



Did U Know?

The last Olympic gold medals that were made entirely out of gold were awarded in 1912.



TEN Sports

FA Cup Final
Man United vs Millwall
Repeat at 8:00 am
French Open
First Round
Live at 3:00 pm
ESPN

England vs New Zealand

First Test, Day Five
Live at 3:30 pm
Sportscentre
Sport News
Live at 10:30 pm

STAR Sports

Return to Athens
Olympics
Repeat at 6:30 am
Sportline
Sport News
Live at 9:00 pm



Shane Warne

(Aussie star spinner)
"I like Murali as a bloke, and I know it's been tough what he's gone through. I mean, we all go through tough times."
Reacting to Muttiah Muralitharan's decision to skip the tour of Australia.



Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
June 4, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the GP Corporate Cricket League Plate title?		
Acme	Ispahani	Gazi
2. Who lifted the United Insurance IM chess crown?		
Reefat	Niaz	Zia
3. What was result of the Bangladesh-West Indies ODI series?		
2-1	2-0	3-0
4. Who will host the 2010 FIFA World Cup?		
Germany	England	South Africa
Name		
Class		
School Address		
Phone: (if any)		

Dropped catches & rain



RABEED IMAM from Grenada

Two dropped catches cost Bangladesh the edge on the opening day of the three-day match against West Indies Board XI at the Queen's Park Stadium here on Saturday.

By close on a day when roughly three hours of play was possible, the home side had reached 82 for two in 40 overs although it could have been much worse.

The sun was shining in all its glory from the morning after heavy rain the previous day. But lack of proper drainage facilities at the ground meant that it was still soggy by mid-

day. The Bangladesh team had been at the stadium for nearly three-and-a-half hours before the match finally got underway.

Having been asked to field first, the Tigers, playing without skipper Habibur Bashar, all-rounder Mushfiqur Rahman and veteran spinner Mohammad Rafique, made a superb start when Tapash Baisya yoked Wavell Hinds with the first ball of the third over. Hinds was gone for a duck without even touching the ball from the seven deliveries he faced. The Board XI were none for one.

Captain Sylvester Joseph got off the mark with a two first ball but then Hannan Sarker dropped him on three off Alamgir Kabir at second slip. The ball ricocheted off his

hands and fell into the vacant area behind the slip cordon.

The Bangladesh pace bowlers were operating beautifully, moving the ball both ways and there was some assistance from the wicket too. And it wasn't until the eighth over that the first boundary came when Joseph pulled Kabir through mid-wicket.

Tareq Aziz replaced Tapash and immediately tasted success as opener Devon Smith played one on to his leg stump that cut back after pitching. The score was 25 for two.

Left arm spinner Enamul Haque was brought into the attack by skipper for the game Rajin Saleh after

2 0
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Asia Cup Tigers to play 3 warm-ups before

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will play three practice matches in Sri Lanka as part of their preparation for the coming Asia Cup.

"Bangladesh will fly to Sri Lanka on June 30, fifteen days before the tournament kicks off. We have decided to send them earlier to get acclimatised to the conditions," said cricket committee chairman of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) Mahub Anam yesterday.

It was decided after the cricket

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Rakib, Reefat both lose

SPORTS REPORTER

International Master Abdullah Al Rakib lost his sixth round board against Russian Grand Master Alexander Fominyh to share his top slot with Vietnamese GM Nguyen Anh Dung in the Leonine second Grand Masters chess tournament yesterday.

Nguyen beat Rakib's fellow IM Reefat-bin-Sattar in the sixth round at the National Sports Council (NSC) conference room.

The leaders bagged 4.5 points each while two Grand Masters Ziaur Rahman and Niaz Murshed and Indian GM Sandipan Chanda followed them with 4 points each.

In the day's other sixth round matches, Zia beat Krishna Thapa of Nepal, Indian Lanka Ravi beat IM Enamul Hossain, Sandipan beat his compatriot IM Dinesh Kumar Sharma and Niaz beat Abdul Maleq.



PHOTO: STAR

Bangladesh International Master Abdullah Al Rakib (R) is engrossed in deep thought during his board against Russian Grand Master Alexander Fominyh in the sixth round of the Leonine second Grand Masters Chess Tournament at the NSC yesterday.

'He should've sued PCB'



AFP, Karachi

Pakistani cricket legend Imran Khan lashed out at Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) for challenging the "integrity" of express pacer Shoaib Akhtar by holding an inquiry into his injury in last month's deciding Test against India.

"They (the PCB) have challenged the integrity of Akhtar by having a medical inquiry even though Akhtar's medical reports confirmed he was injured," said Imran, a veteran of 82 Tests and 175 one-day games for Pakistan who is now following a career in politics.

"Had I been in place of Akhtar I would have sued the PCB for defamation," he told reporters here Saturday.

PCB set up a medical commission to probe whether Akhtar

feigned an injury during the third and final Test against India at Rawalpindi last month.

Akhtar fell in his follow-through and did not take field on the third day of the crucial Test but batted without any sign of discomfort on the follow-

ing day, raising suspicions about his injury.

The home team lost the Test by an innings and handed India their first ever Test series win in Pakistan on their first tour across the border for 15 years.

PCB said medical reports were inconclusive but let off Akhtar with a warning earlier this month.

Akhtar, who is currently playing for Durham county in England, had another scans in England which proved he is still injured.

"How can Akhtar play under the same management who questioned his integrity," asked Imran, leader of the Tehreek-i-Insaf (justice movement) party.

Akhtar told AFP after the inquiry this month that he was "disappointed" about the probe.

"I am disappointed because my conduct has never been wanting," he said.

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IMRAN KHAN

Five athletes for Asian junior meet

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Athletics Federation (BAF) has named the five athletes who will take part in the Asian Junior (Under-20) Championship in June. The four-day competition begins in Kuala Lumpur from June 12.

BKSP's 16-year-old Ishrat Jahan Iva, who won the 100 and 200m sprint titles in the recent National Championship, will participate in the both events.

Fouzia Huda Jui, who holds the national record in sprints, however, will compete in the long jump only.

The other female athlete is Sumita Rani Das who is selected for 100m sprint and 100m hurdles.

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Mark makes his mark



REUTERS/AFP, London

New Zealand opener Mark Richardson claimed the Lord's century which eluded him by seven runs in the first innings with another knock of infinite application on the fourth day of the first Test against England on Sunday.

At tea, Richardson was 101 not out in his team's total of 269 for five, a lead of 214 with four sessions remaining.

He was accompanied by Nathan Astle (29 not out), batting at number seven after spending all of England's first innings off the field recu-

perating from influenza.

Astle took consecutive fours off Andy Flintoff with fluent drives through extra-cover and mid-on but otherwise he, too, was forced to fight hard for every run.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the fourth day of the first Test between England and New Zealand at Lord's in London on Sunday:

NEW ZEALAND: First innings 386 (Richardson 93, Cairns 82, Oram 67, Astle 64; Harmison 4-126, S Jones 3-82)

ENGLAND: First innings 441 (Strauss 112, Trescolthick 86, Flintoff 63; Martin 3-94)

NEW ZEALAND: Second innings

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Sher-e-Bangla Cup DU win a thriller

SPORTS REPORTER

A late strike by Harisuzzaman helped favourites Dhaka University to shrug off Naogaon 3-2 in a thrilling Group D match in the final round of the Sher-e-Bangla Cup 22nd National Football Championship yesterday in Natore.

National midfielder Arif Khan Joy put Dhaka University ahead after 23 minutes in the first match of the group at the Adhunik Stadium. His younger brother Johnny gave the side a comfortable 2-0 lead scoring

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Rain ruins title-decider

CU CORRESPONDENT

Inclement weather forced the cancellation of the title-deciding CJKS-Ispahani Premier Cricket League play-off match between defending champions Rising Star Club and Brothers Union at the Chittagong Divisional Stadium yesterday.

Organisers said the game would now be held today. However, if no play is still possible, then it will be shifted to Tuesday.

Rising Star will be aiming for a second successive title while Brothers hope to spoil the party. Both teams bagged 21 points each after the first and super six round.



BANGLADESH vs WEST INDIES
BOARD XI
Three-Day Match (Day-3)
Venue: St Lucia

INTERVIEW

Made in dream factory

What is a dream? Just ask Fidel Henderson Edwards because for this 22-year-old Bajan, they keep coming true over and over again. He had played only one first-class game when in mid-2003, Brian Lara saw something very special about this slight in stature round-arm yet pacy youngster when he was bowling to the West Indies batsmen during a practice session in Barbados. A call-up followed and the rest as they say, is history. 5/34 on Test debut against Sri Lanka at Jamaica gave the Windies a series win. In his first away match, He took 5/133 against Zimbabwe and given his first one-day international outing, ran through Zimbabwe with 6/22 including a wicket off his first legitimate delivery. Edwards comes from the same Boscobel village that has produced West Indies pacemen like his half-brother Pedro Collins and Corey Collymore before him but is fast developing as the leader of the pace resurgence, although his innate modesty won't allow him to admit that. **RABEED IMAM Of Daily Star Sport** spoke to Edwards, 'Castro' to his mates, at the Queen's Park Stadium in Grenada on Saturday.

Daily Star Sport (DSS): Your breaking into the West Indies side was like a fairytale. Tell us how it all happened.

Fidel Edwards (FE): I was at the academy for three months then I was with the Barbados team but never got a game, mostly through injury. Then while I was at the practice with the West Indies team in Barbados, Brian (Lara) saw me and I got the call up.

DSS: Did you bowl to him?

FE: I felt very happy. Being called up was such a surprise for me. At first I thought it was a dream.

DSS: Five wickets on home debut, five wickets in first away Test and six wickets on one-day international debut. You must be running out of dreams.

FE: Yeah, the dreams are real. I just hope I can carry on from where I'd left off, get a lot fitter and do whatever I have to do.

DSS: You could have been a

batsman, a spinner whatever. What attracted you to fast bowling?

FE: From my primary school days I wanted to become a fast bowler. I always enjoyed bowling fast especially when I started playing for my club Boscobel. I loved getting guys

wants to bowl fast. It's a Caribbean thing. But to be honest I don't idolise any particular bowler. However Corey (Collymore) has been a big help to me.

DSS: And Pedro Collins, your half brother?

FE: He had a big influence. He made it to the West Indies team and tasted success. He made me feel that I could do the same.

DSS: Speaking of Collins, he seems to be a different bowler these days. He has cut down his pace but is more effective.

FE: Yes. He's moving the ball both ways and it's working for him. I think he is a better bowler now than when he started off.

DSS: Do you feel the absence of a fast bowler with iconic status in the side who could have played the role of a guardian for newcomers like yourself and Tino Best?

FE: It's kind of hard at times. But then again I get to understand my game a lot more. I won't say that I'm a senior person in the team and the others are helping me understand my role as a bowler. But Corey is still here and I look up to him. He helps me all the way.

DSS: What are you doing now to better yourself?

FE: I'm working hard to strengthen my back as I have suffered strains in the past. A strong back is very important for a fast bowler. My physiotherapist is doing a great job on me.

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FIDEL EDWARDS

caught, hitting guys (grins) and stuff.

DSS: People say you have a slinging action that reminds of Australian great Jeff Thomson. Has the round-arm style a natural thing or did you imitate somebody?

FE: It came naturally. I just grew into it. It has never given me any problems.

DSS: Barbados is a land of fast bowlers so you obviously didn't have any problems with role models. Who influenced you most?

FE: We don't have too many spinners in Barbados so everyone

Keepers coming good



REUTERS, London

Rival wicketkeepers Brendon McCullum and Geraint Jones presented a powerful argument on Saturday for the value of stumpers with genuine batting credentials.

McCullum, who succeeded Robbie Hart in the New Zealand team, scored an unbeaten 72 at number three on Saturday to keep the Kiwis afloat in the first Test against England at Lord's.

His combative innings followed a valuable knock by Jones, who contributed 46 to a seventh-wicket partnership of 105 with Andy Flintoff in England's first innings 441. With McCullum also making the highest score of his fledgling Test career, New Zealand were 134 for one at the close of play.

Both players progressed to their national teams because of their batting ability. After replacing Hart, McCullum scored two 50s in the drawn three-Test series against South Africa for an average of 36.75 while Jones, succeeding Chris Read, scored 38 and 10 not out in the fourth Test against West Indies in Antigua.

On Saturday McCullum demonstrated the versatility and depth of the New Zealand batting order by stepping up to first drop after Nathan Astle was indisposed with influenza and performing as if he had been playing international cricket for 10 years.

Asked how he felt about batting so soon after New Zealand had spent a lengthy time in the field, McCullum replied: "That's what we train for. If you are going to be an international wicketkeeper you are going to spend a fair amount of time in the field as well."

"I am realistic. That's what I want to do and I'm really enjoying it. I'd rather be on the park than off it."

The Otago keeper said he had been a bit nervous about the thought of batting number three in a Test at Lord's but had been reassured by coach John Bracewell.

"He said 'play the way you play and I'll see you at the end of the day.'"

Jones, born in Papua New Guinea of Welsh parents and brought up in Australia, received his chance in the fourth and final Test against West Indies in the Caribbean this year.

Although Read had kept wicket better than any Englishman since Alan Knott and Bob Taylor more than 20 years ago, his inability to get runs finally told and Jones was

given the chance to cement his place in the national side.

Taylor was felt in some quarters to be Knott's equal as a wicketkeeper but the Kent man was an automatic choice for most of the 1970s because of his superior batting. When Knott went to Kerry Packer's rebel World Series, Taylor took over as England keeper but was again overlooked in favour of his friend and rival for the final Tests of the memorable 1981

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PHOTO: AP

LEAVE IT LIKE IT: New Zealand wicketkeeper-batsman Brendon McCullum gets out of the way of a rising delivery during his career-best knock of 96 on the fourth day of the first Test against England at Lord's yesterday.