



Did U Know?

West Indies hold the dubious record of conceding maximum extras in a match. They gave away 173 against Pakistan at Bridgetown in 1976-77.



What to Watch

BTV

Nitol-Tata Nat'l Football League
Dhaka Arambagh vs Jhenidah
Mohammedan
Live at 4:00 pm

ESPN

England vs South Africa
NatWest Series Final
Highlights
Repeat at 7:00 am
Sportscentre Weekend
Sport News
Taped Version at 7:25 pm

STAR Sports

ATP Tennis Championships
Semifinals
Same Day Delay at 11:30 am



Talk Turkey



David Beckham

(Real Madrid's England superstar)
"I would like to publicly thank Sir Alex Ferguson for making me the player I am today."



Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 196
Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
July 25, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

- Who clinched the Premier Division Hockey League title?
BDR Wari Eskaton
- Who became Confederation Cup champions?
France Cameroon Brazil
- Who won the Wimbledon women's singles crown?
Serena Venus Clijsters
- Which country will host the Asia Youth Cup cricket tournament?

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

Shishukishor, Bachelor win

SPORTS REPORTER

Bachelor Sporting Club crushed Barnak Samaj 6-1 in the Green Delta First Division Hockey League at the Moulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Mohit, Taleb and Jami all hit the board twice for the winners while Saiful Alam scored for the losers.

In the other match, Shishukishor Sangha blanked Victoria Sporting Club 5-0.

Jahangir struck thrice while Ranjan and Maksudur netted one goal each.

Darwin awaits close finish

Cricket

CHIPS MACKINOLTY from Darwin

A tremendous effort in the field and a solid batting start marred only by two late dismissals positioned Bangladesh for a real chance to win their four-day match against the Chief Minister's XI in Darwin, Australia yesterday.

From being regarded as having little chance at lasting against the Australians in next week's Test match, one Australian international playing in the Northern Territory, yesterday said there was a real chance at the Test running the full five days.

Chasing 187 runs to win, Bangladesh finished the third day on 90-4, losing two wickets in the last 17 minutes of play. The game is now delicately poised, with the Bangladesh batsmen needing to be level headed going into the final day.

Coach Dav Whatmore always slow in public praise said last night "The bowlers got us back in the game," after seeing the Chief Minister's side being bowled out for 136.

Leading the charge was Tapas Baishya with 3 for 19 off 10.4 overs including three maidens. But the honours were shared with wickets being taken by Monjurul Islam (2-

23), Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza (1/33), Khaled Mahmud (1/30), Moha-mmad Rafique (1-17) and Moha-mmad Ashraful (2-21).

"The whole of the bowlers did a great job," said Whatmore. "The bowling was a fantastic effort great ticker, great heart, great effort."

And Nathan Hauritz, one of Australia's most promising young players, said after the match "Definitely they'll last five days if they play as well as what they can."

"They'll surprise a lot of people, it will be good if they did because it's been a pretty tough road to international cricket," he said.

"They're not far away, they've got all the shots and can handle the pace."

Nursing a badly bruised hand caused by the big, tall scary quick Mashrafe Hauritz said the fourth day promised to "be a good challenge" on a wicket that was starting to take turn.

Bangladesh's second innings was marked by some loose bowling from the Northern Territory side and the match's first sustained fast scoring from the Bangladeshi batsmen. At one stage, there was speculation the tourists could finish the job on the third day until Hannan, top-scorer in the first innings, was adjudged leg before for 12 with the score at 28.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 2



A Northern Territory Chief Minister's Eleven batsman lets a Mashrafe-bin-Mortuza delivery go during the third day's play of the tour match against Bangladesh at the Murrara Oval in Darwin yesterday.

PHOTO: STEPHEN CHERRY

Faruque sees positives

Under-23 team returns home

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Former national skipper Faruque Ahmed was impressed with the Bangladesh Under-23 team performance in Sri Lanka tour, especially the way his players improved with every passing game.

"In every department our boys showed a gradual improvement during the tour. Also they didn't take much time to adjust with the different local conditions. I think the signs are very inspiring for our cricket," Faruque said.

He was talking to the Daily Star Sport after the team returned home yesterday ending a 22-day tour of Sri Lanka.

"There are a lot of promising players in the squad who are capable of representing Bangladesh in the future," observed Faruque for whom the first assignment in a managerial role last year was dis-

appointing. He led a Bangladesh under-15 team to Abu Dhabi where they crashed out after losing to tiny Nepal.

Known as a hard-hitting batsman, Faruque was all smiles on this occasion despite a losing start to the tour.

"The teams we faced were very strong because most of times they fielded a combined team. I believe that some of their players will make it into the Sri Lanka main squad within a short time."

Bangladesh made a disastrous start to the tour losing four of the five one-day matches but bounced back in the three two-day games. Faruque was against blaming his young players for the initial setbacks.

"Nafees did a tremendous job in the tour as captain. I was very impressed by his positive attitude on the field and I believe that it is not far away for him to get a call up in the national squad," Faruque said, which assessing individual

performers.

He also praised natural stroke-maker Nazimuddin Ahmed although the talented right-hander from Chittagong failed to live up to expectations.

He observed that Bangladesh has always been starved of a quality left-handed batsman that would not only add flair to the batting but also help our bowlers learn how to deal with quality southpaws.

Although Faruque expressed guarded optimism about the team's only left-handed batsman Huma-yun Kabir, the Under-23 opener could raise his game with more exposure.

"No doubt he is a good prospect. His asset is his level of concentration and he knows his limitation," Faruque said.

When switching his attention to the bowling he pointed out that the two left-arm spinners Nadeef Chowdhury and Enamul Haq (Jr) are sure to break into the national team sooner or later.

Cricket season begins Oct 1

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is going to start the next domestic season from October 1 through holding of the national cricket championship.

Cricket committee chairman Mahabub Anam told reporters yesterday that they had already finalised next year's calendar which had already been distributed to the different committees to work out their budgets.

The board is working on preparing a proper "playing condition" to avoid any kind of controversy in the domestic arena.

"We will make these conditions of playing public before the start of the season," Mahabub said.

The countrywide league, the only first-class competition of the country, will be held in its old form home and away league basis.

"There will be no limited-overs matches in the league," Mahabub told.

Besides, the most competitive domestic competition of the country the Dhaka league will be a two-day affair from now on and the competition will be followed by a limited-overs Independence Cup where six top teams of the league will participate.

Also, to make it sure that district level leagues run properly, the BCB has decided to introduce a national club championship which will of three-day matches.

Bangladesh lift bronze

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh bagged the bronze in the qualifying round of the Asian men's basketball championship beating Sri Lanka 70-61 in New Delhi on Friday.

This is for the first time that Bangladesh defeated a Sri Lankan national side.

Earlier, Bangladesh defeated Nepal 66-60.

The Bangladesh team will return home on July 16.

Razzaq skips B'desh series

REUTERS, Karachi

Pakistan all-rounder Abdul Razzaq has joined Shoaib Akhtar in skipping the home series against Bangladesh starting next month.

Chief selector Amir Sohail said on Saturday that Razzaq had told the cricket board and national selectors he would not be available for the three Tests and five one-day internationals starting on August 20.

"Shoaib Akhtar has already been given permission by the Board to skip the Bangladesh series. And Razzaq will also not be available," Sohail told Reuters.

Akhtar, the world's fastest bowler has permission from the Pakistan board to continue playing for English county Durham until September 17.

"The series against Bangladesh will give us a good opportunity to try out some young and new players in our rebuilding process," said Sohail.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

Army trouble AKC again

Football

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Sporting Club's 6-0 victory in the opening match against Jamalpur Jagarani on Friday, but Abahani could only score a 51st minute equaliser through their forward Khokon.



RIPON...m-o-m

Apart from the second half goal Abahani created a number of chances that only were either deflected, missed or spoilt.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8



PHOTO: ZOAHER HOSSAIN SIKDER

Abahani's goal against Bangladesh Army in the Nitol-Tata National Football League at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

I'm James

Cricket

NEWS24, Southampton

James. That's how Jimmy, sorry James Anderson wants to be called.

England's 21-year old fast-bowling sensation is already being hailed as the David Beckham of cricket.

He has the same hairstyle that soccer star Beckham sported during the World Cup tournament in Japan and South Korea. A maroon-pink highlight stretches across his wealth of hair, from front to back.

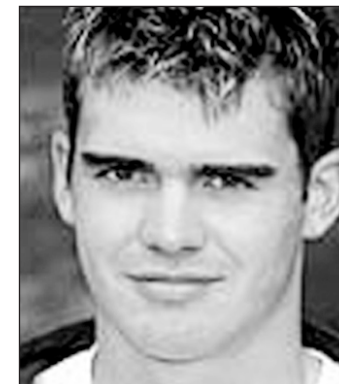
Not every mother-in-law's dream, although his bank balance could change matters.

The Lancashire player forced his way into the limelight almost overnight, and already boasts a hat-trick in international one-day cricket (against Pakistan).

Earlier this week, Anderson made a sensational come-back at Edgbaston in the match against South Africa after the visitors' cap-

tain, Graeme Smith, took 19 runs off the fast-bowler's first over.

After conceding 24 runs from two overs, he was "banished" to the third-man boundary, until he got



JAMES ANDERSON

another chance to turn his arm later in the SA innings.

He bowled brilliantly, dismissing

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

U-19 cricket camp starts on July 20

SPORTS REPORTER

The residential camp for the Bangladesh under-19 cricket team is likely to start on July 20 with 20 to 30 players to attend it initially to prepare for the World Cup next year.

The juvenile World Cup will be held across the country over February-March next.

The boys will take part in a six-week conditioning camp under the supervision of Sri Lankan coach Malcolm Perera and his local associates.

As part of their warm-up, the Bangladesh boys will take on the Australian Under-19 team in October at home. Then they go to Pakistan in November to compete in a four-nation tournament also involving India, Sri Lanka and hosts Pakistan.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Cricket Board has requested the under-23 players, who returned home yesterday after a 22-day visit to Sri Lanka, to report to the Board on July 18 for the U-19 residential camp.

Cricket committee chairman Mahabub Anam yesterday informed that they were hopeful to find a foreign coach for the team by the end of this month.

"An Australian agency Sport Employment Australia (SEA) is dealing the matter and it is likely that an Australian will take the job," he said.

StanChart school chess

Rahul, Debanjan share lead

SPORTS REPORTER

Rahul Sangma of Bihar school and Debanjan Das of Jadhobpur school from Classes VI-X jointly led the table with six points each after the sixth round game of the Standard Chartered Bank School Chess tournament at the Bangladesh Chess Federation auditorium yesterday.

National sub-junior champion Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar, Mahfuzur Rahman Shahin, Sandipan (Kolkata), Beakon Mizan and Obaidul Islam were in the second position with 5 points each.

Sharmin Sultana Shirin took the solo lead in the girls' section with 5.5 points. Shamima Akter Liza, Kishowara Shazrin Evana and Mimi Arzuman were in the second position with 4.5 points each.

Indronil Chatterjee (Kolkata) maintained his solo lead with 6 points from Class I-V. In the sixth round Rahul beat Sagar, Debanjan

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1