

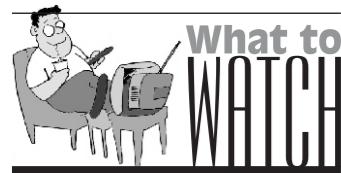
Star SPORT

DHAKA MONDAY APRIL 26, 2004, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com



Did U Know?

The most valuable soccer shirt was worn by Geoff Hurst during the 1966 World Cup final between England and Germany. The shirt was sold for 91,750 pounds (134,939 dollars) at London's auction house Christie's in September 2000.



ESPN

Zimbabwe v Sri Lanka
3rd ODI Highlights
Repeat at 12 pm
Sportscentre
Sports News
Live at 8.30 pm
UEFA Champions League
Magazine Show
Repeat at 11 pm

STAR Sports

Sportsline
Sports News
Live at 8 pm
Primera Liga
Real Madrid v Barcelona
Repeat at 8.30 pm



Sachin Tendulkar

(Indian batting genius)
"I think as you grow old, things change. Similarly with cricket. It's a gradual change for the better. I am also trying to be as compact as possible."



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

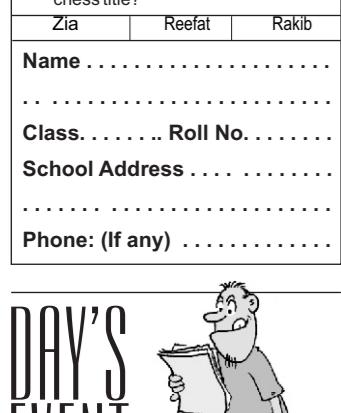
2. Who is Zimbabwe's cricket captain?
Taibu Streak Olenga

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 Roll No.
School Address
Phone: (If any)



GP Corporate Cricket League
Partex v BEXIMCO
Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium
Acme v ARAF APPARELS
Venue: Dhamondi Cricket Stadium
CityCell v Aktel
Venue: Fatullah Cricket Stadium



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

GrameenPhone's Aloka Kapali in full flow against MM Ispahani at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Left-arm spinners spit venom

SPORTS REPORTER

GrameenPhone
CORPORATE LEAGUE

There was a debate when left-arm spinners hogged the spotlight in the West Indies-bound squad a week ago. Whether it was the right move or not, the local scene has become a tweaker's domain going by what happened in the GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League on Sunday.

Musharraf Rubel was unheard of until his appearance for Bangladesh Biman against Bashundhara Group at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium. But his astonishing exploits of 6-31 gave the national flag carrier an unlikely 65-run win against the leaders of the second round of the first-ever league for business houses.

At the Fatullah Stadium, it was yet another strong display by the BCB Development Squad, which followed up its exciting tied match with GrameenPhone, with a seven-run win over BADC.

But Bashundhara appeared to have the match in their grip when makeshift opener Sabbir Khan (40 off 74 balls) and Al-Shahriar (67 off 112 balls) laid the platform.

They put on 99 runs for the second wicket after right-handed opener Gazi Salahuddin gave a tame catch at short-cover in the ninth over.

Biman, however, clawed their way back into the contest when off-

BIMAN V BASHUNDHARA
On a low and uneven track at

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

BOA's no to Jui, Surjo

OLYMPICS

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Olympic Association (BOA) has ignored Bangladesh Amateur Athletics Federation (BAAF)'s request for taking Fouzia Huda Jui and Afzal Hossain Surjo to the Athens Olympic Games.

The BAAF recommended the names of the two athletes for inclusion in the Athens-bound Bangladesh contingent later this year considering their recent form but the BOA apparently is not prepared to take any risks.

"Only the participants in the World Athletics meet last year in Paris are eligible for the summer Games.

"So, we have declined the BAAF's

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

3rd ODI delayed

REUTERS, Port-of-Spain

The third one-day international between West Indies and England will not begin before 1545 GMT due to a soaked outfield at the Queen's Park Oval on Sunday.

The umpires were scheduled to make an inspection at 1500, with a view to starting a reduced-overs contest at 1545.

Torrential rain at the same venue caused the abandonment of Saturday's second one-dayer in the seven-match series.

On a low and uneven track at

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

Rahul rues declaration

Cricket

CRICINFO, undated

Rahul Dravid insisted that there were no problems with Sachin Tendulkar over the controversial decision that left him stranded on 194 in Multan, but admitted that it was a decision that he regrets in retrospect.

"Retrospect is a beautiful thing," he said. "If I had realised the match would have ended on the fourth day, I would have let him complete his double hundred. But it is no issue in the team. The way you (the media) bring it up all the time, I guess it's a decision that will always haunt me."

Dravid sent Tendulkar an SMS message on his birthday on April 24, and said that he had only added new facets to his game as a batsman.

"If anything, his hunger for runs is increasing day-by-day," he said. "Look at his record in the last couple of years, it is phenomenal. Sachin is finding new and better

ways to score runs. His appetite for runs is growing as he is getting older."

Dravid, who interacted with the media at a function organised by the Indian Women's Press Corps in Delhi, also said that he disliked the Wall sobriquet.

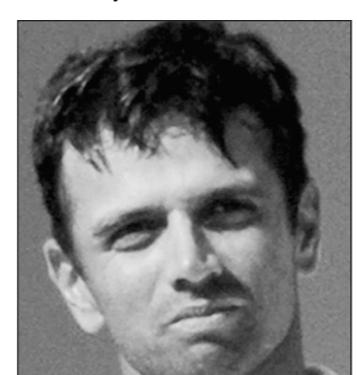
"I can see you people giving headlines like 'The Wall is crumbling' a few years from now," he said in jest.

On a more serious note, Dravid -- in his role as an ambassador for Karnataka tourism -- has invited the people of Pakistan to visit his home state. The response to the Karnataka tourism advertisement in Friday's edition of Dawn -- which had the words, "Rahul invites you home..." -- has been overwhelming, with hundreds of replies already.

Speaking to the Times of India, Mahendra Jain, who is tourism commissioner for Karnataka, said, "Overall, this is an exercise to use Dravid as a pull-force; as well as use his good performance and high opinion among the populace to reach out to the people of Pakistan."

"The decision was a conscious one, focus was clear and the timing perfect: use a combination of cricket and Bangalore's brand image in health tourism to plug the city and state. Once the usual approvals were through, we had no problem. It was handled like any other advertisement in a foreign country or a publication."

RAHUL DRAVID



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The Second Division League also began yesterday with eight teams taking part.

Zim hit rock bottom

Cricket

REUTERS, Harare

Sri Lanka skittled Zimbabwe for a world record low of 35 before clinching the series with a nine-wicket victory in the third one-day international on Sunday.

Zimbabwe, who had selected a highly inexperienced squad for the five-match series after 15 capped players made themselves unavailable as part of a selection-process battle with their board, were dismissed in 18 overs after losing the toss.

Sri Lanka, who won the first two one-day internationals in Bulawayo, replied with 40 for one in 9.2 overs.

Zimbabwe's total eclipsed the previous low of 36, Canada's when was captain Tatenda Taibu, who held his team's innings together in the first two matches of the series with top scores of 96 not out and 35.

On Sunday, however, Taibu was

wickets crashed for just 17 runs.

Zimbabwe's innings began to disintegrate in the eighth over, when Ebrahim drove loosely at a ball from Fernando and was caught behind by wicket keeper Kumara Sangakkara.

Seven balls later, Zimbabwe had plummeted to 19 for five, losing four wickets for just one run. Among them was captain Tatenda Taibu, who held his team's innings together in the first two matches of the series with top scores of 96 not out and 35.

On Sunday, however, Taibu was

dismissed first ball, leg before wicket, to an inswinger from Fernando that straightened after pitching and struck him on the back pad.

Taibu was Fernando's second victim in as many balls, but Elton Chigumbura survived the hat-trick ball before being bowled by Vaas for a duck in the ninth over as he aimed an expansive drive.

Zimbabwe's unluckiest batsman

was opener Brendan Taylor, caught

off the back of his bat by Tillekeratne Dilshan at short leg for four after a short delivery from Vaas had struck him on the shoulder.

SCOREBOARD

ODI LOWS

REUTERS, Harare

List of the top ten lowest one-day international team totals after Zimbabwe were bowled out for a world record 35 in the third ODI against Sri Lanka on Sunday:

Runs	Country	Opponent	Overs	Venue	Season
35	Zimbabwe	Sri Lanka	18	Harare	2004-05
36	Canada	Sri Lanka	18.4	Paarl	2002-03
38	Zimbabwe	Sri Lanka	15.4	Colombo	2001-02
43	Pakistan	West Indies	19.5	Cape Town	1992-93
45	Canada	England	40.3	Manchester	1979
45	Namibia	Australia	14	Potchefstroom	2002-03
54	India	Sri Lanka	26.3	Sharjah	2000-01
54	West Indies	South Africa	23.2	Cape Town	2003-04
55	Sri Lanka	West Indies	28.3	Sharjah	1986-87
63	India	Australia	25.5	Sydney	1980-81

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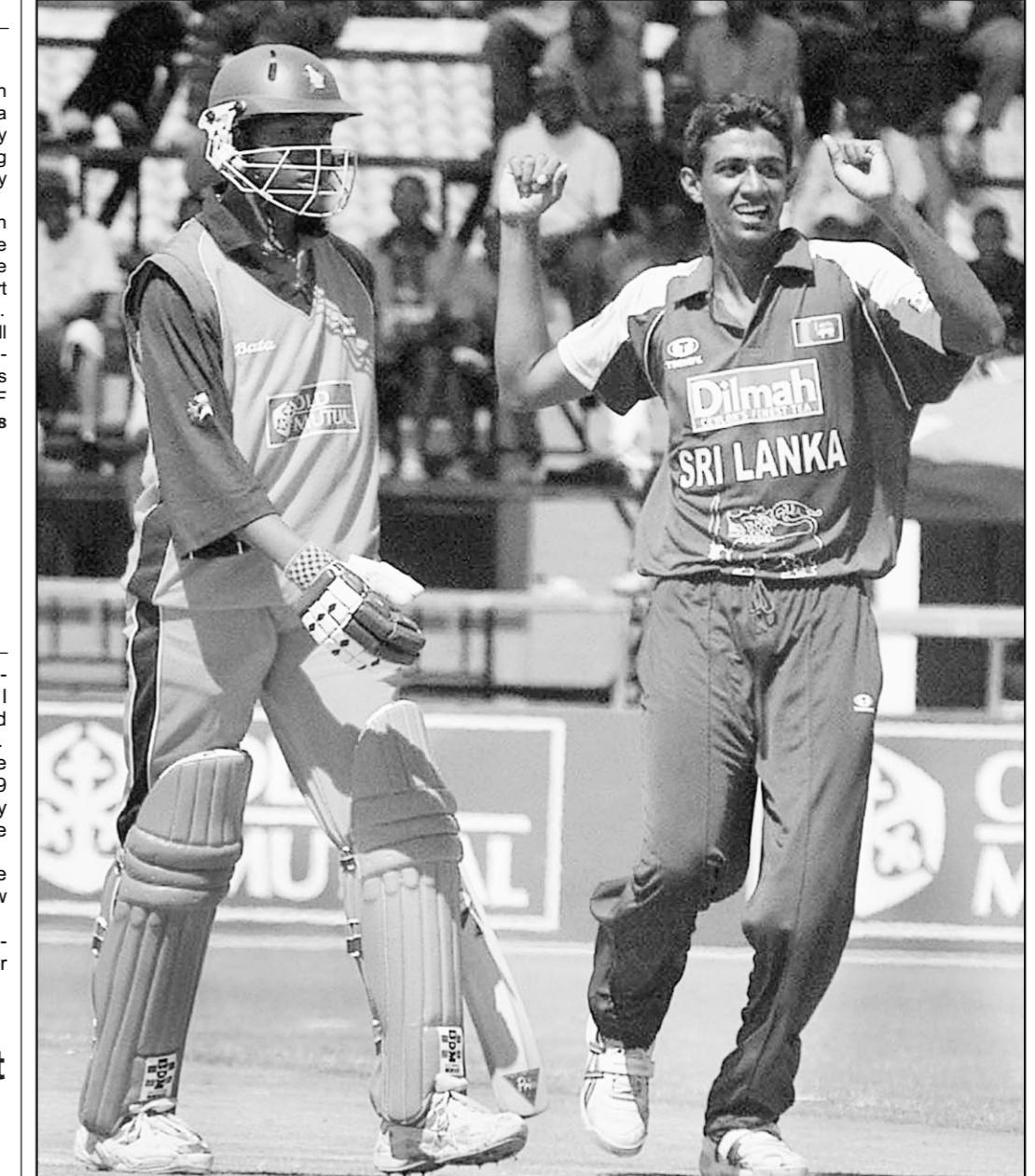


PHOTO: AFP
TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! Sri Lankan paceman Parvez Maharoof (R) jubilates at the fall of the last Zimbabwean wicket during the third one-day international at Harare Sports Club yesterday. Zimbabwe were all out for 35, the lowest ever score in the history of ODIs.

Gough's eyes on 2007 World Cup

Cricket

REUTERS, London

England fast bowler Darren Gough has set his sights on spearheading his country's attack at the 2007 World Cup.

The 33-year-old retired from Test cricket last August with long-term knee problems but was recalled by England last month for the seven-match one-day series in the West Indies.

"I know I can do a good job for the next two or three years and it's a great opportunity," Gough told BBC radio on Sunday.

"I want to keep playing for England and help them achieve their goal of winning the 2007 World Cup."

Yorkshireman Gough retired from the Test arena last year, having just returned after a year out with a knee injury requiring three operations.

He was not selected for England's winter tour of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

"I realised I couldn't play Tests for five days in a row at the level I wanted to play, so I went out with a good record at the right time," added Gough, who has taken 190 wickets in one-day internationals at an average of 24.92.

Meanwhile, Gulf News reported that International Cricket Council officials were expected to visit Dubai next week for talks on relocating the ICC headquarters to the booming emirate.

Indo-Pak match again on May 14

AFP, Abu Dhabi

The revitalised rivalry between India and Pakistan will be played out again in a day-night encounter for the record prize money of 100,000 dollars in Abu Dhabi on May 14.

The oil-rich emirate has stumped up the highest price for the one-day Sheikh Zayed