

Documenta™ Ltd.
Data Driven Development
• Point Of Sale (POS) System
• Inventory Management System
• Accounting System
Smart Paperless Digital Office!

Web: www.documenta.com
Email: contact@documenta.com
Address: 65, Mohakhali C/A Dhaka-1212, Ph: 9884635/37/39 Ext: 123, 124.

Star SPORT

DHAKA WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2004, E-MAIL: dssports@gononet.com

B R A C B D M A I L	NEW LOWER Internet Postpaid Charges			
	Home	Professional	Executive	Night Rider (11.30 pm to 6.00 am)
Price	495	995	1495	595
Minutes	780	1920	3240	Unlimited
Charges Per min	0.63	0.52	0.46	—

Address: 18th floor, 65-68 Mohakhali, Dhaka.
Tel: 9883978, 9883981, 9884635, 9884637, 9884639
E-mail: sales@bdmail.net, Website: www.bdmail.net



Did U Know?

Sunil Gavaskar has 34 Test centuries and only one ODI century.



STAR Sports

English Premier Football League
Chelsea vs Everton
Repeat at 12:30 pm
Sportsline
Live at 8:00 pm

ESPN

Sportscentre
Live at 8:30 pm



John Bracewell

(New Zealand cricket coach.)

"The Bangladeshi batsmen threw wickets away when they should have tried to consolidate. It is related to cricketing maturity and with more international matches they will overcome this."

Kolkata chess Niaz off to winning start

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladeshi Grand Master Niaz Murshed made a winning start in the Kolkata International Open Chess Tournament which began on Monday at Gorky Sadan in Kolkata.

Niaz beat Saheli Nath but the other Bangladeshi participants failed to impress.

In other first round games, GM Ziaur Rahman drew with Indian Women Grand Master Nisha Mohota, IM Reefat-bin-Sattar drew with Thakurta Soumya, IM Enamul Hossain Rajib drew with Satyajit, IM Abdullah Al Rakib lost to Rahul Sangma and FM Abu Sufian Shakil was beaten by GM Oleg M Romanishin.

India's Debaraj Chatterjee drew with Uzbekistan's GM Timur Gareev. Other Bangladeshi players FM Aminul Islam, Mohammad Javed, Arman Monir and Mahtabuddin Robin got half points from their first round games.

A total of 48 players from Bangladesh, India, Vietnam, Iran, China, Russia, Belarus and Uzbekistan including 15 Grand Masters, 9 International Masters and 1 Women Grand Master are participating in the 11-round Swiss League competition.

MCG's Boxing Day Test in jeopardy

REUTERS, Sydney

The Melbourne Cricket Ground is in danger of losing its annual Boxing Day Test this year because of delays with redevelopment at the ground.

Officials insist the MCG, cricket's oldest Test venue, will be ready for the second Test against Pakistan starting on December 26 but have booked the nearby Docklands Stadium just in case.

"We're on schedule and I think we're okay... but in all good planning arrangements you've got to have a back up," Melbourne Cricket Club chief executive Stephen Gough told Australian Broadcasting Corp radio on Tuesday.

The MCG is being redeveloped in preparation for the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

The entire surface was ripped up in October so workmen could lay the foundations for an athletics

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

Abahani's cup of joy Mariner bewitched

Hockey

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani Krira Chakra staged one of the greatest comebacks in the history of domestic hockey when they overturned a 3-0 deficit to win a classic Club Cup final 4-3 against Mariner Youngs Club yesterday.

The popular Dhanmondi outfit almost revisited the ghost of last year's final when a spirited Mariner took a stunning 3-0 lead at the breather thanks to a fantastic hat-trick by ace forward Rafiqul Islam Kamal.

But the Maulana Bhashani National Stadium witnessed a dramatic second half revival where Abahani's Indian recruit Prakash Calke matched the brilliance of Kamal with the game's second hat-trick before Russel Mahmud Jimmy broke the Mariner hearts with a 68th minute winner.

The second title triumph for the Sky Blues also erased the bitter memories of last year's troubled final which they lost to archrivals Mohammedi Sporting Club on penalties.

The defeat on the other hand left Mariner shell-shocked after the Arambagh-based club came close to winning their first domestic title.

Abahani began brightly and looked like the team to score in the first 18 minutes before Kamal broke the deadlock with his first touch of the ball.

The ace marksman, who switched to Mariner this year from Mohammedan, showed in the final that he had not lost any of his blistering speed despite gaining weight. He pushed his first goal in the 18th minute after Abahani defenders failed to clear a right side free hit taken by Pakistani midfielder Munaim Selim.

The same combination conjured the second goal nine minutes later and this time Kamal received a quickly taken free hit before stunning the rival defence and goalkeeper Bappi with a reverse flick from the top of the D-box.

With Abahani 2-0 down they went all-out exposing their defence and Pakistani Yamin Bhatti, taking a long ball from their own half, made a solo run and dribbled past the lone defender Rama Rao before setting Kamal free for his third goal.

But two tactical changes by Abahani coach Mahabub Harun made all the difference after the break. Young Rajib Ahmed Issa came in for Naki and the BKSP boy in company with experienced Musa Mia simply tore the Mariner defence apart.

Taking the ball from Issa, Musa

found Prakash at the left side of the penalty area and the Indian made no mistake to score with a neat and powerful hit in the very first minute of the second session.

Prakash was now finding his rhythm and scored twice inside four minutes during the last quarter of the match. The Indian forward scored his second goal with a flick off a pass by Issa in the 61st minute. He then completed his hat-trick when he pushed the ball home from handshaking distance from a penalty corner.

Having failed to hold on to a three-goal cushion, Mariner gave up hopes and Jimmy's cool finish from a goalmouth scramble two minutes from time sent Abahani into wild celebration.

"We don't know why we did not work as a team in the first half. But under pressure, the players brought out their best. They had the confidence and showed that they can win a match from anywhere," said an elated Mahabub Harun, whose side came back from almost a similar position against Usha in the semi-final, which that ultimately won 5-2 in the tiebreaker.

"They (Mariner) could not sustain the pressure in the second half as we were determined and went all-out. It was team work that won us the title," said Abahani skipper

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



Abahani players celebrate their come-from-behind victory over Mariner Youngs to lift the Club Cup hockey tournament title at the Maulana Bhashani National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

GP, Biman set up finale

SPORTS REPORTER

The first Twenty20 cricket competition of the country will see Bangladesh Biman clashing with GrameenPhone in the final after the teams won their respective semifinals of the GrameenPhone 2nd Corporate Cricket League at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

Although the 20-over-a-side matches were introduced in a bid to spice up domestic cricket, the day's two encounters were largely dull affairs.

In the first game, Bangladesh wicket-keeper Khaled Mashud hit a quickfire 37 but could not save holders Araf Apparels who were handed a 5-wicket defeat by Bangladesh Biman.

Mashud came out to bat with his side on 32 for 2 in 8.4 overs. He then smashed five boundaries in 22 balls as Araf managed 106 for 7 in their share of 20 overs.

Biman's leg-spinner Mosharaf Hossain claimed three wickets while left-arm pacers Syed Russel and Anisur Rahman took two wickets each.

In reply, Biman wicketkeeper Sajjad Kadir hammered 45 off 39 balls (6x4) and opener Rashedul Haque added 28 off 30 balls as the national flag carriers reached home with nine balls to spare.

The second semifinal had comparatively more spark where GrameenPhone rode on estranged opener Shahriar Hossain's half century to see off fellow cellular operators CityCell by four wickets.

Shahriar, who recently announced out of the blue that he was retiring from the national team, scored exactly 50 off 59 balls with five boundaries as GrameenPhone made 125 for 6 in 19.1 overs chasing

CityCell's 122-8.

Earlier, Khaled Mahmud claimed three wickets conceding only 10 runs in four overs to restrict CityCell whose top score came courtesy of a blazing 19-ball 36 by captain Hasanuzzaman Rosel.

Grameen's national left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak Raj picked up two wickets but was expensive conceding 45 from four overs.

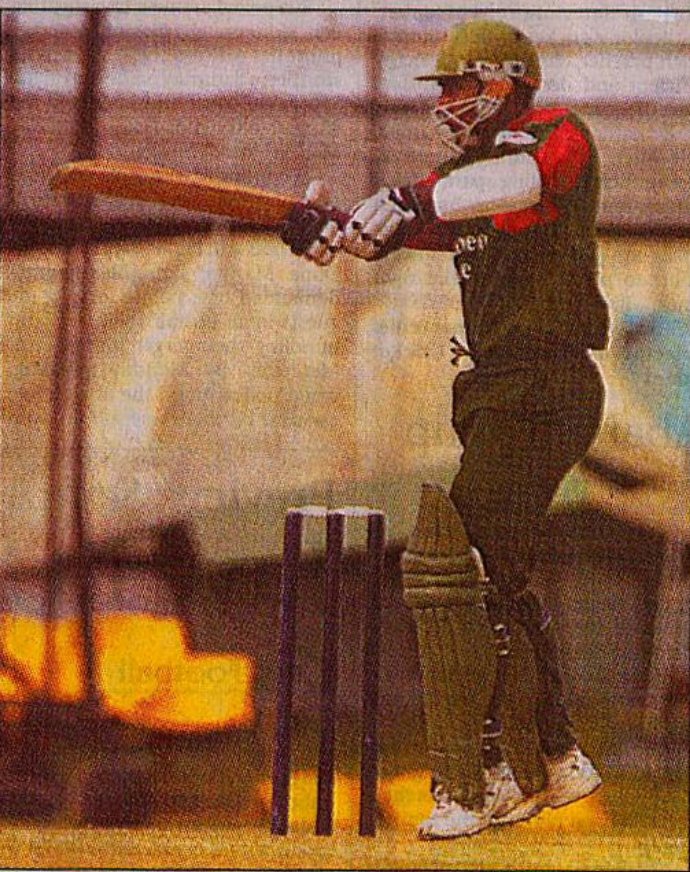
The final will take place at the same venue tomorrow under lights.

PLATE COMPETITION

In the Plate group, BEXIMCO and Gazl Tank moved into the final.

BEXIMCO's national discard Al-Shahriar smashed 83 while ex-BKSP mate Sajjad Ahmed hit 42 as their team amassed 171 for four, the

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5



Shahriar Hossain of GrameenPhone square-cuts one on way to scoring half-century against CityCell at the Bangabandhu National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

READERS' ZONE

Do you have any observation regarding sports and its management? Do you feel certain issues need to be addressed before time runs out? Then, hurry up and send us your burning questions, critical views and thoughtful suggestions not in excess of 400 words. Let your thought buzz at your corner, the Readers' zone. --Sports Editor

Cry for proper domestic cricket-II

LUTFUR RAHMAN

In early stages our cricketers trained on cement wickets where footwork is not generally required to deal with different type of bowling. Later on when they grew up they played matches on turf wickets (I shall call it "clay" wicket devoid of any grass) and found difficulties with their footwork dealing with spin or swing bowling. I think it will be much better if they practice at least on matting wickets rather than on cement wickets. At present a number of coaches are running their camps in the country and they should give a serious thought to the nature of wickets that their pupils use.

The body running domestic cricket must have the full authority to work without any interference. The body must have efficient and dedicated person like Reza-e-Karim, who successfully ran the show year after year with great success.

The domestic cricket was turned

on its head with the prestigious Dhaka League gradually being shifted to later part of the season just after we got the Test status. Last year it has not staged at all. Instead of season opener Damal Summer Tournament, the BCB introduced one "funny" 20 over Corporate League Tournament which does not contribute anything to our cause at all except financially benefiting some of the cricketers. Such tournament could be held at the end of our cricket season.

I personally do not blame fully our cricketers for their repeated dismal performance in international assignments. They do not get sufficient chance to prepare themselves by playing longer version domestic competitions. The temperament and correct approach required to survive in international cricket cannot be attained by playing under the present domestic format.

The cricketers, who are now engaged in international cricket and

meanwhile had to attend coaching camps, do not get any chance to participate in domestic cricket in order to rectify their faults. I fully agree with the opinion of Shafiqul Haq, a former Bangladesh captain, who in an interview with BBC recently suggested that in the coming one month before the home series against India the players should play as many as competitive matches as they can instead of attending camps.

I suggest that the Board must arrange a series of four-day matches between the national and 'A' team, if required a third team, i.e., under-19 may also be involved in these matches. At least five matches can be arranged and held where coach and selection committee members will keep an eye on the proceedings of the matches and advice the players accordingly.

Our cricket season must last at least for nine months in a year,

SEE PAGE 14 COL 5

Search for tearaways on

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and GrameenPhone have invited youngsters to test their bowling speeds in trials across the country starting in December.

The GrameenPhone Pacer Hunt was launched yesterday through a media conference at the National Press Club.

"Raw speed will be the only criteria in the trial based on the particular speed device we are using. We are looking for speeds of 75mph or above. We conducted a trial run at BKSP where the bowlers averaged around 65 to 70mph so we are looking for those players with something extra," said Richard McInnes, the manager of BCB's High Performance Unit.

An expert team led by former national coach Sarwar Imran will visit eleven centres around Bangladesh to search for the next tearaway in the mould of Mashrafe bin Mortaza, Talha Jubair or Kazi Shahadat Hossain Rajib, the country's fastest bowler.

From each centre, the bowlers who will clock the fastest speed will be separated and invited to attend the national finals for final selection.

Those who will be selected finally will be sent to the MRF Pace Foundation in India's Madras. Bowlers will also be invited to join the High Performance programme in 2005.

Registration forms will be available from local GrameenPhone outlets all around the country for players above 16 years.

BCB's Development Committee's member secretary Khondokar Jamiluddin Ahmed, Head of Marketing of Grameen-Phone Galib Ahmed Ansari and coach Sarwar Imran were also present at the briefing.

VENUES

Chittagong: December 9 and 10; Comilla: December 11 and 12; Bogra: December 16 and 17; Rangpur: December 18 and 19; Rajshahi: December 20 and 21; Khulna: December 25 and 26; Jessore: December 28 and 29; Mymensingh: January 3 and 4; Dhaka Metro: January 6, 7 and 8; Barisal: January 10 and 11; Sylhet: January 13 and 14.

Rummans puts Victoria on top

AFR, Hobart

Graeme Rummans knocked up an unbeaten 160 Tuesday to push champions Victoria into a 419-run lead over Tasmania on Day Two of the Sheffield Shield cricket Cup match at Bellerive Oval here on Tuesday.

Opener Rummans partnered prolific run-maker Brad Hodge to rack up a 166-run stand in Victoria's second innings.

Hodge finished four runs shy of a ton when he was caught behind off Adam Griffith.

Griffith, who Monday bagged a career-best 7-54, went on to claim the coveted scalp of David Hussey (67) for figures of 3-87.

In Adelaide, South Australia's decision to bowl first reaped early dividends before Queensland reco-

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1

Kaluwitharana calls it quits

Cricket

REUTERS, Colombo

Sri Lanka wicketkeeper Romesh Kaluwitharana has retired from international cricket after missing out on selection for a training squad for next month's tour of New Zealand.

Kaluwitharana has been dropped many times previously but with his 35th birthday fast approaching is now determined to hang up his boots for good.

"I have decided to call it a day having not been selected for New Zealand," Kaluwitharana told reporters on Tuesday.

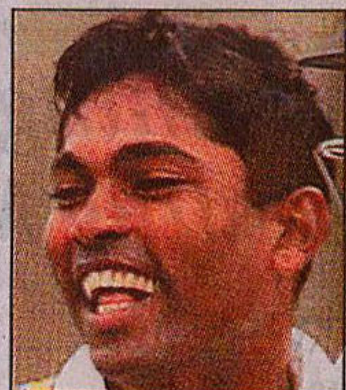
"I started my test career on a high note with a century against Australia and I'm happy to end it with a half century against Pakistan."

The diminutive Kaluwitharana made 54 in his side's six-wicket defeat by Pakistan in the second test in Karachi last week, playing as a specialist batsman.

"I must have made 20 to 30 comebacks in my career but I don't want to drag my career on for the sake of it and the time is now right to go,"

Kaluwitharana added. "I wish Sri Lanka cricket all the best for the future."

Kaluwitharana was widely respected for his cavalier batting style, especially during Sri Lanka's 1996 World Cup triumph when he



ROMESH KALUWITHARANA

teamed up with Sanath Jayasuriya in famous pinch-hitting assaults to lay the platform for many of the team's victories.

His career was dogged by inconsistency, however, and a final test

SEE PAGE 14 COL 4

All four impress Lloyd

Cricket

LENIN GANI

Clive Lloyd painted a positive picture on Bangladesh's prospects of getting some new Test venues in the near future.

The former West Indies captain addressed the media at a city hotel yesterday after winding up a six-day inspection of four venues selected by the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) for approval by the International Cricket Council.

Lloyd visited the Chittagong Divisional Stadium, Fatullah Cricket Stadium in Narayanganj, Shaheed Chandra Stadium in Bogra and Khulna Divisional Stadium.

The 60-year-old, who made his debut as an ICC match referee in both forms of the game in 1992, appreciated Bangladesh's efforts to bring top quality cricket to all parts of the country.

"I realise the importance cricket board is giving to bring Test cricket to other areas of Bangladesh. I think that is a pretty good move because if the venues I've seen are approved by the ICC, then everybody can watch Test matches in all parts of the country. Obviously, Bangladesh have a huge cricket-loving public that backs their team even though they are not doing extremely well at the moment. But once the team performs in both Test and one-day arenas then it augurs well for Bangladesh cricket."

"I'm impressed with the amount of work done since my last visit a few years ago. Things are improving and I hope it continues to improve. I'm sure the ICC will do its utmost to

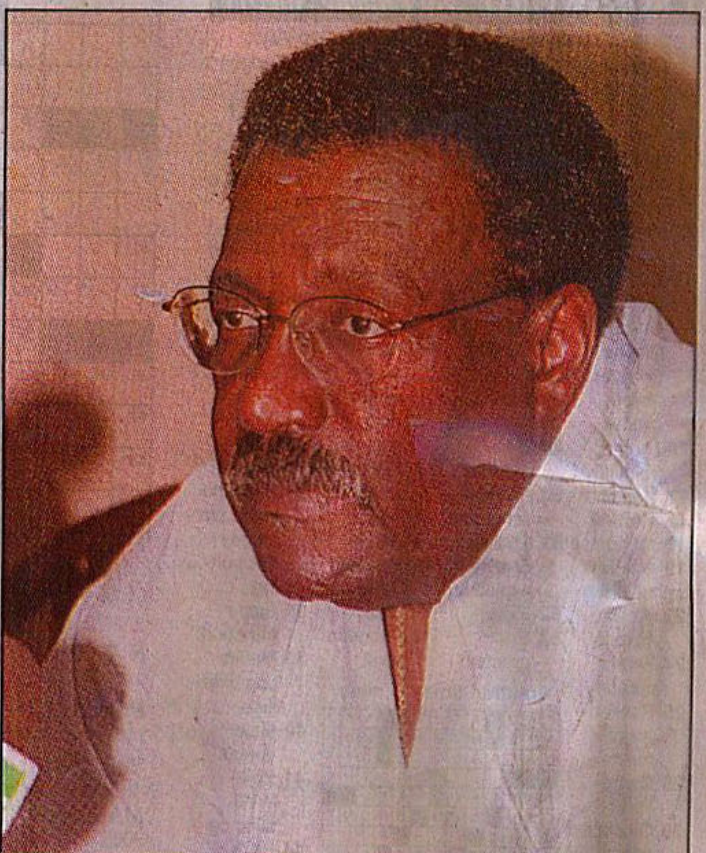
make sure cricket in Bangladesh takes a step forward."

Concerning the four venues, Lloyd sounded satisfied.

"It was obvious they all looked impressive. But like all places some adjustments will have to be made."

It's not fair for me to say which venue impressed me most but the one in Bogra is a pretty new stadium and also it looks nice and compact. I suppose the others are pretty old that's why Bogra stands out."

SEE PAGE 14 COL 1



West Indian great Clive Lloyd addresses a press conference at the Sonargaon Hotel yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR