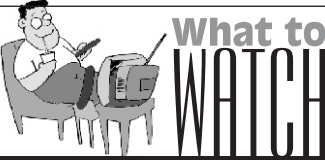




Did U Know?

England was the first team to achieve an innings victory in Test cricket. They beat Australia by an innings and 27 runs at Melbourne in 1982-83.



ESPN

West Indies vs Sri Lanka
Second Test, Day Two
Taped Version at 3:00 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm

STAR Sports

Soccer Soap
Dream Team
Repeat at 8:30 am
Gillette World Sports Special
Int'l Sports News
Repeat at 6:00 pm
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 6:30 pm
Soccer Soap
Dream Team
Taped Version at 11:00 pm



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

**Competition closes at 8 pm
July 25, 2003 and draw
shortly afterwards**

1. Who clinched the Premier Division Hockey League title?
BDR Wari Eskaton

2. Who became Confederation Cup champions?
France Cameroon Brazil

3. Who won the Wimbledon women's singles crown?
Serena Venus Clijsters

4. Which country will host the Asia Youth Cup cricket tournament?

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



Michael Vaughan

(England ODI captain)
"If you want to call him a Sehwag, you can. Vikram is that kind of player."

On Vikram Solanki.

Don't panic: Henry

NEWS24, Johannesburg

The convenor of the national cricket selectors, Omar Henry, has acknowledged that the South African bowlers were overshadowed by their England counterparts in the recent one-day triangular NatWest Series.

However, he believes there is no reason for panic and has asked supporters to be patient with the young touring squad.

"Our problem is a lack of bowlers with real pace. It's not something you can cultivate overnight. D e w a l d

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PHOTO: ZOABER HOSSAIN SIKDER
Saiful of Moulvibazar (2nd from R) celebrates scoring the fifth goal of his side over Jagarani in the Nitol-Tata National Football League at Chittagong's MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

Wanderers eat Jagarani

Football

SHAHIDUL ISLAM, Chittagong

Wanderers club of Moulvibazar emulated Dhaka Mohammedan's goal-feast to crush Jamalpur Jagarani 6-0 in their Nitol-Tata 3rd National Football League match at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

Mohammedan had thrashed the team from Jamalpur by the



MITHU ... m-o-m

same margin in their opening game on Friday.

"We deserved this defeat. I couldn't field my first choice eleven in this match due to undesired inference from the team management," said a frustrated Jagarani coach Monwar Hossain Maina after the match.

The mood was totally different in the Wanderers camp.

"I am satisfied but the score line should have been 8-0 today. My only regret is missing the hattrick," said Wanderers' two-goal hero and skipper Murad Ahmed Milon.

Milon opened the floodgates with a perfect header from a Shamim cross in the 9th minute. Man of the match Jumratul Hossain Mithu doubled the margin with another headed goal two minutes later off a Govinda chip from the right flank.

Although Wanderers totally dominated, there were no further goals in the half.

In the 57th minute, Mithu got his second capitalising on a loose ball after it had rebounded off Jagarani custodian Ujjal.

Four minutes later, Lalal was set clear by Saiful and he ran inside the box to slot the ball into an open net. It was Saiful's turn to join the party in the 76th minute when he dodged past a defender to beat Ujjal.

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Langer pays respect

Cricket

AGENCIES, Darwin

It may be potentially the biggest mismatch in cricket history, but Justin Langer says Australia's historic two-Test series against Bangladesh is important for the game.

Despite the visitors' woeful record, the Australia opening batsman said he looked forward to the series between the world's top



JUSTIN LANGER

and bottom ranked sides, which starts at Murrara Oval in Darwin on Friday.

Schools soccer Three reach group finals

SPORTS REPORTER

Willes Little Flower, Rayerbazar High and Mollartek Udayan High moved into their respective group finals in the Dhaka Metropolis inter-school football tournament yesterday.

Little Flower got walkover against Faizur Rahman Ideal for their berth in the group final at the Basabo Club ground where the other match between Ali Ahmed High and Kamalapur Sher-e-Bangla Railway High ended goalless.

At the Dhanmondi Club ground, Rayerbazar defeated Sunbeams 3-0 to proceed further while Loreto and Badsha Faisal Institute played to a goalless draw at the same venue.

Mollartek ensured their progress with an emphatic 6-0 victory over IAS School at the Police Lines ground in Uttara while Emarat Hossain Adarsha School got walk-over against Shahid Ramizuddin High at the same venue.

At the Dhaka University ground, Shahid Nabi High came from behind to beat

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

Rana feels ruined

Hockey

SPORTS REPORTER

The life ban imposed on national hockey player Mahabub Ehsan Rana along with Abahani coach Jummon Lusat evoked mixed reactions from the hockey community.

While Abahani termed the action taken by the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) as 'too harsh' a dazed Rana called it unprecedented in the history of local hockey.

But the BHF general secretary Shamsul Bari defended the executive committee's decision on Monday saying that it was not unique.

"This was not the first time a player was banned for life since Haider Alam faced the same fate in 1996," said the long-serving Bari.

But the case of Haider was far less serious than what had happened with Rana, who has just started his international career.

Haider was banned because he didn't return home from Istanbul after participating in the World

Cup qualifiers.

"I don't think it was a harsh decision. We took it unanimously because everybody wanted to set an example," said the BHF general secretary.

"I can assure you that we will follow the example in future if anybody involves in such kind of activities, especially in our tenure," vowed Bari.

But Rana claimed that he was denied justice.

"I have never heard of a player being punished for life after one bad incident. I agree I got carried away and I'm very sorry for that. But why should I have to pay such a high price that will end my career, said the Abahani captain in tears.

"It is so shocking and unexpected that I can hardly believe that I can no longer be able to do what I love most," said the 24-year-old mid-fielder.

"They (BHF) have the right to punish and fine me. But they can simply destroy my career to satisfy their whims. I cannot accept even a one-year ban," said the talented player from Mymensingh.

Asked what he would do in response to the life ban, Rana said

he would be fighting to clear his name through his club and with the help of the media.

His club Abahani was also surprised by the over-reaction of the BHF executive committee, which usually endorses any league committee decision.

The league committee last month recommended a one-year ban on Rana's involvement in the assault on umpire Golam Kibria during the Club Cup final against Mohammedan Sporting Club.

"This was the first time any Abahani official or player had insulted an umpire. We never supported it that's why we made an unconditional apology for the incident. But it was unfortunate the way the federation took a hard-line against us," Abahani hockey secretary Zahidur Rahman Pushkin told The Daily Star Sport yesterday.

"I think the decision is unwise because it is impossible to produce a quality player overnight, especially when the country is desperately short of one," Pushkin said.

The Abahani official also said

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PHOTO: STAR
Bangladesh Cricket Board's marketing committee chairman Aziz Al-Kaiser (3rd from L) and managing director of GrameenPhone Ola Ree exchange the memorandum of understanding after singing a sponsorship deal at Sonargaon Hotel yesterday.

Tigers to sport GP logo

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

When Bangladesh enter the Marrara Oval to play Australia in the first Test on Friday, the Tigers will be wearing the logo of GrameenPhone on their shirts.

This was officially confirmed yesterday at a press briefing where the leading cellular phone operator and the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU).

"This deal comes into effect immediately and we are also making arrangements to have the GP logo on the players' shirts before the first Test," said BCB's marketing committee chairman Aziz Al-Kaiser after signing a two-year deal worth Taka one crore five lakh.

The agreement just before the maiden Test series, saved the blushes of the BCB which was facing

a lot of questions both at home and abroad over the lack of sponsors for the Tigers.

But Kaiser said that the details of the agreement were yet to be worked out.

"We have just signed the MOU so that we can catch the first Test. And we expect the deal will go through smoothly once our lawyer is satisfied with the details," he told reporters.

Kaiser, who is also a BCB advisor, informed that GrameenPhone would pay Taka 50 lakh in the first year while there would be a ten per cent increase in the following year, which means the Board would be getting Taka 55 lakh in the second year.

Still, the new deal is less lucrative than what the Board got for two years from soft drink giant Coca-Cola.

Coca-Cola signed a 1.8 crore deal with the BCB, but backed out after two years just before the World Cup in South Africa.

But Kaiser was relieved that the Board had acquired a sponsor when

the Tigers are going through trying times.

"We have been on a sponsorship drive for a long time. But could not attract anyone before the Bangladesh team left for Australia."

"But we are very happy that GrameenPhone has extended its bond with Bangladesh cricket," he said.

"We want to continue our relationship with the BCB as long as possible," said managing director of GrameenPhone Ola Ree.

Responding to a question on whether the sponsorship deal would cover other areas apart from having the GP logo on the team's shirt, Ola Ree said that they would love to portray the national cricketers in different promotional activities.

BCB advisor Reazuddin Al Mamun, GrameenPhone's director of marketing and sales Mehboob Chowdhury and the company's additional manager of marketing and sales Intekhab Ahmed also attended the briefing.

StanChart chess Rahul, Liza & Sifat victors

SPORTS REPORTER

Rahul Sangma of Bihar School and Shamima Aktar Liza of Bibi Marium School clinched the boys' and girls' titles respectively in the Class Six to Ten Group of the Standard Chartered Bank School Chess Tournament at the chess room of National Sports Council yesterday.

In the Class One to Five Group, Sifat Hossain of Badda Primary School was the winner.

Rahul kept up his all-win record in the tournament as he collected maximum nine points. Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar of Hazrat Shah Ali School finished runner-up with eight points.

However, 7.5 points sufficed Liza to collect her title while her school-mate Sharmin Sultana Shirin earned second position with 7 points.

Sifat became champion collecting seven points.

Stop sledging

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Australia coach John Buchanan has told his team to cut down on sledging if they want their achievements to gain maximum respect.

Buchanan has helped to make the current Australian side into world-beaters.

But he is now seeking an improvement from his players in their behaviour and attitude towards opponents on the field.

Sledging is seen as part of the modern game by many players, and is used effectively by the Aussies to wind up other teams.

However, Buchanan said: "The players concerned let their team down and they let themselves down."

"They lose respect and team-mates are distracted."

The coach is determined to improve Australia's image after sledging disputes tarnished victories this year.

The bitterest exchanges came when Glenn McGrath and West Indies batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan eyeballed each other in Antigua.

Australian captain Steve Waugh was also involved in heated discussions with Windies star Brian Lara earlier in the match.

Afterwards, Australian Cricket Board chief executive James Sutherland told Waugh and his players to keep their emotions in check.

It also led to calls from the then International Cricket Council chief executive Malcolm Speed for umpires to take a tough stance over such behaviour.

Buchanan was speaking ahead of Australia's first Test against Bangladesh, which begins on Friday in Darwin.



PHOTO: STAR
Participants of the Standard Chartered bank school chess tournament pose with the guests after the end of the meet at the NSC yesterday.

The Pakistan all-rounder, who announced his retirement from international cricket in May, had intended this season with second division Hampshire to be his last in first-class cricket but has missed three of their eight championship matches.

Hampshire's director of cricket, Tim Tremlett, said: "Wasim has proved to be a very valuable and popular member of the team and we are very sorry to be losing him at this stage in the season."

The county are expected to try to find an overseas replacement for Wasim, one of the club's two permitted overseas players along with Australian batsman Simon Katich.

At the World Cup, left-arm quick Wasim became the first bowler in history to take 500 one-day international wickets.

His 502 one-day international wickets in 356 matches remain world records.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

Wasim Akram

Born: June 3, 1966, Lahore, Pakistan
Batting style: left-hander
Bowling style: left arm fast
Awards held: Wisden Cricketer of the Year 1993

| Tests | | | | | |
|---------|-------|------|------|--|--|
| Batting | | | | | |
| M | I | NO | R | | |
| 104 | 147 | 19 | 2898 | | |
| HS | Avg | 100s | 50s | | |
| 257* | 22.64 | 3 | 7 | | |

| Bowling | | | | | |
|---------|-----|------|------|-------|--|
| O | M | R | W | Avg | |
| 3771.1 | 871 | 9779 | 414 | 23.62 | |
| BB | 5wi | 10wm | SR | ER | |
| 7-119 | 25 | 5 | 54.6 | 2.59 | |

| ODI | | | | | |
|---------|-------|-------|------|-----|--|
| Batting | | | | | |
| M | I | NO | R | | |
| 356 | 280 | 55 | 3717 | | |
| HS | Avg | SR | 100s | 50s | |
| 86 | 16.52 | 88.28 | 0 | 6 | |

| Bowling | | | | | |
|---------|-----|-------|------|-------|--|
| O | M | R | W | Avg | |
| 3031 | 238 | 11812 | 502 | 23.52 | |
| BB | 4wi | 5wi | SR | ER | |
| 5-15 | 17 | 6 | 36.2 | 3.89 | |

AFP 150703

* not out

Quits Hampshire halfway through a one-year contract due to ill health

