



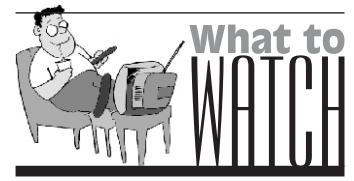
Did U Know?

Riddick Bowe is the only fighter to have held all four world title belts - IBF, WBA, WBC and WBO.



Carlo Ancelotti
(AC Milan coach)
"It's a truly extraordinary moment for Milan - the team are enjoying themselves and the fans are being entertained, but we cannot afford to look any further than the next match."

After their Serie A victory over Parma on Saturday.



ESPN
Football Focus
Live at 6:30 pm
Sportscentre
Sport News
Live at 8:30 pm

UEFA Champions League
AC Milan vs Deportivo
Live at 1:30 am (Wednesday)

STAR Sports
Sportsline
Sport News
Live at 8:00 pm

UEFA Champions League
FC Porto vs Olympique Lyonnais
Live at 1:30 am (Wednesday)

TEN Sports

West Indies vs England
Second Test, Day Five
Live at 8:00 pm



COMPETITION 208
Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
March 27, 2004 and draw

1. How many runs did Bangladesh score against Zimbabwe in the third ODI?
230 242 238

2. Who clinched the first Division Football League title?
Farashganj Victoria
Youngmen's

3. Who won the Qatar Open tennis title?
Hings Henin Myskina

4. Who won the four-day National Cricket League title?
Name

Class

School Address

Phone: (If any)



Bangladesh A vs Zimbabwe A (DayOne)
Second Four-Day Match
Venue: Shaheed Chandu

Players fall on BCB

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Desperate cricketers anxious over their future, met with Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) officials yesterday to express their concern at the uncertainty surrounding the Dhaka Premier Division and First Division leagues.

The livelihood of some seven hundreds players have been thrown into turmoil after the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolis (CCDM), the organisers of the Dhaka leagues, failed to come to a settlement with top clubs over completing the players' transfer for the 2003-2004 season on schedule. The clubs are reluctant to play in this time of the year arguing that the rainy season is fast

approaching but that view is spelling disaster for the cricketers who are dependent on club contracts for their financial existence.

Some thirty players including former national skipper Akram Khan, Minhazul Abedin and Naimur Rahman went to BCB's Gulshan office yesterday and talked in length with BCB advisor Arafat Rahman and chief executive officer Macky Dudhia.

"We decided on meeting Arafat Rahman and Macky Dudhia because a big number of cricketers will be face unimaginable suffering if the league is not played this season," said Akram.

Akram also informed that Arafat, the influential chairman of the development committee, assured them after that the Board would go to any length to compensate the cricketers if there is no

league.

"He told us that they would try their best to convince the clubs. He was adamant that the four leading clubs were mainly responsible for the stalemate but the Board was prepared to embrace a new concept if that would benefit the players," said Akram.

It was learnt that the board has already received positive responses from eight corporate houses including Bangladesh Biman, Bangladesh Railway and Grameen-Phone in its plan for arranging a 12-team first-ever corporate cricket league where players will be recruited by the office teams. That would also put an end to the club monopoly of control over the fortune of cricketers.

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India get triple boost

AFP, New Delhi



Experienced leg-spinner Anil Kumble, seamer Ajit Agarkar and opener Akash Chopra will join the Indian team for an upcoming Test series against Pakistan, a top official announced here on Monday.

"Kumble and Agarkar have recovered from injuries and Chopra is our regular Test opener who the selectors want to persist with," cricket board secretary Karunakaran Nair told reporters.

Kumble (shoulder) and Agarkar (shin) missed the ongoing one-dayers due to injuries but were picked to strengthen the bowling attack for the three-Test series starting in Multan on March 28.

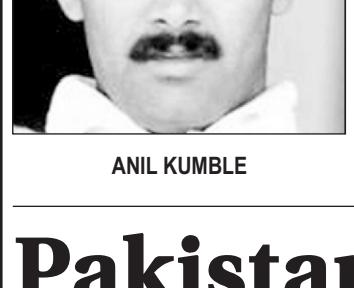
"They have not played any first-class match after recovering but have been certified fit and we have

got reports that they are bowling well in practice sessions," Nair said.

The board secretary said that one-day specialist Mohammad Kaif, left-handed batsman Hemang Badani and seamer Amit Bhandari would return after the one-dayers.

Bhandari was sent as Ashish Nehra's replacement for the one-dayers and since Agarkar is joining the team we are asking Bhandari to return," he said.

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ANIL KUMBLE

AJIT AGARKAR

AKASH CHOPRA

Pakistan divided within

AFP, Lahore

A war of words broke out between two Pakistani cricket legends on Monday after arch-rivals India engineered a remarkable comeback to level the one-day series 2-2.

The tourists kept their cool in the make-or-break game under lights at the Gaddafi Stadium here on Sunday to overtake Pakistan's 293-9 with five overs to spare and set up the decider at the same venue on Wednesday.

Former Pakistani captain Imran Khan and current coach Javed Miandad differed on the idea of appointing a bowling coach for the team after the hosts sent down a staggering 58 wides and 40 no-balls in the four matches.

Fiery fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar was the worst culprit on Sunday, conceding 14 wides in his 2-63 in nine overs. New-ball partner Shabbir Ahmed gave away five no-balls and a wide in 0-62 from seven overs.

"It does not need a rocket scientist to realise the team needs a bowling coach to sort out its problems," said Imran, one of the game's great all-rounders who led Pakistan to World Cup victory in 1992.

"No team can afford to concede so many extra runs and hope to win. Both the captain (Inzamamul Haq) and coach (Miandad) are batsmen and do not have the expertise to look after the bowlers' troubles.

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