

Third one-dayer abandoned too

AFP, Port of Spain  
Rain and unplayable conditions forced the abandonment of the third one-day international between West Indies and England without a ball being bowled on Sunday.

Umpires Aleem Dar of Pakistan and Billy Doctrove of Dominica were to inspect the Queen's Park Oval outfield for a second time at 1630 GMT, but the rain started again just prior to their inspection.

Although the day started in bright sunshine, a wet outfield prevailed at Queen's Park Oval, after heavy rains on Saturday drenched the ground.

Only 16 overs of cricket were possible on Saturday and forced a no-result in the second ODI that started an hour late.

Zim face ICC

FROM PAGE 13  
Mihir Bose, the Daily Telegraph reporter who was deported from Zimbabwe last week.

For most of the winter, it has been England, not Zimbabwe, that has been threatened with suspension from the International Cricket Council, for their unwillingness to fulfil their tour obligations in October.

But, ever since the sacking of 15 white Zimbabwean cricketers -- including the captain Heath Streak -- the ICC has been concerned about the devaluing of international cricket. If Sunday's humiliating result is compounded by a farcical first Test in Harare next week, the clamour for their removal will grow ever louder.

Seven matches

FROM PAGE 13  
allow players to change teams. Footballers who have appeared in the last national championships, which is being held after a gap of four years, have to stick to the same sides they played during the 21st edition of the meet in 2000-2001.

The respective District Sports Association (DSA)'s have been given the authority to suspend any player who refuses to turn up for his district team.

Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) will introduce the players' transfer process from the next season. However, a player has to serve one particular team for at least five years to become eligible for the transfers.

BCCI knows

FROM PAGE 13  
Abu Dhabi officials have stressed that the 50-overs-a-side match next month was not an official one-day international.

Sachin Tendulkar and the latest batting sensation Virender Sehwag are the only two Indian stars missing from the line-up announced by the organisers.

Kiwis' Duke ball

FROM PAGE 13  
should be on the money. "The wickets and outfields over there tend to have more grass on them because of the climatic conditions which also tends to preserve the shine," Johnson said.

Meanwhile it was revealed pace bowler Daryl Tuffey needed to have 320ml (11 fluid ounces) of blood drained from his thigh to hasten his readiness for the tour.

Tuffey said he suffered internal bleeding after several heavy falls on his hip during the second Test against South Africa at Auckland last month.

"It would probably have gone away slowly naturally but because I was heading to England they thought it was best to drain it."

"I just lay down and watched it trickle out for about five minutes or so."



CLAY MASTER: Argentine Guillermo Coria kisses the trophy after the Monte Carlo final on Sunday.

King Coria's next conquest



AFP, Monaco

Guillermo Coria aims to join Juan Carlos Ferrero, Gustavo Kuerten, Carlos Moya, Thomas Muster, Sergi Bruguera, Bjorn Borg and Ilie Nastase as only the eighth player to use the Monte Carlo Masters title as a springboard to French Open glory in the same year.

Coria, the 22-year-old Argentine third seed, eased past Germany's Rainer Schuettler 6-2, 6-1, 6-3 in the final here on Sunday, and now plans to repeat that title winning form at Roland Garros next month.

"I hope to follow in the footsteps of players like Ferrero and Kuerten who won here and then went on to take the French Open," said Coria after securing his eighth career title, and seventh on clay.

"But going into the French Open I will think match by match. I will not try to think about the fact that one player won or lost."

Coria's caution is justified -- last year in Paris, he lost in the semifinals to Martin Verkerk as Ferrero

went on to victory in the final. "It was a very difficult defeat because I had great hopes. But he was very motivated and that day he played a lot better. I hope this year I will get my chance for revenge."

Ferrero had won here just five weeks earlier following the examples set by Kuerten in 2001, Moya in 1998 and Muster who also achieved the Monte Carlo-French Open double in 1995.

Bruguera did the double in 1993, Borg in 1979 and 1980 and Nastase in 1973.

"I hope I will be able to maintain my level," said Coria.

"The victory here is great motivation for me to practice hard and I have great hopes for the French Open. The physical part is very important because it too is best-of-five so I hope to feel physically good before Roland Garros.

"On a surface like clay, I can keep it up for a very long time. I am very strong."

"Even though Juan Carlos lost first round here and has had some bad results recently, he is still a player who will be dangerous and for whom I have a great deal of

respect." The figure of former clay court master Muster looms large in Coria's thoughts.

The gutsy Austrian holds the record for the longest winning run on clay -- 40 matches in his French Open winning year of 1995.

Coria's win on Sunday took him to 26, a sequence stretching back to that defeat to Verkerk in June.

"I remember Muster winning everything. He was unbeatable but winning 40 matches in a row is very difficult to achieve. I will try my best to keep winning but I will not get desperate if I lose a match."

"What Muster did was very impressive."

The same word could be applied to Coria's demolition of Schuettler, who was fourth seed, in a desperately one-sided final.

Coria had 19 winners and just 24 unforced errors compared to Schuettler's 24 winners and 53 errors. The German, usually so solid, lost seven times as he wilted beneath Coria's all-court barrage.

"He is playing unbelievable tennis," said the German.

Bangladesh meet S'pore today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will take on Singapore in a qualifier of the Asian Junior (U-21) Hockey Championship in Karachi today.

Bangladesh drew with China, beat Sri Lanka and lost to Malaysia and India in their group matches.

CJKS-Ispahani cricket

CU CORRESPONDENT

Brothers Union Club recorded a four-wicket victory over City Corporation Ekadosh Junior in a CJKS-Ispahani Senior Division Premier Cricket League match at the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong yesterday.

Winning the toss City Corporation batted first and scored 203 in 49.2 overs before being all out. Jewel topscored with 64 and Linkon added another 28.

Muntasir and Rashed Hanif grabbed three wickets each while M Ali Liton took two.

In reply, Brothers made 206 for six in 46.2 overs. Arif Ahmed scored unbeaten 88 and Gowtom contributed 32.

Kamal Hossain of City Corporation took two wickets.

Earlier on Sunday, Rising Star Club handed a massive six-wicket defeat to mighty Mohammedan Sporting Club at the same venue.

Sent in to bat, Mohammedan collected 159 all out in 48 overs. Ziauddin Adil topscored with 47 while Iqbal Hossain followed him with 35.

Kashif Naveed grabbed five wickets and Ibrahim Azad took three for the winners.

In reply, Rising Star reached their target of 160 for four in 37.3 overs. Ashraf Ali scored unbeaten 69 and Kashif Naveed a Pakistani all-rounder also added 36.

Iqbal Hossain took two wickets.

Zimbabwe

FROM PAGE 13

Several black players have been introduced into the Zimbabwe Test and ODI teams in recent years, beginning with Henry Olonga, who was a relative success.

Hamilton Masakadza scored a maiden Test century before he was 18 years old and then went off to university in South Africa. Tatenda Taibu has been a phenomenal success, though a captain at 20.

Medium pacer Douglas Hondo has earned his place as first change. But the selectors have persisted with the failures, bringing matters to a head.

Streak decided on April 2 to object to certain players and, more importantly, to three of the five selectors -- Steven Mangongo, Maccsood Ebrahim and Ali Shah, the first two on the grounds they had not played first-class cricket, Shah because he was doubling as a TV commentator on the Bangladesh tour.

Streak told Hogg of his demands which Hogg presented as an "ultimatum" to the directors, who decided he was in effect resigning.

Streak was supported by the senior white players who refused to make themselves available for the Sri Lanka one day series.

In taking this line they broke the terms of their contracts and the ZCU has given them until May 7, the second day of the first two Tests against Sri Lanka, to step back into line.

CCL makes

FROM PAGE 13

right way and have done well that's encouraging," he added.

But the shrewd tactician, who inspired Sri Lanka to World Cup glory in 1996, ruled out the possibility of an extended participation of his boys in the CCL.

Recently some corporate teams had requested the Board to allow the national team players to feature in the meet beyond April 30.

"As far as I'm concerned there is no chance to extend the date. The players must return to the camp by May 1 and spend the last five days together before they fly out," he said.

Magura soccer

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Nazir Ahmed Degree College Ekadosh outplayed Chuadanga Badarganj College 8-1 in the inaugural match of the final round of the inter-college football tournament at the Magura Stadium yesterday.

The winners dominated the first half 5-0.

Both Sudhin and Taufiku-zzaman scored hatricks while Rashedul and Shafiq netted one goal each for the winners. Sohan reduced the margin scoring the lone goal for the losers.

Div I v'ball

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka Sabuj Club earned walkover against Dhaka Sporting Club in the National Bank First Division Volleyball League at the volleyball stadium yesterday.

In the Second Division, Partners Club beat Avijatrik 3-0 at the same venue.

Earlier on Sunday, East End Club defeated Brothers Union 3-0 and Nabajagarani Sangha beat Shantibagh WA 3-2.

Nipu, Jilani

FROM PAGE 13

held for under -10 and under - 12 age groups.

"The AFC has stopped paying for foreign coaches at national level as it is trying to develop the game in underdeveloped countries from the grassroots. It is also encouraging local coaches to do the job," the BFF general secretary added.



A file photo of former Australian tennis star Patrick Rafter and his girlfriend model Lara Feltham who tied the knot in a private ceremony in Fiji on Saturday.

Rafter gets married

AFP, Sydney

Australia's double US Open champion Pat Rafter has married his long-time girlfriend, model Lara Feltham, in a private ceremony at a resort in Fiji, it was reported Monday.

The couple spent nine months preparing the low-key and secret wedding at the Musket Cove Island Resort Saturday afternoon, Australian Associated Press reported.

They were joined by around 40 family members and close friends as well as the couple's 20-month-old son, Joshua.

Rafter, 31, has become a regular guest at the resort despite its lack of a tennis court.

"The toughest thing was keeping it secret," said the resort's marketing director Josephine Smith of the wedding.

"We knew about nine months ago they planned to get married. A few people were asking questions and we had to tell a few lies."

Rafter, one of Australia's most popular sporting champions, retired from tennis last year.

The former world number one, twice a Wimbledon finalist, won the US Open in 1997 and 1998.

Fed Cup US, Belgium move



AFP, Paris

Twice Wimbledon champion Venus Williams of the United States and Belgium's world number two Kim Clijsters helped their countries into the quarterfinals of the Fed Cup this weekend.

The Americans got the better of Slovenia 4-1 in Portoroz and Belgium beat visitors Croatia 3-2 in Bree. Fellow top side Russia also made the July 10/11 last eight clashes with a 4-1 victory over Australia in Moscow.

Japan however lost to Argentina when Ai Sugiyama retired in the third set with cramps to Paola Suarez to lose 6-7, 6-3, 7-6 and give Argentina a 3-0 winning lead.

Lisa Raymond bounced back from her opening day loss to put the United States through at the expense of Slovenia.

Raymond, who lost the opening match of the tie to Tina Pismanik on Saturday, beat Katarina Srebotnik 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 to give the Americans

an unassailable 3-1 lead. Srebotnik led 4-3 with a break of service in the final set but Raymond managed to win the last three games to snatch the victory.

The Americans now face Austria in their July 10/11 last eight tie.

Venus Williams, who said she plans to be available for the quarter-final, easily beat Slovenian number one Pismanik 6-3, 6-1 in the first Sunday singles.

Belgium's Clijsters, out for five weeks with an injured left wrist, celebrated her comeback by winning both singles to oust Croatia.

On Saturday, Clijsters beat Jelena Kostanic 6-1, 4-6, 6-1 and then on Sunday beat Karolina Sprem 6-1, 6-3. Els Callens clinched the tie for Belgium by beating Kostanic 6-2, 3-6, 6-4 for a 3-1 winning lead.

In other matches, Austria got the better of Slovakia 3-2, France beat Germany 5-0 and Spain beat Switzerland 3-2. Italy led the Czech Republic 2-1 in Lecce with the final singles and doubles to be played on Monday because of rain.

No room for Tillakaratne

AFP, Colombo

Former Sri Lankan skipper Hashan Tillakaratne has been dropped for next month's Test series in Zimbabwe, the national selectors announced here.

Tillakaratne, 36, stepped down as captain after Sri Lanka lost all three Tests against Ricky Ponting's Australians last month to suffer their first-ever whitewash in a home series.

The left-hander, who scored 4,545 runs in 83 Tests with 11 centuries, had then said he would be available for selection only as a batsman.

TEST SQUAD

Marvan Atapattu (captain), Sanath Jayasuriya, Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Thilan Samaraweera, Russel Arnold, Saman Jayantha, Thilina Kandamby, Chaminda Vaas, Nuwan Zoysa, Dilhara Fernando, Muttiah Muralitharan, Nuwan Kulasekara, Farveez Maharoof, Upul Chandana, Rangana Herath, Ian Daniel, Prasanna Jayawardene.



Winners of the President Cup golf tournament pose with the Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury (back row, 4th from L) at the Savar Golf Club on April 25.

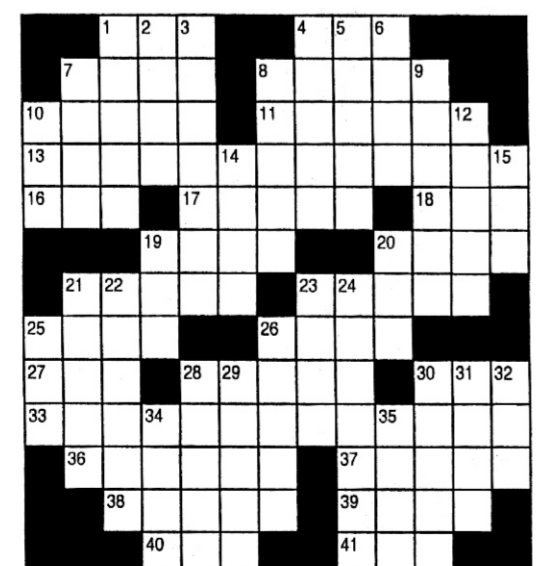
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 27 Unruly 12 Heavy  
1 Ewe said bunch 1 Felix wood  
it 28 Touches Salten 14 Affluent  
4 Rafter's 30 39- hero 15 Adnl.  
employer Across, 2 Lotion ph.  
7 Body to additive 19 Deapon-  
powder Caesar 3 Tumbler deht  
8 Bite 33 Serial 4 Actress 20 Here an  
10 Joster's phrase 5 Seigny inquiring  
uniform 36 Henson 5 Leaves in mmd  
11 Fascina- cre- a hurry 21 Law-  
tion ation 6 Dirty breaker  
13 The 37 Similar stuff 22 Hit high  
ques- 38 Get 7 Walked in the  
tion? gussed up hard (on) air  
16 Start of the XVIIIth century birds? 8 Trick-or-treaters' need 23 Catcher's  
17 Waits 40 Away 9 Black-ink entry 24 Member of the loop  
awhile from 10 Cash dis- 25 London  
18 Hounds' quarry 41 Greek letter for short 26 Football tactics 28 Pinnacles  
19 Frilly, in a way  
20 "\_\_\_ Misbe- havin'"  
21 Fabric  
23 Johnny Mathis classic  
25 Wax  
26 "Get the Party Started" singer

DOWN  
12 Heavy wood  
14 Affluent  
15 Adnl. ph.  
19 Deapon- deht  
20 Here an inquiring mmd  
21 Law- breaker  
22 Hit high in the air  
23 Catcher's need  
24 Member of the loop  
25 London  
26 Football tactics  
28 Pinnacles  
29 Idaho's capital  
30 Expendi- ture  
31 Ex-Gls  
32 Com- motion  
34 Messes up  
35 In the offing

Solution time: 21 mins.

J A P E A W L B O E R  
E X A M P O E O L G A  
E L S E P E T I T I O N  
P E T R I A L S G H O S T  
G A Y J O E  
A L L E R P E T R I F Y  
L E O O A T D E E  
P E T R I A L S F L O W N  
P E T R I A L S F L O W N  
A S I A N P E T I T I O N  
P E T T I F O G A D I A  
S A L E A L A K E P T  
E L L S D O S E A S E



CRYPTOQUIP  
K L D H V F L C U H S L T N U C F  
F R N Q F V D R H S L P T  
K H E P L S C L Q, C F V G G N F L  
C G H M M L E H K L H P.  
Yesterday's Cryptogram: A BABYSITTER THAT'S PAID VIRTUALLY NO FEE SHOULD ADVERTISE "PENNY FOR YOUR TOTS!"  
Today's Cryptogram Clue: G equals P  
The Cryptogram is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.



BUET Vice Chancellor Professor Mohammad Alee Murtuza hands over the trophy to the Sher-e-Bangla Hall team which clinched the inter-hall basketball title at on April 25.