



Did U Know?

Former West Indian fast bowler Andersson Cummins, playing for the first time on South African soil (against Pakistan in a one-day international) took two wickets with his first two balls.



ESPN

Goals

Repeat at 3.30 pm
English Premier League
Chelsea v Aston Villa
Live at 7.55 pm
English Premier League
Man United v Leicester City
Same day delay at 10.30 pm
Spanish Football
Real Madrid v Valencia
Live at 1.30 am (Sunday)
STAR Sports

NBA Inside Stuff
Repeat at 5.30 pm
English Premier League
Man United v Leicester City
Live at 7.55 pm
English Premier League
Chelsea v Aston Villa
Same day delay at 10 pm



Saurav Ganguly

(Indian cricket captain)
"I have not built it up as a revenge series."

On the Test series against New Zealand.

NOTICE

Due to technical reasons the draw for WHIZZ KID Competition 198 could not be held last night. It will now take place on Friday, October 3.



Tick the correct answers, post to

The Daily Star

Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm Oct 3, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the Champions Trophy hockey title?
Netherlands | Australia
Pakistan

2. Who clinched the Europa college basketball crown?
Khulna College Mastermind Note Dame

3. Bangladesh lost the first Test against Pakistan by:
7 wkt 42 runs 3 wkt

4. Who became man-of-the-match in the 4th Test between England and South Africa?
Name
.....
Class Roll No
School Address
.....
Phone: (If any)

Philips nat'l tennis starts

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for Youth and Sports M Fazlur Rahman inaugurated the Philips National Tennis Tournament-2003 at Ramna Tennis Complex here yesterday.

A total of 105 players from across the country are taking part in the week-long event.

Matches will begin at 8 am every day and spectators will get free entry.

Desperately seeking a six-hitter!

Cricket

RABEED IMAM

Watching his batsmen struggling to accelerate under perfect batting conditions in the one-day international series against Pakistan, Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore must have wished he had a Ricardo Powell or a Shahid Afridi at his disposal.

The dearth of a striker, a specialist batsman who can throw his bat around and totally dominate the opposition bowling and clear the boundary on a regular basis, was the single most significant factor behind the Tigers' timid showing in the one-dayers and the jury is out that this team is a far better Test side than they are in the shorter version.

Indeed Bangladesh lacked that defining touch and paid heavily for it. Whenever the Pakistanis were in trouble or struggling to push the score, they had a Younus Youhana or an Inzamul Haq to fall back on. Inevitably, Youhana, Inzamul or even Abdul Razzaq would come in and stroke the ball all around the park to take away the advantage from the tourists. On the other hand, Bangladesh would find themselves in positions which almost every other Test-playing nation would have capitalised on but just couldn't up the tempo when it was needed.

Bangladesh chased runs in four of the five one-day matches and apart from the no-contest in the first game, they could have really put Pakistan under pressure batting second in the other three if only one or two batsmen had showed a bit more bravado.

Hannan Sarker, Rajin Saleh,



Alok Kapali all made good scores throughout the series, all spent a lot of time out in the middle but when it was required of them to open their shoulders, they in turn just opened up the perennial deficiency of the side—the absence of a six-hitter.

In Tests, this weakness doesn't pose that much of a problem

because there is ample time to score the runs and there's hardly any need for going over the top too often. But it's altogether a different story in one-day games.

In world cricket, every other team posses two or even more individuals in their one-day batting orders with the ability to hit sixes whenever necessary.

Almost all the top-order batsmen in the Australian (Matthew Hayden, Adam Gilchrist, Ricky Ponting, Andrew Symonds, Darren Lehmann, Damien Martyn), West Indian (Chris Gayle, Wavell Hinds, Brian Lara, Marlon Samuels, Rannaraj Sarwan, Ricardo Powell) and New Zealand (Nathan Astle, Stephen Fleming, Craig McMillan, Chris Cairns, Scott Styris) lineups have big hitting abilities. India (Sachin Tendulkar, Saurav Ganguly, Virender Sehwag, Yuvraj Singh), Pakistan (Inzamam, Youhana, Razzaq, Younis Khan), South Africa (Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Mark Boucher, Shaun Pollock), England (Marcus Trescothick, Graeme Thorpe, Andrew Flintoff, Vikram Solanki), Sri Lanka (Sanath Jayasuriya, Romesh Kaluwitharana, Upul Chandana) and Zimbabwe (Grant Flower, Stuart Carlisle, Mark Vermeulen, Andy Blignaut, Heath Streak) too are well equipped.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 6



(L) Indian captain Dhanraj Pillay (L) gives teammate Prabhjot Singh a congratulatory hug as dejected South Korean players leave the field yesterday. India knocked out the defending champions from the Sixth Men's Asia Cup hockey tournament. (R) Pakistani players celebrate after scoring their third goal against Japan in the other semifinal.



India dump Korea Malaysia maul 'goalless' Bangladesh

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

only to be denied by the outstretched leg of Indian keeper Devesh Chauhan.

India's best chance to open the scoring came two minutes later when Dhanraj Pillay went on a solo run well within his own half before releasing the ball to Prabhjot Singh who played a delightful ball to Deepak Thakur.

But Deepak, with only the Korean keeper Ko Dong Sik to beat, hit the ball wide of the mark.

Korea broke the deadlock four minutes into the second half when Lee Jung Seon beat the Indian backline and keeper and slipped a pass to You Hyo Sik who had the easiest of tasks to slot it into an empty goal.

Gagan Ajit Singh continued his dismal performance by missing two sitters in the 41st and 43rd minutes.

The Koreans played a defensive game, letting the Indians surge forward and then launching their own counter-attacks, and in the 23rd minute this strategy almost paid off when Lim Jung Woo deflected a free hit taken by skipper Kim Jung Chul

Singh put them ahead in the 67th minute.

Gagan scored India's third goal two minutes later and though Korea reduced the deficit through Lee Jung Seon, Deepak Thakur ensured an emphatic win by scoring in the dying seconds of the match.

BANGLADESH-MALAYSIA

It was all one-way traffic for the Malaysians who led the first half 2-0.

The scorers for the home team were Mohd Rodhanizam Mat Radzi (25 mins), Azlan Misron (27), Mohd Amin Rahim (45), S. Kuan (53) and Keeyan Raj (61).

It was not only Bangladesh's fourth successive defeat but also meant they had yet to score a goal in the biggest regional event. Earlier, they lost 8-0 to Pakistan, 10-0 to India and 8-0 to China.

The results ended Bangladesh's hopes of a direct entry into the World Cup qualifiers.

Waiting on foreigners

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

The major teams are in no hurry to rope in foreign players with the domestic football season starting next month.

After completing the much-publicised inter-club players' transfers, their attention is firmly focused on getting their players into shape ahead of the October 25 Federation Cup.

Nevertheless, newly crowned National League champions Mukti Joddha Sangsad Krira Chakra have begun searching for a top quality defender.

"Because we have enough time to look for players from abroad, we can prepare our local selection. But I still think we could strengthen our defence with another foreigner

besides Charles Ghansu. Most probably we will choose an African," said coach Shafiqul Islam Manik while talking to The Daily Star Sport yesterday.

The successful Mukti Joddha coach informed that the Reds would start their practice camp from Sunday at the Rajarbagh Police Lines ground.

Big-spenders Brothers Union, who stole the limelight with the capture of the cream of Dhaka football, was yet to be satisfied in their burning ambition to clinch the coveted title.

The Gopibagh outfit, whose sensational coup lured the top ten players from Mohammmedan Sporting Club, Mukti Joddha and Abahani, are instead eyeing a foreign coach.

"We have talked to a Nigerian and a Yugoslav but a final decision will be made after September 29,"

said Brothers manager Amir Khan.

He also said that the club intends to hire a few Africa-based players.

"Our main target is to clinch the league title and to assess our strengths and weaknesses. We will experiment with our foreign recruits in the Federation Cup," said the former player adding that their camp would kick-off from October 1 at the BKSP.

Title aspirants Brothers Union, however, are wasting no time as they practised at their Dhammandi ground yesterday.

The players got together for the first time since losing in the National Football League semifinals. National coach Anatoly supervised the session.

Abahani, considered the second best team on paper strength-wise after Brothers Union, are making

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

BCB may double players on payroll

SPORTS REPORTER

It is likely that the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is going to double the number of players under its fresh payroll.

The BCB currently has six paid players -- former Bangladesh captain Khaled Mashud, Sanwar Hossain, Habibul Bashar, Al Shahriar, Alok Kapali and Manjurul Islam.

The players got together for the first time since losing in the National Football League semifinals.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.

The selectors also talked about the players to be considered for the series against England as well as tour games involving the BCB President's XI and Bangladesh "A".

"We proposed at least twelve for new payroll but the Board will decide who to include," Chief selector Faruque Ahmed told The Daily Star Sport after a meeting of the selectors yesterday.

The BCB is likely to finalize the matter in their next meeting scheduled tomorrow.

"We will discuss the issue on Sunday," said BCB advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam.</