



Did U Know?

The Olympic flag with the five rings, which was first unveiled at Antwerp in 1920, was finally retired after the 1984 Games at Los Angeles. A new flag was flown to the 1988 Seoul Games. At the closing ceremony of the Games, the mayor of the current host city presents the flag to the mayor of the next host city.



Jagmohan Dalmiya

(Indian cricket board president)
"The team is going to play cricket not to war. There is no question of putting pressure on players to go, but they will go."
On their upcoming tour of Pakistan.



ESPN

Primera Liga
Real Madrid vs Valencia
Repeat at 10:30 am
Sportscentre
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm
STAR Sports
Sportsline
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID
OMPETITION 20

Tick the correct answers,
Post to
The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm
Feb 27, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. How many teams are taking part in the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup?
16 12 20

2. How many months was Shane Warne banned from cricket?
12 13 16

3. Who won the Pan Pacific Open title?
Davenport Clijsters Henin

4. Who won the Tokyo Marathon?
Njenga Sebastian Osaki

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



ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup
India vs Scotland (9:00 am)
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
West Indies vs Ireland (9:00 am)
Venue: Khulna Divisional Stadium
South Africa vs Uganda (9:00 am)
Venue: Chittagong Divisional Stadium
Australia vs Canada (9:00 am)
Venue: Rajshahi Divisional Stadium

Young Black Caps seize the day



SPORTS REPORTER

Nafees Iqbal hit a classy half-century, fast bowler Shahadat Hossain breathed fire but still New Zealand had the last laugh as they pipped Bangladesh by two wickets in the opening Group C match of the ICC U/19 Cricket World Cup 2004 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium (BNS) yesterday.

Infront of a 20 thousand-strong passionate home crowd, Richard McInnes' charges did everything right in the field while defending a not so convincing 202 until the last ten overs when the standard they had set dramatically dropped.

New Zealand secured the victory with four balls to spare when man-of-the-match Sam McKay hit a lofted straight four off left-arm spinner Enamul Haque Junior.

The result leaves the hosts with a difficult task to qualify for the Super League phase from a group that also includes one of the title favourites India.

Bangladesh's batsmen had let the team down earlier when they were asked to bat on a placid sur-

face. The Last four wickets fell only for 12 runs as only Nafees and captain Ashiqur Rahman came to terms with some disciplined bowling and outstanding fielding by the young Black Caps.

The home side were pegged back at the start when opener Naeem Islam returned to the pavilion for a duck. One down Aftab Ahmed was then needlessly run out attempting a suicidal single at mid on with the score on 36. Bangladesh's innings gained some momentum when Nazimuddin joined inform Nafees.

Nazimuddin was lbw to medium pacer Brent Findley for a run -a-ball 26. Skipper Ashiqur then gave good support to Nafees. They took some cheeky singles and attacked when the ball was there to be hit. Nafees played shots all around the wicket but was guilty of playing a stroke to many when he skied an attempted pull to the safe hands of opening bowler Te Ahu Davis after scoring 67 (92-balls, eight fours).

Ashiqur hit the second highest 42 off 58 balls with two hits to the fence before he became one of left-arm pace bowler Craig Smith's four victims. Smith ended with four for 43 runs while his new ball partner Davis returned figures of three for 34 from 8.3 overs.

When their turn to bat came, the

New Zealanders were rattled by a hostile spell from right-arm quick Shahadat Hossain. The tall fast bowler got only one wicket in his opening burst of seven overs but unnerved the opposing batsmen with a barrage of well-directed short-pitched deliveries. More than anything, he managed to create an impression with some genuine pace.

New Zealand lost wickets at regular intervals and were reeling on 118 for six in the 31st over. But a cool-headed 70-run seventh wicket partnership between McKay and Anton Devcich broke Bangladeshi hearts. New Zealand were aided by some sloppy fielding and some unusually poor spin bowling from Test cap Enamul and the highly talented Nadif Chowdhury.

With nearly six an over required off the last ten overs, McKay kept his cool and remained unbeaten on 40. left-handed Devcich added an invaluable 36 off 49 balls.

Shahadat, easily the most impressive bowler of the home side, captured two wickets for 28 runs in 8 overs while Enamul claimed two for 36.

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PHOTO: HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU

Zimbabwe Under-19s' Tinotenda Mawoyo is run out by Manoj Chanaka (not in picture) of Sri Lanka during their ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup fixture in Bogra yesterday.

India demands short stay in 2 Pak cities

AFP, Lahore

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) chairman Shaharyar Khan Sunday said the visiting Indian delegation wants their cricket team's stay curtailed in two Pakistani cities.

"The wrap up meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere and the Indian delegation has slight reservations over longer stays in Karachi and Peshawar ... we will consider the matter while finalising the itinerary," Shaharyar told reporters.

The three-member delegation is expected to return home Monday after assessing security and other arrangements for the three Tests and five one-day series.

The Indian government Saturday announced their team's first Test tour of Pakistan in almost 15 years would go ahead as scheduled next month after reports suggested the tour would be postponed until after the parliamentary polls expected from late April.

The itinerary for the tour will be finalised by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) after the delegation submits its report, likely by Tuesday.

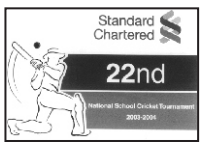
The proposed itinerary includes a side match in Multan or Lahore, a Test each in Lahore, Peshawar and Karachi with the first one-day international in Karachi, two limited-over matches in Lahore and the remaining in Rawalpindi and Faisalabad.

The PCB had earlier planned to stage the three-day tour opener in Karachi but shifted the match on the Interior Ministry's recommendations.

Australia and the West Indies refused to play in Pakistan due to security fears after the US-led strikes in neighbouring Afghanistan in 2001.

Abdul J'bari hero

SPORTS REPORTER



Abdul smashed exactly 100 to guide Jatrabari Power Development Board to an exciting 12-run victory over Natun Paltan Line in one of the five qualifying matches of the Standard Chartered 22nd National School Cricket Championship at the Mirpur Outer Stadium yesterday.

Opting to bat, Jatrabari scored a challenging 221 for 5 in stipulated 35 overs with Mahmud being the other notable scorer with 49.

However, Natun Paltan's brave chase saw them reach 209 for nine in their allotted 35 overs with Monti making the team highest 57.

Away at the Uttara Police Lines ground, a short-lived match saw Badda Alatunnessa High sail over Kalachandpur High.

After bowling Kalachandpur out for 54 in 19.4 overs, Alatunnessa

reached their target of 55 for the loss of one wicket in only 10.2 overs.

Iskandar and Noor Mohammad ripped through the Kalachandpur innings picking up four wickets each.

Nawabpur Government High defeated Maple Leaf International by 53 runs at the Residential Model School ground, Rahmatullah Model beat Knowledge King Child by four wickets at the Dhanmudi Club ground and Sher-e-Bangla Ideal beat Bangladesh International by 17 runs in the other match at the Uttara Fields Club ground.

SCORES IN BRIEF

Jatrabari Power Development Board School: 221/5 in 35 overs (Abdul 100, Mahmud 49, Naimul 23, Selim 2-35)

Natun Paltan Line School: 209/9 in 35 overs (Monti 57, Dipu 28 n.o., Ariful 2-25)

Result: Jatrabari Power Development Board School won by 12 runs.

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PHOTO: STAR

Sunil Gavaskar (R) and Rameez Raja leave Sheraton Hotel after attending an International Cricket Council Cricket Committee 'Management' meeting yesterday. The two arrived here on Saturday night and left on Sunday.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Bangladesh U-19 wicketkeeper Dhiman Ghosh (on the ground) has just dropped New Zealand captain Daniel Flynn off the bowling of paceman Shahadat Hossain during their ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Smart Shoaib!

CU CORRESPONDENT

The opening ceremony of the Chittagong zone matches of the ICC U-19 World Cup witnessed an unpleasant incident unfold between the venue manager and a top-ranking government official at MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

The incident happened when Major Shoaib Bashir, the ICC-nominated venue manager, obstructed Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Chittagong Shafiqul Islam from entering the second Test venue of the country. He was accompanying Food Minister Abdullah-Al Noman to attend the opening ceremony.

Shoaib argued that Shafiqul, who is also the president of Chittagong Jila Kiria Sangstha (CJKS), was not on the guest list hence he could not enter the venue.

The ignorance or indifference of the venue manager sparked heated exchange of words in front of other dignitaries, said an eye witness.

Anybody connected with sport in the region should know that the DC calls the shots for any such occasion.

BD 170-7

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammad Ashraful came to Bangladesh's rescue in the second innings against Zimbabwe A on the second day of their three-day tour match at the Country Club in Harare yesterday.

The youngest Test centurion on debut made a patient 59 as the tourists reached 170 for seven in 65 overs, an overall lead of 186, after the home team was shot out for 183 in 54 overs in their first knock earlier in the day.

Wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud was batting on 22 while Anwar Hossain Monir was at the other end with 5. Manjarul Islam Rana scored 25 and opener Shahriar Hossain, who hammered 75 in the first innings, added 22.

Right-arm paceman Alamgir Kabir returned figures of 5-47 and fellow seamer Tareq Aziz Khan captured three for 54 to wrap up the second string Zimbabwe side. Bangladesh had scored 199 in their first innings.

Pacer Anwar Hossain Monir took one for 40 while left-arm spinner bagged the other wicket for 30.

Mark Waugh retires today?

AFP, Sydney

Former Australian Test and one-day international batsman Mark Waugh has called a press conference here on Monday where he is expected to confirm his retirement from cricket.

Waugh's anticipated decision means New South Wales will be without both Waugh twins, Mark and Steve, next summer as well as coach Steve Rixon, who will coach Surrey in the English county league.

Mark Waugh, 38, retired from Test cricket in October 2002, but has played for his state side since then and was a member of NSW's Sheffield Shield and domestic Cup winning teams last summer.

No upsets on Day One



SPORTS REPORTER

The big guns of the Fifth ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup flexed their muscles at different venues in the country yesterday.

Sri Lanka had the honour of recording the first-ever victory at the Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra when they defeated Zimbabwe by two wickets in an exciting Group A engagement. While England and Pakistan both kicked off their campaigns with comfortable eight-wicket wins against lowly Nepal and Papua New Guinea in Chittagong and Khulna respectively.

SRI LANKA V ZIMBABWE

Our Bogra Correspondent adds: After Sri Lankan captain Mahroof called the coin correctly he had no hesitation in asking the Zimbabweans to bat first at the country's newest venue.

The decision was worth it as the islanders bowled their opponents out for only 161 in 49.3 overs.

The southern Africans never recovered once they lost three wickets for ten runs. But Sean Williams and

Colin de Grandhomme carried the fight to the Lankans.

Williams top-scored with 47 off 110 balls with five fours and a six. Lower-order batsman Grandhomme made a useful 67-ball 41 containing three boundaries and a six.

The Lankan skipper was the chief wrecker with four for 28.

Sri Lanka made heavy weather of a relatively easily total and eventually got home in 38.2 overs thanks to a rapid-fire 37 not out by all-rounder Kosala Kulasekara. The man-of-match performance contained six fours.

Besides DE Silva scored 33 and G Rathnayake added 22.

Right-arm medium pacer Elton Chigambara captured three wickets for 37 runs.

ENGLAND V NEPAL

Away at the MA Aziz Stadium our Chittagong Staff Correspondent adds: 1998 champions England cantered past the Nepal total of 191-8 with seven overs left in a one-sided Group B game.

The English boys of Alastair Cook relied on an unbeaten 78 by wicketkeeper Steven Davies after losing their skipper cheaply.

Left hander Davis hammered seven boundaries. The other notable score came from the bat of 18-year-old Ravinder Singh Bopara (59 off 94 balls).

The Nepalese boys earlier gave a good account of themselves after winning the toss. The architect of their innings was a staunch half-century by Sharad Vesawkar.

The right-handed Vesawkar's 82 off 121 balls featured nine fours.

He received good support from Manoj Katuwal (30 not out) as they withstood the accurate English seamers.

The pair featured in a seventh

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PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

Nepalese fans enjoy their time at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

Safety still worries 'em



AFP, New Delhi

Indian cricketers are still gripped by security fears despite the government's go-ahead for next month's historic tour of Pakistan, reports said Sunday.

Indian cricket chief Jagmohan Dalmiya assured that no player would be forced to go on the Test tour, the national team's first to Pakistan since 1989.

"They are not going there for war, but to play cricket. If somebody is not comfortable, he will not be forced to go," he said after the government okayed the tour on Saturday after a week of flip-flopping.

Indian Foreign Minister Yashwant Sinha gave the green light following a meeting called by Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee.

India are scheduled to play three Test matches and five one-dayers in March and April.

"The government was anxious not to appear a killjoy to the huge constituency of cricket lovers eagerly awaiting an Indo-Pak series," said The Times of India.

A poll in Outlook magazine said 77 per cent of Indians favoured the Pakistan tour.

The tour was surrounded by uncertainty after media reports last week suggested the home ministry wanted it put off until after parliamentary polls expected from late April.

The government's clearance,

however, did not allay the cricketers' fears.

"Yes, security will be a concern," Indian batsman Venkatsai Laxman was quoted as saying in The Hindu.

"It (the tour) will be tough. Another thing that will be most important is the security aspect," leg-spinner Anil Kumble said.

India captain Sourav Ganguly, who initially raised the security issue during India's recently concluded tour of Australia, said the players would do what the cricket board and the government wanted them to do.

"No one has told me he's not going," he told The Times of India. "But we are human beings and some players may have problems and we should respect their decision."

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