

BHF picks 42 for int'l meet

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF) yesterday named a 42-member preliminary squad for the six-nation international invitational hockey tournament starting in Dhaka from September 29.

An executive committee meeting of the BHF decided that the residential camp would start from August 22 at BKSP in Savar.

Local coaches Jamal Haider and Barkatullah Chapal will look after the squad until new Pakistani coach Qamar Ibrahim takes over. Qamar is expected to arrive in Dhaka on August 24.

Shajahan Sarkar was named manager of the team.

BHF's acting general secretary Zahidur Rahman Pushkin informed that they were yet to decide on lifting the bans on national players Mahbub Ehsan Rana and Shamim Reza. He said that the issue would be discussed in BHF's next meeting in the first week of September.

In reply to a question, Pushkin said that they have also not received any confirmation from Sri Lanka about their participation in the tournament. Singapore have already withdrew their name.



Konstantinos Kenteris (Greek Olympic 200m champion) "In the interests of the country I am

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 215 Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star Win attractive prizes Competition closes at 8 pm August 20, 2004 and draw

1. Who clinched the national tennis men's crown?	Pasia	Amal	Murad
2. How many Test wickets has Shane Warne taken?	519	527	434
3. Who won the Wimbledon men's title?	Agassi	Federer	Henman
4. Who lifted the Wimbledon women's crown?	Serena	Sharapova	Venus
Name			
Class			
School Address			
Phone: (If any)			

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Untamed tyke 5 Society new-comer 8 Last writes 12 Calf-length 13 Stout relative 14 Desire 15 Judy of CNN 17 New Mexico art colony 18 Go up and down 19 Edmond-ton team 21 Bear 24 Salad ingredient 25 Dryer collection 26 1983 Streep film 30 Calendar abbr. 31 Anatom-ical hinges 32 Pair 33 New-man's longtime mate

DOWN 1 German car 2 38-Across word 3 Fuss 4 Morsel 5 Color 6 Pole 7 Sullied 8 Criminal 9 Highland 10 "Young Frankens-tein" role 11 Mrs. Dick Tracy 12 Director 13 Howard 14 Cartoon-ist's 15 Across, supply 16 Forceful hit 17 41 Showed unorigi-nality 18 Wan 19 Motorists' org. 20 La-la precursor 21 Pay with plastic 22 Rotation duration

Solution time: 21 mins.

Vaughan, Bell steady Eng



AFP, London

A partnership of 82 between captain Michael Vaughan and debutant Ian Bell steadied England after they had lost two quick wickets after lunch on the first day of the fourth Test against the West Indies at the Oval here on Thursday.

At the tea interval, England were 146-3 with Vaughan 44 not out and Bell unbeaten on 31.

Resuming at 53-1 after lunch, having won the toss, England were quickly put on the back foot when Marcus Trescothick and Robert Key were both dismissed in the space of five balls with the score on 64.

Trescothick scratched around for 14 balls after the interval without scoring when he clipped Fidel Edwards off his toes only to see the ball go straight to Ramnaresh Sarwan at square leg.

He made 30 from 78 balls in 123 minutes hitting six fours whilst Edwards bowled a lively spell of one for 17 from 17 overs after the break.

The West Indies struck in the next over, bowled by Dwayne Bravo, when Key attempted to cut a delivery that was too close to him only succeeded in edging to wicket-keeper Carlton Baugh, for 10.

Key's fall brought in Bell who has

enjoyed a prolific summer with Warwickshire in English domestic cricket and he endured a baptism of fire from the West Indies quick bowlers.

He survived a big shout for leg before from his first ball, from Bravo, and was hit on the shoulder by Edwards before he had scored.

After treatment from the England physio Bell soldiered on and eventually got off the mark, after 11 scoreless balls, when he edged Edwards over the slips for four.

His confidence grew with a push through mid-wicket off Bravo for three and he got more runs when a poor piece of fielding saw Dwayne Smith let the ball go past.

At the other end, Vaughan, in his 50th Test match, started slowly before unfurling a series of trademark drives and hitting three fours in one over from Smith.

He and Bell passed the 50 partnership for the fourth wicket from 96 balls as they batted England back into the match after their post-lunch wobble.

Andrew Strauss (14) had perished before lunch, with the score on 51 when he attempted an over-ambitious pull off Jermaine Lawson, and Edwards took a neat catch running round from mid-on. England lead the series 3-0 with this final match to play and if they win will have recorded seven consecutive victories. They last achieved this feat in

1929 under the leadership of Percy Chapman.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard at tea on the first day of the fourth and final Test between England and the West Indies at the Oval on Thursday:

ENGLAND: First innings				
Trescothick c Sarwan b Edwards	30			
Strauss c Edwards b Lawson	14			
Key c Baugh b Bravo	10			
Vaughan not out	44			
Bell not out	31			
Extras: (lb-9, b-1, w-1, nb-6)	17			
Total: (For 3 wks in 50 overs)	146			
Fall of wickets: 1-51, 2-64, 3-64				
To bat: Flintoff, Jones, Giles, Hoggard, Anderson, Harmison				

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Edwards	11	3	30	1
Collymore	10	6	10	0
Lawson	10	2	38	1
Bravo	7	3	16	1
Smith	7	2	22	2
Gayle	4	0	17	0
Sarwan	1	0	3	0

WEST INDIES: Gayle, Joseph, Sarwan, Lara, Chanderpaul, Bravo, Smith, Baugh, Collymore, Edwards, Lawson

Toss: England.

Umpires: Darrell Hair (Australia) and Rudi Koertzen (South Africa)

About time SA got back



AFP, Colombo

South Africa have a chance to make up for their Test series loss to Sri Lanka as they get ready for a series of five one-day internationals starting here on Friday.

South Africa lost to Sri Lanka in a Test series for the first time as they went down tamely in the second and final match here last week, leaving captain Graeme Smith wondering what went wrong.

"We have a lot of rethinking to do after this match. Our players just did not perform in the field and seemed to lack hunger," said a disappointed Smith as the team suffered two batting debacles to go down 1-0.

They were bowled out for 189 in the first innings, their lowest Test score against Sri Lanka, and recorded an even lower total in the second innings when they were skittled out for 179.

Their return to international cricket after a more than two-month break from the game was not a memorable one even as Sri Lanka did a fine job to switch from one form of the game to the other with ease.

They salvaged a draw in the second match of a two-Test series in Australia in July, came back home to win the Asia Cup one-day tournament beating formidable India in the final before

going into the Tests against South Africa.

"Adapting quickly from one form of the game to the other is something cricketers need to learn to live with and I'm happy that we have been doing a good job of it," Sri Lankan captain Marvan Atapattu said.

South Africa have won 18 of their 34 one-dayers against Sri Lanka, losing 14 with one tie and one no-result but their better win record may not be of any solace seeing their recent form as they lost 5-1 in New Zealand in March.

Sri Lanka have been on a roll and the loss of ace off-spinner Muttiah Muralitharan because of a shoulder injury should not make a difference.

Muralitharan was diagnosed with a cyst that led to a fluid formation on some nerves which needed a surgery and he was ruled out for this series as well as the prestigious ICC Champions Trophy in England next month.

"He is one of our best players but the team has been winning games even without him and the boys are confident for the series ahead," said Sri Lanka's Australian coach John Dyson.

The series gets off with a day-night fixture at the Premadasa Stadium which will be followed by a day match at the same venue on August 22.

Dambulla will host the next two matches on August 25 (day-night) and August 28 with the last match to be

held at the Sinhalese Sports Club here on August 31.

TEAMS

SRI LANKA (from): Marvan Atapattu (captain), Mahela Jayawardene, Sanath Jayasuriya, Kumar Sangakkara, Tillakaratne Dilshan, Saman Jayantha, Avishka Gunawardene, Farveez Maharoof, Chaminda Vaas, Upul Chandana, Lasith Malinga, Nuwan Zoysa, Dilhara Fernando.

SOUTH AFRICA (from): Graeme Smith (captain), Mark Boucher, Herschelle Gibbs, Jacques Kallis, Jacques Rudolph, Lance Klusener, Shaun Pollock, Nicky Boje, Alan Dawson, Jean-Paul Duminy, Makhaya Ntini, Robin Peterson, Andre Nel, Martin van Jaarsveld.

No sweat MSC

FROM PAGE 13 with Chittagong Mohammedan taking on Brothers Union of Panchagarh at 2.15 pm and holders Muktiyoddha Sangsad facing Najirpara Krira Chakra of Chandpur at 4.15 pm.

TEAMS

DHAKA MSC: Tarek, Jewel Rana, Faissal (Ronny), Jahirul, Kaiser (Nakib), Anwar (Khokon), Sentu, Pappu, Faissal Mahmud, Manju and Farhad.

UMMOCHAN: Piru (Liton), Biplab (Khalid), Ashrafu, Kochi, Hafizur, Imrul, Kallol, Alif (Chandan), Mamun, Mithu and Yousuf.

Referee: Maruf Shikder.

Bashar unlikely

FROM PAGE 13 ning training session at the Bangabandhu National Stadium.

Although Whatmore and chief selectors Faruque Ahmed remained tightlipped it is greatly speculated the lucky man could be Alok Kapali, who was dropped from the side after the Asia Cup due to a prolonged run draught.

Physical trainer Justin Cordy fears that Bashar might need a surgery.

"This kind of injuries are more familiar with footie players in Australia. There are just two matches in England and I think we should not risk Bashar playing without proper treatment" said Cordy.

Bashar however was present during the team's training session with his right arm resting in a sling.

Meanwhile, if Bashar fails to make it to England the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) will have to announce a stand-in captain and the fight will definitely be between his predecessor Khaled Mahmud and vice-captain Rajin Saleh.

DAY'S EVENT Nitol-Tata National Football League MSC Ctg vs Panchagarh Brothers Union (2.15 pm) Muktiyoddha KC vs Najirpara Chandpur (4.15 pm) Venue: MA Aziz Stadium, Chittagong

What to watch

FROM PAGE 13 Fourth Test, Day Two Live at 3.30 pm Sportsline Sport News Live at 10.30 pm

TEN Sports

Sri Lanka v South Africa First one-day international Live at 2.15 pm



The Unmochan Club goalkeeper tries to fend off an attack by Dhaka Mohammedan Sporting Club in their Nitol-Tata National Football League encounter at the MA Aziz Stadium yesterday.

U-19 Test looks to be drawn

SPORTS REPORTER

The third and final Under-19 Test between Bangladesh and England was heading for a draw after start of play on the third day was delayed due to rain at Sophia Gardens in Cardiff yesterday.

The final session on the opening day and the whole second day's play was washed out. After 15 overs of play on third day, Bangladesh were 106-3 in their first innings in reply to the home side's 185.

The tourists, who were overnight 58-2, lost opener Nafees Iqbal for 56 (85-3).

Nafees, who resumed on 39, was caught behind by Steve Davies off James Cusden after hitting nine fours in 76 deliveries.

Shamsur Rahman was batting on 21 and Dhiman Ghosh on nine.

Miresmaeili escapes punishment

AFP, Athens

Iranian world judo champion Arash Miresmaeili, who was suspected of intentionally gaining body weight to avoid fighting an Israeli opponent at the Olympics, will not be punished by the International Judo Federation (IJF).

The IJF said Thursday that the 23-year-old Iranian had denied suggesting he would boycott his opening match against Israel's Ehud Vaks as a gesture of support for the Palestinian cause.

"As the IJF has no rule for penalising overweight athletes, the IJF executive committee decided not to take any sanction against Arash Miresmaeili," the world judo governing body said in a statement.

Jewel

FROM PAGE 13

Dolly Akhter will be in action in the women's 50m freestyle while the fourth and final member of the Bangladesh team Shamsuddin will take part in the men's 100m sprint.

Not a fall guy

FROM PAGE 13

before his score of 9.137 flashed up on the screen.

However, when his Chinese rival Yang Wei's gold medal hopes suffered a similar fate less than 20 minutes later when he inexplicably lost his grip from the horizontal bar.

"Paul was in 12th place after that vault and that's a hard place to climb out of," said Hamm's coach Miles Avery.

"After that vault I thought he had no odds left, we were so hoping for a medal at that point but after parallel bars I knew we were so in."

Earlier in the evening, the anticipated showdown between Hamm and Yang seemed to be following a pre-written script as both started their quest for gold with identical scores of 9.725.

While Hamm displayed his powerful tumbling combinations on the floor, Yang shared the spotlight by keeping a straight bodyline as he swivelled over the pommel horse with ease.

However, Hamm's crash landing proved to have a domino effect among his main rivals as one after another messed up their routines, leaving the unfamiliar South Korean duo on top of the pack going into the final rotation.

"When I started out, I wasn't all that ambitious but by the parallel bars, I was looking good so I became ambitious," said silver medalist Kim.

"I saw that Paul Hamm had made mistakes and I thought I might have a chance of gold."

Pakistan crush Korea

AFP, Athens



Rehan Butt scored a goal and set up another as Pakistan took a giant stride towards the Olympic field hockey semifinals with a 3-0 win over Asian rivals South Korea here on Thursday.

The 23-year-old from Lahore, who missed a simple chance in the goalless first half, got into the act eight minutes after resumption when he deflected in a free hit from outside the circle.

Butt then broke through the Korean defence in the 56th minute and passed to an unmarked Shakeel Abbasi, who coolly pushed home.

Penalty-corner specialist Sohail

Abbas completed Pakistan's emphatic win by scoring the third goal four minutes before the end.

Pakistan rocketed to the top of group A with six points from three matches, two more than Sydney Olympics silver medalists South Korea, who are on four.

World champions Germany, the strongest contender in the 'group of death', will move a point ahead of Pakistan later on Thursday if they defeat unfancied Egypt.

Pakistan, who lost to Germany before thrashing Egypt 7-0, need a win and a draw in their remaining matches against Spain and Britain to finish among the top two in the group.

"We deserved to win because we took the chances that came our way in the second half," said Pakistan's Dutch coach Roelant Oltmans.

"Rehan impresses me the more I see him play. He is a very intelligent striker who understands the movement of the ball."

"I don't want my team to become complacent. We must win both matches and then the main task starts when the semi-finals come."

South Korean manager Jeon Jae-Hong lamented the lost opportunities. "We got three penalty corners, the same as Pakistan, but could not use them to get goals," he said.

"The team is not playing at its best. We were held by Spain and almost drew against Britain," he said referring to the narrow 3-2 win on Tuesday.

"A lot of hard work and some luck is needed if we are to move up."

Pakistan play Spain next on Saturday, while the Koreans take on Egypt the same day.

Fashion of the past

AFP, Athens



Some 1,600 years after the demise of the ancient Olympic Games, Olympic champions in Athens are again donning the fabled olive wreath, the only trophy awarded to their ancient predecessors.

Nowadays the three medal winners in each discipline are bestowed olive wreaths, while 16 centuries ago, only the first placed was awarded the leafy crown, first introduced in 752 AD.

It is the job of employees of the Athens Olympics organising committee to cut and collect the olive branches every morning, depending on the number of finals lined up for the

day, to ensure the foliage retains its freshness.

The organisers of the Athens Olympics decided a long time ago to return to using the olive wreath to underline the historic links between the Games and Greece and as a homage to the goddess of the city.

According to myth Athena ensured that she, rather than Poseidon, god of the sea, retained the guardianship of the ancient city by offering Athenians this nutritious and sacred tree.

The ancient crown was not revived until now, even for the first modern Games in 1896, which took place in the Greek capital, the organisers said.

But the olive branch, a symbol of peace, has long featured in the modern day Olympics.

Before bestowing the olive wreath

on the heads of Olympic champions, organisers had already chosen the foliage as an emblem for the 2004 Games, which opened on August 13.

Paying homage to the tree, they chose a model drawn up by a Greek graphic artist for the Olympic torch that uses both metal and olive wood.

All the wreaths come from a park for International Olympic Committee members in the Goudi district of Athens, where trees were planted in 1997 when the Greek capital was chosen to host the Games.

On Wednesday, the men's and women's shot put heralded the return of athletics competition to the site of the ancient Olympic Games for the first time since the Roman emperor Theodosius I banned the Games in 393 AD.

Athletes hope to banish

FROM PAGE 13

The US will look to several veterans for glory.

Allen Johnson bids to regain the Olympic 110m hurdles title he won in 1996 but lost in 2000, 37-year-old Gail Devers seeks an elusive 100m hurdles crown after twice winning the 100m flat title while Maurice Greene will try to retain his 100m.

Greene, 30, said the onus falls on the athletes to revive the battered image of the sport.

"The atmosphere is very tough and it is up to the athletes to perform and get rid of some of the negativity," said Greene, who now has the word GOAT (Greatest of All Time) tattooed on his right biceps.

Greene has predicted a United States 1-2-3 with him, Justin Gatlin and Shawn Crawford the medalists, though he has failed to justify that optimism in his European campaign where he went down to defeats to Francis Obikwelu and twice to the up and coming Jamaican Asafa Powell.

While Greene has enjoyed some of his greatest moments in Athens -- his first world title in 1997 and the world

record two years later -- the Kansas Comet has a way to go before he can become the first sprinter since Lewis to retain his title, though Lewis had to rely on Johnson being disqualified in Seoul in 1988 to do that.

For Jones there will be no place to hide as the 28-year-old seeks once again to take part in an Olympics where, for one reason or another, she has a drugs controversy hanging over her.

In Sydney four years ago, it was the revelation that her then husband CJ Hunter had failed several dope tests. She went on and won five medals.

Now with Hunter alleging she used drugs and with meet directors effectively barring her from their meetings, Jones will have to show extraordinary strength of character.

For Johnson, who has fought thrilling duels with the likes of Colin Jackson and Cuba's Olympic champion Anier Garcia in the last decade, it is a chance to stamp his authority on the event.

"I am nervous when it comes to major championships but this Olympics will be extra special as it is a crown I am seeking to restore to my cabinet," said

the 33-year-old.

The Olympics will also be graced by another of Ethiopia's distance stars in Kenenisa Bekele, who has been told by his federation he has to run in the 5,000m and 10,000m but is likely if they relent to opt for the latter.

If so his compatriot Haile Gebrselassie's remarkable reign will be over.

For the remarkable 22-year-old Bekele, failure would not see the end of his Olympic dream but for Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj a similar result in the 1,500m would see his hopes of landing the blue riband event in an Olympics terminated after two heart-breaking failures in Atlanta and Sydney.

Noah Ngeny of Kenya deprived him of gold in Sydney. His likeliest nemesis this time is another Kenyan, Bernard Lagat, who beat El Guerrouj in Zurich this month.

Now everyone connected with the sport will be dearly hoping for an Olympics remembered more for results on the track than in the dope testing room.

"He has appealed the decision and was released without bail," the official said on Wednesday.

The man, who disrupted the men's three-metre synchronised diving on Monday when he climbed up on a springboard and jumped into the indoor pool to the delight of hundreds of cheering fans, was also fined 300 euros (191 pounds).

Wearing a tutu and with the website address written on his chest, he raced up the ladder, dodging tight Games security.

JAIL FOR OLYMPIC POOL JUMP

A Canadian man advertising an online