



Did U Know?

India's former captain and flamboyant cricketer Lala Amarnath, who recently passed away in New Delhi due to old age, was the only bowler to get Australian legend Don Bradman out hit wicket.



Adam Gilchrist

(Australia cricket vice-captain)
 "Participation of people in Bangladesh is excellent and I saw there was a huge interest in the game in your country. People love the game and played the game everywhere, so there is no reason to think otherwise."

What to WATCH

TEN Sports

ICC Champions Trophy
 India vs Pakistan
 Highlights at 8:30 am
ESPN
 English Premier Football League
 Southampton vs Newcastle United
 Repeat at 3:30 pm
 Sportscentre
 Live at 8:30 pm
STAR Sports
 Primera Liga
 Atletico Madrid vs Barcelona
 Same Day 10:30 am
 Sportsline
 Live at 8:00 pm
 English Premier Football League
 Man United vs Liverpool
 Live at 12:55 am (Tuesday)

Star WHIZZ KID COMPETITION 21

Tick the correct answers, post
The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm Sept 24, 2004 and draw shortly afterwards

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

WI chase SA out



AFP, London

West Indies captain Brian Lara praised his side's composure and discipline after they had successfully chased 247 to beat South Africa here at the Oval and win a place in the ICC Champions Trophy semi-finals next week.

The West Indies reply was interrupted by Saturday's rain and they resumed on 20-0. They passed their target with seven balls to spare and now look forward to the semi-finals -- against Pakistan or India.

Despite being behind the required run-rate for most of their innings the West Indies always had wickets in hand and a late onslaught from Ricardo Powell, who scored 16 from ten balls sealed the game.

"We won the crucial parts of the game," said Lara.

"On Saturday South Africa were 105 in 21 overs without losing wickets and I thought they were going to get 275 but Ryan Hinds came in and bowled ten overs for 35 which was very important.

"We lost two wickets but I was not worried about the run-rate. Lance Klusener and Nicky Boje were bowling well but then Shivnarine Chanderpaul and Ricardo Powell came in and finished it in style.

"Having wickets in hand is what one-day cricket is all about and we knew we had guys like that in the shed to do the job so I was not worried about the situation. If we had lost a couple of quick wickets it would have got a bit dicey but we didn't."

For South Africa this was an 11th one-day defeat in 12 matches and captain Graeme Smith blamed his side's lack of runs in the middle overs of their innings for their failure to set a bigger target.

"If we have to be critical of the batting then we did not score enough runs between the 20th and 40th overs when we only scored 70-odd in 20 overs and 260 is a very different score to 245," said Smith.

"We have not played at our best for the last nine weeks and we are very disappointed. We go back to provincial cricket now and that gives us some time to think about where we are and where we need to go."

Man of the match Ramnaresh Sarwan (75), Lara (49) and Chanderpaul (51 not out) were the main contributors to the run chase but Powell's knock tilted the match towards the West Indies.

Powell came in at 214-4 with four overs left but turned the contest with two successive sixes off Shaun Pollock -- full-tosses that he planted into the stands over mid-wicket.

Lara had stressed the importance of keeping wickets in hand on

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TROPHY TREATS



BISHWAJIT ROY, from Birmingham

New Zealand umpire Billy Bowden finds nothing wrong with the new umpire technology in use during the ICC Champions Trophy.

"I don't feel that it will reduce the power of an umpire on the field. Also I believe it will help us to make correct decisions," said the colourful 41-year-old.

The ICC decided to implement the new technology in seven of the 15 ICC Champions Trophy matches where standing umpires will be wired to stump microphones so that they can declare no-balls which will be called by the third umpire.

Bowden believed that the innovation will not devalue the role of the umpire.

"Certain questions have been removed with the venue bathed in brilliant sunshine.

But what was really special was the presence of so many Indian and Pakistani supporters.

There was not a spare seat in the 21,000-capacity stadium to be found. In fact, nobody wanted to miss the mega match and willingly waited for hours just to get into the ground.

However not everybody could comprehend the situation.

"I can't understand what's the big deal with an India-Pakistan match?" said a security guard who had a difficult time controlling the enthusiastic supporters.

WE'VE WON!
 Even before the first ball was bowled

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A RARE CALYPSO MOMENT: Shivnarine Chanderpaul (L) is about to be embraced by teammate Dwayne Bravo after he scored the winning runs against South Africa at The Oval yesterday.

It's Inzamam after Sachin

REUTERS, Birmingham

Pakistan captain Inzamamul Haq became the second player to score 10,000 runs in one-day internationals when he passed 23 in the ICC Champions Trophy Pool C match against India at Edgbaston on Sunday.

The 34-year-old right-hander surpassed the milestone with Pakistan on 73 for three chasing India's 200 all out.

Inzamam, playing his 322nd match, had scored 10 centuries and 70 half-centuries before Sunday's match and was averaging 38.97 in 298 innings.

He has a highest score of 137 not out, made against New Zealand at Sharjah in April 1994. Eight of his 10 one-day centuries have come against India and Sri Lanka.

Indian batsman Sachin Tendulkar, who is missing the Champions Trophy tournament because of an elbow injury, is the only other player to have surpassed 10,000 runs.

Tendulkar has 13,415 runs from 339 matches at an average of 45.01.

Local biggies confirm trips

SPORTS REPORTER

The heavyweights of local football will round off the 2003-04 season with tours in India, Nepal and Bhutan.

Having failed to deliver in any competition in the domestic scene for three successive years, Abahani will be the first to go abroad this month when they participate in the King's Cup which starts in Bhutan on September 26.

Abahani had to wait for Federation Cup champions and National League runners-up Mukti Juddha Sangsad's confirmation to avail a Nepal trip for the

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PHOTO: AFP

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL: Indian master batsman Rahul Dravid pulls a short delivery on way to a potentially match-winning 67 at Edgbaston yesterday.

Vaughan awaits Aussies



AFP, Southampton

England captain Michael Vaughan is confident his team can put an end to their miserable losing streak against Australia when they clash with the world champions in the semi-finals of the ICC Champions Trophy.

Australia have beaten England in their last 14 meetings in one-day matches and will be the overwhelming favourites to make it 15 at Edgbaston on Tuesday.

"Australia are the best team in the world and are playing some

good stuff. They have just beaten a very good New Zealand side and we are looking forward to testing ourselves against the best team around," said Vaughan after England had made the last four with a 49-run (D/L) win against Sri Lanka on Saturday.

"We will try to play in a positive fashion. Many of our players have not appeared against Australia before so it will be a big experience. The Australians have been playing cricket on a different level and it is up to the rest of the world to catch up.

"We are looking forward to a big, tough game."

Not for the first time this summer, Andrew Flintoff was England's saviour with a blistering century against the Lankans and the all-rounder admitted his heroics were achieved with a new bat.

"I get a new bat every three weeks," said Flintoff. "There was something wrong with the last one I used. At the moment I am enjoying it all. I rode my luck early on against Sri Lanka when the ball was nipping about but it seems to be that sort of summer when everything is going right for me."

England, resuming from their overnight 118-3 after Friday's play had been disrupted, went on to make a formidable 251-7 with Flintoff, dropped at one and 25, making 104.

In reply, Sri Lanka had struggled to 95-5 from 24 overs when rain ruined a potentially exciting finish though by then England were firmly in control.

"It is always disappointing when

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Asian Club Cup Hockey in Dhaka

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will host the Asian Club Cup Hockey Championship over January 4-15 in Dhaka.

Only two teams, Dhaka League champions Abahani and Iran's Hamadan Club, have submitted their entries for the tournament, told Bangladesh Hockey Federation joint-secretary Zahidur Rahman Pushkin yesterday.

"The last date of entry is October 15. But we will only organise this event if at least six clubs take part," he added.

Earlier Singapore was to host the first edition of the competition, but the country withdrew its name prompting the Asian Hockey Federation to hand it over to Dhaka.

INDIA-PAKISTAN SCOREBOARD

Scoreboard of the India innings in the ICC Champions Trophy Pool C match against Pakistan at Edgbaston in Birmingham on Sunday:

INDIA

Ganguly c Moin b Sami	0			
Sehwag c Malik b Naved	10			
Laxman c Malik b Naved	3			
Kaif c Moin b Akhtar	27			
Dravid c and b Naved	67			
Yuvraj c Moin b Akhtar	0			
Gavaskar c Moin b Razzaq	13			
Agarkar c Youhana b Naved	47			
Pathan c Youhana b Akhtar	6			
Harbhajan not out	3			
Nehra c Afridi b Akhtar	36			
Extras: (lb-10, w-3, nb-11)	24			
Total: (All out in 49.5 overs)	200			
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-10, 3-28, 4-73, 5-73, 6-106, 7-188, 8-193, 9-199				
Bowler	O	M	R	W
Sami	9	1	50	1
Naved	9	1	25	4
Razzaq	10	0	27	1
Akhtar	9.5	1	36	4
Afridi	2	0	23	0
Malik	10	0	29	0

PAKISTAN: Hameed, Farhat, Malik, Inzamam, Afridi, Youhana, Moin, Razzaq, Naved, Akhtar, Sami.
Toss: Pakistan.
Umpires: Rudi Koertzen (South Africa) and Simon Taufel (Australia).

Selectors sit today



SPORTS REPORTER

The national selectors will try to find a way out of the present crisis Bangladesh are going through when they sit today to plan for the upcoming home series against New Zealand.

New Zealand will arrive on October 8 for two Tests and three one day internationals and the challenge for the selectors will be to pick 20 fit cricketers for the preliminary training camp beginning next week.

Bangladesh have had two highly disappointing outings in two recent one-day tournaments but they have to regroup quickly from the disappointment of the Asia Cup and the ICC Champions Trophy if they hope to be competitive against the highly rated Black Caps.

However, injuries to key players is a concern, the most notable of which is the thumb injury of captain Habibul Bashar, the country's best batsman.

Bashar is recovering in Australia from a surgery to his right thumb but chief selector Faruque Ahmed is hoping for the best.

"Bashar will join training when he gets back. If he becomes fit to play before the start of the series, he will be in the team," said the former national captain while talking to the Daily Star yesterday. Bashar's injury kept him out of the Champions Trophy.

Faruque was more concerned about the Tigers' bowling strength, rather the lack of it for the Test matches. The country's fastest bowler Mashrafe bin-Mortuza has just started bowling after recuperating from a career-threatening knee injury and another quick Talha Jubera is still not 100 percent match-fit following his recovery from a lingering back strain.

"Mashrafe has only started light training and I'm afraid he will not have enough matches to show his fitness level before the series. I have received good reports about Talha who played in the Under-19 one-day



BACK WITH A VENGEANCE: Pakistan fast bowler Shoaib Akhtar sends down a thunderbolt during the crucial match against India at Edgbaston yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP