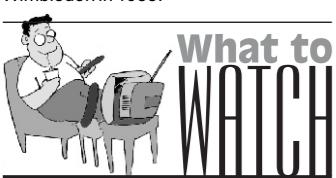




Did U Know?

Tennis equipment has changed drastically over the years. Early wooden rackets were replaced with graphite alternatives and the very last wooden racket used in a Championship was at Wimbledon in 1988.



ESPN

Bangladesh vs Zimbabwe
Second Test, Day One
Live at 1:50 pm
UEFA Champions League
Valencia vs VS Besiktas
Live at 2:25 am (Friday)

STAR Sports

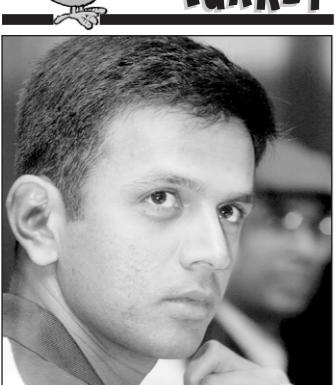
Sportsline
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm
UEFA Champions League
Perugia vs PSV Eindhoven
Live at 1:25 am (Friday)



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)			



Rahul Dravid

(India cricket vice-captain)
"I do not think there is anything to fear. We are going to go out there and do our best like anywhere else. We gave our best in Australia and we will try our best in Pakistan."

B'baria cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Chalantika Sporting Club and Titas Cricket Club won their respective matches in the Freedom Fighter Ranga Mia Cup cricket tournament at the Shahjadpur Junior High School ground yesterday.

In the first match, Chalantika defeated Molaysh Cricket Club by 20 runs.

Winning the toss, the winners batted first and collected 125 after being all out in 50 overs. Arman topscored with 60 and he was declared man-of-the-match.

In reply, Molaysh were all out for 105 in 50 overs.

On the other match of the day, Titas Club defeated Surja Tarun Cricket Club by 30 runs.

Titas Cricket Club batted first after won toss and made 130 in 50 overs. Hamid scored highest 58 and was adjudged man-of-the-match.

In reply, Surja Tarun bundled out for 100.

Alamgir in, Monjurul out

Final Test in Bulawayo from today

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh made one change in their side for the second and final Test against Zimbabwe starting in Bulawayo today.

Quick bowler Alamgir Kabir, who was instrumental in the win against Zimbabwe A in the Tigers' only warm-up match leading up to the first Test, was brought in place of left-arm medium pacer Monjurul Islam who looked ordinary in the 183-run drubbing in Harare.

The Tigers have to play out of their skin to avoid a repeat thrashing but should find comfort in the fact that Zimbabwe could be without three of their most important performers.

The tourists tormentor at Harare

Andy Blignaut is already out of this Test with a thigh strain. Fast bowler Blignaut took the first Test hattrick by a Zimbabwean near the close on day four to reduce Bangladesh to 14 for five in their second innings. That was a killer blow for the tourists.

Blignaut was replaced by Blessing Mahwire.

There were concerns regarding the fitness of skipper Heath Streak and batsman Stuart Carlisle.

Streak is in doubt with a back spasm while Carlisle was suffering from a quadriple strain and is unlikely to play according to team manager Babu Meman.

Coach Geoff Marsh said that they would delay naming their team until the morning of the match because of the weather, which was wet for most part of Wednesday.

Bangladesh will be hoping to bury their second innings blues once and for all. At Harare, some

outrageously loose shots cost them dear on the fourth day.

"We have had a lot of discussions regarding the mistakes made in Harare. Our batting was irresponsible in the second innings and we also fielded poorly and allowed Zimbabwe to reach a big score. We are hoping for a much better performance here," said Bangladesh manager MA Latif.

Latif also informed that he had submitted an official letter to match referee Wasim Raja pointing out some of the crucial umpiring errors that really pegged Bangladesh back.

"The dismissals of Mushfiqur Rahaman and Tapash Baisya in the second innings and a few other umpiring decisions were not up to the mark. So I've written to the match referee expressing

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8



PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

Left-arm spinner Enamul Haque celebrates after dismissing Ugandan batsman Raymond Otim at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium on Wednesday.

BD crawl into semis

ICC U/19 CRICKET WORLD CUP BANGLADESH 2004

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Bangladesh narrowly escaped what might have been a disastrous afternoon against a tiny Uganda in a Plate Championship mismatch of the Fifth ICC U-19 World Cup at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium on Wednesday.

The home side wrapped up their second win in only 19.5 overs but not before they had goose bumps while chasing a listless opposition total of 78.

They lost six wickets in a mad chase before a sensible run-a-ball 26 by Nazimuddin saw them through. It was for the second successive game that Richard McInnes' boys suffered a sensational top-order collapse after the one against Canada.

The high-profile batting line up that included Nafees Iqbal, Aftab Ahmed and skipper Ashiqur Rahman wobbled in the spinning web of Emmanuel Isaneez, who captured all the six wickets.

It was a brilliant effort by the Ugandan off-spinner who was later adjudged man-of-the-match. He finished with 6-37, the second best bowling effort in the tournament so far after Zimbabwe's Tishane Panyangara.

Despite the unimpressive victory Bangladesh moved into the Plate semifinals along with Ireland from their group. Ireland scored an impressive 155-run win against Canada in the other game at the MA

Aziz Stadium.

"It could have been a worst day for Bangladesh had number six Nazimuddin not batted sensibly," commented a local cricket official after the match.

Emmanuel however was over the moon.

"I'm very happy with my effort today. It was my first six-wicket success at any level," Emmanuel told journalists during the post-match briefing.

His effort outshone another brilliant bowling performance by Bangladesh's young paceman Nazmul Hossain, who captured five wickets for 30 runs.

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bowling effort in the tournament so far after Zimbabwe's Tishane Panyangara.

The bowling was good but the batsmen must improve their concentration level if we are to move into the Plate final," said a grim-faced Australian after the game. But before that Bangladesh must beat Ireland in their final group league match on Friday to avoid a semifinal meeting with Australia.

McInnes was certainly a worried man after the match.

"The bowling was good but the batsmen must improve their concentration level if we are to move into the Plate final," said a grim-faced Australian after the game. But before that Bangladesh must beat Ireland in their final group league match on Friday to avoid a semifinal meeting with Australia.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

CUP CONTEST

England and Pakistan progressed

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

to the next round.

India are to tour Pakistan next month amid a current thaw in relations between the two countries with both governments vowing to keep the momentum for peace going.

The tune-up camp with a preliminary squad of 24 in attendance is for next month's historic series with India between March 13-April 17 with five one-day games and three Tests.

India are taking up a tour of Pakistan for the first time since 1989-90.

Russell shock Abahani

SPORTS REPORTER

Moroccan striker Yousuf struck twice as Sheikh Russell Kira Chakra pulled off an exciting 2-1 victory against Abahani Kira Chakra in the lone Western Union Premier Division Football League at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

The result saw this season's surprise package Russell leap into second place securing 26 points from 14 matches, one point more than Mukti-joddha Sangsads who have a game in hand.

The defeat effectively ended Abahani's title hopes. The Sky Blues dropped one place to third with 24 points from 14 matches.

Big-spenders Brothers Union have a virtually unassailable lead in the 10-team table with 34 points from 14 outings.

Yousuf put Russell ahead in the 34th minute and he put the issue beyond doubt in the 56th minute penalty. Rakib scored for Abahani in the 37th minute.

The teams drew goalless in their first-leg encounter.

Cricket-wise Inzamam

AFP, Lahore

Pakistani cricket captain Inzamamul Haq Tuesday asked his team-mates to demonstrate discipline and sportsmanship in the historic upcoming series with India.

"I don't want any misconduct or verbal exchanges as we need to play in the true spirit of the game," Inzamam directed his players on the first day of the training camp.

"After all this is just a game of cricket and nothing more, the same appeal is to fans also and they must take it as cricket," he said, reflecting concerns over traditional passion-fueled encounters on the field between the two rivals in the past.

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SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

Manikganj cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Sewta Uday Sena (SUS) became champions in the Language Martyr Rafiq Memorial Cricket Tournament defeating Nizam Samsul Smriti Sangha (NSS) by eight wickets at the Shaheed Miraj-Tapan Stadium in Manikganj yesterday.

NSS batted first and made only 89 before being all out in 37.2 overs with Rocky making 28 and Pintu 23. Obaydur and Sakib did the damage sharing six wickets.

SUS replied with 90-2 in 22.4 overs. Nadim top scored with 41 not out. Pintu and Rocky took one wicket each for the losers.

Later, former Bangladesh captain Naimur Rahman and Manikganj District Sports Association member Kazi Rayan Uddin Tuku distributed prizes.

Sri Lanka were struggling at 34-3 following fast bowler Jason Gillespie's triple-strike before Jayawardene came to their rescue with his 20th half-century.

The stylish middle-order batsman put on 58 for the fifth wicket with Tillakaratne Dilshan (30) and as many runs for the next with Upul Chandana (40).

Jayawardene hit five fours in his 110-ball knock before being caught short of the crease going for the

Mukti stoop to Njmeh

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Mukti-joddha Sangsads Kira Chakra made group favourite Njmeh Club sweat before going down 1-0 to the Lebanese outfit in the home leg of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Cup at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

The result saw this season's surprise package Russell leap into second place securing 26 points from 14 matches.

The defeat effectively ended Abahani's title hopes. The Sky Blues dropped one place to third with 24 points from 14 matches.

The Red's brave show ended when Lebanon international Mohammad Ali Kassas headed

home in the 64th minute to seal their second successive victory in the new AFC competition while for Mukti-joddha it was their second straight 1-0 loss.

The home club's dogged display however drew praise from Njmeh coach Abd Elaziz Mustafa Abd Elshafai.

"Frankly we were lucky to win after not performing at our best. But I think all credit should go to Mukti-joddha who played very good football," said Elshafai after the game.

But he thought the hard surface at the ground had unsettled his

players.

Mukti-joddha, which lost their first away match to Nisa Club in Turkmenistan, will fly to Yemen for another away fixture against Yemen league champions Al Shaab Ibb Club on April 7.

In front of a sparse crowd Wednesday's game, as a whole, produced little in terms of chances for the Dhaka giants.

Mukti-joddha's Lulenti could have broken the evening's duck after just five minutes of the contest. However, instead of going for precision, the Ugandan striker opted for power. So his right-footer sailed wide much to the relief of the Njmeh goalkeeper Tafah.

The Reds also wasted another opportunity just the breather.

The home side's first half showing impressed former Bangladeshi captain and ace striker Alfaz Ahmed, who was among the 3,000 spectators.

"It was excellent although they

SEE PAGE 14 COL 7

Dhaka, Sylhet stay level

ISPAHANI Mirzapore Tea 5th National Cricket League