

## Tigers start from scratch



BISHWAJIT ROY, from Southampton

Bangladesh will get one last chance to restore their battered image in the ICC Champions Trophy when they take on West Indies in their second and final Pool B match at the Rose Bowl today.

Smarting from a nine-wicket defeat against South Africa at Edgbaston four days ago, the boys of Dav Whatmore will be not concerned about the end result. Rather they will desperately hope that the batsmen put some runs on the board for the bowlers to make some sort of contest out of it.

The Tigers, who won the toss and surprisingly batted first in condi-

tions that demanded first use of the ball, were bowled out for 93 against the Proteas. The batting shambles sparked furore both at home and among the few thousand fans at Edgbaston.

Young Bangladesh captain Rajin Saleh said that they want to put behind the South Africa match and hoped to play good cricket against West Indies.

"We don't want to think about who we are playing rather our main concern is to bat for a full 50 overs. We had promised a lot earlier but we couldn't fulfil it. So, it's high time we show that we can play good cricket," said the Bangladesh stand-in skipper at the hotel lobby yesterday.

The 23-year-old also refuted claims the squad picked for the Trophy was the weakest that Bangladesh have ever selected for a one-day competition.

"People may say a lot of things

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### ASHRAFUL THOUGHTS

The Rose Bowl wicket, which is just four years old, was playing on the mind of Bangladesh opener Mohammed Ashraful.

"I want to get a big score here. I've watched the highlights of the Australia-USA match and I think we should be careful in the early stages. I am a bit worried about the extra bounce," said Test cricket's youngest centurion.

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Bangladesh captain Rajin Saleh and his counterpart Brian Lara have also expressed their worries about the whether.

"Don't call it a one-day international. It's now a two-day game," is how people are terming the tournament's one-day matches here for the provision of keeping reserve days for all fixtures because of the rain.

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Local hotels and guesthouses are also full with visitors to the show and not cricket fans.

### RAIN CLOUD AT ROSE BOWL

Weather was the only concern ahead of the Bangladesh-West Indies clash which will take place at the picturesque Rose Bowl Stadium today.

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## TROPHY TREATS



BISHWAJIT ROY, from Southampton

Cricket stars like Brian Lara, Ricky Ponting and Andrew Flintoff are here but Southampton is teeming with excitement for another big occasion.

The port city has been gripped with the Boat Show that runs from September 10-19. It is regarded as the biggest exhibition of boats in Europe. People with a mind for adventure arrive from every part of the continent in Portsmouth each year for the show. It's all happening just a 20-minute drive from the Rose Bowl, the venue for the Bangladesh-West Indies match.

"The Boat Show and Sunsail have come together to offer you the ultimate sailing experience. You can't compare this with a dull cricket match. That's why nobody is bothered about the tournament," said Jerry, a taxi driver.

## Shantoo wants to carry on



### SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Under-17 football coach Shahidur Rahman Shantoo wants to prolong his association with the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).

Shantoo, who took over the national U-17s last year, guided the side to the final round of the AFC U-17 Championships in Japan where the youngsters failed to get past the group stage.

But the former national goalkeeper, whose one-year contract

with the BFF expires today, told The Daily Star over phone yesterday that he has only completed the first stage of his programme and would appreciate it if given an extension so that he can continue to work for development of football in the country.

"I feel I need to work with these boys for at least two more years to make them competitive against top Asian teams. We are still far behind the Asian level but I am proud of these boys because they have shown in Japan that they can fight with any team," said Shantoo who also had a

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Inzamamul Haq  
(Pakistan cricket captain)

"Tendulkar is a great person but without him India still have a strong team and we will take them very seriously."

## What to WATCH

BTV

ICC Champions Trophy  
Bangladesh vs West Indies  
Live at 3:15 pm

TEN Sports

ICC Champions Trophy  
Bangladesh vs West Indies  
Live at 3:15 pm

ESPN

Sportscentre  
Live at 8:30 pm  
UEFA Champions League  
Liverpool vs Monaco  
Live at 12:30 am (Thursday)

STAR Sports

Sportline  
Live at 8:00 pm  
UEFA Champions League  
Man United vs Olympique Lyonnais  
Live at 12:30 am (Thursday)



IT'S RAINING IN BIRMINGHAM TOO: Raindrops make a window hazy as the Edgbaston pitch is under cover yesterday. The Kenya-Pakistan match here was postponed because of the weather.

## Mahmud contests his omission



BISHWAJIT ROY, from Southampton

Former Bangladesh captain Khaled Mahmud blamed the Bangladesh team management for being unfair in team selection.

The angry all-rounder yesterday said that he was deprived by the think-tank's decision over his exclusion from the final line up in the ICC Champions Trophy match against South Africa.

"What is the real criteria to get a place in the eleven? If the answer is performance, then there was no reason to drop me. I performed better in the practice matches before the Champions Trophy," he said.

"If they think my career is over, then why was I picked up in the first place? I am not willing to give anybody the right to play with my career. I wanted to retire from international cricket but it was the Board which

brought back me," said the fuming all-rounder, who announced his retirement from international cricket earlier this year but changed his decision to be a part of Tigers' one-day team ahead of the tour of Zimbabwe.

"Somebody told me that my batting is not good but everybody knows that my inclusion in the side is as a bowler. Actually who in the team did better with the bat? I don't know the reason behind my exclusion but one thing is certain that it is due to performance," he added.

Mahmud was overlooked by coach Dav Whatmore who chose another all-rounder Mashfiqur Rahman for the game against South Africa despite the latter missing almost all the practice matches due to a groin injury in the first week.

The 33-year-old Mahmud was the hero of Bangladesh's historic triumph over Pakistan in the 1999 England World Cup. Besides, he is one of the experienced cricketers in English conditions.

But Mashfiq was preferred because according to Whatmore he is multi-skilled.

## Pacy Ponting



AFP, Southampton

Australian captain Ricky Ponting is backing his four pace bowlers to blast a way through to the ICC Champions Trophy final.

Ponting went into the opening group match with the quartet of Glenn McGrath, Brett Lee, Michael Kasprowicz and Jason Gillespie and was rewarded with the nine-wicket demolition of the United States.

But their inclusion meant no room for all-rounder Shane Watson or spinner Brad Hogg.

Ponting said both of those could be in action against New Zealand on Thursday at Edgbaston in Australia's next match.

"There is an option to play a spinner against New Zealand, just as there was against the United States.

"Our four seamers are bowling

really well at the moment but that is not to say they will all be in the team to take on New Zealand. We went in against the United States with four quicks and it worked well for us.

"It is always hard picking a team and Hogg and Watson were unlucky to miss out but we have a big game coming up and there could be a completely different make up against New Zealand."

Ponting believes his whole squad including spinner Hogg will have a part to play in the group matches along what he hopes will be the path to the final the Brit Oval next week.

"We cannot look beyond our next game but the aim is to win the tournament and to have a strong squad with a few options is vital."

"On the evidence of the United States match our pace bowlers are in form which is good news for us with New Zealand coming up."

The Australians reported no injury problems after the win over the United States and they will choose a team after looking at the state of the pitch and taking unsettled weather into account.

### ERRATUM

In one of our headings yesterday it was mistakenly written that 'Basher told to stay back'. Actually he is Bashir. We apologise for the oversight.

### SRI LANKA-ZIM SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the Zimbabwe innings in the ICC Champions Trophy Pool D match against Sri Lanka at The Oval in London on Tuesday:

#### ZIMBAWBE

Taylor c Chandana b Maharoof 13  
Matsikenyeri c Sangakkara b Zoysa 16  
Sibandac Jayawardene b Vaas 9  
Ebrahim c Chandana b Zoysa 3  
Vermeulen c Sangakkara b Maharoof 17

Taibu c Sangakkara b Maharoof 16  
Chigumbura lbw b Chandana 57  
Panyangara c Atapattu b Zoysa 8  
Utseya c Jayawardene b Chandana 31

Hondo not out 0

Rainsford b Jayasuriya 3

Extras: (b-4, lb-8, w-3, nb-3) 18

Total: (All out in 49.1 overs) 191

Fall of wickets: 1-23, 2-43, 3-47, 4-

61, 5-76, 6-85, 7-120, 8-184, 9-188

Bowler O M R W

Vaas 10 0 42 1

Zoysa 10 2 19 3

Maharoof 9 1 38 3

Jayasuriya 9.1 1 28 1

Chandana 9 0 39 2

Dilshan 2 0 13 0

SRI LANKA: Jayasuriya, Gunawardene, Atapattu, Sangakkara, Jayawardene, Dilshan, Jayantha, Chandana, Vaas, Maharoof, Zoysa.

Toss: Sri Lanka.



PHOTO: AP  
TENNIS GOES TO HOLLYWOOD: Russian tennis star Maria Sharapova arrives at the premiere of the film 'Wimbledon' at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences at Beverly Hills in California on Monday.