



Did U Know?

Football superstar Ronaldo was a part of Brazil's 1994 FIFA World Cup winning squad. However the then 17-year-old Ronaldo was never used in the whole tournament by coach Carlos Alberto Parreira.



ESPN
Western World Football
Repeat at 9:00 am
England vs India
Third Test, Day 1
Highlights
Repeat at 9:30 am
English Premier Football League
Liverpool vs Southampton
Repeat at 11:00 am
English Premier Football League
Birmingham City vs Leeds United
Live at 4:55 pm
&
Sunderland vs Man United
Live at 7:55 pm
Primera Liga
Racing vs Valladolid
Live at 12:30 am (Sunday)
STAR Sports
Football Asia
Taped Version at 10:00 am
Harsha Online
Cricket Talk Show
Repeat at 7:30 pm
US Open
Men's/Women's 3rd Rd
Live at 8:30 pm



Sachin Tendulkar
(Indian cricket superstar)
"I am worried about what I need to do rather than worry about what people write about me."

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 179
Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm Sept 13, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who won the Cote d'Ivoire Premier Division football title?
BDR Mariner Ajax
- Who became man-of-the-match in the 3rd Test between England and India?
D r a v i d Tendulkar Kumble
- Who won New Haven Open tennis title?
Venus Hingis Serena
- Who are the current English Premier League champions?
Arsenal Man Utd Liverpool
- Who is the new French national soccer coach?
Santini Metsu Hiddink

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

WHIZZ KID-178 winner
Md. Tarek Hasan
(Narayanpur High School, Matlab, Chandpur)
Please produce your ID card and an attested passport size photograph while collecting the winner's prize from the Sports Desk

Ten months, zero exploit



AL-AMIN

It is exactly nine months and five days since Ali Asghar took up the mantle of Bangladesh cricket.

But with his chaotic debut as president of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) at a meeting of directors on November 28 last year, the BNP lawmaker from Khulna has been battling to keep his much-demanding home in order.

Taking up the challenge of fulfilling the high expectations of the nation and maintaining the lofty standard set by his dynamic predecessor Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Asghar has failed so far to deliver any effective guideline for the Test newcomers.

The activities of Board and the rise index of cricket as a whole dived to all time low, responsibility of which goes to none other than Asghar.

WorldTel, the official broadcaster of Bangladesh's international home matches, expressed its reluctance to cover two series against Zimbabwe and Pakistan. The low turnout of spectators in both series contributed to a heavy financial loss. His domestic agenda like raising the standard of the National League, development of cricket at different age groups

and setting up of an infrastructure according to the master plan of former Director of Coaching Eddie Barlow has lacked both conviction and motivation.

A man who is driven by compulsion rather than logic, Asghar did



ALI ASGHAR

not bother to give a second thought while sacking Australian Trevor Chappell as Bangladesh coach. On the other hand, he had an unconvincing answer ready for the media when he appointed former Pakistan pacesetter Mohsin Kamal as new national team coach.

When Asghar named Arafat Rahman as chairman of BCB's development committee in place of Saber Hossain many suspected it was a politically motivated decision.

His stand on the issue of the Bangabandhu National Stadium, which has been the bone of contention for years between cricket and football over its possession, has also put his judgement into question.

With his arrival on the cricket scene Asghar has established a 'one man rule', taking all the decisions by himself bypassing the standard rules of procedure.

He has so far conducted only two Board meetings when precedence demanded a meeting almost every month. His non-interaction with Board directors, except for a few, only exposed that he is not a firm believer of democratic process.

The recent High Court ruling that suspended the activities of the Board of Directors and gave him absolute authority has, shockingly though, served the purpose of Asghar.

After going through his recent statements regarding the formation of an interim committee, it is not hard for one to understand that Asghar is only playing a waiting game in an effort to reintroduce ad-hocism.

The regressive approach of Asghar might prove beneficial to some, but not for the game.

Bangladesh's Test status is being questioned all around following a succession of embarrassing defeats. Thankfully, the ICC decided not to review

Bangladesh's elevation, which many think premature.

For the last ten months our cricket activities are confined to the BCB's management office at Gulshan. And Asghar's indifferent attitude towards the role of standing committees brought the Board mechanism to a standstill.

His decision to ignore the Board sentiment over the issue of appointing Mohsin Kamal as Bangladesh coach has already adversely affected the spirit of the national team. Asghar is hardly aware of the quips and quotes that are being exchanged among the players and officials about his 'qualified coach'.

It is understandable that Asghar needs his own set of people to run the Board. Speculation is rife that Asghar has chosen cricket organisers like Mahabubul Anam, Arafat Rahman, Afzalur Rahman, Nurul Kabir Shaheen, Aziz Al Kaiser, Munna and Tanjib Ahsan Saad to form an advisory committee.

Unlike others, we do not want to brand them as political choices because most of them are working as cricket organisers for a long time.

But two questions are sure to crop up; why did Asghar wait so long to find his favorite men as majority of them were working under the previous Board. And how will he justify the Board's inactivity for nearly ten precious months under his reign?

Aussie blow Pak away



BBC, Nairobi

World champions Australia began their build-up towards next year's tournament in South Africa by thrashing one of their chief rivals at the Gymkhana Club ground on Friday.

Inspired by opener Matthew Hayden's brilliant innings of 146, they ran through Pakistan's batting line-up in just 36 overs, with Jason Gillespie taking five for 22.

Pakistan skipper Waqar Younis was left to rue his decision to put Australia in as Hayden hit six sixes and 12 fours in his 128-ball innings.

Set 333 for victory, Pakistan lost their first four wickets with only 13 on the board and the tail was swept away by Gillespie after Azhar Mahmood had held Australia up with 32.

Pakistan made one change to the side, which beat Kenya in the opening game of the competition with all-rounder Malik replacing Inzamam Haq, who has a knee problem.

Australia chose to omit their fastest bowler, Brett Lee, but still had plenty of seam options with Andy Bichel and Shane Watson backing up Glenn McGrath and Jason Gillespie.

Adam Gilchrist gave them a flying start with four early boundaries but he perished in the ninth over for 21 when Wasim Akram had him caught by Azhar Mahmood.

The setback did not disturb their momentum, however, with skipper Ricky Ponting collecting two sixes and seven fours in his 65 from 72 balls as he put on 128 with Hayden.

Ponting gave Shahid Afridi a return catch in the 29th over and the leg-spinner also removed Damien Martyn for 12, but Jimmy Maher weighed in with 35 while fellow Queenslander Hayden dominated proceedings at the other end.

Hayden raced past the 111 he made in India last year before finally

being caught by Malik off Akram, who finished with two for 62 from his 10 overs.

Pakistan were soon in trouble in reply as Gillespie dismissed Imran Nazir and Afridi in the space of three balls in his opening over.

New ball partner Glenn McGrath was not to be outdone and he

Scoreboard in the triangular one-day series match between Australia and Pakistan on Friday:

AUSTRALIA	Gilchrist c Mahmood b Akram	21
	Hayden c S. Malik b Akram	146
	Ponting c Afridi b Afridi	65
	Martyn b Afridi	12



PHOTO: AFP

RUN MACHINE: Australian opening batsman Matthew Hayden whacks the ball during the tri-series match against Pakistan in Nairobi yesterday.

bowled Abdul Razzaq for five and trapped Saeed Anwar lbw for three to finish with figures of two for 11 from six overs.

Younis Khan was next to go, caught behind off Shane Warne for 13, and they were 67 for six when Malik (25) edged a ball from Andy Bichel to wicketkeeper Gilchrist.

Youngster Shane Watson struck a vital blow with the wicket of Mahmood and Pakistan only just managed to scrape past 100 before Gillespie wrapped things up.

On Sunday Pakistan play Kenya. The final is on September 7.

Maher c Razzaq b W. Younis	35			
Bevan not out	8			
Watson not out	10			
Extras: (b-1, lb-13, w-17, nb-4)	35			
Total: (For 5 wickets in 50 overs)	332			
Fall of wickets: 1-46, 2-174, 3-192, 4-314, 5-316				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Akram	10	0	58	2
Waqar	10	0	60	1
Razzaq	3	0	26	0
Akhtar	5	0	45	0
Mahmood	6	0	42	0
Afridi	10	0	56	2
Malik	6	0	31	0

SCOREBOARD

ICC softens stance



AFP, New Delhi

India's embattled cricket chiefs on Friday received unexpected support from the sport's world governing body as the sponsorship row headed towards a weekend climax.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) agreed to India's request to put off Friday's deadline for naming the Champions Trophy squad till its views had been heard at the ICC's executive board meeting in Dubai on Saturday and Sunday.

India is the only one among the 12 nations taking part in next month's limited-overs tournament in Sri Lanka not to have finalised the squad after its top players refused to sign the controversial sponsorship agreement.

The players say they do not accept the clause which prohibits them from endorsing products that clash with the interests of official sponsors of the ICC's Champions Trophy and the World Cup for 30

days before and after the events.

"The ICC understood it was not possible for us to name our team till the players' views had been heard," said a senior official of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

"We have been given time till after BCCI president Jagmohan Dalmiya takes up the matter at the ICC's executive board meeting."

The ICC, headed by Australia's Malcolm Marshall, will hear the compromise formula put forward by the Indian players currently touring England.

The Indians have offered to play in the Champions Trophy "for the sake of cricket" without signing the sponsorship agreement. They said they will urge their personal sponsors not to advertise during the course of the 18-day tournament.

India's star batsman Sachin Tendulkar, regarded as the richest cricketer in the world with personal endorsements worth an estimated 20 million dollars, defended the players' stand.

where the tourists are playing a three-day match.

"It is a question of the team and also the future of other players. We have had many discussions on the subject and are still open to talks with the BCCI."

Dalmiya will place before the ICC's executive board a letter sent to the BCCI by captain Sourav Ganguly and signed by the entire team.

The letter says: "With reference to the various discussions that we have been having in the past, let us reiterate that we are committed to play for our country."

"However, we find ourselves in a situation where the Player Terms that we are asked to sign at this late stage commercially affects us and has resulted in a situation brought about without consultation and with which we have serious issues."

The letter again stressed the players' desire to play in the Champions Trophy without agreeing to the relevant sponsorship clauses.

"We would be willing, only with regard to the Champions Trophy

Div II Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Fourteen teams won their respective matches on the opening day of the Second Division Chess League at the NSC chess room yesterday.

In the inaugural round, Uttara Daba Sangha beat Promise 4-0, Hazaribagh Friendship beat Aparajeyo Bangladesh 4-0, Rajshahi Daba Unnayan beat Fighter Blues 4-0, Dolphin Chess Club beat Drishti Protibondhi Daba Dal 4-0, Crescent Club beat Notre Dame 4-0, Bangladesh Deaf Sports Association beat Biplab Sangha 4-0, pallabi beat Friendship Welfare 4-0, Pubali Bank beat Chess Academy 4-0, Sheikhkh Jubo Sangha beat Dhamrai 3.5-0.5 and Uttara Central beat Aga Khan School by 3-1 points.

The second round starts at the same venue today at 3 pm.

Chess Olympiad tourney next Thursday

UNB, Dhaka

The Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF) will organise a tournament beginning next Thursday for the Olympiad-bound players.

The 35th Olympiad will be held in Slovenia from October 25 to November 11.

"We want to provide an opportunity for our players to gain some practice. There will also be prize-money on offer," said Chess Federation general secretary Syed Shujauddin Ahmed yesterday.

"But whether we compete in the Olympiad depends on the NSC decision of financial support. We require Taka 11,90,000 for the tournament," Shujauddin said.

Grand Masters Niaz Murshed, Ziaur Rahman, International Masters Reefat-bin-Satter, Abdullah-Al-Rakib and Enamul Haque Rajib and Sheikh Nasir Ahmed will take part in the men's competition.

Four ladies Shabana Parveen Nipa, International Women's Master Rani Hamid, Zakia Sultana and Afroza Khanum Babli will be representing Bangladesh.

He also informed that the BCF are likely to hold a rating tournament from first week of October.

WI players reach agreement

REUTERS, St John's

West Indies' players have agreed to play in the ICC Champions Trophy next month following talks to end a controversial sponsorship row, the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) announced on Friday.



National Bank Premier Football League
Dhanmondi vs Badda Jagarani (5:00 pm)
Venue: BNS



PHOTO: STAR

Arambagh's Kamrul (top) leaps above everybody to head home during the National Bank Premier Division League match against Victoria at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Arambagh on course



SPORTS REPORTER

Arambagh Krira Sangha kept their hopes alive for a berth in the Super Five phase with an easy 3-1 win over Victoria Sporting Club in the National Bank Premier Division Football League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 1-0.

In a one-sided affair, Arambagh's Kenyan striker Akimo Oinu struck twice while Kamrul added the other one while Al-Amin pulled one back for Victoria through a penalty.

In the day's other match Brothers Union defeated Farashganj 2-1.

Arambagh took the lead in the opening five minutes with Oinu scoring his first League goal.

The Kenyan overcame Victoria's offside trap during a counter-attack and then dodged passed an advancing goalkeeper Tareq before placing the ball home with a right foot shot.

Kamrul made it 2-0 with a 66th minute header from a Kamal corner.

The Victorians tried to launch comeback when they earned a penalty following Kamrul's foul on Sharif inside the box in the 68th minute. And Al-Amin duly converted.

However Oinu put the issue beyond doubt with his second goal after capitalising on a Tanvir pass at the stroke of the long whistle.

With was Arambagh's third win in seven matches it placed them at the

fourth spot with 11 points on the other hand Victoria suffered their fourth defeat in seven matches. They are in the bottom half with six points.

Yellow cards: Oinu (Arambagh) and Polo (Victoria).

TEAMS
ARAMBAGH KS: Himu, Kallol, Shahin, Biplab, Hasan, Kamal, Bidyut, Saiful, Tanvir, Don (Apu) and Oinu.
VICTORIA SC: Tareq, Govinda, Shipon, Jet, Al-Amin, Arman, Kaiser, Rahel, Polo, Abul and Sohad (Sharif).

Referee: Maruf Sikder.

BROTHERS-2 FARASHGANJ-1
After ending the first half 1-1, SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

Axe falls on Kirsten



REUTERS, Johannesburg

Veteran opener Gary Kirsten has been dropped from the South African squad to play in the ICC Champions Trophy in Sri Lanka next month.

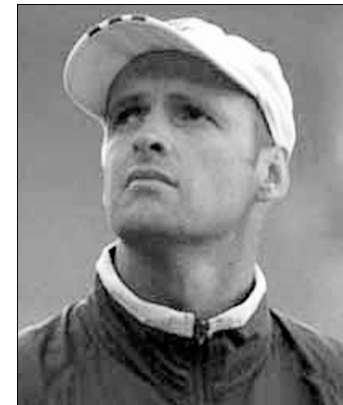
Kirsten was named in the original squad, announced while South Africa were playing in the Morocco Cup in Tangier earlier this month.

However, his paltry return of 58 runs from three matches in that tournament, 55 of them scored in one innings, has cost him his place in the side after 177 one-day internationals.

Kirsten, 34, faces the prospect of winning back his place before the World Cup, in February and March next year, by way of domestic matches and if he is selected for South Africa A in the seven one-day

games they will play against a touring Australia A team in September.

"We feel that Gary has a better



GARY KIRSTEN

chance of batting his way back into the mainstream playing in home

conditions against Australia A than he would in Sri Lanka," selection convenor Omar Henry said in a United Cricket Board (UCB) statement.

Kirsten was named in the South Africa A squad announced on Thursday to play in the first three games against Australia A.

Medium pacer Roger Telemachus was also axed from the Champions Trophy squad although his omission was "a precautionary measure for medical reasons", the UCB release said. Telemachus looked out of condition in Morocco, taking three wickets at 48.66 and conceding 7.30 runs an over.

Kirsten's place in the South African squad is taken by middle order batsman Dale Benkenstein, a former South Africa A captain who has played 20 one-day internationals. Swing bowler Alan Dawson, who has four one-day caps, comes in for Telemachus. SEE PAGE 15 COL 7

Yevgeny departs



AFP, New York

Down a set, struggling through a tiebreak in the second, Monica Seles summoned shots from

another time and moved on to play tennis for at least one more day at the US Open.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov, however, ran out of days in this tournament.

Seles joined other players in sitting through a five-hour rain delay before taking the court Thursday. While most of the other stars zipped

through their matches, the sixth-seeded Seles got into big trouble against Barbara Schwartz before pulling out a 1-6, 7-6, 6-2 victory.

Kafelnikov, seeded No. 4, never got out of trouble against long-time nemesis Dominik Hrbaty, losing 6-3, 6-1, 6-1. He was so depressed afterward he talked about retiring.

The Open's heavy hitters were out in force, if more than a little delayed by the weather. Straight set winners were No. 3 Jennifer Capriati, 6-4, 6-2 over Tina Pisnik; No. 4 Lindsay Davenport, who completed a suspended 6-4, 6-2 victory over Petra Mandula; No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt, 7-6, 6-4, 6-1 over Noam Okun; and No. 6 Andre Agassi, 6-0, 6-1, 6-1 over Justin Gimelstob.

For Seles, it was more complicated. Schwartz took her game apart in the first set, losing just one game, winning the set in 22 minutes.

"I came out flat," Seles said. What's more, Schwartz had beaten her in their last meeting at the Fed Cup. It was not the best of circumstances, even when Seles forced a tiebreak in the second set. At 5-5, the two-time Open champion was two points from defeat.

And then the National Tennis Center crowd decided it wanted Seles around a little longer. It began urging her with the kind of verve it once heaped on aging stars like Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert.

It worked. Seles reversed the flow, won the last two points of the tiebreak to get back in the match and cruised through the last set.

"The crowd pulled me through big-time," Seles said. "I could have SEE PAGE 15 COL 2

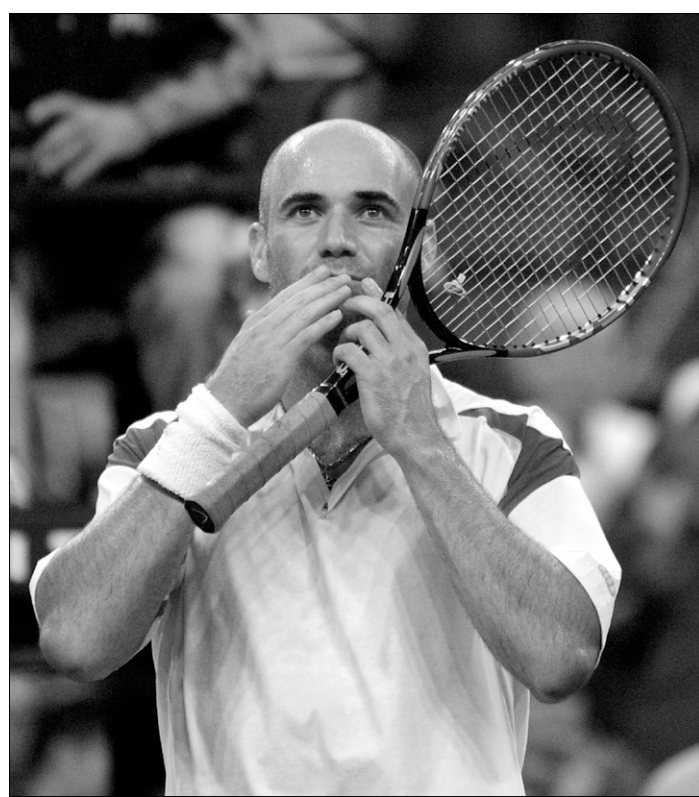


PHOTO: AFP

Andre Agassi blows kisses to the crowd after beating Justin Gimelstob 6-0, 6-1, 6-1 on Thursday.