



Did U Know?

India played their first ever Test match in 1933-34. And Bombay Gymkhana was the proud host of that historic Test.



What to WATCH

ESPN England vs India Fourth Test, Day Three Repeat at 8:30 am Cricket Programming Super Selector Repeat at 1:30 pm Western Union World Football Repeat at 3:00 pm England vs India Fourth Test, Day Four Live at 4:00 pm

STAR Sports

US Open Women's Singles Final Live at 7:00 am Cricket Programming Super Selector Repeat at 10:30 am England vs India Fourth Test, Day Three Highlights Same Day Delay at 2:00 pm Harsha Online Cricket Talk Show Repeat at 3:30 pm US Open Men's Singles Final & Ladies Doubles Final Live at 10:30 pm



Mohammad Ali Qamar

(India's C'wealth Games boxing gold winner) 'I would love to get an Olympic

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

1. Who won the Cote D'Ivoire Premier Division football title? BDR | Mariner | Ajax

2. Who became man-of-the-match in the 3rd Test between England and India? D | R | V | I | D Tendulkar | Kumble

3. Who won New Haven Open tennis title? Venus | Hingis | Serena

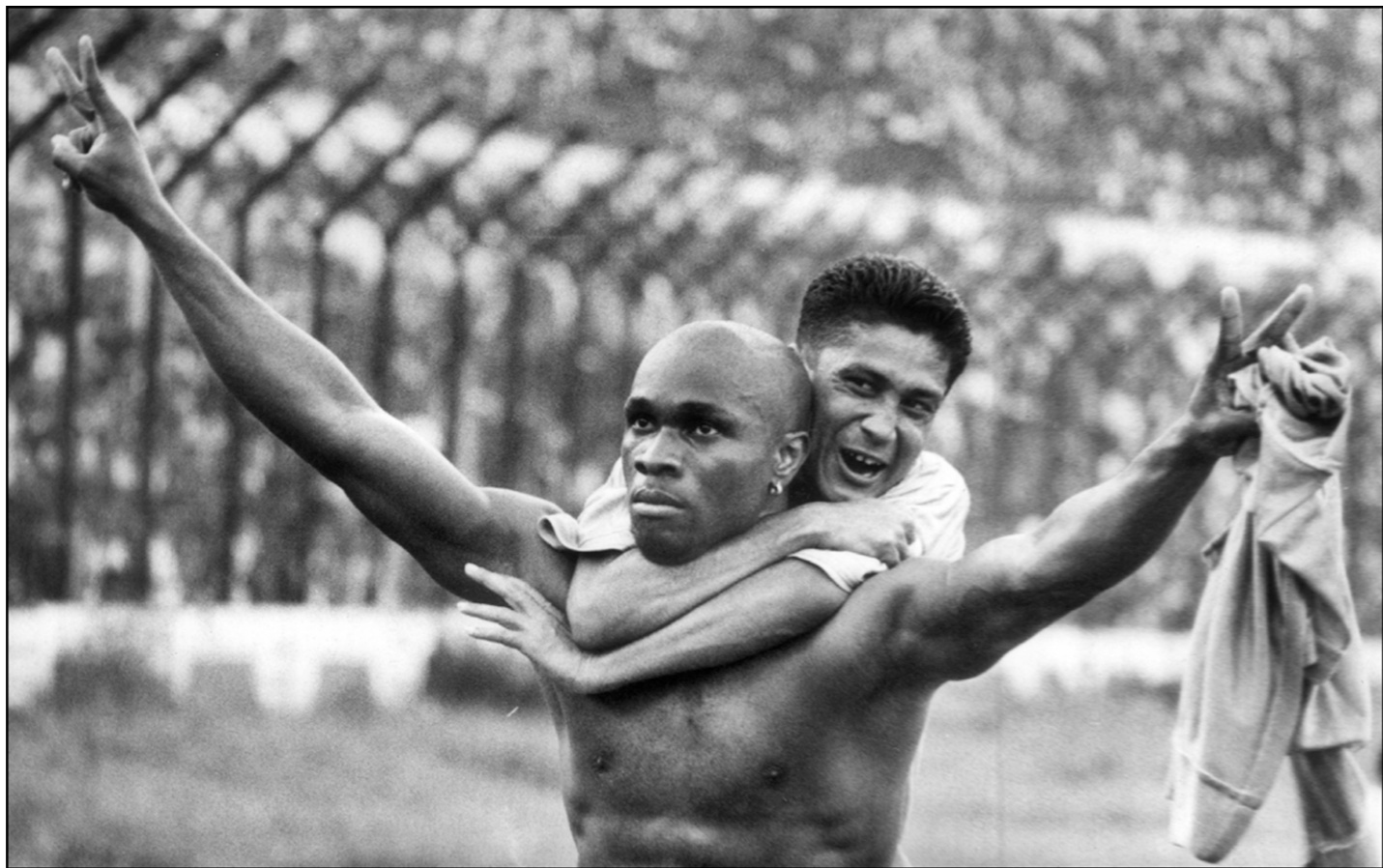
4. Who are the current English Premier League champions? Arsenal | Man Utd | Liverpool

5. Who is the new French national soccer coach? Santini | Metsu | Hiddink

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

Army v'ball

UNB, Dhaka The Annual Volleyball Championship of Bangladesh Army began at Rangpur Cantonment yesterday. Jessore Area defeated Air Defence Artillery 3-0 in the opening match of the six-day meet in which 12 teams of different formations of Bangladesh Army are taking part.



PREDATOR: Colly Burnes, Abahani's Nigerian star striker, shows the V-sign after scoring the first of his two goals against Mohammedan Sporting Club. Abahani won the Dhaka derby 2-1 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Colly burns MSC

Football SPORTS REPORTER

Colly Burnes scored two goals to break the Mohammedan Sporting Club hearts at the end of the first phase of the National Bank Premier League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday. The Nigerian ace struck in the 42nd and 66th minutes to make sure Abahani win the Dhaka Derby against their bitter-rivals 2-1 and claim the top spot in front of a near-packed audience at the big bowl.

Mohammedan's substitute striker Farhad reduced the margin in the 85th minute, but that was not enough for the popular Motijheel outfit to avoid their first defeat and slipping into the second position after leading the race for the last eight games. The 56th league match between the two perennial foes turned out to be a classic contest where defending champions Abahani's opportunism and dogged defensive play prevailed over a relentlessly attacking Mohammedan.

And Cloy was the kingpin of Abahani's success on the evening. Mohammedan's substitute striker Farhad reduced the margin in the 85th minute, but that was not enough for the popular Motijheel outfit to avoid their first defeat and slipping into the second position after leading the race for the last eight games.

The leading marksman in the League broke the evening's duck three minutes from the break, heading home a Liton free-kick from the right. It was the giant Nigerian's eighth goal.

Colly needed another fourteen minutes to score his tenth League goal from a quick counter attack. Mintu lobbed a long ball and Khokon, who came as a second-half substitute for Bulbul, raced down the left flank before releasing it over a charging Mohammedan custodian Nizam. The ball sailed straight to Colly in front of an empty net and the muscular Nigerian nodded the ball home amidst deafening roar from the sky-blue supporters. It was a decisive blow for Mohammedan, and their supporters never took it sportingly as they engaged in a non-stop brick-throwing contest even after referee Maruf Shikder blew the final whistle.

Abahani however survived some anxious moments as Mohammedan adamantly fought to nullify the two-goal deficit till the end. Farhad, one of the second-half substitutes of Mohammedan, completed a nice build-up down the left flank, placing the ball past Abahani keeper Apel.

Mohammedan almost came close to level the score in the 90th minute when Farhad headed the ball into an empty net, but only to be cleared by Iqbal from goal line. Mohammedan would remember the night for all the wrong reasons as another sure header from Faisal in the 45th minute was cleared by Abahani defender Partho, also from the goal line. Partho collided on to the post after the brave save and was carried off the ground on a stretcher for a preliminary X-ray on his head.

Mohammedan were also unlucky not to win a penalty after a menacingly-poised Farhad was sandwiched between two Abahani defenders in the forbidden zone midway through the second session. Besides, their leading marksman Nakib helplessly watched his 7th minute header missed the far post by an inch.

The pressure of the high-voltage game also gripped referee Maruf, who let Nizam unpunished after he had headed the ball into the goal. Partho collided on to the post after the brave save and was carried off the ground on a stretcher for a preliminary X-ray on his head.

LEAGUE TABLE

Table with columns: Teams, M, W, T/W, T/L, L, GF, GA, Points. Lists Abahani KC, Mohammedan SC, Mukti Jodda Sangsad, etc.

Rahul, Sachin reply in style

Cricket REUTERS, London

Rahul Dravid scored his third consecutive Test century as India reached 235 for three just before tea on the third day of the fourth and deciding Test against England. Dravid, who had scored 385 runs in the series against England at an average of 77 prior to the current innings, was on 100 while India captain Sourav Ganguly was unbeaten on 24 at The Oval.

The right-handed Dravid flicked left-arm spinner Ashley Giles behind square for a single to reach his 13th Test century. He scored 115 in the second innings of the drawn second Test at Nottingham before making 148 in India's only innings in their third Test victory at Leeds.

The 29-year-old Dravid had shared an ominous-looking 91-run partnership with Sachin Tendulkar as the visitors chased England's first innings total of 515 before pace bowler Andrew Caddick dismissed Tendulkar for 54 to leave India on 178 for three.

Tendulkar, who had just brought up his 34th Test half-century, was trapped lwb by a ball that hit him full on the boot. Tendulkar, who went from 38 at lunch to 49 with three singles and two fours, the second of which was punched through the covers off the back foot with such venom that none of the fielders moved, brought up his only wicket to fall in the morning session, caught by Mark Butcher at slip off quick bowler Matthew Hoggard for 21.

The start of play was delayed by 15 minutes due to overnight rain as India resumed at 66 for one, with Dravid on 31 and Bangar on 17. SCOREBOARD Scoreboard at tea on the third day of the fourth and final Test between England and India at The Oval on Saturday.

ENGLAND: First innings 515 (M. Vaughan 195, M. Trescottick 57, M. Butcher 54, D. Cork 52, Harbhajan 5-115)

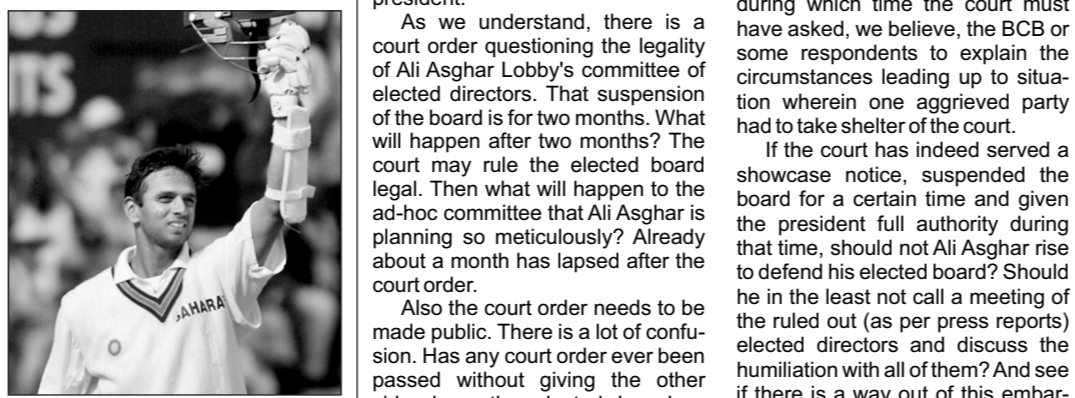
INDIA: 178 for three (Dravid 115, Sachin 54, Ganguly 24, Sehwag 12, Tendulkar 54, Dhoni 12)

READERS' ZONE Order shrouded in mystery

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

Can somebody please tell us what is happening in Bangladesh cricket? And where is it heading for? We are not only being defeated big on the field, but Bangladesh Cricket Board's off-field activities are no more than seedy pranks. Reporter Al-Amin's informative article 'Ten months, zero exploit' published in your page on August 31, was expressive of the country's frustration over the role of the BCB president.

As we understand, there is a court order questioning the legality of Ali Asghar Lobby's committee of elected directors. That suspension of the board is for two months. What will happen after two months? The court may rule the elected board legal. Then what will happen to the ad-hoc committee that Ali Asghar is planning so meticulously? Already about a month has lapsed after the court order.



DRVID ... 13th Test ton only wicket to fall in the morning session, caught by Mark Butcher at slip off quick bowler Matthew Hoggard for 21.

Also the court order needs to be made public. There is a lot of confusion. Has any court order ever been passed without giving the other side, here the elected board, a chance of a hearing or self-defence? Here the board has not responded to the claims of the petitioner. There is no attempt made to respond to the claims of the petitioner. There is also mystery why the petitioner, a BCB councillor and voter, waited so long to go to the court.

No court can give a verdict by hearing only one side of a case, not even when a witness has seen a murderer in the act. The alleged murderer has also his right to self-defence. So there seems to be a big gap between what the court has really said, what is being published in the papers and the self-defeating interpretation by the BCB president.

Take the case of the Bangabandhu murder case. Even though some of those involved are self-proclaimed killers, they all got a chance to defend themselves. That is the way the judiciary functions. The court, your reporter writes, has suspended the activities of the board. But is not a suspension time-dependent? It is for two months, so we understand from newspapers, during which time the court must have asked, we believe, the BCB or some respondents to explain the circumstances leading up to situation wherein one aggrieved party had to take shelter of the court.

Aus, Pak share trophy

Cricket AFP/BBC ONLINE, Nairobi

Heavy rains in the Kenyan capital on Saturday forced the abandonment of the final of the triangular one-day tournament between Pakistan and Australia.

World champions Australia, who were unbeaten throughout the tournament, had made 67-1 off 10 overs before play was called-off. Under the Duckworth-Lewis system, the Australians had to score 210 in 42 overs. But in the end it was decided that both teams would share the trophy.

Ricky Ponting's side was well ahead of the required rate when a second downpour brought proceedings to an end.

The Australian skipper was 29 not out and prolific opener Matthew Hayden batting on 20.

But the highlight of the game was an innings of 59 off 43 balls by all-rounder Abdul Razaq, which had enabled Pakistan to reach 227 after a dismal start to their innings.

Razaq hit three sixes and five fours and although pace bowler Jason Gillespie took five wickets in his 10 overs, they came at a cost of 70 runs.

Australia were clear favourites at the start, having beaten their opponents twice in the qualifying phase of the competition and they were soon on top as Glenn McGrath dismissed Shahid Afridi in the third over.

Saeed Anwar hit six boundaries in a positive start to his innings, but it was cut short on 28 when he edged Gillespie to wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist.

Pakistan's decision to recall vice-captain Inzamamul Haq, who had played only one previous game in the competition because of a knee injury, did not pay off and he was low third ball to Gillespie to nought.

The slide was halted by Shoaib Malik and Misbahul Haq, who put on 61 for the fifth wicket, although the run rate was well below what was necessary.

Malik took 94 balls to make 37 before Ricky Ponting ran him out but the arrival of Razaq soon changed the picture.

Having hit two successive boundaries off Gillespie in the 46th over, he then pulled him for six and hit three more boundaries in the next.

McGrath suffered similar treatment as Razaq clubbed him over mid-on for six and then repeated the treatment on the other side of the wicket as he over-pitched.

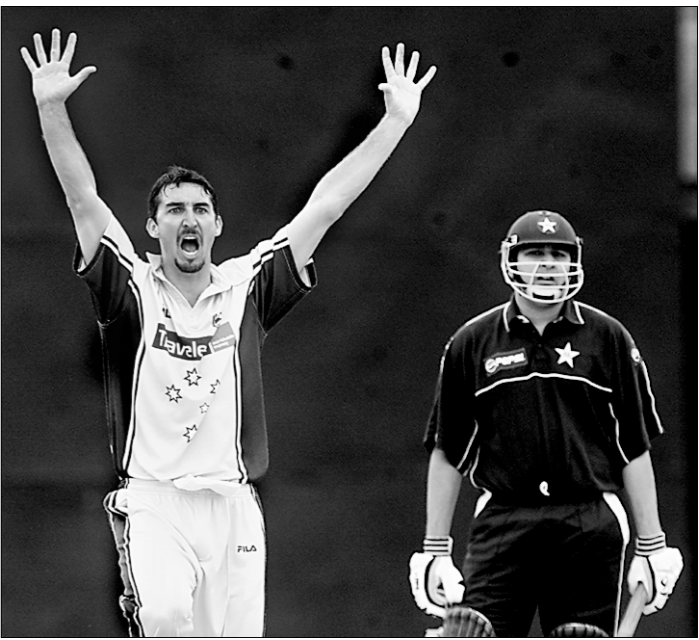
Misbah was bowled by Lee for a well-played 50 and Razaq followed when he was run out, one of three wickets to fall in the final over of Pakistan's innings.

Australia suffered an immediate setback when they began their reply as Wasim Akram bowled Gilchrist for nought with his third delivery.

But neither Akram nor Waqar could contain Ponting and Hayden, who were threatening to build a match-winning partnership when the weather had the final say.

SCOREBOARD

Table with columns: Player, Runs, Wickets. Lists Anwar c Gilchrist b Gillespie 28, Afridi c Warne b McGrath 6, etc.



WHY ME? Pakistan's Inzamamul Haq cannot believe he has to go after being dismissed by Australian paceman Jason Gillespie in the tri-series final yesterday. He was given out lwb but TV replays showed the ball hitting the bat first.

Siblings final

US OPEN 2002 US OPEN

AFP, New York World number one Serena Williams beat Lindsay Davenport 6-3, 7-5 here Friday to join her sister, defending champion Venus Williams, in Saturday's US Open final, the fourth all-Williams final in the last five Slams.

year's Flushing Meadows title showdown. The pro rivalry between the sisters is level at 5-5, although that counts a victory for Serena Williams by walkover in the 2001 Indian Wells semifinals.

Serena Williams, the 1999 US Open champion, is going for her third consecutive Slam title after defeating Venus in the finals of the French Open and Wimbledon.

She could become the first Venus Williams won her 19th match in a row and advanced to her eighth Grand Slam final by defeating 10th seed Amelie Mauresmo of France 6-3, 5-7, 6-4.

Venus is going for her third consecutive US Open crown after defeating Serena in last year's US Open final and Davenport in 2000. She is seeking her fifth Slam title and eighth crown of 2002, and could become the first woman to win three US Open crowns in a row since Chris Evert matched the tournament record with her fourth in a row in 1978.

Past finals showdowns between the sisters have been error filled. But the quality of play has improved each time and there is hope for a high level at Arthur Ashe Stadium. An ankle sprain last January kept Serena out of the Australian Open, or the match might be for a Grand Slam sweep. The younger Williams sister seeks her fourth Slam title and sixth crown of the year. Venus, 22, was battered by a blister on her right palm and her own mistakes, but reached the US Open final for the fourth time in six years despite 10 double faults and 44 unforced errors against Mauresmo. She gave Mauresmo three break



VENUS WILLIAMS

Both sisters struggled at times in their semifinal triumphs, but set themselves up for a rematch of last year's Flushing Meadows title showdown.



SERENA WILLIAMS

woman to own three Slam titles since Martina Hingis in 1998 after winning the Australian Open.

Golden gang's Berlin party

Athletics BBC ONLINE, Berlin

Marion Jones, Hicham El Guerrouj, Felix Sanchez and Ana Guevara took top honours at Friday's final Golden League meeting in Berlin on Friday. The quartet claimed a share of the 50kg of gold ingots on offer for victories in all seven Grand Prix meetings. Jones started the ball rolling in the 100m, crossing the line in 11.01secs

for an easy victory ahead of Jamaican Tayna Lawrence, in 11.12secs, and Debbie Ferguson of the Bahamas in 11.20secs.

El Guerrouj quickly followed suit, stretching away from the field to win the 1,500m in 3:30.00, exactly four seconds outside his world record of 3:26.00. Sanchez took the 400m hurdles ahead of Hadi Soua' al-Somaily of Saudi Arabia, who clocked 48.31. Joey Woody of the United States was third in 48.77.

Britain's European champion clocked 10.02secs with a late surge to pip American Coby Miller on the line. Miller ran 10.07secs with Commonwealth champion Kim Collins third in 10.15secs, while Greene could only manage 10.20secs to finish sixth. Chambers will now run in the Grand Prix final in Paris next week before completing his season at the World Cup in Spain.



(L-R) Hicham El Guerrouj, Felix Sanchez, Ana Guevara and Marion Jones pose with IAAF president Lamine Diack (C) after winning the Golden League jackpot in Berlin on September 6. Olsson won with a jump of 17.40m, while Idowu's best effort was 17.23m.