

Warne, Bowler reprimanded

REUTERS, London

Australia leg-spinner Shane Warne has been reprimanded by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) following an incident during a County Championship game in Somerset last week.

Hampshire captain Warne and Somerset player Peter Bowler were both handed three penalty points under the board's disciplinary code, the ECB said in a statement.

"Warne and Bowler were reported by umpires Barrie Leadbeater and Mervyn Kitchen for a level two breach of the code (using language or gesture that is obscene or of a serious insulting nature to another player)," the ECB said.



Hicham El Guerrouj
(Moroccan long-distance runner)
"I am really happy. I feel like a baby, a three-month-old baby."
After he won the 1,500-metre gold medal at the Olympics on Tuesday.

DAY'S EVENT

Nitolo-Tata National Football League
Abahani v Sheikh Russel
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Mirpur
Time: 4 pm

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 216

Tick the correct answers, post to The Daily Star
Win attractive prizes
Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 10, 2004 and draw

1. Who won the first gold medal in the Athens Olympics?	Galkina	Devers	Du
2. Who became Asia Cup cricket champs?	India	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
3. Who clinched the Cincinnati Masters tennis title?	Federer	Henman	Agassi
4. Who lifted the 25th nat'l hockey crown?	Usha	MSC	Bangladesh Army
Name			
Class.	Roll No.		
School Address			
Phone: (If any)			

CROSSWORD By Engene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Item on stage

5 Mrs. McKinley

8 Aid in crime

12 Corporate symbol

13 "Sound of Music" extra

14 In a bad way

15 April observance

17 '60s Secretary of State

18 Exist

19 Conger, e.g.

20 Correspond

21 Send speedily

22 Flightless bird

23 Fess up

26 Adages

30 Burn a bit

31 Peach stone

32 Albacore

33 Kimberly-Clark product

35 Afghanistan's capital

DOWN

1 Defendant's answer

2 Bellow

3 Shrek, e.g.

4 Cauldron

5 Alphabetized

6 Two-way

7 Whatever amount

8 Instrumental

9 Unclear image

10 Differently

11 Youngster

16 Passion

20 "Judging"

21 "Back-draft" bigwig

22 Break a fast

23 Request

24 First St. (discard)

25 West of Hollywood

26 Deep—

27 Gist

28 Wildlife

29 Actor

30 Mineo

31 Energy equivalent

34 Enthusiast

35 Welles role

37 Jocular

38 SAT section

39 Pelvic bones

40 Unmilitated nerve

41 Stare stupidly

42 Radius neighbor

43 Fishing gear

44 Recess

46 Moo goo

47 Piratic

48 Stare stupidly

49 Make up your mind

50 Loosen

51 Partner's share

52 Crucial

53 Part of a Lone Ranger costume

Solution time: 21 mins.

GFPAHAMSAITLOINKEVEITOLEMETTEWOODMISPEPENCOLLARGITIZENWEAVEHOOTTAGSKISAWASHBEQUESTRADIIUMMUGMEATAAARONJUMPFYAMHAGEOPALBRASITLODABABEESPDEN

No rescheduling

REUTERS/AFP, undated



Australia have rejected a proposal to reschedule the rain-affected Videocon Cup triangular one-day tournament in the Netherlands that also features Pakistan and India, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said on Thursday.

PCB chairman Shaharyar Khan told Reuters from Amsterdam that Australia had rejected their proposal to play three matches in four days or extend the series by a day to August 29 after all three preliminary games were affected by bad weather.

Just one, overs-reduced, match between India and Pakistan was played with both of Australia's games washed out.

"Australia said they could not ask their players to play three games in four days as it would be taxing on them," said Shaharyar. "They also said they could not go for an extension in the event because they had scheduled warm up matches in England in the lead up to the ICC Champions trophy."

He said the proposal was suggested

by officials of the Pakistan and Indian boards as the tournament broadcasters are reducing their guaranteed payments because of the lost matches.

"I can't say exactly how much we stand to lose out on. But if we also don't have the final then the guarantee money could be reduced considerably."

The broadcasters paid a reported 6 million dollars for the rights.

And organisers were left banking on the Dutch weather to spare Saturday's final between Pakistan and Australia after deciding against altering the fixture schedule.

However, after Wednesday's no-result, a meeting then took place between organisers and representatives of all three teams at an Amsterdam hotel.

But after talks lasting several hours Hugo Nelissen, the tournament media officer, insisted only representatives from the three competing teams and organisers the KNCB (the Dutch Cricket Board) had been involved.

"The long meeting that took place was because they wanted more cricket. But for a variety of reasons the status quo will remain the status quo," Nelissen told reporters after discussions ended.

"Of course, there is the weather. The

various forecasts are not giving us too much confidence... The head groundsman has serious doubts about getting more cricket at the ground.

"You've all seen that the ground can have some rain but it just couldn't have that much rain. So basically he (the groundsman) is saying give me time to give the ground the cricket it deserves and that is the final.

"That means everything remains as it was. Australia and Pakistan are therefore playing the final on Saturday."

As Nelissen was speaking, the sun was shining brightly just as it had done on several occasions during the tournament after matches had been abandoned.

That was a sight all three teams here may have to get used to in England, where India start a three-match series on Tuesday, a country widely regarded as the spiritual home of rained-off matches.

Cricket-lovers though shouldn't lose heart as the forecast for Saturday is a fine one.

The additional match between the Netherlands and Pakistan remains scheduled for Monday.

Captain's act



AFP, Dambulla

Marvan Atapattu slammed a solid 97 not out on a difficult pitch as Sri Lanka wrapped up the one-day series with a four-wicket victory over South Africa in the third match here.

Sri Lanka, already 2-0 up in the five-match series, were indebted to their captain for surpassing South Africa's modest total of 191 in the day-night game on a slow turning pitch where stroke-making was never easy.

Atapattu was the lone Sri Lankan batsman to adjust himself to the conditions, patiently waiting for the loose deliveries to punish. He held the innings together after the fall of two early wickets, hitting eight fours in his 49th half-century.

Fast bowlers Shaun Pollock and Lance Klusener bowled with remarkable control, but failed to stop an Atapattu-inspired Sri Lanka. Pollock became the seventh bowler in the world to take 300 wickets in one-dayers when he dismissed Sanath Jayasuriya.

"We wanted somebody to stay at the wicket for full 50 overs," said Atapattu.

"It was good to see a couple of batsmen stayed at the other end with

me. I think South Africa were under pressure coming into this game as they needed to win it."

South Africa were let down by fielding as they dropped a couple of catches at vital stages and missed run-out chances with erratic throws at the stumps.

The tourists were in the fray when they reduced Sri Lanka to 145-6 in 41 overs before being thwarted by Atapattu, who continued to keep the rival bowlers at bay with his sensible batting.

"A couple of dropped catches and missed run-out chances cost us the game," said South African captain Graeme Smith.

"I think we fell 10-15 runs short. Scoring was not easy on the slow pitch and it was difficult to get the spinners away. But then Atapattu played really well."

The South African batsmen also did not find the going easy on a slow track against Sri Lanka's spin attack, led by little-known Rangana Herath who finished with 3-28 off eight tidy overs.

Jacques Kallis (52) and opener Herschelle Gibbs (49) were the main contributors, but they also failed to dominate a disciplined Sri Lankan spin attack.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the third one-day inter-

national between South Africa and Sri Lanka in Colombo on Wednesday:

SOUTH AFRICA: 191 for 9 in 50 overs (Kallis 52, Gibbs 49; Dilshan 3-25, Herath 3-28, Lokuarachchi 2-23)

SRI LANKA	
Gunawardene lbw b Dawson	5
Jayasuriya c Gibbs b Pollock	11
Atapattu not out	97
S'karas b Boucher b Boje	14
Jayawardene b Duminy	21
Dilshan b Klusener	3
Chandana c Duminy b Klusener	6
Vaas not out	16
Extras: (b-3, lb-2, nb-7, w-7)	19
Total: (For 6wks in 47.4 overs)	192
Fall of wickets: 1-7, 2-34, 3-65, 4-111, 5-126, 6-145.	
Did not bat: Zoysa, Lokuarachchi, Herath	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Pollock	9	2	22	1
Dawson	3	0	19	1
Ntini	4	0	16	0
Kallis	6	1	20	0
Boje	9.4	0	46	1
Klusener	9	0	36	2
Duminy	7	0	28	1
Result: Sri Lanka won by four wickets and take winning 3-0 lead in the 5-match series.				
Man-of-the-match: Marvan Atapattu.				
Toss: South Africa.				



PHOTO: AFP

LEAPING INTO FINAL: American Marion Jones competes in the women's long jump event at the Olympic Games in Athens on August 25.

Virus strikes Tendulkar, Akhtar

CRICINFO, undated

Sachin Tendulkar will not have fond memories of this tour of Holland. After suffering a tennis elbow and seeing his team get knocked out of the tournament, he is now down with a viral fever so acute that he is barely able to speak.

Keeping him company in illness are Rahul Dravid and Pakistan's Shoaib Akhtar, reports Press Trust of India.

Harbhajan Singh and Ashish Nehra, meanwhile, have recovered from their viral fever, and went shopping and sightseeing with the rest of the Indian team in Amsterdam.

Dravid and Tendulkar, however, were confined to their rooms, with Andrew Leipus, the team's physiotherapist, looking after them.

It hasn't yet been confirmed if Shoaib will miss the Videocon Cup final against Australia on August 28, or if there is a chance that Dravid or Tendulkar might not recover by September 1, when India take on England in the first match of the NatWest Challenge.

Sagar still on top

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh's Minhazuddin Ahmed Sagar won his sixth straight match in the Telegraph Schools Chess in Kolkata on Wednesday.

The youngster shared the lead with two other players with maximum six points.

Bangladesh's Imran Ali Elin and Farjana Hossain Anny have collected five and four points respectively.

Rating Chess

SPORTS REPORTER

The Destiny 2000 Open FIDE Rating chess tournament will begin today at 3 pm at the Bangladesh Chess Federation auditorium.

Over 120 players will take part in the nine-round Swiss League competition, which offers Tk 50,000 as prize money.

Ukrainian rower latest drug cheat

REUTERS, Athens

Ukraine have lost the rowing bronze medals they won in the women's quadruple sculls on Sunday after crew member Olena Olefirenko tested positive for a prohibited stimulant.

The team has been disqualified, International Olympic Committee spokeswoman Giselle Davies said on Thursday.

Australia will be promoted to bronze behind champions Germany and silver medalists Britain.

"If a team member of a crew has tested positive then the whole crew is disqualified," Davies said.

The crew appeared to have fallen foul of a prescription from their own team doctor, who had given Olefirenko medication that contained the banned substance. The rower herself had declared the medication on an official form.

U-19s lose

FROM PAGE 13 The Bangladesh tail taking 3-27 from 5.5 overs.

SCORECARD

Scoreboard of the Bangladesh under-19 innings against England under-19s in the second one-day international at Hove yesterday:

Love yesterday:	
BANGLADESH U-19	
Nafees b Cusden	13
Rahman c Bopara b Smith	75
Aftab b Cusden	0
Shahriar run out	24
Dhiman b Patel	9
Nazimuddin c Patel b Lawson	7
Nadif c Hildreth b Patel	3
Rubaiyat lbw b Smith	17
Talha b Smith	13
Ishraq b Turner	1
Shahadat not out	3
Extras: (b-2, lb-10, w-12)	24
Total: (All out in 49.5 overs)	189

The Tally

FROM PAGE 13

August 29 and 30 and Scotland on September 1 and 3. Their first group game in the Champions Trophy is against South Africa on September 12 at Edgbaston and the last against the West Indies on September 15 at the Rose Bowl.

FROM PAGE 13				
Poland	2	2	4	8
Slovakia	2	2	1	5
Bulgaria	2	1	7	10
Brazil	2	1	2	5
Ethiopia	2	1	1	4
Georgia	2	1	0	3
Thailand	2	0	2	4
Chile	2	0	1	3
Norway	2	0	0	2
Austria	1	4	1	6
Kenya	1	4	1	6
Czech Republic	1	3	3	7
Switzerland	1	1	3	5
Indonesia	1	1	2	4
South Africa	1	1	2	4
Zimbabwe	1	1	1	3
Lithuania	1	1	0	2
Morocco	1	1	0	2
Denmark	1	0	5	6
Azerbaijan	1	0	2	3
Belgium	1	0	2	3
Bahamas	1	0	1	2
Israel	1	0	1	2
Jamaica	1	0	1	2
Cameroon	1	0	0	1
Iran	1	0	0	1
UAE	1	0	0	1
(As of 9:30 pm BST. List includes only the gold medals winners)				

Saleh looking

FROM PAGE 13

August 29 and 30 and Scotland on September 1 and 3. Their first group game in the Champions Trophy is against South Africa on September 12 at Edgbaston and the last against the West Indies on September 15 at the Rose Bowl.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

12 13 14

15 16 17

18 19 20

21 22

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32

33 34 35

36 37

38 39 40 41 42 43 44

45 46 47

48 49 50

51 52 53

CRYPTOQUIP

N P E V X G I H N O V Y N I

Z G N H H N F O V F N V F M X N R C

E V X R V X W Z M V S N F O W E I U E

N Y ' I U W C C S E P U X R C Y

Yesterday's Cryptquip: HIS FATHER REALLY LIKED THE IDEA OF BUYING A DINER, SO HE BOUGHT A STEAK IN IT.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: H equals P

The Cryptquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

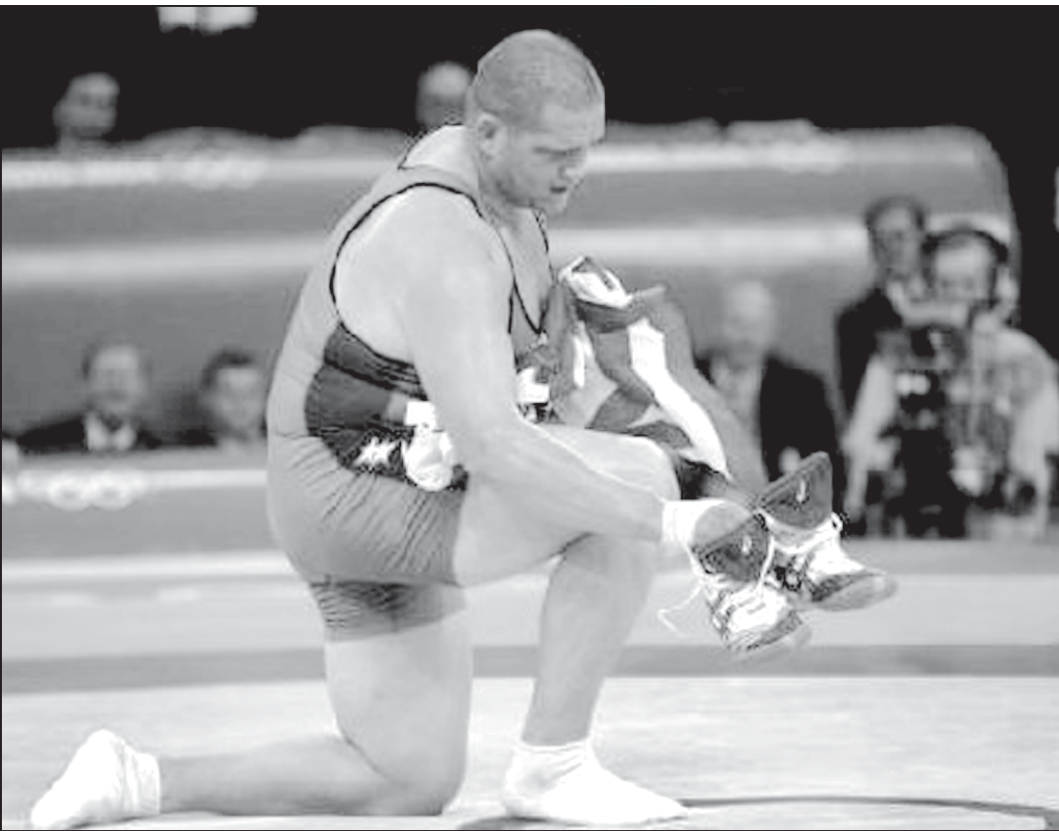


PHOTO: REUTERS

SYMBOLIC GESTURE: American wrestler Rulon Gardner kneels to place his wrestling boots in the centre of the mat after capturing bronze in the men's Greco-Roman (under 120kg) bout at the Athens Olympics on August 25.

A giant symbol

REUTERS, Athens



A giant man placing his blue boots in the centre of a yellow mat would be a strange sight to the uninitiated. But to American

Rulon Gardner, the symbolism was huge.

The Greco-Roman wrestler did much to make his once obscure sport popular by beating the long-invincible Russian Alexander Karelin at the Sydney Olympics four years ago and by displaying an articulate personality at odds with wrestling's image.

By placing his boots on the mat at the Athens Games after winning his bronze medal bout on Wednesday, Gardner was announcing officially what he had already signalled -- that he

was retiring after an amazing fight against adversity.

"For me, to come back and win a medal like this -- even though it's a bronze medal -- I have no regrets," Gardner said after defeating Iranian Sajad Barazi. "I'm happy with bronze."

Most people would be happy just to be still standing after the last couple of years Gardner has been through.

In 2002, Gardner narrowly escaped death when he was stranded in freezing cold of minus 25 degrees Celsius after his snowmobile broke down in a forest. He lost a toe to frost bite.

This year, he has survived a motorbike accident and qualified for the Olympics little more than a month after dislocating a wrist in a basketball game.

"Even if I hadn't medalled, I'd be happy," the 33-year-old said after his tearful farewell in the Athens arena, where he held a US flag aloft and saluted his fans.

Gardner's supporters held up a large sheet covered with good luck messages from his home town of Afton, Wyoming.

"I took my shoes off for the last time as a wrestler and now I get to coach," Gardner said.

His retirement gesture mirrored that of Greek strongman Pyrrhos Dimas who bowed out after winning the bronze medal in the men's 85kg weightlifting competition last Saturday.

Coaching life should be quieter than the years on the celebrity circuit Gardner has spent since his Olympic triumph in Sydney, appearing on all the big American chat shows.

"It's tough to be a celebrity," Gardner said.

"You don't really picture yourself as a celebrity when you're down there on the mat, sweating on each other."

History awaits Dutch, Aussies

AFP, Athens



The Netherlands will battle for a hat-trick of Olympic men's field hockey gold medals on Friday against Australia, the

best team never to have won the title.

The Dutch, who won golds at the 1996 Atlanta Games and in Sydney four years later, ousted world champions Germany 3-2 in Wednesday's first semifinal.

Australia dumped Spain 6-3 in the other semifinal with Michael McCann scoring two goals in his 100th international match and Grant Schubert chipping in with another two.

The Netherlands, who have won nine of the last 12 major titles in the sport, scored twice in a four-minute burst in the second half to break the 1-1 deadlock at the interval.

It made amends for the third-place finish at the 2002 World Cup in Malaysia which Germany won by defeating Australia in the final.

Australia, who have lifted the World Cup and Champions Trophy in the past, have never won an Olympic gold despite making it to the semi-finals and beyond eight times since 1964.

It is Australia's fourth Olympic final, the first since Barcelona in 1992, and it came after cornering the dangerous Spaniards with a fast, aggressive game.

Anxious Abahani

FROM PAGE 13

"The grounds used for the previous rounds were not ideal for playing good football. So, I hope my Moroccan stars will enjoy conditions in Dhaka."

Sheikh Russel will start the game with no injury problems but Abahani are sweating over the fitness of Nigerian striker Colly Barnes and captain Rakib.

Meanwhile, tomorrow's match between holders Muktijoddha Sangsad and Mohammedan Sporting Club has been shifted to Sunday due to the dawn to dusk hartal.

US coaches announced on Wednesday that Jones would run the second leg in both rounds of the 4x100 relay. The semifinals are scheduled for Thursday with the final on Friday.

One notable absentee from the long jump final will be world champion Eunice Barber, who managed a best of only 6.37.

The Frenchwoman has been fighting to overcome a thigh injury and decided to compete only a few days before the start of the Games.

Hail Halkia

FROM PAGE 13

When the 25-year-old, wearing yellow shades and sporting blond-tinted hair, was presented at the packed Olympic stadium the roars of "Hellas! Hellas!" were so loud that the names of her rivals could not be heard.

Last to settle in her blocks after being drawn in lane four, she began cautiously but drew level with Pittman outside her at halfway before leading down the last 100 metres and pulling further away after clearing the final hurdle.

None of the pre-Games favourites had seen Halkia coming.

Hidden from the international spotlight by her coaching team this season, the former high jumper was putting together an incredible series of performances, improving her personal best by almost three-and-a-half seconds in 12 months.

A year ago her best was 56.40 -- a time which would have left her outside the first eight in any Olympic final stretching back to 1988.

By Thursday, however, following her extraordinary semifinal dash when she clocked 52.77, she was the favourite with

a time good enough to have won at any preceding Olympic Games since the event made its debut in 1984.