



Did U Know?

An unheralded Ken Norton break made the headlines across the world by breaking the famous jaw of legendary boxer Muhammad Ali.



What to WATCH

ESPN
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Repeat at 6:30 am
England vs India
Third Test, Day One
Repeat at 8:30 am
England vs India
Third Test, Day Two
Live at 4:00 pm

STAR Sports
English Premier Football League
Newcastle United vs West Ham United
Taped Version at 12:00 pm
England vs India
Third Test, Day One
Highlights
Same day Delay at 2:00 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
Zimbabwe vs West Indies
Sixth ODI, Highlights
Repeat at 9:30 pm



Pete Sampras
(American tennis legend)
"At the end of next year, I'll see where it's all at and then make a decision."
On his retirement.

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 Sarwar 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)



National Bank Premier Football League
Abahani vs Arambagh (5:00 pm)
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Hopes for hockey

Rahman has a change of heart

SPORTS REPORTER

The National Sports Council (NSC) appears set to reconsider its Wednesday's decision to omit hockey team from the Asian Games contingent. NSC chairman and State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman seemingly had a change of heart when players at the national camp yesterday surprised him with an unexpected visit and submitted a letter of their protest.

Led by national captain Russell Khan Bappy, 26 stick-wielders, who are in the Asian Games camp for the last two months, went to the NSC gymnasium where the sports boss was attending the prize giving ceremony of 15th National Junior Wrestling Championship as chief guest.

Unprepared for the situation, the state minister quickly tackled the situation by asking the players to go back to the camp and to continue training.

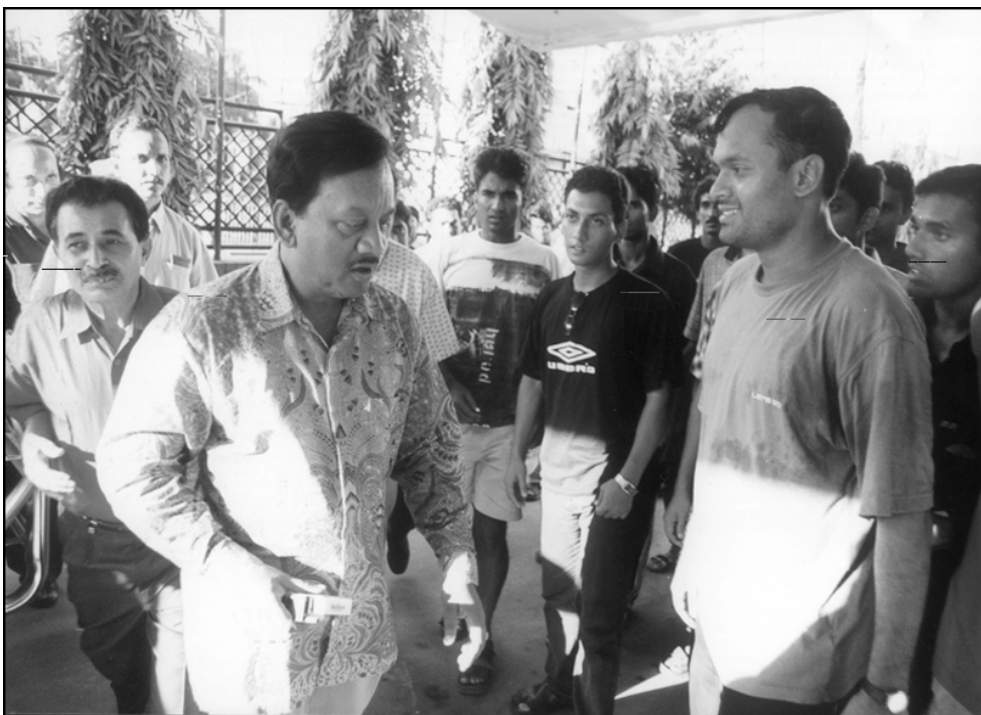
When the players asked what was the point of continuing camp as decision was made to exclude hockey, Rahman asked them again to go back to the camp saying it was not yet finalised whether hockey team would go or not.

Rahman, in a joint-meeting on Wednesday, decided to drop hockey from the Asian Games.

He however went on to inform the players yesterday that a final decision would be taken in the next meeting of Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) on Saturday.

"We reached a consensus in the last meeting about not sending the hockey team in Busan since we don't have hockey event in the SAF Games. It was not a final decision though," said Rahman while talking to a group of reporters at his NSC office later.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



WHO'S THE BOSS? (L) State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman assuring national hockey captain Russell Khan Bappy and his fellow players in front of the National Sports Council (NSC) office yesterday that he would reconsider the decision of not sending the hockey team to the Asian Games. The players went to the NSC to submit a memorandum to Rahman. While the players were returning to their training camp they were confronted by National Sports Council director Maj. (Retd) Enamul Haque (R) who allegedly abused them verbally and threatened them of dire consequences if they left the camp in future to press home any demand.



PHOTO: STAR

Dravid, Bangar defy Eng

Cricket

AFP, Leeds

India pair Sanjay Bangar and Rahul Dravid wrested the initiative from England's bowlers on the first day of the third Test here at Headingley on Thursday.

At tea India were 132 for one off 57 overs with Bangar, in his first Test of the series, and Dravid both 51 not out - an unbroken stand of 117.

India had started the session on 58 for one with Bangar 22 not out and Dravid unbeaten on 17.

Runs were still coming slowly but both batsmen looked increasingly assured, especially when England's attack was misdirected.

Dravid took advantage turning both Andrew Flintoff and Andrew Caddick, back in the team following a side strain, off his legs for four.

Then a single into the covers off the accurate Alex Tudor, recalled after shin splints, took Dravid to 30 and meant that, in his 63rd match, he had become the seventh Indian to score 5,000 Test runs.

But England did see numerous deliveries beat the bat, Tudor's 14 overs costing just 17 runs and including eight maidens.

However, Bangar and Dravid pressed on, their hundred partnership coming off 273 balls.

But Dravid, on 40, appeared fortunate to survive an lbw appeal from England quick Matthew Hoggard with replays suggesting Sri Lankan umpire Asoka de Silva may have erred.

England eventually varied their previously all seam attack with the introduction of left-arm spinner Ashley Giles in the 50th over.

Giles, omitted from the side that drew the second Test at Trent

Bridge, did not succeed where speed had failed, Dravid on-driving him for a textbook boundary.

Bangar then brought up a persevering fifty with a quick single off Tudor, although had Michael Vaughan's throw from the covers hit the stumps at the bowler's end he would have been run out by a distance.

Nevertheless Bangar had more than justified his selection ahead of dropped opener Wasim Jaffer, his half-century coming from 166 balls including seven fours, in an innings

that had then lasted 229 mins. The more experienced Dravid then reached his fifty with a single off Giles, having faced 153 balls including six fours.

Earlier India captain Sourav Ganguly won the toss and, despite overcast skies favouring seam bowling, elected to bat first.

But it was not long before his side lost their first wicket. In the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4



Indian opener Sanjay Bangar evades a rising delivery on the opening day of the third Test against England at Headingley yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Australians relent

Cricket

REUTERS, Sydney

World champions Australia have said they will send a full-strength squad to next month's ICC Champions Trophy after negotiations with the country's leading players' body over sponsorship.

A mass boycott of the prestigious event, being held in Sri Lanka, had become a real danger as leading players around the world refused to back down in the row with cricket authorities over sponsorship rights.

Players from all leading Test nations have yet to sign International Cricket Council (ICC) contracts for

the tournament because of a clause preventing them from endorsing products other than those of the official sponsors.

The ICC had remained firm in its resolve to retain the "ambush marketing" provisions for ICC events, including next year's World Cup in South Africa, to protect official tournament sponsors.

Australian Cricket Board (ACB) chairman James Sutherland said the Board had talked with the Australian Cricketers' Association (ACA) and the players were happy to sign the contracts on the guarantee that the ICC would consult their representative groups on future sponsorship deals.

Sutherland said the ICC had approved that guarantee in principle and that he expected the council's

board to approve it at its meeting next week as "a mere formality".

"In finding resolution, we are acknowledging the significant investment the ICC's commercial partners have made in cricket and we have worked to balance this with the interests and concerns of Australian players," Sutherland said in a statement.

ACA chief executive Tim May said he hoped the Australian agreement would provide a solution to the problems facing other leading cricketing nations.

"We believe that this template will provide solutions that can be used by all countries to end this dispute and to ensure that the

SEE PAGE 15 COL 4

Cute handball

UNB, Dhaka

Arambagh KS, Narinda Progati Boys Club and Bangladesh Rifles won their respective matches in the Cute Premier Division Handball League at the court next to the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Arambagh beat Old Ideals 20-15 goals after leading the first half 10-8. Sajal and Likhon scored four goals each for the winners while Tareq netted five and Murshed four for the losers.

Narinda Progati Boys Club smashed Dhaka Wanderers Club 22-8 after dominating the first half 12-8 goals. Khokon scored six for Narinda while Ashis seven goals for Wanderers.

Bangladesh Rifles defeated Menjis Kirra Chakra 35-24 after leading the first half 21-11 goals. Saidur netted nine, Jahangir six for the winners while Hanif 10 and Sunny five for the losers.

READERS' ZONE

Equip 'em first

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

During the 80s our main competitor in regional sports events like the South Asian Federation (SAF) Games was India. But with the passage of time, now even India has progressed in leaps and bounds. In contrast Bangladesh still remains as it were more than two decades ago.

The difference between the two countries was clearly visible at the last SAF Games held in Kathmandu, Nepal. In the Olympics too our country's athletes have never been able among the medals!

Recently we won our second ever

gold medal at the Commonwealth Games when young shooter Asif Hossain Khan brought home glory. Asif's achievement came 12 years after Atiqur Rahman and Abdus Sattar Nini did so.

It was learnt that the air rifle Asif used to capture gold was an ancient one. Whereas the Indians, who won 22 golds, were all properly equipped! Only after his achievement, did the Bangladesh Olympic Association decide to present Asif a modern gun worth 1,200 dollars.

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Football back at BNS

SPORTS REPORTER

Holders Abahani Krira Chakra take on Arambagh Krira Sangha as the National Bank Premier Division Football League resumes today after another three-day unscheduled recess.

The elite 10-team league, which has been put on a state of 'on-and-off' due to unplayable ground condition at the Bangabandhu National Stadium, kicks off at its usual time of 5 pm.

With the completion of five rounds Mohammedan Sporting Club lead the standings with maximum 15 points. The popular Motijheel side are enjoying a slender two-point lead over arch-rivals Abahani and former champions Muktijodha Sangsad Krira Chakra. Arambagh and newcomers Badda Jagarani follow the 'big three' with eight points apiece followed by Dhanmondi Club and Rahmatganj Muslim Friends Society who are on five and four respectively.

At the other end of the table three teams -- Brothers Union, Farashganj SC and Victoria SC are stuck on three points each.

Rahman gives Asghar option

SPORTS REPORTER

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman said on Thursday that he would advise Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Ali Asghar to run the Board activities with the help of a shadow committee if any legal bar prevented the formation of an interim committee.

The state minister was commenting on a newspaper report that said Asghar would soon be forming an interim committee within a few days after the High Court on August 10 suspended all activities of the BCB's Board of Directors for two months.

"If an interim committee cannot be formed then, I will ask him (Asghar) to hold elections with the help of some cricket organisers without making it official," Rahman said.

On Wednesday Asghar said that he been given the go-ahead by the sports boss to form a 10-member advisory committee.

When asked whether the members of the interim committee, if formed to hold the BCB election, would be allowed to contest in the polls, Rahman was unable to comment.

Siraj juvenile soccer begins today

CU CORRESPONDENT

Madarbari Muktakantha will take on Monir Chairman Smriti Sangsad in the opening match of the Siraj Mahanagari Kishore Football League at the Dampara Police Lines ground in the port city today.

A total of 20 teams, divided into four groups, will play in the first round. The champions and the runners-up of each group will vie with each other in the quarterfinals. The group champions will play in the semifinals.

Zafur Islam Chowdhury, State Minister for Environment and Forestry will inaugurate the tournament as chief guest.

Chittagong Mohanagari Krira Sangstha (CMKS) in association with the Elite Paint Group of Companies will organise the tour

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Robin India's skipper?

Dalmiya's 'double bluff'

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

All-rounder Robin Singh is likely to captain a second-string Indian team for next month's ICC Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka following a contract row with top players, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Thursday.

Robin, a 39-year-old veteran of 136 one-day internationals and a solitary Test, heads a pack of 25 probables consisting largely of players who have had short previous stints in international cricket.

Prasad are other experienced players shortlisted by selectors, PTI quoted Indian board sources as saying.

The Indian board has been refusing to announce the probabilities though it confirmed Wednesday it had finalised a list of 25 following the impasse with members of the team currently touring England.

Batting stars Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid are among those who refused to sign the contract that says players cannot have endorsement deals that are in conflict with the ICC sponsors.

Most Indian players have individual endorsement deals that clash

with sponsors of the upcoming event being organised by the sport's world governing body at Colombo from September 12.

The board though has kept its options open by not setting a deadline for the cricketers to sign their contracts.

"The offer is still open," said board chief Jagmohan Dalmiya Wednesday. "We're in touch with our players in England to resolve this issue. But no time-frame has been set for signing the contract."

Board officials are reportedly still awaiting confirmation from state associations about the players' availability, after which the contract forms will be sent to them.

Reuters adds: Indian selectors have left the door open for their top players to compete in the tournament after selecting a squad of 25 "probables".

"There is no deadline for anything. I am willing to negotiate with the players on whether a solution can be found," Dalmiya said but ruled out talking to any of their representatives.

The Indian players have chosen former skipper Ravi Shastri to talk to the BCCI on their behalf, but Dalmiya said: "I do not know on whose behalf he is making these statements."

In Wednesday's Daily Telegraph Shastri said: "The board can pick and send a second-rung team to Sri Lanka if it wants, but the players will

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



JAGMOHAN DALMIYA



ROBIN SINGH

Apart from Robin, seamers Javagal Srinath and Venkatesh

ual endorsement deals that clash with sponsors of the upcoming

Sanath doubtful

Cricket

AFP/REUTERS, Tangiers

Sri Lankan captain Sanath Jayasuriya has only a "50-50" chance of playing in the International Cricket Council's Champions Trophy which Sri Lanka host from September

12, according to team physiotherapist Alex Kontouri.

He dislocated his right shoulder when he fell to the ground while taking a catch off Herschelle Gibbs in the Morocco Cup final.

Jayasuriya was immediately rushed to hospital where X-rays revealed the dislocation and torn ligaments in the shoulder.

"Sanath will have more tests

when we get back to Colombo to determine how long he will have to stay out of the game," Kontouri said.

"He is a fighter and a very quick healer so you never know. But the worst case scenario for this kind of injury might be 12 weeks out of the game."

But the injury failed to dampen Jayasuriya's delight at bagging another one-day title.

"It was disappointing but we won the tournament which was the main objective of coming here."

"Marvan (Atapattu) has played a lot of cricket so I was not worried about the team."

Asked about his prospects following his injury, Sri Lanka's captain said: "It is too early to say."

"I will have more scans when I get home on Friday and we will know more then. It was dislocated on the field but I put it back in -- it is just very swollen now."

"I was eager to get out there and bowl, but Alex would not allow it," he said.

The injury is similar to the one Sri Lankan star spinner Muttiah Muralitharan sustained during a one-day match in Sharjah in April, which kept him out of the game for a month.

Sri Lanka's next assignment after the Champions Trophy is a two-Test tour of South Africa in October.

A disappointed South African captain Shaun Pollock attributed the defeat to bad batting.

"We lost too many wickets at the start," he said.

"I know this is only the start of the World Cup season, but it is always disappointing to lose a final."

"Hopefully we will sort out everything by the time the World Cup comes around at home in February."

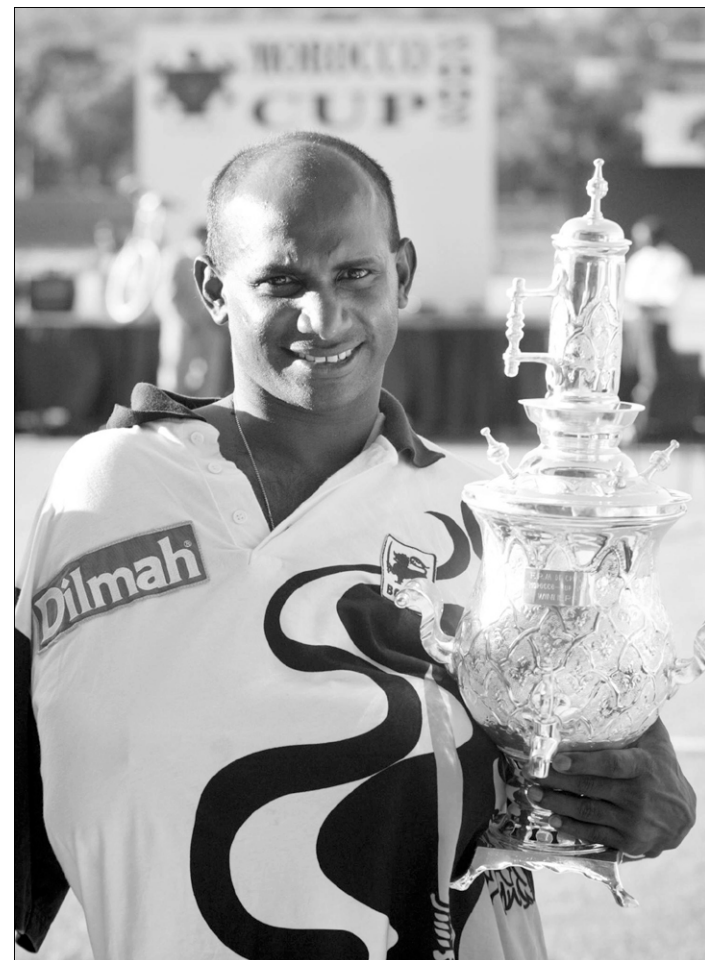


PHOTO: AFP

NO PAIN NO GAIN: Sri Lankan skipper Sanath Jayasuriya holds the Morocco Cup with his arm in a sling after the final against South Africa.