



Did U Know?

The Olympic Hymn, played when the Olympic flag is raised, was composed by Spyros Samaras and the words added by Kostis Palamas. The Olympic Hymn was first played at the 1896 Olympic Games in Athens but wasn't declared the official hymn by the IOC until 1957.

What to WATCH

- ### TEN Sports
- French Open First Round (Day-3) Live at 3:00 pm **ESPN**
 - England vs New Zealand First Test, Day Five Repeat at 11:30 am **Goals Celebration Football Programme Live at 7:30 pm**
 - UEFA Champions League Monaco vs FC Porto (Final) Live at 12:00 am (Thursday) **STAR Sports**
 - Primera Liga Real Madrid vs Real Sociedad Repeat at 9:30 am **Sportline Sport News Live at 9:00 pm**



Steffi Graf
(German tennis legend)
"That's not going to happen. That would take a lot of time away from my children and I would not do that." Ruling out any chance of a comeback.

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 21

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?			
Name			
Class	Roll No.		
School Address			
Phone: (if any)			

Three more Test venues!

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has set out a plan to increase the number of Test venues in the country from two to five.

After the successfully staging of the Under-19 Cricket World Cup in eight different venues across the country last year, the Board has short-listed Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra, Khulna Divisional Stadium and Chittagong Divisional Stadium as possible venues for future international games.

Presently, both one-day and Test matches are being held at the all-purpose Bangabandhu National Stadium in Dhaka and the MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong.

"If everything goes accordingly we are hopeful of holding at least one one-day international each in Bogra and Khulna during our home series against New Zealand," said BCB's grounds committee member secretary Rafiqul Islam Babu yesterday.

The Kiwis will fly to Bangladesh in October to play their first away series against the Tigers.

The Board has already started its groundwork to upgrade the three venues before the arrival of an ICC inspection team in July.

"I think there is little chance to get a negative response from the ICC inspectors because the three venues have already impressed the high-ups of the game's ruling body during the U-19 World Cup. ICC president Ehsan Mani has already spoken highly of the Khulna Divisional Stadium," he said. "The ground staff have already

put everything in place and I think all the venues are ready to hold international matches. Besides, the media committee is also working out details of the facilities needed for each venue."

However, the Board decided to explore new venues apparently in an effort to end its age-old row over the possession of the BNS with the Bangladesh Football Federation, who wanted it exclusively for soccer from January next year.

Besides, the Board also seemed reluctant to carry on its sharing policy of country's second Test venue in Chittagong's MA Aziz Stadium.

"We are facing the same problem at the MA Aziz Stadium where cricket, football and even hockey is being played. The multipurpose use seriously hampers our preparation of wickets. I think with the Divisional Stadium ready Test matches can be played there if necessary," said Rafiqul.

Among the three venues Shaheed Chandu Stadium in Bogra has been described as the next best place after the Basu Reserve in New Zealand. Shaped in modern design, 12,000 capacity stadium boasts an attractive members' stand and a decent-sized press box. Another important factor in its favour is the enormous crowd appeal that was generated during its inaugural match between Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka in the juvenile meet.

Khulna Divisional Stadium is a picturesque ground and the region is popular among tourists since it is the home of the Royal Bengal Tiger and of course the Sundarbans, the largest mangrove forest in the world.



PUNCH OF DEFIANCE: Nasser Hussain shows his approval after helping England win the first Test at Lord's on Monday. Hussain scored a century as the hosts beat New Zealand by seven wickets. His partner Graham Thorpe (L) comes to congratulate him.

Hussain's heroic hundred England go one up

Cricket

AFP, London

Nasser Hussain atoned for running out Andrew Strauss, when the debutant was in sight of scoring centuries in both innings of his first Test, with an unbeaten century to guide England to a seven-wicket win against New Zealand at Lord's here Monday.

England, set 282 to win, finished on 282 for three with former captain Hussain 103 not out and fellow veteran Graham Thorpe 51 not out as England took a 1-0 lead in the three-Test series.

England's stand-in captain Marcus Trescothick said it had been an impressive all-round performance, though he had found filling in for the injured Michael Vaughan not the easiest job. "It was pretty tough and tiring. Parts of it were pretty good but

others were pretty hard work. "In the end we won fairly comfortably but every day has been tough."

His New Zealand counterpart Stephen Fleming said that while there had been good moments there hadn't been enough for the Kiwis.

"We made them fight but we could have played better at times. "Though we had a chance at times to win today it would have

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Smith toys with Tigers 3-day match drawn

Cricket

RABEED IMAM from Grenada

A breathtaking unbeaten hundred by Dwayne Smith on Monday gave Bangladesh some fresh headache ahead of the first Test against the West Indies starting in St Lucia in three days time.

Smith bludgeoned his way to a typically blistering 103 not out in 70 balls as the West Indies Cricket Board XI posted 164 for five in just 24 overs in their second innings of the three-day match at the Queen's Park Cricket Ground.

Bangladesh had earlier scored 161 in their first innings after resuming on 124 for four, which was still 10 runs short of avoiding the follow-on

target. The Board XI had declared their first innings at 320 for five. But the home team decided against enforcing it to have some batting practice on a rain-interrupted day and Smith took the opportunity with both hands.

The 21-year-old from Barbados clubbed four sixes and nine fours in an exhibition of high quality strokeplay after his side had lost both openers in the first over bowled by Tapash Baisya.

Opener Wavell Hinds perished trying to hoist Tapash over deep square leg but Enamul took a brilliant tumbling catch near the line in the second ball of the first over. Tapash also had Devon Smith, who had changed ends, caught down the leg side by wicketkeeper Khaled Mashud in the same over.

But Smith's innings in the drawn match was the undoubted highlight of the final day's proceedings. He brought up his hundred in 67 balls. Only Baisya came out with relative credit for the Tigers claiming two for 18 from three overs bowled. All the others suffered at the hands of Smith with Alamgir Kabir going for 47 from his eight.

Tareq Aziz clean bowled Carlton Baugh (Jr.) but was hit for 37 in his six overs. Enamul Haque was also expensive giving away 35 in four overs for Dave Mohammed's wicket.

"We had some practice in bowling to some of those West Indian batsmen who will be playing in the f i r s t

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Lamb going?

CRICINFO, undated

The England & Wales Cricket Board is about to lose its chief executive, if a report in Tuesday's Daily Mail is to be believed.

According to the report, Tim Lamb has had enough, after seven years at the helm of the ECB, and is set to resign after continued grumbling about his handling of England's proposed tour of Zimbabwe. The knives began to be sharpened last year, when the ECB's handling of England's World Cup match in Zimbabwe -- which eventually was not played, leading indirectly to England's elimination - came in for much criticism.

The column suggested that Lamb, 51, had decided to step down on Monday, but delayed the announcement so as not to detract from England's win over New Zealand in the first Test at Lord's.

Textbook Tendulkar

Cricket

AFP, New Delhi

The life and times of India's star batsman Sachin Tendulkar are being featured in school textbooks from the current academic year so that children can be inspired by the feats of the record-breaking cricketer.

A special interview with the 31-year-old, in which he talks about his childhood and passion for cricket, has been included in textbooks for 10-12 year olds in government-aided schools in and around New Delhi.

Education official Krishna Kumar said it would make education a "more pleasurable experience" and help the children learn about their role model in a first person account. "Sachin is an icon in India and

kids draw inspiration from him," Kumar said. "So we thought that having a chapter on him will interest kids and at the same time make them under-



SACHIN TENDULKAR

stand that dedication and determination make a successful person."

The move is already proving a big hit with children.

"I read the interview the day I got the book. I learnt many things about his school days," said 10-year-old Nikhil Sharma.

"I always wanted to know the things Sachin did as a kid and the chapter is really interesting."

Tendulkar, regarded as one of the finest batsmen in history, describes himself as a "mediocre boy and a very average student" in the interview who was "very naughty and always wanted to escape to the playground". He says that 'strong determination, continuous practice, good understanding of the game, constant improvement of one's abilities and courage to strike the ball with conviction' are the keys to becoming a good player.

Reefat upsets Russian GM

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Reefat-bin-Sattar came alive in the Leonine second Grand Masters chess tournament but it was too late for him to reach his goal.

Hoping to earn his third and final GM norm, the Bangladesh International Master upset Russian GM Alexander Fominyh in the ninth round at the National Sports Council (NSC) conference room yesterday.

Reefat, however, had already fallen behind the 8-point mark which he needed for a GM norm by losing some important games earlier. He is now in the fifth position with 4.5 points with just two more rounds left.

Vietnamese GM Nguyen Anh Dung won his ninth round game against Indian IM Lanka Ravi to maintain his solo lead with 7.5 points.



Grand Master Nguyen Anh Dung of Vietnam makes a move against International Master Lanka Ravi of India in the ninth round of the Leonine second Grand Masters chess tournament at the National Sports Council conference room yesterday.

Marathon match

REUTERS, Paris

Fabrice Santoro has beaten fellow Frenchman Arnaud Clement in the longest singles match in modern tennis history, spending six hours 36 minutes on court before winning 6-4 6-3 6-7 3-6 16-14 at the French Open.

The previous longest match had taken place in 1998 when Spaniard Alex Corretja beat Argentina's Hernan Gumy in five hours 31 minutes, also at Roland Garros.

Clement, seeded 32nd, fought back from two sets down against his friend in a first round match interrupted by fading light on Monday evening. Santoro, who made only 40 unforced errors throughout the match, finally prevailed on Tuesday.

The first round match equalled the highest number of games played at the French Open since the introduction of tie-breaks in 1973, with 71 games.

"It's an exceptional moment. More than victory, the intensity of the match and the strong emotions out there are what you're looking for when you become a professional tennis player," Santoro said.

Bhola enter semis

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

Bhola became the first team to reach the semifinals of the Sher-e-Bangla Cup 22nd National Football Championship when they recorded a convincing 3-1 win over Nilphamari at the Adhunik Stadium in Natore yesterday.

Bhola ended their two matches with maximum six points after defeating hosts Natore 1-0 in the Group B opener.

Natore and Nilphamari meet in the last group match, which is of academic interest.

Bhola came alive early with national striker Rokonuzzaman Kanhan opening the scoring after six minutes. His former national strike partner Shahajuddin Tipu, who has rediscovered his scoring touch in the tournament, doubled the lead seven minutes later. Tipu

was also adjudged man-of-the-match.

Jufikar Ali Johnny gave Bhola a 3-0 cushion in the 35th minute while Shaiful Islam reduced the arrears for Nilphamari four minutes after the breather.

Bhola however, saw four of their players cautioned including stars like national number one custodian Aminul, Masud Rana and Kanhan.

In the other match at the same venue, Narayanganj defeated Naogaon 3-1 to brighten their semifinal hopes.

They now share the lead in Group D with Dhaka University but are placed atop by virtue of having a better goal difference.

Narayanganj require only a draw to reach the last four when the two sides meet tomorrow.

Forward Mehdi Hassan Topu shot Narayanganj ahead in the 20th minute while winger Abdullah

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