

Star SPORT

DHAKA MONDAY JULY 5, 2004, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com



Did U Know?

No country with a foreign trainer has won the World Cup or European Championship. Greek trainer Otto Rehhagel is German and Portuguese coach Luis Felipe Scolari is Brazilian.



Michael Kasprovic
(Australian fast bowler)

"Being in the Australian team is all about opportunity and there's a lot of great cricketers in and around the Australian first-class scene and for me having played before and tasted it I was pretty keen to get back and by doing well I can hopefully cement that spot."



ESPN
Euro Championship
Portugal vs Greece (Final)
Highlights
Same Day Delay at 1:00 pm
Sportscentre Hindi
Live at 8:30 pm
STAR Sports
Euro Championship
Portugal vs Greece (Final)
Highlights
Same Day Delay at 7:30 am
Sportsline
Live at 8:00 pm

Star WHIZZ KID
COMPETITION 214
Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
July 9, 2004 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. How many Test matches will India play against Bangladesh in December?	Three	Two	Four
2. Who is Pakistan's new cricket coach?	Miandad	Woolmer	Marsh
3. Who won the Rating chess title?	Rajib	Rakib	Refaat
4. Who is the youngest scorer at UEFA Euro 2004?	Rooney	Vonlanthen	Ronaldo
5. Who scored the first goal at Euro 2004?	Zidane	Karagounis	Figo
Name			
Class			
School Address			
Phone: (if any)			

Pioneer soccer

SPORTS REPORTER

Mehdi slammed a hattrick and Shahidur scored two goals to help Khilgaon Pragati Sangha brush aside Paimadi Juba Sangha 5-0 in a central zone match of the Shinepukur Ceramics Pioneer Football League at the Basabo ground yesterday.

Khilgaon Juba Sangha and Manik Smriti Sangsad shared a 4-4 draw in another match at the same venue.

At the Kamapur Stadium, Gazipur XI drew 2-2 with Mohammed Ali SC in anorthzonematch.

Mahanagar Krira Chakra edged Agrani KS KS by a solitary goal in south zone at the Mirpur Outer Stadium.

NFL to be deferred

SPORTS REPORTER



The start of the fourth Nitol-Tata National Football League finals is to be delayed by two or three days. Scheduled to begin from July 10, the 12-team second phase will now start either on July 12 or 13 in Mymensingh, informed organising committee secretary Manzoor Hossain Malu yesterday.

"We had to compromise for live telecast of the competition and Bangladesh Television will now be able to broadcast most of the matches," Malu told reporters at the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) office.

The date for the start will be decided after Matlub Ahmed, chairman of sponsor Nitol Group, returns from China. We hope to stage the draw on July 10," he added.

A three-member BFF delegation including president SA Sultan, general secretary Anwarul Haque Helal and Malu, also the deputy general secretary of the BFF had a meeting with BTV director general Mostafizur Rahman earlier yesterday.

According to the state-run television's proposal, the BFF has agreed to bring forward the kick-off time

which will help BTV telecast the Jatiya Sangsad (JS) sessions till July 15. The JS sessions begin at 5:15 pm.

The BFF will also finalise the fixtures in accordance with the Asia Cup in Sri Lanka. BTV will also telecast the cricket tournament live.

Meanwhile, State Minister for Youth and Sports Fazlur Rahman is expected to give a decision on the remaining venue for the second phase today.

Rangpur and Naogaon are in contention to become the fourth venue after Mymensingh, Jessore and Chittagong.

However, if Naogaon becomes a host, the BTV will not be able to telecast the matches due to technical difficulties.

The contract with the sponsor demands live telecast of at least 20 matches and Malu thinks that the BFF would face no problem to meet that.

Mymensingh, on the other hand, is all set to play host to a big football event after 1977, when they staged the fifth edition of the National Football Championship.

Mymensingh District Sports Association secretary Shafiqul Islam informed that they will present an opening ceremony at the 15,000 capacity Momen Shahi Stadium.

The old venue, built in 1962, however, needs renovation but still can accommodate around 13,000 spectators now.

Record-breaking Woodbridge

AFP, London

Australia's Todd Woodbridge wrote his name into the Wimbledon record books by winning his ninth men's doubles title here Sunday and he said there could be more to come.

Woodbridge and Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden, the top seeds and defending champions, defeated Julian Knowle of Austria and Nenad Zimonjic of Serbia and Montenegro 6-1, 6-4, 4-6, 6-4.

It was 33-year-old Woodbridge's ninth men's doubles title at Wimbledon breaking the 100-year-old record of the Doherty brothers, Laurie and Reggie.

Woodbridge won his first six titles at Wimbledon with long-term playing partner Mark Woodforde in 1993 and the last two with Bjorkman.

During that time, he lost only one final playing with Woodforde in 1998.

That gives Woodbridge 10 men's doubles final appearances equalling the number of finals that Laurie Doherty reached in the early years of the 20th century, but is one short of Reggie's total of 11.

Woodbridge punched the air with joy after match point and held up both hands to indicate the number nine.

"Once we got through the semis I

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8



PHOTO: AFP

Defending champion Roger Federer of Switzerland in action against American Andy Roddick in the men's singles final of the Wimbledon Championships in London yesterday.

Imran plans to marry again?

PTI, London

Barely a fortnight after announcing the break-up of his marriage with Jemima Goldsmith, cricketer-turned-politician Imran Khan has stated his intention to marry again, possibly by next year.

"I am already thinking about looking for a second wife. It doesn't look possible this year but I'll see if I'm able to find someone by my next birthday," the 51-year-old Imran said in an interview published in the Sunday Telegraph.

Describing his split with Jemima after nine years of marriage as "tragic", Imran, who was born on November 25, 1952, vehemently denied that any other person was involved and insisted that his wife had tried her best to relocate.

"This is utter nonsense. There is no involvement of any third person at all," he said.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

BKSP soccer from July 5

SPORTS REPORTER

Two teams from India will take part in the BKSP Cup Under-16 football tournament starting from July 5 at the Savar sports institute.

An IFA selection team and a junior team from Chandigarh will join the six divisional teams and two teams of hosts BKSP in the weeklong meet.

The ten teams will be split into two groups.

Passia in last eight

SPORTS REPORTER

Dilip Passia reached the quarterfinals of the National Tennis Championship beating Rafiq 6-1, 6-0 at the National Tennis Complex in Ramna yesterday.

Meanwhile, Monir Hossain, Shah Newaz, Prithul, Mizan, Murad, Akhter Hossain, Kanchan Ram and Heera Lal moved to the men's pre-quarterfinals.

In boys' (Under-17) singles, Delwar Hossain defeated Mohiuddin 6-0, 6-1 and Anwar Hossain beat Namni 6-0, 6-0 to advance to the quarterfinals.

In boys' (U-13) singles, Javed stormed to the semifinal with a 6-0, 6-0 win over Rajan Ram while Omar beat Zakir 6-0, 6-2 to reach the last eight.

Wright ready for Asia Cup

CRICINFO, undated

With the Asia Cup only days away, coach John Wright has fired the first salvo for India, warning opponents that the team has been thorough in its preparation for the upcoming tournament.

"We have done various research on the opposition teams," he said. "Particularly, we concentrated on Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Our computer analyst has been of great help. He is providing us data and information on the opposition bowlers and batsmen, besides [on] our own players."

After the tour of Pakistan, India had a three-month layoff from the game, but a series of camps were held to ensure the players stayed fit and match-ready. Wright addressed

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

Flintoff powers England

Cricket

AFP, Bristol

Andrew Flintoff's maiden one-day international hundred powered England to 237 for seven, the best total of the tournament, in their NatWest Series match against New Zealand here Sunday.

Lancashire all-rounder Flintoff, dropped on nought, made 106 in his 73rd one dayer, after England had slumped to 57 for three.

The hosts were indebted to a fourth wicket stand of 122 between the 25-year-old Flintoff and Middlesex captain Andrew Strauss, who was dropped on one, before making 61.

Both batsmen were floored by the luckless Hamish Marshall.

All the completed matches in the series had been won by the side bowling first and New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming, who had won all his tosses in the tournament so far, inserted England in overcast conditions.

New Zealand, for whom victory here would guarantee a place in the July 10 final at Lord's, had an early breakthrough.

Marcus Trescothick was still on nought when he edged left-arm quick James Franklin. However, wicketkeeper Gareth Hopkins dropped a chance that was heading straight to Fleming at first slip.

But after taking a single, Somerset left-hander Trescothick was run out coming back for a second when Ian Butler's throw from third man was safely gathered by Hopkins.

England came into this game having failed to win a one-day international batting first in 22 matches since beating Pakistan in Cape Town at last year's World Cup.

But Vaughan himself was unable to propel England towards a big target himself as his poor run of one-day form continued.

On 12 the Yorkshire opener's loose drive off Jacob Oram went straight to Chris Harris at cover.

His exit meant Vaughan had scored just 39 runs in his four series innings.

Left-hander Strauss was dropped

in the gully by Marshall off Oram.

Marshall then missed another chance when he floored Flintoff at backward point, denying Scott Styris a second wicket in his first over after he had Robert Key caught off his first ball.

Medium-pacer Harris, called up for the injured Chris Cairns, came into this match on 199 one-day international wickets - a New Zealand record.

He thought he had his 200th

when he appealed for caught behind against Flintoff, on 23, but it was not to be.

Flintoff later pulled Harris for six over mid-wicket.

Strauss reached his fifty with an on-driven four off Butler in 80 balls with six boundaries.

He fell when a leg-side pick-up off Butler was well caught by Nathan Asstle.

Flintoff, unable to bowl because

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

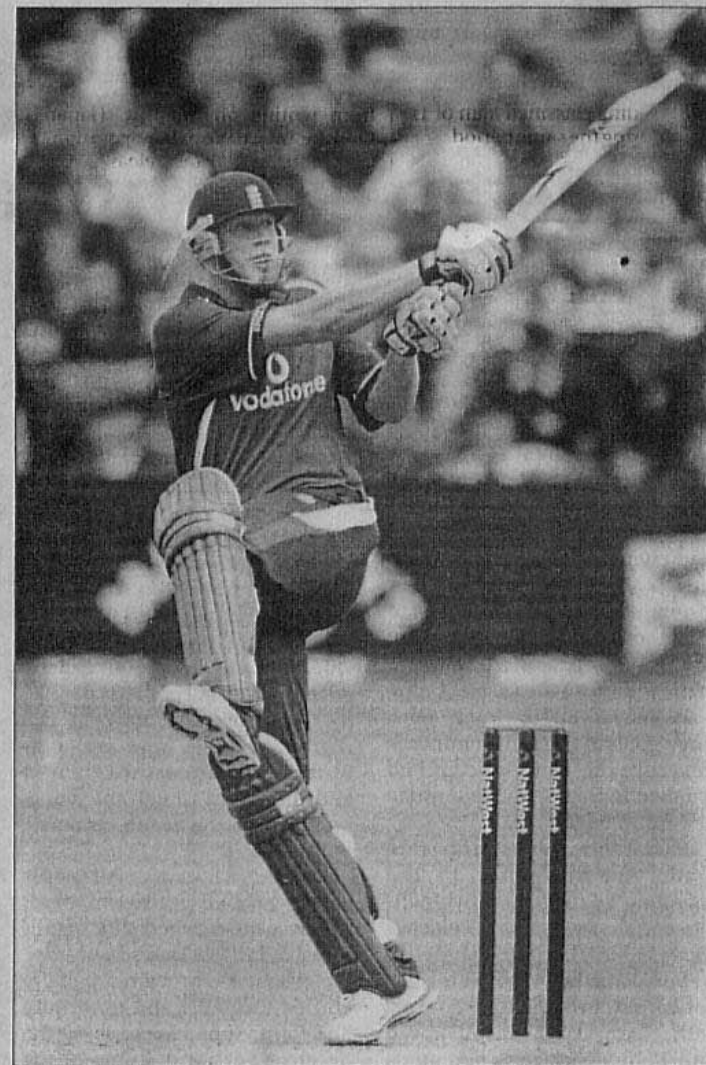


PHOTO: AFP

IN FULL FLOW: England's Andrew Flintoff pulls one for four on way to scoring his maiden century during the NatWest Series one-day international against New Zealand at Bristol yesterday.

Cycling for world peace

PTI, New Delhi

It is a mission set across 178 countries and over 10 years.

"Initially when we thought about this mission, we went to some multinational companies for sponsorships but were very soon disappointed as they wanted us to change our message to something like fight against HIV/AIDS."

"Though we are not against such policies, what we want to get across is that it is important for people of the world to realise that instead of fighting amongst ourselves we should fight against the enemies of humanity like, disease, poverty and hunger."

A group of four people, who travel in two teams, the cyclists first got the idea while working on a project for road safety for the 'Scouts and Guides', Saha went around 750 km on foot to get his message across.

He even got an award for it. Hussein said adding it was then that the idea of cycling for peace struck them.

Expressing their pleasure over the reception the four have got in

of common people to get our message across," said Saha.

"Initially when we thought about this mission, we went to some multinational companies for sponsorships but were very soon disappointed as they wanted us to change our message to something like fight against HIV/AIDS."

"Though we are not against such policies, what we want to get across is that it is important for people of the world to realise that instead of fighting amongst ourselves we should fight against the enemies of humanity like, disease, poverty and hunger."

A group of four people, who travel in two teams, the cyclists first got the idea while working on a project for road safety for the 'Scouts and Guides', Saha went around 750 km on foot to get his message across.

He even got an award for it. Hussein said adding it was then that the idea of cycling for peace struck them.

Expressing their pleasure over the reception the four have got in

the various countries they have travelled till now, the cyclists say they also had some unique experiences while visiting all these countries.

"In Azerbaijan, for example, the authorities wanted us to accept the citizenship of the country and settle there permanently," Saha recounts.

Saha says though they always stay in the respective Bangladesh embassies, the United Nations also provides them lodging and help in nations where there are no Bangladesh consulates.

"The four of us are divided in two teams. While two of us are here in Delhi, our other two partners Md Momaner Rehman and Md Zahangir Hussein are in Beijing now."

"The world tour has been divided into two parts," says Saha adding "We have already met many leaders in Delhi and are also trying to meet Sonia Gandhi this time."

"The next part of the trip for us comprises of countries like Turkey, Bulgaria and Romania," he said.



PHOTO: AFP

ALEXANDER THE GREAT HAS LANDED! A Greek fan wearing an ancient helmet and clad in a national flag walks by a policeman at the International Athens Airport waiting for his flight to Lisbon yesterday.

Just like home



REUTERS, Panaji, India

Soccer fans in the former Portuguese colony of Goa, western India were gearing up for a huge overnight party to watch Sunday's Euro 2004 final between Portugal and Greece in Lisbon.

Hundreds of soccer clubs in the tiny state, under Portuguese rule from the early 16th century until 1961, joined numerous beach resorts in the tourist paradise to put up giant TV screens and flags.

A huge hall in the local Calangute Club, one of the venues planning a massive celebration, was being decorated like a typical traditional Indian marriage hall for hundreds of fans expected to arrive with painted faces.

"We will have hundreds of people with their faces done up in Portuguese colours here in the night," the president of the Calangute club, Fransisco Souza, told Reuters.

"We are a sporting people, but the main thing for Goa is football."

Goa has deep and historic links with Portugal. It became a Portuguese colony in the early 16th century after Vasco da Gama rounded the Cape of Good Hope to discover the sea route

to India in 1498.

Portuguese rule ended in 1961 when Indian forces entered the coastal enclave dotted with swaying coconut palms, but the state still has distinct Portuguese trappings.

With the kickoff not scheduled until after midnight in India, all pubs and bars are making arrangements to celebrate the game with gallons of beer and a local cashew drink, feni.

Portuguese shirts have been flying off the shelf since the tournament began three weeks ago and tailors are busy stitching flags of both teams for the finale.

Victoria D'Souza gave up her Sunday holiday as she gave final

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4



PHOTO: INTERNET SOURCE

NOTHING TO WORRY, GOD IS A GREEK! Archbishop Christodoulos who gave the Greek football team a blessing just hours away from their Euro 2004 final with hosts Portugal.

Boost from up above!

AFP, Athens

The Greek football team received the blessing of the head of the Greek Orthodox Church just hours away from the Euro 2004 final with Portugal.

Archbishop Christodoulos called on God to help the Greeks prevail over Portugal in what is the greatest day in their footballing history after entering the tournament as 150/1 outsiders and having never won a game at a major finals.

This evening, may God honour us by delivering victory," he said as he finished his sermon on Sunday.

"I am praying that we are the champions, because that would be a huge success for the unity of the country, for nationalism, but also a boost for the Olympics (August 13-29) because the eyes of the world will be turned on Greece."

Christodoulos said he had been delighted the effect the success of the football team had had on the country.

"I have seen Greeks unite, the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 8