

Manchester Chess Club, the oldest chess club in Britain, which began on September





John Buchanan

(Australian cricket coach) "He's just an exciting player as we've seen in the recent Sri Lanka-Australia series. The battle between he and Shane Warne and our batsmen is exhilarating stuff." On Muttiah Muralitharan.



ESPN Sportscentre

Sport News Live at 8:30 pm Hamburg Tennis Masters Series Second Round Live at 9:00 pm

STAR Sports

Sportsline Sport News Live at 8:00 pm



The Daily Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm May 21, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who is Bangladesh's fastest Iva Chumki Sabrina

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

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

Kumble 4. How many runs did Brian Lara

score in the first innings of the final Test against England? 388

5. Who won the Singer 30th national

Phone: (If any)

Prithul moved into the boys' (Under-

17) singles semifinals of the

National Junior Tennis Cham-

pionship defeating Delwar Hossain

6-0, 6-3 at the Ramna National

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

Nat'l jr tennis

SPORTS REPORTER

Class. Roll No. significantly.

But the ICC's comments took BR Shetty -- the president of the Abu Dhabi Cricket Control Board -- by Indian Express.

"There was no problem when the ICC president Ehsan Mani and the ACU chief Sir Condon visited the stadium some time back. They were all praise then for the facilities and architecture. I fail to understand how such issues have been brought up

CALYPSO COCKTAIL

the face!

Cricket

RABEED IMAM from St. Vincent

The Venetians are reputed to be the most hospitable and friendliest people in the Caribbean and it's not too difficult to feel that once you set foot on the island.

"I'm from Bangladesh and here for the cricket," it works like magic the moment you've uttered that, people of all ages will try to help you out in every way possible and even go out of the way if required.

Struggling to find a shortcut to the Arnos Vale ground and barely escaping the wrath of two guard dogs after mistakenly stepping on to private property thinking it's approach road to be the way to their desired destination, two Bangladeshi sports journalists came across Nicholas, a plumber by profession.

"Bangladesh? No problaam Maan. Just follow me." said the man with ragamuffin looks as he led them through a slippery path down the hill into the black sand beach that collides with the runway of St Joshua Airport, the main gateway to and from St. Vincent by air. Although trespassing is understandably prohibited, the trio got to the edge of the runway when Nicholas lifted his hand asking them to wait a second.

on Moloy SPORTS REPORTER "Just wait till it gets down," he said as a twin engine jet passed right over their heads and landed some 200 feet away! It was as casual as holding up traffic on a

busy Dhaka road. Nonchalantly

walking on and near the runway

Nicholas pointed to a wired fencing

with a hole underneath. "There you

go. This is to take you straight to the

Arnos Vale playing field." Indeed

there was the venue for

Bangladesh's tour opener staring in

"You here to win?" inquired the clerk

at the bank when Tigers all-rounder

Mushfiqur Rahman went there for

some local currency. "Well, I'm here

to have a look around," quipped

lady customer possibly unsure

whether the West Indies captain

would be motivated enough to play

his 400 and that'll give us the edge

and we'll beat you," a Bangladeshi

sports scribe present there joined

tango with the King? Don't you dare

Maan," came the instant riposte

from another corner of the bank.

"You seriously believe you can

'Lara will be in hibernation after

against the Test minnows.

"Is Lara gonna play," asked a

DON'T DARE TRY TO

BEAT THE KING!

Dhaka reached the final round of the Sher-e-Bangla Cup 22nd National Football Championship with a solitary goal win over Rajbari at the Gopalganj Stadium yesterday.

Dhaka ride

Moloy separated the sides with a 39-minute strike in the Padma-zone

Zonal hosts Comilla, Bhola and Nilphamari also moved into the final round, which starts in Natore from

After the regulation time ended goalless, home side Comilla eliminated Sylhet 4-2 in tiebreaker.

Meanwhile Shah Alam and Tinu struck either side of the break in Bhola's 2-0 win over Bagerhat. At Nilphamari, Shipon and Ilias

scored one goal each as the hosts nipped Dinajpur 2-1. Sohel Rana reduced the gap. On the other hand, the

Brahmaputra-zone matches resumed vesterday at Gazipur Stadium after a four-day break following Friday's killing of local MP Ahsanullah Master. Former national striker Mujibur

Rahman Ritu slammed a hattrick to propel Narayanganj into the zonal semifinal with a 6-0 thrashing of Mymensingh. Abul, Topu and Ŭjjal added the rest.

In another match at the same SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



Beximco's Masudur Rahman (M) is the toast of his teammates after his match-winning knock against Biman in yesterday's Corporate Cricket League clash at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Big win for Friends

CU CORRESPONDENT

Friends Club inflicted a massive 132-run defeat on City Corporation Juniors in the relegation league of the CJKS-Ispahani Premier Cricket League at the MA Aziz Stadium esterday.

Friends elected to bat first and piled up a mammoth 302 for 9 in the stipulated 50 overs. Rony topscored an excellent 64 not out to lead the charge with good support from Manik (44), Pakistani cricketer Saifullah Magsi (34) and Titu (30).

The team also bagged 50 as extras. Tabdil and Azim Uddin of City Corporation grabbed two wickets

Chasing a huge target, City Corporation were bundled out for 170 in 48 overs. Lincoln smashed 75 with five hits to the fence. Mitu

contributed 24 Friends Club's Rashed took 4-

It was City Corporation Juniors first loss in the relegation league after three wins.

In another match of the day, Satabdi Goshthi recorded a six-SEE PAGE 14 COL 1 ence

Baptism by fire

Cricket

BBC/CRICINFO, undated

Bangladesh begin their Caribbean tour today with a one-day match at St. Vincent against a West Indies Cricket Board XI. St. Vincent also hosts the first

two one-day internationals on

Saturday and Sunday, before the series moves to Grenada. However, there will be no gentle introduction to the Caribbean for

Bangladesh. The home side made two changes and will feature left-arm Test bowler, Pedro Collins, who has been bought in as a late replacement for Jason Bennett. Batsman

Austin Richards Jr is in for Narsingh Deonarine. Jermaine Lawson, who took a memorable 6 for 3 at Dhaka in December 2002, is also back to open old scars

Captained by Under-19 skipper Dinesh Ramdin they boast seven

A two-Test series will follow that with matches in St. Lucia and

The Tigers sent an A team to the slands in 2002 but they have never been on a full international tour.

Just two players -- pace bowler Tareq Aziz and all-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman are making a second visit. "We understand that every team

we play against is a big challenge," said Bangladesh coach Dav "At the same time, we have an

opportunity, as young as the players are, to give their best perfor-

TEAMS

BANGLADESH (from): Habibul Bashar (captain), Rajin Saleh, Hannan Sarker, Shahriar Hossain, Mohammad Ashraful, Alok Kapali, Mushfigur Rahman, Khaled Mahmud, Khaled Mashud, Mohammad Rafigue, Maniarul Islam, Faisal Hossain, Tapash Baisya, Tareq Aziz, Abdur Razzag, WICE XI (from): Dinesh Ramdin

players with full international experi- (captain), Wavell Hinds, Kurt SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

Gazi Tank turn CityCell off

SPORTS REPORTER

Opener Ali Nishan hit a century to steer Gazi Tank into the Plate semifinal of the GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League with a 60run victory over CityCell at the Fatullah Stadium yesterday. All three teams in Group Y fin-

ished on two points each but cellular operator CityCell crashed out of the meet due to inferior run-rate. Acme Laboratories topped the group, followed by Gazi Tank

Gazi Tank will take on Group X champions Aktel in the first Plate semifinal on Friday at Fatullah while the second semifinal between Acme and MM Ispahani will take place at the same venue the next day. Right-hander Nishan hammered

an unbeaten 110 off 155 balls with seven fours and two sixes as Gazi Tank scored 219-6 in 50 overs after electing to bat. In reply, the mobile phone side

were bundled out for 159 in 48 overs despite captain Hasanuzzaman Rosel's patient 106-ball 53.

Pacer Sumon Barua was the pick SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Beximco win a thriller hand and Masudur was stuck at the years, the muscular right-hander

SPORTS REPORTER



the Grameen-Phone Corporate Cricket League sprang to life after GrameenPhone a jejune start when Beximco

pulled off an exciting one-wicket victory over fancied Bangladesh Biman at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Masudur Rahman Mukul won the high-scoring drama for the surprise package in the Cup phase when the number eight batsman hammered a blazing unbeaten 49 off just 37 balls.

Masudur, a seasoned cricketer better known for his exploits as an off-spinner completed one of the biggest run chases that Dhaka cricket has ever seen when he smote a six and then sneaked a single in the nerve-wrecking final over as Beximco overhauled Biman's massive 286-6 with three balls to spare.

The match reached its climax when Beximco needed eight runs from the final over with one wicket in

non-striker's end. But last batsman Suja Erfan pushed left-arm seamer Syed Russell's first ball to the covers and then ran as if his shirt was on fire, giving Masudur a chance for a

He seized the opportunity to finish the chase in style, whacking the young pacer's very next ball over the mid-wicket fence to level the scores. Masudur then angled the next delivery in between the two fielders on the on-side to bring up the winning run and punched the air in celebration.

The defeat was heartbreaking for national flag carrier after a six-match unbeaten run in the competition.

Masudur rounded off a fantastic run-feast that started with a bang thanks to a 46-run opening stand in just 4.4 overs between Sajjad Ahmed and Moniruzzaman.

Beximco's star Kenyan batsman Steve Tikolo also showed he had not lost his run appetite with a characteristically aggressive 48-ball 56 that featured eight fours and one six. Returning to Dhaka after three

Neeyamur Rashid also made a vital 30-ball 35 but Masudur's heroics overshadowed everything else. Coming into bat with his side still

day at the office.

the dressing room.

needing 81 runs from 11.3 overs, he virtually single-handedly carried Beximco to a memorable victory.

Earlier, Biman thrived on three half-centuries to post what they

could have gone on for much longer

had umpire Jahangir Alam not

adjudged him leg-before. Tikolo was

stunned by the ruling and waited a

few seconds before trudging back to

The Kenyan master batsman,

who piled up tons of runs while

playing for Mohammedan Sporting

Club a couple of seasons ago, also

picked up three wickets for 56 from

10 overs to complete a satisfactory

thought was a winning total. Opener Humayun Kabir scored 56, skipper Sanwar Hossain contributed an unbeaten 62 and Biman's

Pakistani recruit Ashraf Ali blazed his way to 68 after they won the toss and SEE PAGE 14 COL 2

Minister sick, no meeting

SPORTS REPORTER

The proposed meeting between State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman and Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) was postponed yesterday due to the

minister's illness. A BFF delegate was scheduled to meet Fazlur Rahman to get assurance from the minister about the possession of the Bangabandhu

National Stadium (BNS). The venue is due to be handed over to football in January according to a resolution adopted by the

National Sports Council. However, recent remarks made

a influential Bangladesh Cricket Board advisor has left BFF confused whether their cricket counterparts are going to hand over the ground

according to the timetable. According to the international calendar, the BCB needs the stadium at least until the end of January. It is

expected that the BFF will win back possession on January 30.



Venue: Bangabandhu National Stadium

Match-fixing IM chess fears desert his lead Abu Dhabi!

CRICINFO, undated

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has revealed that the proposed exhibition tie between India and Pakistan in Abu Dhabi was not permitted because of match-fixing

Ehsan Mani, the ICC president, explained that the organisers of the event had bypassed the boards of both countries and directly contacted the players, which could have made match-fixing easier, according to a PTI report. "Organisers' direct contacts with

players could raise chances for match-fixing," Mani said, adding that the Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU) had brought down such incidents

complete surprise, according to The

Zia keeps

SPORTS REPORTER

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman continued his solo lead with 5.5 points after the end of the sixth round games of the seventh United Insurance and United Leasing IM chess tournament at the Chess Federation conference room yester-

International Master Abdullah Al-Rakib earned second position with 5 point, International Master Enamul . Hossain Rajib, Sheikh Nasir Ahmed, Pakistani IM Mahmood Lodhi, IM Roktim Bandyopadyay, Saptarshi Roy, Suvrajit Saha and Bisweswaran of India were in the third position with 4 points each.

In this round Zia beat Rajib, Rakib beat Saptarshi, Nasir beat IM Dinesh Kumar Sharma, Lodhi drew with Bisweswaran, Suvrajit beat Arghyadip, Roktim beat Sayantan Dutta, Gurpreet Pal Sing beat Saif Uddin Lavlu, FM Abu Sufian Shakil beat Krishna Thapa of Nepal, FM Khandker Aminul Islam beat Mehdi Hasan Parag, FM Rezaul Haque beat Shawkat Hossain Pallab, Abdul Maleq beat Arman Monir, Debaraj Chatterjee beat Zakia Sultana, Monir Hossain drew with Sankalp of India, Chanchal Kumar Gosh drew with sub-junior champion Imran Ali Elin, International Women Master Rani Hamid beat Sahaj Grover of India and Mohammad Javed beat Aminul Islam Polash.



Eight-year-old Indian chess player Sahaj Grover appears tensed as he smells a defeat against Rani Hamid during their IM Chess tournament fixture at the NSC conference room yesterday.

'The evil still there'

Cricket

AFP, Lahore

International Cricket Council (ICC) chief executive Malcolm Speed said Monday that the four-year fight against match-fixing has controlled the menace but not eliminated it permanently. "In our fight against match-fixing

we have got to a stage that our Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU) chief Lord Paul Condon can say to us that he believed that the problem of matchfixing is under control but it's not "If we go back to 2000, cricket

ers were implicated. We had to deal with that problem," Speed, an Australian, told reporters after an international seminar on cricket.

The ICC was forced to form the unit after late South African captain Hansie Cronje confessed to taking money

Former Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin and ex-Pakistani skipper Salim Malik were also banned for life after inquires in their respective countries.

Malaysia meet postponed

gone for ever," said Speed. had a very serious problem with corruption when we saw then a number of captains and other play-

"We know that allegations come up and we are vigilant."

from bookmakers in June 2000.

"ICC spends in excess of one

million pounds on anti-corruption and security unit and we will continue to do that because we believe that it is one of the most serious

problems that has confronted

cricket," said Speed.

Pakistan banned for life Malik and pacer Ataur Rehman and imposed fines on Wasim Akram, Waqar Younis, current captain Inzamamul Haq, Saeed Anwar, Mushtaq Ahmed and Akram Raza after an inquiry by Justice Malik Mohammad Qayyum in 1998-1999. A second inquiry conducted by Justice Karamat Bhandari in 1999-

2000 into two match-fixing allegations in the 1999 World Cup held in England cleared all players. Speed expressed satisfaction with both the inquiries. Meanwhile, Malaysia has postponed a three-match one-day

cricket series between former world

champions Pakistan and Sri Lanka

postponed but we hope to resched-

ule it in early November this year,"

said Malaysian Cricket Association

and hopes to reschedule it in early November this year, officials said Monday. "After consultation with Pakistan and Sri Lankan officials, the Malaysian Challenge Cup has been

(MCA) president Tunku Imran. Imran met Pakistani and Sri Lankan officials on the sidelines of the international seminar organised SEE PAGE 14 COL 1