

Procter's father passes away

INTERNATIONAL CRICKET COUNCIL (ICC) match referee Mike Procter will return home to South Africa following the death of his father, officials said on Sunday.

The former Test player will be replaced for the remaining days of the Test by former Australian all-rounder and current Cricket Australia Code of Behaviour Commissioner Ron Archer.

Following the Test, it is expected that Indian ICC match referee Gundappa Viswanath will travel to Australia to oversee the three-match series of one-day internationals beginning on August 2.

Zia stays

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third position with nine players with 4 points apiece.

Refaat beat IWM Nisha Mohata in his sixth round game. IM Abdullah Al Rakib earned 3.5 points, IM Enamul Hossain Rajib earned 3 points while FIDE Master Sheikh Nasir Ahmed earned 2.5 points.

In the round: Rakib lost to GM Jonathan Rowson of Scotland, Rajib drew with Rafe Martyn of England and Nasir lost to Joe Redpath of Scotland.

Meanwhile, Shawkat Hossain Pallab earned 3.5 points in the Major Open after six rounds. In the round he lost his board against John Sugden of England.

Smith dedicates

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Smith has been under attack from the likes of former selector and ex-Test off-spinner Pat Symcox, who questioned whether he was worth his place in the side.

But Smith said his motivation had not been to prove people wrong. "My goals are for this team. If we knuckle down we are going to go places."

"I didn't come on this tour to make people shut up. It's just the same guys mouthing off."

Vaughan resists SA

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scored 277, the highest Test score by a South African, out of their total while Herschelle Gibbs made 179.

Smith's hopes of pressing for victory in the first match of the five-Test series, however, were hampered by rain which washed out Friday's play as well as the final session on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at lunch on the fourth day of the first Test between England and South Africa at Edgbaston on Sunday:
SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 594-5 declared (G Smith 277, H Gibbs 179)
ENGLAND: First innings (overnight 25-0)

Trescothick b Ntini	31
Vaughan not out	49
Butcher not out	9
Extras: (b-5, w-7, nb-8)	20
Total: (For 1 wkt in 36 overs)	109
Fall of wickets: 1-66	

To bat: Hussain, McGrath, Stewart, Flintoff, Giles, Harmison, Gough, Anderson				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Pollock	10	5	18	0
Ntini	11	4	37	1
Willoughby	6	2	6	0
Pretorius	8	0	29	0
Peterson	1	0	14	0
Umpires: Sri Venkataraghavan (India) and Daryl Harper (Australia)				
Toss: South Africa				

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 Heartbroken, 5 Squid, 8 Opposed, 12 Cheese selection, 14 Wind in the Willows character, 15 What 12-Across may be on, 16 Bridge fee, 17 Actor Diesel, 18 Quick look, 20 New Zealanders, 23 Stylish, 24 Birthday cakes' info, 25 Made a big mess of, 28 Neither's mate, 29 Actress Salma, 30 9-Down, in a way, 32 Did, 46 Longing.

DOWN: 2 Nabr., 3 Country singer, 4 One Trit, 6 Tandoori bread, 7 Like Paul McCartney in, 8 Stick on time, 9 Lunchtime, 10 After-bath application, 11 Between jobs, 12 Eye part, 13 Turn part, 14 Skiers' mecca, 15 Otherwise, 16 Ollie's pal, 17 Actor Diesel, 18 Between jobs, 19 Tackle a game, 20 Nabr., 21 Borodin's "Prince", 22 Existed, 23 More demure, 25 Saloons, 26 Physical, 27 Calamitous, 29 Gets a move on, 30 Freudians' subjects, 31 The Pequot, e.g., 32 Military newcomers, 33 Singer Elton, 34 Eternally, 35 Composer Schifrin, 36 Tower city, 37 Impale, 38 Ultra-modern, 39 Neil Simon's sine qua non, 40 "Camera".

CRYPTOQUIP: DSHK Q PCNCZCKR DRAK K ZIUO TNRUSHO CK USH EIBIQI, TRINF OSH EH Q A Q K C N Q P R N F H B ? Saturday's Cryptquip: AFTER TOILING FOR TWENTY-FOUR HOURS STRAIGHT, SHE DECIDED TO CALL IT A DAY. Today's Cryptquip Clue: N equals L.



PHOTO: STAR
Action from yesterday's Green Delta Premier Division Hockey League encounter between Sonali Bank and Bangladesh Sporting Club at the Maulana Bhasani National Stadium.

Ujjal lights up Barisal

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advancing into the Super Six. The Dhaka Mohammedan pair of Kanchan and Farhad scored hat-tricks in the opening match at Chittagong against the same side.

The victory raised Jhenidah Mohammedan's tally to four from three games. They will take on Arambagh Krira Sangha in a crucial match in the final leg at Khulna. The winners led the first half 2-0.

But it was Anwar Hossain who drew first blood for Jhenidah in the 31st minute in a one-sided affair. Moniruzzaman Babu scored a consolation goal for Jagarani Club early in the second half.

Interestingly, it was Jamalpur's first goal in three games, which has seen them concede 16 goals.

City Mayor Advocate Mojibur Rahman Sarwar opened the five-day fiesta at Barisal, which last staged a national-level football tournament way back in 1979. Anwar Hossain put Jhenidah ahead with an accurate placing shot after going past Jamalpur custodian Didar.

Chelsea shootout

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while Chelsea's star new signing, Damien Duff, and striker Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink also failed to convert.

One of the heroes for Chelsea was captain John Terry, who coolly converted in the sudden death situation to break the 4-4 deadlock. The shootout was a fitting end to a high-quality 90 minutes of football that kept the fans entertained despite no side being able to find the net.

Chelsea, which included recruits Glen Johnson and Wayne Bridge in a stronger starting lineup than Newcastle, looked quicker and more likely to score throughout the match, especially in the first half.

Iceland captain Eidur Gudjohnson and striking partner Hasselbaink put Newcastle keeper Shay Given under pressure at least five times in the first 45 minutes, but the Irishman was up to the task on each occasion.

Chelsea's Dutch midfielder, Boudewijn Zenden, who is under pressure for a starting position after last week's arrival of Irish winger Duff, responded with a sparkling performance in the first half.

Newcastle coach Sir Bobby Robson looked to break the stalemate by bringing on a quartet of regular starting players, including Shearer, at the start of the second half.

Asian Youth

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will be able to convince the International Cricket Council (ICC) to give us one more qualifying spot in the Junior World Cup," said Ashraf Huq, chief executive of Asian Cricket Council (ACC).

Ten affiliate members of the ACC competed in the tournament that was relocated to Karachi from Singapore due to Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

Nepal coach Roy Dias, a former Sri Lanka batsman, said the victory will go a long way in promoting cricket in Nepal. "Nepal is fast coming up; we beat Pakistan in the Junior World Cup in New Zealand last year so we must build on this win," said Dias, who played 20 Tests for Sri Lanka in 80s.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15						16		17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28			29					30		31
32	33							34		
35								36		
37	38	39						40		
41							42	43		
44								45	46	47
48								49		
50								51		

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Under-19 camp starts today

SPORTS REPORTER

The Under-19 cricket camp begins today at BKSP with initially 30 players taking part.

The players reported to the Sri Lanka coach Malcolm Perera at the Board's Stadium office yesterday.

Perera said that he would emphasise on fitness during the first week of training.

Meanwhile, former Sri Lanka Test star Roshan Mahanama is expected to work with the youths from the second week of next month. Later a foreign coach, who is likely to be appointed in September, will takeover responsibility.

The selected players are: Naem Islam, Nafis Iqbal, Johurul Islam, Nafees Ahmed, Mohammad Nazimuddin, Ashiqur Rahman, Kafi Khan, Aftab Ahmed, Golam Rahman Himel, Kamrul Islam, Enamul Haq (Jr), Raqibur Rahman, Mohammad Elias, Oshim Chowdhury, Arif Hossain, Ziaur Rahman, Talha Jubair, Rubayat Haque, Shafiq Al Jabir, Mominul Kabir, Arafat Sunny, Nadif Chowdhury, Tanvir Rashed, Abul Bashar, Mahamudullah Riyad, Iftikharul Islam, Sagor Hossain Pavel, Dhiman Gosh, Gazi Hasiul Haque and Abdullah Mohammad Sadi.

Marsh retained as Zim coach

AFP, Harare

Former Australian opening batsman Geoff Marsh was on Saturday handed a new one-year deal to remain as Zimbabwe coach.

"Marsh has been quite brilliant during his first two years," said Zimbabwe Cricket Union (ZCU) chairman Peter Chingoka.

"He is a top operator and one of the best coaches we have had."

Marsh will be in charge of the national side for a further five Test series and with early preparations for what is now a very young side in the next World Cup, to be played in the West Indies during 2007.

Zimbabwe will play Australia in Perth and in Sydney during October.

The Zimbabweans will then host West Indies, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and England over the following eight months. Players on the verge of international level.

Waugh closes

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"Really I just wanted to be positive. I was going to finish up last year, I wanted to go out on my terms and that was playing some shots," Waugh said.

"Perhaps that may have released some pressure and I've gone out there and just tried to play the ball on its merits."

"I knew I was good enough to play for Australia still and I wanted to prove that to myself and I wanted to come back and show people."

Bankers blank

FROM PAGE 13

Position after Azad Sporting Club. Azad booked their place in next year's top league.

The winners led the first half 2-0. Navid Safi scored two goals while Mohammad Mustak, Mohammad Javed and Maksud Ahmed shared the others.

TODAY'S MATCH

Usha KC vs Dhaka Railway (4:15pm)

Tigers making

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BANGLADESH: First innings 295 (H Sarker 76, H Bashar 46, S Hossain 46, K Mashud 44; S MacGill 5-77, J Gillespie 3-57, G McGrath 1-57, B Lee 1-88)

AUSTRALIA: First innings (overnight 351-3)

Langer c Omar b Mashrafee	1
Hayden b Sanwar	50
Ponting c Ashraful b Sanwar	59
Lehmann c Ashraful b Baisya	177
Waugh not out	156
Love not out	100
Extras: (nb-1, lb-11, w-1)	13
Total: (For 4 wkts decl in 139.2 overs)	556
Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-105, 3-132, 4-382	
Did not bat: Gilchrist, Lee, Gillespie, MacGill, McGrath	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Mashrafee	25	7	6	0
Baisya	26	5	9	6
Anwar	21	4	95	0
Mahmud	19	3	7	5
Sanwar	30	2	1	2
Kapali	14.2	0	6	9
Ashraful	4	0	2	2

BANGLADESH: Second innings

Hannan c Hayden b MacGill	55
Omar lbw b Gillespie	8
Bashar c Langer b Lee	25
Ashraful lbw b MacGill	6
Sanwar not out	0
Kapali not out	10
Extras: (nb-2)	2
Total: (For 4 wkts in 35 overs)	106
Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-87, 3-90, 4-90	
To bat: Mashud, Mahmud, Baisya, Mashrafee, Anwar	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
McGrath	7	3	1	6



PHOTO: AFP
RAIN OR SHINE, IT'S REAL! (1) Chinese fans display the portrait of Real Madrid ace Raul Gonzalez while waiting patiently in the rain for the team's practice session at the Hongta sports centre in the south-western city of Kunming yesterday. (2) Real's Guti (R), Brazilian superstar Ronaldo (C) and Portuguese icon Luis Figo going through the zigzag routine during training.

Fans made to suffer

Football

AFP, Madrid

Real Madrid have been winning few friends in China as the Spanish champions forced hundreds of eager fans to wait more than an hour in the pouring rain before stepping on to the field Sunday.

Real held off taking the main field at the Hongta Sports center where organizers had built a makeshift grandstand, choosing to practice on a neighbouring field that afforded no view to ticket-holding Chinese fans.

Fans braved heavy rain for more than an hour as Real ran through a series of drills before finally taking the main field at 11:00 am (0300 GMT) and exiting 45 minutes later.

"It was not good at all. It was much too short and I waited in the rain for more than one hour," said one angry young fan who had paid 250 yuan (30 dollars) for an

entrance ticket to see his favourite team.

Real Madrid deputy general manager Emilio Butraqueno said bad weather was partly to blame, with the rain-soaked pitch undergoing damage from the continuous play.

"We're having a problem with the weather and field number four is being ruined," Butraqueno told reporters.

"So our coach has asked that we be allowed to use the fields three and five and the president of Hongta has agreed to our request."

But confusion about Real's training schedule also seems to lay with hosts Hongta.

The Hongta Group, a major Chinese tobacco group that also owns domestic A-league football club Yunnan Hongta, agreed with Real to the free distribution of tickets.

However, many of these allegedly free entrances have followed their way into the hands of unsuspecting fans through unofficial

distribution channels, with tickets going for as much as 500 yuan (60 dollars).

Real Madrid has disavowed itself of the problem.

"We don't get involved whether people come (to watch the training) or not," Butraqueno said.

"We love that people are coming out to see us, but according to them (Hongta) they have not sold tickets. They can attest they are invitations to people arriving here," he said.

A Yunnan government official refused to comment, attributing the recent difficulties only to the foul weather.

But chief executive officer Stephen Attia of Asia Sports Development, Real's marketing group in Asia, said that the Hongta football group had been selling tickets on the side.

"Some of the tickets are free, but the local football club here, because we are in their training facilities and they invested a lot of money... I think it's a way for them

recoup a little bit of money," Attia told AFP.

"We can't say to them don't do that," he said.

The controversy has resulted in the second consecutive day that fans have been upset with the Spanish superstar side.

On Saturday, Real, which includes superstars David Beckham, Luis Figo, Ronaldo and Zinedine Zidane, stranded hundreds of fans by failing to turn up for their first official practice session of their week-long stay in the southwestern city of Kunming.

Waiting until an afternoon press conference to explain the no-show, they called it up to a misunderstanding on the part of local organizers and said they had never intended to train that morning.

The nine-time European champions will end their training camp here on July 31 and then face a Chinese XI on August 2 in Beijing before departing for Hong Kong, Tokyo and Bangkok.

Hong Kong's liver 'pooled' out

Football

AFP, Hong Kong

Liverpool boss Gerard Houllier was purring with pleasure after watching his wide wrap up their two-match Asian tour with a 6-0 thrashing of Hong Kong here Sunday.

Goals from Vladimir Smicer, Milan Baros (2), Emile Heskey (2) and promising French teenager Anthony Le Tallec handed the English Premiership giants a comfortable win in searing heat at the Hong Kong Stadium.

"I'm very proud of my players," Houllier said. "When you add everything up -- the training, the travel and the conditions, they deserve a lot of accolades."

"They played some great football today and created a lot of chances. We're not there yet but we're on our way."

Houllier said his team was desperate to get their league campaign off to a strong start next month when they kick off against Chelsea.

"We know the importance of starting well," the French coach said. "Starting well gives confidence to the squad and takes the expectations of the fans to a higher level."

"We are building for the future."



PHOTO: AFP
Djimi Traore (L) of Liverpool giving Hong Kong's Luk Koon-pong a tough time during their friendly at the Hong Kong stadium on yesterday.

The next two or three years will be very exciting for Liverpool."

Both of Liverpool's high-profile summer signings -- Leeds' Harry Kewell and Fulham's Steve Finnan -- did not take part in the Asian

tour, which also saw the club defeat Thailand 3-1 in Bangkok.

Liverpool ended the scoring on 15 minutes after slick movement down the left flank between Senegal's African Footballer of the

Year El-Hadji Diouf and French teenager Florent Sinama-Pongolle.

Diouf rolled the ball inside to Sinama-Pongolle, who squared for the unmarked Smicer to finish.

Despite Houllier making eight changes at half-time, Liverpool were quickly back in command after the break and doubled the lead on 58 minutes.

A perfectly weighted pass from Bruno Cheyrou found Heskey, who rounded Hong Kong goalkeeper Fan Chun-yip to score from a tight angle.

England striker Michael Owen was substituted for Le Tallec early in the second half, and the French youngster didn't take long to make an impression.

Le Tallec, who like Sinama-Pongolle arrived at Anfield this summer from French side Le Havre, neatly tucked away a low cross from Baros on 75 minutes to open his account and make it 3-0.

Baros added Liverpool's fourth two minutes later with a fine individual effort, surging into the penalty area to drill his shot past Hong Kong keeper Fan.

Baros bagged his second on 90 minutes, latching on to a pass from substitute Neil Mellor before clipping past the hapless Fan.

Heskey completed the scoring in stoppage time when he bludgeoned in a right foot effort from outside the area.

Carlos to share free-kicks

KUNMING, China

Real Madrid free kick specialist Roberto Carlos says he will share the dead ball duties with new arrival David Beckham.

"Beckham is going to take the free kicks closer to the goal and I'm going to take them a little bit further out," the Brazilian defender told reporters at the team's training camp in southwestern China.

The left back is known world-wide for his fierce free kicks.

However, he recognises that it is a problem Beckham does not suffer from.

"He is the most skillful free kick-taker in the world," Carlos said of the England captain.

Real means money!

AFP, Kunming

Marketing officials from Spain's champion side Real Madrid said Sunday that the team will pull in eight million euros (9.1 million dollars) from their jaunt through Asia.

The star-heavy side, stands to earn about two million euros per exhibition match during its four-country tour, said Stephan Attias, chief of Real's marketing partner Asia Sports Development.

"The exact figure for Beijing is about two million euros," Attias told AFP.

For their week-long stay at a high altitude training ground in Kunming, the team will earn a handsome 700,000 euros, courtesy of the provincial and city governments.

Pele's Viagra days over!

AFP, Sao Paulo

Soccer legend Pele won't be pitching Viagra in Brazil anymore.

Alarmed at an increase in illicit use of anti-impotence drugs by youths in South America's largest country, the government on Friday banned advertising of Viagra and similar substances.

Health Minister Humberto Costa said officials imposed the ban after receiving many reports that young people were abusing the drugs to improve their sex lives.

"The uncontrolled use of these medicines can cause health problems, such as heart attacks," Costa said.

The ban didn't mention Viagra by name, but was clearly aimed at ending a prominent publicity campaign across this country of 170 million people for the drug made by the U.S. pharmaceutical company Pfizer.

Pele, considered one of the greatest soccer players ever, advertised Viagra in television ads and on billboards.

The smiling 62-year-old Pele tells his fellow Brazilians in the ads that he doesn't need Viagra, but would use it if he did.

In June, Pfizer said it planned to extend the Pele campaign to the rest of Latin America and Europe. The drug company declined to comment on the ad ban.

US finish third

AFP, Miami

The US wasted no time equalizing as Carlos Bocanegra tapped in a pass from Donovan in the 28th minute for his second goal of the national team.

But Fonseca struck again in the 38th minute after Keller failed to clear the ball completely, giving Costa Rica a 2-1 halftime lead.

That would be all the gas the Ticos had in the tank, however, as they tailed off dramatically. An unmarked Ernie Stewart was allowed to score in the 53th minute with a volley from the edge of the area that gave keeper Alvero Messen little chance.