



The first time a football match was televised in England took place on August 29, 1936. The game, a 3-2 win for Arsenal over Everton, was aired several hours after the match finished on British national television. The location of the television studios in London and the limited technical resources at the time, meant that the choice of clubs for the historic broadcast was limited to those in the capital.

What to WATCH
BTV Nitol-Tata 4th National Football League Brothers Union v Muktiyoddha Live at 4 pm
ESPN Taking Guard Live at 3 pm NatWest Challenge 2nd ODI England v India Live 3.45 pm
STAR Sports US Open tennis Live at 5 am Sportsline Live at 12.30 am (Saturday) US Open tennis Live at 1 am (Saturday)



Ricky Ponting
Australia skipper

"I'm not a fan of that sort of stuff. It's hard enough for the umpires to concentrate on what's going on without a lot of things going off in their ears."

On experiments with technology.

Star WHIZZ KID
OMPETITION 21

Tick the correct answers, post
The Daily Star

**Competition closes at 8 pm
Sept 10, 2004 and draw
shortly afterwards**

1. Who won the first gold medal in the Athens Olympics?

Galkina	Devers
Du	

2. Who became Asta Cup cricket champs?

India	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
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3. Who clinched the Cincinnati Masters tennis title?

Federer	Henman	Agassi
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4. Who lifted the 25th nat'l hockey crown?

Usha	MSC	Bangladesh Army

Name

Class. Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

DAY'S EVENT

Nitol-Tata National Football League
Brothers Union v Muktiyoddha
Venue: Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium

Bashar off to Melbourne

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh cricket captain Habibul Bashar was due to leave Dhaka last night for Melbourne to have surgery on his injured right thumb.

Bashar, who sustained the injury during the Tigers' camp for the ICC Champions' Trophy, will undergo surgery at Melbourne Avenue's Hospital. Dr Greg Hoy is expected to perform the operation within three or four days.

The top batsman of the country will have to stay in Melbourne for eight to ten days for post-operative review. Bashar is expected to return to action before Bangladesh's home series against New Zealand in October.

Ganga-Padma Cup soccer in March

SPORTS REPORTER

The much-talked about football tournament featuring top clubs of Bangladesh and India is expected to be launched in March next year.

The All-Indian Football Federation (AIFF) has agreed to host the first edition of the Ganga-Padma Cup in Kolkata, informed Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) president SA Sultan yesterday.

Sultan, who returned to Dhaka on Wednesday after a meeting with his Indian counterpart Priyaranjan Das Munshi on August 30, added that they have decided to make the tournament an annual event by rotation.

"I have told them that we cannot host this tournament this year. They have agreed to stage the first edition but everything will be finalised when the AIFF executive committee meets on September 18," Sultan told reporters.

"Four clubs from each country will play in the tournament. They have yet to decide who will join Kolkata giants East Bengal, Mohun Bagan and Mohammedan. From our side, the BFF will decide a fourth team after Mohammedan, Abahani and Muktiyoddha," the BFF chief added.

Asian Youth H'ball U-21s go to India today

BSS, Dhaka

A 22-member Bangladesh under-21 handball team is scheduled to leave for India this morning to take part in the ninth Asian Youth Handball Championship.

Twelve teams are taking part in the competition in two groups, to be held from September 8 to 17 in the South Indian city of Hyderabad.

The Indian Handball Federation is organising the meet under the auspices of Asian Handball Federation.

Group B comprises Bangladesh, Kuwait, Japan, Chinese Taipei, Oman and hosts India, while Group A consists of Qatar, Iran, United Arab Emirates, China, Korea and Uzbekistan.

Rakib, Rajib jointly lead

SPORTS REPORTER

International Masters Abdullah Al Rakib and Enamul Haque Rajib shared the lead in the Destiny-2000 Open FIDE Rating chess tournament at the end of the fifth round at the Bangladesh Chess Federation auditorium yesterday.

Both IMs have collected five points each, and are closely followed by Saifuddin Lavlu who has 4.5 points.

Sixteen were jointly at the third place with four points each.

Meanwhile, the Second Division Chess League will begin from September 8. Interested teams have been requested to send their entries to the federation by September 6.

Rhodes keen on India job

AFP, New Delhi

South Africa's legendary former fielder Jonty Rhodes said on Thursday he would like to coach the Indian cricket team if given the chance.

"It'll be a perfect marriage as I love fielding and being in India," the ace fielder said after unveiling a trophy in New Delhi to be presented to the ICC Cricketer of the Year in England next week.

"I'll be happy to be here and impart some of the fielding wisdom I

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WELL DONE: Sheikh Russel's Milon (2nd from L) greets his Moroccan teammate Twaiti Younnes after the latter scored his second goal against Chittagong Mohammedan in the Nitol-Tata National Football League at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Russel hang on

SPORTS REPORTER

Sheikh Russel Krra Chakra disposed off Chittagong Mohammedan Sporting Club 3-1 in their 4th Nitol-Tata National Football League match at the Sher-e-Bangla Mirpur National Stadium but the comeback might have come too late for the emerging power in local football.

Moroccan striker Twaiti Younnes, who was suspended in the previous fixture against Muktiyoddha Sangsad, showed just what his side had missed with two first-half goals in two minutes while Milon added the other to keep Sheikh Russel's slim hopes alive in the competition.

But with just one win after two defeats in the Super-Six stage, Sheikh Russel's collection stands at

four points which means they have to wait for the outcome of tomorrow's match between Dhaka Mohammedan and their brothers from Chittagong to know whether they will be in the last four.

Only a win for Chittagong Mohammedan in that game would see Russel through to join Muktiyoddha, Abahani and Brothers Union in the semifinals. A draw will put Dhaka Mohammedan in the semis on better goal difference.

Played under sporadic showers, the match came alive midway through the first half. Younnes, who received the ball from a quickly taken corner by Maruf, fired a left footer into the top of the net from the right corner of the box to give Russel the lead in the 26th minute.

Barely a minute later, the tall marksman made it 2-0 when he chased a through pass from Asif from his own half and placed the ball into the open net after rounding off

goalkeeper Raju and defender Dulal.

This was his seventh goal of the tournament for Younnes who tops the scorers' list. He was later adjudged man-of-the-match.

The Chittagong Black and Whites briefly came back into the game when captain Arman Aziz converted a 32nd-minute penalty after Russel defender Sharif had fouled his namesake Sharif inside the penalty area.

Russel however, sealed the victory four minutes later when Milon nodded home after substitute Maruf's cross from the right took a wicked bounce in the danger zone and dazed three defenders and goalkeeper Raju.

Yellow cards: Biplab, Nurul Islam, Maruf (Sheikh Russel) and Sharif (Ctg Mohammedan).

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Sri Lanka agree to revise Pak schedule

AFP, Karachi

Sri Lanka has agreed to revise the schedule of its two-Test cricket series against Pakistan to enable the host country to tour India early next year, cricket managers said Thursday.

The Sri Lankans were originally scheduled to play two Tests in Pakistan in February-March but the series has been brought forward to start next month, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) spokesman Abbas Zaidi told AFP.

Sri Lanka will play the first Test in Faisalabad from October 20 while the second match will take place in Karachi from October 28.

The rescheduling was made possible after Bangladesh agreed to postpone its October series against Sri Lanka until next year following a

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Abahani break Biman mould

Table tennis

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani continued to celebrate their return to the table tennis circuit after a gap of 25 years when they stamped a sweeping success in the ladies event of the Global Insurance Open Table Tennis Championship at the NSC Wooden-floor Gymnasium yesterday.

Soma completed a double for the popular Dhammondi outfit when she won the women's singles title defeating Bangladesh Biman's Jayati in an absorbing final that stretched to five sets.

After losing the first set 6-11, Soma bounced back winning the next two by an identical margin of 11-9. But Jayati was not ready to give up without a fight. The Biman paddler made it all square by winning the fourth set 11-7.



PHOTO: STAR

The Japan-bound Bangladesh under-17 football team members pose for an official photograph at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Tigers tuning up well

Cricket

INTERNET SOURCE, Edinburgh

Bangladesh continued their warm-up for the ICC Champions Trophy with a five-wicket victory over Scotland in the first of two one-day challenge matches in Edinburgh.

The Tigers, who won their first two games against Ireland earlier this week, looked in good shape ahead of their serious match ups with South Africa and West Indies in the Champions Trophy, starting in England from September 10.

Scotland's cricketers suffered one of their most depressing defeats of recent times on Wednesday night when they came a poor second to Bangladesh at the Grange.

Five years ago these nations were on an equal footing in the world pecking order, but, on this evidence, Bangladesh have soared ahead since gaining Test status, largely on the strength of their World Cup victories over Scotland and Pakistan in 1999.

Regular supporters have become accustomed to the sort of inept batting display that saw Scotland skittled for a paltry 142. However, on Wednesday there was little hint of the bowling and fielding skills, which have salvaged dire situations in the past.

Instead, Bangladesh opener Mohammed Ashraf was allowed to launch a blistering attack during which his quickfire 61 - containing three more boundaries than the entire Scottish innings - put the visitors firmly on course.

He raced to his half-century off 42 balls, adding another 11 before finding Coetzer at mid-wicket off Ryan Watson. Two run-outs and another strike by Watson slowed the Bangladeshi progress, but they held their nerve to surpass the target, finishing with 144 for five in 31.5 overs.

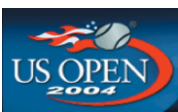


PHOTO: AFP

TAKE THAT! American Jennifer Capriati serves to Magui Serna of Spain during their US Open match on September 1.

Big guns blaze away

REUTERS, New York



Roger Federer teased, Lleyton Hewitt shone and Serena Williams dazzled at the US Open on Wednesday, although the bronze medalists at the Athens Olympics were both upset.

Playing under lights, world number one and top seed Federer was given a scare by Cypriot qualifier Marcos Baghdatis, last year's leading junior, before battling through to the third round 6-2, 6-7, 6-3, 6-1.

The 19-year-old Baghdatis, who became the first Cypriot to win a Grand Slam singles match when he beat Olivier Mutis in the first round, showed huge ability as he pushed

the Swiss harder than expected.

"It was tough," Federer admitted. "He took his chances in the second set and really got into the match."

"It was going easy for me, he was making mistakes, but I definitely let him into the match and he took advantage, so good for him."

The humidity of the opening two days was replaced by sunny skies and the in-form Hewitt romped to a 6-1, 7-5, 6-4 first round victory over Wayne Ferreira, who was playing in a record 56th consecutive, and last, Grand Slam event.

If Hewitt was the most impressive player on show, Serena Williams again grabbed the attention with another outfit.

Dressed in a black, jewel-encrusted two-piece, Serena's powers failed her briefly when she let slip a 4-2 lead in the first set as

Earlier, the Scots were soon ruing skipper Craig Wright's decision to bat first as wickets began to tumble in familiar fashion. With the Bangladeshi bowlers making full use of helpful conditions, openers Dougie Lockhart and Gregor Maiden found runs difficult to come by.

Lockhart did manage a rare boundary off Nazmul Hossain as the Scots crawled along at two runs an over. But Maiden and Lockhart perished in identical fashion - caught behind off Tariq Aziz - to leave Scotland struggling on 17-2.

Things did not get any better as the rest of the Scottish line-up struggled to make any impact against the bowling.

At 70-5 in the 28th over, the hosts were in danger of being totally humiliated until Colin Smith and Stuart Coetzer embarked on a face-saving partnership of 41.

Smith went on to top score with 35, but his efforts did little to help the Scots' hopeless cause.

Both teams will meet again today.

SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of Bangladesh's first practice match against Scotland at Edinburgh on Wednesday.

SCOTLAND

Lockhart c Mashud b Tareq	9
Maiden c Mashud b Tareq	3
Watts lbw b Mahmud	26
Watson st Mashud b Manjural	17
English b Rafique	2
Smith c Mahmud b Manjural	35
Coetzer run out	13
Wright run out	1
Asim Butt c Rafique b Mahmud	12
Hoffmann b Mahmud	4
Nel not out	1
Extras: (lb-w-7 nb-3)	19
Total: (All out in 48.1 overs)	142
Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-17, 3-51, 4-61, 5-70, 6-111, 7-121, 8-134, 9-138	
Bowler	O M R W
Nazmul	9 1 35 0
Tareq Aziz	10 2 23 2

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world number 86 Linda Lee-Waters levelled at 4-4.

The third seed and two-time champion stepped up her game to win 6-4, 6-3 and reach the third round.

"These two matches I have felt like I have nothing to lose and I am really calm," Serena said.

Second seed Amelie Mauresmo was at her tentative worst in the first set of her match with Julia Virilenko of Ukraine but rebounded to win 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 and reach the third round.

"It's been a long summer and I have to be careful to make sure I am focused, and that my feet are moving properly," she said.

Sixth seed Elena Dementieva stuttered into the third round despite serving eight double faults in her 6-3, 6-2 win over French

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