



Did U Know?

Floodlighting is used for the first time in a FA Cup match in 14 September 1955. The game was a first round replay between Kidderminster Harriers and Brierley Hill Alliance. After a 1-1 draw in the first game, Brierley won the high-scoring replay



Fanie de Villiers
(Former South Africa pace bowler)

"The current crop of players in the national team are not equipped to take the game really to the next level."



BTV
ICC Champions Trophy England v Sri Lanka Live at 3.15 pm
TEN Sports
ICC Champions Trophy England v Sri Lanka Live at 3.15 pm
ESPN
Sportscentre Live 8.30 pm English Premier League Preview Taped at 9 pm Here We Go Football show Taped at 10.30 pm
STAR Sports
Sportslive Live at 8 pm

Star Whizz Kid COMPETITION 21

Tick the correct answers, post

The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm Sept 17, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

1. Who won the first gold medal in the Athens Olympics?	Galkina	Devers
Du		
2. Who became Asia Cup cricket champs?	India	Pakistan
3. Who clinched the Cincinnati Masters tennis title?	Federer	Henman
4. Who lifted the 25th nat'l hockey crown?	Usha	MSC
	Army	Bangladesh

Name

Class..... Roll No.....

School Address

Phone: (If any)

Vision Asia officials due Sept 28

SPORTS REPORTER

A Vision Asia delegation is expected to arrive in Dhaka on September 28 to discuss development of football in the country with Bangladesh Football Federation officials.

Brendon Menton will lead the four-member delegation, which also includes Vision Asia's director of grassroots and youth development Thomas Flath, national association development officer Imtiazur Rahman and marketing and development officer Rajjan Isa.

During their three-day stay, the team will discuss structural changes within BFF, development of elite clubs and leagues in the country and grassroots and youth development, informed BFF general secretary Anwarul Huq Helal yesterday.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

AUS-N ZEALAND SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the New Zealand innings in the ICC Champions Tro-phy Pool A game against Australia at The Oval in London on Thursday:

NEW ZEALAND				
Fleming c Gillespie b K'wicz	29			
Astle lbw b McGrath	18			
Marshall lbw b McGrath	0			
Styris c Clarke b McGrath	0			
McMillan run out (Symonds/K'wicz)	18			
Oram c and b K'wicz	15			
Cairns lbw b K'wicz	0			
Harris c and b Lehmann	26			
McCullum c K'wicz b Gillespie	47			
Vettori not out	29			
Mills not out	3			
Extras: (lb-4, nb-2, w-7)	13			
Total: (For 9 wkts in 50 overs)	198			
Fall of wickets: 1-30, 2-36, 3-49, 4-49, 5-79, 6-79, 7-89, 8-124, 9-192				
Bowler				
McGrath	10	0	39	3
Gillespie	9	1	46	1
K'wicz	10	1	32	3
Watson	6	0	32	0
Symonds	10	0	29	0

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



PHOTO: AFP
CATCH IT IF YOU CAN: New Zealand captain Stephen Fleming looks on as the ball races past the outstretched hand of his Australian counterpart Ricky Ponting during the two sides do-or-die ICC Champions Trophy clash at The Oval on Thursday.

What more to come?



BISHWAJIT ROY, from Southampton

For once Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore had little to say and only had a painful look on his face after his team crashed to a 138-run defeat against West Indies at the Rose Bowl here on Wednesday.

"It was very painful to watch, not only for me but everybody who are connected with Bangladesh," the 50-year old Australian told reporters.

Whatmore, who intentionally missed the previous post-match briefing following the nine-wicket drubbing by South Africa, was also puzzled about his boys' approach toward the match.

"We have problem both ways, when we bat first or bowl first. They lose early wickets and when we bowl first, the bowlers can't go

according to the plan and fail to pick wickets. What can I say?" said a hapless Whatmore.

"But I believe they have the potential to play far better than this," he added.

But he believed there was clear indication that Bangladesh will show their mettle in future.

"I think Nazmul Hossain is the find of the tour, especially he bowled brilliantly today. You can't say there is no hope with Nafees Iqbal or Aftab Ahmed. We have to wait," he said on

the three youngsters' performances.

He said the way his boys batted in the match was simply awful but he also thought that it happened because they could not cope with the English conditions.

"Our main concern is with the bat. We were 39 runs better than the first match but it was not good enough. Now we have to work hard to find out a solution to this problem," Whatmore explained.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

TROPHY TREATS

BISHWAJIT ROY, from Southampton

The Bangladesh cricket team have become the laughing stocks of foreign journalists after their amateurish performance in the Champions Trophy.

There was lot of joking going on in the media box at the Rose Bowl after the Tigers' capitulation against the West Indies on Wednesday and most of them were at the expense of captain Rajin Saleh.

But former England bowler Derek Pringle, who is now a cricket correspondent for the Daily Telegraph, was more understanding.

"If you perform well, nobody will be making fun of you," said Pringle.

"Your boys failed to cope with the English conditions which was the main reason for the poor performance," observed Pringle.

SENSIBLE JAVED

Tigers opener Javed Omar Belim managed only two runs against the West Indies and became the target of verbal abuse from a dejected group of Bangladeshi supporters when he came out on the balcony of the dressing room.

As expletives were being hurled at Javed, a couple of on-duty policemen intervened and took two of the supporters to the nearby police station for unruly behaviour.

Some time later, the police contacted Javed for lodging an official complaint. However, Javed said he did not want any action against his fellow countrymen and the two were released.

Bangladeshi fans here, most of whom have made long journeys to get to Southampton, are outraged by the poor showing of the country's cricketers and chanted abuses at the players and officials until the team left the venue for their hotel.

"Not only the players, officials should be punished too for this debacle," said one fan Tamim, who vowed never to watch another Bangladesh match.

ATHAR TALKS!

After some unsuccessful attempts, the travelling Bangladeshi journalists finally managed to bring words out of selector Athar Ali Khan's mouth.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 3

Lara loves Tigers



AFP, Southampton

West Indies captain Brian Lara believes Bangladesh are making improvements as a cricketing nation, despite another heavy defeat at the Rose Bowl on Wednesday in the ICC Champions Trophy.

Bangladesh lost to the West Indies by 138 runs just days after another mauling by South Africa in the group stages of the competition.

"I saw a banner when we came off the pitch held aloft by their supporters which said 'Bangladesh

World Cup winners 2019' and you never can tell," said Lara.

"Bangladesh are a young side and they will learn from playing against sides like ourselves and South Africa. I thought they did well against us in the Tests and internationals in the Caribbean and some of the matches were closer than they appeared.

"I told them that they must play as a team and it is important that each of them nips in with a contribution. They need a collective effort but there is not reason why they cannot succeed.

"Bangladesh hold a special place in my heart."

Barlow bemoans changes



BISHWAJIT ROY, from Southampton

Former Bangladesh coach Eddie Barlow is surprised by the wholesale changes in the national squad and has found it as the major cause of their struggle in the big league.

"Where is Bulbul (Aminul Islam), Akram (Khan) and DJ (Naimur Rahman). It is suicidal for any country to make such wholesale changes. You should have a mixture of experienced and young players to handle the international pressure," said Barlow after the Tigers crashed to a 138-run defeat against West Indies at the Rose Bowl on Wednesday.

However, the 60-year-old who masterminded Bangladesh's accession to Test status before suffering a stroke in May 2000, which cut short his coaching stint, was not frustrated by their performance.

"The boys are very young. It is

very much difficult to cope with English conditions but I saw a lot of positive things from the boys," he hoped.



EDDIE BARLOW

Although it is very difficult for him to move around in a wheelchair, the likable former mentor didn't want to miss an opportunity to meet

the players. He is now living with his wife Kelly at his mother-in-laws house at North Wells.

When everybody was concerned with the team's brittle batting, the veteran South African batsman said that he was not happy with the bowling department.

"I think your batting will be okay within a short time but the bowling looks very poor, especially there is no good quick bowlers and quality spinner. Why do you ignore a player like Naimur? He is very talented but you should know how to handle him," he said.

When asked about the current Bangladesh coach Dav Whatmore, Barlow said that things would be different with him in charge now.

"Dav is a very high-profile coach. But I don't like the massive changes. You should bring one or two changes in the team. I cannot understand why a batsman like Aminul is not in the team," he added.

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

Pakistan ready for India



AFP, Birmingham

Pakistan all-rounder Shahid Afridi said the team were in confident mood ahead of their winner-take-all Champions Trophy clash against India at Edgbaston on Sunday.

Whoever wins the game between the Asian rivals will be guaranteed a place in the semifinals of the 'mini World Cup' with both teams having already beaten Pool C rivals Kenya.

Pakistan, who are bidding to make it three successive one-day wins against India, warmed up for what many predict will be the match of the tournament by beating Kenya, last year's World Cup semifinalists, by seven wickets at Edgbaston on Wednesday.

Leg-spinner Afridi, 24, took a one-day international career-best of five wickets for 11 runs as the Africans were bowled out for just 94, their lowest one-day international score against Pakistan.

That match, held over from Tuesday when no play was possible because of rain, was watched by a smattering of spectators.

But Sunday's game became a 21,000 sell-out within hours of tickets going on sale and Afridi said: "It's a big occasion and Inshallah (God willing) we are all keen to play that game."

When the sides last met in August's Dutch triangular event in Amstelveen, Afridi took four for 24 as Pakistan enjoyed a 66-run win albeit in a match reduced by rain to 33 overs per side.

Afridi, who made his name as a hard-hitting batsman and now needs just three more runs for 4,000 in one-day internationals, added: "In Holland we did well against India

and Inshallah we are positive."

India will be without star batsman Sachin Tendulkar who has been sidelined with an elbow injury since withdrawing on the morning of the Pakistan game in the Netherlands.

And Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq said: "Sachin is a great player and it would be an advantage to any opposition not to have him in the India team."

Pakistan fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar pulled up after nine balls with a back problem but Inzamam said his teammate would be firing on all cylinders come Sunday.

"He's fully fit, he was complaining on the wicket of something in the back but he's fully fit."

Meanwhile, a dejected Steve Tikolo, who announced his intention to resign as Kenya captain following this defeat, struggled to find positives from two heavy reverses (India beat Kenya by 98 runs) in what were his side's first

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

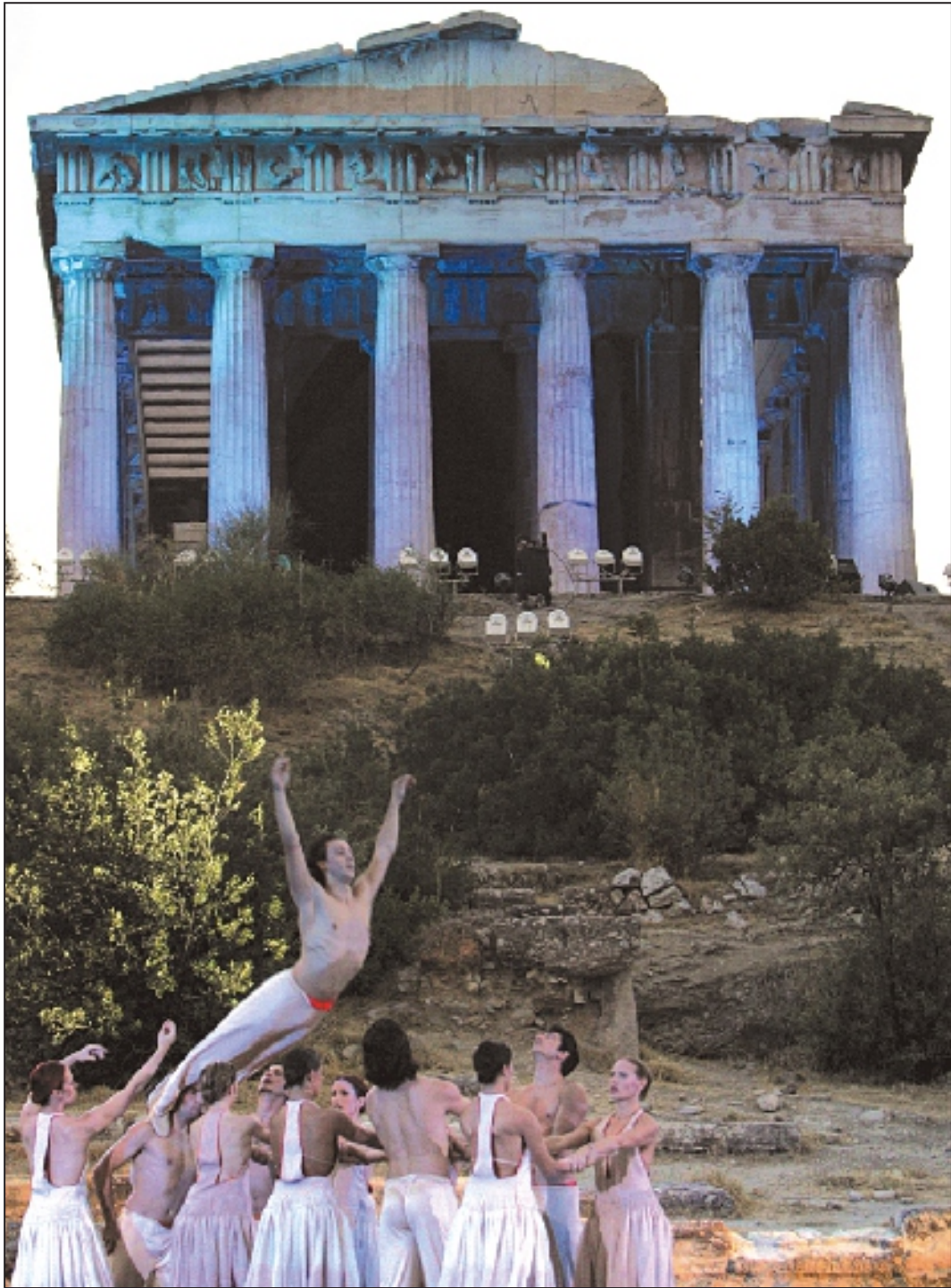


PHOTO: AFP
ATHENS READES FOR ANOTHER OLYMPICS: Greek dancers perform at the foot of the Acropolis in Athens ahead of the Paralympics Games, starting at the Olympic Stadium today.

Paralympics begin today

AFP, Athens

With barely enough time to catch its breath after the summer Olympics, Athens is gearing up this week to host yet another mega sporting event. The 12th Paralympics, the largest gathering of disabled elite athletes in history, starts on Friday.

More than 4,000 athletes from 142 nations have assembled here to compete -- against each other, to be sure, but also against the arbitrary limits imposed by illness or accident, and against the lingering prejudices of a world in which the disabled have only recently begun to find their rightful place.

By any measure, the Athens Paralympics will be a record-setting event.

In absolute terms, it is the second-biggest international sports competition after the summer Games, covering 19 disciplines, including athletics and swimming, and running over 12 days. And compared to previous Paralympics, it has attracted more athletes from more countries -- as well as more corporate sponsorship and media -- than ever before.

But the real measure of the Paralympics, like any major sports event, are the individual elite athletes striving for gold.

It could be French swimming sensation Beatrice Hess who, at 42, will attempt to add to the 13 gold medals she collected in Atlanta in 1996 and Sydney in 2000. Or 25-year-old sprinter Marlon Shirley from the US, the first amputee to ever run the 100-meter-dash in under 11 seconds.

Or Afghanistan's sole representative and flag-bearer in these Games, sprinter Marina Karim, for whom simply getting to Athens from her war-torn homeland was a victory of sorts.

As organisers and athletes make clear, the Paralympics is not a "feel-good" event or an exercise in public education. It is all about winning, and many of the athletes vying for medals here perform at levels approaching national, and even

SEE PAGE 14 COL 6