



Did U Know?

In countries other than the US, soccer is called "football" or "association football". The word "soccer" is an



TEN Sports

India vs Pakistan Hockey
At 11:30 am

ESPN

English Premier Football League
Southampton vs Man City

Live at 5:40 pm

Arsenal vs Charlton Athletic

Live at 7:55 pm

Bromwich vs Bolton Wanderers

Live at 10:10 pm

Primera Liga

Real Sociedad vs Athletic Madrid

Live at 2:00 am (Sunday)

STAR Sports

English Premier Football League

Everton vs Tottenham Hotspur

Live at 7:55 pm



Michael Vaughan

(England cricket captain)

"I am proud to be captain of my country and feel that I have a duty to my teammates to lead the team on this tour. While I certainly do not condone what is happening in Zimbabwe, I do not want to shirk my responsibilities as England captain and would not want to let the burden of responsibility to fall on another player's shoulders."



Tick the correct answers, post
The Daily Star

Competition closes at 8 pm
Oct 15, 2004 and draw
shortly afterwards

1. West Indies defeated England in the ICC Champions Trophy final by:
2 wkts | 50 runs | 33 runs

2- Who won the China Open tennis title?
Serena Sharapova
Hingis

3. How many times was Pavle Nedved capped before announcing his retirement?
83 | 84 | 81

4- Who became man-of-the-tournament in the ICC Champions Trophy?
Sarwan Flintoff
Lara

Name

Class. Roll No.

School Address

Phone: (If any)

WhiZZ KID-216 winner

Neger Sultana

(Bangladesh Rifles School, Dhaka)

Please produce your ID card

and an attested passport size

photograph while collecting the

winner's prize from the Sports

Desk of The Daily Star at 7:30 pm



ABSURD : One of the many Bangladeshi attacks in front of the Afghanistan goal during yesterday's Challenge Cup U-21 tournament at the Maulana Bhashani National Hockey Stadium. Bangladesh won 30-0.

PHOTO: STAR

Aus-India Tests on Sony TV

REUTERS, Kolkata

India's home Test series against Australia in October will be telecast on Sony television, with live pictures to be produced by the Dubai-based TEN Sports, the Indian cricket board said on Thursday.

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) President Ranbir Mahendra said in a statement BCCI would itself produce and distribute the television feed for the four-Test series that starts next week.

The telecast has been mired in controversy after the country's largest listed media firm, Zee Telefilms Ltd., moved the courts following the board's decision to cancel the multi-million dollar telecast rights awarded to it.

"On the basis of the recommendation of the marketing committee, the general body has decided the board would itself produce and

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Hosts win 30-0

A farcical drubbing



SPORTS REPORTER

A 30-0 win does not come everyday especially if you are Bangladesh but even after such a groundbreaking scoreline, the players were far too embarrassed to celebrate their massacre of Afghanistan yesterday in the U-21 Challenge Cup invitational hockey.

For the record, the 30-0 thrashing at the Maulana Bhashani stadium was by far the biggest win-margin in international competitions for Bangladesh. The previous best was the 12-1 victory over Nepal in the 1997 SAF Games in Madras.

Afghanistan, who suffered a 17-0 hammering at the hands of Oman in their tournament opener on Thursday, were worse than novices. The men from the war-torn country

seemed more pre-occupied with just having the feel of the sticks in their hands.

After going 4-0 down within 10 minutes, the Afghans threatened to leave the field protesting the fourth goal. Then in one minute of absolute farce, they just stood on the pitch seemingly in protest while Bangladesh forward Russel Mahmud Jimmy scored twice without facing any resistance.

When they eventually decided to continue, Jimmy went on to net eight times. Moksud Alam Habul notched five goals while Rahul and Mobarak managed three each. Dinar and Chayan got a brace each while seven others shared the remaining goals.

Throughout the match, Bangladesh's goaltender did not have to make a single save and the crowd even cheered an attempted attack by the Afghans.

The hosts, who beat Myanmar 3-0 in their first game on Thursday, led

17-0 at the break.

"I gave my players a 30-goal target and they have fulfilled it," said Bangladesh's Pakistani coach Qamar Ibrahim before he questioned the wisdom of inviting a side like Afghanistan.

"They don't have the standard to compete at this level. Even their officials are not aware of the rules in hockey. Playing against teams like Afghanistan will do nothing for Bangladesh."

When Bangladesh Hockey Federation general secretary Shamsul Bari was approached after the match, he appeared as embarrassed as his players and shied away from giving any comments.

In yesterday's other match at the BKSP, favourites India defeated Myanmar 7-0 with Gurinder Chandi and Savio Nayak scoring twice each.

India arrive on Dec 7

SPORTS REPORTER

India will arrive in Dhaka on December 7 to play two Tests and three one-day internationals against Bangladesh.

The first Test begins at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on December 9 afterwards both teams will travel to Chittagong for the second Test starting December 16 at the MA Aziz Stadium.

Chittagong will also stage the first one-dayer on December 23. The last two matches, which are both day-night games, are in Dhaka on December 25 and 27.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) also released the names of officials for the Bangladesh-New Zealand series.

Local umpires Shawkatur Rahman Chinu and Ziaul Islam Masud will stand in the Kiwis' tour opener at the BKSP in Savar. The three-day match against the Alok Kapali-led BCB XI starts October 14.

Australian Daryl Harper and Mark Benson of England will officiate in the two Tests as ICC umpires while the latter will stay back for the one-day series. Benson will be assisted by local umpires Akhteruddin Shahin and Mahbubur Rahman for the ODIs.

Shahin and Rahman will also act as TV umpires during the two Tests while Nadir Shah has been named third umpire for all three-match one-day internationals.

Aussies toil in tour opener

AFP, Mumbai

Australia got a taste of the perils that wait them in next week's Test series against India after being made to struggle on a turning wicket in the three-day tour opener here on Friday.

The tourists toiled in stifling hot weather to reach 302-7 declared before national champions Mumbai replied with 150-4 by close of the second day's play at the Brabourne

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Tendulkar drafted



AFP, Bangalore

Star batsman Sachin Tendulkar was Friday named in a 15-member Indian squad for the opening two

one-dayers in England.

The batsman, with 9,470 runs in 114 Tests, is just one century short of equalling compatriot Sunil Gavaskar's world record of 34 hundreds.

A new selection committee headed by former India wicket-



SACHIN TENDULKAR

Tests of a four-match series against Australia.

But Tendulkar, who missed three one-day tournaments because of an elbow injury, is still doubtful for the opening match starting here on Wednesday.

"His fitness will be assessed on a day-to-day basis and his position ascertained before the first Test," the Indian cricket board secretary Karunakaran Nair said.

"Tendulkar was included in the team as we got a medical report that he is progressing well. Team physio Andrew Leipus has been looking after his rehabilitation process."

Tendulkar, who is suffering from an elbow injury, missed last month's Champions Trophy as well as a tri-series in the Netherlands and three

keeper Kiran More did not spring any surprises.

Left-arm seamer Ashish Nehra was dropped on fitness.

"Nehra's name was discussed but the committee felt Zaheer Khan and Ajit Agarkar were in a better position physically," said Nair.

Nehra withdrew from a practice match here earlier this week because of a swollen ankle. He was the second paceman to be ruled out after Laxmipathy Balaji, who is nursing an abdominal injury.

Zaheer Khan, who proved his fitness in recent domestic matches, returned to the squad after missing the ICC Champions Trophy in

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PHOTO: AP

Australia's Damien Martyn gears up for a square cut against Mumbai during their three-day warm-up match at the Brabourne Stadium yesterday.

Razzaq propels Pakistan



AFP, Multan

All-rounder Abdul Razzaq cracked an aggressive unbeaten hundred and Shahid Afridi a fiery fifty to help Pakistan down Zimbabwe by 144 runs in the opening tri-series match at the Multan cricket stadium Thursday.

Razzaq smashed 107 off just 114 balls while Afridi blasted 58 off 26 deliveries to lift their team from 146-6 to 292-7 in the allotted 50 overs after Pakistan won the toss and decided to bat.

Zimbabwe could manage 148 in 38.3 overs with Vusumuzi Sibanda top scoring with 57.

Zimbabwe, weakened following a strike by 15 white players over allegations of racism in selection six months ago, suffered their 11th consecutive defeat.

Dion Ebrahim with 29 was the other notable contributor as the tourists found Pakistan bowling hard to cope in a match Zimbabwe started well before being blown away by Razzaq and Afridi.

The Razzaq-Afridi pair punished the tourists' bowling with their ruthless batting, adding 107 off just 46 balls for the seventh wicket to throw inexperienced Zimbabwe out of the driving seat.

Razzaq's second one-day hundred was studded with five towering sixes and as many boundaries while Afridi's had four sixes and five boundaries. Pakistan added 145 runs in the last 10 overs.

"When I went in with the team in trouble at 36-4 my main aim was to survive the new ball and help my captain build the innings," said Razzaq, who was declared man-of-the-match.

"I am happy that I did that and scored my second hundred."

Razzaq first added 95 runs for the fifth wicket with captain Inzamamul Haq who initiated his team's fightback with a laboured 73 after Pakistan were reeling at 36-4.

Afridi, who also returned figures of 3-18, inspired Razzaq with some lusty hitting, completing his fifty off just 21 balls to thwart an attacking Zimbabwe.

Opener Yasir Hameed edged the very first delivery of the game by Tinashe Panyangara to

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PHOTO: AFP

WHOOOSH! Pakistan all-rounder Abdul Razzaq cracks one straight during his hundred against Zimbabwe in the first one-day international

Goal feast in Lahore

AFP, Lahore

Record-pursuing penalty corner striker Sohail Abbas scored two goals as Pakistan held rival India 4-4 in the fourth match of the eight-match hockey series here on Friday.

The 28-year-old striker has now to score three more goals to break the record of Dutchman Paul Litjens who holds the world record of 267 goals in 177 matches.

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Trophy afterthoughts



BISHWAJIT ROY, from London

The fourth edition of a tournament dubbed a 'mini-World Cup' may have had a fairytale ending but in reality it never caught on among its most vital important component -- the crowds.

The Fourth ICC Champions Trophy that ran from September 10-25 in England was hardly going to be a smash hit especially as it coincided with the start of another English football season.

And to make matters worse playing cricket in cold and miserable September proved disastrous because only two matches in the entire meet -- India versus Pakistan at Edgbaston and the final which was a rare glorious sunny day -- managed to draw full house crowds. On both occasions Asian fans watched proceedings in large numbers thus sparing the organisers any embarrassment.

However, the scenario could have been so different for Michael Vaughan had he found a way to end a stupendous rearguard action by

West Indians Courtney Browne and Ian Bradshaw. The unlikely ninth wicket pair denied the home side the climax they wanted to a memorable summer by putting together 71 runs in fading light at The Oval.

Instead, it was the West Indies who tasted the nectar. Not since the 1979 World Cup have the Caribbean islands had reason to celebrate. They also lost the 1998 final to South Africa when it was staged in Dhaka.

Perhaps beating old enemy Australia in the semifinals had taken the wind out of England's sails. Led by the incredible hitting power of Andrew Flintoff and Marcus Trescothick, the tournament's top run scorer, nothing could get in their way as they proved emphatically against the world champions and earlier Sri Lanka.

But in the end it was a final heart-break for the country that staged three World Cups and featured in two of them.

From the Bangladesh point of view, however, the tournament was little more than a learning experience. Placed in a tough group, stand-in captain Rajin Saleh's first assignment was against a demoralised South Africa, who had just come off a 5-0 whitewash at the hands of Sri Lanka in Sri Lanka. But

any thoughts of an upset had to be well and truly forgotten before the game began.

Bizarrely electing to bat first, the Tigers mustered just 93 runs before being bowled out in the 32nd over. At least Rajin could take comfort in the knowledge that he was leading the side in the absence of Habibul Bashar. But there was no excuse for Inzamamul Haq to commit such a grave error in the semifinals.

In fact, of the 15 matches played at Southampton's Rose Bowl, Edgbaston in Birmingham and The Oval in London, 13 times it was the case of a team deciding to bowl first.

At least somebody reminded the young Rajin that before his next match against West Indies. However the end result was another big setback for coach Dav Wharmore.

That was last thing Bangladesh cricket needed at a time when a section of pundits were voicing their concerns at the game's depreciation following our induction at the highest level.

Most of the chatter however was about why Rajin was allowed to occupy such an important post and also the team's lack of a serious selection policy.

In an effort to clear the air, both the wise State Minister for Youth and

Sports Fazlur Rahman and Bangladesh Cricket Board president Ali Asghar took turns to explain that Bangladesh was on the contrary making slow but steady progress in the development of its cricket and sought patience and understanding from the cricketing fraternity.

They also cited that the game had a solid foundation thanks the support of the crowds at every match be it international or domestic. Besides many stadiums had been built in far-flung areas of the country especially for ICC Under-19 World Cup that was hailed as a great success by seasoned experts who attended matches.

So, if Brian Lara's men could defy all odds and be a tonic for Caribbean cricket then it could inspire a team like Bangladesh as well.

Some have started suggesting the only way out of its current predicament was if the Tigers could have a successful tour of Zimbabwe who themselves are in strife.

"Next year's Zimbabwe tour could be a turning point to establish your position on the international stage. And if you're able to win a Test you can put all the criticism behind you," commented an English expert.