

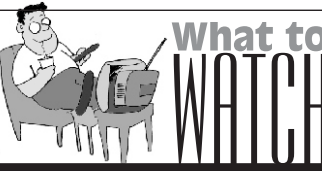


Did U Know?

Sanath Jayasuriya of Sri Lanka holds the record for the fastest fifty. He achieved the landmark in 17 balls against Pakistan at Singapore in 95/96.



Makhaya Ntini
(South African fast bowler)
There's nothing like putting your bare feet into fresh cow dung on a cold day. It's great.
Looks back on his younger days at a cattle farm in the Cape province



ESPN
Bangladesh vs Zimbabwe
Second Test, Day Two
Live at 1:50 pm
Sportscentre
Sport News
Live at 9:00 pm
STAR Sports
Sportsline
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm



Tick the correct answers, Post to 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 | 14 |
| 3. Who won the Pan Pacific Open title? | Henin | Clijsters | Davenport |
| 4. Who won the Tokyo Marathon? | Njenga | Sebastian | Osaki |

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

Active chess

PRESS RELEASE
The active chess tournament begins today at 10 am at the Bangladesh Chess Federation's auditorium.
The open tournament, which will be held only Fridays under Swiss league system, offers cash prizes to the winners.

Dancing with Dhawan



SPORTS REPORTER

Shikhar Dhawan turned the Bangabandhu National Stadium into his own backyard when left-hander smashed his third century at the big bowl yesterday.

The young Delhi batsman scored a washbuckling 146 in India's imposing total of 316-5 that eventually fashioned a 56-run victory over Sri Lanka. It also ensured India's place in the last four of the Fifth ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup.

Sri Lanka fought gamely making 100 in the first 12 overs. But the chase was too stiff and the islanders eventually finished at 260 in 44 overs. The defeat marked the exit of one of the three Asian giants from the competition.

Dhawan, who has been phenomenal with two centuries and a fifty in his previous five innings, raced to third three figures after India won the toss and decided to bat.
Certainly a star in the making, the

southpaw produced an immaculate array of shots in his 136-ball polished knock. He struck 19 sweetly-timed boundaries and a pair of sixes.

He put on 134 runs for the fourth-wicket with Raina (54) after India were reduced to 39-3.

But the master-blasters of the Indian innings was wicketkeeper Karthik, who set the field alight with a blistering 39-ball 70. Karthik clobbered six fours and four sixes.

Tharanga got Sri Lanka off to a rollicking start smashing 61 for the first wicket that yielded 83 runs in just 10 overs. But they failed to carry on the momentum.

WEST INDIES V SOUTH AFRICA

West Indies rode on a brilliant hundred by Xavier Marshall to coast into the last four with a 34-run win against South Africa at the Fatullah Stadium in Narayanganj.

Marshall hit 106 as the junior Windies scored an impressive 284-6. South Africa replied with 250 but that was not enough to save them from going out of the competition.

Marshall struck eight fours and one six in his 133-ball knock. He

received good support from Tishan Maraj (34), Lendl Simmons (30) and Jonathan Augustus (33).

South Africa's lower-order provided a late flurry with Mpumelelo Silwana hitting 42 before speedster Ravi Rampaul knocked his stumps over.

Rampaul, who made his senior international debut in South Africa last month, finished with three for 41.

West Indies will play in the second semifinal against the winners of today's big game between Pakistan and England.

PLATE CONTEST

Meanwhile, in the Plate competition Australia moved into the semifinal with an unconvincing six-wicket victory against Nepal at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium.

Chasing a modest Nepalese total of 154-9, the Australians were at one stage tottering at 66-4 before Adam Crosthwaite and Ahilene Beadle saw them through putting on 96 runs for the undefeated fifth wicket.

Crosthwaite scored 50 off 68 b a | | | s
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'This can be the time'

REUTERS, Kolkata

India believe they can achieve their first Test series victory in Pakistan following their impressive recent performances in the Asia Cup.

Australia, captain Sourav Ganguly said on Wednesday.
"Pakistan is a challenge, but I am sure it is not going to be as big as Australia," Ganguly told this news agency.

"Australia are definitely a superior side. We are pretty confident after our tour of Australia," he said. "To be honest, we are going to Pakistan in a much better frame of mind."

India face a huge challenge on their first full tour of Pakistan for 14 years, which starts next month, having failed to win any of their 20 Tests there.

But their confidence of playing abroad has been bolstered by the 1-1 Test series draw in Australia, when they confounded predictions of a drubbing by the world champions.

India will play five one-dayers in Pakistan followed by three Tests on

a tour that has generated huge interest among millions of cricket-mad fans on both sides of the border.

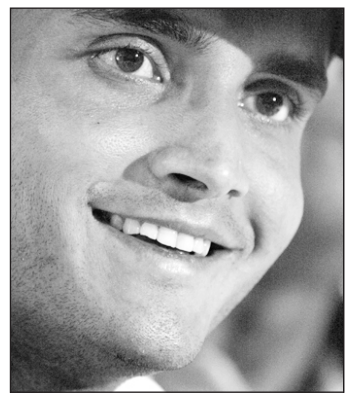
The tour was cleared only after the Indian government revoked a three-year ban on bilateral games with Pakistan due to political tensions over the Himalayan region of Kashmir.

Although the tour comes amid a thaw in relations between the neighbours, the build-up has been dominated by security concerns with the restive cities of Karachi and Peshawar, close to the Afghan border, allotted only one-day games.

But Ganguly said his players would not be distracted.

"I don't think the boys should have any problem in focusing on cricket," he said. "They know their performances will be watched all over the world."

Ganguly thinks India and
SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



SOURAV GANGULY



MR HUNDRED! Indian sensational opener Shikhar Dhawan raises his bat after completing his third century of the Fifth ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup in yesterday's match against Sri Lanka at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. Dhawan scored 146.

Rain ruins Day 1 in Bulawayo

AFP, Bulawayo

A downpour in the early afternoon washed out the first day of the second cricket Test between Zimbabwe and Bangladesh here Thursday.

Umpires David Orchard of Australia and England's Neil Mallender decided that an already sodden outfield at the Queens Sports Club caused by heavy rains on Wednesday had deteriorated too far to think about starting the match.

Ground staff spent several hours mopping up and the boundary rope had been moved inwards to leave some of the affected outfield beyond the normal playing area.

Zimbabwe won the first Test in Harare by 183 runs. The rain has diminished Bangladesh's prospects of a first Test victory.

The match will now have to be completed in four days to get a result, if the weather permits.

Wanderers, Victoria keep fighting

SPORTS REPORTER

Relegation weary Victoria and Dhaka Wanderers won their respective Western Union Premier Division football league matches by identical 2-1 margins at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Nigerian recruits Moses and Idris scored one in each half as Victoria beat Dhanmondi. Moses netted in the 39th minute while his compatriot Idris in the 79th minute. Anwar pulled one back for Badda in the 49th minute.

In the second match, Dhaka Wanderers came from behind to see off Dhanmondi Club. Aziz put Dhanmondi ahead in the 15th minute and Aminul equalised in the 40th minute. Hanif scored the match winner in the 48th minute.

Both Wanderers and Victoria now have 14 points from as many matches but still fighting to prevent relegation. The teams are joint third from bottom. Three teams will be relegated to the First Division. Badda and Dhanmondi have confirmed their demotion securing five and three points each from 14 games.

B'baria cricket

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Progoti Cricket Club and Khelaghar Cricket Club won their respective matches in 'Shaheed Freedom Fighter Rangu Mia Cup Cricket Tournament at the Shahjadapur Junior High School playground in Brahmanbaria yesterday.

Progoti defeated Dawra Cricket Club by 32 runs.
Winning the toss, the winners batted first and made 183 for eight in stipulated 50 overs. Kazib top scored with 60.

Dawra Cricket Club replied with 151 in the stipulated overs.

In the day's second match, Khelaghar posted a three-wicket win over Nobarun Cricket Club.

Electing to bat, Nobarun Cricket Club scored 140 before losing all their wickets.

Khelaghar Cricket Club reached the target losing seven wickets. Mazed led the chase with 60 and he was declared man-of-the-match.

McGrath already impresses them



AFP, Sydney

Glenn McGrath showed he was ready to return to the New South Wales team for their final Sheffield Shield match of the season with an impressive comeback bowling performance.

The 34-year-old Australian pace spearhead had figures of 6-56 off 32.3 overs and 4-30 off 18 overs in the second innings in NSW second XI's nine-wicket win over Victoria in Melbourne on Wednesday.

It followed just one Sydney club game last weekend after a seven-month lay-off because of ankle

problems.
The NSW selectors will pick their team on Saturday for their final Shield game with Queensland starting next Thursday, when Steve and Mark Waugh will each play what could be their last first-class game.

McGrath seems certain to be included as state selector Dion Bourne said the panel was "enthused with the way he bowled" in Melbourne.

"The longer he bowled, the better he got. He's still got his accuracy and guile and he bowled very well in the first innings," Bourne said on Thursday.

"But in the second innings he
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Warne to bowl 'surprise' ball

BBC ONLINE, undated

Australia leg-spinner Shane Warne plans to introduce a new delivery in next month's Test series against Sri Lanka.

"There's something I've been working on. I'm saving it for the Test series, if I get picked," said Warne.

"It's something I've changed my grip with and I'm sure if I land them like I have been in practice then I think it will be very handy."

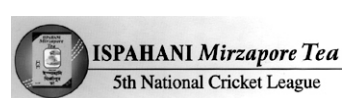
Sri Lanka's Muttiah Muralitharan unveiled his own new delivery during England's recent tour to the country.

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Western Union Premier Division Football League
Muktijoddha vs Arambagh (4:00 pm)
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur
ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup Super League
New Zealand vs Zimbabwe (1:30 pm)
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
Pakistan vs England (9:00 am)
Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium
Plate Championship
Canada vs Uganda (9:00 am)
Venue: MA Aziz Stadium
Bangladesh vs Ireland (9:00 am)
Venue: Chittagong Divisional Stadium

Nuruzzaman pilots Rajshahi



SPORTS REPORTER

Nuruzzaman scored an unbeaten century as Rajshahi enforced a dramatic draw against holders Khulna on the final day of their Ispahani Mirzapore Tea National Cricket League match at the Rangpur Cricket Gardens yesterday.

Nuruzzaman carved a match-saving 139 as Rajshahi, resuming the fourth and final day on 70-2 and needing another 165 runs to make Khulna bat again, reached 348 for five.

The 27-year-old Nuruzzaman found a wily partner in Rafiqul Islam. The pair added 180 runs for the second wicket to bail Rajshahi out of danger.

The partnership finally came to an end when Rafiqul, who played one Test against South Africa in 2002, was out one short of a hundred when he was dismissed by off-spinner Tamim Bashir.

Rajshahi lost another wicket when left-arm pacer Syed Russell trapped Anisur Rahman lbw for 16. But Nuruzzaman and Hasanuzzaman steered the side to the finish before Hasanuzzaman returned to the dressing room for 34.

Nuruzzaman was unbeaten on 139 off 290 balls that included 18 boundaries.

The outcome increased Rajshahi's tally to 24 points after the penultimate round.

Dhaka and Sylhet, which won on day three, jointly finished atop securing 36 points each and the title will be decided after the final round of games.

SCOREBOARD

KHULNA V RAJSHAHI

Venue: Rangpur Cricket Garden
KHULNA: First innings 420 all out in 152.3 overs (overnight 277/5 in 90 overs) (Shafiq 77, Sanjoy 38, Salauddin 50, Jamaluddin 53, Asadullah 34, Tahmim Bashir 85, Al-Amin 33; Saifullah 3-140, Rezwanul 4-93)

RAJSHAHI: First innings 185 all out in 76.3 overs (Murad 30, Nuruzzaman 48, Anisur 53, Russell 3-57, Al-Amin 2-19, Jamaluddin 2-45, Tamim Bashir 2-4)

RAJSHAHI: Second innings (overnight score 70 for 2 in 42 overs) Murad c Paltu (sub) b Razzak 24
Rafiqul c Selim b Bashir 99
Ashraf c Paltu (sub) b Jamal 6
Nuruzzaman not out 139
Anisur lbw Russell 16
Hasanuzzaman c Shafiq b Jamal 34

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Rush for online tickets

AFP, Karachi



Tickets for next month's historic cricket series between Pakistan and India have gone on sale on the Internet for the first time and online officials reported an overwhelming response.

Sohail Ahmed of CricInfo, the online firm responsible for the sale, predicted that all its Internet tickets would be sold out within a couple of days.

The Pakistan Cricket Board

(PCB) has allocated 30 to 40 per cent of tickets for sale online for the March 10 to April 17 series, which comprises five one-day matches and three Test matches. The non-refundable tickets range in price from 850 rupees (19 dollars) to 2,120 rupees (47 dollars).

The remaining 60 to 70 per cent of tickets, which are still in the final design stages and yet to be printed, would be sold at stadium gates, he said.

The PCB estimates that if each match is a sell-out it will have sold about 250,000 tickets in total.

"Tickets (for the India series) have gone on the Internet for the first time in history and the response

has been overwhelming," said Ahmed.

Ahmed said 1,700 tickets had been sold within the first three hours of going online, with notable interest from Indians and from Pakistani expatriates living in Britain, the United States and the Middle East.

The ticket sales started about 24 hours ahead of schedule and a man from London was the first to book, buying seven tickets from the site www.pcbtickets.cricket.org. The buyer's name was not released.

"We have ensured that there is no bulk buying of tickets on the Net by restricting an individual to ten tickets per person," Ahmed added.

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PHOTO: STAR

Australian pacer Cameron Hockett clean bowls Nepal tail-ender Lakpa Lama during yesterday's Plate Championship match of the ICC Under-19 Cricket World Cup at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium.