



Did U Know?

The term Popping Crease in cricket has an interesting history. In the old days there was no stumps, instead there was a small pit, and the fielders had to 'pop' the ball into it to run a batsman out.



ESPN

Sportscentre Hindi

Sport News

Live at 8:30 am

Cricket Programming

Legends of Cricket

Taped Version at 9:00 am

STAR Sports

Football Asia

Repeat at 12:00 pm

Sportsline Tonight

Sport News

Live at 8:00 pm

Harsha Online

Cricket Talk Show

Taped Version at 11:00 pm



Tick the correct answers, post to

The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm

Oct 25, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the Kremlin Cup tennis title?

Maleeva Davenport Kournikova

2. In which event did Bangladesh win silver medal in the 14th Asian Games?

Kabadi Hockey Shooting

3. Who is Asia's fastest woman?

Jayasinghe Netalya Darsha

4. How many Test matches will West Indies play against Bangladesh in November-December?

Two Three Four

5. How many goals did Ronaldo score on his Real Madrid debut?

Name

Class

Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

TALK TURKEY

Carl Hooper

(West Indies cricket captain)

"We batted poorly. The Indians showed us how to bat on this wicket. The batting just didn't click. When you score as low as we did, you can't expect to win Test matches."

After losing first Test against India.

M'singh soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT, M'singh

Mohammedan Sporting Club blanked Udayan Krira Chakra 5-0 in the Hosaf Metre First Division Football League at the local stadium yesterday.

Meanwhile, the Commissioner Gold Cup football tournament of Dhaka Division begins today at the same venue.

Sherpur will take on Jamalpur in the inaugural match.

Five districts of Mymensingh region are participating in the tournament. SA Sultan, MP, president of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF), will open the meet.

Board set to go backwards

Asghar forms constitution amendment committee



SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is on way to go back to its old form of administrative set-up when its president Ali Asghar formed a 10-member constitution amendment committee yesterday.

The committee, headed by Aminul Haque Moni, the former general secretary of the then Bangladesh Cricket Control Board (BCCB), is expected to amend the constitution that was adopted during the tenure of Saber Hossain Chowdhury, the previous Board president.

Saber took the initiative to start democratic process in the Board by having the constitution amended at an AGM couple of years back. Though that marked the end of an era of ad-hocism, but Saber did not finish the job as he needed to amend the NSC Act first at the parliament before having an elected body at the Board.

Upon a writ petition by a councillor Rafiqul Islam, the High Court suspended all activities of Board of Directors in early August and also show-caused the National Sports Council (NSC) and the BCB why they were not having an executive committee instead as per the NSC Act 20 (A).

The Court also empowered Ali Asghar with absolute authority to run the Board for the interim period, during which time he was asked to start process of election or selection.

According to the NSC Act a sports body must have an elected or nominated committee comprising a president, five vice-presidents, a general secretary, two joint secretaries, a treasurer and 21 members.

Both NSC and BCB have already submitted its reply and the next hearing of the High Court is expected to be held in a full bench in the last week of the current month.

Asghar, who returned home on Saturday after a health check-up in Singapore, could not be reached yesterday evening as he was on his

way to Khulna, but a senior NSC official confirmed that the Board has to go back to its old constitution.

"There is no shortcut to that unless the NSC Act is amended in the Jatiya Sangsad. The High Court has already asked why the Clause 12 of the new constitution would not be declared illegal. I'm afraid, we have no answer," he said, preferring not to be named.

Former BCCB vice-president Raisuddin Ahmed, Mizanur Rahman Chana, Shafiqur Rahman, Khaled Hassan, Rouqibul Hassan, Mahmood Jamal, Jalal Yunus, NSC representative and BCB legal advisor are the nine members of the constitution amendment committee.

Besides, Asghar also formed an organising committee and ten sub-committees for smooth hosting of the series against West Indies next month.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman has been made the chief patron of the organising committee with Asghar as the chairman.

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NEW INNINGS: Former national skipper Minhazul Abedin tries to chose the perfect blade from a sample of cricket bats at a shop in the city yesterday.

PCB boss quits



AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan Cricket Board Chairman Lieutenant General Tauqir Zia has resigned following the national team's humiliating performance against Australia, an official said on Sunday.

"General Tauqir has tendered his resignation to (President) General Pervez Musharraf," PCB director Chishty Mujahid said.

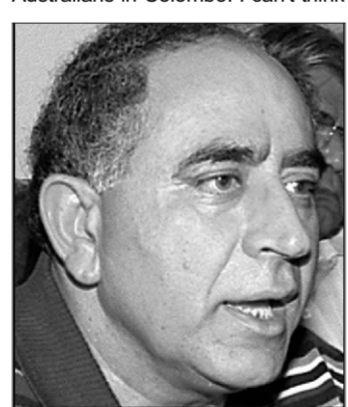
It was not immediately clear whether Musharraf, who is the patron in chief of the PCB, has accepted or not. Mujahid said he had also tendered his resignation.

"We handed in our resignation Saturday night," Mujahid said by telephone from Karachi.

On Saturday, Mujahid had suggested injuries and a lack of experience were factors behind the heavy Sharjah reverse.

"It is very disappointing... and I'm being polite here," he said.

"You saw the same young batsmen scare the caps off of the Australians in Colombo. I can't think



GEN TAUQIR ZIA

of any reason why they should have collapsed the way they did in Sharjah but I'd put it down to a combined lack

of experience."

Meanwhile, Pakistan coach Richard Pybus on Sunday urged fans to keep faith in his young team despite the two-day humiliation.

Pybus, appointed Pakistan's coach two weeks ago for the fourth time in as many years, said the embarrassing defeat was not entirely unexpected.

"The absence of four top players told in the end," the 38-year-old South Africa-based coach said.

"The entire squad has played fewer Tests than the Waugh brothers alone. We had the most inexperienced batting line-up pitted against the world's most lethal attack.

"The youngsters had no clue on how to face up to the likes of Glenn McGrath and Shane Warne.

"It's a learning curve for our new batsmen. They will come out stronger after this experience," Pybus said.

Pakistan were severely handicapped by injuries to star batsmen Inzamamul Haq and Yousuf

Four-day match Bangladesh take lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh earned a substantial 89-run first innings lead against South Africa Country Districts on day two of their four-day match at Bedford yesterday.

The home side, resuming the day on 8 for two in reply to the tourists first innings total of 260, were all out for 171.

Bangladesh Right arm seamer Taposh Kumar Baishya was the wrecker in chief taking four wickets while left arm medium pacer Monjurul Islam took three wickets.

Bangladesh, however, were in a spot of bother in their second innings when news last came in yesterday night. The visitors were 67 for three (overall lead of 156 runs) with middle order Sanwar Hossain, who scored 114 in the first innings, unbeaten on 38.

Opener Rafiqul Islam scored 15 while one-down Habibul Bashar was out for 11.

CAB prevails

SPORTS REPORTER

The visiting Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) under-15 side beat Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) under-15 team in a two-day match by virtue of their first innings lead.

On the second day of the match, BCB under-15, resuming the day on 26 for four, scored 260 before being all out in 74.5 overs. CAB posted 309 in their first innings.

Middle-order Mohammad Ahad scored an unbeaten century (101 not out) but it was enough to avoid the defeat.

Lower order Sumon Kumar (31) and Shafiqur Rahman (27) were the other notable run-getters for the home side.

CAB were 166 without any loss at stumps with opener Abhishek Bhowmik scoring highest 103.

Green Delta hockey

BSS, Dhaka

Tejgaon Agragami recorded a huge 12-0 win over Raktim Sangha in the Green Delta Insurance Second Division Hockey League at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first session 9-0. Mehedi Hasan, Shuvo and Kamal struck three goals each while Shipon, Sentu and Imon scored one goal apiece.

In the second match of the day, Dilkusha Sporting Club thrashed Cantonian Sporting Club 11-0.

The first half scores were 9-0. Jami and Mushtaq netted three goals each, Arafat added two while Rafique, Syed Amin and Jafar scored one goal each to complete the Cantonians' rout.

Meghna Cement soccer

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Khulna Abahani Krira Chakra defeated Mongla Bandar 6-3 in the inaugural match of the Meghna Cement Senior Division Football League at the Khulna Stadium yesterday.

Khulna Newsprint Mills Club will take on Digholia YMA Club at 2 pm while Platinum Jubilee Jute Mills Club will face Abul Kashem Smirity Sangsad at 3:30 pm at the same venue today.

Hayden top Test batsman

BBC ONLINE, Sharjah

Matthew Hayden has taken over top spot in the PriceWaterhouseCoopers batting ratings from fellow Australian Adam Gilchrist.

The opener scored 119 in the second Test against Pakistan at Sharjah as Australia won by an innings and 198 runs.

He scored more runs than the entire Pakistan team did in two innings. The next highest score by any other batsman in the match was 44 by Rick Ponting on a difficult surface.

It was Hayden's 10th Test century and he stands at the top of the ratings for the first time.

"Hayden is batting as well as India's Sachin Tendulkar or Rahul Dravid," Australian captain Steve Waugh said after the match.

"It's hard to say who is the best, but Hayden is one of the best." The 31-year-old has formed the most successful opening partnerships in Australian history with Justin Langer.

Hayden's Australian teammate Damien Martyn moved up three places to 10.

Iran masters of Asia



AFP, Busan

Defending champions Iran won the Asian Games football gold medal for a record fourth time here on Sunday when they beat Japan 2-1 in the final.

Javad Kazemeyan and Mohsen Bayatiniya were the goal-scoring stars of the night but they had to survive a nervous last few moments when Satoshi Nakayama grabbed a

late reply. The victory meant that Iran defied the critics who claimed that without influential Ali Daei and the suspended Alireza Vahedi Nikbakht they would struggle to retain the gold they won in Bangkok in 1998.

Kazemeyan, with his second goal of the Games, broke the deadlock just three minutes into the second half when Japan's Hikaru Mita and Takeshi Aoki, who had only just come on as a substitute, got in each other's way.

As Aoki tried to clear, the ball fell into the path of Kazemeyan whose

drive from just outside the area flew into the corner past Takaya Kurokawa in goal.

Two minutes later it was almost 2-0 when Moharram Navidkia saw an effort come back off the foot of the post before Ali Badavi hit an inswinging cross which almost deceived Kurokawa in the Japan goal.

Iran went looking for another goal and after 68 minutes Bayatiniya teed-up the unmarked Kazemeyan whose rasping shot was spectacularly saved by Kurokawa. Japan pressed looking to hit back and it was Nakayama who looked the most likely source when a drifting run ended with a left foot shot which sailed wide.

With just three minutes left, Bayatiniya grabbed the second after another defensive mix-up had allowed him a clear shot on goal.

But Nakayama pulled one back in the 89th minute converting Daisuke Matsui's cross to give Iran a few anxious moments.

Japan played the neater football in the first half and shaded the better opportunities with Iran reaching the interval in debt to the efforts of goalkeeper Ebrahim Mirzapour who pulled off four fine saves to keep out the Japanese quicksilver strikers.

Matsui showed great close control in the ninth minute cleverly juggling the ball from left to right foot before unleashing a shot that was gathered by Mirzapour.

The keeper was then twice alert to the danger of Nakayama who threatened twice in the space of four minutes while veteran defender Yahya Golmohammadi hit a clearance against Yoshito Okubo whose shot was saved by Mirzapour.

Iran did have two good openings in the first half.

Javad Nekounam had a drive pushed around the corner by Japanese goalkeeper Kurokawa in the 18th minute before Navidkia danced past three defenders before unleashing a fierce 25-yard effort which Kurokawa did well to turn around the corner.



Iran's substitute goalkeeper Mahdi Rahmati (No. 12) lifts teammate Moharram Navidkia as Japan's Tatsuya Tanaka (L) looks dejected after the Asian Games football final yesterday.

Steve remains ruthless



AFP, Sharjah

Australia's captain Steve Waugh promised not to show Pakistan any mercy after a massive innings victory inside two days in the second Test here on Saturday.

"There will be no sympathy in the third Test because we are looking at a clean sweep," Waugh said after taking a decisive 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

Pakistan slumped to their lowest Test score in two days, making 59 in the first innings and 53 in the second, to hand the world champions an easy win by an innings and 198 runs.

"It was a clinical and professional finish," Waugh said, but admitted he had not expected a result in two days.

"It's hard to understand why Pakistan's batting capitulated. It's a bit concerning that one of the best sides in the game goes down in the 50s twice in one match.

"We played exactly as we had planned, but never thought Pakistan would succumb so easily. We pressured them all through the two innings and our four bowlers bowled very, very well.

"I think we are playing our best cricket since defeating South Africa twice within one year," Waugh said. The Australian captain said the oppressive heat and humid conditions were difficult, but added his team "was always at its best in difficult conditions."

Temperatures rose to 51 degrees Celsius in the middle even

as the humidity stayed around 60 percent through the two days.

"You could boil an egg on your head out there," said champion leg-spinner Shane Warne, whose eight wickets in the match gave him a tally of 19 in the two Tests so far.

Dejected Pakistani captain Waqar Younis said he would plead with his young team to "forget this match as fast as they can."

"We did not play well, the batsmen played poorly," Waqar said. "Their inexperience was exposed by a professional side."

"But we have to think about the next Test and save our skins."

Asked if this was Pakistan's worst defeat during his 82-Test career, Waqar said: "Maybe, or maybe not. But we never lost a Test

in two days before."

To add injury to insult, Pakistan were hit by injuries to more key players after losing star batsmen Inzamamul Haq and Yousuf Youhana before the series.

Wicketkeeper Rashid Latif suffered a hamstring injury when batting, while all-rounder Abdul Razzaq was ruled out for six weeks with a fractured left wrist after being hit by a rising ball from Brett Lee.

Waqar, who himself has been plagued by back pain, said the team management will ask for Youhana to join the team for the third Test, provided he has recovered from a shoulder injury.



THE 2002 INVINCIBLES! Steve Waugh poses with other Australian teammates after winning the 'two-day' Sharjah Test on Saturday.

Despair and delight



REUTERS, Islamabad, Melbourne

Pakistani newspapers have described their national team's second Test debacle in Sharjah on Saturday as a disgrace and an 'ignominious rout.'

"Pakistan's ignominious rout" were the words chosen by The Nation newspaper, whose cricket correspondent went on to lambast his countrymen.

"No other team has plumbed such depths in the last half a century and more, and this display of spineless batting on a wicket which, as the Australians had amply demonstrated, held no demons," Agha Akbar wrote from Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

"It was simply pathetic, and that too on a wicket favouring batsmen," reported the Dawn newspaper.

It went on to describe Pakistan's defeat in the second test of three as the "sons of the soil betraying the nation's faith in them."

The newspaper criticised the Pakistan Cricket Board for not nurturing enough young players at under-19 and "A" team level.

"By asking the young players to face world champions Australia head on without being battle-hardened and experienced, the PCB has done a great disservice to them," reported Dawn.

The Urdu-language newspaper Nawa-e-Waqt, was less forgiving, describing the two-day defeat as "horrific."

"The ouster in the second innings for 53 runs proves (either) that the team entirely collapsed under Australian pressure or that the Australian bowlers had hypnotised the batsmen," it said.

In contrast, Australian newspapers heaped praise on their national cricket team.

The Australian newspaper carried a front-page photograph of leg-spinner Shane Warne celebrating one of his four wickets on the first day on Friday with a headline "Pakistanis melt down to all-time low".

The newspaper's lead sports story made reference to the hot conditions in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

"Not that the weather was responsible for Pakistan's appalling batting effort. They were simply out-thought and out-played by professional bowlers and catchers who didn't miss a beat," The Australian said.

Melbourne tabloid daily the Herald Sun's main back-page heading was "DEEP FRIED, Aussies scorch Pakistan for record low 59 in 48c heat".

The newspaper said "merciless Australia", who won the first Test in Sri Lanka, had taken a stranglehold on the three-match series.

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