting in such a high profile tournament.

In reality Bangladesh stands little chance to win a medal in the Bushan Asiad. There was a high expectation that the sports authority of the country will be selective in sending teams after the bitter experience in Manchester. But Rahman's decision to spend Taka 1.36 crore for the Korean meet appeared like a slap across the face of that expectation.

Taka 1.08 crore would be spent for participation purpose. Rahman also granted Taka 28 lakhs for training.

It was learnt that the football team would include 20 players and five officials, kabadi team consists of 12 players and four officials, shooting team involves six shooters and three officials and three athletes and an official would form the athletics team. Wrestling, weightlifting, swimming and boxing teams will have two athletes and an official each.

Proteas chasing 235



AFP, Tangiers

South Africa shrugged off an early battering to restrict Sri Lanka at 235-7 in the final of Morocco Cup one-day internationals here on Wednesday.

The Sri Lankans appeared set for a massive score when they rode on a run-a-ball 71 by captain Sanath Jayasuriya to reach 167-2 in the 33rd over.

But a middle-order collapse, mainly through reckless strokeplay, saw five wickets tumble for 42 runs and allow South Africa to come back in the game.

Allan Donald, Lance Klusener and Nicky Boje finished with two wickets each as Sri Lanka managed only 43 runs in the last 10 overs.

South Africa, who lost both their league matches to Sri Lanka, face an attainable target of 4.7 an over on the slow wicket to win the champions' purse of 120,000 dollars.

Sri Lanka began on a sound note as Jayasuriya and Marvan Atapattu hammered 78 for the first wicket by the 15th over.

The pair were severe on tall seamer Roger Telemachus, who conceded 36 runs in his first four overs as Sri Lanka raced to 48-0 after just eight overs.

It was left to Donald to break the stand with his fourth delivery as Atapattu flicked uppishly to short mid-wicket where Graeme Smith picked up a low catch.

Jayasuriya hammered 10 boundaries and a six when he lofted left-arm spinner Boje down Donald's throat at long-on.

Boje earned another lucky break as Kumar Sangakkara, who made 40, pulled a lighted ball straight to Boeta Dippenaar on the mid-wicket fence.

Aravinda De Silva, who scored 73 and 77 in the previous games against South Africa without being dismissed, looked in ominous form as he raced to 33.

But a lapse in concentration caused his downfall in the 36th over when he edged a rising ball from Jacques Kallis to wicket-keeper Mark Boucher.

Sri Lanka slipped to 209-7 soon after as Donald trapped Mahela Jayawardena leg-before and Klusener removed Upul Chandana and Russel Arnold in quick succession.

Chaminda Vaas and Muttiah Muralitharan put on a valuable 26 runs for the unbroken eighth wicket to boost the total.

SCOREBOARD

Scorecard of the Sri Lanka innings in the Morocco Cup final against South Africa on Wednesday:

SRI LANKA
Jayasuriya c Donald b Boje 71
Atapattu c Smith b Donald 25
Sangakkara c Dippenaar b Boje 40
De Silva c Boucher b Kallis 33
Jayawardena lbw b Donald 5
Arnold c Gibbs b Klusener 13
Chandana b Klusener 4
Vaas not out 18

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Sri Lankan skipper Sanath Jayasuriya sweeps during the final of the Morocco Cup against South Africa at Tangiers yesterday.

Bowling worry for all

Headingley Test from today



AFP, London

England supporters were understandably fearful in the build-up to the current Test series about the damage India's powerful batting lineup would inflict upon their attack.

But now that England lead the four-match campaign 1-0, despite a host of injuries to their frontline seamers, it is India's bowlers who have been placed under the spotlight ahead of Thursday's third Test at Headingley.

Neither in the 170-run first Test defeat at Lord's nor the drawn second Test at Trent Bridge have India looked like bowling England out twice.

Left-arm quick Zaheer Khan has frequently performed well, albeit often without much luck, but the form of his new-ball partner, and fellow left-armed Ashish Nehra has caused concern.

Nehra's five wickets in the series to date have come at an expensive average of 63.80 and, in the absence of the Test-retired Javagal Srinath, they badly need him to find his form.

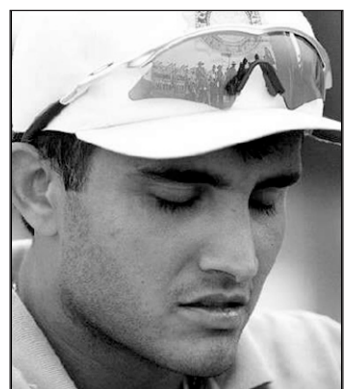
Equally the support bowling has

been a problem. India were handicapped by Anil Kumble's absence due to a calf injury as England piled up 617 at Trent Bridge.

Now, despite Headingley's reputation as a seamer-friendly surface, India may well decide to

And to be fair to the Headingley groundstaff, the quick bowlers have not always been on top in recent seasons.

For example, last year England batsman Mark Butcher played the innings of his life, an unbeaten 173,



SOURAV GANGULY



NASSER HUSSAIN

play both off-spinner Harbhajan Singh and leg-spinner Kumble - their two bowlers of proven world-class.

Even England, who opted for an all seam attack at Trent Bridge, are giving serious consideration to playing left-arm spinner Ashley Giles.

to give Nasser Hussain's side an extraordinary victory over Australia.

India star Sachin Tendulkar spent a season at Headingley as a 19-year-old when he became Yorkshire's first overseas player in 1981.

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FIT FOR AGRICULTURE! The ground at Bangabandhu National Stadium has virtually turned into a paddy field courtesy of rain and the ongoing National Bank Premier Division football league. This photo was taken yesterday.

KCA crush Bang A

SPORTS REPORTER

The touring Bangladesh A team suffered a humiliating 92 run defeat against Kenyan Cricket Association (KCA) in the first limited-over match held at the Rouraka Stadium in Nairobi yesterday.

Chasing a mammoth KCA total of 322 for four, the visitors were restricted to 230 for nine in their allotted 50 overs with skipper Sanwar Hossain making the highest 52.

Opener Rafiqul (41) and middle order Mazharul (34) were the other batsmen who offered some resistance but the second string national side's effort was never going to be a threat to the home side's monumental score.

Earlier the KCA selection rode on a superb 146 from top order batsman Kennedy Otieno to bat out the tourists.

Besides Otieno, star player Steve Tokolo added 36.

Both teams are scheduled to play the next of their three-match limited-over series at the same venue on Saturday.

Ashgar to pick BCB's interim body

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Ali Ashgar has said that he would form a 10-member advisory committee to run the Board for an interim period.

The BCB boss made this announcement after a meeting with the Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman at his secretariat office yesterday.

"We have discussed the legal aspects arising after the high court ruling and the minister gave his consent to form an interim committee. It will now take three or four days to complete the list", said Ashgar.

Ashgar has been alone in charge of the BCB after a Divisional Bench of the High Court comprising Justices MA Aziz and Mohammad Montazuddin suspended the activities of the 30-strong Board of Directors of BCB in a ruling on August 10.

The Court asked why the Clause 12 of the BCB's constitution would not be declared illegal following a petition by Rafiqul Islam, a councillor of Indira Road Kira Chakra club.

West Indies India tour schedule

REUTERS, Bangalore

Bombay, Madras and Calcutta will be the venues for a three-Test series between the touring West Indies and India later this year, the Indian board announced yesterday.

Bombay was chosen over Kanpur to provide India's leading batsman Sachin Tendulkar a home test on his 101st appearance, the board decided at a meeting.

He is set to play his 100th Test in the fourth and final game against England at The Oval next month.

West Indies are also scheduled to play seven one-dayers during the 50-day trip, the first full tour by the

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Row goes brewing

ICC on a sticky wicket



REUTERS, London

The International Cricket Council (ICC) is facing one of its biggest challenges as "player power" threatens to severely damage next month's prestigious ICC Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka and leave the sport in crisis.

Many of the world's top players could be missing from the 12-nation limited overs tournament, regarded as second in importance only to the World Cup, as a result of a dispute over the ICC's controversial "ambush marketing" clause in a contract which must be signed by players before the tournament which starts in Colombo on September 12.

The ICC do not want individual endorsements clashing with the Champions Trophy's commercial partners.

Central to the dispute is the Indian cricket board which has already said it would send a team

without its top stars such as Sachin Tendulkar and skipper Saurav Ganguly if the ICC do not relax its stance.

Agreeing to the ICC contract would effectively mean that the likes of Tendulkar, Ganguly and emerging batsman Virender Sehwag and Rahul Dravid would have to ditch lucrative personal sponsorship deals for the duration of the tournament.

If no compromise is found, next year's World Cup could also be tarnished by the non-participation of the world's top players.

The ICC strongly rejects claims that it is ignoring the rights of players, but is determined to protect its commercial partners from the growing threat of "ambush marketing" by rival companies.

The national cricket boards agreed to the ICC contract in 2000, allowing the ICC to clinch a 550 million US dollar rights agreement with Global Cricket Corporation for its events through until 2007.

Under the terms of the contract,

the Global Cricket Corporation would be able to sell the rights for individual events to sponsors who in turn would be protected from "ambush marketing".

Cricket's most famous case of "ambush marketing" came in the 1996 World Cup in the sub-continent, when Pepsi fought back against Coca Cola - an official sponsor - by flying huge air-balloons with their logo on the edge of match venues.

Players who sign the clause agree not to endorse the products of rival companies 30 days either side of ICC events but, in India particularly where player endorsements are extremely lucrative, it has major financial implications.

Almost the entire India squad, which is preparing for the third Test against England at Headingley, has rejected the ICC's ambush marketing clause.

"It was unanimously decided that come what may India cannot default and the selection committee should be asked to identify 20

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US Open

Serena, Hewitt best bets



AFP, New York

Australian Lleyton Hewitt and American Serena Williams were named the top seeds on Tuesday for the US Open Tennis Championship, the final Grand Slam tournament of the year which starts on Monday.

Hewitt will try to become the first man since Patrick Rafter in 1997 and 1998 to defend his US Open crown. The world No. 1, Hewitt captured his second career Grand Slam title in July at Wimbledon.

Williams, the current world No. 1 and reigning French Open and Wimbledon champion, will try to become the first woman to capture three Grand Slam titles in the same year since Martina Hingis in 1997.

The 20-year-old Williams, who captured her first Grand Slam title here in 1999, halted Hingis' streak of five consecutive US Opens at which

she was the top seed. Hingis is seeded ninth this year.

Americans occupy the top four women's seeds.



LLEYTON HEWITT



SERENA WILLIAMS

In the women's draw, two-time defending champion Venus Williams - Serena's sister - received the No. 2 seed and is followed by fellow Americans Jennifer Capriati and Lindsay Davenport. This marks the first time since 1983 that

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Biman AB Bank TT champs

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Biman clinched the AB Bank Metropolitan Senior Division Table Tennis League title beating Wari Club 3-0 in the last match at the NSC Wooden Floor Gymnasium yesterday.

Azimpur Young Star TTS bagged the women's crown with all-win record defeating Biman Red team 3-2 in the concluding match at the same venue.

In the Metropolitan First Division League, the Elephant Road outfit Ajax SC lifted the league title, also with all-win run, beating Khelaghar SKS 3-2 to earn promotion to the Senior Division League.

Wari Club, Biman Red team and Dhaka Mariner Youngs Club finished runners-up respectively.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman was the chief guest and distributed the prizes.

Managing Director of the League sponsor AB Bank Limited Abu Hanif Khan was also present on the occasion.



Biman players hold the winner's trophy after beating Wari Club in the AB Bank Metropolitan Senior Division Table Tennis League last match yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR