

Gazi Tank give CCL a kick-start



The domestic cri-cket season got un-derway with Gazi Tank, Bangladesh Biman and Epv-llion Group recording comfort-

able victories on the opening day of the GrameenPhone Corporate Cricket League at different venues in the city on

However, as often happens at the very beginning of a new season, the cricketers' body language confirmed they did not get enough time to prepare. And it was written all over their performances that a handful of days' indoor practice is inadequate to be very competitive on the field.

It was shocking to see thick grass on the outfield restricting boundaries as well as batsmen struggling on an underprepared wicket at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium -- the only venue inside the city to be used during the competi-In contrast, it was a batting paradise

at BKSP where more than 300 runs were produced in an innings

GAZITANK-BANGLA CAT

Buoyed by national stars Manzarul Islam's 82 and Aftab Ahmed's 77, Gazi Tank handed a thumping 125-run defeat on newcomers Bangla Cat at the

The two added 87 runs for the third wicket as Gazi Tank amassed 315 for nine in 50 overs after skipper Khaled Mahmud had elected to bat.

One-down Aftab smacked seven fours and four sixes in his 69-ball rampage while left-handed Manzarul cracked nine boundaries inclusive of

batted Bangla Cat out of the game.

In reply, Bangla Cat were bundled out for 190 with wicketkeeper-batsman Shamimul Haque scoring match highest 90 not out off 96 deliveries

Monirul Islam was the pick of the

winners' attack with 4-33 from 6.5 overs.

EPYLLION-ARAF A five-wicket haul by Araf Apparels spinner Kamrul Hasan failed to prevent Epyllion from cruising to a five-wicket victory at the Dhanmondi Cricket

At one stage, it looked like a cakewalk victory for Epyllion, who raced to 71 without loss in 12 overs after restricting rivals to

SEE PAGE 13 COL 5



Araf Apparel's Khaled Mashud cuts the ball during their Corporate Cricket League match against Epyllion at the

Russia won the Fed Cup tennis title for the

first time beating France in 2004





Sven-Goran Eriksson

(England football coach) "I'm delighted that we now knou we will be taking part in the World Cup in Germany next year. It has been a difficult start to the season for us but, together with our victory

against Austria, this is the reward

for all the hard work that has been



ESPN

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'World will come good in Super Test'

played cricket," he said



Ashes foes Andrew Flintoff and Adam nished World XI's quality will come through in Friday's Super Test cricket match against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The world all-stars were an embarrassment in going down by a massive 156 runs to the fired-up Aussies in Sunday's final one-dayer to lose the Melbourne series 3-0 raising fears that

the six-day Test will be another flop. But Flintoff, the scourge of the Australians with bat and ball as England regained the Ashes last month, believes the longer form of the game will allow the World XI more scope to realise their talents than in the scramble of the 50overs format.

"It is a fine group of players coming together and in some ways probably playing Test cricket might be slightly easier than the one-day game," Flintoff told reporters here Monday.

"The one-day game is so structured and you have your own roles back in your country, and a few players had to play outside those roles.

"Whereas in Test cricket you just go out there and play, so there is no real structures to the game so hopefully we will be a better Test side.

Australian vice-captain Adam Gilchrist, judged the man of last week's one-day series highlighted by his pulsating 103 off 79 balls in the second game, agreed with Flintoff and rated the world superstars as the favourites for the SCG

"He is probably right (about the) longer format, one-day cricket or like Twenty20 cricket the shorter the game the more of a bit of a lottery it can become," Gilchrist said.

"But in Test matches generally the quality wins out over time and they have great depth in quality and we feel like we have got it (as well), they will definitely put up a fight I am sure."

World one-day skipper Shaun Pollock said his all-star team was "underdone" and needed more preparation

The world team were criticised for showing little commitment in their three one-day games, but Pollock defended the International Cricket Council's (ICC) concept of the world's top players playing the best team.

"There are some guys who have come in here with no cricket under their belts, and there are some guvs who have

"And from that perspective we were underdone, but you also have to understand the schedules these days is very difficult to fit more cricket in.

Flintoff, who was cleared by scans Sunday of a fractured wrist after taking a blow while bowling to Ricky Ponting, believes he will be fit to play in the Test $despite\,deep\,bruising\,to\,his\,wrist.$

Flintoff said the world team had to improve dramatically to trouble Australia and dismissed the varied make-up of the team as an excuse.

"Playing for England and playing with a bunch of blokes you have played with for a long time with and come into a

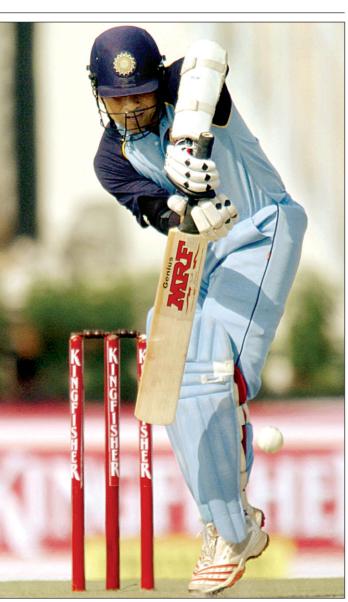
dressing room with people you don't necessarily know is going to be harder,'

"But we are professional cricketers we have to get out there and play and to be picked for a World XI -- two or three vears ago I would never have thought I would have been playing, so there is a lot

of prestige involved. "We are not just representing our country but representing the rest of the world and we have to take pride and pleasure in doing that albeit we are not playing for actual countries."

Flintoff said his world teammates didn't want to be embarrassed and expected them to bounce back.

South African skipper Graeme Smith has promised to lift the **SEE PAGE 13 COL 5**



during the Challenger Series in Mohali on Monday.

India's batting ace Sachin Tendulkar plays a defensive shot against India A

Dudhia departs honourably

Cricket

SPORTS REPORTER

Macky Dudhia parted ways with the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) yesterday after serving the most demanding sports federation as its chief executive officer for two years.

The giant Zimbabwean however can feel extremely lucky with the manner in which he bowed out of Bangladesh cricket after unceremonious exit of all the foreign recruits starting from Indian coach Mohindar Amarnath to Pakistani Mohsin Kamal.

Dudhia took over the post ahead of the 2003 World Cup in South Africa following a prescription from the International Cricket Council (ICC). The world cricket governing body strongly recommended for the appointment of an administrative chief while awarding Bangladesh Test status Although Dudhia tried his best to

keep a definite distance from the press during his two-year that he described

Enamul carries

International Master Enamul Hossain

Bangladesh competitors in the Fifth Asian Individual Chess Championship

Apart from Rajib, who defeated k

Visweswaran of India in the fourth

round at the Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy

Indoor Stadium, all his compatriots

Grand Master Ziaur Rahman went

down to his Chinese counterpart Zhou

Jianchao while IM Reefat bin Sattar let

slip a better position to Indonesian GM

Zia, Reefat and Rajib are now level

on 2.5 points in the 9-round Swiss

League, which is also the qualifiers for

IM Abdullah Al Rakib, who is on two

points, lost to GM Wang Yue of China.

Tendulkar makes

India's premier batsman Sachin

during a domestic one-day game on

Monday in a subdued comeback after

Tendulkar, 32, sidelined for six

months after surgery on his left elbow

in May, was playing in a one-day tri-

After flicking paceman

Lakshmipathy Balaji to square leg and

then cutting him to point for bound-

aries, Tendulkar was caught behind

off the same bowler after only 15 balls.

with a one-day home series against Sri

Lanka from October 25 followed by a

one-day series against South Africa

They tour Pakistan in January

before hosting England in March-

and three tests against Sri Lanka.

India have a busy schedule starting

low-key return

REUTERS, New Delhi

a long injury lay-off.

series in Mohali.

next vear's World Chess

on Sunday in Hyderabad, India.

ASIAN CHESS

the flag

SPORTS REPORTER

Susanto Megaranto.

Championship in Italy.

as a 'wonderful association' with Bangladesh cricket, the soft-spoken cricket organiser broke down at least twice during his farewell speech at a briefing at a local hotel on Monday.

body and Dudhia was no exception.

Daily Star was not to disclose his age.

flight back to Harare on Thursday. But like many Zimbabweans

Although Dudhia was diplomatic when asked whether he was interested

Parting is always painful for any-

me to work with Bangladesh cricket. I'm not a fool to say I have done everything that was needed to give the board a professional outlook. But I'm leaving with the satisfaction that I have put things in order from where one can only look forward," said the middleaged Dudhia, whose last wish to The

"Will you please do me a favour. Don't disclose my age," said Dudhia who along with his wife will take a long

Dudhia, who has his two children studying in Cape Town, was not in a mood to settle in Robert Mugabe's

to continue after his contract expired on September 30, the Zimbabwean however strongly vouched for the existence of a CEO for a smooth func-

"It was a wonderful experience for

tioning of the board.

MACKY DUDHIA

"I can only say that there should an administrative post even if a general secretary holds the executive power,"

But after the board elections it apparently decided against a CEO since the very post does not exist in the present constitution.

Dudhia also refuted claims of overspending on an expanding manage

ment set-up. "Let me ask you if an organisation is earning five million (dollars) apart from those big bills from the ICC and spending only 5 per cent as establishment expenditure. Is it overspending?" said the former right-arm

While Dudhia was all for a CEO, BCB's joint-secretary Reazuddin al Mamun said that they have started the search for a person to act as an administrative officer.

"We are looking for a suitable candidate hopefully from within Bangladesh to fill the role of Dudhia", said Mamun, who is also the chairman of the media

BCB vice-president Shah Nurul Kabir Shaheen was also present at the

Brazil hold on to draw

Rajib was an exception on a bad day for

Brazil defied high altitude and rough

The hosts were allowed to get away

Roque Junior nearly added a second when he headed wide following a corner.

At the other end Brazil goalkeeper Julio Cesar made two outstanding saves in less than a minute, blocking a header from Miguel Hoyos and parrying a powerful Julio Baldivieso drive.

Joaquin Botero wasted another chance when he broke down the right and fired across the face of the goal.

Bolivia equalised five minutes after the break when Daner Pachi's long ball forward was headed down by Botero into the path of Castillo, who $rifled \,home \,from \,12 \,metres.$

Bolivia then appeared to be given a licence to kick by referee Larrionda.

allowed to stay on the field when he

Argentina muscle past Peru

REUTERS, La Paz

play from Bolivia to earn a 1-1 draw in their World Cup qualifier on Sunday. Juninho Pernambucano put Brazil

ahead with a trademark free kick before substitute Jose Castillo replied for Bolivia after 50 minutes of a match played at 3,600 metres above sea level.

with several nasty challenges in the second half thanks to lenient referee $ing\,by\,Uruguayan\,Jorge\,Larrionda.$

Bolivia peppered the Brazil goal with long-range shots while the visitors tried to slow the game down.

Brazil went ahead in the 25th minute when Juninho's dipping 30 $metre\,shot\,hit\,the\,underside\,of\,the\,bar$ and bounced into the net off goalkeeper Carlos Arias.

Midfielder Gonzalo Galindo was

blatantly kicked Cicinho from behind after the ball had gone

Carmelo Angulo scythed down SEE PAGE 13 COL 2



Argentina's Carlos Tevez points to the fans after scoring the second goal against Peru in their 2006 World Cup qualifier at the Monumental stadium in Buenos Aires on October 9.



will deliberate on the possibility of cricket being included as one of the disciplines in the New Delhi Commonwealth Games 2010 during its two-day Executive Board meeting which started on Monday.

Commonwealth Games 2010 have sent in an invitation to ICC for cricket to be made a part of the event in view of the immense popularity of the game in their country.

The meeting will also discuss a

number of commercial issues

related to ICC events and the feasi-

bility of changing the current five-

Ranbir Singh Mahendra is representing the Indian cricket board in

ICC to discuss

The International Cricket Council

The organisers of the

Also on the agenda of the meeting, being attended by the chiefs of the ten Test playing nations and three representatives of the Associate Members, is an update on Twenty20 Cricket and its potential role in international cricket, an ICC press release said.

year playing calendar to a six-year calendar.