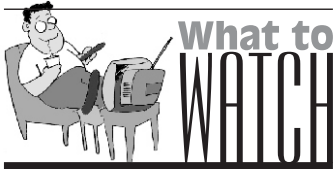




Did U Know?

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 (134,393 dollars) at London's auction house Christie's in September 2000.



What to WATCH

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



Talk TURKEY



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."



Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 211

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	David	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)



DAY'S EVENT

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



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

Left-arm spinners spit venom

SPORTS REPORTER



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.

Chasing Biman's 237-9, Bashundhara looked set to post their third win when they raced to 122-1 by the 22nd over. However, Rubel had other ideas and changed the whole complexion by running through the strong batting line-up of Bashundhara, who lost their last nine wickets for just 50 runs.

Another left-arm spinner Tamim Bashir starred for GrameenPhone, who thrashed MM Ispahani by eight wickets at the Bangabandhu National Stadium. The Khulna spinner captured 5-11 in 5.5 overs as Ispahani were shot out for 116.

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.

B I M A N
BASHUNDHARA
On a low and uneven track at

Dhanmondi, Biman scored a competitive 237-9 in 50 overs with their captain Sanwar Hossain leading from the front.

Sanwar, a national discard, anchored the first part of the inserted Biman innings with a fine 61 off 93 balls, studded with two fours and one six. Rubel and Syed Russel then provided the late flurry adding 42 runs off 36 balls for the ninth wicket.

But Bashundhara appeared to have the match in their grip when makeshift opener Sabbir Khan (42 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-

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

Eves' soccer on the comeback

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) once had to abandon a women's football series in the country involving local teams and a touring Indian side last year after attacks by fundamentalists.

But under pressure from the Asian Football Confederation (AFC), the governing body of the game in the country is now determined to start training programmes for women soon.

An 18-member women's football committee headed by BFF vice-president Sirajul Islam Bachchu was formed by the BFF

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8

Nat'l football qualifiers from May 4

SPORTS REPORTER

The qualifying rounds of the Sher-e-Bangla National Football Championship have been deferred by a week due to the political unrest.

The two-day hartal called by the opposition parties on April 29 and 29 and two public holidays in early May have forced the organisers to take the decision.

The qualifiers, to be held at nine venues across the country, will now begin on May 4.

It can be noted that the championship is being held after a four-year gap.

U-17 Dev cricket begins today

SPORTS REPORTER

The second phase of the Under-17 Development Cricket Tournament begins today at two different venues.

Six divisional teams along with Dhaka Metro Green and Blues will take part in the competition.

The matches will be held at Jahangirnagar University ground and City Club ground.

First Division v'ball starts

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka Sabuj Club got off to a fine start in the National Bank First Division Volleyball League when they blanked DU'67 Club 25-19, 25-19 and 25-14 in the inaugural match at the Volleyball Stadium yesterday.

A total of nine clubs -- Dhaka Sabuj, East End Boys, Brothers Union, Shantibagh WA, Nabagaranani Sangha, East End Club, Dhaka Sporting Club, Audit Kriira Chakra and DU'67 Club -- are participating in the meet.

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

Zim hit rock bottom



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 innings score against Sri Lanka at Paarl during last year's World Cup in South Africa.

No Zimbabwe batsman reached double figures at Harare Sports Club, Dion Ebrahim top-scoring with seven. There were four ducks.

Left-arm fast bowler Chaminda Vaas took four for 12 in nine overs for Sri Lanka, becoming the second Sri Lankan to take 300 one-day wickets after off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan.

Vaas obtained swing and movement off the seam and was virtually unplayable on a lively pitch of inconsistent bounce.

Medium pacer Dilhara Fernando shared the new ball with Vaas and also dominated the batsmen on his way to figures of two for 18 in six overs.

Debutant paceman Mohamed Maharoo bowled the remaining three overs, taking three for three.

Although Zimbabwe were out-classed by quality bowling on a difficult pitch, they contributed to their own downfall with a reckless batting approach. The last nine

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 wicketkeeper Kumar 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 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 hattrick 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 Tilkeratne 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



PHOTO: AFP

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! Sri Lankan paceman Parvez Maharoo (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



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.

Indo-Pak match again on May 14

AFP, Abu Dhabi

The revived 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 stake for the one-day Sheikh Zayed Cricket Cup at the new 20,000-capacity Zayed Cricket Stadium.

Sourav Ganguly will lead a near full-strength Indian XI against a Pakistan team captained by Inzamamul Haq. The 50 overs game will not be an official one-day international.

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.