



Did U Know?

England captain David Beckham broke all records for replica shirt sales on his first day as a Real Madrid player. The club's souvenir shop sold 8,000 shirts with the No 23 that Beckham will wear in little more than seven hours.



Talk Turkey



Ehsan Mani

(ICC president)
"Cricket, like all sport, has the capacity to promote understanding and generate goodwill and I would urge the political leaders in both countries (India and Pakistan) to allow the game of cricket to assist in building relations between these two nations rather than being used for a political purpose."



What to Watch

ESPN

South Africa vs Zimbabwe
NatWest Series
Sixth ODI
Live at 3:45 pm

STAR Sports

Wimbledon C'ships
Day Eleven, Highlights
Repeat at 8:30 am
Soccer Soap
Dream Team
Repeat at 9:30 am
Wimbledon C'ships
Men's Singles Semis
Repeat at 10:00 am
Soccer Soap
Dream Team
Repeat at 8:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID

COMPETITION 195

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

Competition closes at 8 pm
July 11, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who will lead the Australia bound Bangladesh cricket team?	Mashud Aminul Mahmud
2. How many ODI centuries has Brian Lara scored?	21 31 17
3. Who clinched the French Open men's title?	Hewitt Agassi Ferrero
4. Who became Dev Cup hockey champions?	
Name	
Class Roll No.	
School Address	
Phone: (If any)	

Rajshahi Pepsi h'ball champs

UNB, Dhaka

Rajshahi DSA clinched the Pepsi 16th National Men's Handball title beating hosts Dinajpur DSA 39-21 in the final at the Dinajpur Stadium yesterday.

The winners led the first half 22-12. Rajan scored 11 and Ronny 10 for Rajshahi while Dulal netted 7 and Suja 6 for Dinajpur.

Saber fears for future

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Former Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president Saber Hossain Chowdhury has expressed his deepest concerns for the future of the game in the country.

"There's no leadership in the present Board. It appears to me that the BCB is functioning without a vision and a roadmap. If it continues like this, our cricket will only go back while our competitors will move ahead," said Saber during an informal gathering of sports journalists of leading national dailies at his residence yesterday.

"There is a tendency among the present Board setup to banish every programme initiated by us, which is a mistake. They should have continued with the development. Now they are going back to square one just to undermine our efforts."

The popular cricket organiser lauded the two-member probe committee's report on Bangladesh's disastrous World Cup campaign and said it was time that the Board showed its sincerity in implementing the body's recommendations.

ommendations.

"A few months ago, I gave a ten-point suggestion to address the current crisis that has gripped the country's cricket. One of the main points there was de-politicization of the Board. The probe body also



SABER HOSSAIN CHOWDHURY

highlighted on the same point in its recommendations. Besides, it also emphasised on making the various sub-committees active, inclusion of former national players in the selection process etc which was also in line with our perception."

Saber however was critical of the Board's attitude following the

disclosure of the report.

"You see, only the chief selector stepped down taking full responsibility of his actions. But you also have to hold the person who had appointed him, accountable."

He also took a swipe at the present BCB boss Ali Asghar.

"The probe report found the president of the Board at fault in certain areas. But he just admitted that he made some mistakes. That is not good enough. He should have resigned from his position taking the blame on his shoulders to set an example. That way, accountability would also have been established. If the government still thought that he was the right man for the job, then he could have been asked to carry on."

Saber dismissed recent claims by Asghar that he had inherited only three-crore taka when he took over and also questioned allegations of excessive spending at the Board's Annual General Meeting in Cox's Bazar during his reign.

"It's claimed that we spent around Taka 28 lakh at the AGM. It could have been Taka two crore for I know. But the fact remains that we had ensured a cash flow of Taka 150 crore from different sources for the

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U-23 match drawn

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Under-23 cricket team opted for batting practice as their two-day match against Max Academy ended in a tame draw at the Rangri Stadium in Dambulla yesterday.

The tourists who resumed their innings on 1-0 in reply to the home side's 278, were dismissed for 222 in 75.1 overs but bad light meant there was no chance of the match continuing.

The highlight of the final day's play was a gritty half-century by national wicketkeeper Mohammad Selim.

The right-handed Selim scored 79 off 150 balls. His knock contained just five boundaries.

One down Aftab Ahmed contributed 32 runs in 54 deliveries with five hits to the fence while skipper Nafis Iqbal made 34-ball 23 which featured four fours.

Bangladesh Under-23 will play their next two-day match against Moors SC Under-23 team on July 7-8.

BRIEF SCORES

SRI LANKA MAX ACADEMY: First innings 278 all out in 91 overs (Paranwitharana 108, Wijeratne 65, Kulaseera 51, Alamgir 8-62, Nadeef 2-47)

BANGLADESH UNDER-23: First innings 222 all out in 75.1 overs (overnight 1 for no loss in 0.2 overs)
Result: Match drawn.

New fixture for Eng's SL tour

REUTERS, London

Following is a revised itinerary for the England cricket tour to Sri Lanka in November and December 2003.

November 13: arrive in Colombo November 15: v Sri Lanka 'A', Moratuwa (previously Colombo)

November 18: v Sri Lanka, first one-day international, Dambulla (previously Colombo)

November 21: v Sri Lanka, second one-day international (day/night), Colombo

November 23: v Sri Lanka, third one-day international (day/night), Colombo

November 26-28: v Sri Lanka 'A', Colombo

December 2-6: v Sri Lanka, first Test, Galle

December 10-14: v Sri Lanka, second Test, Kandy (previously Colombo)

December 18-22 v Sri Lanka, third Test, Colombo

December 23: depart for England.

Jugantor Sixes cricket kings

SPORTS REPORTER

Dainik Jugantor were crowned champions of the Pepsi Media Cup cricket tournament after dethroning ATN Bangla by 25 runs in the final at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

The powerful Jugantor rode on the experience of skipper Syed Saidur Rahman Shamim and guest player Rabeed Imam to build a formidable score of 90 for one in their allotted six overs after electing to bat.

The openers were toyed with by the ATN bowlers. Shamim smashed three sixes and two fours before retiring on 30 while Rabeed hit two over-boundaries and three across the rope before joining him on the same score.

However Shamim who also claimed a wicket, was adjudged the man-of-the-final. He also bagged

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Ton eludes Bashar

Cricket

AFP, Brisbane

Habibul Bashar missed out by one run on becoming Bangladesh's first century-maker on their Australian cricket tour against the Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy here on Friday.

Bashar was bowled by paceman Mark Cleary for 99 after Bangladesh produced a spirited all-round display on the second day of their three-day tour match at Allan Border Field.

Bashar struck 16 boundaries in his 188-minute innings as Bangladesh, tuning up for this month's two Tests against Australia, declared their first innings at 232 for seven, a deficit of 26 runs against the Academy youngsters.

At the close, the Academy were 99 for four to lead by 125 runs and six wickets remaining with one day left.

Resuming at 53 for one in pursuit of the Academy's first innings score of 258 for three declared, Bangladesh produced their most assertive batting of the tour.

Bashar and Javed Omar (59) batted throughout the first session and put on 146 in 176 minutes for

the second wicket before their union ended after lunch.

The Bangladesh innings lost momentum after Omar was dismissed following a 213-minute innings, which included 12 boundaries.

The tourists suffered another fall after a 38-run fifth wicket stand between Sanwar Hossain (26) and Alok Kapali (14).

Captain Aaron Nye (2-40 off 18



BASHAR ... 99

overs) and fellow medium-pace Callum Ferguson (2-5 off five) were the Academy's main wicket-takers. In their second innings, the

Academy lost opening batsman Simon Williams (three) and Scott Meuleman (29) to opening bowler Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza (2-19 off six).

The Academy also lost Peter Worthington (four) and Luke Ronchi (22) to paceman Tareq Aziz (1-33 off seven) and spinner Mohammad Rafique (1-7 off six) respectively.

At stumps, Nye was unbeaten on 27 and Ferguson on 10 in a 27-run stand.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close on the second day of a three-day tour match between the Commonwealth Bank Cricket Academy (CBCA) and Bangladesh on Friday:

CBCA: First innings 258 for three in 76 overs.

BANGLADESH: First innings (overnight 53 for 1 in 19 overs)

Hannanlbw b Duval	8
Omar c Duval b Nye	59
Bashar b Cleary	99
Ashraf c Lockyear b Nye	1
Sanwar b Ferguson	26
Kapali c Ronchi b Ferguson	14
K Mahmud c Meuleman b Worthington	7
K Mashud not out	2
Mashrafe not out	4

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Scuds his way through

WIMBLEDON

AFP, London

Mark Philippoussis of Australia put two years of injury hell behind him on Friday, beating France's Sebastien Grosjean 7-6 (7/3), 6-3, 6-3 to reach the men's singles final at Wimbledon for the first time in his career.

The 26-year-old from Melbourne won in just 1hr 56min and now meets either US fifth seed Andy Roddick or Swiss fourth seed Roger Federer in Sunday's trophy match.

Philippoussis, the eighth Australian man to reach the final in the Open Era and looking to succeed compatriot Lleyton Hewitt as champion, spent almost three months in a wheelchair two seasons ago and missed all of the 2001 season as well as almost half of last season.

Having endured that living hell the world number 48 said he could hardly realise what he had achieved after a forehand winner closed matters on his third match point.

"I am not really feeling much. Maybe it hasn't sunk in yet. But I'm feeling pretty good," Philippoussis told BBC television.

"The only thing I was looking for was just to stay healthy. There was no way I was thinking about the second week. I was just thinking about playing good, solid grass-court tennis."

"It feels like I've been away for six years," he said of his injury nightmare.

"I don't think Sebastien played his best tennis today and I took advantage of that - I tried to keep the pressure on," said the Australian.

Queen's Club finalist Grosjean, only the third Frenchman to reach the last four at Wimbledon in the Open era dating back to 1968, fired way long on a big Philippoussis serve on the opening point - a sign of things to come.

Five straight games flashed by without a point against either man's serve and a tiebreak swiftly materialised.

The 13th seed Grosjean, who

ended the aspirations of Britain's perennial nearly man Tim Henman in the quarters, then fired into the net as Philippoussis took the set in 46min on his first set point after taking three straight points against his rival's serve to recover from a minibreak against him at 2-3.

In the second set, the burly Aussie made a dream start with a break in the opening game on his second break point - but he then had to stave off Grosjean's first break point of the match in the fourth game before a seventh ace took him out to 3-1, despite some lower-powered serves.

Grosjean produced only his second ace in saving a break point to hold for 2-4 but in Philippoussis,

nicknamed Scud for his massive serve which has produced 164 aces in his six matches to date, he was meeting a player desperate to keep an appointment with destiny.

Philippoussis, US Open runner-up in 1998, led Pete Sampras, who was then in his prime, by a set in the 1999 quarterfinals but then had to withdraw with a cartilage tear in his left knee.

That injury required surgery and a further operation came in January 2000 before a renewed bout in March 2001.

But over the past fortnight he has once again shown himself to be

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Mark Philippoussis pumps his fist during his Wimbledon semifinal against France's Sebastien Grosjean yesterday.

A family reunion

WIMBLEDON

AFP, London

Those, including their rivals, who had hoped that one or the other would not last the pace and succumb to outside interests have been disappointed at Wimbledon - because the Williams show will be the only one in town for Saturday's women's final.

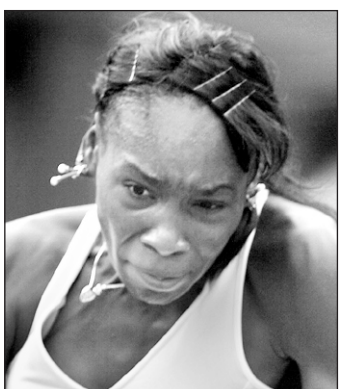
Belgium's best -- second seed Kim Clijsters and third seed Justine Henin-Hardenne -- were unable to stop the Williams machine in Thursday's semifinals and now Venus has a chance to clinch a third crown here, while putting Serena, who beat her in last year's final, in her place.

Both sisters have shown here over the past fortnight that their love of fashion is best at enhancing, rather than getting in the way, of their tennis -- both of them hurtling around on the grass in style, Venus showing off a particularly slinky number designed by Diane von Furstenberg.

If they look good in the sartorial

stakes both sisters have been no less impressive on court -- crunching their rivals one after the other to ensure that they will now meet each other for the fifth time in the past six Grand Slam finals.

California-born Venus, at 23 just 15 months older than



VENUS WILLIAMS

Michigan-born Serena and with an eight centimetre advantage at a statuesque 1.83m, enjoyed early supremacy in their battles as she

won their opening three meetings.

But it was Serena who landed the first Grand Slam singles title for the family when she brought home the 1999 US Open. She then beat Venus in the final of the Grand Slam Cup.

Venus took revenge at 2000



SERENA WILLIAMS

Wimbledon in the semi-final where questions were asked as to whether either woman had the appetite to face her sibling before

going on to win the title. They then paired up to win the doubles together at the All England Club and both returned home all smiles.

Venus, having first regained her Wimbledon crown, saw off Serena in an historic US Open final in 2001 for the first time that sisters had met in a Major final since Maud Watson and Lilian Wilson dued at Wimbledon in 1884.

But that match 22 months ago has taken on added significance because since then Serena has won five matches on a roll and won four Grand Slams -- landing a "Serena Slam" in winning Roland Garros, Wimbledon, the US Open and this year's Australian Open -- all at her sister's expense.

Now the head to head count reads 6-5 in Serena's favour, and she is determined to show she is top dog after the shock of losing the French Open semifinal to Henin-Hardenne.

On Thursday she put the diminutive Belgian firmly in her place with a 6-3, 6-2 win while Venus had to overcome a stomach problem in

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Bracewell gets NZ job

Cricket

REUTERS, Christchurch

Gloucestershire's director of cricket John Bracewell was named as New Zealand's new coach on Friday.

The former New Zealand off-spinner takes over in November from Denis Aberhart, who pulled out of the running after a successful two-year term, after finishing the season with his county side.

Described in his playing days as the "spin bowler with the fast bowler's attitude," the often fiery Bracewell has forged a successful coaching career, beginning with Auckland before steering Gloucestershire to six county trophies in five years.

"Prior to John's involvement, the club had only won two trophies in its 150-year history," New Zealand Cricket chief executive Martin Snedden, a former international teammate of Bracewell's, said.

"Significantly he has taken Gloucestershire to four finals victories at Lord's. This demonstrates that he has the ability to get his teams to perform in high pressure situations."

Bracewell played 41 Tests for

New Zealand from 1980 to 1990, capturing 102 wickets at an average of 35.81 and a best haul of six for 32. He took one 10-wicket match haul.

As a batsman, Bracewell hit his one and only Test century against England at Trent Bridge in 1986 and in all scored 1,001 Test runs at an average of 20.42, including four half-centuries.

Snedden said Bracewell would finish the season with Gloucestershire, with the county still in contention to win four competitions, before joining New Zealand

at Canterbury on Sunday, had barged him out of the way while completing a single two overs earlier.

Andrew Hall, extending his promotion up the order, made a 39-ball 29, adding 45 in 59 balls with Kallis before he was bowled middle and leg stump by Flintoff, South Africa 82 for three in the 18th over.

But Kallis and Rudolph were untroubled as they compiled a fifty partnership in 74 balls.

They were particularly severe on Ashley Giles, the left-arm spinner's first three overs going for 18 runs with Kallis lofting him for six over long-off.

Kallis' fifty came off 73 balls including one six and two fours. Left-hander Rudolph, 22, also made his half-century in the same number of deliveries, with four fours.

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Kallis, Rudolph power SA

Cricket

AFP, Manchester

Jacques Kallis and Jacques Rudolph's unbroken stand of 145 guided South Africa to a seven wicket win over England in the triangular series day-night one-day international at Old Trafford here Thursday.

Kallis was 82 not out off 105 balls including one six and five fours with left-hander Rudolph 71 not out off 102 balls with six fours. The duo were together for one ball short of 300 overs.

The result meant South Africa topped the table by a point from England, having played one game less and were two clear of Zimbabwe who they play in Cardiff on Saturday.

England's modest total of 223 for seven and Rudolph's fine innings effectively ended 27-year-old Kallis' bid to become only the fourth player in history to make hundreds in three successive one-day internationals.

Kallis, who made 107 in the six wicket defeat by England at The Oval on Sunday and followed that up 24 hours later with an unbeaten 125 in the 46-run win over Zimbabwe at Canterbury, was left with a tournament average of 31.4.

South Africa's reply began badly when Herschelle Gibbs was run out for one, his third single figure score in as many triangular matches.

Proteas' captain Graeme Smith dropped the ball at his feet and set off. But his fellow opener Gibbs was beaten by Vikram Solanki's under-arm direct hit from backward point.

Left-handed batsman Smith had made 22 when he was clean bowled by James Anderson's late inswinger.

It was the perfect response by the fast bowler after Smith, doubtful for this match after sustaining a shoulder injury during South Africa's 46-run win over Zimbabwe

at Canterbury on Sunday, had barged him out of the way while completing a single two overs earlier.

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Kallis' fifty came off 73 balls including one six and two fours. Left-hander Rudolph, 22, also made his half-century in the same number of deliveries, with four fours.

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South Africa's Jacques Kallis sweeps during the NatWest Series one day international against England at Old Trafford on Thursday.