

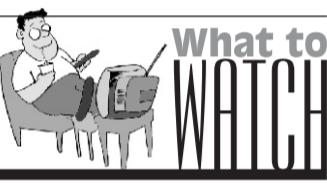


Did U Know?

The first man to swim the English Channel without a life jacket was Captain Matthew Webb, who died trying to swim the rapids above Niagara Falls.



Michel Platini
(French soccer legend)
"I just think it's a pity that Europe's top sides only play against each other these days."



ESPN
Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe
Third ODI
Live at 1:20 pm
STAR Sports

English Premier Football League
Tottenham Hotspur vs Arsenal
Live at 9:00 pm
Primera Liga

Real Madrid vs Barcelona
Live at 11:25 pm
Barcelona vs Valencia
Live at 1:30 am (Monday)

TEN Sports
West Indies vs England
Third ODI
Live at 7:30 pm



Tick the correct answers, post to

The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes

Competition closes at 8 pm
May 7, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who is Bangladesh's fastest woman?
Iva Chumki Sabrina

2. Who is Zimbabwe's cricket captain?
Taibu Streak Olonga

3. Name the man-of-the-series in the India-Pakistan Test series:
Sehwag Dravid Kumble

4. How many runs did Brian Lara score in the first innings of the final Test against England?
400 388 380

5. Who won the Singer 30th national chess title?
Zia Reefat Rakib

Name

Class

School Address

Phone: (If any)



GP Corporate Cricket League
BADC vs BCB Dev Squad
Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium
GrameenPhone vs MM Ispahani
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
Bashundhara vs Biman
Venue: Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium

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Bashar steals Ashraful act

SPORTS REPORTER



CityCell joined Bashundhara Group at the top of the Grameen-Phone Corporate Cricket League when they registered their second win against Partex Group at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Acme Laboratories also got over their shock opening loss to CityCell with a four-wicket victory against BEXIMCO Group at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Rain might have stopped Bangladesh Birman on Friday. But the national airliners cruised past Gazi Tank by six wickets under clear skies over Fatullah Cricket Stadium.

Bangladesh captain Habibul Bashar scored a blazing unbeaten 73 in Acme's first victory while his deputy Rajin Saleh hit an explosive 40-ball 45 in CityCell's 77-run passage. There was however no luck for Partex despite Mohammad Ashraful's brave 81.

If they were just a few of the West Indies-bound squad who performed, the others could be said had an off day with the bat. Returning from injury national opener Javed Omar scored just one, while fellow opener Hannan Sarker made 13 and all-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman scored 4 for their respective teams.

CITYCELL V PARTEX

CityCell is proving that their late entry in the first-ever cricket league for corporate houses has nothing to do with their on-field performance. They thrived on half-centuries by

Imran Ahmed and Moniruzzaman to register a fighting 228-9 in 50 overs.

The pair added 89 for the second wicket with Moniruzzaman hitting 62, his back-to-back fifty.

Imran top-scored with 66 off 104 balls that featured six boundaries. But the real thrust came off Rajin Saleh's bat.

Partex's chase never took off as they lost six wickets with only fifty runs on the board. However, they showed resilience where CityCell faltered with both tailenders Rezanul Islam (30) and Mizanur Rahman (40) delaying CityCell's party. The chase eventually ended at 151 in 49 overs.

With this win CityCell and Bashundhara topped the table with maximum four points from two games.

ACME V BEXIMCO

It was a tale of two attacking knocks where an experienced Bashar won over a youthful Ashraful. But the unsung hero of the piece was left-arm spinner Ahsanullah Hasan.

Ashraful put behind his first match's disappointment against ARAF Apparels, where he scored one, with a dashing 81 off 85 balls as BEXIMCO posted a commanding 247-8 in a reduced 45-over-a-side contest.

The little right-hander smote six fours and two sixes. National discard Sanwar followed up his good bowling with a captain's knock 33 not out as Birman raced to

been so meaningful had Hasan not been around to feature in the vital 98-run stand for the sixth wicket.

The southpaw, after his four-wicket haul with the ball, made an invaluable 46 off 47 balls. The player from Chittagong struck four boundaries.

It was BEXIMCO's second defeat after their 49-run thrashing at the hands of ARAF Apparels.

BIMAN V GAZI TANK

Bangladesh Birman, a traditional force in domestic cricket, launched their CCL campaign with an easy six-wicket sail against Gazi Tank in a curtailed over match at the Fatullah Stadium.

Sent into bat, Gazi Tank scored a modest 174 in the stipulated 41 overs with Nazimuddin hitting highest 71 off 91 balls. He struck seven fours and the lone sixer of the innings.

Opener Sanjay contributed a sedate 35.

Former national left-arm paceman Anisur Rahman and off-spinner Sanwar Hossain evenly shared six wickets for Birman.

Anis finished with 3-22 while Sanwar took three for 32.

Rashedul Haq gave Birman a flying start hitting 85 off 92 balls. The attacking opener slammed seven fours and two sixes. National discard Sanwar followed up his good bowling with a captain's knock 33 not out as Birman raced to

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4



Rangs job for Asif
BSF gives cash to golden SAF shooters

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Shooting Federation (BSF) yesterday presented the SAF gold medal-winning shooters with cash awards.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman handed over the cheques of Tk one lakh each to Asif Hossain Khan and Sharmin Akhter at a function arranged for the inter-club shooting competition.

The BSF had before the start of the regional meet in Islamabad last month announced the cash incentive.

Asif, a Commonwealth gold medalist, expectedly won the gold in his favourite 10m air-rifle event in the 9th SAF Games that ended earlier this month, while Sharmin surprised many by shooting to golden glory in the corresponding event for women.

There was another good news for Asif as Rangs Group has come forward to give him financial support.

"Managing director of Rangs Group Romo Rouf Chowdhury assured the shooter a job with a monthly pay of Tk 10,000," said BSF general secretary Nazim Uddin Chowdhury after the function.

Rangs has come up to rescue Asif after a renowned motorcar company showed reluctance to fulfil its commitment it made after his Commonwealth Games success in Manchester in 2002.

Meanwhile, Army Shooting Association became champions in the 10th inter-club shooting competition while Savar Shooting Club finished runners-up.

A total of 350 shooters took part in the meet.

PHOTO: STAR

Partex's Rezanul Islam follows through on an on-drive during his gritty knock against CityCell in the GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Miandad stays coach

Cricket

BBC ONLINE, undated

Pakistan have already confirmed Inzamamul Haq as captain for the rest of the year.

And although Miandad had threatened to quit following media criticism he has been persuaded to stay.

"He is the same Miandad who enabled the team to win matches against New Zealand and South Africa.

And newspapers have reported that the Pakistan Cricket Board wants Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore to replace Miandad.

But PCB chairman Shaharyar Khan told this news service: "Since the failure at the World Cup, the team has improved a lot and won three series."

He continued: "We have lost the series against India, but our team played some good cricket.

"Unfortunately, many of the young players need to be more tough mentally.

"It is time to take important decisions and we'll take them -- not in haste, but after careful consideration and wider consultation."

He added: "Once a player wears a Pakistan blazer, he is expected to give the utmost performance, regardless of money. That's the spirit we want to promote."

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