



Did U Know?

Occasionally a fielder running full pelt to stop a ball crossing the boundary line just gets a leg to it and helps it cross the line. Something rather different once happened at Hove when Sussex were playing the West Indies. When NI Thomson hit a delivery from AL Valentine to square leg a black dog bounded on to the pitch seized the ball and carried it over the boundary, hotly pursued by players and umpires. The four runs were credited to Thomson, not the dog!



Aamir Sohail
(Former Pakistan cricket captain)
"There's a lot of Javed in Faisal."
On youngster Faisal Iqbal.



DD Sports & National

- India vs West Indies
Third Test, Day Two
Live at 10:00 am
- ESPN**
- UEFA Champions League
Deportivo La Coruna vs Bayern Munich
Repeat at 10:00 am
- Liverpool vs Valencia
Same Day Delay at 3:00 pm
- 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**
- English Premier Football League
West Ham United vs Everton
Taped Version at 12:30 pm
- Cricket Programming**
Super Selector
Live at 7:30 pm
- Sportsline Tonight**
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
- India vs West Indies
Third Test, Day Two
Highlights
Same Day Delay at 8:30 pm

Star WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION 183
Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Nov 8, 2002 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who became man-of-match in the first Test between Bangladesh and South Africa?
Al-Shahriar | G. Smith | J. Kallis
- Who won the Swisscom Challenge tennis title?
Davenport | Schryder | Serena
- Bangladesh lost the first Test against South Africa on the...
3rd day | 4th day | 5th day
- India won the second Test against West Indies by...
120 runs | 6 wickets | 5 wickets
- How many goals did Bangladesh concede in AFC U-20 meet in Qatar?
0 | 1 | 2

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

BFF kicks up a row

Match-fixing made more interesting

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

The decision of the BFF (Bangladesh Football Federation) disciplinary committee on Tuesday to deduct points and impose fine on four teams for playing fixed matches in the ongoing 18th Federation Cup kicked up a row in the sports circle.

Both the matches were played on Monday. At the Army Stadium, Rahmatganj deliberately lost to Bangladesh Air Force 0-3 in a Group A match, apparently to help Mohammedan Sporting Club qualify for the semifinals and Arambagh Krira Sangha, with an aim to top Group D and reach the last four, beat Sheikh Russell KC 5-2.

Following harsh criticism in media, an otherwise tardy BFF fined the four teams a mere Taka 50,000 each and deducted three points from their accounts.

Many observed that the disciplinary committee action actually made match-fixing menace legal in Bangladesh. Any clubs who are not in the championship race may now throw away matches for title aspirants and get away with the heinous act by paying some money and losing some points.

What will happen if clubs become more interested in rigging results than winning a championship? They can now earn a hefty amount of money from match-fixing and then pay a little portion of it as fine.

Some club organisers meanwhile questioned how the disciplinary committee came to the conclusion that those two matches were fixed since it did not carry out any investigation.

"I can not comment because I am not a member of the committee," said acting BFF general secretary Sirajul Islam Bachchu yesterday.

The chairman of the disciplinary committee Col (retired) Obayedullah Khan admitted on Tuesday that they don't have any sound mechanism to detect a fixed match.

"We mainly considered the reports of the disciplinary committee members present in those matches, the opinion of BFF members, media reports and comments from sports lovers," he said.

If that was the criteria to spot a fixed-match, then why they allowed the third party, beneficiary from the result of the Rahmatganj-BAF match, to go unpunished since media also mentioned about the nexus.

"We can not prove that another club was also involved. If a club report to us that they have been offered to throw away a match, only then we can consider the case of a third party. No clubs have done that as yet," said Bachchu.

"We have done everything according to the by-laws. It says that if a match is proved to be fixed, both teams would be punished."

When asked why those clubs have not been expelled from the tournament, Bachchu said they do not have any such punishments recommended in the by-laws for the Federation Cup. "We would consider the point while preparing the by-laws for next Federation Cup or any other tournaments," he said.

Bachchu also revealed that Bangladesh Air Force might appeal against the punishment. And if they appeal, their case would be reconsidered because it was clear to everybody that they were not party to match-fixing.

Circuit tennis in Chittagong

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

The Ispahani-Al Baraka Bank national tennis circuit leg-2, 2002 tournament, gets underway at the Chittagong Club tennis complex today.

The five-day tournament is being jointly organised by the Bangladesh Tennis Federation and the Chittagong Club Limited to inspire the tennis players in the port city.

Tournament director Commodore (td) MM Rahman, at a press briefing yesterday, said stage was set to make the tournament a success. He also revealed that about Taka three lakhs has been earmarked for the meet.

Director of Ispahani group Shaker Ispahani is scheduled to inaugurate the tournament at 4 pm today.

Chairman of Chittagong Club Limited Dr. Moinul Islam Mahmud also spoke at the briefing.

Mixed fortunes for BD players

Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh women's chess team scored back-to-back victories when they tamed Wales 3-0 in the fourth round of the Chess Olympiad in Bled, Slovenia on Tuesday.

The win increased their tally to 7.5 points. They next play Greece.

China and USA jointly lead the section on 9.5 points.

Meanwhile, in the men's division Bangladesh drew with strong Argentina.

Although Grand Master Ziaur Rahman and Sheikh Nasir Ahmed won their respective boards, both GM Niaz Murshed and International Master Reefat Bin Saitar lost.

In the fifth round Bangladesh

face Belgium on Wednesday.

There is a three way lead at the top with Russia, Armenia and Poland in pole position on 13 points each.

The mighty Russians defeated Georgia 3-1, Poland beat Cuba also by the same margin. On the other hand the Armenians dropped only half-a-point against Yugoslavia.

An Internet report adds: Close behind with 12.5 points was Bosnia and Herzegovina, who defeated Kazakhstan, 3-1. Ukraine, led by FIDE world champion Ruslan Ponomarev, were at close range with 12 points after beating Spain.

The youthful Azerbaijani team were stopped in their tracks by Hungary. It was Judit Polgar, once

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Cricketers return from SA today

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh cricket team returns home this morning after spending a month on tour in South Africa.

Apart from playing two Tests, Khaled Mashud's men were involved in a three-match one-day international series against the Proteas.

The players will get little time to recharge their batteries because they have to be ready to face the A team in a four-day Challenge Trophy match at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium from November 4.

Delta Life eves' h'ball begins tomorrow

BSS, Dhaka

The eighth Delta Life Women's Handball Championship will begin at the Dhanmondi Women's Sports Complex tomorrow.

Nine teams, split into two groups, are taking part in the seven-day meet.

TEAMS

Group A: Viquarunnisa Noon School and College, Home Economics Women's College, Magbazar Ispahani Women's College, Bangladesh Rifles College and Nawab Faizunnesa Hall of Jahangirnagar University.

Group B: Lalmatia Women's College, Mirpur Girls' Ideal Laboratory Institute, Siddheswari Girls' College and Central Women's College.

Bangladesh Handball Federation (BHF) is organizing the competition under the sponsorship of Delta Life Insurance Company Limited.

Div I handball

UNB, Dhaka

Victoria Sporting Club, Bhattrita Sangha and Satirtha Sporting Club won their respective matches in the Bata Metropolis First Division Handball League at the court adjacent to the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Victoria defeated Dhanmondi Club 25-23 after leading the first half by 11-9 in the day's first match.

In the second match, Bhattrita beat Mansur Sporting Club 16-13 after leading the first half by 9-5.

Satirtha smashed Prime SC 17-9 after dominating the first half by 8-4 in the last match.

Today's matches: Satirtha SC vs Mansur SC, Dhanmondi Club vs Surjodoy KC and Victoria SC vs Bhattrita Sangha.

Arnberger gets Victoria going

AFP, Melbourne

Opener Jason Arnberger scored an unbeaten 109 to give Victoria a sound start to their Sheffield Shield cricket match with Tasmania at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Wednesday.

Arnberger combined in a 100-run stand with Cameron White (46 not out) to lift the Victorians to 258 for five at the close of the opening day.

Arnberger was dropped before he had scored, driving to Graeme Cunningham at silly mid-off.

It was Arnberger's sixth first-class century and a return to form, having managed only 401 runs last season at 28.64.

Former Test opener Matthew Elliott made 35, while paceman Damien Wright was the only Tasmanian multiple wicket-taker with 2-62.



Victoria's Fakhru (R) intercepts a Liton right-footer during their Muktiyoddha Sangsad Federation Cup fixture against Abahani at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla Stadium yesterday.

Abahani defy Victoria

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani Krira Chakra completed the semifinal line up of the 18th Federation Cup when they came from behind to register a hard fought 3-2 win over Victoria Sporting Club in their final Group B match at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

Victoria went ahead in the 58th minute when Polo found the net from the top of the box.

But the lead lasted only two minutes when Abahani's Khokon tapped the ball home from a Bulbul's pass from the right.

The sky blues then took the lead in the 63rd minute with Nayan scoring from 30 yards. But Victoria again equalised through Abul who scored from a goalmouth melee in the 83rd minute.

Khokon then settled the issue in the 87th minute after being a brilliant

pass by Parvez from the right.

It was Abahani's third win in as many matches that helped them raise their tally to nine points, three points more than Victoria, and reach the last four.

They now meet defending champions Muktiyoddha Sangsad Krira Chakra in the second semifinal tomorrow evening.

DHANMONDI-2;

ARAMBAGH-1

Meanwhile, Dhanmondi Club also qualified for the semifinals with a 2-1 win over Arambagh Krira Sangha in their last Group D clash at the Army Stadium.

The winners led the first half 1-0.

Parvez put Dhanmondi ahead in the 16th minute while Topu doubled the margin six minutes from time. Anu pulled one back for Arambagh four minutes in the final seconds.

Dhanmondi's third win in a row helped them to finish the first round atop the table with maximum nine points.

In the first semifinal, Dhanmondi face Mohammedan Sporting Club at 4 pm at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

SHEIKH RUSSELL-2;

ARMY-2

In another Group D engagement at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Sheikh Russell KC and Army shared points in a 2-2 draw.

Bashir and Afzal scored one goal each for Sheikh Russell while Shahidul and Nasir responded for the Army side.

The draw gave both teams their first point in the tournament.

Nat'l youth v'ball

UNB, Dhaka

Gaibandha defeated Jhalakati 25-6, 25-8, 25-8 in the opening match of the Silver Line National Youth Volleyball Competition at the Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

Managing Director of Silver Line Group inaugurated the meet.

Eng miss win by a whisker

Cricket

REUTERS, Perth

England's Ashes campaign took a step forward as Nasser Hussain's side outplayed Western Australia only to fall five runs short of victory.

Young pace bowler Simon Jones took five wickets before England's batsmen, chasing 135 to win from 20 overs, closed the final day of the three-day match on 130 for five in the drawn encounter.

Kent's Robert Key smashed an unbeaten 59 from 48 balls but England, having reached 80 for two, lost momentum when Mark Butcher and John Crawley were dismissed

by spinner Brad Hogg with consecutive balls.

Key and captain Hussain, who was praised by Western Australia's Test player Justin Langer after the game, needed 12 to win from the final over by fast bowler Brad Williams.

The first Test against Australia starts on November 7 in Brisbane. England will play Queensland in a three-day game starting on November 2, also in Brisbane.

Written off by Australia's press as without hope in the Ashes series, England began with ordinary performances in their first two tour games against second-string state sides in Perth. However, they have been boosted by a first innings century

from Hussain, followed by the efforts of Jones and Key.

"I thought Nasser Hussain's innings was the best I have ever seen him bat and he looks very focused," Western Australia captain Langer told a news conference on Wednesday.

"I know it's going to be an issue we are going to have to address for the Test match. It was a good three days (for them) I guess."

"I'm sure England would have taken a lot of positives out of the past three days -- which is a shame."

Western Australia, 114 behind on the first innings, resumed on 16 for one and had looked comfortable as they reached 122 for two at lunch.

Unable to build on a 141-run stand for the third wicket between Test batsman Langer (68) and Chris Rogers (86), the home side then collapsed to 248 all out.

They lost their last eight wickets for 84 runs with opening bowler Jones taking five for 78 from 19 overs at Perth's WACA ground, which traditionally suits quick bowlers.

Glamorgan paceman Jones and Key, both 23, will be monitored closely in view of injuries to fast bowlers Andrew Flintoff and Darren Gough and opening batsman Michael Vaughan, who all sat out the Perth three-day game.

Jones himself is recovering from a side strain.

"I am very happy with the progress made and I think it really showed today," Jones told a news conference.

All rounder Craig White, called into the touring squad a week ago to cover for the injured Flintoff, took two for 54 including the wickets of Langer and Marcus North for a duck in successive balls.

SCOREBOARD

Final scoreboard on the third day of a three-day match between England and Western Australia at WACA Ground Wednesday:

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: First innings 213 (M North 71 not out, R Campbell 37, B Hogg 22, S Meuleman 21; A Caddick 4-49, A Giles 3-42, S Harmison 2-30)

ENGLAND: First innings 327 (N Hussain 117, N Trescothick 46, J Crawley 45, R Key 33, M Butcher 29, A Stewart 29, M Nicholson 6-79, J Angel 2-62)

W AUSTRALIA: Second innings (overnight 16-1)
Hussey c Caddick b Jones 14
Meuleman lbw Caddick 1
Rogers lbw Jones 86

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Dropped Sanjay saviour

Cricket

REUTERS, Calcutta

Opener Sanjay Bangar top-scored with a patient 77 as India battled to 275 for six against West Indies on the opening day of the third and final Test at Eden Gardens here on Wednesday.

Bangar, dropped on five, relied on his stubborn defence to play the anchor role and shore up the innings after the dismissal of their top four batsmen had left India in trouble at 165-4 at tea.

The 30-year-old batsman put on 77 for the fifth wicket with Vangipurappu Laxman as the two stood firm against the four-man West Indies pace attack.

Bangar completed his third Test fifty before he was out late in the final session, driving fast bowler Cameron Cuffly to cover. His 201-ball knock lasting over five hours and contained 13 fours.

Laxman scored 48 before edging Mervyn Dillon to slip fielder Chris Gayle to give the pace spearhead his second success in the fading light.

At the close, Parthiv Patel (18) and Harbhajan Singh (3) were together when poor light ended play seven overs early.

The West Indies pace bowlers gave their struggling side their best day of the series with a sustained

effort on a good batting pitch at the Eden Gardens after skipper Saurav



PHOTO: AFP

India's Sanjay Bangar sets off for a run after seeing the ball go past West Indies wicketkeeper Ridley Jacobs on the opening day of the third Test at Eden Gardens in Calcutta yesterday.

Ganguly chose to bat first.

Opener Virender Sehwag, who made an aggressive run-a-ball 35, Sachin Tendulkar (36) and Rahul Dravid (14) all fell to the quicks while Ganguly (30) succumbed to his opposite number Carl Hooper's off-spin.

Sehwag gave a typically fast start to the innings before he and Dravid were dismissed in the morn-

ing, trapped leg before by Dillon and young paceman Darren Powell.

Sehwag put on 49 with Bangar before being trapped in front by a ball which nipped back into him. He hit six fours.

Dravid also fell to a sharp in-cutter, but television replays suggested he had edged the ball onto this pads.

Tendulkar showed early fluency in search of his first fifty of the series

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Mark joining Nine?

Cricket

AFP, Sydney

Mark Waugh, who spoke of his dislike of the media when announcing his retirement this week from international cricket, is set to follow a well-worn path into Channel Nine's cricket commentary team.

Nine director of Sport Gary Burns said discussions with Waugh's management begin on Thursday about him joining old teammates Mark Taylor and Ian Healy behind the microphone.

"But I'm not sure he's a certainty this summer for the central commentary position," Burns said on Wednesday.

"He's going to play first-class cricket for New South Wales this season and that goes on at the same time as the international

season.
"He commented in the mid-winter season here -- the one dayers against Pakistan -- and went



MARK WAUGH

pretty well I thought."
But Burns balked at the idea that

the network was keen to secure Waugh.

"Not that keen, we are full -- fuller than a fat lady's sock really," Burns said.

"Nobody's going to join the commentary team while they are still playing, so he's going to have at least another season.

"But we're hoping we can work out a way we can see him guest commenting on appropriate matches.

"And don't forget the World Cup (in South Africa next year) for instance, we will have a major hosting and downstreet operation back here in Sydney while that's all going on and I hope to see him involved in that."

Waugh, a permanent fixture in Australia's line-up for nearly a decade, dropped out of international cricket on Monday hours after being axed for next week's opening

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



RICHARD



ORACENE

Serena is currently the number one ranked women's player in the world after capturing the last three major tournaments.