

# Star SPORT

DHAKA THURSDAY JULY 22, 2004, E-MAIL: dssports@gonet.com



## Did U Know?

The first woman to win an Olympic event was England's Charlotte Cooper, who won the tennis singles at the 1900 Games.



## What to Watch

### BTV

Nitot-Tata Nat'l Football League  
Abahani Dhaka vs Kararchor Narasingdi  
Live at 4:00 pm

### ESPN

England vs West Indies  
First Test, Day One  
Live at 3:30 pm

### STAR Sports

Asian Cup Football  
Turkmenistan vs Iraq  
Live at 4:30 pm  
Asia Cup Cricket  
Pakistan vs Sri Lanka  
Highlights  
Repeat at 8:30 pm

### TEN Sports

Copa America Semifinal  
Brazil vs Uruguay  
Repeat at 2:00 pm & 9:30 pm



## Talk Turkey



Clive Lloyd  
(West Indies cricket legend)

"If technology will help, technology should be used. There's a lot at stake in cricket these days and what matters is that we get it right. It's time to use technology to the full extent."

## Rafique takes Ganguly for 50th scalp

SPORTS REPORTER

Left-arm spinner Mohammad Rafique became only the second bowler of the country to take fifty scalps in one-day international cricket.

The 34-year old bowler dismissed Indian captain Sourav Ganguly in the Asia Cup super league match at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground in Colombo yesterday to achieve the feat in his 30th ODI appearance.

He however finished the match with figures of 1-30 in 7 overs.

Former Bangladesh skipper and right-arm medium pacer Khaled Mahmud is the first Bangladeshi to achieve the feat. He did it in the second one-day international against West Indies in St Vincent recently.

## Nat'l hockey from today

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Army will take on Bangladesh Railway in the inaugural match of the ANAS Group 25th National Hockey Championship

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BEGINNING OF A SAD END: Captain Habibul Bashar looks back at his shattered stumps as Indian left-arm paceman Irfan Pathan celebrates the fall of the first Bangladesh wicket at the SSC ground yesterday.

## Just looking ahead

AL MUSABBIR SADI from Colombo

After a comprehensive defeat to India, Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore said he was now more certain of the XI to field in the remaining matches and was not prepared to throw in the towel just as yet.

"To play in the final you need to win two games. India are ranked first, we are fourth. If we had to have a look at the other players planning for a line-up for Friday's match (against Sri Lanka), this was the game to do so. That's why we rested Tapash and the others.

Whatmore thought pressure played a part in the jittery performance of the Tigers.

"It was a pressure game for us. The boys were on the lookout for runs. But as you know that one wrong decision and any batsman could be out. Unfortunately, some of the decisions haven't been correct ones today."

said Whatmore.

The coach was pleased with the way young left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak bowled for the third game running, especially after being asked to bowl with the new ball.

"One of the few positive things out of this match was that Razzak did very well attacking with the new ball."

Razzak gave away just 40 runs from ten overs bowling during the field restrictions.

Whatmore was once again left frustrated by the batsmen.

"When batsmen get starts, you would like them to go on. Our problem has been all along that, once the boys get starts, they can't seem to go on. That's a recipe for disaster."

He praised Harbhajan Singh and Sachin Tendulkar who were the standout performers for India.

"Harbhajan bowled pretty well. He came back after being hit for a six in the first over. Sachin batted really well. He looked like he was determined to get into the runs having

missed out in the first couple of matches."

Tigers skipper Habibul Bashar was understandably bitter.

"Nothing went our way as we failed to apply ourselves again. We could have won a bonus point but missed out on that too," said Bashar who disagreed with the opinion that he was taking a risk by opening the batting.

"It was not a gamble. We have tried Manjural in as an opener in the past but as I have been playing against the new ball regularly, I thought it was a better option for me to open."

Like his coach, the skipper too picked out Razzak for special mention.

"Razzak clicked with the new ball. They (India) are used to score more runs when the ball is new. That's why we took the decision last night to start with him. Had we scored 220-230, we would have had a chance to compete. Our total was not defensible," Bashar said.

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## U-19s start on winning note

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh under-19 team, thriving on two blazing half-centuries, started their England tour with a win against ECB Development of Excellence XI at the Loughborough University ground on Tuesday.

The junior Tigers won the match when the Duckworth-Lewis method came into effect after rain stopped the match with 27.2 overs had been bowled in the ECB XI innings.

Deciding to bat in their first warm-up match, the touring side made an edgy start. But brilliant middle-order batting helped them reach a towering 290 for 9 in the stipulated 50 overs.

Although opener Nafees Iqbal returned cheaply for one run, but his Chittagong mate Aftab Ahmed (29) and Dhiman Ghosh, who made a breezy 93, repaired the early damages, adding 72 runs for the second wicket.

The lanky Dhiman, who faced

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## Argentina too classy



REUTERS, Lima

Forward Carlos Tevez scored from a free kick for the second game in a row as Argentina swept aside defending champions Colombia 3-0 in their Copa America semi-final on Tuesday.

Luis Gonzalez claimed the second goal early in the second half to earn Argentina a place in Sunday's final against either Brazil or Uruguay, who meet in the same stadium on Wednesday.

Juan Pablo Sorin headed the third with ten minutes remaining. Tevez, who scored the winner against Peru with an exquisite free kick just three minutes after coming on as a substitute in Saturday's quarter-final, was on target against Argentina in the 33rd minute.

After being rewarded with a place in the starting line-up, the 20-year-old Boca Juniors player curled a 25-metre effort around the Colombia wall and his shot bounced once before entering the goal.

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## Three cheers for Brothers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, M'singh

Favourites Dhaka Brothers Union got off to a good start in the Nitot-Tata National Football League when they blanked Bangladesh Air Force 3-0 in a violence-marred match at the Momenshahi Stadium here yesterday.

The Gopibagh outfit, who clinched their maiden Premier League title this year after assembling almost all the national starts of the country, began to stamp their authority from early in the match, their first appearance in the meet.

And young striker Tapu, who was adjudged man-of-the-match, gave the band of brothers the lead as early as in the seventh minutes when he headed home from a midfield lob.

He was also instrumental in his team's second goal as the Dhaka giants went into the breather with a 2-0 lead when Abul received a cross from Tapu and dodged past the opponent custodian Masud Rana in the 24th minute.

After the break, however, Brothers had to wait for long to widen the gap and it was ace striker Alfaz who scored the third goal against a 10-man Air Force. Ironically it was the service team's custodian Masud guilty for the goal as he fisted an Alfaz right-footer from outside the box in his own net in the 80th minute.

Earlier violence erupted in the 57th minute as players of Bangladesh Air Force manhandled referee Bharat Chandra Gour, demanding a penalty. The incident

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## LIFE IN LANKA

AL MUSABBIR SADI from Colombo

Harbhajan Singh received an aggressive welcome on his return to international cricket after an eight-month injury lay-out when Bangladesh's new left-hander Faisal Hossain hoisted the off-spinner for a six over long-on in his very first over. Harbhajan however had the last laugh when he trapping Faisal lbw for 17 and went on to complete a miserly spell of 1-20 from his full quota of overs. Harbhajan last played an ODI in November 2003 against Australia at the Eden Gardens.

### DYING IN PAIRS!

Bangladesh showed an uncanny knack for losing wickets in pairs against India on Wednesday. After the first two wickets fell on the same score of 10, Faisal Hossain and Ashrafal also departed on the same total, 92. After a brief respite, Khaled Mashud and Mohammad Rafique followed joined in the trend as both were dismissed with their team on 117.

### SUDDENLY SECURITY

The first week of the Asia Cup in Colombo was relatively quiet. But as soon as the Indian and the Sri Lankan teams arrived in the capital following their first-phase matches in Dambulla, security measures went up.

Policemen patrolling the streets in the night was a rare scene just a couple of days ago but things have changed dramatically. Interestingly, politics has got nothing to do with it. Rather, the heightened security is due to the presence of all the four top teams at the same place. Law

enforcers have started checking cars and night strolls are no longer so easy as one Bangladeshi journalist found out when he was challenged. Thankfully, he had the press card provided by the Sri Lankan information ministry with him to satisfy the men in uniform.

### ACC EARNs LARGE SUM

The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) has earned an impressive 19 million US dollars from selling TV rights of the Asia Cup to satellite channel ESPN-Star Sports.

"We are getting the amount for the 13 matches while our expenses were two million dollars," ACC's CEO Syed Ashrafal Haque disclosed yesterday.

"The rest of the amount will be divided among the participants and money will be channelled to the Asia Cricket Foundation fund too," the former Bangladesh Cricket Board general secretary informed.

An ACC executive committee meeting will be held in Colombo on August 1 and Ashrafal informed that the next Asia Cup's hosting will be discussed there.

"The ACC wants to take the biennial tournament to Pakistan, who have failed in their bid to host two past tournaments," he added.

Ashrafal said that they were trying to stage the second edition of the Asian Test Championship next year.

When asked, the ACC CEO ruled out chances of cricket's inclusion in the Asian Games in Qatar in 2005.

"It is impossible to prepare a proper wicket in the desert inside one year. I don't really see any chance of cricket being held there during the Asian Games."



Master Indian batsman Sachin Tendulkar sweeps fine on way to scoring an unbeaten 82, his highest score against Bangladesh, at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground yesterday.

## Sparkling Sachin

AL MUSABBIR SADI from Colombo

It was a satisfying day for Sachin fans after the Indian superstar displayed a rare all-round show against Bangladesh.

The little genius might have failed to score a hundred, a feat he was yet to achieve against the Tigers, but his unbeaten 82 after an impressive bowling figures of 3-35 was good enough for India to post an easy eight-wicket win at the Sinhalese Sports Club ground yesterday.

His performance also gave the reports an opportunity to have a few words with arguably the best batsman in the world.

"We enjoyed supremacy in all departments," the man-of-the-match said after India won the game with more than ten overs to spare.

Tendulkar was particularly happy with his bowling effort but admitted that it was a specialists job.

"I get blisters in my fingers and it peels off. Then it's difficult to grip the ball. That's why Kumble can bowl 40 overs, but I can not," said Tendulkar, whose mixed gem of spinners can be deceiving on a difficult wicket.

Tendulkar however felt that conceding extras have been India's problem in all three Asia Cup matches so far.

"We will have to focus on no-balls and wides in the rest of the tournament."

He also said that it was not an easy trick to bat on.

"We kept looking for runs. But the Bangladeshi bowlers bowled in good line. The ball was not coming on to the bat. It was stopping occasionally and turning as well. The best way to bat here was to get to the ball as early as possible. In the first two matches I did not get runs or spend a long time at the wicket. I thought this was a perfect platform to bat and finish the game. This practice was needed."

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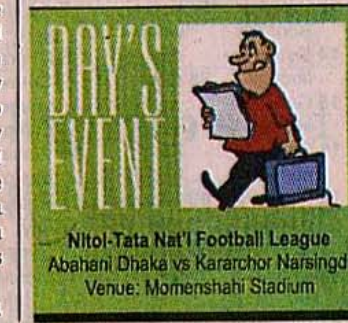
## Bangladesh U-17 booters lose

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh Under-17 football team suffered a 2-5 defeat to Thailand Under-17 side in their first practice match yesterday at the Durakit Bandit University ground in Bangkok.

Mithun scored two goals for Bangladesh.

Shahidur Rahman Shantoo's boys will play their second match tomorrow.



Nitot-Tata Nat'l Football League  
Abahani Dhaka vs Kararchor Narasingdi  
Venue: Momenshahi Stadium

## Cricket Quiz 07

Who is not a cricket commentator?

A Alok Kapali      B Athar Ali Khan      C Sunil Gavasker      D Ravi Shastri

Answer by sending SMS\* to the number 2003  
e.g. If your answer is (A) then write Quiz07 A and send it to 2003

For each quiz, five correct answer providers (selected by lottery) will receive attractive prizes!!

\*Charge Applicable

## Asia Cup

## GrameenPhone

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