



Did U Know?

Korea (North) sent Italy out of the 1966 World Cup already in the group stage. In Italy such an early exit can never be accepted. Their flight home had a secret destination to avoid the press and angry fans. Many fans still found out where they arrived and their bus at the airport was bombarded by fruit and rotten tomatoes as they escaped!



Mutiah Muralitharan
(Sri Lankan spin ace)
"I have proved to the world that I am fair. I am strong in my mind and my success is not chance."



DD Sports & National

India vs West Indies
Second Test, Day One
Live at 10:00 am

ESPN

Cricket Programming
Super Selector
Live at 7:30 pm

Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm

Cricket Programming
Legends of Cricket
Taped Version at 9:00 pm

STAR Sports

Trans World Sport
Int'l Sports News
Repeat at 4:00 pm

Gillette World Sports Special
Int'l Sports News
Repeat at 6:00 pm

Cricket Programming
Super Selector
Live at 7:30 pm

Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm

India vs West Indies
Second Test, Day One
Highlights

Same Day Delay at 8:30 pm
Futbol Mundial
Taped Version at 11:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 182

Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
Oct 25, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who won the Kremlin Cup tennis title?
Maleeva Davenport Kournikova
- In which event did Bangladesh win silver medal in the 14th Asian Games?
Kabaddi Hockey Shooting
- Who is Asia's fastest woman?
Jayasinghe Netalya Darsha
- How many Test matches will West Indies play against Bangladesh in November-December?
Two Three Four
- How many goals did Ronaldo score on his Real Madrid debut?

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

Destination unknown



SPORTS REPORTER

BCB (Bangladesh Cricket Board) president Ali Asghar threw cricket observers in a flat spin by forming a constitution amendment committee recently, particularly when a High Court is still pending in this regard.

His steps led many to believe that the Board president is all too eager to go back to its old form of ad-hoc administrative set-up instead of amending the National Sports Council Act 20 (A) that barred it from having an elected governing body for the sport.

Upon a writ petition, the High Court on August 11 suspended its Board of Directors and showed caused as to why it violated the NSC Act of 1974. As per the Act a sports body must have a president selected by government. The much-talked-about Act is destined to be amended soon to ensure elections

in football federation, as prescribed the Asian Football Confederation, the continental body of the FIFA.

Under this circumstance, many questioned Asghar's move by pointing out that he could have



ALI ASGHAR

easily continued with the democratic process in the Board by getting the Act amended instead.

On Tuesday, State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman, who is also the NSC chairman, hinted that he is ready to have the Act amended if the AFC turns down his latest move to continue with the present form of governing body.

Rahman also said that the NSC Act, if needed, would be amended in such a way so that other sports bodies like the BCB can have elected presidents too.

"If we can do it for football, then why not for cricket? But I have to know first what BCB president wants," he said to the Star Sport.

"I am still not very sure about BCB because the matter is under the jurisdiction of the Court. What I can assume is that the High Court is going to instruct us to follow the present NSC constitution that does not allow BCB to have a Board of Directors.

"If that happens, we can still retain the present BCB constitution

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Federation Cup from Oct. 23

SPORTS REPORTER

The Federation Cup football tournament will begin at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur from October 23 although the Bangladesh Football Federation were yet to name a sponsor.

The BFF officially announced the date of the 16-team tournament yesterday. Ten Premier Division Clubs, champions and runners up of the Dhaka First Division league and four services teams will take part in the competition.

Talking to The Daily Star Sport, acting BFF general secretary Sirajul Islam Bachchu said yesterday that were working on the quickest possible solution to the sponsor issue.

The tournament offers prize money of Taka three lakhs to the champions and two lakhs to the runners up.

Besides, all the participants except the services teams will also get Taka fifty thousand each as participation bonus.

The clubs will be divided into four groups for the first round robin league. Defending champions Muktijoddha Sangsad KC and runners up Arambagh Krira Sangha will head two groups while National League champions and runners up Mohammedan Sporting Club and Abahani will head the other two groups.

The fixture will be made public within the next couple of days.

Green Delta hockey

UNB, Dhaka

Tejgaon Agragami reached the six-team super league of the Green Delta Metropolitan Second Division Hockey League outplaying Cantonian SC 10-0 at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium yesterday.

Shakhawat netted four goals, Imron and Kamal two each while Shuvo and Mehdi netted one each for the winners.

In the second match, Dilkusha SC, who confirmed the super league berth with one match to spare, beat Udiya Club 2-1 in their last match of the first phase at the same venue.

Zami Hossain and Abu Zafar scored for Dilkusha while Ziauddin Sumon netted the lone goal for the Udiya Club in the second half.

Earlier, four teams - Bachelors SC, Shishu Kishore Sangha, Combined SC and Dhaka Hockey Club - confirmed their berth for the super league, which is likely to begin on Saturday after a two-day break.



HOLD IT THIS WAY: India paceman Javagal Srinath (R) gives tips to his teammate Zaheer Khan during a practice session in Madras on October 15.

India seek series here



AFP, Madras

India skipper Saurav Ganguly on Wednesday sounded a warning to the West Indies, saying his team was confident of wrapping up the three-match series with a win in the second Test here.

"We are pretty happy with the way we have been playing for the past six months and keen on maintaining the momentum," said Ganguly ahead of Thursday's match at the Chidambaram Stadium.

India led the series 1-0 following their victory by an innings and 112 runs in the opening Test at Bombay last week.

"We played extremely well at Bombay and hope to do the same here. We know it's a do-or-die game for them and want to keep pressure on them," Ganguly said.

He said it was too early to think of making a clean sweep, but promised his team would play positive cricket and try to win.

Ganguly is just two victories short of former captain Mohammad

Azharuddin's Indian record of 14 Test wins.

"I think it's too early to think about a 3-0 result," said Ganguly. "Let us take one match at a time and try to win it. What matters is that we have to maintain a winning streak."

India will again rely more on their spinners than seamers to catch the West Indian batsmen on the wrong-foot, for the newly-laid pitch here is similar to the one at Bombay.

"The track looks good, but I think it'll help spinners as the match progresses," said Ganguly.

Indian slow bowlers struck it rich at Bombay, with off-spinner Harbhajan Singh grabbing eight wickets in the match and leg-spinner Anil Kumble seven to script an emphatic win.

The West Indies face more or less the same conditions here -- hot and humid weather and a slow turning track -- but hope to put in a better batting performance this time.

Skipper Carl Hooper told teammates to deliver in the crucial match in order to keep the series alive.

"Nobody can take his place for granted," said Hooper.

Poor batting was the main rea-

son for the West Indies' first-ever innings defeat against India in 76 Tests as the tourists managed just 157 and 188 in the previous match.

Barring left-handed Shivnarine Chanderepaul who scored a solid 54 and an unbeaten 36, none of the batsmen could cope with the Indian spin duo on a turning track.

"We're a young team and need time to settle down, but the players should share responsibility. They need to show they're maturing. They can't get away with poor performances," said Hooper.

The West Indies captain conceded the spinners would again play a decisive role here, but said he was confident his team was capable of bouncing back.

"We're confident of beating India," said Hooper. "We'll have to bat really well and I'm looking forward to a better performance this time. He (Chanderepaul) has shown it's not difficult to play Indian spinners."

Hooper's West Indians have yet to show the patience required to succeed on slow tracks in the sub-continent, having already lost six

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Proteas want to win big



AFP, East London

South Africa will be looking for a convincing win when they play their inaugural Test match against Bangladesh at Buffalo Park, starting Friday.

Bangladesh have been the whipping boys of world cricket since they were given Test status in 2000, losing 12 of 13 matches. A rain-affected draw against Zimbabwe in Dhaka last season was the only time they avoided defeat.

The trend seems unlikely to change in the first of two Tests against a South African side eager to reinforce their number two ranking in the World Test Championship after a traumatic 2001-02 season in which they lost five successive Tests against Australia, the champions.

A South African side too which will be eager to impress new coach Eric Simons.

Simons has challenged the players to produce high-quality performances against all opponents. There is also competition for places in the South African team and players will want to make sure

they stay in the squad for tougher challenges later in the season from Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

Bangladesh were trounced in three one-day internationals before the Test series. They completed a 100-run win in a four-day warm-up game against South African Country Districts in Bedford Tuesday but their batting, which has been poor on tour, again failed to impress as they were bowled out for totals of 260 and 164 by a weak bowling attack.

The Bangladesh selectors opted for youth when they picked the touring side. Pace bowlers, Tapas Baisya, 19, and Talha Jubair, 17, have both looked promising without threatening to run through teams.

The South African side for the first Test to be played in this coastal city contains eight of the players who finally reversed the trend of last summer by winning the final Test against Australia in Durban in March.

It would have been nine but left-arm spinner Paul Adams was forced out by a back injury and replaced by fellow left-armed Claude Henderson.

Wicketkeeper Mark Boucher will captain the side in his home town. Boucher took over for the home series against Australia last season

because regular skipper Shaun Pollock was injured. Pollock played in the one-day series against Bangladesh but is being rested from the Test because of a strain behind his left knee.

Batsman Martin van Jaarsveld, who made his international debut during the one-day series, wins his first Test cap ahead of the out-of-favour Neil McKenzie, while specialist fast bowler Mornantau Hayward was selected in place of all-rounder Andrew Hall.

TEAMS
SOUTH AFRICA: Mark Boucher (captain), Herschelle Gibbs, Gary Kirsten, Graeme Smith, Jacques Kallis, Ashwell Prince, Martin van Jaarsveld, Claude Henderson, Mornantau Hayward, Makhaya Ntini, David Terbrugge, Alfonso Thomas (12th man).

BANGLADESH (from): Khaled Mashud (captain), Al Shahrir, Hannan Sarkar, Javed Omar, Habibul Bashar, Sanwar Hossain, Tushar Imran, Alok Kapali, Khaled Mahmud, Mohammad Rafique, Tapash Baisya, Manjural Islam, Talha Jubair, Anwar Hossain, Rafiqul Islam.

Umpires: Daryl Harper (Australia) and Russell Tiffin (Zimbabwe).

'India afraid of losing'



AFP, Sharjah

Pakistan marked 50 years of Test cricket on Wednesday with a bitter attack on arch-rivals India for severing cricketing ties with them.

It was against India that Pakistan played its first Test match on October 16, 1952 at New Delhi, but the two neighbours have not faced each other since May, 2000 due to the Indian government's refusal in protest over alleged Pakistani support to militancy in Kashmir.

"India is afraid of losing to us on the cricket field," said Pakistani team manager Khawaja Mohammad Nasir on the sidelines of the Test series against Australia here.

"There can be no other reason. India lost to Pakistan in Sharjah, Australia and Bangladesh and suddenly decided to stop playing us.

"The Indian nation is emotional about losing to Pakistan at cricket. They are willing to face us in other sports like hockey, but do not want to play cricket.

"India's constant refusal is playing havoc with the game in Asia. It's only a game and should not be a matter of life and death as India makes it out to be," Nasir, a retired brigadier of the Pakistan army, said.

India is scheduled to play a Test series in Pakistan next April, but the tour is likely to fall through given the border tensions between the two warring neighbours.

Pakistan captain Waqar Younis said it was unfortunate his country's golden jubilee series had to be played at neutral venues in Sri Lanka and Sharjah after Australia declined to tour Pakistan for security concerns.

"It would have been a grand affair had the series been played at home as scheduled," Waqar said.

"It's not a healthy sign. We must

play at home. I agree there were some problems for teams touring Pakistan but it will be great if we can play Test matches at home again."

Australia's refusal to play in Pakistan came after a car bomb attack killed several foreigners outside New Zealand's team hotel in Karachi in May.

Pakistani cricket, whose high point was the World Cup triumph in 1992, has been dogged over the years by allegations of ball tampering, match-fixing and bitter internal battles in the national team.

But Waqar insisted Pakistan should not be singled out since controversy in cricket affected almost every country.

"There were allegations of ball tampering against former England captain Mike Atherton and the match-fixing scandal hit South Africa, Australia, India and Sri Lanka as well," he said.

"Cricket just seems to attract a lot

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Open tennis results

SPORTS REPORTER

Sixteen players moved into the second round of the Uttara Club Open tennis tournament defeating their respective rivals in the men's singles at the club premises yesterday.

On the second day of the meet, Amal Roy beat Mahmud Hasan 6-3, 6-1, Ranjan Ram beat Minhaz 6-0, 6-4, Kabir beat Zakir 6-3, 6-2, Laxman beat Munir 7-6, 6-1, Dilip Pasia beat Ashique 6-4, 6-3, Mamun beat Nokul 6-2, 6-1, Babu Lal beat Shams 6-4, 6-2, Dipu Lal beat Kamal Hossain 6-1, 6-0, Akhter Hossain beat Shafique 7-6, 3-6, 6-2, Kanchan Ram beat Poplu 6-4, 6-4, Asmat beat Russell 2-6, 6-1, 6-2, Anwar beat Banik 6-3, 6-7, 6-0 while Hira Lal beat Monwar 6-1, 6-1.

Besides, 16 boys' singles first round matches and two women's singles first round matches were also held yesterday.

In the women's singles, Nowrin defeated Sharmin 6-0, 6-0 while Asma beat Ruma 6-4, 3-6 and 6-2.

Border whacks Pybus for six

REUTERS, Sydney

Former Australia captain Allan Border said on Wednesday that Pakistan would struggle to beat most Sydney club sides and their coach Richard Pybus should keep his mouth shut.

Pakistan were all out for 59 and 53 in last week's second Test against Australia in Sharjah, losing the match by an innings and 198 runs to fall 2-0 down in the three-match series.

Border, a current national selector, reacted strongly to comments made by Pybus and reported in The Australian newspaper on Tuesday, that Australia was battling internal tension over the pressure on Steve and Mark Waugh to hold their places in the team at age 37.

"Richard should just concentrate on what he's supposed to be doing with the Pakistani team," Border was quoted as saying in Sydney's Daily Telegraph newspaper on Wednesday.

"Let's see if they can score 60 next time they bat. Most second grade sides could do better than his national side.

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Gujarat goes secular



AFP, Ahmedabad

Hindus and Muslims will next month sit side-by-side for the first time in half a year as India's riot-scarred western state of Gujarat hosts international cricket, and some observers fear the worst.

Authorities have given the go-ahead to hold three one-day internationals between India and the West Indies in mid-November in Gujarat's commercial capital, Ahmedabad, and the state's towns of Rajkot and Baroda.

Police have pledged a massive security operation in the state polarised by communal violence that has left more than 1,000 people dead since February in India's worst Hindu-Muslim bloodletting in a decade.

Critics of Gujarat's Hindu nationalist government say the administration is bringing South Asia's best-loved sport to the state in a political ploy.

"By organising such events, the present government wants to show

that there is normalcy in the state, when the real situation is something else," said Achyut Yagnik, secretary of the Centre for Social Knowledge and Action, a non-governmental organisation critical of the administration.

He said Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi was trying to convince authorities in New Delhi that the situation was stable enough for early elections, in which he hopes Hindu voters will sweep him back to power.

"The government should avoid cricket matches at these times as they are likely to spark communal tension in an already vitiated environment," Yagnik said.

Riots broke out across Gujarat, the largest state ruled by Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's right-wing BJP party, after a Muslim mob on February 27 torched a train carrying Hindu activists, killing 58.

Human rights groups have accused Modi's government of turning a blind or even sympathetic eye to revenge attacks. Most of the riot victims were Muslims, tens of thousands of whom are still living in relief camps after losing their homes

or businesses.

Sporadic violence continues almost daily in Gujarat, but at a smaller scale.

Fears of a new round of massive bloodletting did not materialise after a massacre of 31 people at a Hindu temple in the state capital, Gandhinagar, on September 24.

"No doubt, staging an event like international cricket matches at the time will add to our (job of keeping) vigil," said director general of police K. Chakravarti.

"However, I do not see any major problem in holding the event."

The Gujarat Cricket Association said it was aware of the security concerns of Hindus and Muslims sitting together at the matches and is taking appropriate measures.

"It is true that minor incidents have been taking place in the state for quite some time now, but if the government and police are taking the responsibility for law and order then I do not see why the event should be cancelled," said the cricket association's president, Narhari Amin.

He said 150 police specially

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Glenn bowls a bouncer



REUTERS, London

Australian fast bowler Glenn McGrath has dismissed England's chances of regaining the Ashes this winter, claiming that Nasser Hussain's recent comments are a clear indication that the tourists have an attitude problem.

England begin the five-match series in Brisbane on November 7 and McGrath was quoted in Wednesday's Daily Mail newspaper as saying that the English captain displayed a defeatist approach in recent remarks about his side's prospects in Australia.

Speaking to the paper from Sharjah where Australia are preparing for Saturday's third and final Test against Pakistan, McGrath said: "I heard a comment that he (Hussain) would be happy if England just compete in this series.

"It's a very negative comment. It makes me think they believe they are beaten before they arrive."

McGrath needs just four more victims to become the eighth man to take 400 Test wickets and he

believes that confidence is the key to a successful series.

"You've got to be pretty confident going in to have a chance. You've got to go out there and back yourselves. We are very confident that we will win the series," he said.

The 32-year-old has a good



GLENN MCGRATH

record against England and was the bowling nemesis of the country's last captain Mike Atherton.

McGrath hopes that by targeting a key member of the touring side it will undermine their chances and

although he has yet to reveal who it will be, he has promised to name the player before the series begins.

"I'll be happy to say who I am targeting as I am confident in my ability to produce the goods.

"It puts the pressure on but you've got to believe in yourself," he said.

Meanwhile, England all-rounder Andrew Flintoff has increased the side's injury worries ahead of the tour by telling a British paper that he could not even run.

Flintoff had a double hernia operation at the end of August but a frustratingly slow recovery rate means he could miss the first Test.

"There's no question that my recovery is taking longer than I'd expected. I was hoping to be able to bowl flat out as soon as the team arrived in Australia," Flintoff told The Sun.

"As it is, the operation was more than six weeks ago and I'm not yet able to run. The pounding of running would be too much at this stage.

"I can run, cycle and swim as well as do weights and I've been working on it

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