


Did U Know?

Volleyball was invented by William George Morgan of Holyoke, Massachusetts in 1895.



What to WATCH

ESPN


Australia vs Zimbabwe
First Test, Day Five
Live at 8:00 am

English Premier Football League
Liverpool vs Arsenal
Repeat at 6:30 pm
Sportscentre India
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm


Western Union world Football
Repeat at 9:30 pm

STAR Sports

Futbol Mundial
Repeat at 11:00 am
Sportsline Tonight
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm



TALK TURKEY



Ricky Ponting
(Australian batsman)
"It was an amazing performance, and one that I will never forget. It is a credit to Matt who has just worked so hard and I am thrilled for him." On **Matthew Hayden's** world record 380.



Star WHIZZ KID

OMPETITION 19

Tick the correct answers, post

The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm Oct 17, 2003 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the Asia Cup hockey title?

Pakistan	India Malaysia
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2. Who was man-of-the-series in the Bangladesh and Pakistan one-day series?

Inzamam	Youhana Bashar
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3. Who became the Pepsi 16th national men's handball champions?

Army	BDR
Navy	

4. Who are the European Champions League holders?

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Name

Class..... Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

Kamal Special chess champ

SPORTS REPORTER

Kamal Hossain became unbeaten champion in the fifth Special National Chess tournament with maximum nine points after the last round games at the NSC chess room yesterday.

In the last round, Kamal beat Berek. Sawpan Chakider became runner-up with eight points.

David Fletcher, Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank, Bangladesh distributed prizes among the winners as chief guest.



England opener Marcus Trescothick hoists one over long-on for six.

Hosts let Eng enjoy



Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The first three-day match between England and Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) President's Eleven got underway but not before wet ground conditions consumed five hours of the opening day's play.

The match eventually started at 2:30pm at the Bangabandhu National Stadium and by the close the formidable England side had scored 106 for one in 37 overs.

It was a perfect start for Michael Vaughan's men after being put in to bat by President's Eleven captain Hannan Sarker on a slow and low wicket.

The laid-back batting effort by the English opening pair of Vaughan and Marcus Trescothick produced 77 runs before the England captain walked back to the dressing room making 36. Eager to strike form ahead of the two Test series Vaughan struck six boundaries in his 108-minute stay before edging an attempted cut shot off right-arm paceman Anwar Hossain Munir to wicketkeeperAnwar.

That was the only success for the home side on a pitch offering little

assistance to the bowlers.

Trescothick ended the day on 49 not out while fellow left-hander Mark Butcher was on 11 when stumps were drawn.

Trescothick, the 28-year-old Somerset opener, hammered five boundaries and an effortless six against slow left-armed Enamul Haque over long-on. He also struck a magnificent cover drive against the same bowler in the final over and raised his bat towards the dressing room thinking he had reached his fifty, but later the official scoreboard found he was one run short of the mark.

"My preparation was pretty good and I thought the opposition bowlers were pretty effective. But I think the pitch was at times rather slow and it did not help them," said Trescothick.

The southpaw was particularly impressed by the response of the crowd.

"The passion is absolutely thriving here. It is amazing when there was a rain delay the crowd stayed here while the players disappeared and that speaks of their love for the game."

But the youthful Bangladesh team could have brought more cheers from the home crowd had the fielders held on to three catches

offered by the English openers.

Mushfiq Rahman, one of the senior members of the team, dropped Trescothick at first slip off Enamul while the left-hander was on 29.

Apart from that missed opportunity Mushfiq bowled his right-arm medium pacers quite effectively in his eight-over spell that cost only 17 runs.

Vaughan also had his share of luck on 23 when wicketkeeper Anwar Hossain dropped a sharp chance off Mushfiq.

"If we had held those catches we could have been happy with our day's work. But apart from those lapses our fielding generally good," said Hannan.

When asked why he chose to field first the national opener said that it was a team decision.

"We were not sure how the wicket would behave and we thought there would be some moisture on the pitch because of the heavy rain over the last few days. Besides, our coach (Richard McInnes) was against batting first," said the right-hander.

SCOREBOARD
Scoreboard on the first day of the

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Police nab ICC hero

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Mymensingh

Police on Saturday picked up former national pace bowler and hero of Bangladesh's victorious ICC Trophy campaign Saiful Islam when he was erecting a fence on a piece of land given to him as reward by the previous government.

Saiful and fellow teammate Sanwar Hossain, both of whom helped Bangladesh win the championship in Malaysia in 1997, were awarded with six decimal of land each near the local Eidgah by the then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina during a reception at the local Circuit House later in that year.

The land was however handed over to the player only last year, Saiful's family members said.

On the day of the incident, Saiful went to the spot to put up a fence at around 11 in the morning. As he and his workers were preparing the barrier, a town sub-inspector of the number two outpost rushed to the place and took Saiful to the police station.

Later he was taken to Kotwali Thana where he was confined for about five hours. He was mentally abused by police while in custody, his family members alleged.

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Bangladesh 'two' good for Kyrgyzstan

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh under-17 football team had one foot in the finals in Japan when they blanked Kyrgyzstan 2-0 in the home leg of their Asian under-17 qualifiers at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur on Saturday.

Jahid Hossain put the Bangladeshis ahead with a brilliant header in the 27th minute while Hiram Joarder's solo effort in the 73rd minute sealed the match.

The away leg will also be held at the same venue at 5 pm today with a draw or a 0-1 defeat good enough for Bangladesh to advance to the final round in Japan next year.

Bangladesh coach Shahidur Rahman Chowdhury Shantoo said after the match that he was not happy with the way his team played

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New coaches, indoors in 2004

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will appoint batting, fielding and spin bowling coaches for the national cricket team from early next year.

BCB Advisor and Cricket Committee chairman Mahbubul Anam said this while talking to The Daily Star Sport yesterday.

The BCB has already finalised talks with an Australian coach to improve the batting of tail enders. Now a fielding coach and a spin bowling coach will be attached to the national team according to Anam.

Anam revealed that talks were already on with different coaches.

The Cricket Committee chairman also informed that the government has decided to help the BCB complete six indoor cricket facilities across the country by the beginning of next year.

The indoor centres will be established in Dhaka, Chittagong, Sylhet, Khulna, Rajshahi and Bogra.

The work will start this month and would be completed by March next year.

Each facility will have three batting tracks.

The indoor complex at Dhaka will be built in between the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium and the National Swimming Complex in Mirpur.

Nat'l cricket now from Oct 16

UNB, Dhaka

The Emirates 27th National Cricket League has been postponed for another three days from today for unplayable condition of the fields.

Bangladesh Cricket Board postponed the league following the requests of the participating teams and the organisers as the fields became unplayable due to rain, said a press release.

The matches will now resume on October 16 simultaneously in nine venues across the country.

Started on October 6, the league was earlier postponed for five days on the same ground after two days of play.

Hardly first-class



Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The England team finally stepped onto a cricket pitch on Sunday. Although it was a typically slow and low one at the Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS), Michael Vaughan's men still found batting relatively easy and passed two-and-a-half hours without suffering major losses.

Having seen the other face of Dhaka since their arrival on a wet Wednesday morning, the Englishmen were mighty relieved watching the sun shining in all its glory. But despite the mercury going up since morning it needed five hours to dry the saturated outfield at the BNS. By the time the England captain Vaughan and his left-handed opening partner Marcus Trescothick walked on the ground to bat, it was the post-tea session of a full day's play.

Vaughan might have been apprehensive about the conditions. It was natural for him to feel that way since it was a matter of acclimatisation with a place he had never been before. But for Trescothick the setting was not

unique as he was a member the England A team that toured Bangladesh a couple of seasons ago.

While the Somerset left-hander Trescothick applied himself with the easy-paced wicket to remain unbeaten his captain perished misjudging the bounce of an Anwar Hossain Munir delivery.

That was a brief description of on-field events. But there were more happenings off it too.

The most encouraging scene was the turnout of spectators for a three-day warm-up match and that too was not free of charge. The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) fixed Taka five as entrance fee, but as usual the ticket touts had to make a profit. So, they charged two taka extra.

The assembly of eight thousand fans on the morning after night-long prayers gave the tourists a feel of the heat they will surely encounter when the first Test starts at the same venue on October 21.

Although it was a first-class fixture but there was nothing first-class about the scoreboard. With the giant electronic scoreboard taking a nap, the BCB thought it was a good idea to go back to a manually

operated one instead.

But the peculiar size of the board made reading the numbers impossible. Besides, it hardly helped the observer to know who was who and what was what. It was so confusing that it led Trescothick to mistakenly raise his bat after he thought that he had reached a half-century. But he was actually one run short of the mark.

The miniature scoreboard looked like one in operation in any school match.

It troubled the all the journalists especially the foreign sports writers who had to constantly take the assistance of their local counterparts.

Already there is a large English media contingent in town. But with little to write home about the England team most of them are now turning to other avenues like a rickshaw ride and why the team does not want to stay in Chittagong too long.

So far the English journalists are happy with the noisy pace of Dhaka life. May be they missing the traditional hospitality from the Board, which seemed to have forgotten to offer a taste of our spicy dishes during the lunch and tea breaks on the opening day.



England captain Michael Vaughan square cuts one on the opening day of the three-day tour match against BCB President's XI at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

McMillan, Aistle draw Test



Cricket

AFP, Ahmedabad

Craig McMillan and Nathan Aistle scotched India's spin threat with unbeaten half-centuries to mastermind New Zealand's escape in the opening cricket Test which ended in a draw here on Sunday.

Set a challenging 370 to win in a minimum of 108 overs, New Zealand were tottering at 86-4 in the morning session against Indian spinners Anil Kumble and Harbhajan Singh before posting 272-6 at stumps on the fifth and final day.

McMillan (83 not out) and an indisposed Aistle (51 not out) batted more than a session in hot and humid conditions to deny India victory with an unfinished stand of 103 for the seventh wicket.

McMillan, trying to revive his Test career after being dropped for the Sri Lankan tour this year, played a big role in saving his team with a commendable knock under pressure.

He steadied the innings with a

64-run stand for the fifth wicket with opener Lou Vincent (67) before steering his team to safety with Aistle, who batted low down the order because of a stomach upset.

Leg-spinner Kumble finished with 4-95 and off-spinner Harbhajan 2-65 on a fifth-day pitch offering only slow turn, which was not good enough to trouble McMillan and Aistle.

India smelt victory when they sent their opponents reeling at 169-6 in the afternoon session, but were thwarted by the last pair of specialist batsmen.

The new ball was taken after 80 overs at 189-6, but it failed to produce the desired results as McMillan and Aistle continued to bat with great resposibility.

McMillan, who scored 54 in the first innings, struck eight fours in his 190-ball knock and Aistle eight in his 135-ball innings.

Harbhajan and Kumble raised visions of an Indian win in the first session, sharing three wickets after the tourists had resumed at 48-1.

Kumble dismissed nightwatchman Daryl Tuffey (8) and Scott Styris (0), while Harbhajan got rid of

skipper Stephen Fleming (8).

India maintained pressure with their double-spin attack and sometimes kept as many as four fielders close to the bat.

New Zealand required 322 to win off a minimum 90 overs with nine wickets in hand on an absorbing last day, but made no earnest attempt to reach the target. They curbed their strokes and batted only for survival.

With runs hard to come by, the pressure kept mounting. New Zealand scored just 53 in the morning, but found even survival difficult as they lost three wickets in the space of 18 runs and nine overs.

Fleming spent 30 uncomfortable minutes at the crease against the Indian spinners before being caught by Venkatsai Laxman at silly-point.

Styris lasted just three balls, trapped leg-before by Kumble.

India then had to wait for more than an hour for the next success as McMillan and Vincent kept the spinners at bay with their sensible knocks.

Vincent on-drove Kumble for two successive fours, but fell in the same over when he under-edged a delivery onto his stumps.

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Aussies a wicket away



Cricket

AFP, Perth

World champions Australia, poised to crush minnows Zimbabwe by an innings in the first cricket Test here, will have to wait one more day to complete victory after rain severely curtailed play late Sunday.

Heavy showers just after tea sent players scurrying from the field with Zimbabwe hanging on by a thread, with 247 for nine wickets in their second innings still 249 runs behind Australia's first innings 735 for six wickets declared.

After a 73-minute delay, play was resumed for 11.3 overs before further rain brought a halt with Zimbabwe 272 for nine wickets 224 runs in arrears.

Last-wicket pair, skipper Heath Streak (42 not out) and Ray Price (17 not out) defiantly held up Australia for 47 minutes to force the match into a fifth and final day

Monday.

Following on 496 runs behind, Zimbabwe nosedived to 126 for seven wickets before the lower-order showed commendable fight.

Australia dismissed the tourists for a first innings 239.

Further rain is forecast for Monday.

Zimbabwe coach Geoff Marsh the former Australian Test opener has not given up hope that his young and inexperienced team can save the match, with a bit of further help from the weather.

"We have already taken Australia to the fifth day and not many sides can do that," he said.

He was pleased with the spirit displayed by his players late in the day, but disappointed by the failure of the middle-order.

"But Heath Streak and Ray Price can both bat well make no mistake. So we have certainly not given up hope of saving this."

The home team coasted to the brink of victory despite the absence of two front-line bowlers Jason

Gillespie and Stuart MacGill.

Both were injured Saturday.

Fast bowler Gillespie has a torn muscle in his left side and MacGill a torn muscle in his right calf.

Australian physiotherapist Errol Alcott said the pair were under a cloud for the second Test starting in Sydney Friday.

In the pair's absence, fast bowler Andy Bichel (3-55) and seldom-used left-arm spinner Darren Lehmann (3-54) did the job.

Lehmann, who sent down 26.2 overs, said he had never bowled so much in his career.

"I just got lucky," he said.

"Considering we had only two fit front-line bowlers, we have done well to take seven wickets today and have them nine down.

"It would have been nice to finish tonight, but we should be able to knock over the last wicket early tomorrow."

Zimbabwe's innings disintegrated in the morning, with five

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