



Did U Know?

Top scorer Milan Baros is only the sixth player to score at least five goals at a single edition of the European Championship.



What to Watch

TEN Sports

Copa America
Paraguay vs Chile
Repeat at 4:00 pm
Brazil vs Costa Rica
Repeat at 9:30 pm
Copa America
Venezuela vs Bolivia
Live at 4:15 am (Tuesday)
Peru vs Colombia
Live at 6:30 am (Tuesday)

ESPN

Australia vs Sri Lanka
Second Test, Day Four
Live at 5:55 am
Sportscentre
Live at 10:30 pm



Talk Turkey



John Wright
(Indian cricket coach)

"Harbhajan is a world-class bowler and it is great to have him back."



Tick the correct answers, post to
The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
July 23, 2004 and draw
shortly afterwards

- How many Test matches will India play against Bangladesh in December?
Three Two Four
- Who is Pakistan's new cricket coach?
Miandad Woolmer Marsh
- Who won the Rating chess title?
Rajib Rakib Reefat
- Who is the youngest scorer at UEFA Euro 2004?
Rooney Vanlanthen Ronaldo
- Who scored the first goal at Euro 2004?
Zidane Karagounis Figo

Name

Class Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (if any)

BKSP Green retain crown

SPORTS REPORTER

BKSP Green won the BKSP Cup Under-16 football tournament for the second successive year when they handed Chittagong Division a 5-1 thrashing at the sports institute's football ground yesterday.

The sport's institute trainees had to come from behind before enjoying a goal feast thanks to Sabuj's hat-trick. His goals came in the 36th, 65th and 70th minute.

Jasim surprised the hosts with an early strike. However, BKSP Greens had to wait until the 31st minute before Rahul netted an equaliser.

Pavel added another goal to the winners' tally in the 50th minute.

Syed Sujauddin Ahmed, secretary of the youth and sports ministry, distributed prizes after the match.

Sri Lanka's solid reply



AFP, Cairns

Sri Lanka's batsmen, led by century-maker skipper Marvan Atapattu, frustrated Australia's attempts to claim a match-winning lead in the second Test at Cazaly Stadium here on Sunday.

The patient Sri Lankans bounced back from their 149-run mauling inside three days in Darwin last week to defy Australia's all-star bowling attack and greatly improve their chances of avoiding a second series clean sweep inside five months.

When rain and bad light forced an early end to the third day's play, the tourists were 411 for five -- 106 runs behind Australia's first innings of 517.

Tilan Samaraweera was unbeaten on 53 with wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana not out 30, leaving just two days remaining in the Test to glean a result.

Leg-spinner Shane Warne picked up another wicket on Sunday to edge to within five of equalling Sri Lankan off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan's 527-wicket world record haul.

Sri Lanka, who have lost their last four Tests to Australia including a three-match series whitewash at home in March, had few problems negotiating the follow-on target of 318 on a good batting track.

Samaraweera raised his sixth Test half-century, with Kaluwitharana, playing his first Test in two years, chancing his luck and taking a Jason Gillespie lifter flush on the team crest of his batting helmet.

Sri Lanka only lost a total of three wickets during the day, with Atapattu posting the fourth-highest innings of 133 against Australia, Mahela Jayawardene hitting 43 and Tillakaratne Dilshan chipping in with 35.

Samaraweera has batted for three minutes short of three hours for his dogged half-century spiced with five fours, with Kaluwitharana's lively 30 coming off 39 balls.

Sri Lanka sailed along for most of the weather-interrupted day, with their worst spell coming after lunch as they lost the wickets of Atapattu and Jayawardene in the space of six balls.

But Samaraweera and Dilshan steadied the ship, putting on 65 runs for the fifth wicket in 86 minutes.

The pair safely steered Sri Lanka past the follow-on target and defied Australian attempts to make further in-roads after the loss of Atapattu and Jayawardene.

Dilshan fell to a juggling catch by Michael Kasprovicz at mid-on in the 104th over to give Warne his second wicket of the innings.

Atapattu batted through the morning session but fell two balls after lunch when Glenn McGrath got extra bounce with the second new ball and had him caught at point by

Matthew Hayden.

Six balls later, Jayawardene attempted to pull Kasprovicz only to dolly a return catch to the bowler.

Atapattu batted for 337 minutes for his 15th Test century and hit 19 boundaries off 268 balls to buttress the Sri Lankan innings.

It was 33-year-old Atapattu's second hundred in his ninth Test match against the Australians.

Atapattu scored 118 against Australia in the first innings of the third Colombo Test in March.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at close of play on the third day of the second Test between Australia and Sri Lanka at Cazaly Stadium in Cairns on Sunday:

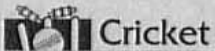
AUSTRALIA: First innings 517 (Langer 162, Hayden 117, Martyn 97; Chandana 5-109, Malinga 4-149)

SRI LANKA: First innings (overnight 184-2)

Atapattu c Hayden b McGrath	133
Jayasuriya c Gilchrist b Gillespie	13
Sangakkara c Gillespie b Warne	74
Jayawardene c and b Kasprovicz	43
Samaraweera not out	53
Dilshan c Kasprovicz b Warne	35
Kaluwitharana not out	30
Extras: (b-3, lb-8, nb-17, w-2)	30
Total: (For 5 wts in 122 overs)	411
Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-156, 3-280, 4-280, 5-345	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
McGrath	28	8	64	1
Gillespie	32	4	110	1
Kasprovicz	26	4	104	1
Warne	33	5	117	2
Lehmann	3	0	5	0

Marvellous Marvan



AFP, Cairns

When Marvan Atapattu began his Test career he didn't know where his next run was coming from -- a far cry from the prestige of scoring a Test century in Australia against the world's best.

The 33-year-old skipper batted with tenacity and technique for his 133, in the process steering Sri Lanka to 411 for five at the close of the third day in the second cricket Test here on Sunday. Sri Lanka now trail Australia's first innings total of 517 by 106 runs, with two days remaining in the match.

Atapattu became only the fifth Sri Lankan to score a century in Australia, his 15th hundred overall.

But history records that he began his Test career in less formidable fashion -- with five ducks in his first six innings. He was dropped from the side for three years before re-emerging against New Zealand in 1997 and consolidating his position.

"I had a bad, bad start to my career and when I was left out of the side there was little hope that I would score a century against any other Test-playing nation, let alone Australia," Atapattu said after Sunday's steely knock.

"It all happens for the good, I guess. I had to return to club cricket and get some experience before I came back to the Sri Lankan side."

But the undemonstrative Atapattu has made up for lost time by scoring 4,685 Test runs at an average of over 40 -- even allowing for his wretched start.

In his 75 Tests, Atapattu has scored six double-centuries, three of them unbeaten, and he had scored a century in two of his past three Tests against world champions Australia.

"Getting a hundred outside your country is something I consider as a

big thing for me," said Atapattu, but he didn't rate it as his toughest innings.

"I worked hard for one of my centuries back home in Kandy against Pakistan (207 not out in 2000), but today was hard work and I'm very glad to get a hundred against Australia in Australia," Atapattu said.

About the match, he said, "I would like to get to their score if possible and then assess it from there."

"The way we were batting at the end it would have been better for us if we had the full day's play. The difference today was that we capitalised on the bad balls we received."

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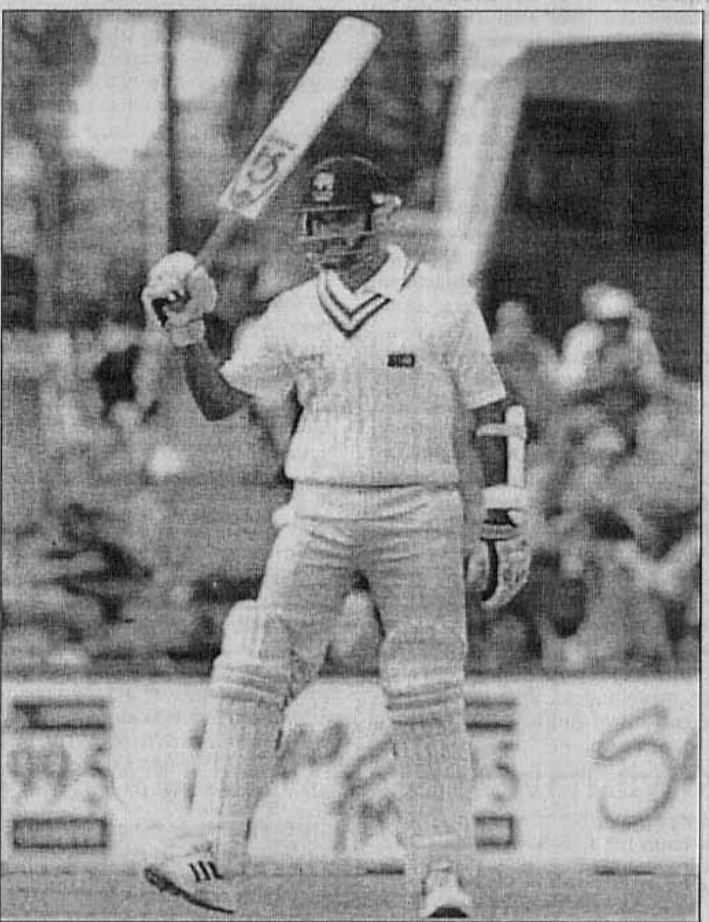


PHOTO: AFP

LEADING FROM THE FRONT: Sri Lanka captain Marvan Atapattu acknowledges the crowd's applause on reaching hundred against Australia on the third day of the second Test at Cairns yesterday.

StanChart school chess July 26

SPORTS REPORTER

The sixth Standard Chartered Bank School Chess Tournament begins on July 26 at the National Sports Council (NSC) conference room.

Interested school students can take part after completing entry formalities. Eight students from Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai have already confirmed their participation.

CJKS chess from today

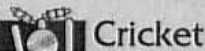
CU CORRESPONDENT

The CJKS-Progoti Insurance Chess League begins at the CJKS gymnasium hall today.

Chairman of Progoti Insurance Limited Khalilur Rahman will inaugurate the league at 3 pm. A total of 16 teams will participate in the league.

Earlier, the meet was scheduled to begin on July 9 but was postponed to unavoidable circumstances.

Kiwis have last laugh



AFP, London

Left-arm spinner Daniel Vettori took career-best one-day international figures of five for 30 as New Zealand beat the West Indies by 107 runs in the NatWest Series final at Lord's here Saturday.

Man-of-the-match Vettori also effected two direct hit run-outs as the West Indies, chasing 267 to win, collapsed to 159 all out.

Tino Best was one not out after Shivnarine Chanderpaul (31) holed out to Craig McMillan off Vettori with more than eight overs left in what was a fine fielding display by the Black Caps.

Vettori's figures were the best in a limited overs international at Lord's and helped New Zealand to a ninth straight win at this level.

It was the first time in the series a match had been won by the team batting first.

Earlier West Indies held New Zealand to 266 all out as the Black Caps threw away a promising position after losing the toss.

New Zealand, who had been 217 for three at one stage, lost their last seven wickets for just 49 runs in 58 balls.

West Indies leg-spinner Ramnaresh Sarwan took career-best one-day figures of three for 31 while medium-pace Dwayne Bravo dismissed top scorers Fleming and fellow opener Nathan Astle (57) in an innings twice interrupted by rain.

McMillan (52) and Hamish Marshall (44) also made handy contributions.

Fleming, dropped on seven by first slip Chris Gayle off fast bowler Best, cashed in with several boundaries.

But shortly after the first rain break left-hander Fleming fell when he steered Bravo to Gayle at backward point. He faced 66 balls and hit eight boundaries.

Astle went in almost identical fashion to the same combination having cleanly struck seven fours.

New Zealand struck early on when second slip Scott Styris held a sharp catch off Jacob Oram to dismiss Gayle for four before Sarwan was run out for 19.

Lara came in at 45 for two. He put



PHOTO: AFP

TOO LATE! The ball eludes the despairing lunge of Argentine goalkeeper Roberto Abbondanzieri (R) to enter the net during the match against Mexico at Elias Aguirre Stadium in Chicalayo city on July 10.

Cricketers' final warm-up today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will play their last practice match today before the Asia Cup starts in Colombo on July 16.

The Tigers, who won their first warm-up match by 29 runs, saw their second match washed out.

The opponents will be the same Invitational XI but a stronger squad is expected to take on Dav Whatmore's men, who have been training in the Lankan capital since June 16.

The warm-up match will be played at the Colts ground.

Bangladesh, who trained yesterday morning, will rest left-arm spinner Manzarul Islam and seamer Tareq Aziz. The remaining 12 players will be allowed to play.

Meanwhile, team manager GM Nawsher left Dhaka to join the squad.

Bangladesh open their campaign against Hong Kong on the opening day and face holders Pakistan the following day.

Mukti-Ctg MSC NFL opener

SPORTS REPORTER

Muktijoddha Sangsad will start the defence of their National League title on the opening day of the first phase final rounds on July 18 at Mymensingh.

For the Reds, who are also the Federation Cup champions, it won't be an easy ride as their opponents will be Chittagong Mohammedan Sporting Club, the third seed in Group A and one of the six automatic qualifiers in the fourth edition of the championship.

Although the Chittagong League

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Argentina back on ground level



REUTERS, Chicalayo

Mexico brought Argentina crashing back to earth when a brilliant Ramon Morales free kick was enough to give them a 1-0 victory in their Copa America Group B match on Saturday.

Uruguay, inspired by an excellent performance from Diego Forlan, beat Ecuador 2-1 for their first win under coach Jorge Fossati.

ARGENTINA 0; MEXICO 1 Argentina's defeat will put the pressure back on Argentina coach Marcelo Bielsa after it had been briefly lifted with Wednesday's 6-1 demolition of Ecuador.

Bielsa has become increasingly unpopular with Argentine fans and there is speculation he may not survive a poor tournament.

Argentina, who dropped to third in the group with three points from two games behind Uruguay and Mexico, never managed to find the flowing football they produced against Ecuador.

Javier Saviola, who scored a hat-trick on Wednesday, produced only fleeting patches of his best form.

Argentina made a bright start but were stunned in the ninth minute when Morales opened the scoring with a swerving free kick which flew into the top corner past helpless goalkeeper Roberto Abbondanzieri.

The goal unsettled the Argentines, who resorted to some rough tackling to halt the Mexican counter attacks.

Jesus Arellano, in particular, was a menace to the Argentines almost every time he got the ball.

Mexico had an excellent chance to increase their lead just before halftime when Jared Borgetti was first to Pavel Pardo's free kick, but his header was weak and easily saved.

Almost immediately at the other end, Argentine striker Cesar Delgado popped up unmarked on the right to meet a floated cross from Andres D'Alessandro but he fired his effort over the crossbar.

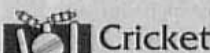
Argentina took control after halftime, forcing a flurry of corners in the first quarter of an hour.

They were twice denied by goalkeeper Oswaldo Sanchez, who blocked a shot by Luis Gonzalez and then brilliantly pushed away Roberto Ayala's header following a corner.

After that, the Argentine storm blew itself out. Mexico had one last scare when substitute Luciano Figueroa headed just wide from a Cristian Gonzalez cross.

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'Way behind Australia'



REUTERS/AFP, London

Victorious New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming was thrilled with their triangular NatWest Series win on Saturday but said his side were still a long way behind world champions Australia.

Five wickets from Daniel Vettori, a 200th one-day wicket for Chris Harris and an aggressive 67 from Fleming gave New Zealand a 107-run win over West Indies in the final at Lord's, their ninth one-day vic-

tory in a row.

Despite their progress, Fleming still believes Australia are the team to beat.

"We are not that close (to Australia). There are huge areas for us to improve," he said. "But we are gaining on them."

New Zealand lost the Test series 3-0 to England but Fleming was not unduly concerned by the disparity in their performances in the two versions of the game.

"We are intelligent on and off the ball," he told a news conference. "People say why don't we transfer this to Test cricket. We are nearly

there."

The next chance to test themselves against Australia will be in the ICC Champions' Trophy in England in September.

"We are looking forward to the next challenge in the ICC Champions' Trophy," Fleming said. "We need to continue our form after a break and get back into the rhythm."

He reserved special praise for Harris, who became the second player, after Sri Lanka's Sanath Jayasuriya, to take 200 one-day international wickets and score 4,000 runs.

"I can not stress how popular he

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PHOTO: AFP

FLYING KIWIS: The New Zealand team members pose with the NatWest Series trophy after winning the final against West Indies at Lord's on July 10.